Panoramas and HDR

DISCOVER THE LIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY

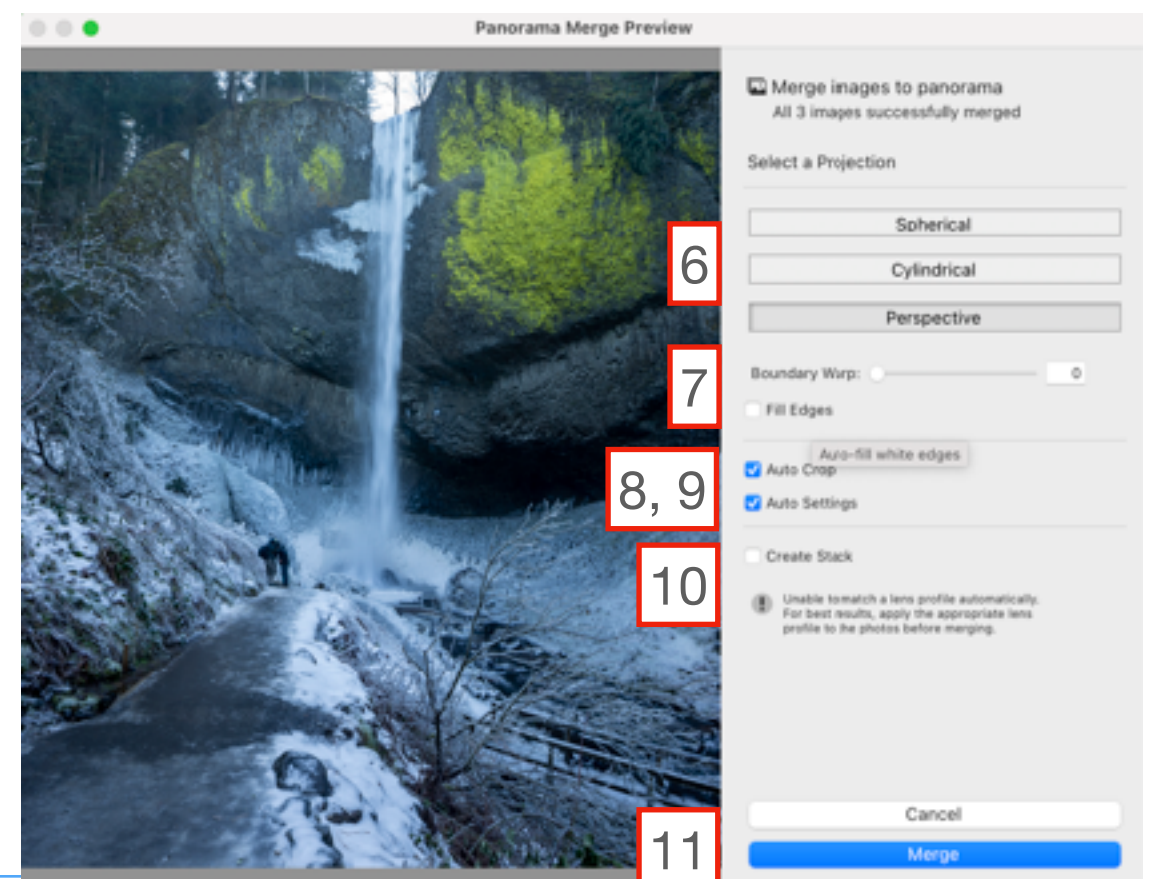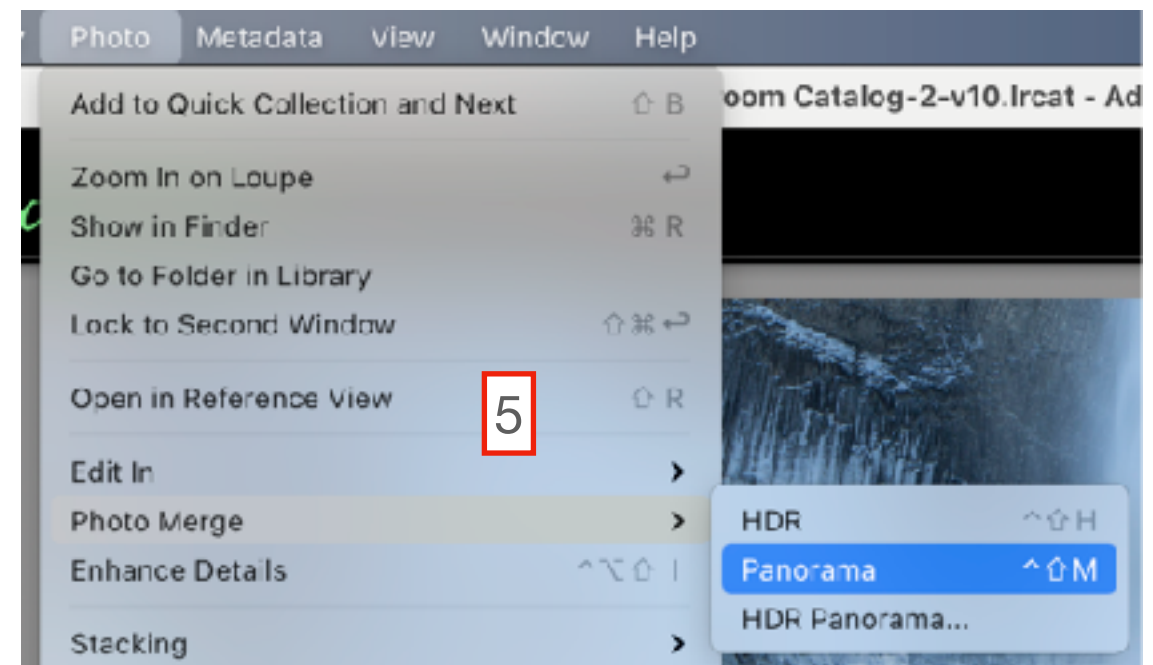# Panoramas

Shooting Techniques

Shooting Techniques

- Look at scene and determine left and right limits of panorama.

- Choose a lens with a focal length wider than your intended composition.

- Set up the tripod firmly planted.

- Level the tripod (if it doesn't have a level bubble, get it as close as possible).

- Set camera/lens on the tripod (sometimes, portrait orientation is better than landscape).

- It's best to use a remote shutter release.

- If possible, level the camera on the tripod head.

- Take a meter reading in an area of the scene that best represents the overall exposure of the scene.

- Set the focus of the lens and set the lens to manual focus.

- Switch to Manual mode and set the aperture, shutter speed, and ISO based on the meter reading.

- Loosen the rotation screw on the tripod head and rotate the camera to the left (or right) limit of the panorama. Tighten the screw.

- Take the first shot.

- Loosen the rotation screw and rotate the camera with at least a 1/3rd overlap of the first image.

- Repeat the rotate/shoot steps until the last image in the pano is reached.

Stitching the Photos in Lightroom
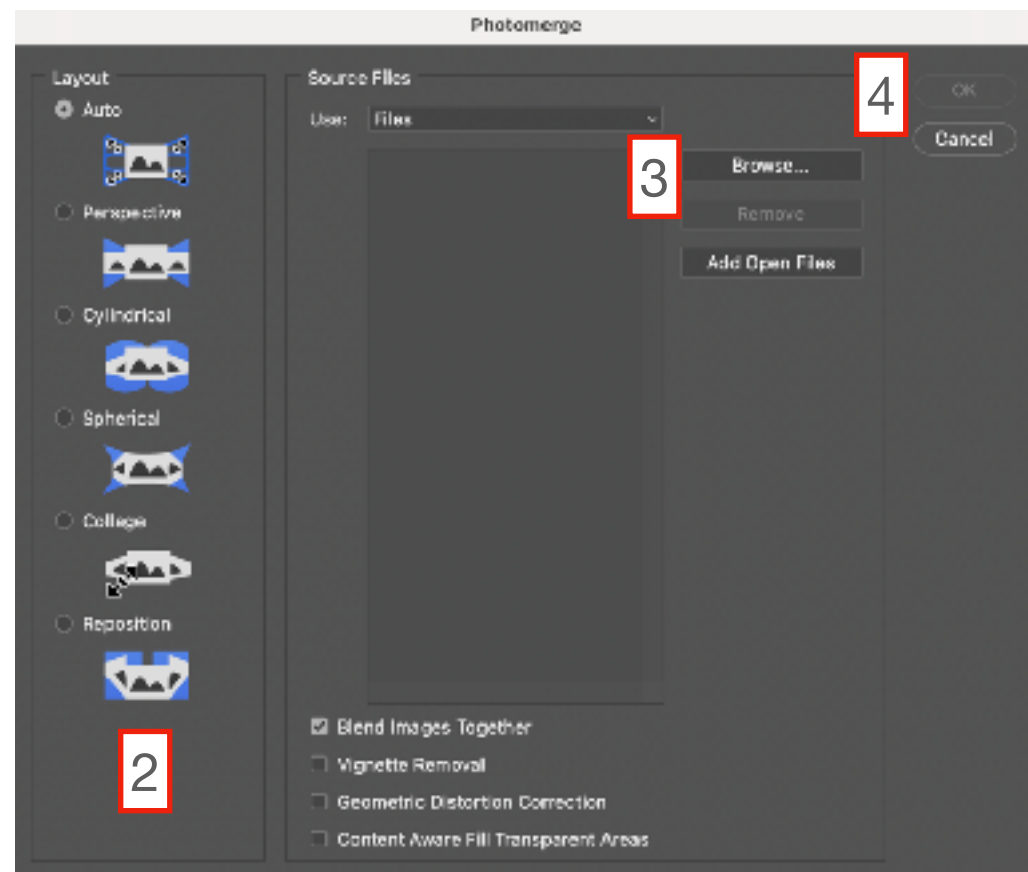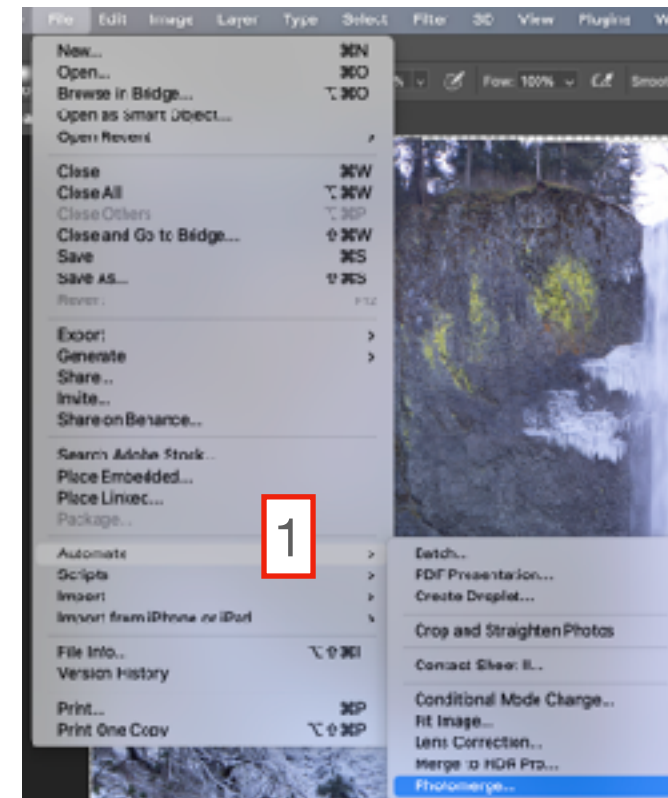
Stitching in Lightroom

1. **Preferred** - do not edit photos prior to stitching.

2. Select all photos to be stitched.

3. Go to the Lens Corrections Panel and check the box for Enable Profile Corrections.

4. Sync all photos with the same profile correction.

5. Choose *Photo > Photo Merge > Panorama* **NOTE**: Same menu selections available by right clicking on any of the selected photos.

6. Select a Projection.

7. **OPTIONAL**: Check Fill Edges if you want the blank edges filled in by Lightroom (Auto Crop will not be available).

8. **OPTIONAL**: Check Auto Crop if you want Lightroom to crop the resulting image to eliminate blank edges.

9. **OPTIONAL**: Check Auto Settings to have Lightroom make some Basic Panel edits.

10. **OPTIONAL**: Check Create Stack if you want Lightroom to create a stack of the images used for the pano.

11. Click Merge.

Stitching the Photos in Photoshop

Stitching in Photoshop

1. Choose *File > Automate > Photomerge*

2. Select a Layout.

3. Click Browse…

4. Navigate to the photos to be stitched.

5. Click OK.

6. Crop the resulting image as necessary.

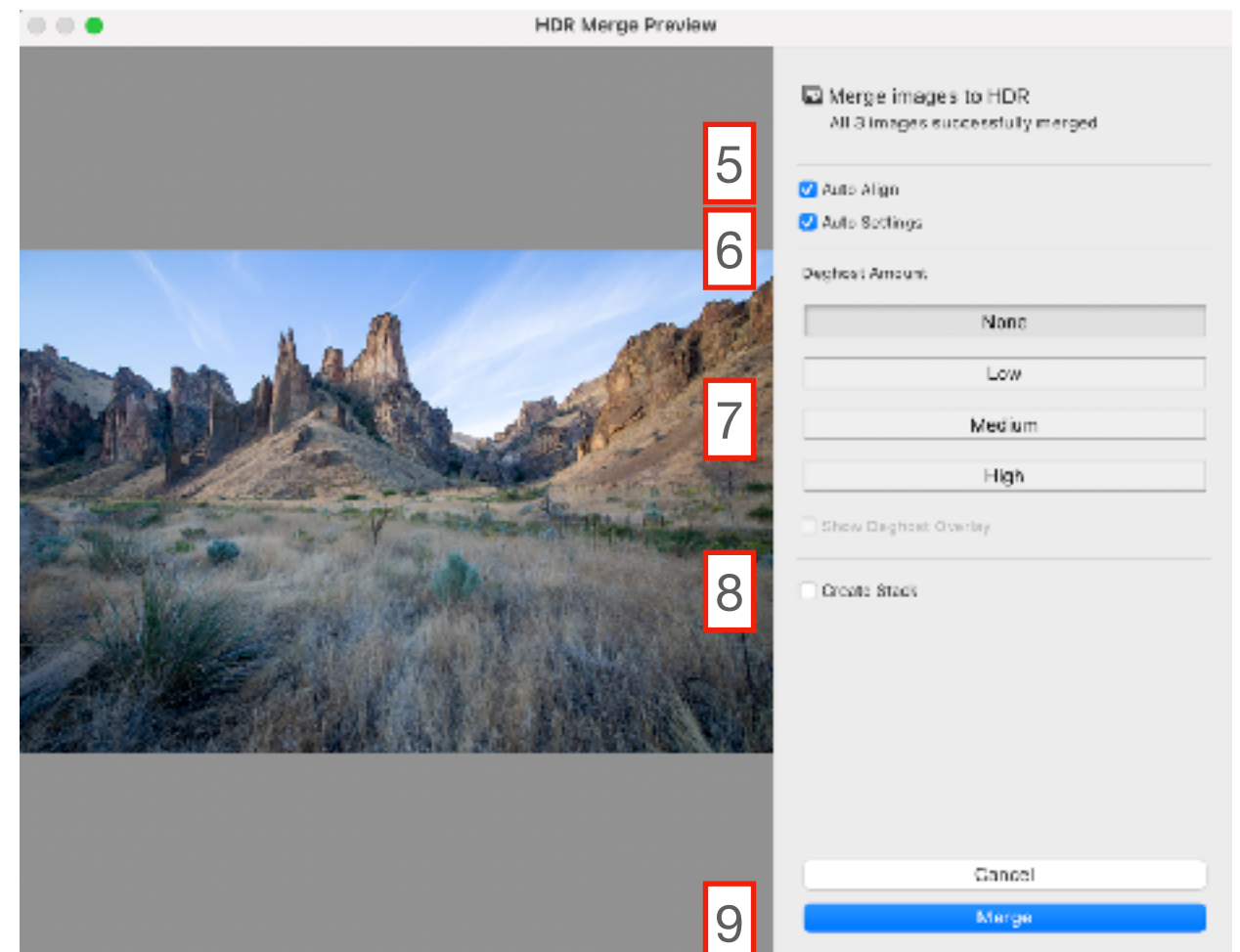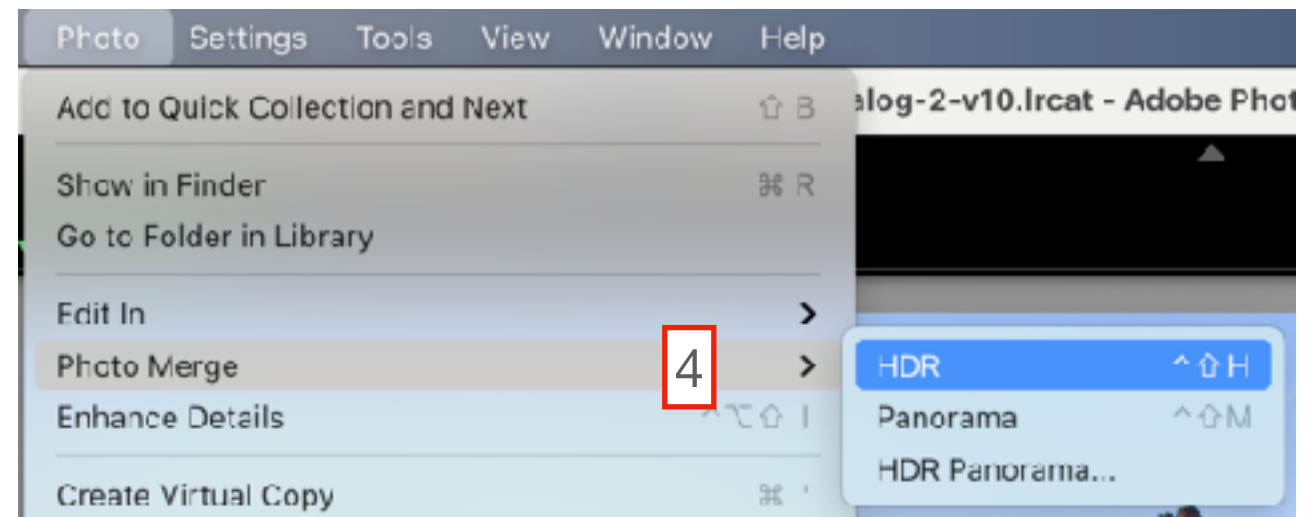# HDR (High Dynamic Range)

Shooting Techniques

Shooting Techniques

- Set camera/lens on the tripod.

- It's best to use a remote shutter release.

- **METHOD I:** Use bracketing in any mode except Manual.

- **METHOD II:** Determine the "neutral" exposure setting, go to Manual with these settings, and take 2 or more images at different exposure settings (usually different shutter speeds).

- **METHOD III:** Set the camera to Aperture priority (the best choice), Shutter priority, or Program mode and take 2 or more exposures using exposure compensation.

Blending the Photos in Lightroom

Blending in Lightroom

1. **RECOMMENDED**: do not edit photos prior to blending.

2. Select all photos to be blended.

3. **OPTIONAL**: Go to the Lens Corrections Panel and check the box for Enable Profile Corrections and sync all photos with the same profile correction.

4. Choose *Photo > Photo Merge > HDR*
   NOTE: Same menu selections available by right clicking on any of the selected photos.

5. **RECOMMENDED**: Check Auto Align if you want the Lightroom to align the images.

6. **RECOMMENDED**: Check Auto Settings to have Lightroom make some Basic Panel edits.

7. Select a Deghost Amount.

8. **OPTIONAL**: Check Create Stack if you want Lightroom to create a stack of the images used for the pano.

9. Click Merge.

Blending the Photos in Photoshop

Blending in Photoshop

1. Choose *File > Automate > Merge to HDR Pro…*

2. Click Browse…

3. Navigate to the photos to be blended.

4. Click OK.

5. Make slider adjustments in the Merge to HDR Pro panel.

6. Click OK.