Photoshop (& Elements) Camera Raw

RAW files

- A raw file is a data file containing every piece of information captured by the exposure in a byte form.
- All major producers have their own raw format
- Photoshop and other editors can read the raw files and translate them into images
- Until they are processed they look very flat
- RAW files are ‘non lossy’
- Most ‘serious user’ cameras allow the user to shoot in RAW & JPG at the same time.

RAW : JPG

- RAW
  - Highest quality available
  - Very manipulable in editor
    - Able to work easily on different characteristics of shot. e.g. Highlights
  - Non destructive file info
    - Changes are stored in a sub file or a file unique to the editor e.g.PSD file
  - Large files
    - Will fill the buffer memory quickly if shooting in continuous shutter mode

- JPG
  - Universal format
  - Lossy format
    - Gets rid of redundant pixels
    - Reduces image quality
    - Fine for most images up to A4 if maximum pixel quality is used
    - Low resolution is great for web based images, allows rapid access
  - Great for most people but not for serious photographers
  - Allows lots more images in camera buffer when shooting continuous shutter mode

JPG image straight from camera

Some sparkle added by the JPG algorithm

RAW

Un-processed

Flat & uninteresting

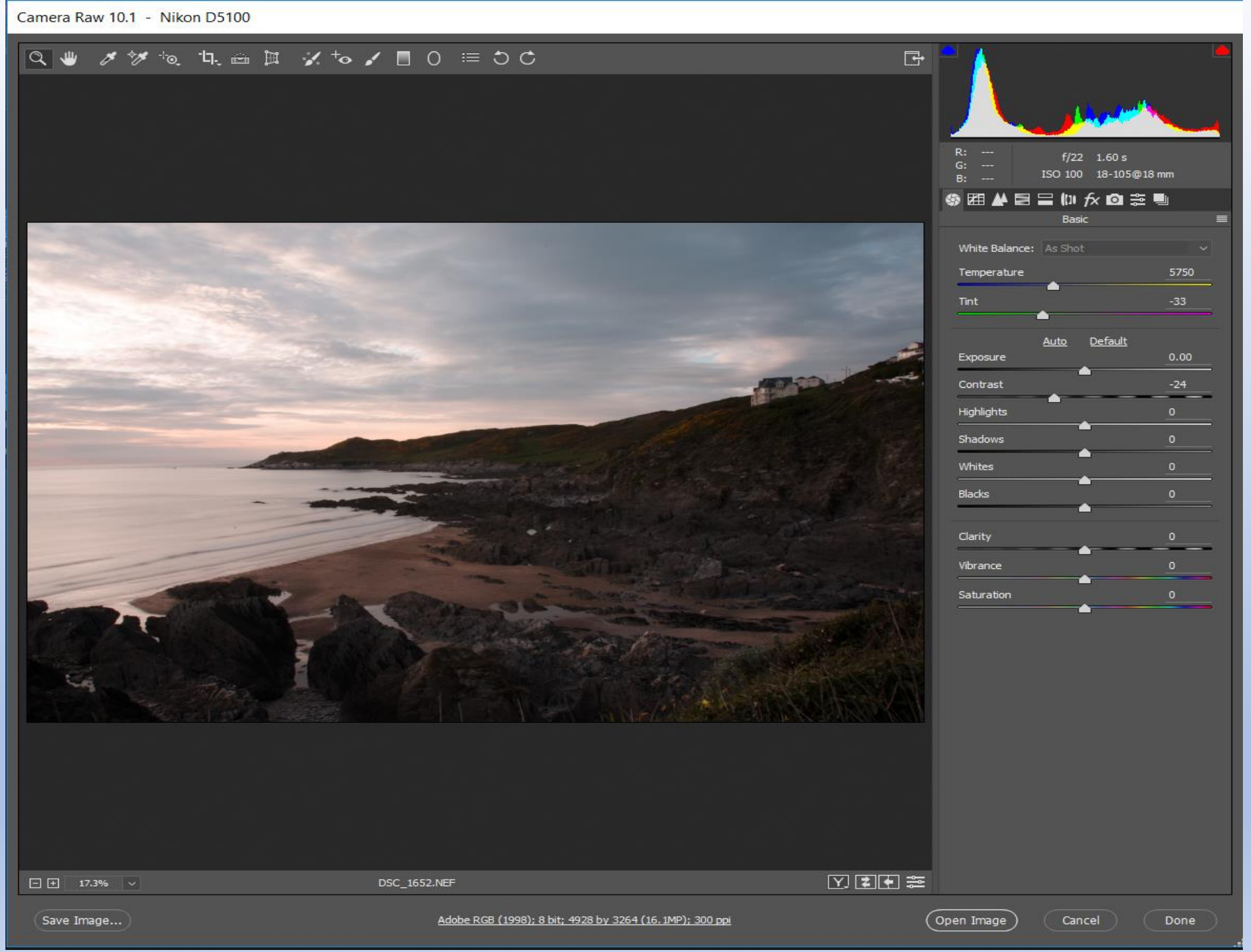
All the detail is there

TIF (Tagged Image File)

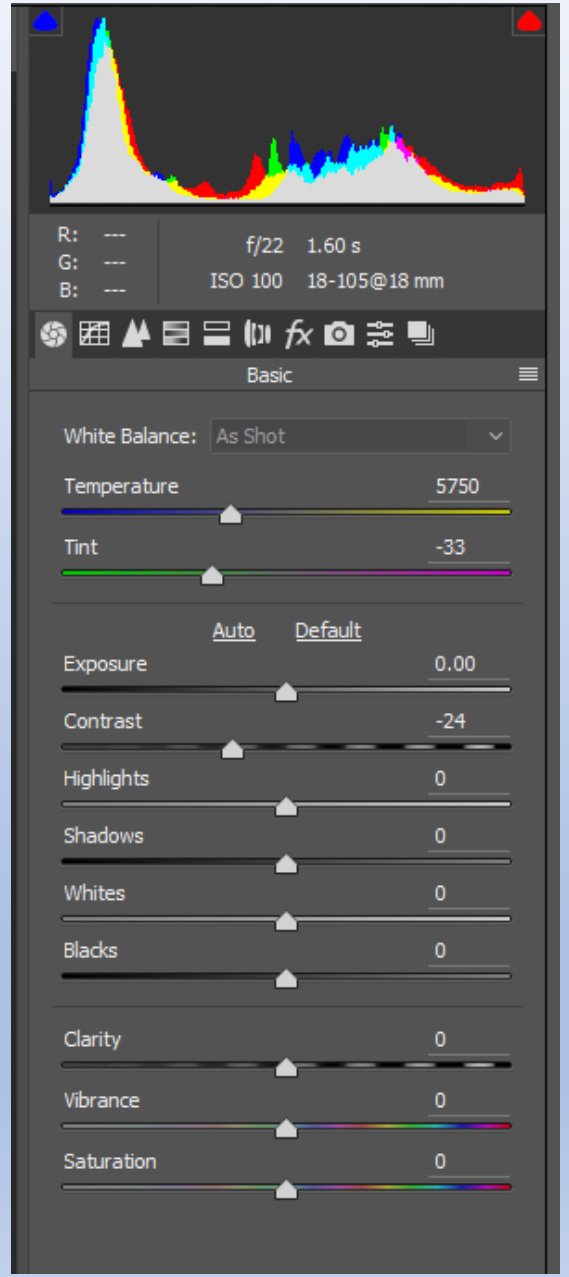
RAW file processed in Camera Raw

Camera Raw

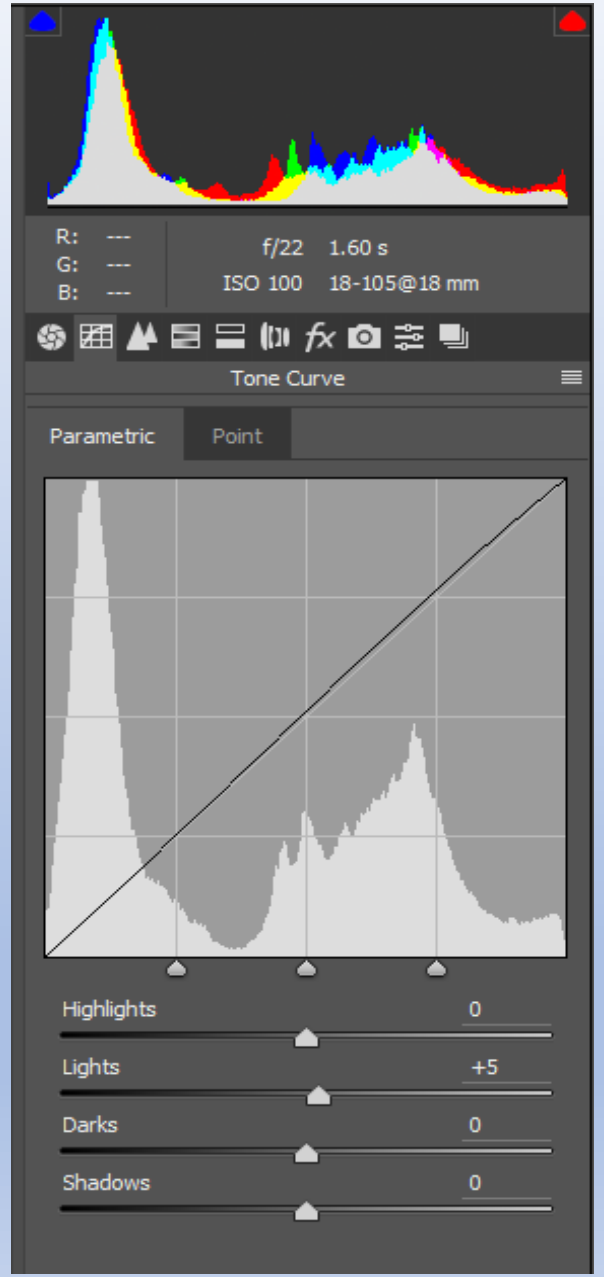
- Opens RAW file from flat data
- Allows in depth manipulation of parts of image.



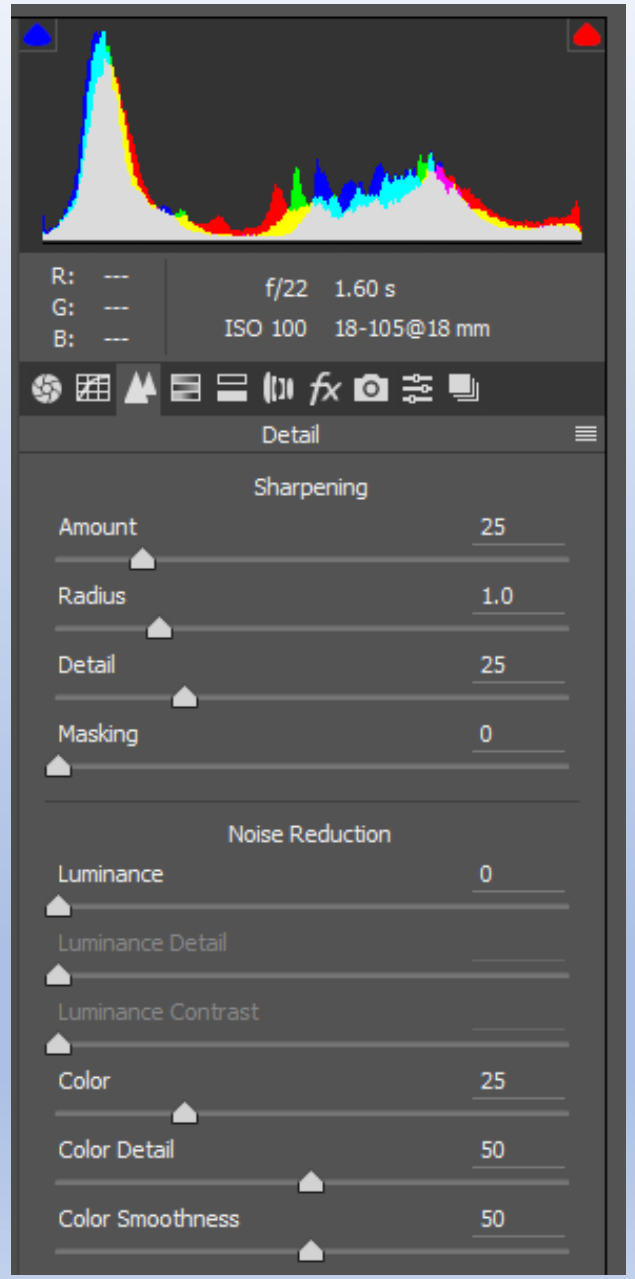
Basic



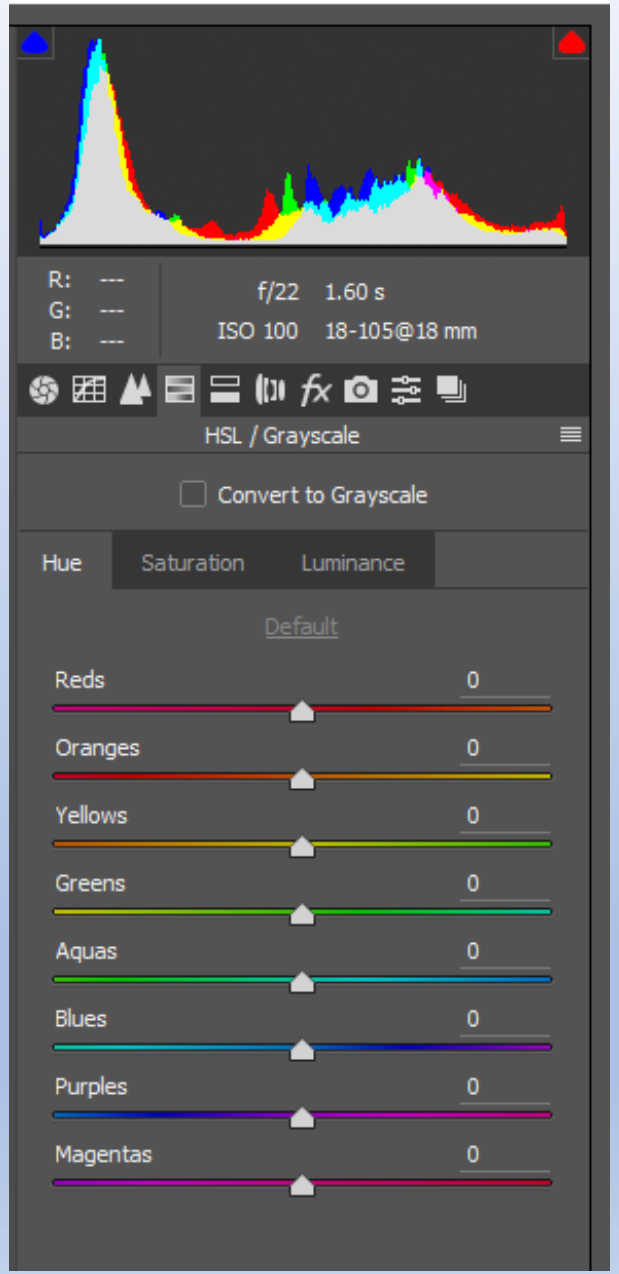
Tone Curve



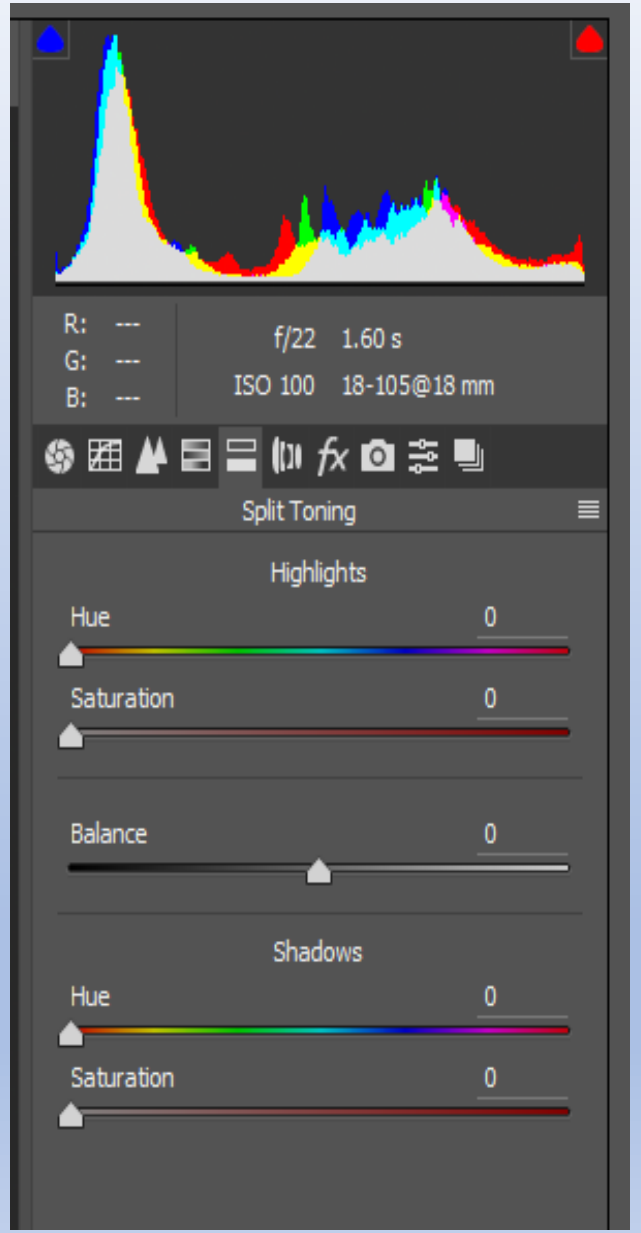
Sharpening



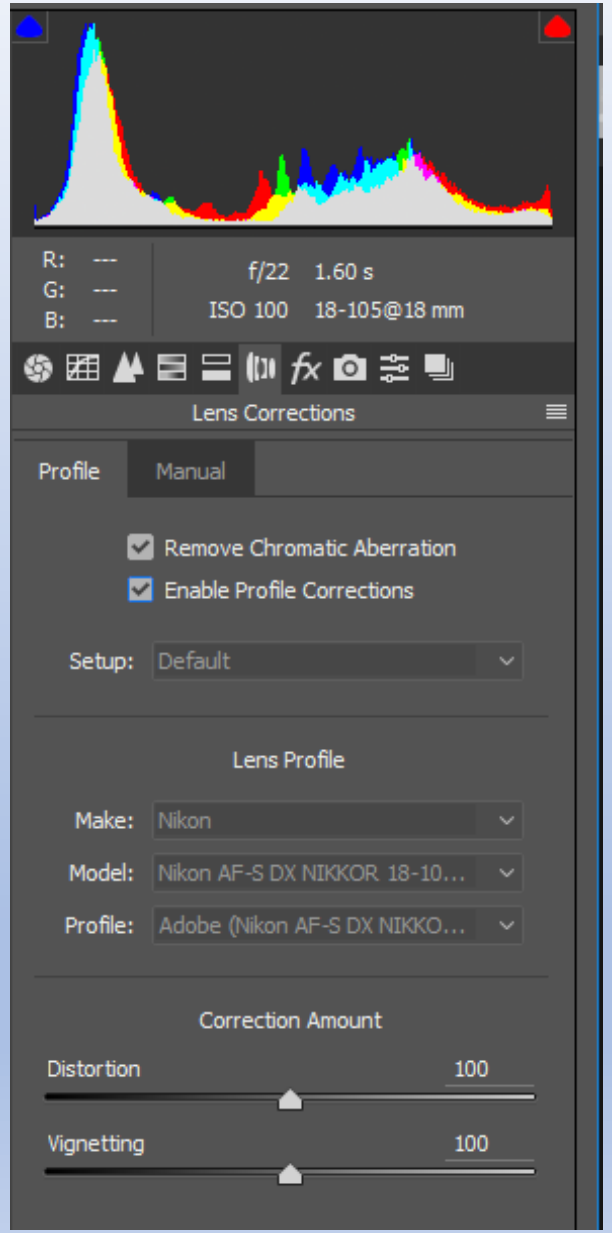
HSL/Grayscale



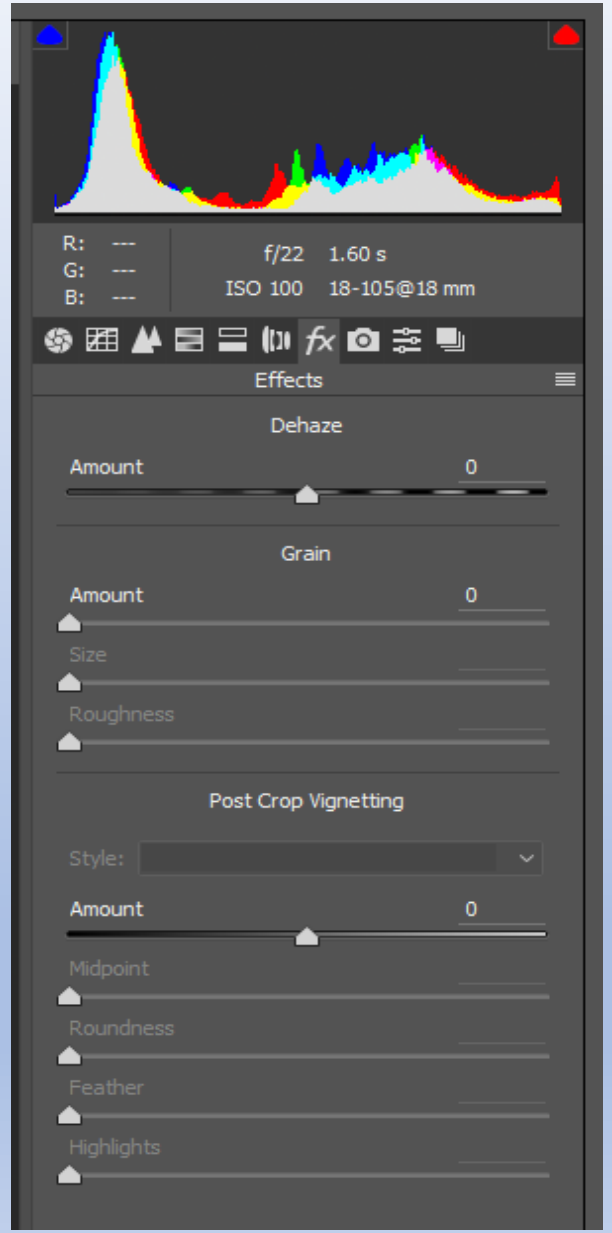
Split Toning



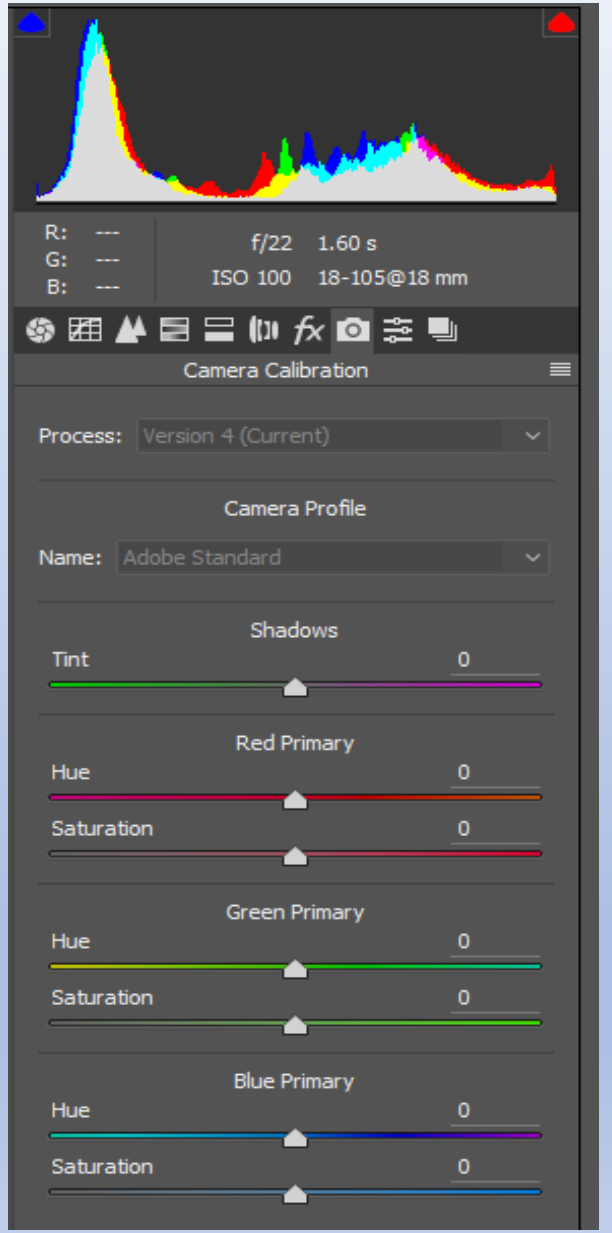
Lens Correction



Effects



Camera Calibration (Don't Ask)



R: ---
G: ---
B: ---

f/22 1.60 s
ISO 100 18-105@18 mm

Basic

White Balance: As Shot

Temperature 5750

Tint -33

Auto Default

Exposure +1.35

Contrast +22

Highlights -75

Shadows +34

Whites -100

Blacks -11

Clarity +13

Vibrance +20

Saturation +4

25%

Nikon D5100 - DSC_1652.NEF

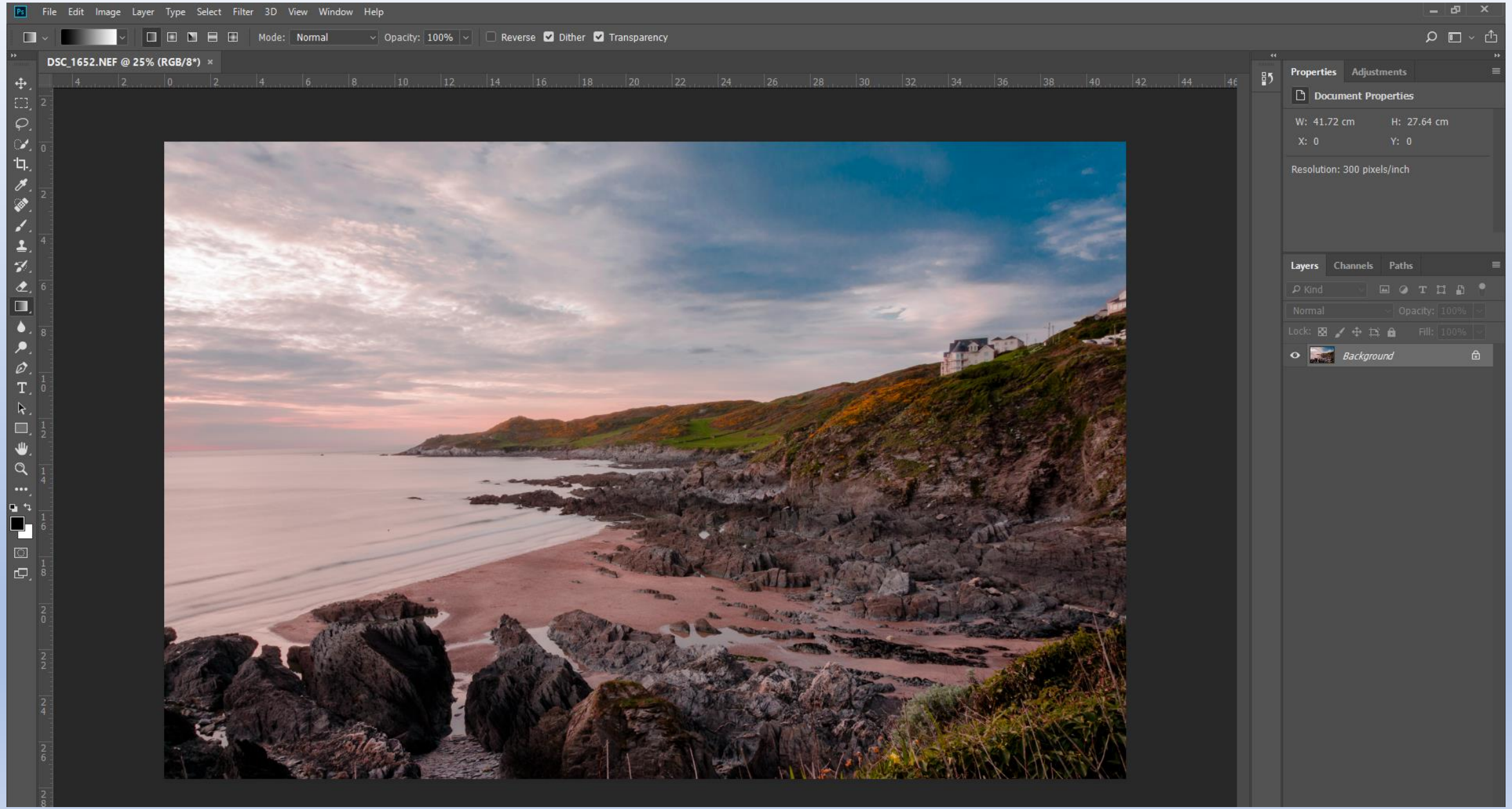
Save Image...

Adobe RGB (1998); 8 bit; 4928 by 3264 (16.1MP); 300 ppi

Open Image Cancel Done

Flat Image

Processed image

JPG
untouched

Back to Photoshop – Save as PSD - Further adjustment – Size image and use 300dpi - Save as TIF (For highest quality)