

# iPad versus MacBook

An interesting journey into the limitations of individual platforms

# With a failing MacBook Air...

- I decided to try to make my iPad my main travelling machine
- Needs:
  - Business and personal use away from home
  - Specifically Photo tour use
- Wants:
  - Replace all key laptop functionality with an iPad
  - Cost reduction, an iPad is generally cheaper than a MacBook
    - Didn't quite turn out this way though...
  - Less gear to schlep around an office or a photo safari
    - Not so much....

# Methodology

- Buy an appropriate iPad - iPad Pro (10.5”), mid 2017
- Put the MacBook Air away to not be tempted
- Buy (over time) the appropriate gear to make the iPad useable
  - Keyboard
  - Case
  - Pencil
  - Dongles....lots of dongles
  - Get a robust data plan for iPhone tether
  - External mass storage

# Challenges/Notes

- Data entry while taking notes
  - Harder with on screen keyboard hence the external keyboard
  - No mouse or trackpad (old muscle memory)
  - Easier to sketch and upload digital scratch pad
- Internet connectivity
  - Needed a robust data connection to be effective
- Power/time of use
  - Easier to replenish iPad versus laptop

# Challenges/Notes

- File transfer and storage
  - File collaboration
  - File exchange (dongles)
  - Delivering product/printing
- Photo developing apps for iPad
  - Not very robust at the time
- Photo uploads and backup
  - Prefer 3 copies of every photo
  - Try to upload a day's worth of photos via a crappy Hotel WIFI connection
  - Mass storage of raw photos

# In the End...

- At the time iPad and iPad OS were just not up to the task for my use case
- Not a wasted effort as iPad became much more useable in other areas
- Latest iOS does mitigate some of my issues with mouse and pointer support
- Mass storage access is better but not quite stable yet