

Manual

Note

Overview

- [Split screen](#)
- [Preview pane display modes](#)
- [Image rotation](#)
- [Thumbnail display options and selection controls](#)
- [Toolbar customization](#)

Favorites

Optimizing images

Basics

- [Rotate / Mirror](#)
- [Free Rotation](#)
- [Crop](#)
- [Resize](#)
- [Watermark](#)
- [Text](#)

Correction

- [Light Curves](#)
- [Color](#)
- [Straighten Horizon](#)
- [Perspective](#)
- [Sharpen](#)
- [Adaptive Sharpen](#)

Face

- [Remove Red Eyes](#)
- [Whiten Teeth](#)
- [Remove Spots](#)

Effects

- [Image Age](#)
- [Image Overlay](#)
- [Frame](#)
- [Emboss](#)
- [Shade](#)
- [Blue Shift](#)
- [Oilpaint](#)
- [Charcoal](#)
- [Sketch](#)
- [Posterize](#)
- [Solarize](#)
- [Threshold](#)
- [Adaptive Threshold](#)

Manipulate

- [Clone Area](#)
- [Blur](#)
- [Motion Blur](#)
- [Adaptive Blur](#)
- [Noise](#)
- [Median](#)
- [Spread](#)
- [Shear](#)
- [Wave](#)
- [Swirl](#)
- [Implode / Explode](#)

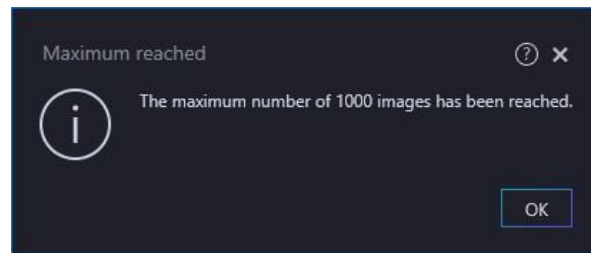
Export

- [Email](#)
- [Ashampoo Web Upload](#)
- [Wallpaper](#)
- [Print](#)

Settings

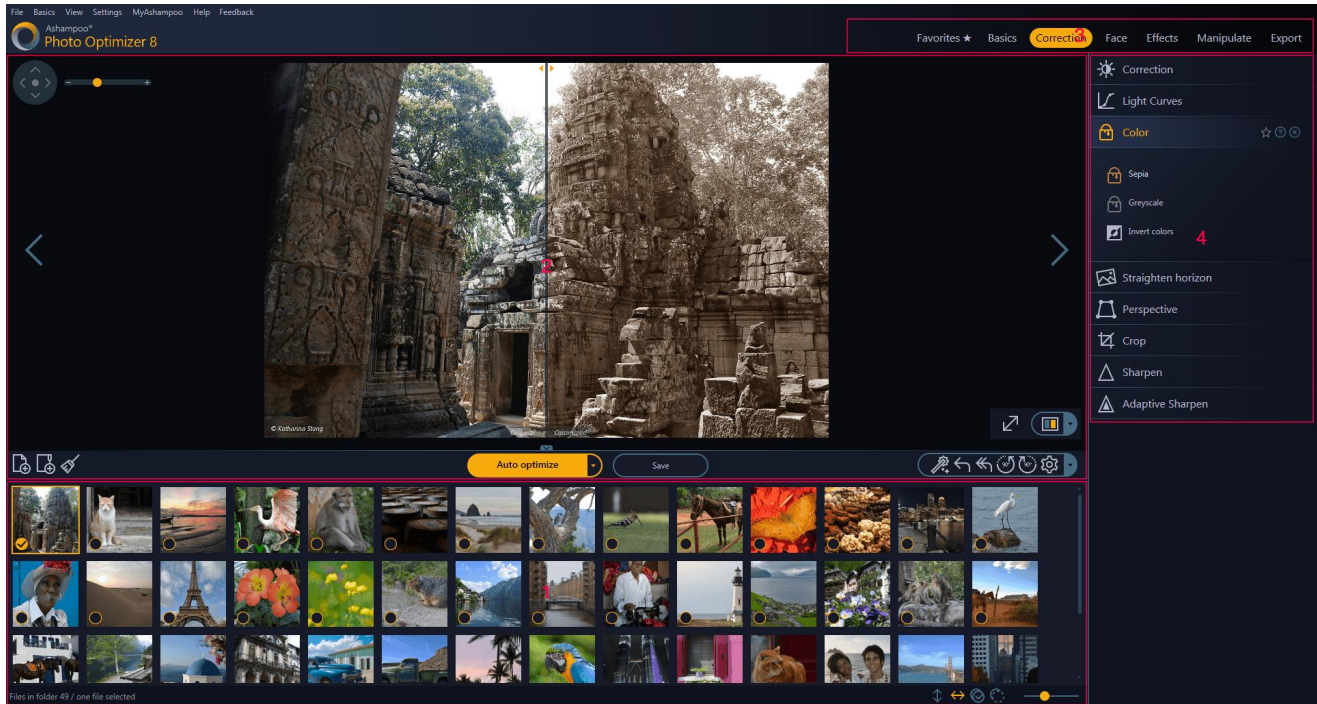
Note

Due to technical constraints, the program can process a maximum of 1,000 images in one go. If you try to add more files than that to a project, you will see the following message:



If you need to optimize more than 1,000 images, we recommend creating separate subfolders with each containing a maximum of 1000 files. You can then process each folder as a separate project.

Overview



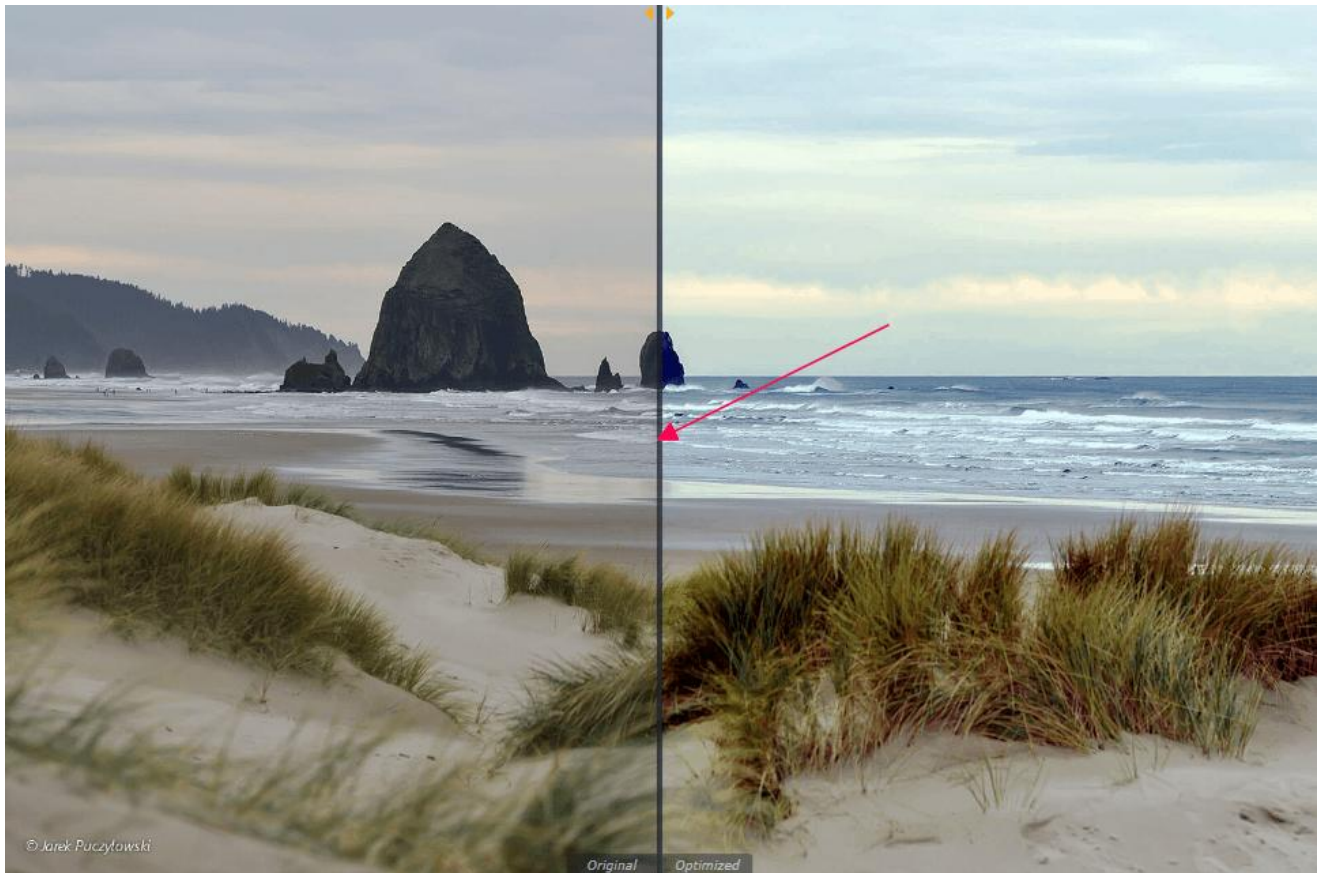
1: The thumbnail browser is used for folder navigation and displays miniature previews for the contained images.

2: The preview pane provides a preview of the selected picture. Here, you may supervise the success of the optimization and access the optimize controls.

3: These are the available function categories.

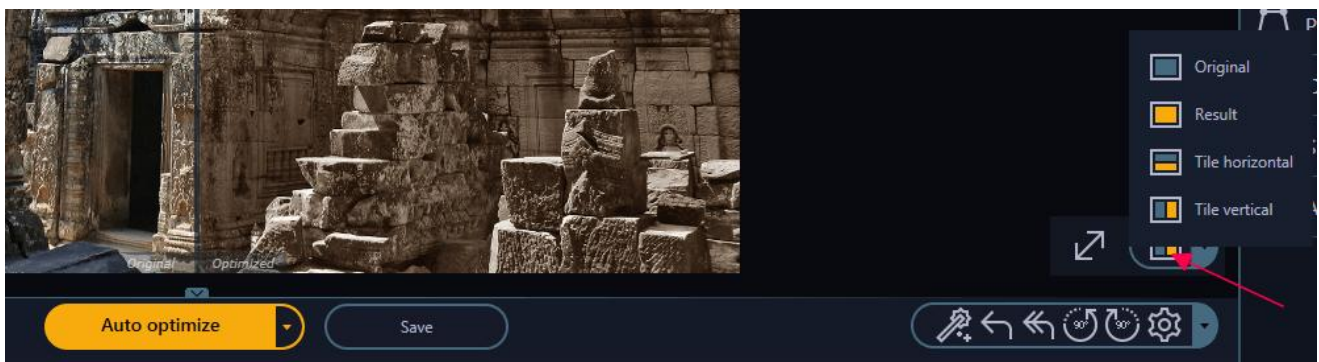
4: Functions from the currently selected category appear here.

Split screen



The view bar offers a special functions to customize the split screen that offers an integrated before-and-after view. This makes it easy to compare the before and after states of an optimization as demonstrated in the screenshot above with the original dull image on the left and the optimized vivid image on the right. The separator line is draggable to adjust the split view as needed.

Split screen display modes

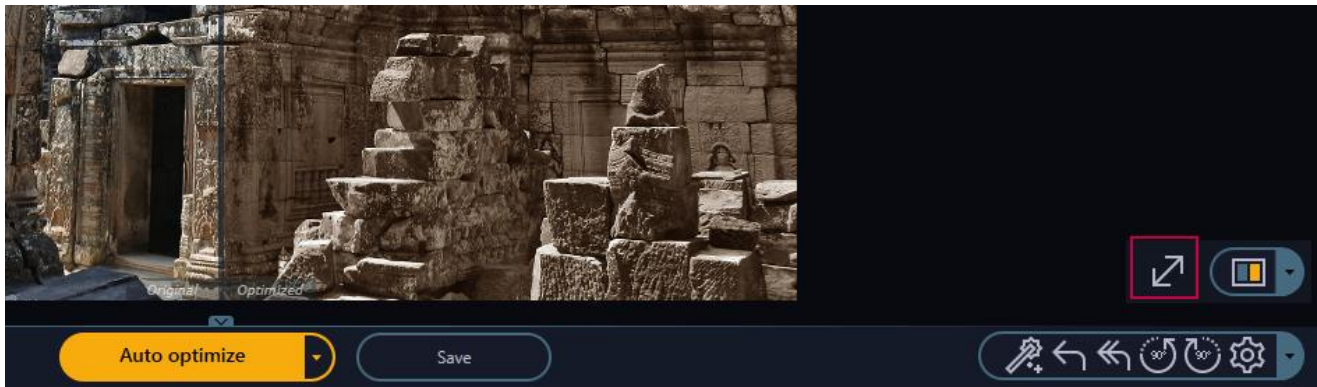


The split screen view supports four different display modes accessible through the arrow symbol

next to the star icon.

- Original (no effects preview)
- Result (effects preview only)
- Tile horizontal (top-bottom separation: original top, optimized bottom)
- Tile vertical (left-right separation: original left, optimized right)

Preview pane display modes



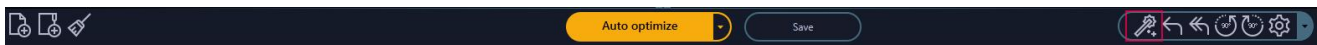
Clicking the two opposite facing arrows will hide the folder and file browser panes leaving more room for the preview pane. Clicking the now facing arrows again, will switch back to the previous display mode.



Manual zooming is possible through the slide control either by dragging the knob or clicking the +/- controls. You may alternatively use your mouse wheel to zoom in and out.

Use the D-pad to scroll within images whose boundaries exceed the visible screen area.

Image rotation



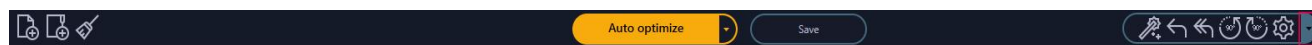
Ashampoo Photo Optimizer provides separate controls to quickly turn images 90° clockwise or counterclockwise. They are located on the toolbar to the left of the functions pane (red rectangle).

Thumbnail display options and selection controls

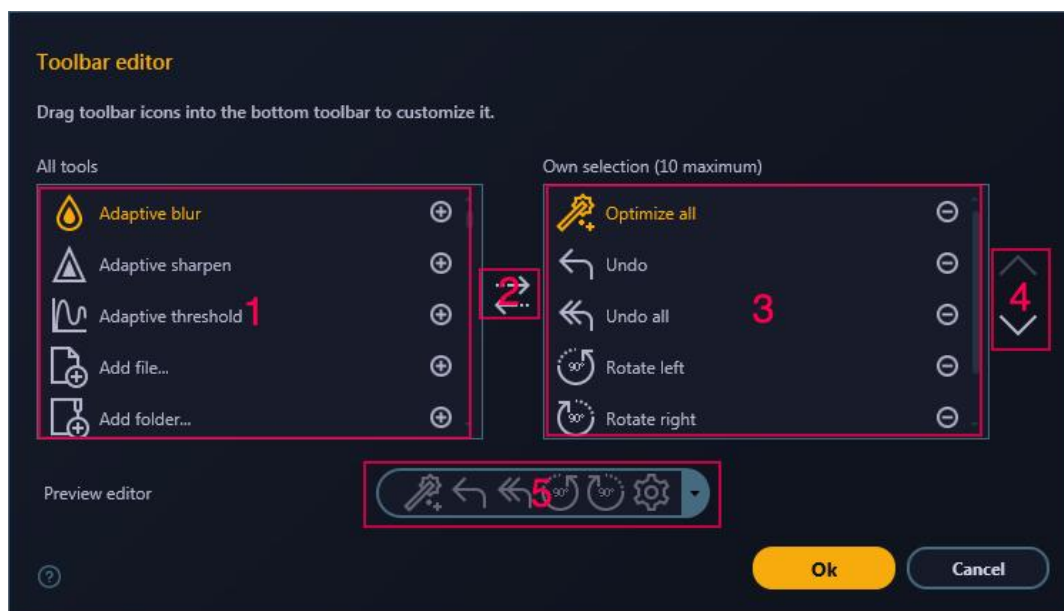


For convenience, you will find buttons to select/deselect all images within a folder below the thumbnail previews. Use the adjacent arrow buttons to layout the thumbnails horizontally (column view) or vertically (list view). The size of the thumbnails is smoothly adjustable through the slider control.

Toolbar customization



With Ashampoo Photo Optimizer, you can customize the quick access toolbar to your needs with a few simple steps. Click the arrow next to the toolbar to bring up the list of available features.

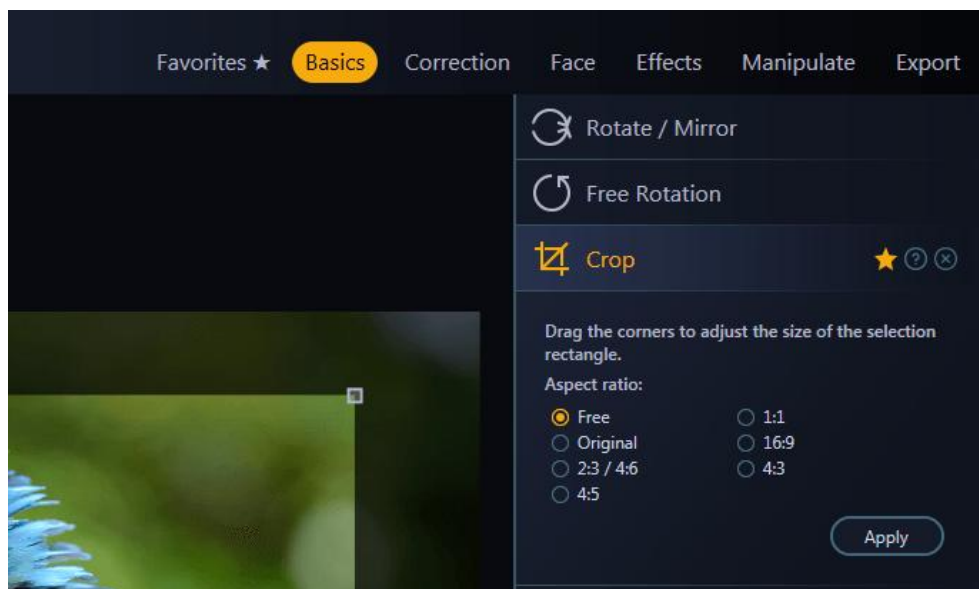
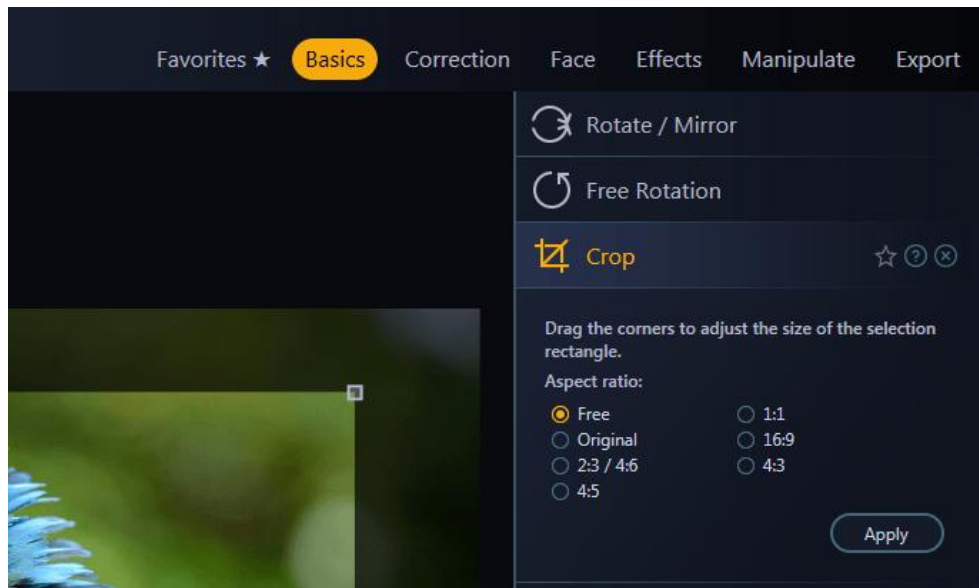


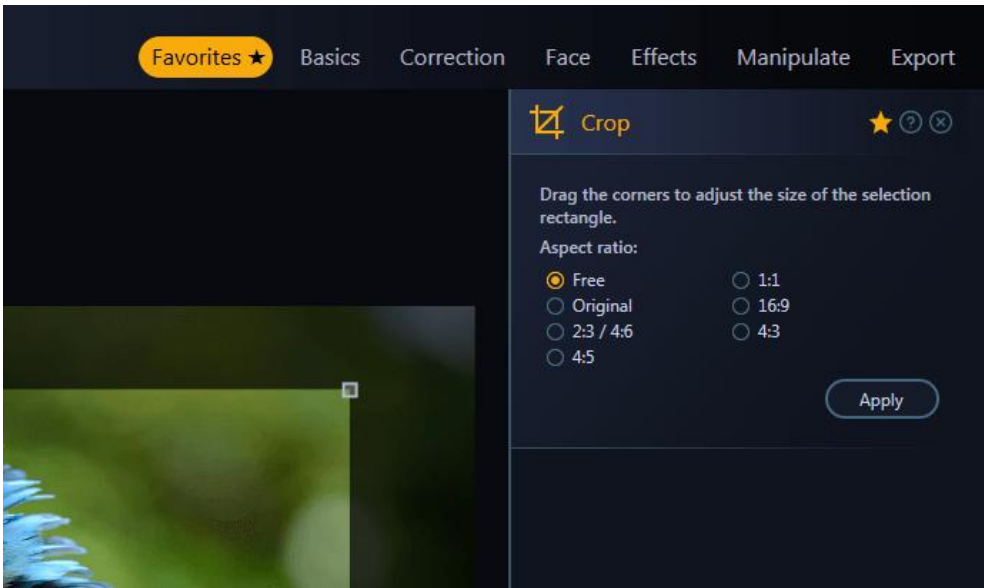
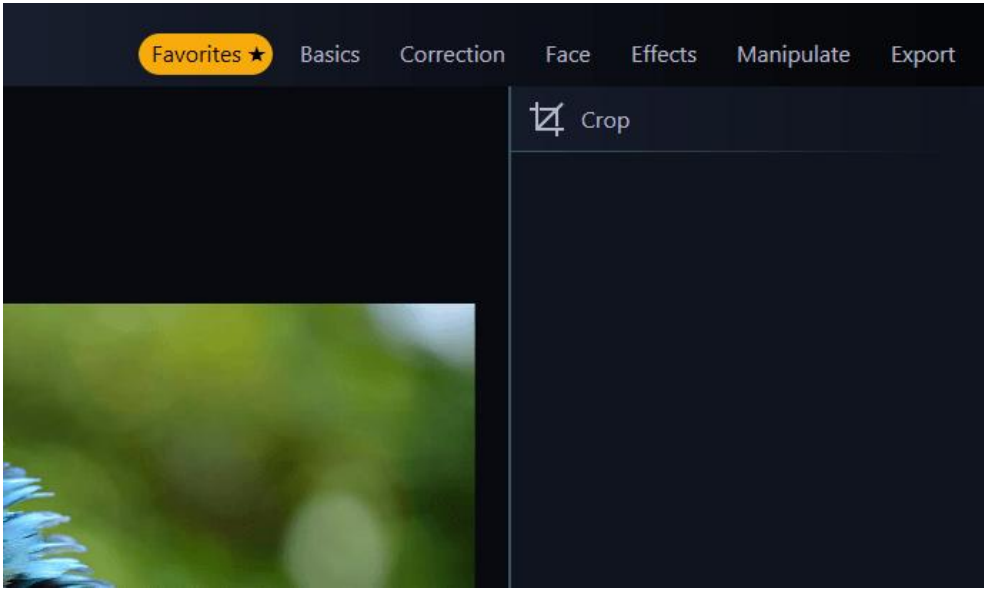
Available functions are listed on the left (1). Use the plus symbol to add the associated function to the toolbar. To swap functions between the repository and the toolbar, use the button in the middle (2). Functions currently on the toolbar are shown on the right (3). Use the minus symbol to remove the associated function from the toolbar. Use the up and down arrows (4) to change the

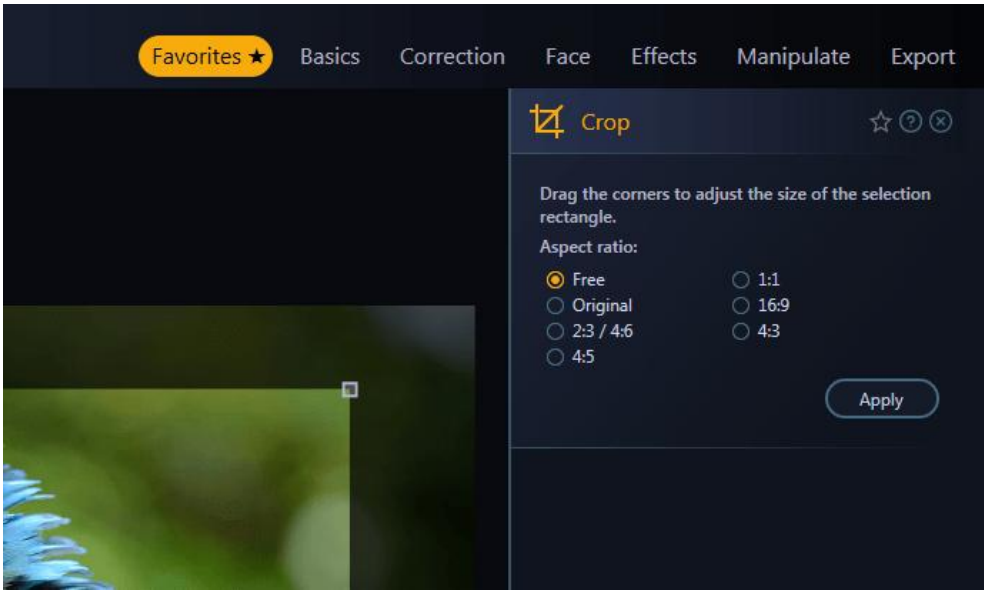
sort order. A preview of the actual toolbar is shown below the lists (5).

Favorites

Custom toolbars are great to gain quick access to frequently used tools but they're very limited in space. "Favorites" allows you to add any number of tools, e.g. to reflect a specific workflow and to work more time-efficiently. To add a tool to "Favorites" left-click the star icon, which will then turn yellow. To remove a tool from "Favorites" click the star icon again.

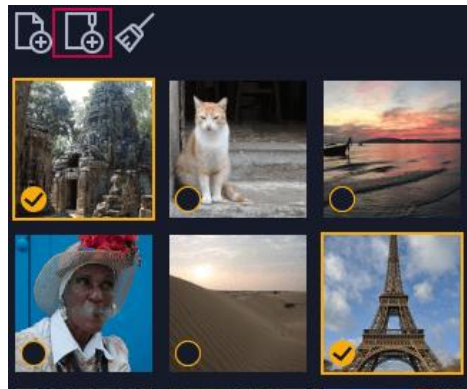




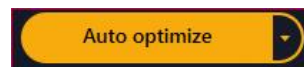


Optimizing images

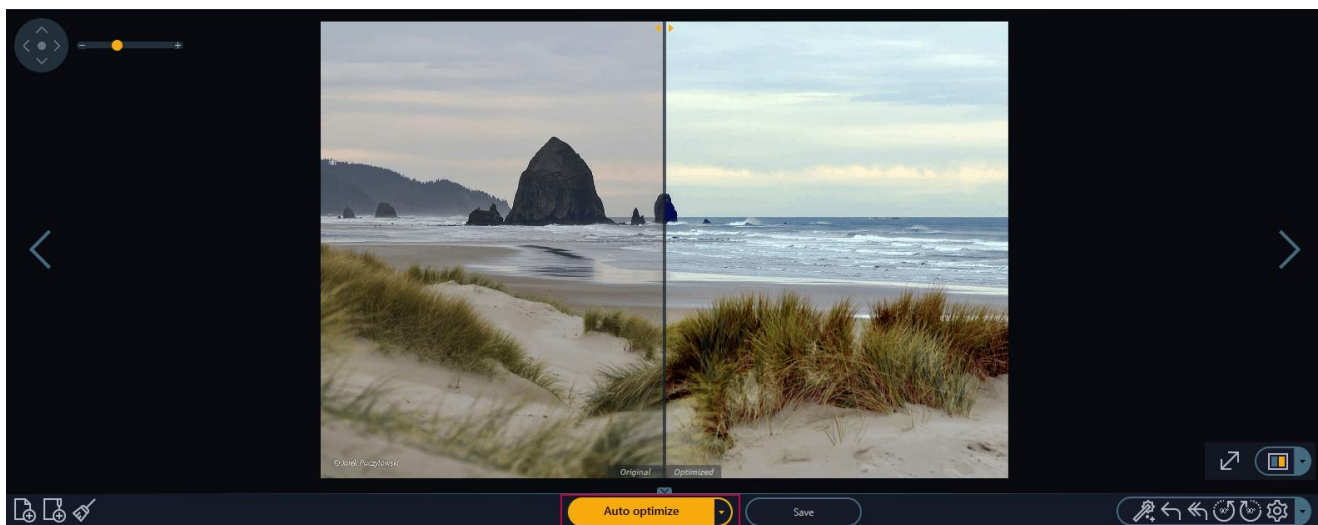
Imagine you have just returned from vacation with a couple of photos you took. First, you copy your images to your local harddisk. Then, you launch the product and open the image folder.



You may now select the desired image.



It will appear in the preview pane. Now, click Auto Optimize.



The split view now displays the unaltered image on the left and the optimized image on the right. Select Save to keep the changes. To discard the changes, simply navigate to another image and

cancel the save prompt or select Edit → Undo.

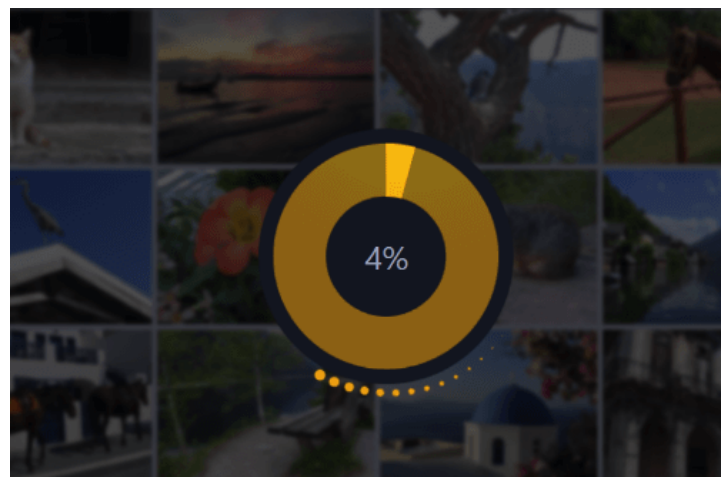
Optimizing all images



The toolbar hosts a two star icon. The corresponding function will optimize all images within the current folder. To proceed, select this feature.



Your images will now be presented on a virtual corkboard followed by a prompt to confirm your batch processing request. Select Yes to continue or No to cancel the operation. You can always reverse changes to a single image/all images by selecting Edit → Undo from the application's menu bar.



During the optimization process, a circular progress bar will be displayed. To cancel the process, simply click into the circle. After the process, you will see a status message concerning the modifications that were made.

Selecting and processing single images

To select multiple images from the thumbnail pane, hold Ctrl (usually next to the Windows key) and sequentially click the desired images. Your images will appear on a virtual corkboard as shown above.



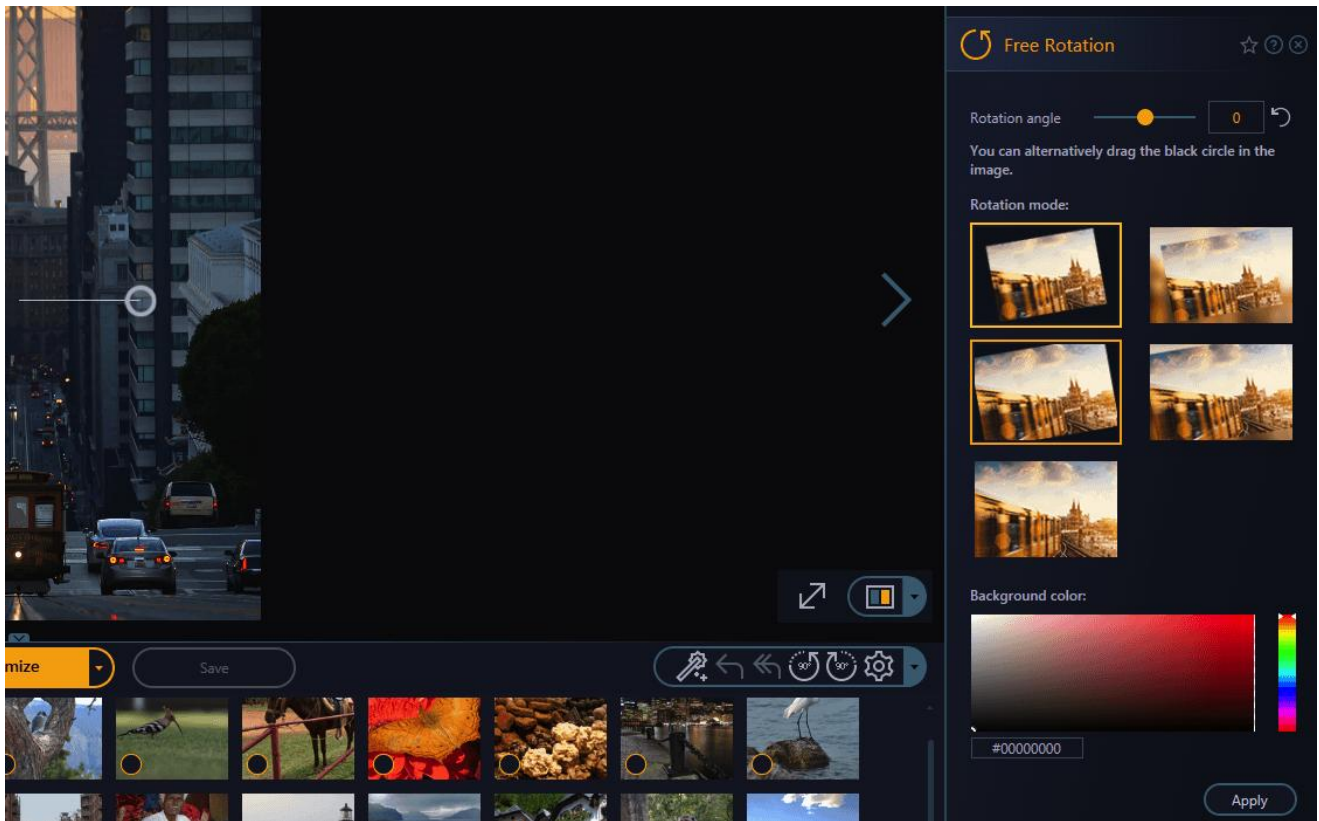
Now, apply your desired effect and select Yes in the confirmation prompt to finish the operation.

Basics

Rotate / Mirror

Rotates photos 90° left / right or mirrors them vertically / horizontally.

Free Rotation



To rotate, either drag the circle in the image, use the slider in the dialog or use one of the presets. There are different rotation modes available which can be explained best through pictures.

| Description | Example |
|-------------|---------|
| The image | |

is rotated and shrunk to fit the available image area.



The empty area around the image is filled with a scaled replicate of the original image.



The image will be rotated as is, clipping edges that fall outside

the image area.



The empty area around the image is filled with a scaled replication of the adjacent pixels.

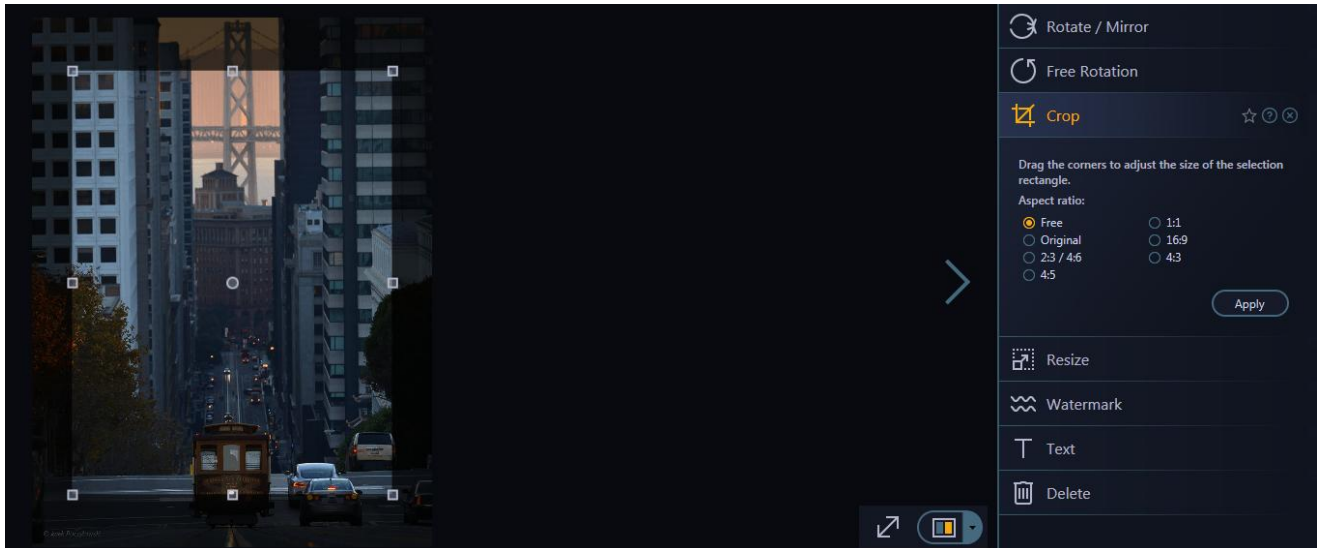


The image is scaled to make the new clip cover the whole

image
area.



Crop



Simply drag the corners to adjust the clip or select a preset.

Resize



Either enter a percentage value to scale the image accordingly or use the width and height input areas to enter pixel values.

Watermark



Select the Text radio button to create a text-based watermark and enter your desired text (1). You may then alter the appearance using a different font (2), color (3) and font style (4). To increase/decrease the font size, use the draggable hotspots around the text selection (red arrow). Drag the circle (magenta arrow) to alter the text position.

Select Image to base your watermark on an existing image file. Click ... to select it. To increase/decrease the image size, use the draggable hotspots around the selection and drag the circle to alter the text position (see the above section). Enabling/disabling Preserve aspect ratio will retain/discard the width-height ratio of the source image during resizing.



To adjust the watermark's translucency (Opacity), either use the slider or enter the desired value manually into the adjacent text field. If required, use the round arrow button (Reset) to restore the default setting. Click Ok to apply the effect.

Text

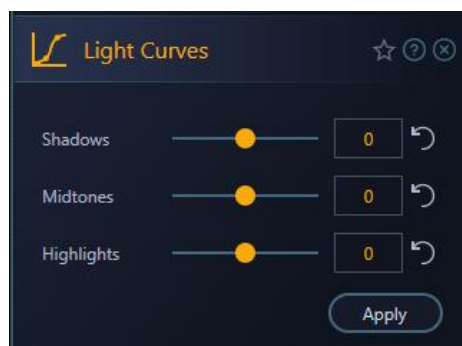
This function is identical to except it doesn't support images.

Correction



Use the sliders to adjust various image aspects like bright, contrast and saturation. Use the arrow buttons to reset the associated sliders to their default values.

Light Curves



These sliders allow you to specifically brighten/darken areas of your image that fall below a certain threshold in terms of brightness. For example, "Shadows" targets pixels that are already very dark, while "Highlights" only affects pixels that are already very bright.

Color

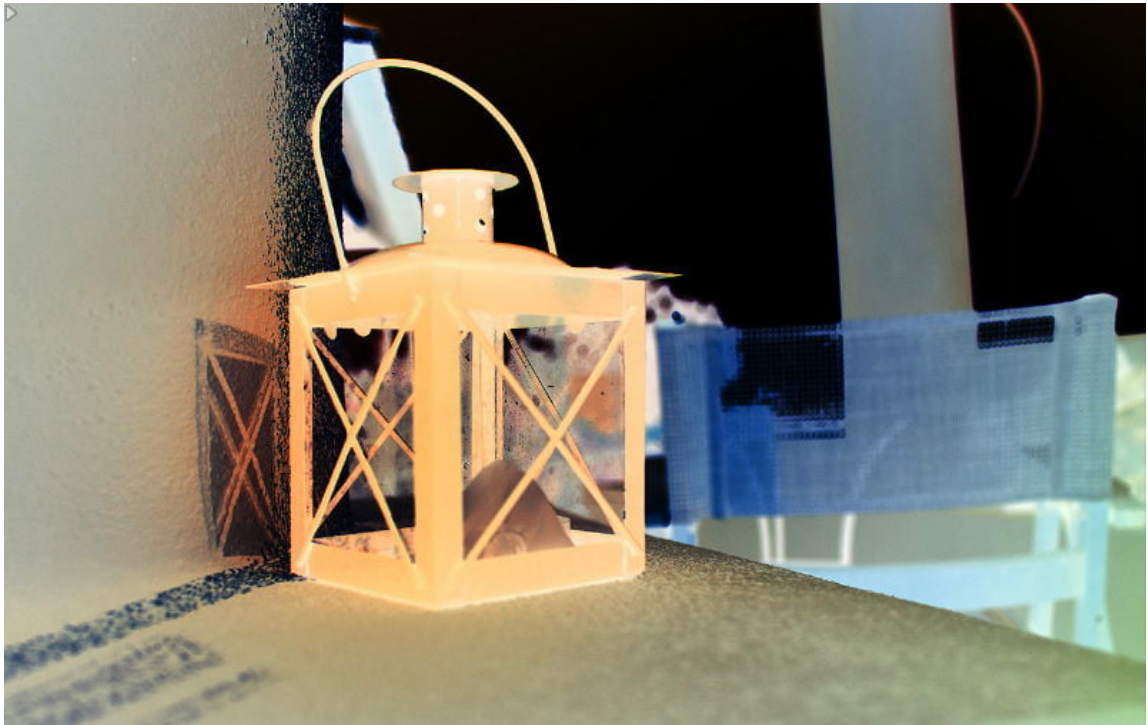
Sepia



Grayscale

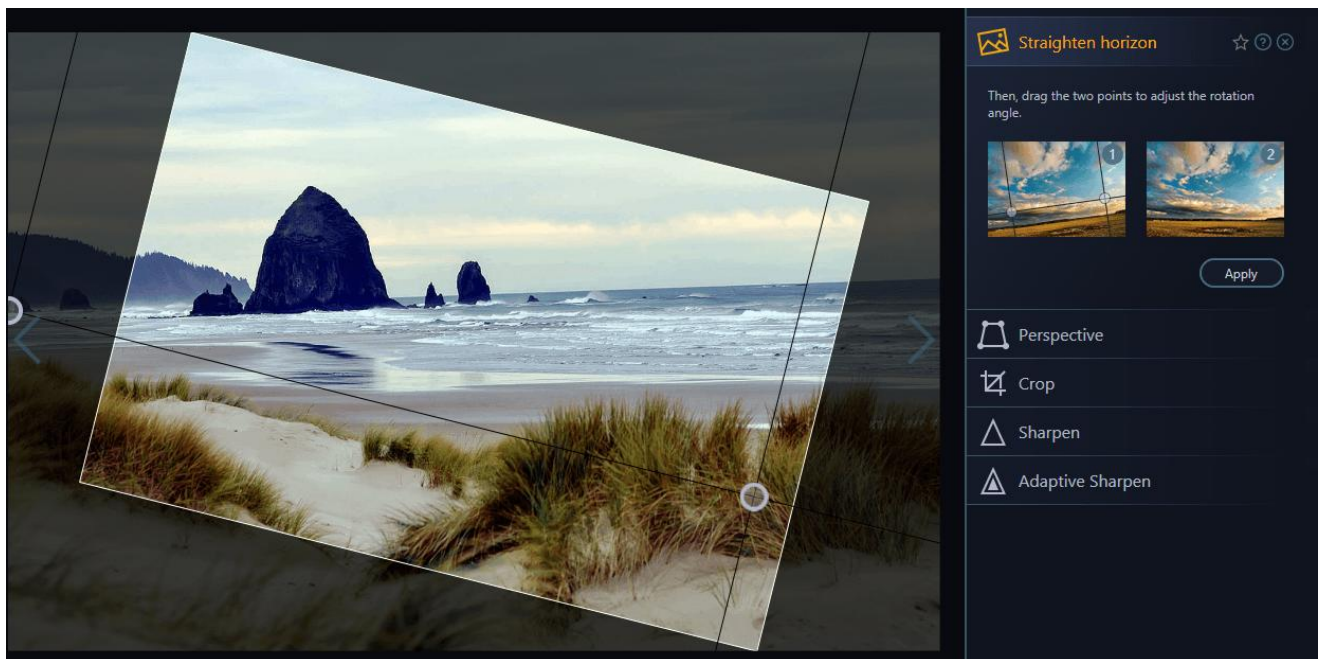
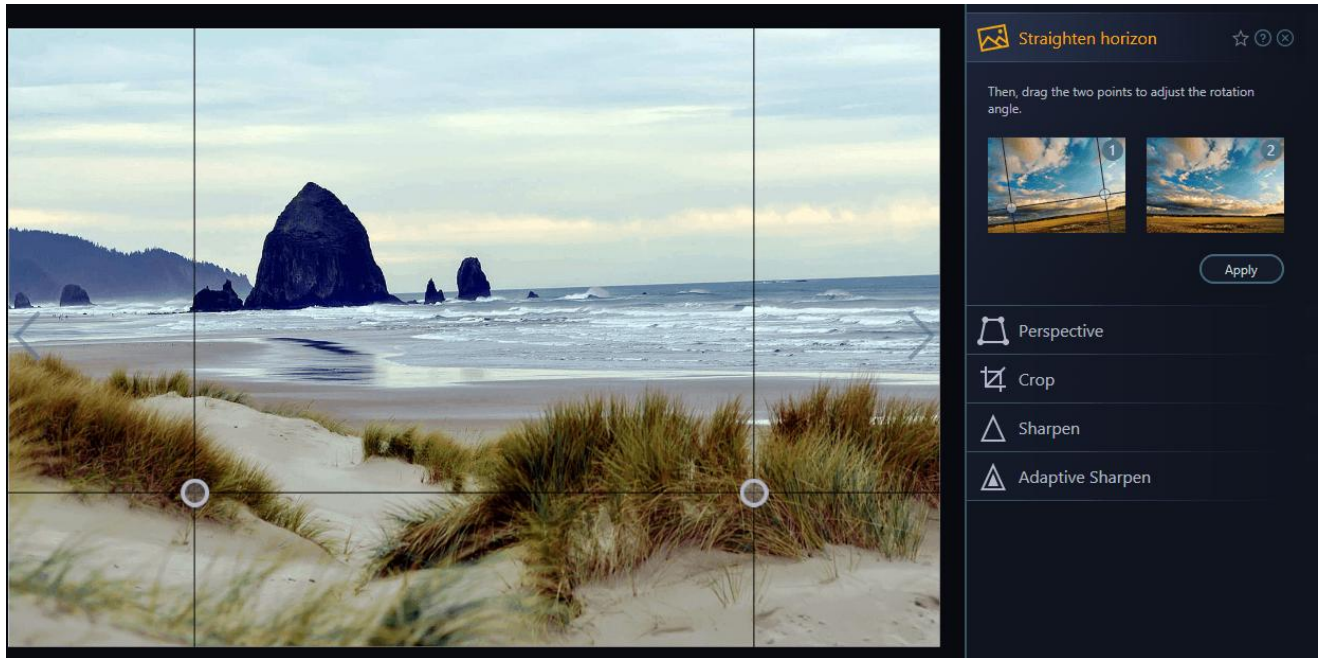


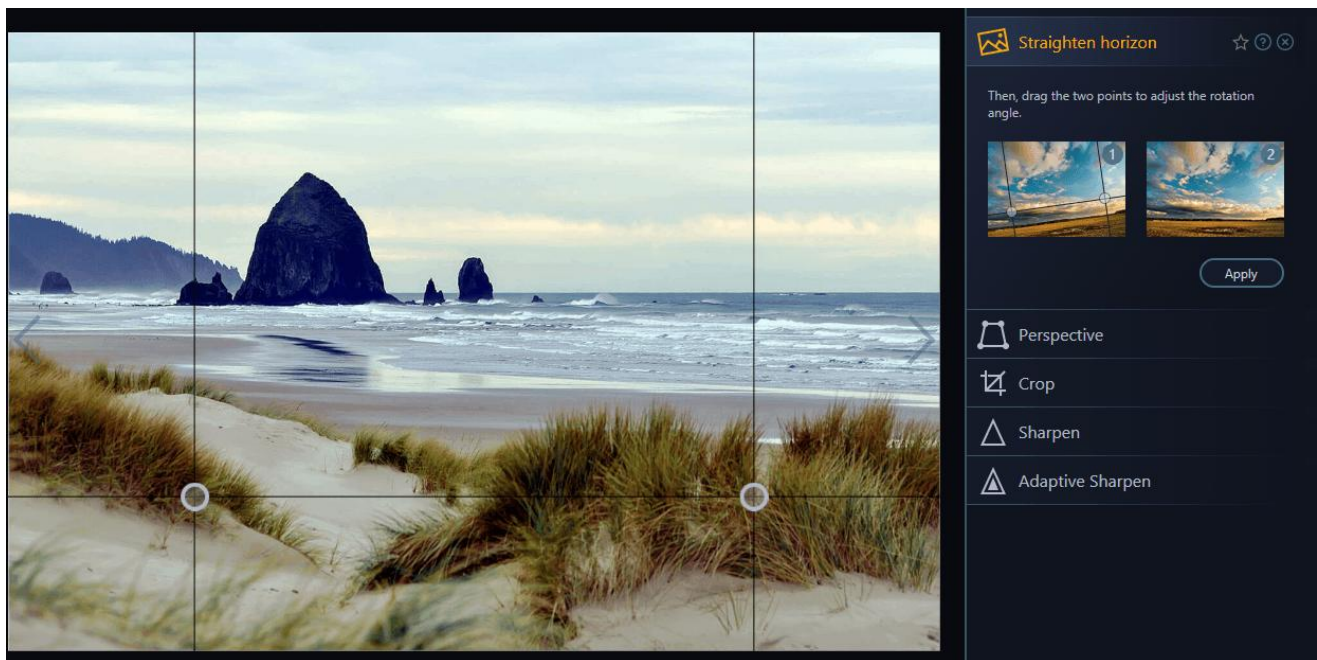
Invert



Straighten Horizon

Drag the circles to adjust the baseline. Once you click "Apply", the image will be rotated to match the angle of the baseline.

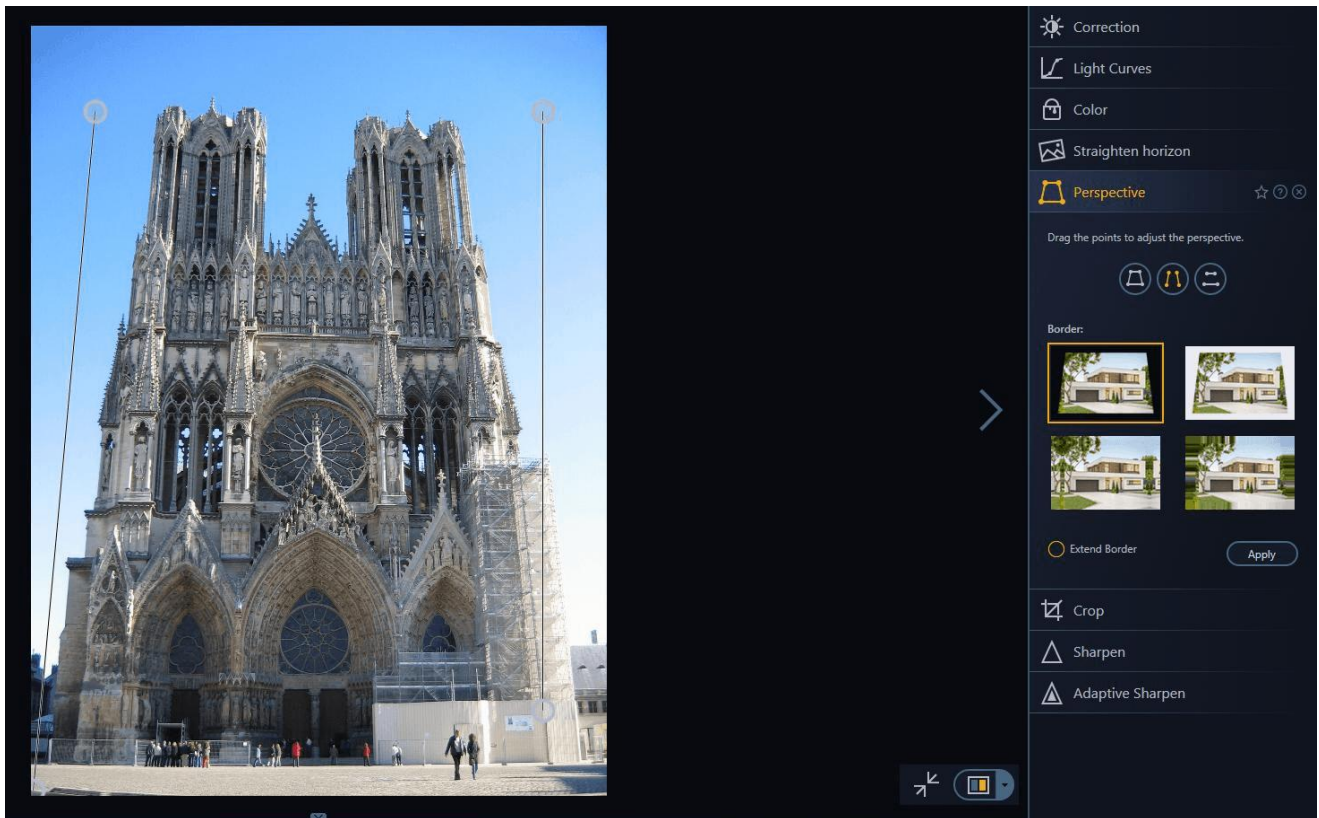
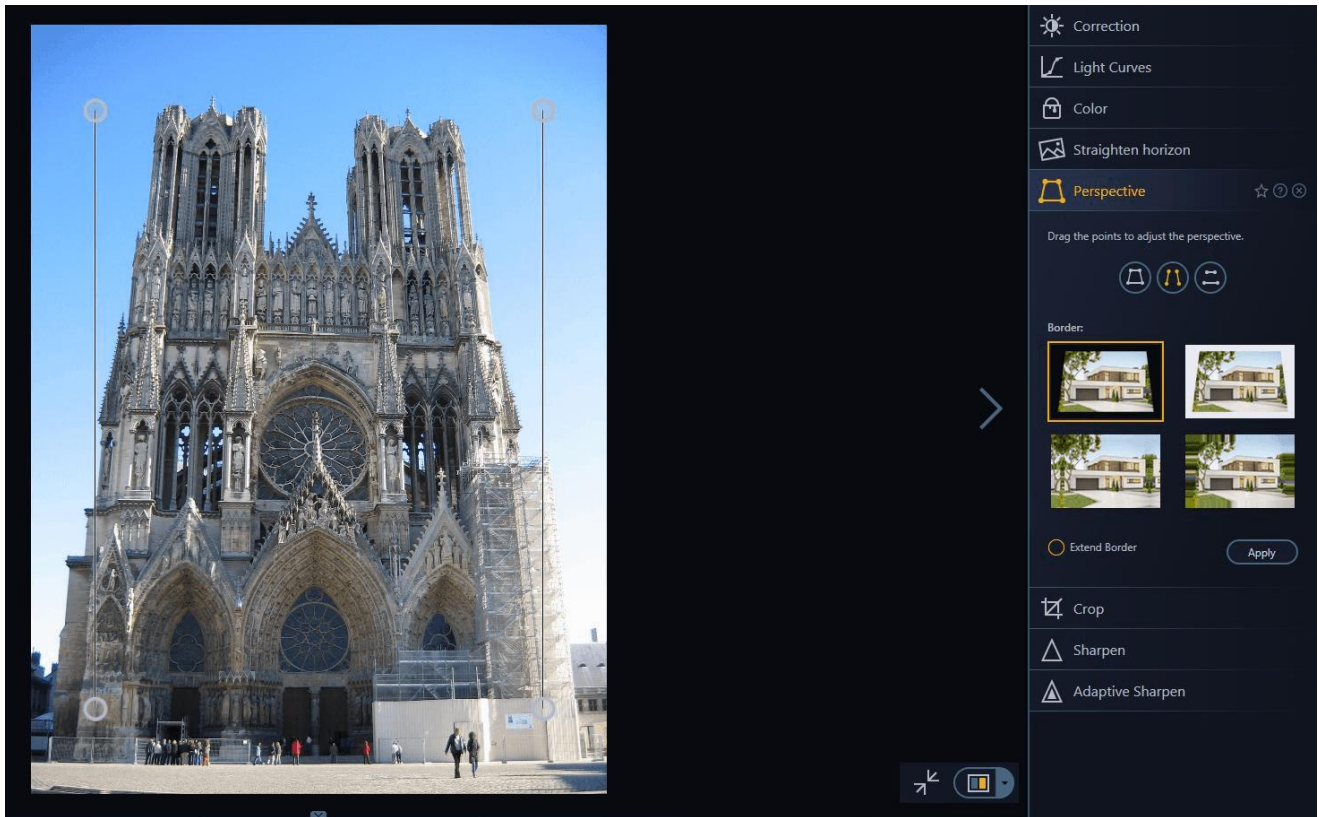


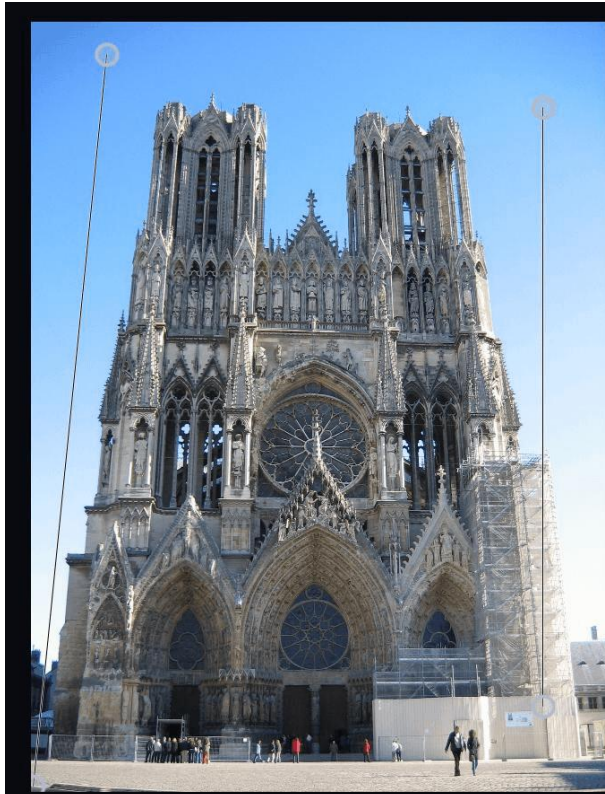


Perspective

This powerful feature allows you to apply perspective distortions to your photo to compensate for unfavorable camera positions. Drag the round markers to align the lines of the tool with the perspective of your photo and click "Apply" when you're done.

The cathedral in the following example appears to fall backwards. "Perspective" to the rescue:





- Correction
- Light Curves
- Color
- Straighten horizon
- Perspective** ☆ ⓘ

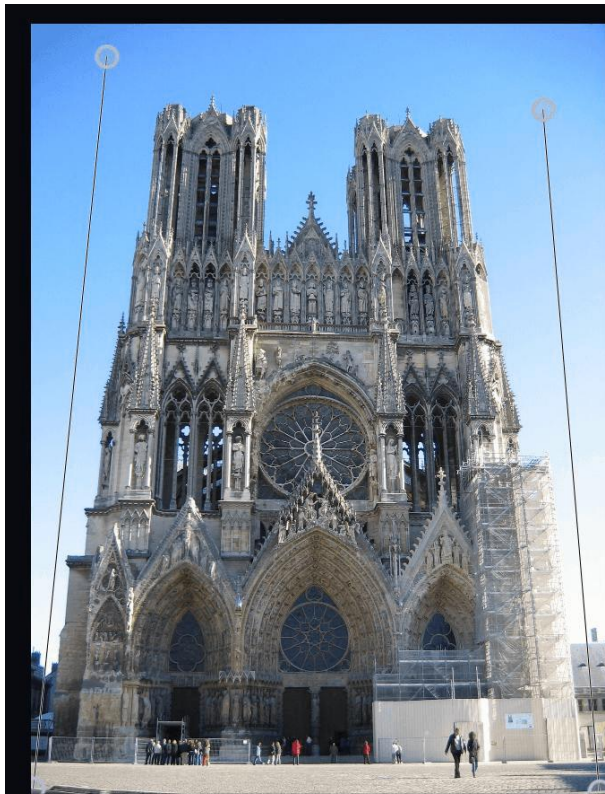
Drag the points to adjust the perspective.

Border:

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |

Extend Border Apply

- Crop
- Sharpen
- Adaptive Sharpen



- Correction
- Light Curves
- Color
- Straighten horizon
- Perspective** ☆ ⓘ

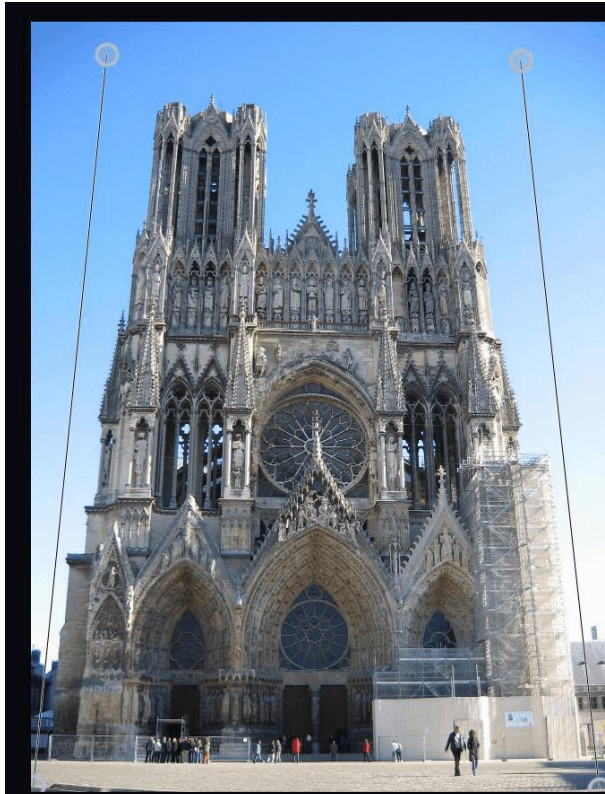
Drag the points to adjust the perspective.

Border:

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |

Extend Border Apply

- Crop
- Sharpen
- Adaptive Sharpen



Correction

Light Curves

Color



Straighten horizon



Perspective ☆ ⓘ

Drag the points to adjust the perspective.

⏪ ⏩ ⏴ ⏵

Border:

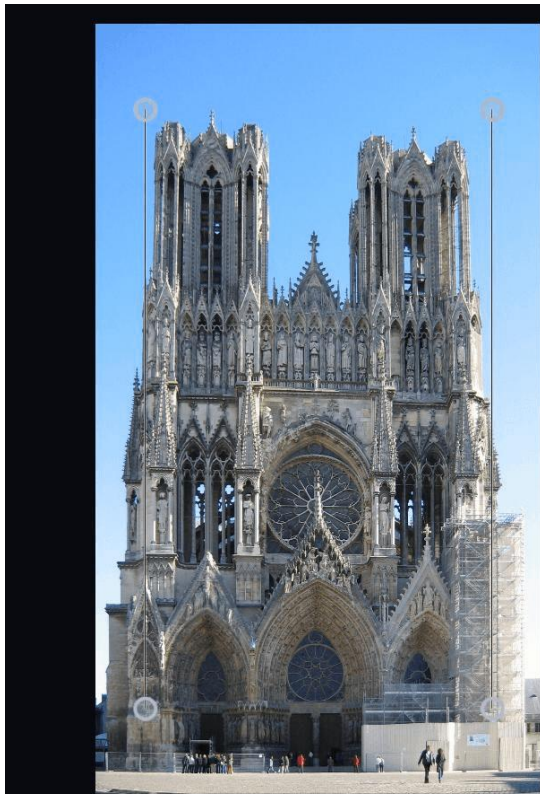
 

Extend Border

Crop

Sharpen

Adaptive Sharpen



Correction

Light Curves

Color



Straighten horizon



Perspective ☆ ⓘ

Drag the points to adjust the perspective.

⏪ ⏩ ⏴ ⏵

Border:

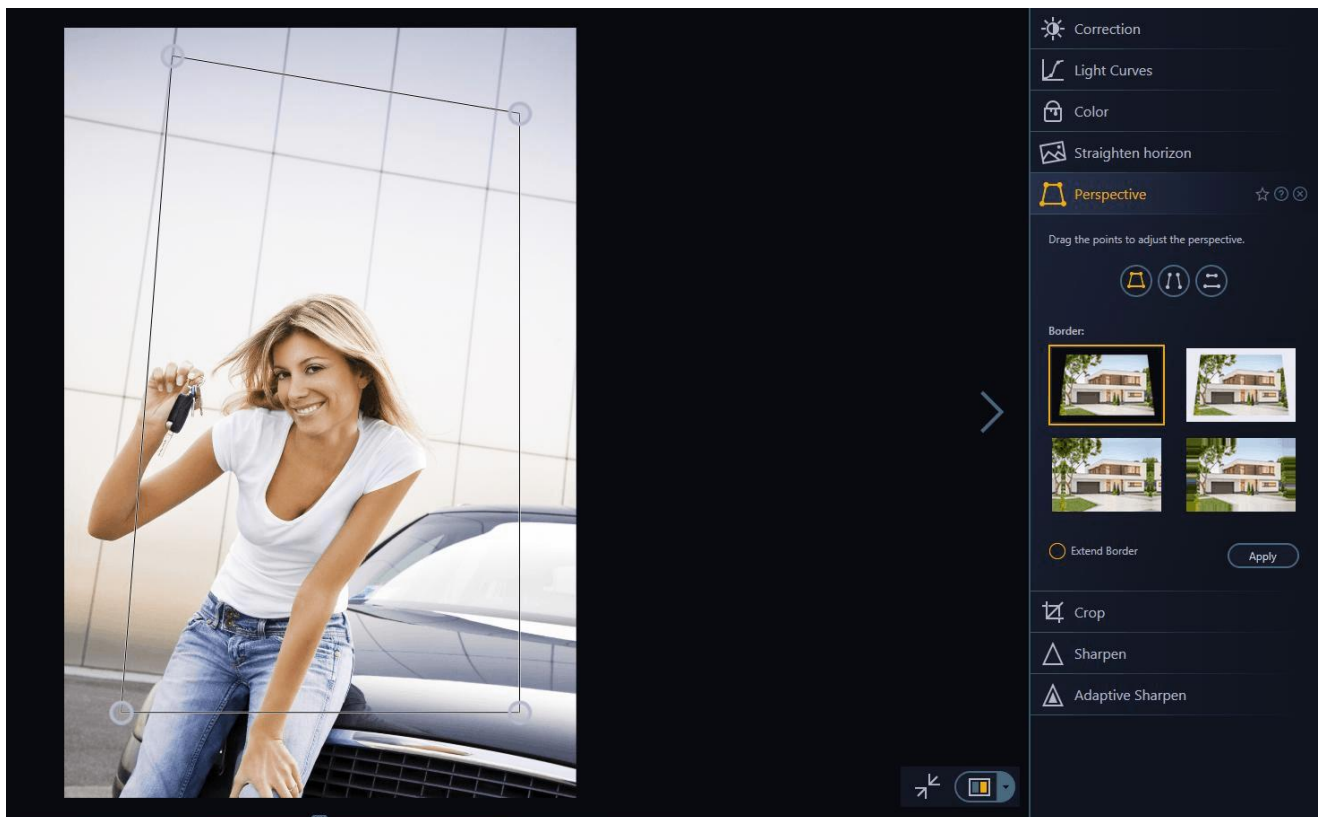
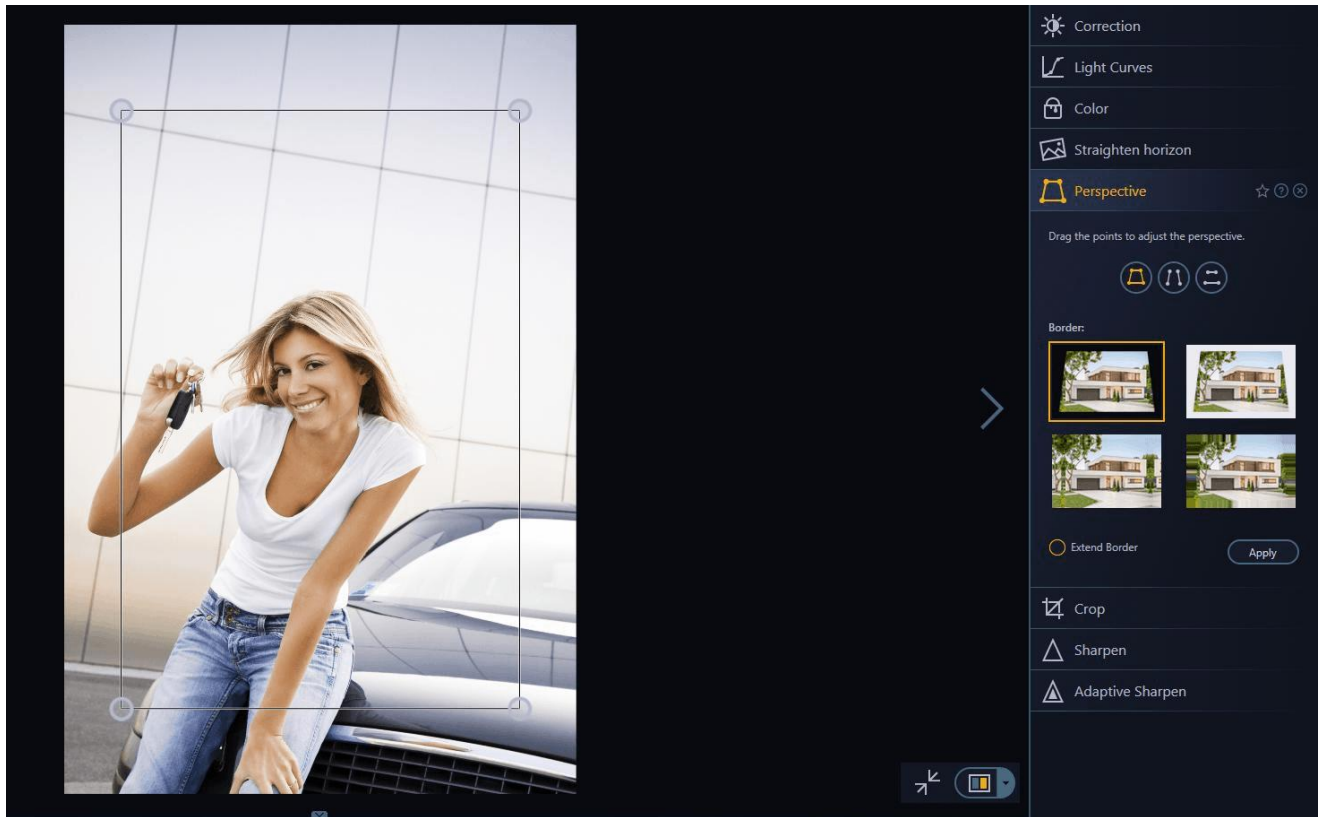
Extend Border

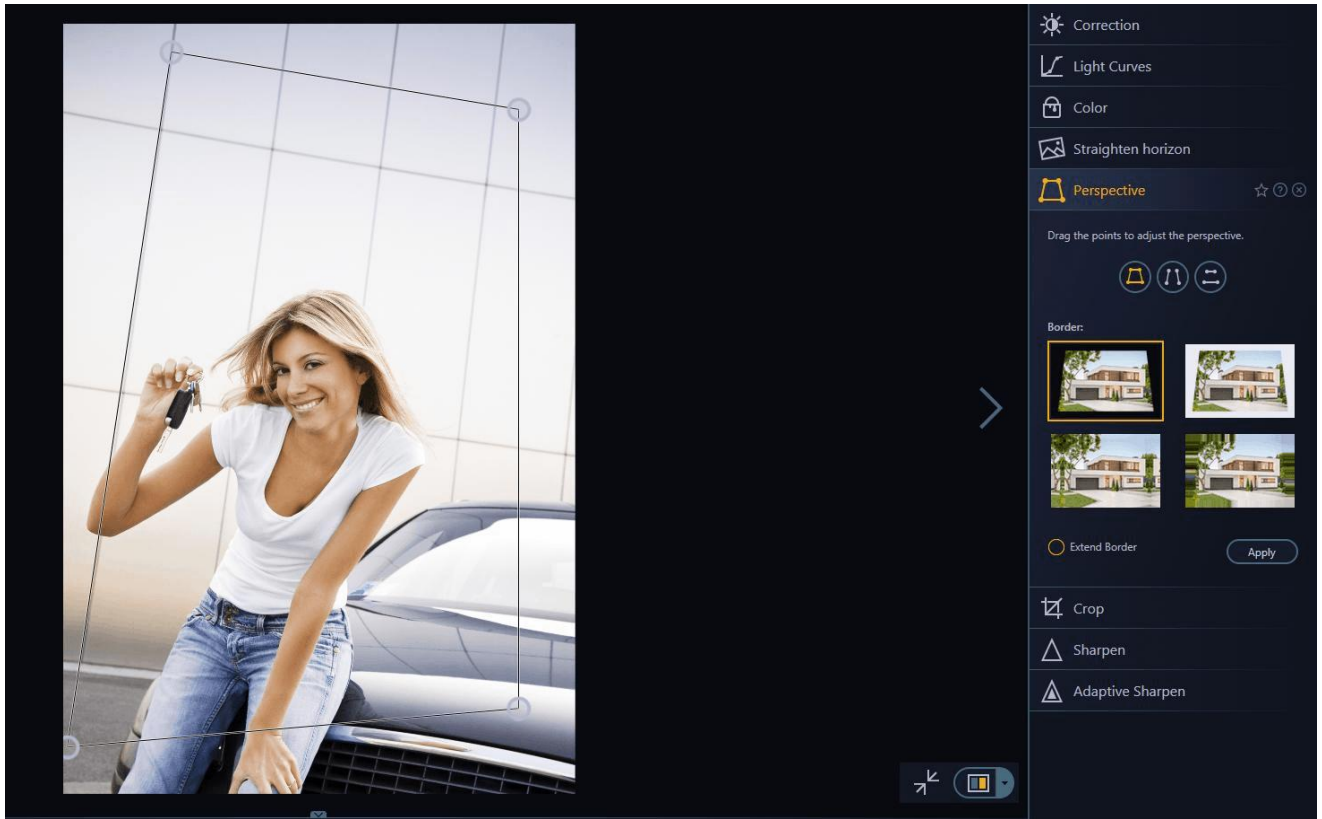
Crop

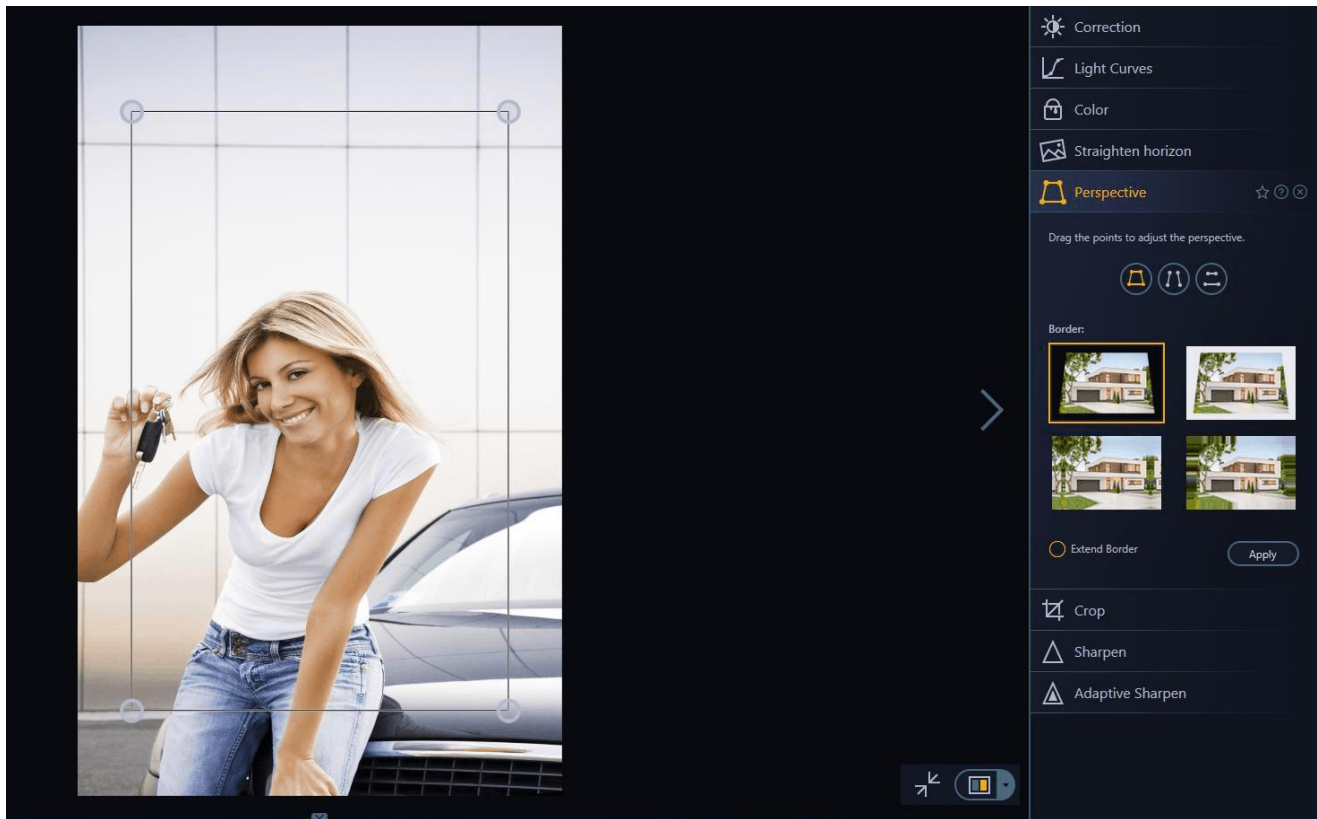
Sharpen

Adaptive Sharpen

In the next example, the photographer must have held the camera askew. This is also easily fixed:



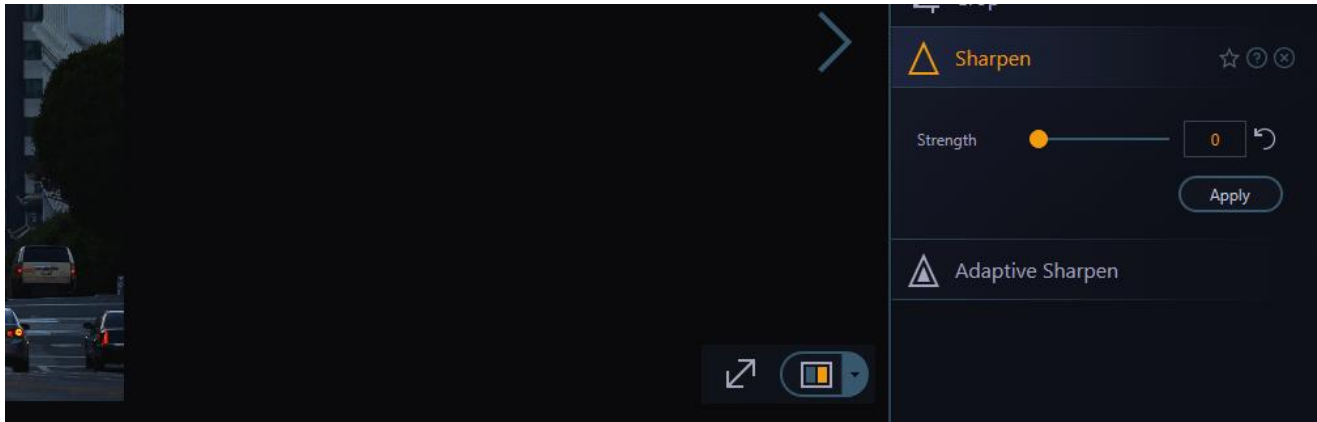




"Perspective" offers three modes: horizontal+vertical, vertical, and horizontal. The line display adapts to the selected mode.

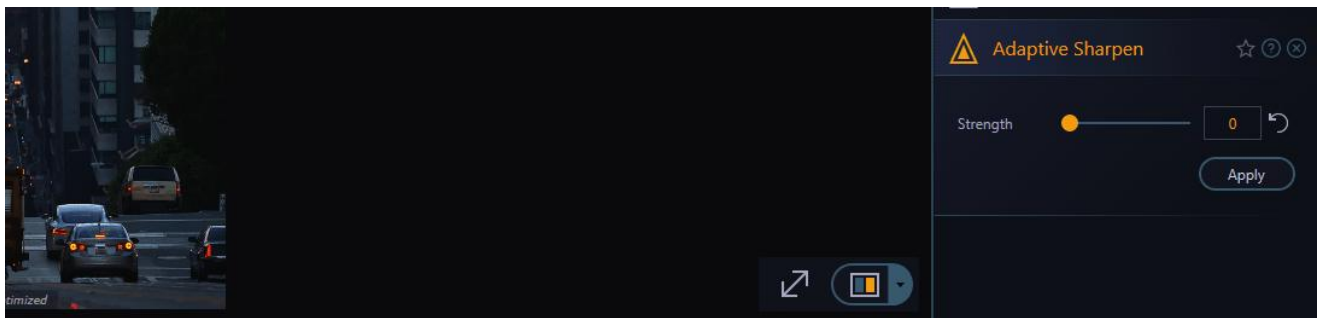
You've probably noticed the photos in the above examples were clipped at the edges once perspective distortion had been applied. This is the default setting. Rotating and shearing invariably leads to additional borders. You can specify how these borders will be handled under "Border". "Extend Border" has to be selected for these settings to have any effect. The feature is very similar to that of [Free Rotation](#).

Sharpen



Use the slider to adjust the strength of the effect.

Adaptive Sharpen



This effect analyzes your image and intelligently adjusts the effect strength based on existing pixels and colors in your image.

Use the slider to set an initial strength.

Face

Remove Red Eyes

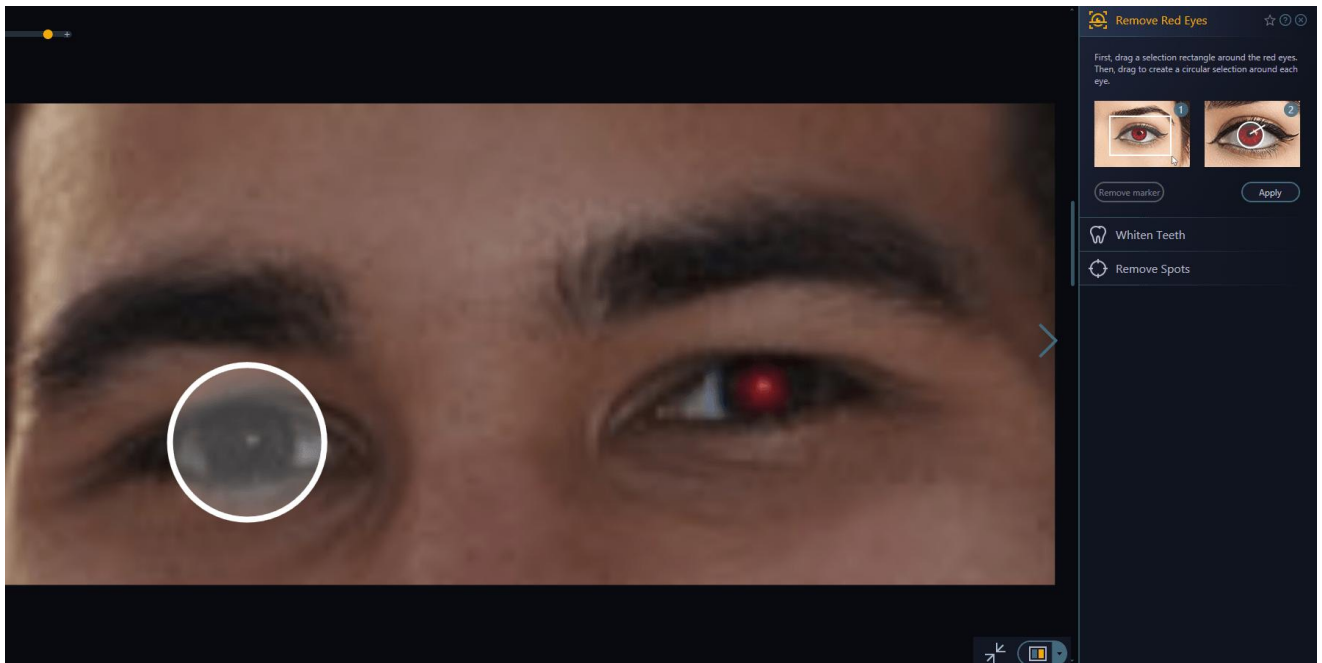
Select target area

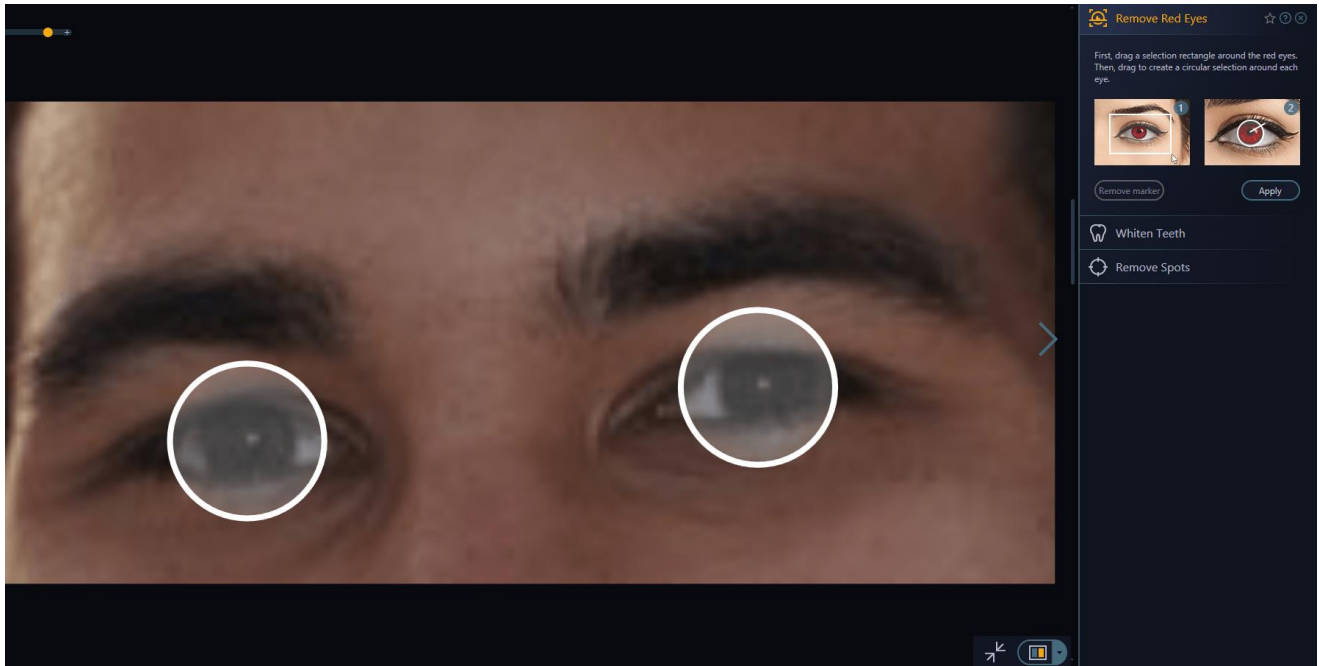
Drag to create a selection around the affected area, e.g. a pair of red eyes. Make the selection a little bigger than just the eyes to include a bit of the eyebrows and skin. This will help the program achieve the best result. Once selected, the program will auto-zoom into the area.

Select red eyes

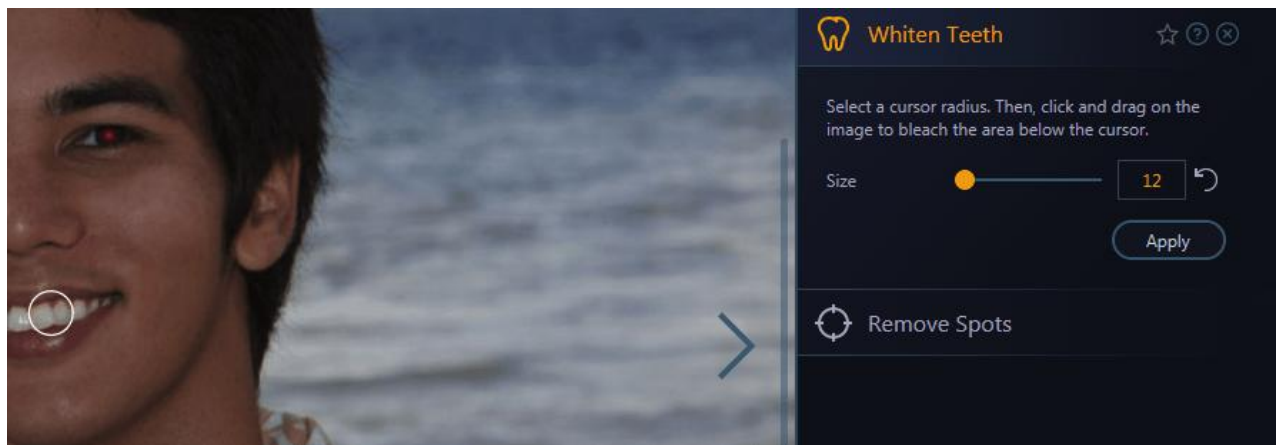
Next, click into the center of each of the affected areas, e.g. a red pupil, and drag to create a circular selection around them. You can create as many circular selections as necessary. The program will then fix the color for the selected areas.





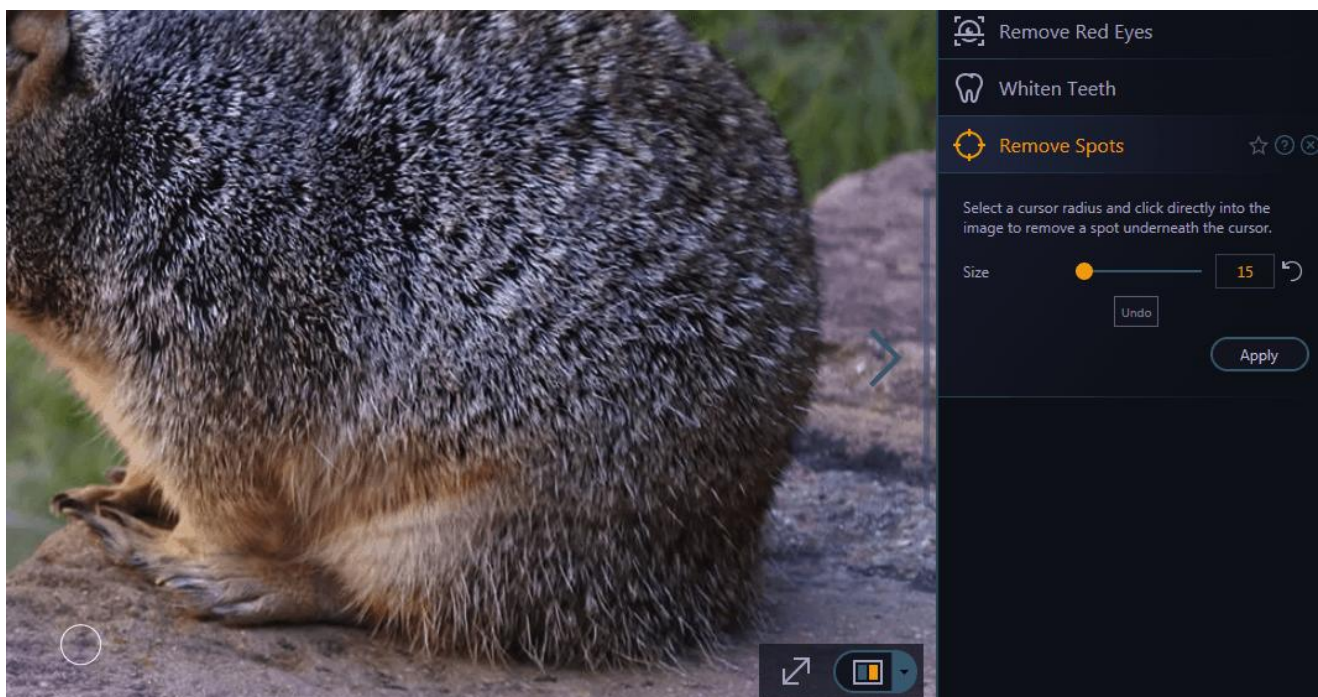


Whiten Teeth



Select a pen size (Strength) and click the affected image areas to whiten them.

Remove Spots

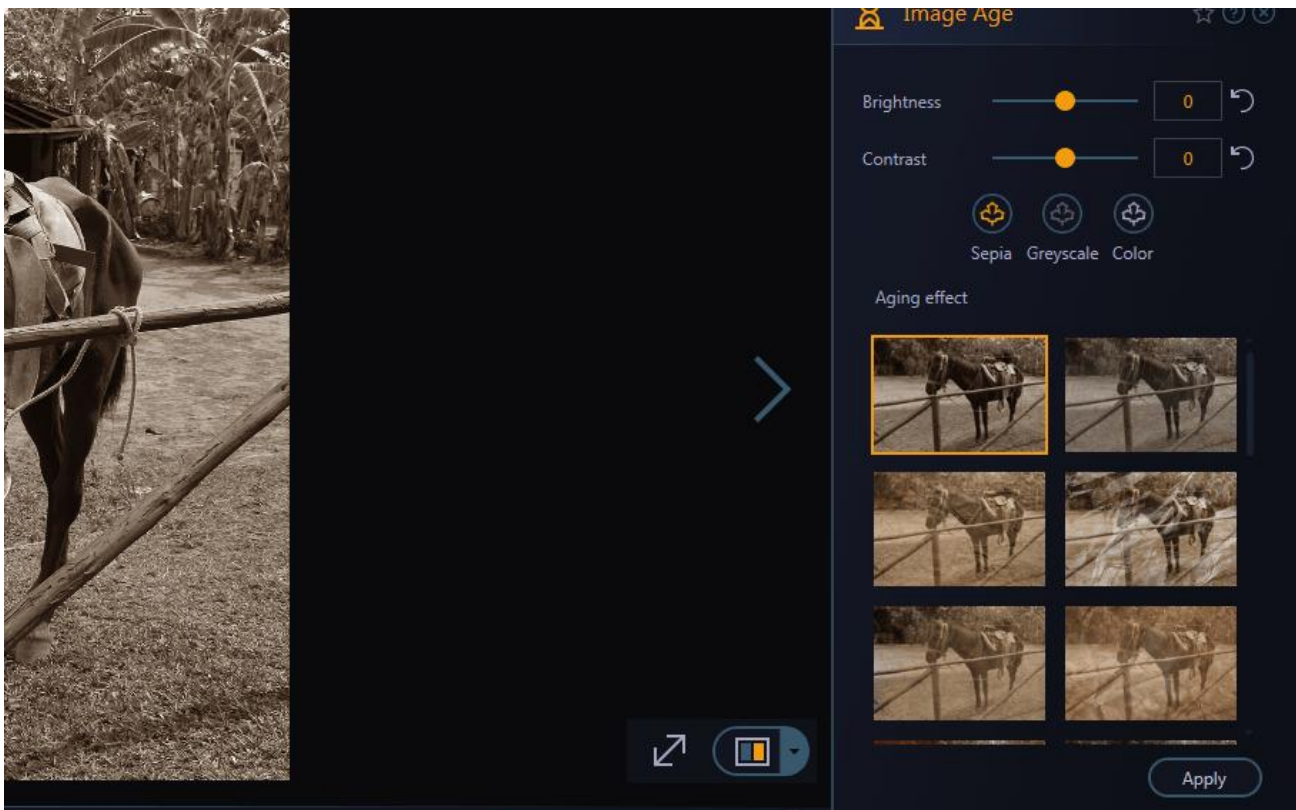


Select a pen size (Strength) and click the affected image areas to clean them.

Effects

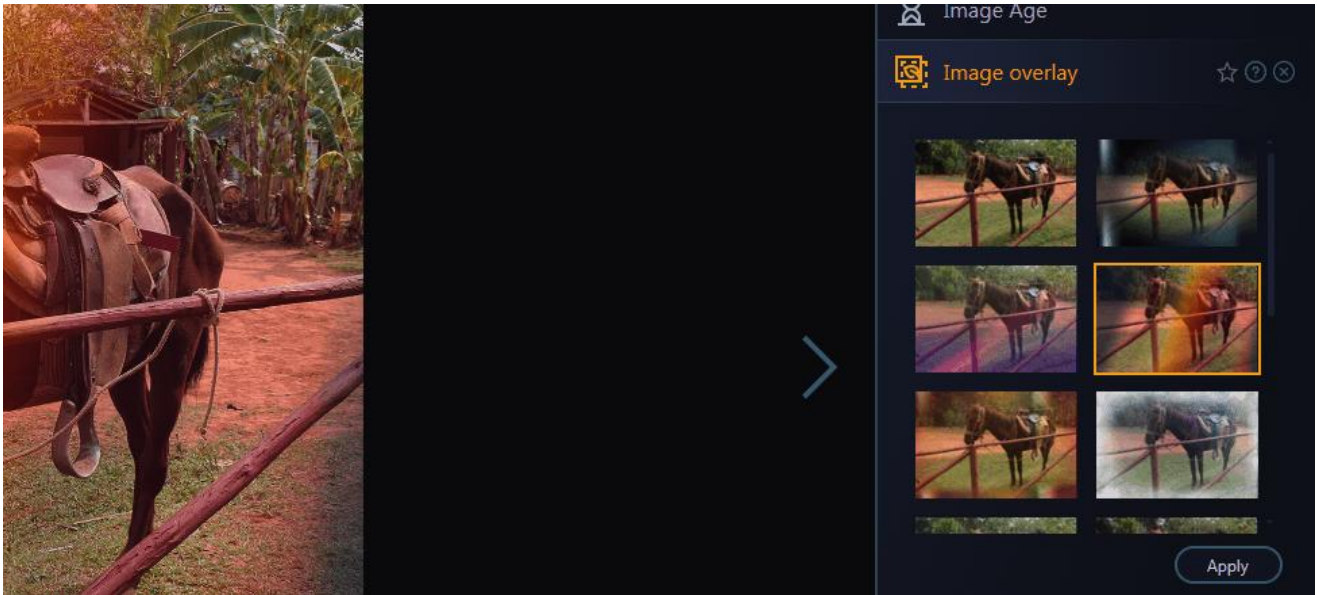
We recommend playing around with the different effects to get a feel for them.

Image Age



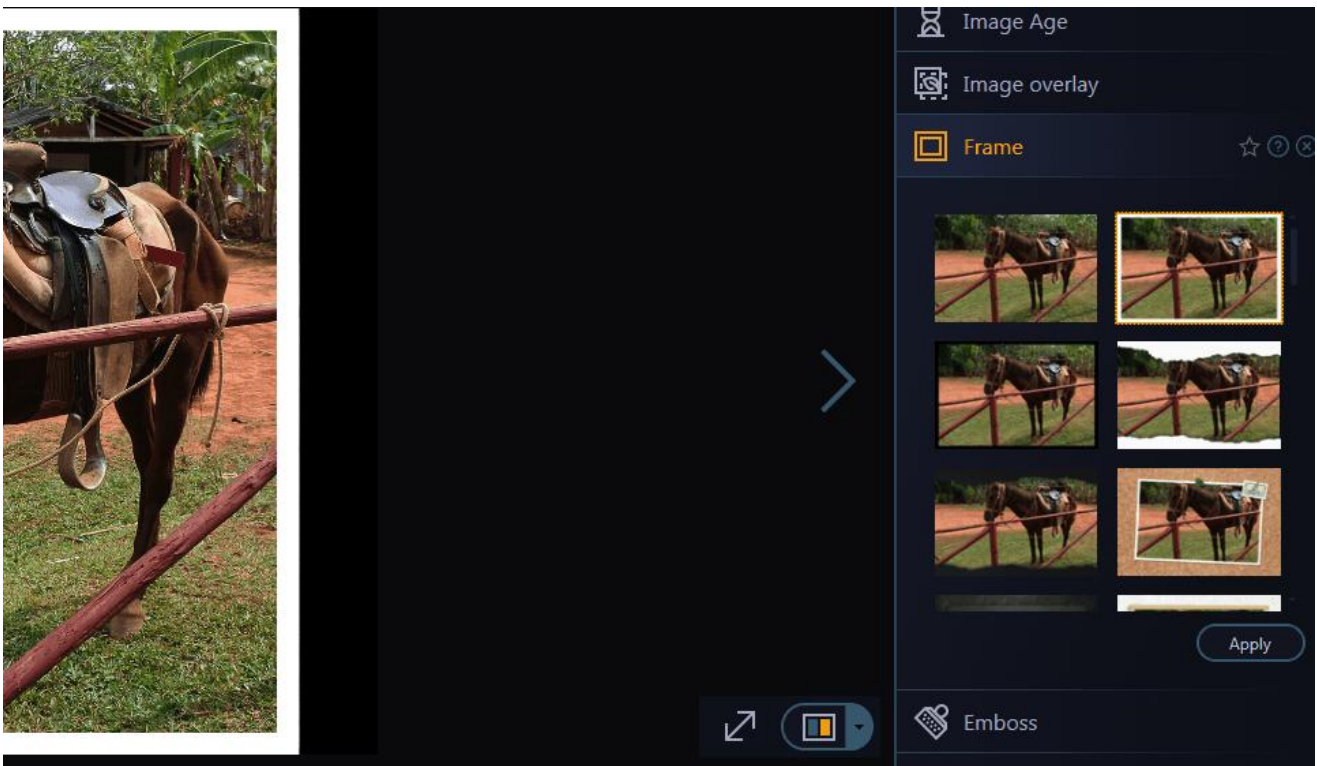
Select the desired aging effect and adjust brightness and contrast to your needs. Use the cog wheel buttons to select the color effect the aging effect will use.

Image Overlay



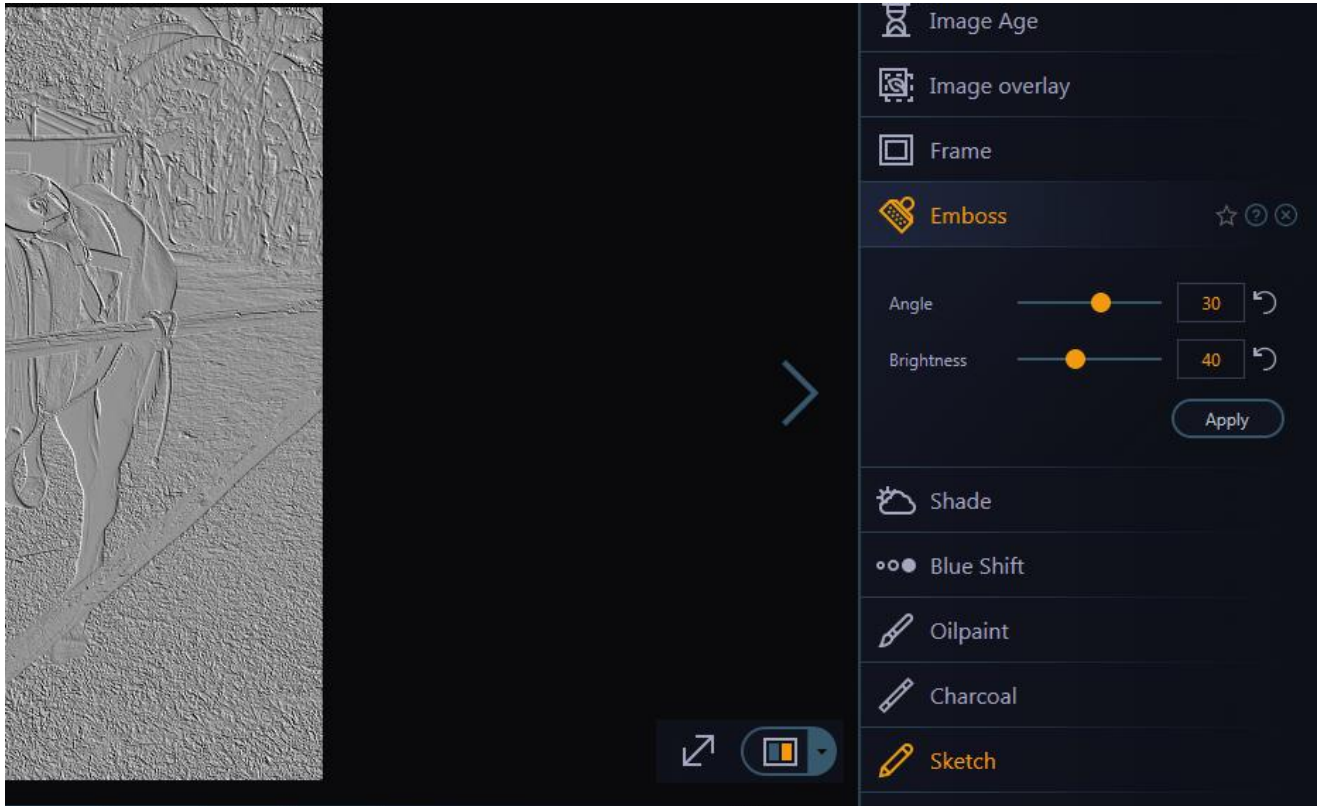
Select and apply an overlay to your image, e.g. a rainbow.

Frame



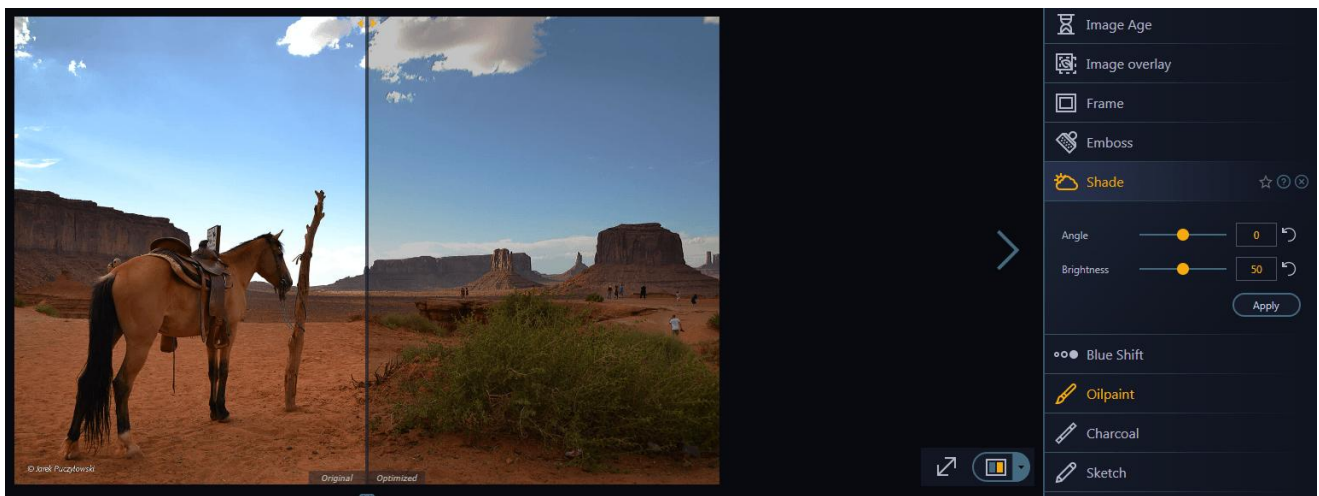
Select a preset and surround your image with a stylish frame.

Emboss



Select the desired angle and brightness and click Ok to apply the effect.

Shade



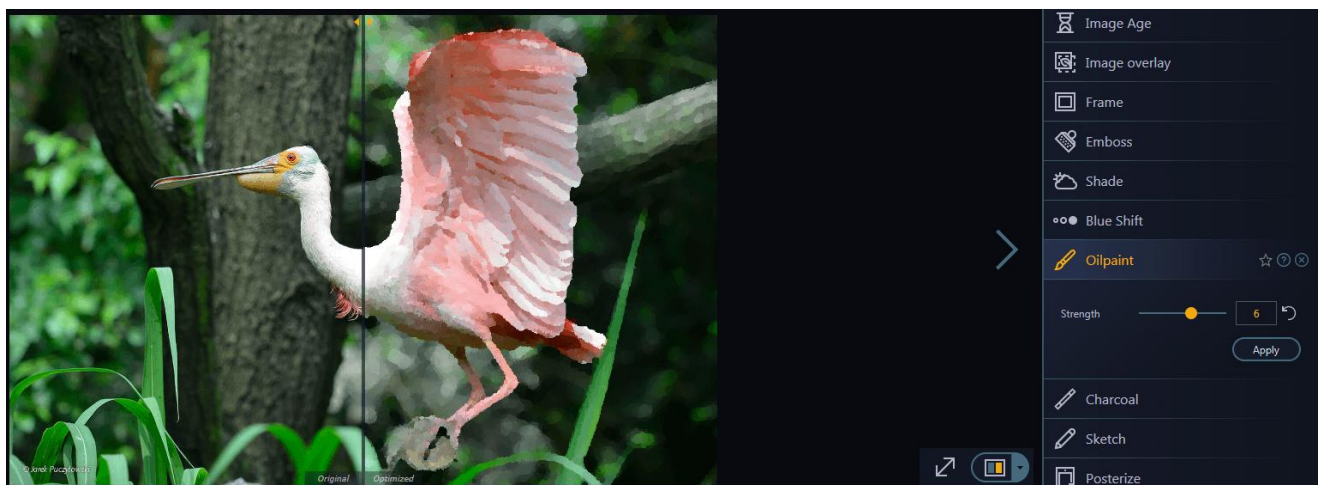
This effect is very similar to sunglasses with adjustable angle and brightness.

Blue Shift



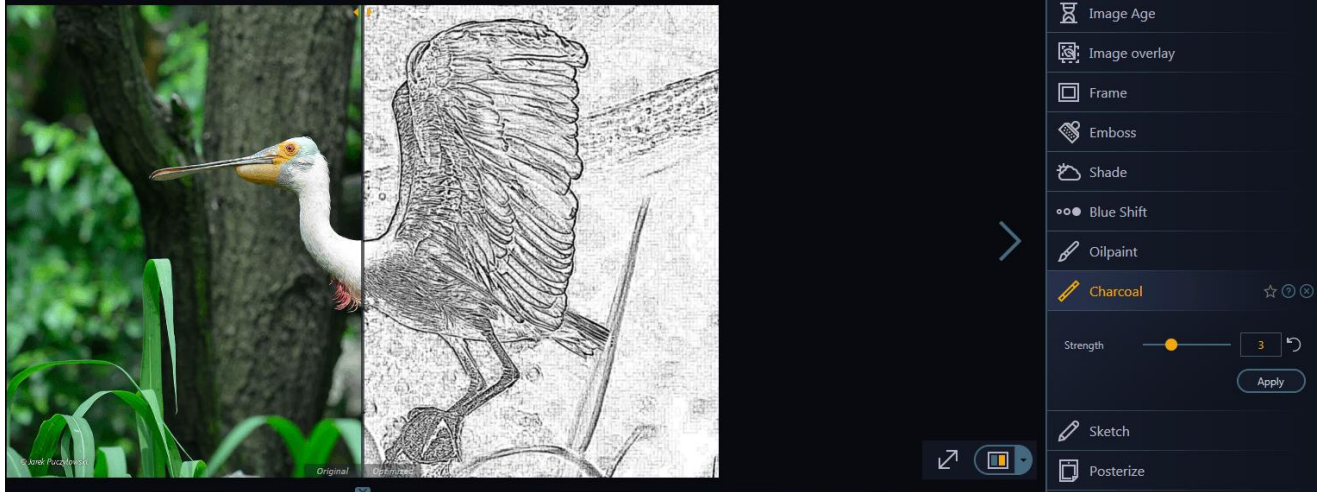
Use the slider to adjust the shift and make your image look like an old Polaroid.

Oilpaint



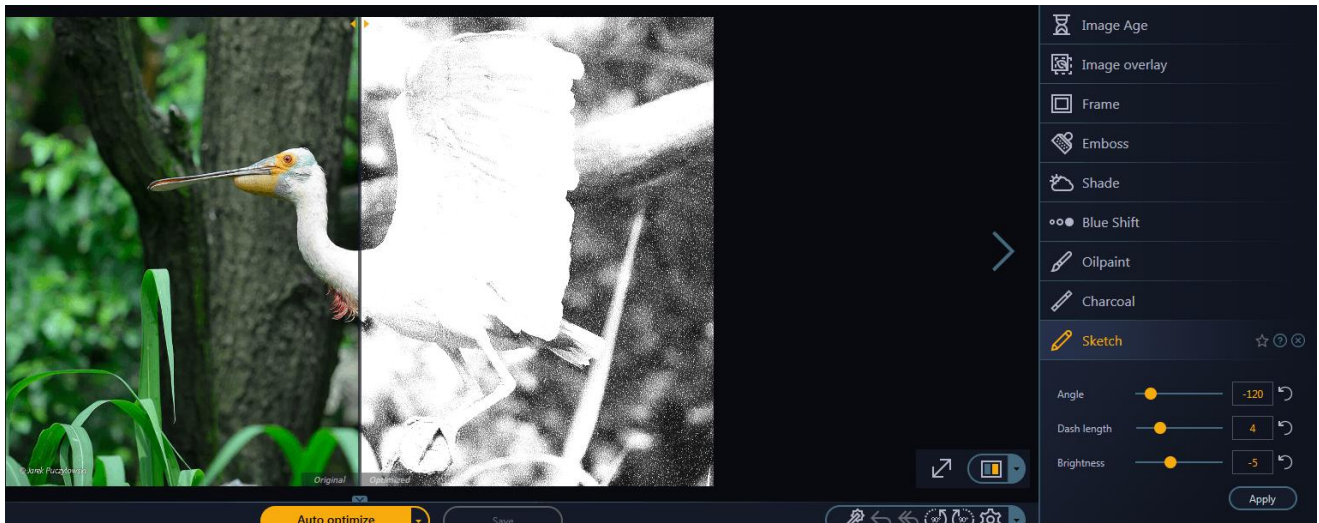
Select the strength of the effect via the slider and turn your image into an oil painting.

Charcoal



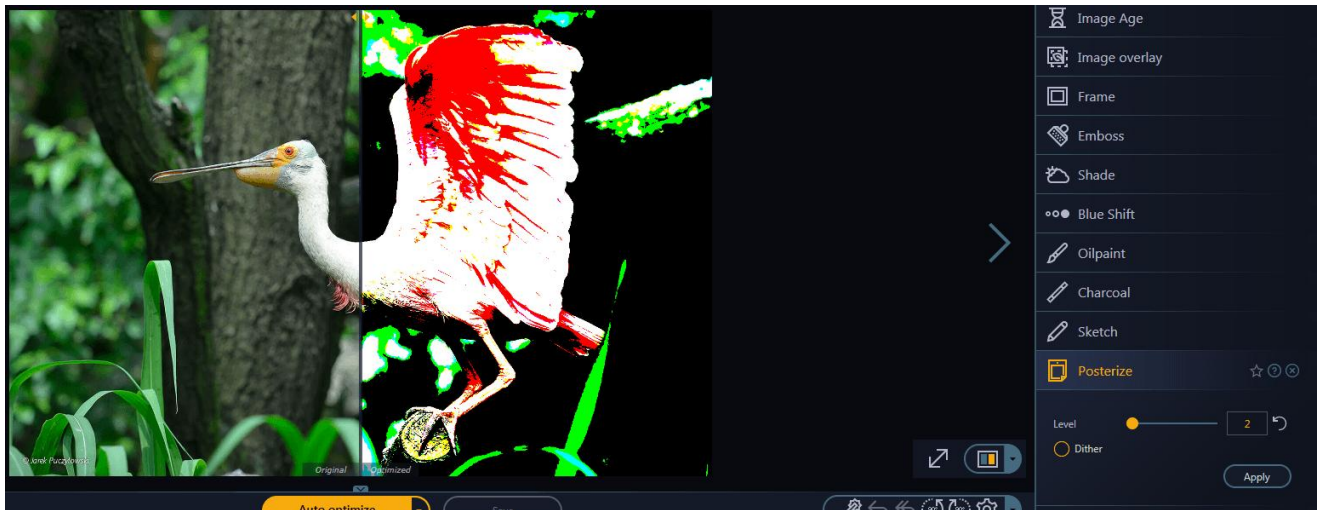
Turn your image into a charcoal painting. Experiment with the sliders for best results.

Sketch



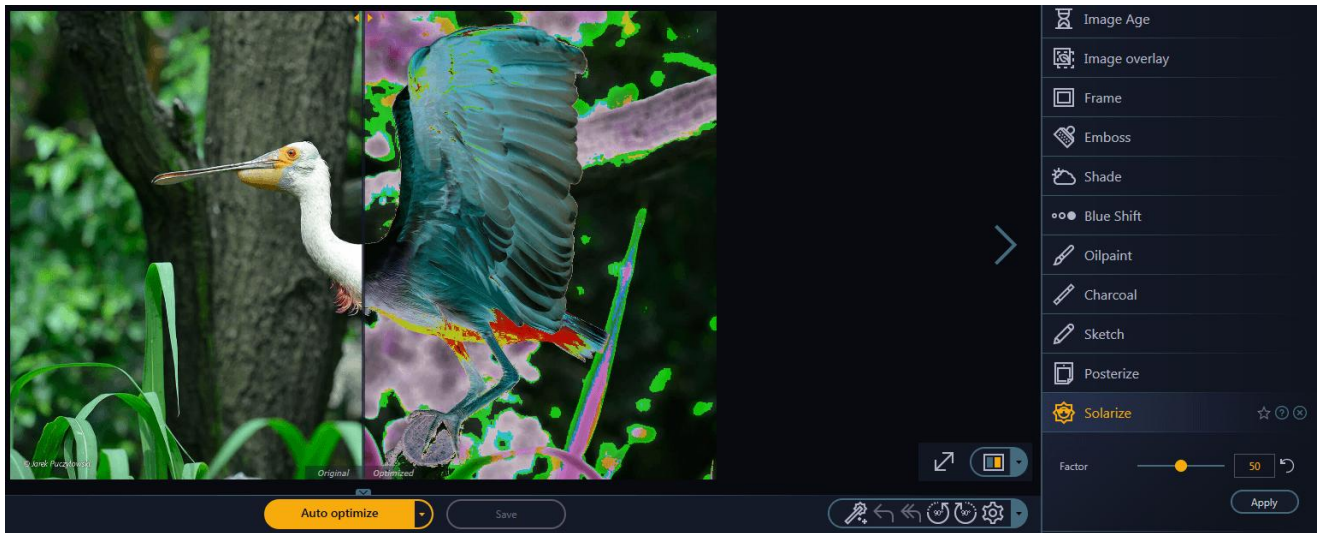
Turns your image into a pencil sketch. Experiment with the sliders for best results.

Posterize



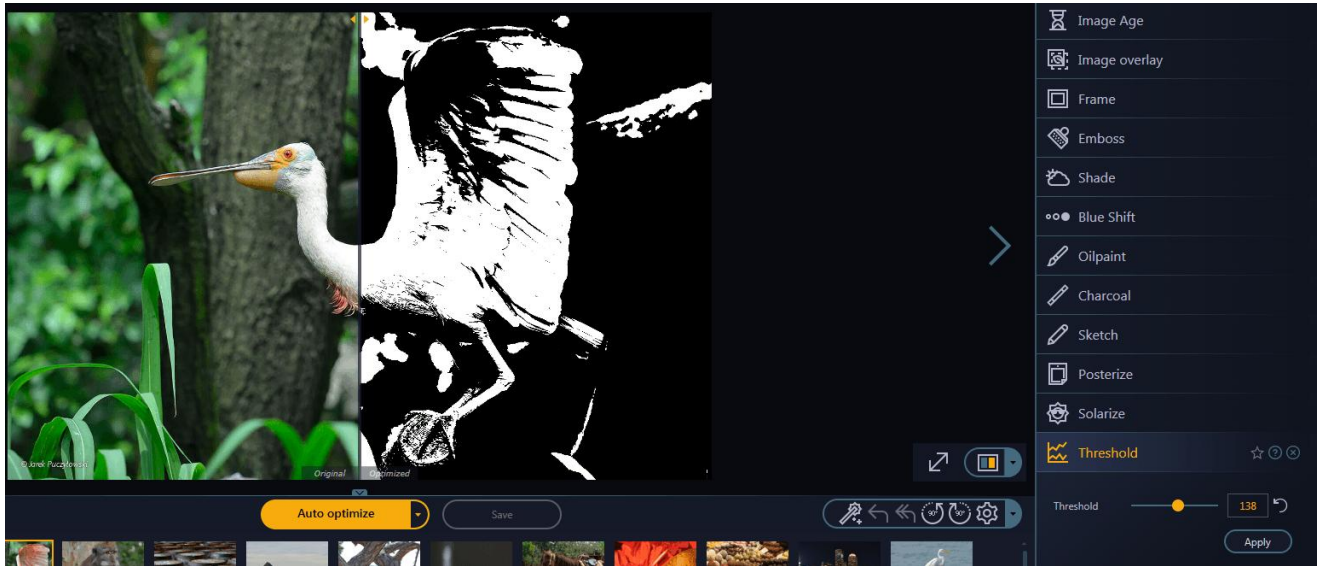
Make your image look like a poster. The level controls the number of colors used.

Solarize



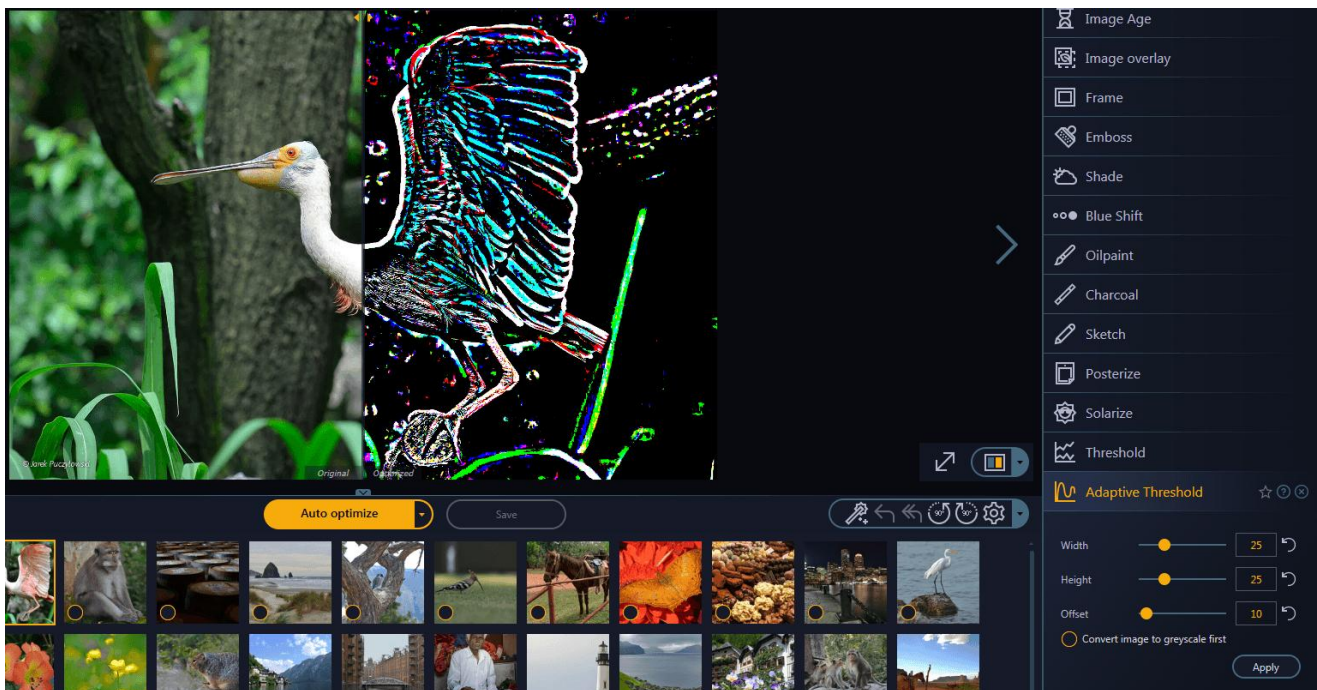
Use the slider to overexpose your image.

Threshold



Segments your image by setting all pixels whose intensity values are above a threshold to black and all the remaining pixels to white.

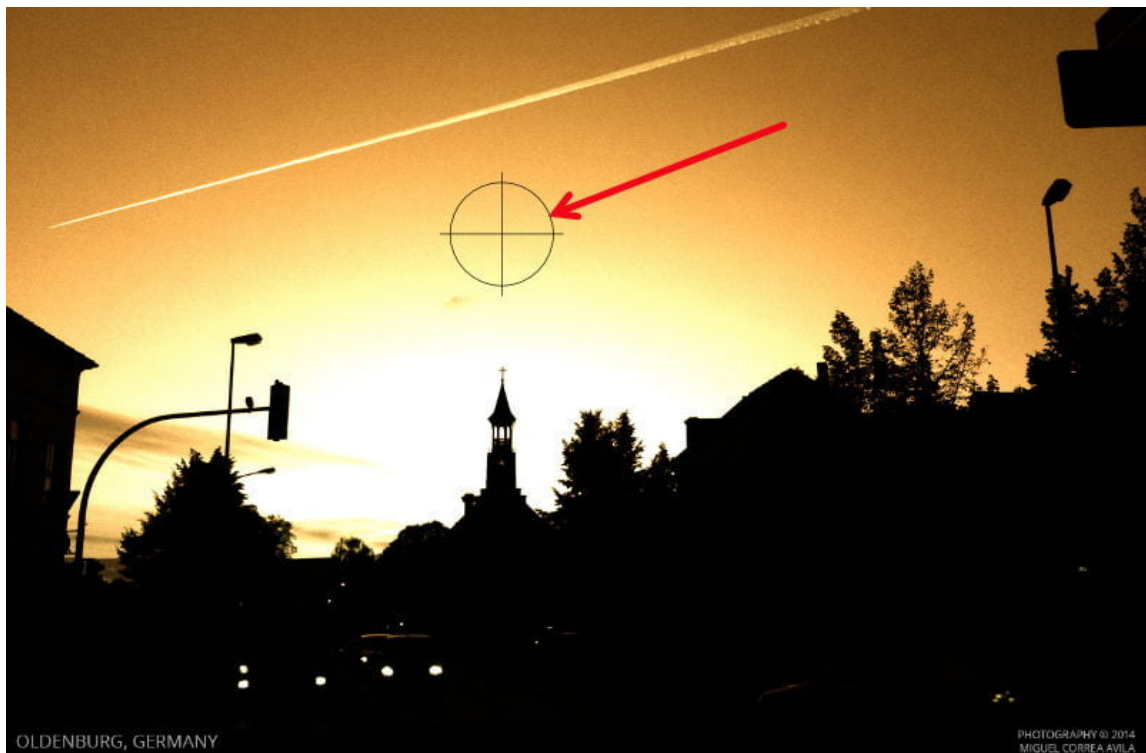
Adaptive Threshold



Automatically segments your image by setting all pixels whose intensity values are above a threshold to a foreground value and all the remaining pixels to a background value.

Manipulate

Clone Area

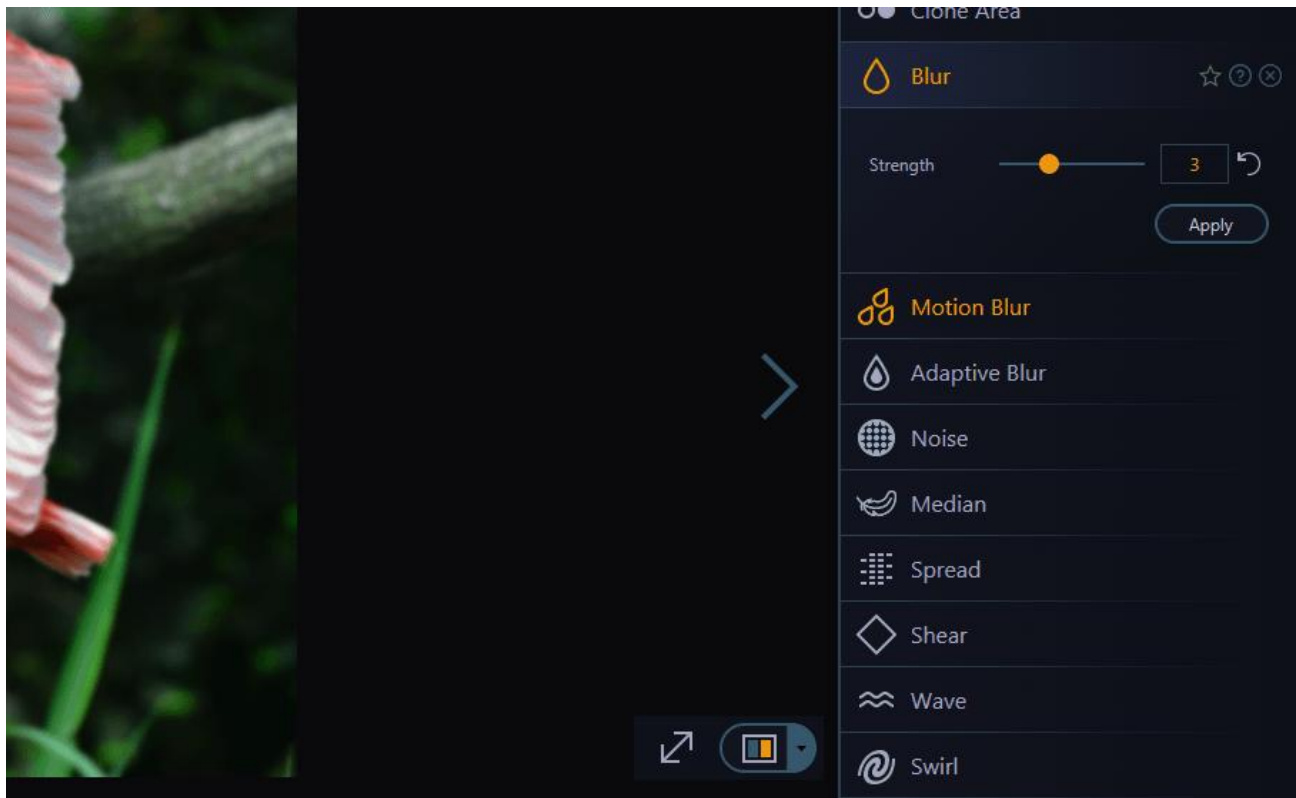


Click to place a copy marker.



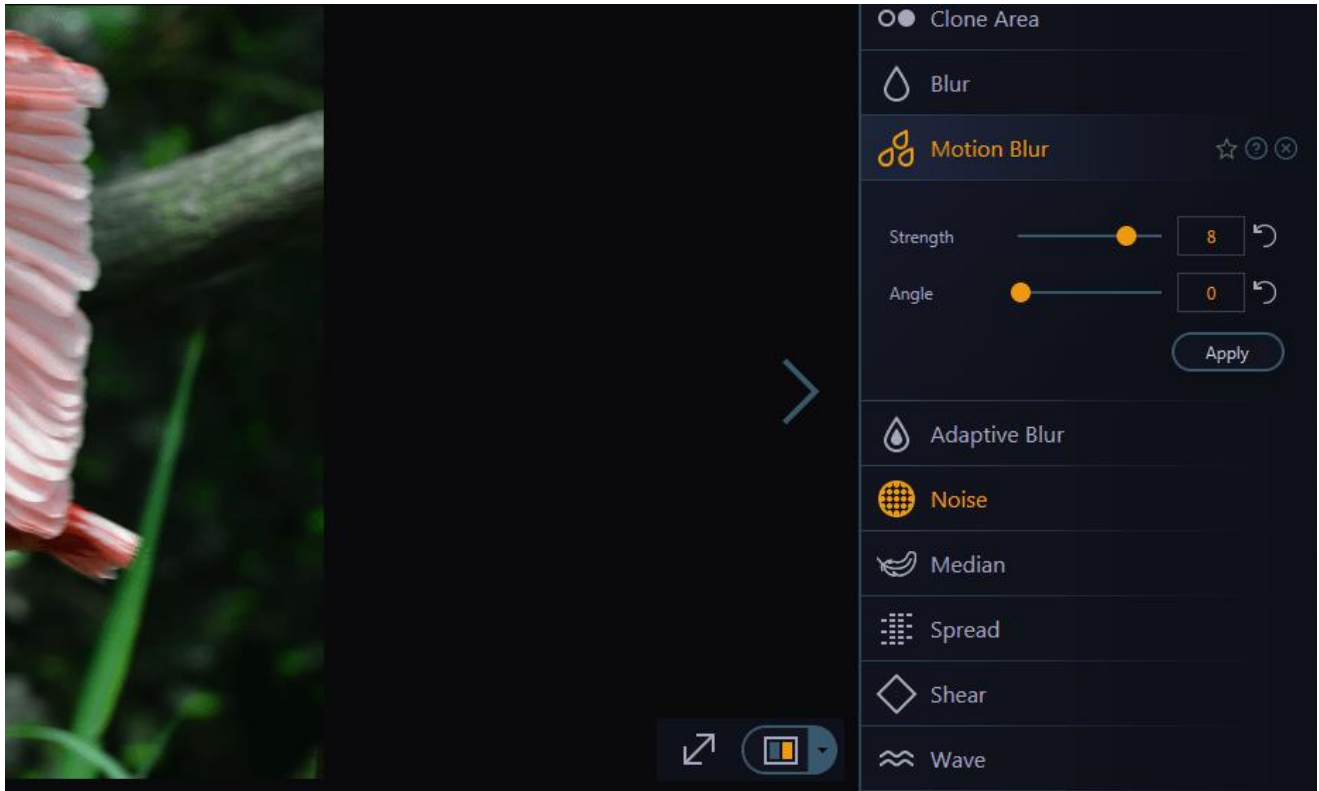
Then, drag the destination marker to copy the source area into the target area. In the image above, the steeple was cloned.

Blur



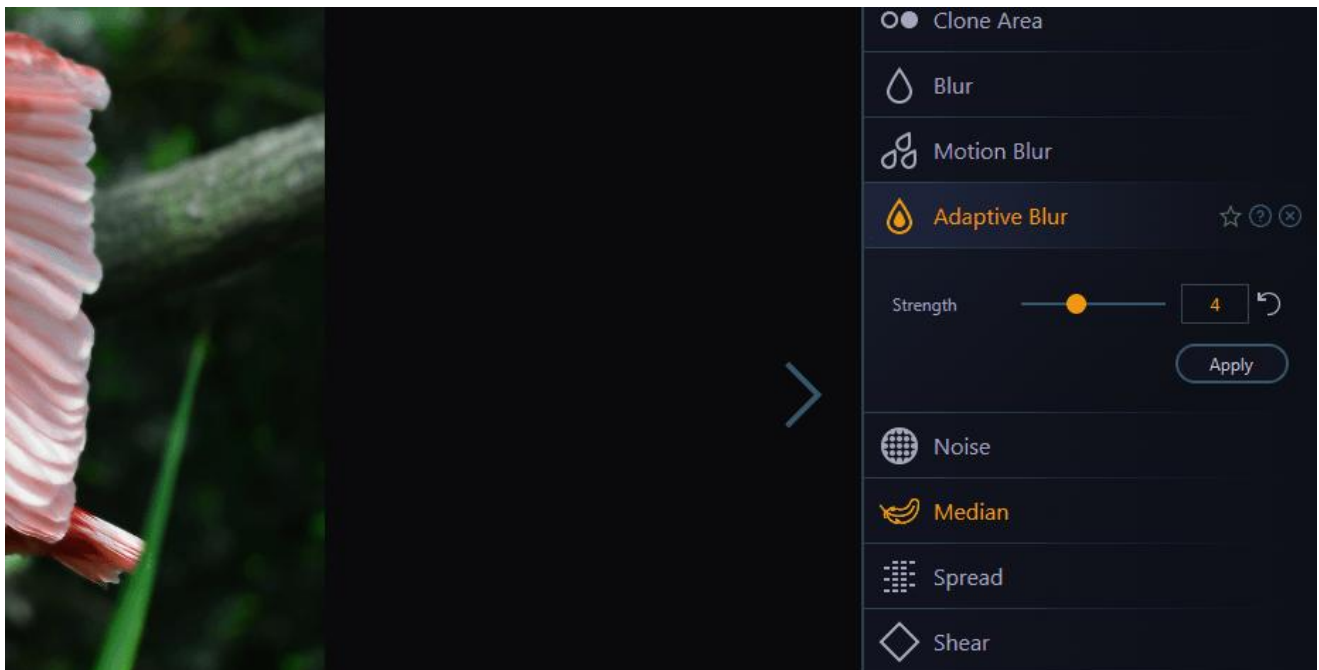
Use the slider to adjust the strength of the blur effect.

Motion Blur



This feature mimics the blur that occurs when objects are captured in motion. Use the sliders to adjust the strength (Sigma) and angle.

Adaptive Blur

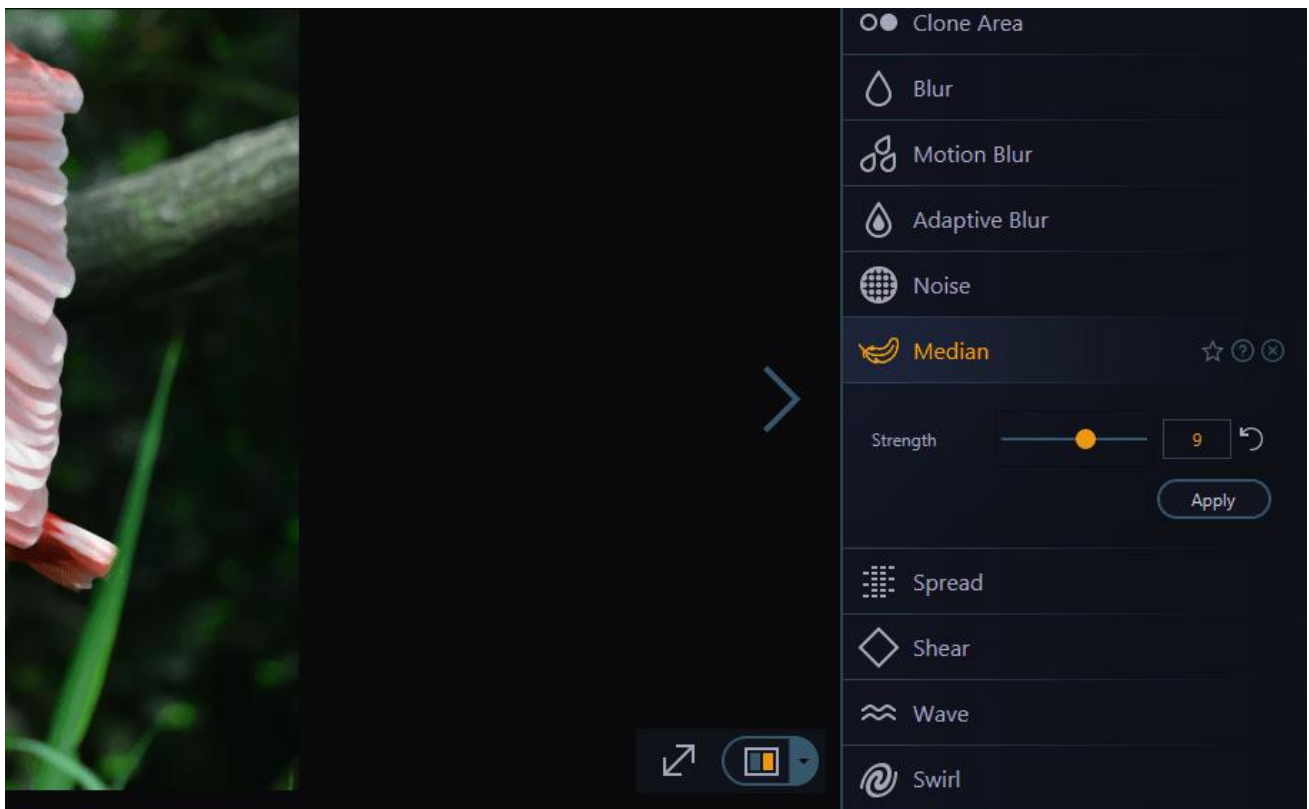


This effect analyzes your image and intelligently adjusts the effect strength based on existing pixels and colors in your image. Use the slider to set an initial strength.

Noise

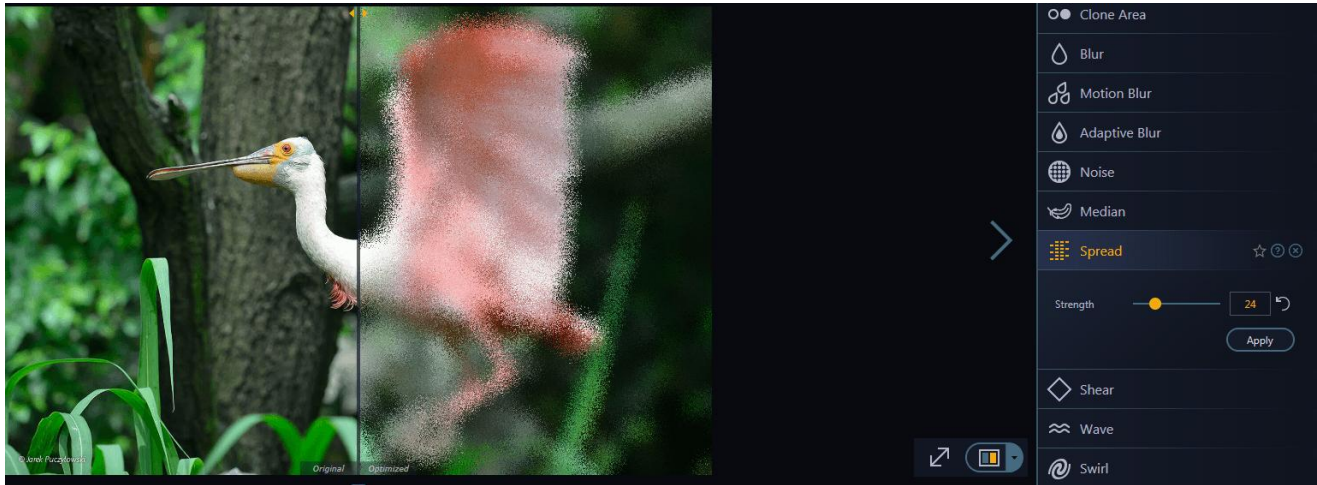
Adds or removes image noise, e.g. as an artistic effect or to clean photos that were taken in low light.

Median



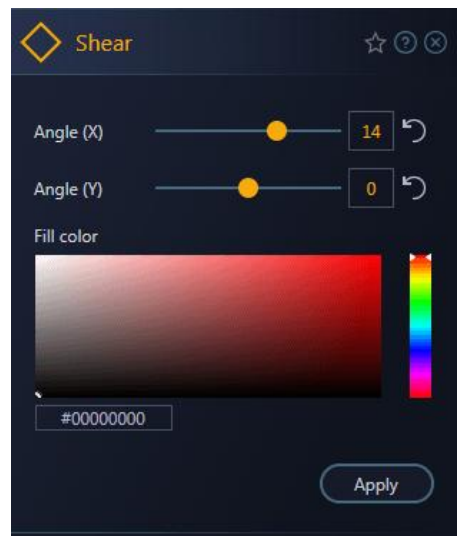
Applies a softening effect that may also be used to reduce noise. Use the slider to adjust the strength of the effect.

Spread



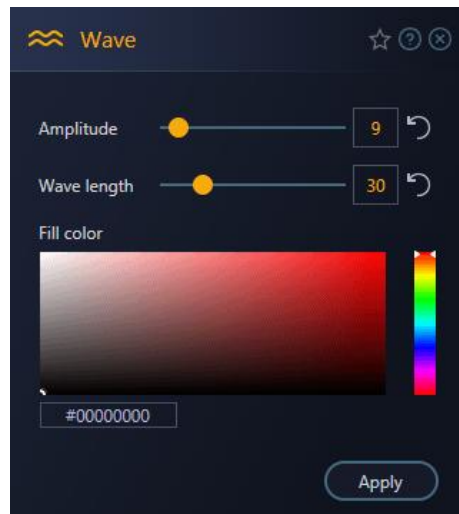
Applies a spray effect to your image. Use the slider to adjust the strength of the effect.

Shear



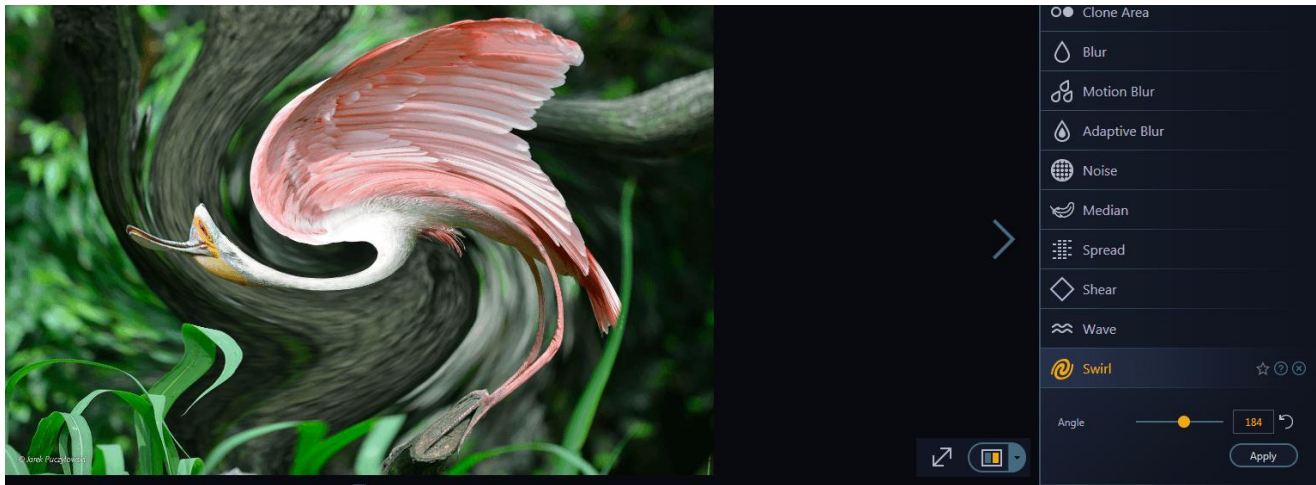
Use the sliders to achieve a shearing effect. The fill color setting determines which color is used to fill the empty areas around the sheared image.

Wave



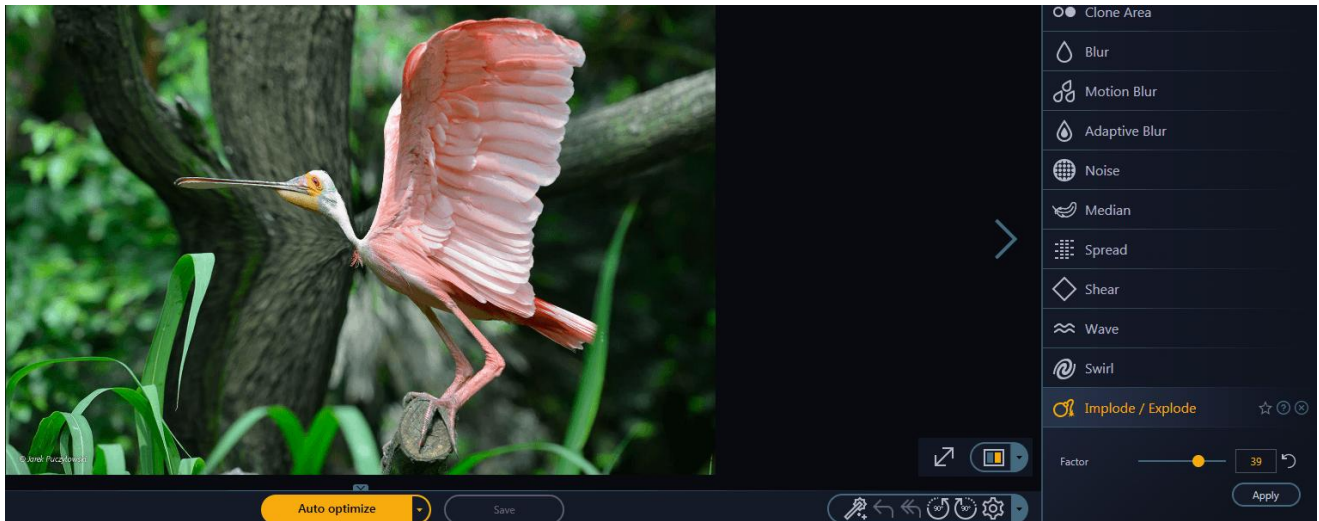
Use the sliders to adjust wave height (Amplitude) and length as well as the color used to fill empty areas.

Swirl



Use the slider to adjust the angle.

Implode / Explode



A factor greater than 0 means that content will appear sucked into the center whereas a factor smaller than 0 will cause a protrusion effect.

Export

Email

Send images by email ✕

Adjust e-mail send settings.

Recipient address:

Subject:

Convert image files to JPEG format

Only shrink images whose dimensions equal or exceed:

pixels

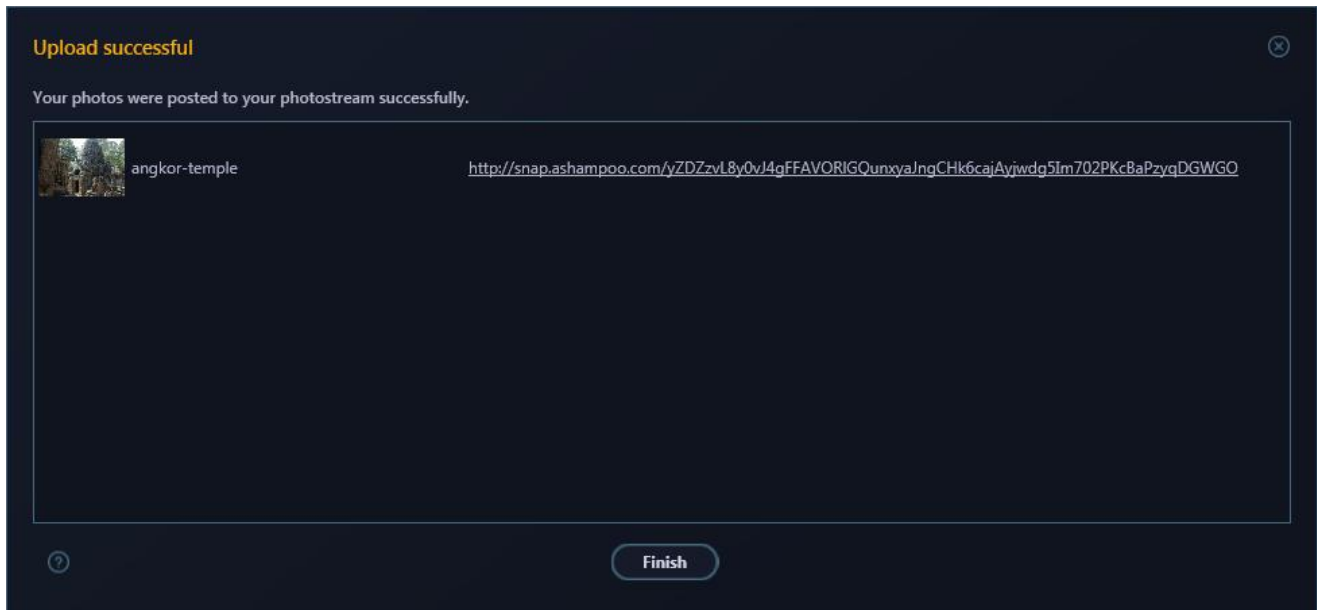
Retain image metadata

? Previous Next Cancel

To meet size constraints, use Only shrink images whose dimension equal or exceed: with your preferred image width/height or Convert image files to JPEG format to auto-convert your images. Click "Next" and Ashampoo Photo Optimizer will launch your default e-mail client, create a new e-mail including your data and add the currently selected images as attachment.

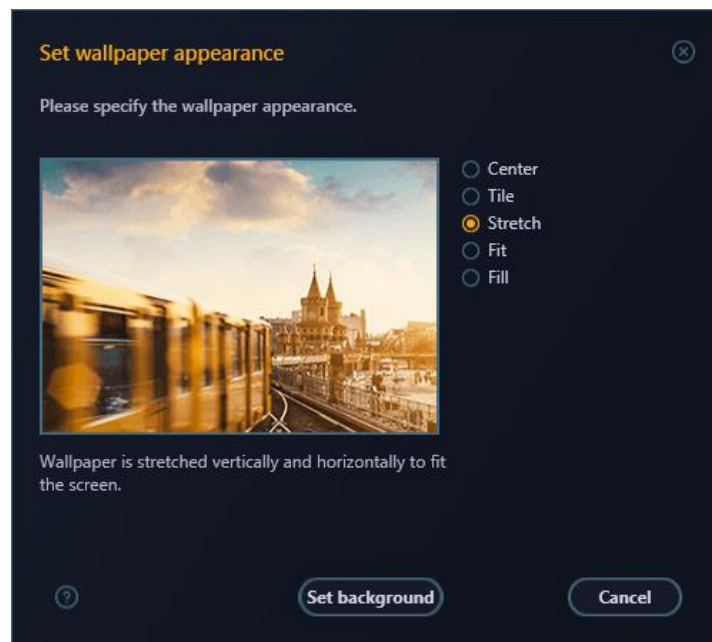
Ashampoo Web Upload

Uploads your selected images to Ashampoo Webspaces and creates unique Internet links for you to share with others.



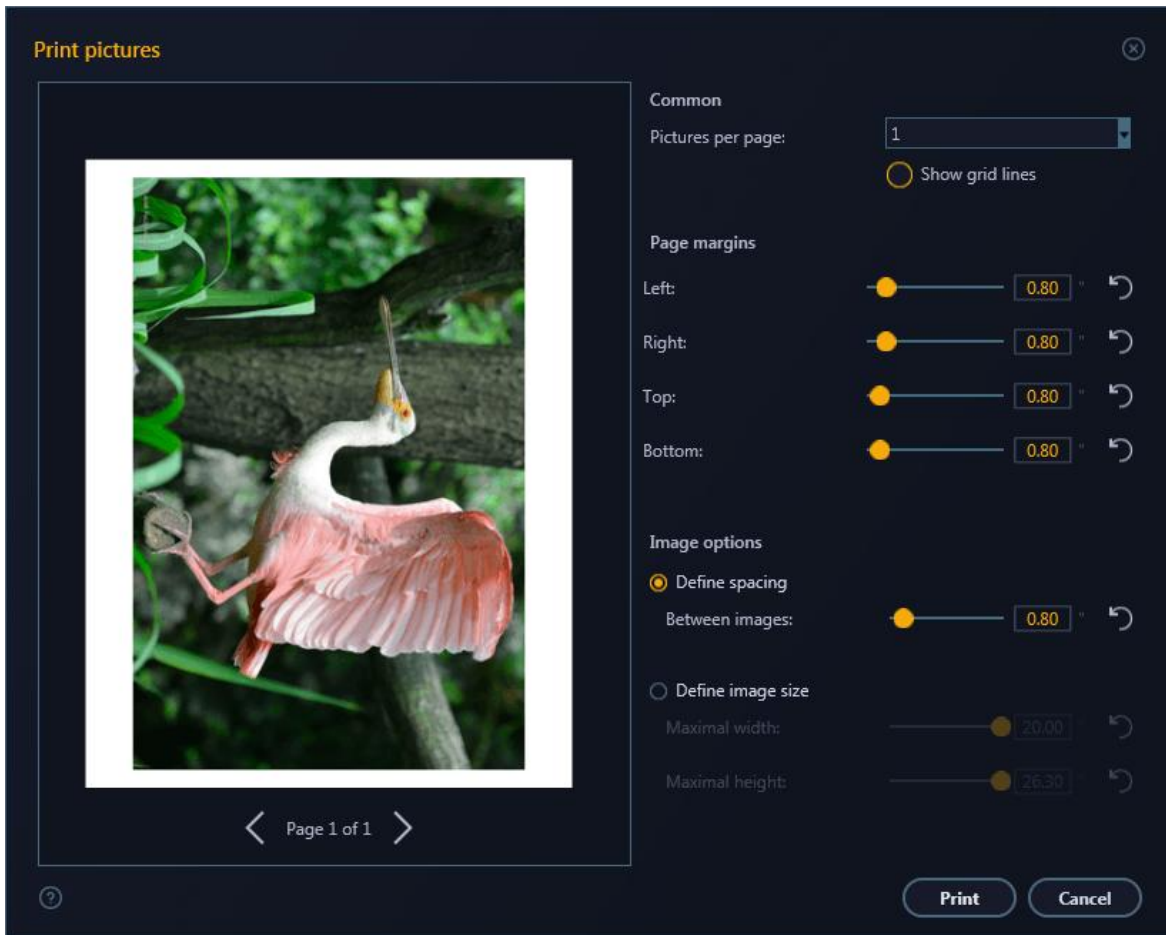
Once completed, you will see a list of your uploaded images including their unique Internet links. Right-click a link to open the context menu and copy it to your system clipboard.

Wallpaper



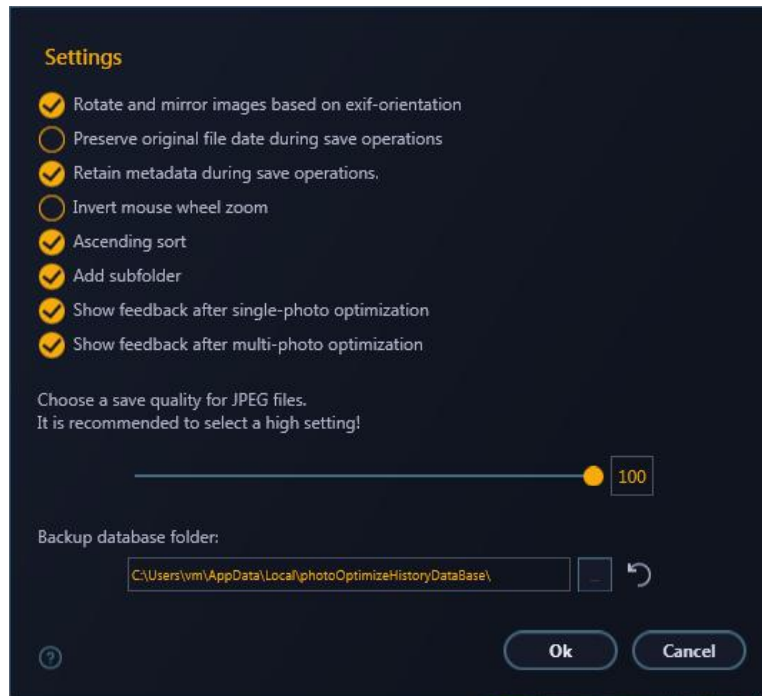
Allows you to set your image as a wallpaper for your displays. The available options depend on your operating system. The screenshot above was taken on a Windows 7 machine.

Print



Select the number of images to fit on a page, page margins and the layout can either be based on spaces between images or fixed image sizes.

Settings



Rotate and mirror images based on exif-orientation

Modern cameras store additional details such as the orientation of the camera, e.g. when holding it upside down. Activate this setting to have Ashampoo Photo Optimizer automatically rotate and align images properly.

Preserve original file date during save operations

Many image viewers and organizers depend on the creation date associated with each image to order and sort them. Enable this setting to have Ashampoo Photo Optimizer preserve the original creation date file write operations.

Invert mouse wheel zoom

By default, scrolling up/down will zoom in/out. Enable this feature to invert mouse zooming.

Ascending sort

Does not use a natural sort order when displaying file lists, e.g. causing 10 to come before 2.

Add subfolder

If enabled, photos in subfolders will also be added to the selection when you add a folder.

Show feedback after single-photo / multi-photo optimization

If enabled, the program will present you with brief feedback on the steps that were necessary to optimize the selected photo(s).

JPEG-Quality

Sets the compression ratio for JPEG images (0 = maximum compression, 100 = no compression). Lower compression ratios will increase image quality but consume more disk space. Unless you are low on disk space, select a high quality setting or leave this option unchanged.

Backup database folder

Ashampoo Photo Optimizer creates backup files of your original images prior to each optimization. Unlike as with previous versions, in Ashampoo Photo Optimizer, the output path is customizable. By default, the following output path is used:

C:\Users\USERNAME\AppData\Local\photoOptimizeHistoryDataBase

Note that the files are located on your system partition (usually C:\) and that you will need to replace USERNAME with your Windows login user name. Select ... to specify a different output path. All existing backup files will be transferred to the new location. Select the round arrow symbol to restore the default output path.