For an individual who finds visuals engrossing, photography can be one career that could be high on the wish list. Read on to know more about the career-options behind the perfect picture.

Choices Galore

1. **Photo-journalists** work for newspapers or news magazines where they are assigned to deliver pictures to the national or local press. They must have journalistic instincts and should be able to discern as to what makes a good news-picture. A high level of observation and alertness is required in this field to cover accidents, natural disasters, wars and other conflicts etc. This also comprises:
   - Feature photography: Capturing pictures for an entire theme or subject and conveying a news story.
   - Editorial photography: Pictorially illustrating what is written in the article or report.

2. **Fashion Photographers** work for fashion houses, designers, fashion journals, news papers and advertising agencies. With a detailed knowledge about fashion, the photographer must be aware of styles, moods and fashion trends. A fashion photographer photographs models, fashion shows and other indoors and outdoors of fashion industry. Fashion photography is one of the most lucrative forms of photography.

3. **Nature and Wildlife Photographers** work for travel and geographic magazines and calendars. They are interested in nature, wildlife, birds and their habitats. It is a challenging task for wildlife photographers as their work is mainly outdoors - at sanctuaries, forests and the rest. The photographer must be observant and have patience to wait for long hours to capture the nature and its inhabitants in the right mood and pose.

4. **Travel Photographers** work for travel channels and magazines. They are involved in areas of landscape, people, cultures, customs and history. Travel photography becomes interesting due to exciting travel destinations. The photographer portrays a place, its people and customs. The photographer must have knowledge about cultures and customs of several places.

5. **Advertising Photographers** work for magazines, newspapers, catalogues, websites and other advertising media. They deal with people, places and products. It is a challenging task for a photographer to strike a balance between creativity and clients' demand for conveying the desired message. The photographer needs to be highly creative.

6. **Commercial and Industrial Photographers** work with industries and companies to photograph workers, machinery, exteriors and interiors of factories and prominent industrial places. These photographs are used for company brochures, advertising and selling, company publications, magazines, websites etc. It demands lot of knowledge of industry as well as equipment.

7. **Forensic Photographers** work with law enforcement agencies, police, private detective agencies, legal system and with investigative services of the government. Forensic photography can mean everything from photographing a dead body to taking pictures of an accident site. The photographer must be able to get into detailed photography as well as accurate images of bullet holes, fingerprints, tire marks and other injuries related to accidents or assaults. The photographer needs a good grounding in police methods and conventions and a sense of investigation.

8. **Portrait or Wedding Photographers** take pictures of individuals or small groups and portrait subjects like pets, children, families, weddings, functions and activities of sports and social clubs. Some specialize in weddings, religious ceremonies, or school photographs and they may work on location. The photographer develops the images, designs the albums and finishes the finished photographs. Portrait photographers must have an ability to help people relax in front of the camera.

**Job Prospects**

The jobs available in this field range from highly specialized, technical to wide range positions. Photographers have the option to take up permanent work with newspaper magazines, advertising agencies, government agencies, industrial houses or they can work on assignment basis as freelancers. With the growth in the industry off late, professional photographers have new avenues to cover like weddings, birthdays, festivals, and many important private events. The profession has its own adventure and in Copley’s words, “I feel a career in photography can be very fulfilling. It is a chance for one to be creative and inspire others through their photographs. Also, there is less likely to travel quite a lot in this job.”

It is a rewarding profession, and the salary varies, depending on the place of work. But the creativity one can bring to their work along with the experience in this field. In addition, the intangible high that one gets out of seeing a photograph published. “Photography for me is a passion and I see my reward in every photograph I click.” said Rupare.