

1981 / JAPAN / MANUAL-FOCUS 35MM SLR

Minolta X-700

The freedom to choose.



AI-GENERATED CAMERA ILLUSTRATION



TWO FRAMES BY J.W. HOLLOWAY

In 1981, the X-700 brought Program, aperture-priority and manual exposure together. It could help set exposure, but focusing remained in the photographer's hands: an inviting balance between automation and involvement.

MAKER / FORMAT

Minolta / 35mm film

PROS

Program AE with MD lenses;
manual exposure control.

Minolta instruction manual, technical details pp. 58-59

Introduction year: Blue Moon Camera Museum

LENS SYSTEM

Minolta SR; MC / MD lenses

CONS

Battery-dependent shutter;
1/60 sec flash sync.

[View an actual X-700 photograph](#)

The road keeps going

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

CAPTURE YEAR NOT SUPPLIED



Photograph: J.W. Holloway / 35mm film / 50-100mm lens

The road drops between the trees, then climbs toward the hills. A palm leans into the cloudy sky. To the right, the canopy deepens into shadow; ahead, a bright car marks the distance. Nothing dramatic interrupts the view. The eye simply starts travelling: down the slope, across the hollow, toward the far ridge. The photograph keeps the destination out of reach, and the journey alive.

Where the land rests

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

CAPTURE YEAR NOT SUPPLIED



Photograph: J.W. Holloway / 35mm film / 50-100mm lens

A picnic table waits beneath the trees. Beyond it, the sea opens into a pale horizon. Driftwood lies twisted across the shade, its light surfaces emerging from the dark ground. The eye moves from the shelter of the branches into the brightness beyond. There is no person to follow, only a place to pause: a table, a shoreline, and open water stretching past the frame.