# **TORNADOS** CHASING STORMS IN THE AMERICAN MIDWEST 14-21 JUNE 2025

Ignacio Palacios – Richard l'Anson

# TORNADOS

Tornados are more common in the United States than in any other country in the world and the United States receives more than 1,200 tornadoes annually. Violent tornadoes – those rated EF4 or EF5 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale – occur more often in the United States than in any other country.



## **TORNADOS**

"Do something amazing

this year! Richard I'Anson

and I are organising a tour

to photograph the amazing

storms and tornados in

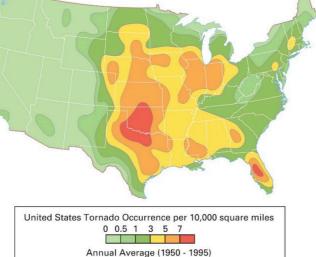
Midwest USA. "

This photography tour will be led by Tempest Tours, which is the most respected storm chasing tour company in America. Tempest tours was founded in 2000 and have provided a unique educational adventure to hundreds of happy guests from around the world.

Thanks to the summer solstice, our tour offers the longest chase days of the year with frequent storm intercepts. A 7-day tour is perfect for a first-time group, and 7 days is enough to have multiple severe weather events. Also, since it is in the second half of the season it will be more likely in the high plains which will be in Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana and possibly Colorado and Kansas. The storms and the landscape are amazing in this area and are very photogenic.

All guests will experience storm chasing that is led by the industry's most experienced staff. Trip includes lodging, weather briefings, free on-board Wi-Fi, and exclusive chase team T-shirt, and much more. A chase will begin immediately following the mandatory 9:00 am orientation on the arrival date. The tour will have a maximum of 11 people and two instructors which will split in two vans.

There will be photographing instruction on the field and postprocessing sessions when we are not shooting. All skills levels are welcome. Whether you're a beginner or expert, the tour will cover all aspects of image capture and post processing as it applies to where you are on your photography journey. As for equipment, we can help you optimise the equipment you chose to use from mobile phone to



tablets, compact camera to digital SLR cameras. AVERAGE ANNUAL FREQUENCY OF TORNADOES IN THE UNITED STATES

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### PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

Central to this unforgettable tour is YOU. Through Ignacio's 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 American adventure with a collection of powerful, moving photographs that you'll share with pride.

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

- How to photograph animals in the wild, shutter speed/ISO/Focus
- The art of composition, capture the moment what makes a good picture
- Post-processing techniques tips and tricks
- Creative post-processing for those of you who are keen to break the rules
- 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 will also be there to offer one-on-one guidance on other specific skills you'd personally like to master.

#### **Camera Skills**

The best way to learn the art of photography is by taking photos. So Ignacio will be by your side in the field sharing insight and guidance as you shoot. Helping you create great photos as you shoot. No matter your skill level or equipment, you'll learn the craft with an award-winning master.

#### **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 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.

#### Level of photography

All skills levels are welcome. Whether you're a beginner or expert, the tour is designed to cover all aspects of image capture and post processing as it applies to where you are on your photography journey. As for equipment, we can help you optimise the equipment you chose to use from mobile phone to tablets, compact camera to digital SLR cameras.

#### **Physical considerations**

While you'll be experiencing the Midwest 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 share any existing health conditions with us so we may plan for your comfort and safety.



### THE TEAM



"I believe that photography

can be way of change and

what I have captured and

created with my camera

in the hope that I can not

only inspire people to take

better images but to care

for the environment."

Ignacio Palacios

I feel an obligation and

responsibility to share

#### 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 – though 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 it, 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.



#### **RICHARD I'ANSON**

Our Guest Photographer on this expedition is Richard l'Anson. Richard is a freelance photographer who has built a career on his twin passions for travel and photography.

Over the past 34 years he has travelled the world, amassing a substantial and compelling collection of images of people and places in more than 90 countries on all seven continents.

magazines, newspapers, brochures, calendars, posters, cards and websites. Richard has published twelve books including five editions of the bestselling Lonely Planet Guide to Travel Photography, Lonely Planet's Best Ever Photography Tips and the large format pictorials: Australia: 42 Great Landscape Experiences, Nepal and India: essential encounters.

Richard was one of five photographers selected for the National Geographic Channel television series Tales by Light (screened in Australia and New Zealand in June 2015). He is a Master of Photography awarded by the Australian Institute of Professional Photography (AIPP); he is the World Nomads Travel Photography Scholarship Mentor and represents Canon Australia as a Canon Master Photographer.

Richard runs workshops teaching all aspects of travel photography for individuals and small groups and leads photography tours to Australian and international destinations. He is also much sought after as a speaker and judge for photography and travel industry events and competitions.

His photography is represented by Getty Images. When he's not on the road Richard lives in Sydney, Australia. For more information about Richard and his photography log onto www.richardianson.com, www.facebook.com/richardiansonphotography and richianson on Instagram.





### **CHECKLIST**

#### Camera equipment

• DSLR. To bring a couple of bodies is always recommended (check your baggage allowance with your airline/travel agent)

- Tripod with quick release plate
- Standard zoom, wide angle and telephoto lens
- Plenty of batteries and a couple of chargers
- Shutter cable release
- Polarising filter and ND filters
- Laptop computer with Photoshop and Lightroom and/or Capture One. Please make sure that these programs are working properly on your laptop before you arrive.
- External backup drives (SSD recommended) and memory cards for storage
- Lenses that cover the range of 24mm to 400mm plus, perhaps, a x1.4 teleconverter.
  I am planning to bring the following lenses: 24-70mm f2.8, 70-200mm f2.8 and possibly a 180-400 f4 or a 400mm f2.8 prime.

# What to bring, clothing and other

- Water bottle (1lt) to avoid the use of plastic bottles for mineral water. Our guide will make sure to refill your bottle whenever necessary.
- Sun block and sun glasses (protection against UV)
- Hat
- We recommend comfortable clothing made of fabric that breaths (such as cotton) and pack a combination of short sleeve and long sleeve top and pant options
- Comfortable hiking boots.
- Travel and medical insurance, passport, visa, medication that might include malaria pills

#### Luggage preparations

- Additional luggage allowances have been arranged across all of your internal flights for your convenience
- We recommend you shrinkwrap your baggage at your departure airport
- Ensure your telephoto lenses are packed in protective casings designed for this specific lens
- We also suggest you carry your camera equipment as carry-on luggage where possible. In the event your luggage is delayed or lost, you can still shoot the moment you arrive.

*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 and cancellation insurance prior to paying the first deposit. It is recommended that the cancellation insurance covers for the whole cost of the trip.

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



TEMPEST TOURS With decades of **combined storm chasing experience**, our team is among the best anywhere. They consists of trained storm spotters, a climatologist, severe weather research meteorologist, wind meteorologist, and a National Weather Service meteorologist.

We employ the latest weather radar and tracking hardware and software, redundant GPS and weather information systems, and the most experienced storm chasers in the industry to help us locate **the best storm of the day**. Come join the chase and experience tornado alley.

Safety is our top priority. We use heavy-duty vans modified to carry a maximum of only 6-7 passengers for enhanced comfort and safety. All tour drivers are approved by our insurance company. And our staff attends a rigorous safety training orientation annually.

# When is the best time to chase?

Storm season in Tornado Alley begins in March and ends in early August. The early portion of the season takes place primarily in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas and moves north to northeast Colorado, Nebraska and the Dakotas in July. The very best time to chase is from April to late July.

**Recommended:** Purchase travel insurance https://www. consumersadvocate.org/travelinsurance visit this site or Travel Insurance – Compare and Buy Trip Insurance Online for valuable information.

#### Why chase with Tempest Tours?

- Experienced Storm Chasers. That's what it's all about. The Tempest Tours Team possesses a thorough knowledge and feel
- for severe weather forecasting and the ability to identify and intercept the most significant weather of the day.
- Solid Intercept Record. They are able to achieve this high intercept rate because of the logistical and forecasting skills we have developed over many years.
- Safe, Comfortable, Reliable Vehicles. The company owns heavy duty vans are modified to carry a maximum of only 6-7 passengers for enhanced comfort and safety. They are carefully maintained, commercially insured, clean and smoke-free.
- Our Two Van Guarantee. We could operate more vehicles, but we won't. Limiting tours to only two vans improves safety, mobility and the quality of the experience.
- Cutting Edge Technology. Tempest utilizes the latest weather tracking and radar tools and systems.
- A Commitment To Safety. Tempest staff receives thorough safety training every year. And, all drivers are screened and approved by their insurance underwriter. At Tempest Tours, safety is priority.
- A Dedication To Education. Tempest believe that all guests should leave their expedition with a better understanding of how our dynamic atmosphere

works. They provide weather briefings and presentations to help meet that goal.

- Commercial Grade Insurance. Before the company began operations, they obtained a commercial insurance policy to compliment our commitment to safety. Tempest carry commercial insurance as required by the National Tour Association.
- The company is Down To Earth, and their team is friendly and unpretentious. Vehicles are simple but safe and reliable. And, they are here for our guests, sharing the knowledge and making sure you receive a unique, quality experience.



### TERMS AND **CONDITIONS**



#### WORKSHOP DATES AND PRICES

Tour dates: 14-21 June 2025

The tour commences and ends in Denver (USA)

Standard cost: US\$8,990 per person; Optional single supplement: **US\$790** 

Maximum **11** 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
- Note: the workshop is quoted in USD<sup>\$</sup>. To calculate the rate in AUD\$, the currency exchange rate will be obtained from the Westpac website at the time of transferring the deposit and balance.
- 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 the trip has been confirmed.

#### What's included

- Full 7 day tour, photography instruction by Ignacio Palacios and Richard l'Anson
- All meals (B, L, D)
- Transfers from and to airports
- All entrance fees to sites, guided English speaking guides
- Park/reserve fees
- Local taxes.

#### What's not included

- Accommodation and meals prior to or following the trip
- Travel, cancellation, and equipment insurances
- Medical insurance
- Visas (if required)
- Alcohol consumption Beverages and snacks in
- between main meals • Hotel Minibar, laundry
- services and late check-outs
- Souvenirs and other personal expenses
- Tips and gratuities for guides and drivers.

Note on tips: gratuities are not included in the tour price. We emphasize that such tips should be at your own discretion and based solely on the level of your service satisfaction.

#### **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 May 2024 and 31 January 2025, 60% of the workshop cost will be payable
- If cancelled after 1 February 2025, 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 land package (no airfares included)

 Cancellation fees are not transferable.

#### Camera gear

There is really no limit to what camera gear you take. 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. Check the camera equipment checklist at the end of the brochure but if you want to discuss specific equipment for this trip, contact me.

#### 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. All walks/hikes are optional, and we will always provide information the day before about what to expect so you can decide whether you want to join or not. If you have concerns about your own capabilities or health, please check with your doctor before booking a place. By signing the Registration Form, vou 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 becomes 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/Covid-19

I will provide guidance on this to obtain your visas (if required) and we will update you before the trip with regards to covid tests (if required) prior departure.

#### 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. We may be forced to change or alter the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances; please be aware, however, that we will attempt to stick as close to the original program as possible
- Cancel the workshop prior to departure, in which case a full refund of all payments received will be given. If such an event occurred, IP Travel Photography will not be responsible for any other expenses such as nonrefundable 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 and cancellation 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
- Run the photography workshop without the guest photographer if the group size is less than 6 participants. This 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 at any time due to adverse currency exchange fluctuations, airline schedule changes, fuel and tax price charges
- Change the price of the workshop at any time due to major unforeseen increases in expedition related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result.

#### Liability

The operation of the workshop is at the sole discretion of Ignacio Palacios (IP Travel Photography Pty Ltd), 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 Pty Ltd (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.

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



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