

Interior Architectural Photography



Canon 14mm Prime Lens
114° angle of view



PLEASE NOTE

“ We appreciate access to a Canon EOS-1Ds Mark III and a diverse range of Canon lenses from Parrot Digigraphic. Once we have processed the images, we will work out a manner to test print them and do a comparison of printouts on Epson, Canon, and HP Z-series printers through Parrot Digigraphic.

If you wish to contact Parrot Digigraphic, the contact is John Lorusso, president, jlorusso@ParrotColor.com, telephone 877 727-7682. Another contact e-mail there is info@ParrotColor.com “

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Introduction



Canon EF 14mm f/2.8L II USM ultra wide-angle lens

If you do architectural photography, especially interiors, this 14mm prime lens is essential. This is the Canon EF 14mm f/2.8L II USM. Notice this is an “L” lens, and it is the second iteration. In other words this is an improved model, hence “II.”

If you read reviews of the Canon ultra-wide angle zoom lenses you will see that many photographers, even hobby photographers, do not like these two wide-angle Canon zoom lenses at all. This is why I prefer a prime lens. I am completely content with this Canon prime lens (normally I use a Nikon, or Hasselblad, but with lenses like this, on a Canon EOS-1Ds Mark III, I am not sure I will return to Nikon).

Canon 14 mm Prime Lens 115° angle of view



Canon 14 mm Prime Lens

Interior architectural photography, a hotel in Dubai

Perhaps I can blame it on jet lag, but I did not notice the camera was set on manual focus until all the photos had been taken. And the manual focus was set to the closest possible distance since I had been photographing flowers in Guatemala prior to being in this hotel in Dubai.

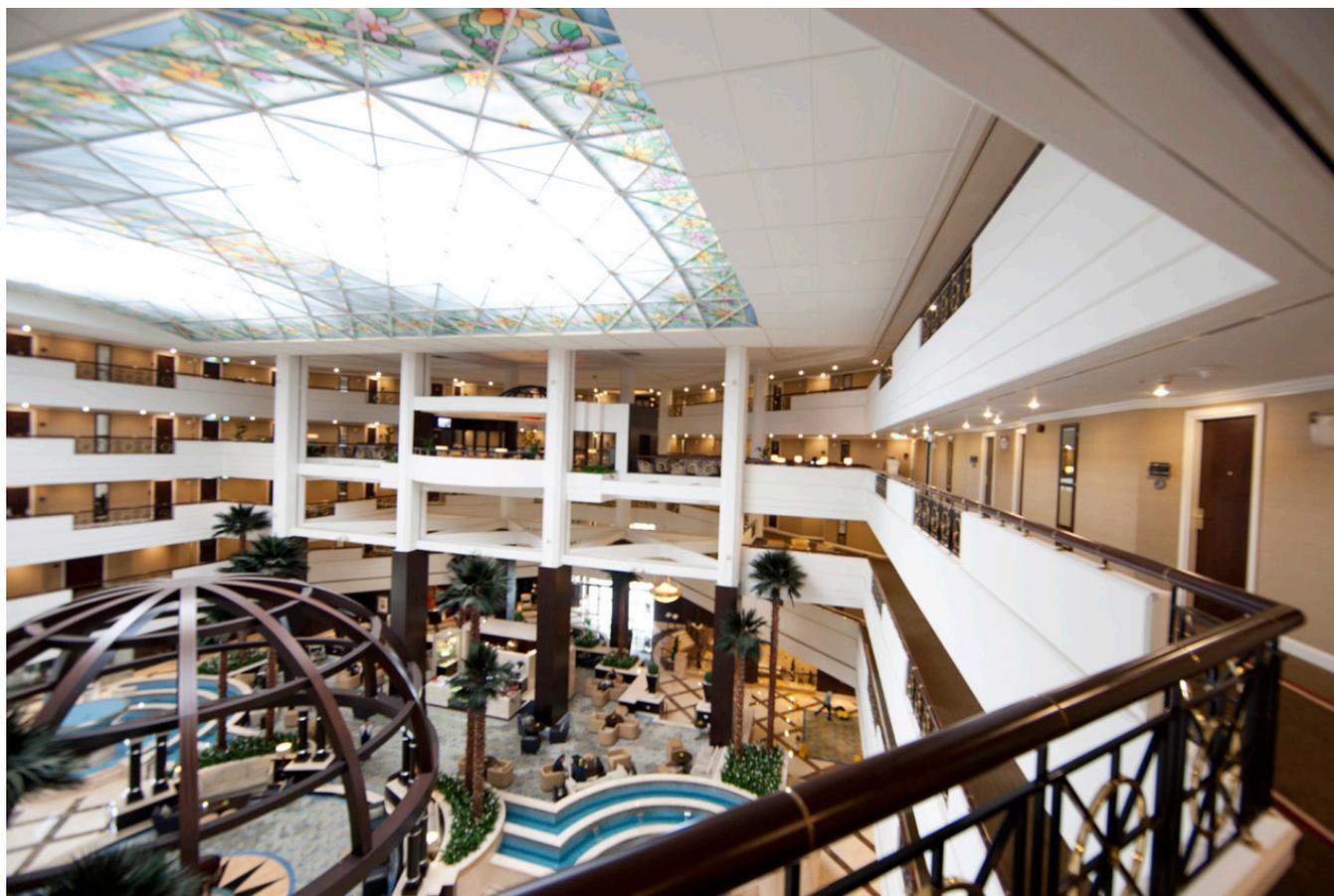
With any other lens the results would have been unusable even at small size, but with an ultra wide-angle lens, although the photos are not “publishable” at least you can see what was in the scene.

I show these photos (even through they are out of focus) in order to document the kinds of views you can achieve with this lens for interior architectural photography.

I was in Dubai to give two lectures on advanced digital imaging printing technology plus I was head of the committee to judge advertisement billboards for the country. So I did not really have time to do serious photography. I had precisely three minutes to shoot the stairway and about four minutes spare time to photograph the inside patio.



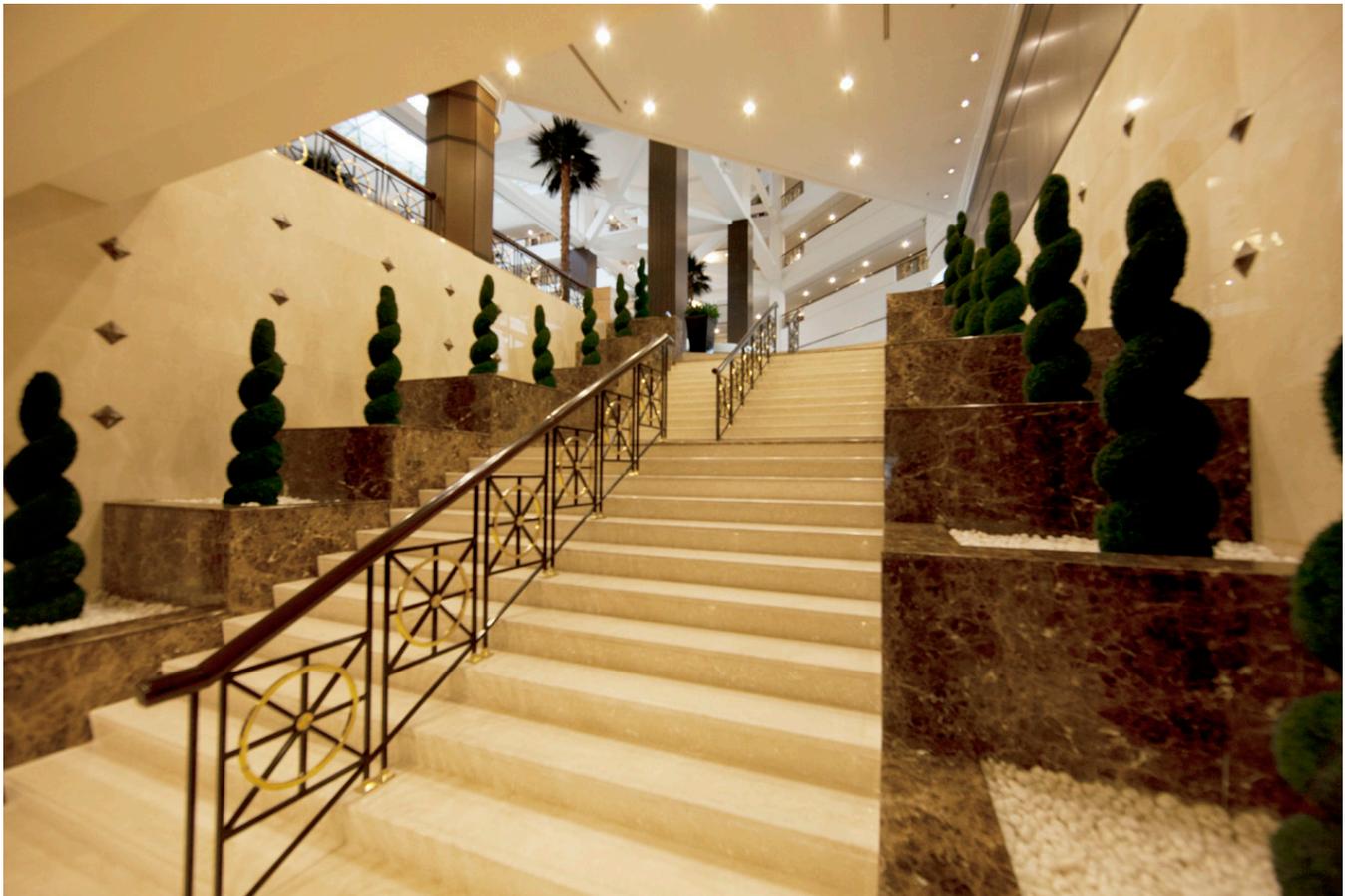
Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai 2011.



Upstairs Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai 2011.



Inside open area of Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai 2011.
You get less distortion with a 20mm or 21mm wide-angle lens.



Lower stairway of Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai 2011.

What other lenses would have worked?

For horizontal coverage, if you had a Novoflex pano head (with click stops) and a strong upright arm, you could take several shots from left to right with a lesser lens and still captured the same 114 degrees. But a regular camera with a different lens could not have captured the height of the 14mm lens. And most Canon zoom lenses could have been soft and have a few issues in other aspects (this is why I use a prime lens).



Novoflex pano head

If you had a GigaPan you could have accomplished comparable photography, but a GigaPan occupies a larger carrying case and ideally needs a stronger tripod: plus the camera and lens which is another camera bag to lug onto the airplane (or another bag to pay excess baggage cost). Emirates airline does not accept status cards from any airline alliance to wave excess baggage charges (Emirates only provides mileage; no other alliance rights at all, not even priority boarding!).



Gigapan Epic Pro

If I were in Dubai to do architectural photography I would have brought the GigaPan, the Novoflex, and my Hasselblad with Phase One P25+ digital back. And if someone were paying me to do architectural photography, I would have wanted additional wide-angle lenses, to use when you don't need the ultra-wide coverage. You get less distortion with a 20mm or 21mm wide-angle lens.



Novoflex + Hasselblad Camera

Price comparison for wide-angle lenses: Canon and Nikon

If you need a good 14mm prime lens it is best that you simply order it rather than looking at the price. Forget the price, ignore price comparisons. This is a great lens so simply buy it.

If you read reviews of the Canon ultra-wide angle zoom lenses you will see that most photographers, even hobby photographers, do not like the Canon zoom lenses at all. This is why I prefer a prime lens. I am completely content (normally I use a Nikon, or Hasselblad, but with lenses like this, on a Canon EOS-1Ds Mark III, I am not sure I will return to Nikon).

	Lens	Price	Comments
Canon	EF 14mm f/2.8L USM	\$2,220	Good reviews
	EF 14mm f/2.8L II USM	\$2,199	Good reviews
	16-35mm	\$1,614	Some accept it; most dislike it
	17-40mm	\$797	Some accept it; most dislike it
Nikon	AF Nikkor 14mm f/2.8D ED	\$380	
	AF Nikkor 20mm f/2.8D	\$550	Most of the people Recommend it
	AF-S Nikkor 24mm f/1.4G ED	\$1,999	
	AF Nikkor 24mm f/2.8D	\$345	
	AF Nikkor 28mm f/2.8D	\$260	
	AF-S Nikkor 14-24mm f/2.8G ED	\$1,785	Good reviews
	AF-S Nikkor 16-35mm f/4G ED VR	\$1,100	Good reviews
	AF-S Zoom-Nikkor 17-35mm f/2.8D IF-ED	\$1,599	
	AF Zoom-Nikkor 18-35mm f/3.5-4.5D IF-ED	\$500	Comparatively cheaper; plastic; you get what (little) you pay for an old lens (made in 1993).
	20-35mm f/2.8 D AF	\$679	

Acknowledgements

- We obtain our Canon camera equipment from Parrot Digigraphic. You can contact them at info@ParrotColor.com or telephone toll free, (877) 727-7682.

- We thank Hoodman for providing the 16 GB memory cards; one for the Hasselblad Phase One, and another for the GigaPan. If you are going to work with GigaPan, or with a newer Phase One (ours is only 21 megapixels; new models are 80 megapixels), then you need a 32 GB card from Hoodman.



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PHASE ONE P 30 DIGITAL BACK OUT ON LOCATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA



Phase One P 30 Medium Format Architectural Photography



Phase One P 30 Medium Format Fine Art Photography



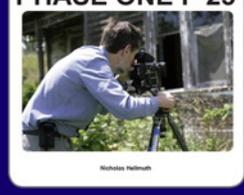
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