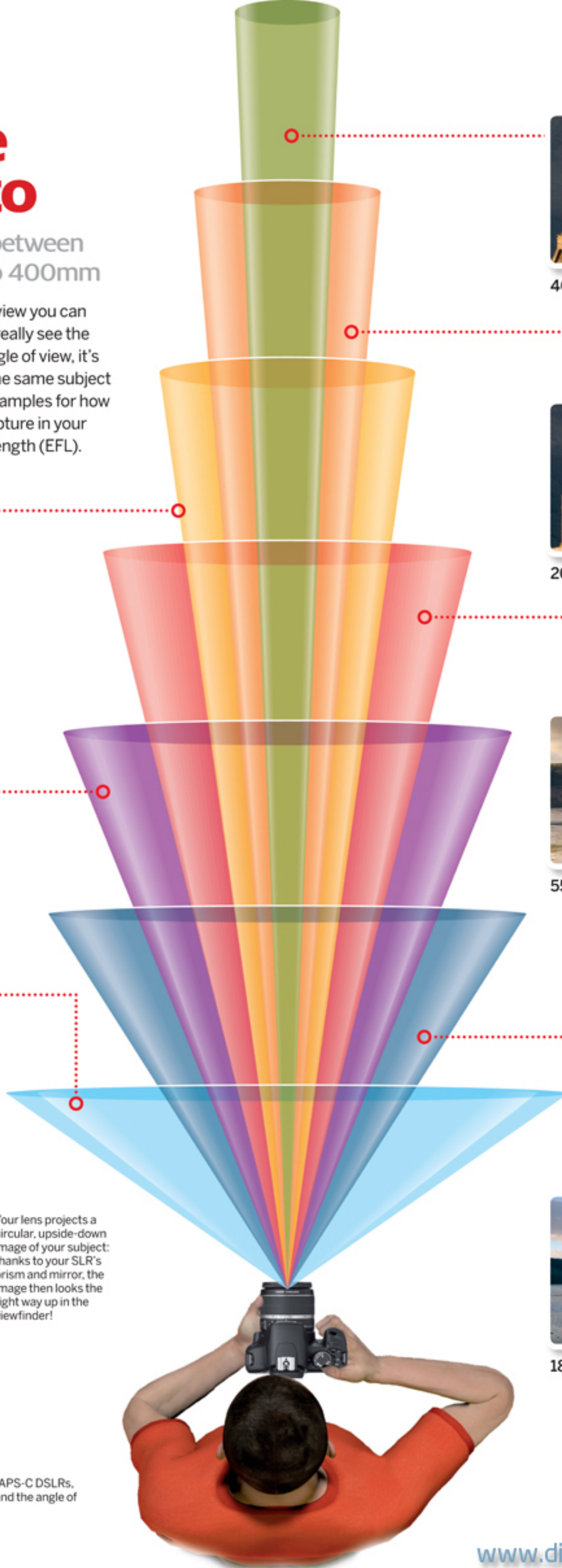


Wide-angle to telephoto

Understand the difference between focal lengths, from 10mm to 400mm

Your lens focal length affects the angle of view you can see through your camera's viewfinder. To really see the difference focal length can make to the angle of view, it's good to compare a sequence of shots of the same subject taken at different focal lengths. See our examples for how much or how little of the scene you can capture in your frame, depending on your effective focal length (EFL).



400mm (EFL: 640mm)



200mm (EFL: 320mm)



125mm (EFL: 200mm)



35mm (EFL: 55mm)



55mm (EFL: 90mm)



11mm (EFL: 18mm)



18mm (EFL: 28mm)

Effective Focal Length (EFL)



Your lens projects a circular, upside-down image of your subject: thanks to your SLR's prism and mirror, the image then looks the right way up in the viewfinder!

The view on a full-frame camera (sensor size: 36x24mm, same size as 35mm film).

The cropped view on APS-C DSLRs, the EFL is increased and the angle of view decreased.