

A large, jagged piece of clear ice sits on a dark beach in the foreground. In the background, the ocean is filled with several other icebergs of various shapes and sizes. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and grey, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water is dark with white foam from waves breaking.

ICELAND HIGHLANDS AND SOUTH COAST

27 JUNE - 8 JULY 2025

Ignacio Palacios - Hans Strand

ICELAND

June is a great time of the year to travel to Iceland: it is the first official summer month, although it may sometimes feel more like spring. There may be speckles of snow dotting the mountain tops at the highlands, but the flowers are in bloom and temperatures are quite comfortable. It is also an ideal month to do aerial photography, which is an option at the end of the tour (weather permitting).



ICELAND

The month of June sees the rugged roads to the Highlands open, allowing you access to the country's vast and wild interior. It is an impressive place to visit and photograph.



HIGHLANDS AND SOUTH COAST

You're invited to a photography tour unlike anything you've imagined or experienced before. Join Ignacio and Hans (Hasselblad Master Award in 2008) on an extraordinary adventure into the most beautiful country, Iceland, where you'll explore and photograph a land of striking visual contrasts. Iceland promises surprises at every turn and countless moments of creative inspiration. Home to arguably the most beautiful landscapes on the planet, Iceland will provide countless photographic opportunities.

"The most amazing thing about Iceland is not the lava fields, volcanoes, rugged mountains, the hot springs or the glaciers. It is the fact that there are 12,000 km of incredible roads that will take you into this uncharted wilderness."

Over 12 unforgettable days, you'll journey across the some amazing landscapes to photograph some of the country's visual treasures. Ignacio and Hans have been to Iceland on many occasions and during the tour we will not only explore some more of the main highlights but also several hidden gems where not many photography tours go.

At the heart of this adventure is your creative enlighten. As a multi-award-winning Masters of Photography, Ignacio and Hans will share their unique expertise and personally help you on your photographic journey. From pre-visualization to composition, processing to equipment, this adventure will be transformational and an incredible lot of fun!



Tarn, Landmannalaugar

ITINERARY

“I’ve walked a lot in the mountains in Iceland. And as you come to a new valley, as you come to a new landscape, you have a certain view. If you stand still, the landscape doesn’t necessarily tell you how big it is. It doesn’t really tell you what you’re looking at. The moment you start to move the mountain starts to move.”

Olafur Eliasson



DAY 1 | Friday 27 June

09.00 We meet at our hotel down town Reykjavik and take off for Snaefellsnes, which is the peninsula 2,5hrs drive North West of Reykjavik. There we check in and have a briefing on the coming week and after a quick lunch we will start to discover the surroundings. We start by visiting the cave at Hellnar, where the waves from the North Atlantic is coming in through a tight opening in the lava bedrock and crashes over kelp covered boulders in front of our cameras. After this we will walk the 2km along the sharp rim of lava stone formations to the small town of Arnarstapi. We return to our hotel and have dinner. After the dinner we will shoot the stone arch of Arnarstapi at sunset.

DAY 2 | Saturday 28 June

Breakfast at 08.00 and drive North along the coastline of Snaefellsnes. We will stop at Lóndrangar and shoot the giant sea stack and the cliffs with nesting sea birds. We then continue North to Djúpalónsandur beach where we will shoot rock formations and the interaction between the sea and the shore line. We will eat our lunch pack out in the open air and then continue East to Kirkjufjell where we stop to shoot the knife sharp peak of the mountain and the waterfalls in front of it. After this we drive further East to one of the nicest lava fields of Iceland where we walk out in the terrain and shoot amazing lava sculptures covered by thick moss. Dinner at our hotel and image reviews.

DAY 3 | Sunday 29 June

Breakfast at 08.00 and take off for a drive South. We stop at Hraunfossar waterfall and shoot the crystal clear water which plunges into a 2km long rift in the lava field. We eat our lunch in the open air and after the lunch we drive over the mountains to Thingvellir where we stop and shoot the crack between the North American and the Eurasian continental plates. After this we also make a short stop at Geysir and photograph the eruptions of hot water which shoots up 20 metres in the air.

We check in at our hotel at Gullfoss and have dinner. After dinner we drive to the gigantic waterfall of Gullfoss and shoot the waterfall in late evening light.



Lava Field, Eldraun





DAY 4 | Monday 30 June

Breakfast at 08.00 and take of East. We stop at the picturesque gully of Gjáin where we photograph small waterfalls. It is simply a green Eden with water, moss and lush vegetation. After this small waterfall we drive further East to one of Iceland's highest waterfalls, Háifoss, which plunges 122 metres into a magnificent gorge. The place is the essence of Iceland with vertical cliffs of columnar basalt and steaming water. We arrive just in time for dinner at our hotel in Hrauneyjar where we will stay for the next two nights. After dinner we will do another review of your images.

DAY 5 | Tuesday 1 July

Breakfast at 08.00 and then a drive South through the lava fields to Landmannalaugar where we will spend the whole day hiking in the terrain photographing fumaroles, hot springs and the volcanic landscape. We will also stop at Lake Ljótípollur which is a deep crater lake with steep red walls. Back at hotel Hrauneyjar for a late dinner.

DAY 6 | Wednesday 2 July

Breakfast at 08.00 and drive South through Fjallabak mountains to the South Coast. We will make stops along the way to shoot lakes and mountains. We continue driving along the coast to the East. Where we arrive at our hotel at Hali. After dinner we drive back 10km West to Jökulsárlon Icelagoon. Here we photograph large ice bergs floating in the lagoon and small icebergs along the black lava sand beach.

DAY 7 | Thursday 3 July

Breakfast at 08.00 and drive to Fjallssarlón nearby Jökulsarlon. Here we come closer to the glacier coming down from a steep icefall. We photograph the lake and its icy water and the impressive icefall. After lunch in the open air we drive further East the town of Höfn and check in at our hotel for the night and then drive to Vestrahorn with its majestic mountain peaks and the foreground mix of black lava sand and grass. We return to our hotel in Höfn for a late dinner.

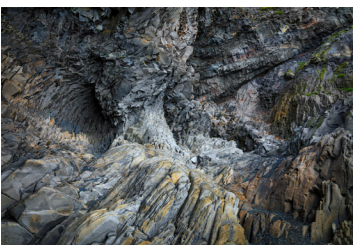
DAY 8 | Friday 4 July

Breakfast at 08.00 and drive North to Litlanesfoss which requires a 1.2km one way hike. Litlanesfoss is a fantastic waterfall coming out from a gigantic wall of columnar basalt. After the shoot we drive to the town of Egilsstadir where we will stay in a hotel for the next night. After dinner we will run an image review.

DAY 9 | Saturday 5 July

Breakfast at 08.00 and drive West to Studlagil Canyon. A recently discovered canyon flanked by basalt columns. It was discovered after the damming of Jökulsá River upstream. The water level below the dam sank and revealed a magnificent canyon. This will require either a short hike down to the West side of the canyon or a longer 4km hike down to the East side. Depending on the weather conditions we will decide which way to go. This canyon was unknown to the icelanders until they made the Kárahnjúkar Dam. When the river upstream was dammed a wonderland of vertical columnar basalt cliffs emerged as the water level got a lot lower. This place is still fairly unknown to tourists and a gem of the Icelandic landscape. We return back to our hotel after a full day in the field and have a nice dinner.

“The problem with driving around Iceland is that you’re basically confronted by a new soul-enriching, breath-taking, life-affirming natural sight every five goddamn minutes. It’s totally exhausting.”
Stephen Markley



Basalt Wall, Reynisfjara





DAY 10 | Sunday 6 July

Breakfast at 08.00 drive back South and West along the coast the same way as we came and we will stop at the fantastic Eldhraun, the largest lava field in the world. Lunch in the open air and then a next stop at Reynisfjara beach where we photograph its wall of columnar basalt and caves. After this we continue to the nearby cliff of Dyrholaey from which we photograph the stretch of Reynisfjara beach and its sea stack towering over the beach. We continue up on the top to the lighthouse and photograph the extension of the beach to the North West. We stay over night at a hotel in Vik.

DAY 11 | Monday 7 July: Driving back to Reykjavik

Breakfast at 08.00 and driving back to Reykjavik where we arrive around noon. We will check in at our hotel and spend the day exploring the town. Farewell dinner at a nice restaurant in the city center.

DAY 12 | Tuesday 8 July: Flying home

Departure to Keflavik Airport and our home destinations.

“In Iceland, you can see the contours of the mountains wherever you go, and the swell of the hills, and always beyond that the horizon. And there’s this strange thing: you’re never sort of hidden; you always feel exposed in that landscape. But it makes it very beautiful as well.”

Hannah Kent



Central to this unforgettable tour is YOU. Through Ignacio’s and Hans’ guidance, you’ll not only learn the secrets of the masters, but you’ll take your photography skills to the next level and leave your Scandinavian adventure with a collection of powerful, moving photographs you’ll share with pride:

Some of the photography skills you’ll learn throughout the tour include:

- The art of composition
- Post-processing techniques tips and tricks
- How to work with light
- Optimising your equipment and filters
- Pre-visualisation and the creative process
- The unique techniques of landscape photography, wildlife photography, portrait photography, while also touching on aerial, black and white, and night photography
- Ignacio and Hans will also be there to offer one-on-one guidance on other specific skills you’d personally like to master.

Photography and Camera Skills

All skill levels are welcome. Whether you’re a beginner or expert, the tour is designed to cover all aspects of image capture and processing as it applies to where you are on your photography journey. As for equipment, we can help you optimise any equipment you chose to use; from mobile phone to tablets, compact camera to digital SLR cameras. The best way to learn the art of photography is by taking photos. So, Ignacio and Hans will be by your side in the field sharing his unique insight, expertise, and guidance as you shoot. Ensuring you don’t just leave the tour with incredible photographs, but with skills that will transform the way you pursue your photography passion.

The Creative Process

Throughout the tour, you’ll also have the opportunity to process and enhance your images using Lightroom, Photoshop, Capture One, and other editing software. Learning first-hand how to create photographs that tell a story, evoke emotion and ultimately help you find your unique style and personality as an artist.

Critique Session

Should you dream of entering competitions, or simply wish to push yourself as a photographer, critique sessions are an invaluable part of the learning process. Ignacio and Hans will offer one-on-one critique sessions during the tour. Providing constructive evaluation and feedback supported by recommendations and tips through the eyes of a professional. While having your work critiqued can feel overwhelming at first, this is one of the most powerful ways to improve your skills as a photographer.

Physical considerations

While you’ll be experiencing Iceland in style there will be times when the group needs to embark on a walk/hike to visit and photograph the best locations. As part of the pre-tour planning, we ask you to share any existing health conditions with us so we may plan for your comfort and safety.



Fallslón



IGNACIO PALACIOS

When it comes to photography and travel, few can rival Ignacio Palacios' experience, skill, and passion. A third-generation photographer, Ignacio has been honoured with over 100 prestigious photography prizes and awards from around the world and has travelled to over 90 countries in his 20 years career. It's little wonder he's developed a reputation as a leading photographer in the fields of travel, landscape, and nature photography.

Born in Spain, Ignacio now calls Sydney Australia home – through his unmistakable Spanish spirit continues to influence his work and define his signature style.

Combining his love of travel and photography has proved a powerful combination, and today Ignacio leads some of the world's best photography tours to incredible destinations around the world. As an AIPP double Master of Photography, Ignacio shares his insight, experience, and technique with his clients to help them find their own success and joy on their photographic journey.

"I hope that through my images and my tours, I can open people's eyes to the incredible world we live in. I want to give my guests both travel and photographic experience. We are privileged to have such a beautiful planet and it's our responsibility to respect, cherish and protect it."

Ignacio's distinct, award-winning style can be defined by his mastery of composition, colour, and light. With his minimalistic style and unique ability to connect with his audience through storytelling. Through his images, Ignacio invites his audience to experience the subject not as how he captured, but how he experienced it, evoking an emotional connection between the viewer, subject and artist.

Photography and travel will always be Ignacio's passion, and he is dedicated to helping others ignite their passion too.

www.iptravelphotography.com.au



HANS STRAND

Hans Strand, born in 1955 in Marmaverken, Sweden. In 1990, after a nine-year career in mechanical engineering he decided to devote his life to landscape photography. Its a change he never regretted.

Hans has always felt himself drawn to the untamed and unmanipulated emotions and expressions that he finds in nature. He often says: "The wilderness is the mother of all living things. It is always true and never trivial".

Hans work takes him to diverse places worldwide; from polar deserts to steaming rainforests and expansive deserts. The internationally awarded landscape photography is seldom a portrait of a place, but an expression of forces that create and mold a landscape. His pictures, frozen in a static frame, still tell a story of movement, time and evolution. Lately his photography has also taken a course away from the untouched and wild nature and focused more on people's influences on ecosystems. Photographs of water pollution and the visual magic of manmade agricultural landscapes have become an important ingredient in his in recent work.

Hans Strand is frequently published in international photo and art magazines and his work has created a worldwide following. He has won thirteen international awards, including the Hasselblad Master Award in 2008. He has published nine books on landscape photography of which two books are about Iceland.

He lives in Stockholm, Sweden, with his wife Carina and daughter Johanna. Apart from photography he has a great passion for classical music and he is a lover of Burgundy wines.



Háifoss Gorge

TERMS AND CONDITIONS



WORKSHOP DATES AND PRICES

Tour dates: **27 June – 8 July 2025**

The tour commences and ends in **Reykjavik** (Iceland).

Cost: **US\$13,990** per person, twin share.
Single room supplement: **US\$1,290**

Maximum **10** participants

A deposit of **US\$2,000** is required when you book the workshop

Terms of payment

- A deposit of US\$2,000 must be paid to secure your place. The deposit is non-refundable unless you can sell your place to someone else. You will get refunded if the tour did not go ahead
- The online Registration Form must be filled in and signed by each participant at the time of paying the first deposit. Participation will be declined otherwise
- The remaining balance must be paid on or before **1 February 2025**
- Bookings will be accepted strictly in the order they are received
- **Important:** the workshop requires a minimum of 6 participants to run so please don't book your flights until this has been confirmed.

What's included

- Full 12 days/11 nights
- All meals, transportation and accommodation
- Four stars hotels
- All excursions
- All photographic tuition and workshop materials for the duration of the tour.

What's not included

- Airfares from Australia/US and other international destinations
- Travel insurance with emergency evacuation is mandatory as a condition of booking
- Camera/Equipment Insurance
- Optional personal activities
- Alcohol consumption and extra beverages
- Tips to the local guides along the way
- Any other personal expenses.

Cancellation Policy

A written notice of any cancellation must be received by you at which time the following cancellation fees will apply:

- If cancelled between 1 February 2025 and end of March 2025, 60% of the workshop cost will be refunded
- If cancelled between 1 April 2025 and before departure, a fee equal to 100% of the workshop cost will be payable
- Failure to pay by the due dates will be considered a cancellation of the booking and fees paid will be non-refundable
- Bookings made after 1 February 2025 must be paid in full
- No refunds will be made for unused portions of the workshop. The photography workshop is sold as a package
- Cancellation fees are not transferable.

Camera gear

There is really no limit to what camera gear you take but we always recommend to travel light. Check with your airline about weight restrictions. Whatever level of camera equipment you have, we will help to ensure you get the most out of it.

Fitness and health considerations

Sometimes participants will be required to walk on uneven terrain or tracks and hiking. A basic level of walking fitness will help, but this tour is not a hiking tour or a trekking tour so nothing extreme will be required. If you have concerns about your own capabilities or health please check with your doctor before booking a place.

By signing the Registration Form, you guarantee that to the best of your knowledge, you do not have any physical or other disability that could create a risk for you or other tour participants. Once a booking has been accepted by IP Travel Photography, medical circumstances will not be accepted as an exemption to the Cancellation Policy above.

Within the Registration Form, please indicate any health issues, allergies or dietary requirements. IP Travel Photography does not assume any responsibility or liability for medical care or special dietary requirements.

If a participant become ill during the workshop, IP Travel Photography reserves the right to continue the tour for the benefit of the rest of the participants. IP Travel Photography will make every effort to assist you whilst trying to minimize disruption of the workshop for other participants.

Visas

Iceland, as a member of the Schengen States, does not require Australians citizens travelling to Iceland as tourists to obtain a visa prior to arrival. On arrival from a non-Schengen state Australian citizens will be issued with a short period visa, or the common 'Schengen Visa', which permits a maximum stay of 90 days over a six month period within the Schengen State area (that is, 90 days over six months in the entire Schengen State area, and not in each individual Schengen state). The Schengen States are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

If you are coming from another country rather than Australia, please check with your consulate/embassy regarding visas.

Rights

- IP Travel Photography reserves the right to:
- Substitute hotels/accommodation
 - Make changes in the itinerary or transport if required due to changes in airline schedules, or when necessary
 - Cancel the workshop prior to departure, in which case a full refund of all payments received will be given. If such event occurred, IP Travel Photography will not be responsible for any other expenses such as non-refundable air fares, visa fees and other related expenses. The responsibility for such bookings lies with the participant. As such, IP Travel Photography recommends participants to purchase a travel protection insurance prior to paying the first deposit.
 - Substitute the tour leader and guest photographer as originally specified, in which case this substitution will not entitle the participant to a refund
 - Accept or refuse any person as a participant in the workshop
 - Change the price of the workshop due to adverse currency exchange fluctuations, airline schedule changes, fuel and tax price charges.

Liability

The operation of the workshop is at the sole discretion of Ignacio Palacios and Hans Strand, having in mind the wellbeing and interests of all participants and the safe and sensible operation of the program as specified within this itinerary.

IP Travel Photography does not accept any liability for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise of third party providers.

IP Travel Photography disclaims liability for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or trouble caused by force majeure or any other event which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on IP Travel Photography's part.

IP Travel Photography

IP Travel Photography is an ASIC business name with Australian Business Number 16578586693 and registered in Australia under the Business Names Registration Act 2011. IP Travel Photography (Ignacio Palacios) will guide and provide photography tuition to all participants during the tour. IP Travel Photography is not a travel agent or travel service provider.

CHECKLIST

“My strongest motivation is to create. I want to create beautiful images of natural subjects that can inspire others and the joy comes from sharing those incredible moments.”

Ignacio Palacios



Camera equipment

- DSLR or Medium Format (check your baggage allowance with your airline/travel agent)
- Tripod with quick release plate
- Standard zoom, wide angle and telephoto lenses
- Lots of batteries and chargers
- Shutter cable release
- Polarising filter and ND filters
- Laptop computer with Photoshop, Lightroom or Capture One
- External backup drives and memory cards for storage.

We recommend to shrink-wrap your baggage at your Australian/International departure airport. Ensure your telephoto lenses are packed in protective packs designed for such lenses. We also recommend that you pack your camera equipment as your hand luggage as much as possible so that if the checked-in baggage is lost or delayed at least you can start photographing as soon as you arrive.

Note: Please contact me if you want to discuss equipment for this trip.

What to bring, clothing and other

Our accommodation is clean and comfortable with all bedding and towels provided.

In terms of clothing you'll obviously need plenty of warm and weatherproof clothing. The following are very much recommended:

A good pair of strong waterproof warm walking boots and ideally those offering some thermal lining or maybe even a pair of thermal overshoes such as those made by Neos to go over your walking boots. Keeping warm feet, hands and head should be your priorities. Good waterproof over trousers (lined ones are best as they'll keep you warmer especially with a normal pair of trousers and some thermal leggings underneath as well) and dependent on how these two items fit together some gaiters can be useful as well. For the top half it's very much a question of having several layers – like a thermal type vest, t-shirt, thin jumper, fleece and then a waterproof down coat that is built for keeping out the wind chill. You'll know your own cold thresholds but it really is a question of build it up in layers. A good hat, some fingerless mittens and then some warm waterproof gloves to go over the top (the former so that when you come to photograph your fingers can still work the camera) should round the piece off.

- Hiking boots (well-worn in) and good socks – Gore-Tex – **mandatory**
- Snow shoes (optional) – They will be beneficial to walk in the snow
- Warm jacket – **mandatory – in June the temperatures are mild but we recommend a warm jacket for the mornings and evenings** (can be Gore-Tex or use a warm jacket and put a thick Gore-Tex on top).
- Gloves and hat – **mandatory**
- Waterproof pants, thermals (both legs and body) – **mandatory**
- Thin gloves to shoot – **mandatory**
- Water bottle or camel pack
- Sunglasses
- Raincoat/waterproof jacket/wind jacket and warm jumper – **mandatory**
- Head torch – **mandatory**
- Swimsuits and towels, there are plenty of pools here to relax in after a long day

IP Travel Photography reserves the right to cancel this workshop. In the event of this happening, all payments received will be refunded but participants shall have no further claim against IP Travel Photography arising from such cancellation. Any such refund will not include payments for any bookings for other services made in addition to the itinerary outlined above. The responsibility for such bookings lies with the participant. As such, IP Travel Photography recommends participants to purchase a travel protection insurance prior to paying the first deposit.

To reserve your place for 2025 or to make an enquiry, please email ignacio@iptravelphotography.com.au



Twilight, Snaefellsnes











**TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE FOR 2025
OR TO MAKE AN ENQUIRY, PLEASE EMAIL
IGNACIO@IPTRAVELPHOTOGRAPHY.COM.AU**



IGNACIO PALACIOS
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