



# CHINA

## THE ULTIMATE CHINA EXPERIENCE

**4 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Ignacio Palacios



Embarking on this ultimate photography tour of China promises an unparalleled visual odyssey through a land of limitless wonders. From the sleek, futuristic skyline of Shanghai to the mystical allure of the Yellow Mountain, and the serene beauty of Hangzhou's West Lake, this tour unfolds a panorama of diverse landscapes.





# CHINA

Xiapu's fishing nets and Zhangjiajie's soaring pillars offer unique photo opportunities, while Guilin's karst formations and the rustic charm of Yangshuo evoke enchantment at every click. The Stone Forest in Kunming, Yuanyang's terraced rice fields, Chengdu's cuddly pandas, and the ancient Terracotta Warriors in Xian add cultural richness to your visual narrative.

Amidst these treasures, the Nine Village Valley stands as a hidden gem. With landscapes, nature, and culture interwoven seamlessly, this tour is the photographer's dream, where each frame captures China's soul in all its grandeur.



## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Each of the destinations that we will be visiting below presents a distinct and captivating photographic experience, from natural wonders to cultural treasures:

**Shanghai:** The bustling metropolis of Shanghai is a photographer's paradise, offering a blend of modern skyscrapers like the Oriental Pearl Tower alongside traditional neighbourhoods like Yuyuan Garden, creating a stunning contrast of old and new.

**Yellow Mountain (Huangshan):** The Yellow Mountain's mystical scenery with its iconic granite peaks, ancient pine trees, and swirling mists provide endless opportunities for capturing the enchanting beauty of nature.

**Hangzhou:** The serene West Lake in Hangzhou is famous for its picturesque landscapes, from classical gardens to tranquil water reflections, making it an ideal place for capturing the essence of Chinese natural beauty.

**Xiapu:** Xiapu is renowned for its intricate seaweed farms, creating mesmerizing patterns in the tidal flats during low tide. It's a unique and photogenic coastal destination for landscape photographers.

**Zhangjiajie:** Known as the "Avatar Mountains," Zhangjiajie's towering sandstone pillars and lush forests offer an otherworldly landscape that inspired the famous film, making it a surreal location for photography.

**Guilin and Yangshuo:** The karst formations along the Li River in Guilin and the countryside of Yangshuo present a dreamy setting with limestone peaks, winding rivers, and vibrant rice fields, ideal for capturing rural China's charm. This includes a photo session with a local and cormorant.

**Kunming Stone Forest:** The Stone Forest in Kunming boasts an otherworldly labyrinth of limestone formations, resembling a petrified forest, providing an eerie yet captivating backdrop for photographers.

**Yuanyang Rice Terraces:** The terraced rice fields of Yuanyang, carved into the mountainside by generations of Hani people, showcase intricate agricultural landscapes that come alive with vibrant colors during planting and harvesting seasons.

**Chengdu (Pandas):** Capturing the adorable pandas at the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding is a must for wildlife photographers, offering glimpses of these iconic endangered creatures in their natural habitat.

**Nine Village Valley:** Hidden away in the mountains of Sichuan, the Nine Village Valley offers secluded villages, pristine forests, and cascading waterfalls, perfect for those seeking off-the-beaten-path photographic opportunities.

**Xian's Terracota Warriors:** The Terracotta Army in Xian is a UNESCO World Heritage site that tells a historic story through its thousands of life-sized statues of soldiers, horses, and chariots, offering a unique glimpse into ancient China's artistry and culture.

**Zhangye Danxia (Rainbow) Mountain:** The Zhangye Danxia National Geological Park is a geological wonder that seems straight out of a dream. Its vibrant, rainbow-hued mountains are a surreal spectacle, formed over millions of years by mineral deposits and erosion. The interplay of sunlight and shadow throughout the day adds depth and drama to the already enchanting scenery, making it a must-visit destination for those who appreciate the Earth's natural artistry and wonder.

*"Embarking on this ultimate photography tour of China promises an unparalleled visual odyssey through a land of limitless wonders."*





## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 | 4 September: arrive Shanghai

The tour starts in the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai, also known as the “Paris of the East” and one of Asia’s most influential cities.

Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. Late afternoon, the group will gather at the hotel for drinks, presentations and dinner.

Accommodation: Jin Jiang Tower or similar.

### DAY 2 | 5 September: Shanghai

We will spend one day in Shanghai to get over jetlag and the long flight and we will explore Yu Garden and the atmospheric alleys of the old town. Where cobbled streets are lined with traditional shops selling herbal medicine, handicrafts, Chinese tea, and a variety of tantalising snacks while the Yu Garden is seen as one the most perfect examples of Chinese garden style. Yu Garden is home to exquisite jade rock, koi-filled ponds and stunning, tranquil pavilions.

We will also visit Wukang Road, a historic road in the Shanghai district, located in the western part of the former French Concession area of the city. Wukang Road was recognized as one of the National Historic and cultural streets of China. If time allows, we will do a cruise on Huangpu River.

Shanghai is a city that looks amazing from above so at around sunset, we will hit one of the numerous rooftop bars (such as Vue bar at Hyatt on the Bund or Cloud 9 in Jin Mao Tower) to photograph Pudong Skyline.

Accommodation: Jin Jiang Tower or similar.

### DAY 3 | 6 September: Shanghai – Mt Huangshan – Hongcun

Bullet train to Huangshan (3hrs) G7317 08.35–11.32. On arrival drive to Hotel in Hongcun. Explore Hongcun city. Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Accommodation: Huangshan Yuanjing Boutique Hotel or similar.

### DAY 4 | 7 September: Hongcun – Mt Huangshan

Enjoy a leisure morning to shoot the mist or its typical Hui Architecture.

Drive to Yellow Mountain. Take cable car up to the summit, enjoy the spectacular views of the oddly shaped peaks, rock formations, thousand-year-old pine trees and ever-changing mist, all of which have inspired local artists for centuries. Mt Huang ranks among the great wall and the famous Terracotta warriors as one of China’s most luring tourist attractions. As an international ecotourism point of interest, UNESCO listed the mountain as an official World Cultural Heritage site in 1990.

Stay overnight at the hotel on the top of Mt. Huang (Yellow Mountain) literally translated as Yellow Mountain. Watch the Sunset – please check the best location and time to watch the Sunset. Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Accommodation: Xihai Hotel Huangshan or similar.

*“The bustling metropolis of Shanghai is a photographer’s paradise, offering a blend of modern skyscrapers alongside traditional neighbourhoods, creating a stunning contrast of old and new.”*



Shanghai skyline





Beiqi beach in Xiapu

**DAY 5 | 8 September: Mt Huangshan – Tunxi**

Enjoy the sunrise of Mt. Huang. If you travel to Yellow Mountain in different season, the suitable viewing spots recommended for you changes accordingly, due to variation of position where sun sets. Don't forget to check the location to better plan your hiking trip to Huangshan Mountain. Cable car down to the base of the mountain.

Then transfer to Huangshan city. On arrival downtown, visit Tunxi Ancient Town with hundred years history, is the best-preserved old street in China in style of the Southern Song Dynasty, Ming and Qing Dynasties. It is composed of 1 main street, 3 bystreets and 18 alleys with more than 300 Hui-style architectures. Travelers can take a leisure stroll along the old street to enjoy Huizhou culture, immerse in the fragrance of tea and ink and taste some local snacks. Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Accommodation: hotel in Huangshan city/Tunxi.

**DAY 6 | 9 September: Tunxi – Hangzhou**

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Hangzhou (around 4 hours drive). You may have a chance to see the sunset at West Lake in Hangzhou. Meals: breakfast and lunch.

Accommodation: Wenhua Gin Lan Jia Hotel or similar.

**DAY 7 | 10 September: Hangzhou**

In the morning we will head to West Lake for sunrise to capture some beautiful panoramic views and silhouettes. We will also visit and photograph Lingyin Temple, a Buddhist temple of the Chan sect located northwest of Hangzhou (Temple of the Soul's Retreat).

We will photograph the Nine Creeks in the misty forest, commonly named "Nine Creeks and Eighteen caves" with a visit to Jiuxi 18th stream, where there is a beautiful monument printed with Jiuxi smoke trees.

If time allows, we will visit the Three Pools mirroring the Moon. This is one of the ten scenes of the West Lake and the largest of 3 fairy islets in the outer lake, with 3 miniature stone pagodas rising from the water.

Accommodation: Wenhua Gin Lan Jia Hotel or similar.

**DAY 8 | 11 September: Hangzhou – Xiapu**

We will take the bullet train to Fuzhou (4hrs 20mins) and then again, from Fuzhou to Xiapu (1h10mins). On arrival, we will photograph the sunset at Dongbi Village. The East Wall has beautiful mountains in the background facing the ocean and if the weather cooperates, we will experience a magnificent sunset and capture great images.

Accommodation: Haiyue Hotel Xiapu or similar.



**DAY 9 | 12 September: Xiapu**

Photograph the sunrise at Beiqi beach in Xiapu. The beautiful scenery of the Xiapu tidal flat has been photographed by renowned photographers such as Michael Kenna and has been listed as one of the most beautiful places to photograph in China. During the busy season of laver production in Beiqi, thousands of bamboo poles are inserted into square mesh frames on the beach, stretching for kms and providing a magnificent sight.

We will then head to Shajiang S Bay and Seine net, which has a long history and beautiful scenery for photography. The beautiful lines formed by many bamboo poles inserted on the tidal flat are arranged on "S" shapes.

Every time the kelp is harvested, the boats that come and go will pass between the pole shadows, providing great opportunities for photography.

We will photograph the sunset from Xiaohaoxishan, one of the most popular viewpoints of Xiapu beach to capture working scenes of Shunguang sandy beach.

Accommodation: Haiyue Hotel Xiapu or similar.

**DAY 10 | 13 September: Xiapu – Zhangjiajie**

Visit and photograph the mangrove forest in the Ewan National village Xiapu. The sea is often very calm, and this offers great opportunities to capture reflections, the fishermen, the mangroves and the tidal flats against each other. Transfer by coach to Fuzhou airport (3.5hrs) for our flight to Zhangjiajie (2 hours).

On arrival transfer to the hotel. Our hotel is located at the entrance of the emperor Mountain and it is a very convenient location for the group to photograph the sunrise at Zhangjiajie.

Accommodation: Xiangxi Story Inn (Zhangjiajie National Forest Park) or similar.

**DAY 11 | 14 September: Zhangjiajie**

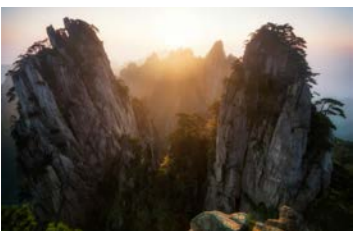
After breakfast we will head to Yuan Jiajie (Bai Long Sightseeing Elevator), This is a double glass deck elevator built onto the side of a cliff rising 335m within 2mins from Zhangjiajie scenic area to Tianzi Mountain and it's the highest glass elevator in the world.

Enjoy the Rocky Mountains natural bridge that connects two mountain peaks and is majestic.

We will head to Mihun Stage, Hallelujah Mountain, Emperor Mountain (cable car down). We will have amazing views of the Imperial Brush Peak, Fairy Maiden Presenting Flowers Helong Park, West See Peak and after our photography session we will head back to the hotel.

Accommodation: Expert Village Courtyard Hotel or similar.

*“A classic landscape photography spot: The Yellow Mountain’s mystical scenery with its iconic granite peaks, ancient pine trees, and swirling mists provide endless opportunities for capturing the enchanting beauty of nature.”*



The Hallelujah mountains in Zhangjiajie









Cormorant fishing photo session, Yulong River

**DAY 12 | 15 September: Zhangjiajie**

Today heading to Baofeng Lake, is an artificial fresh-water lake in the Wulingyuan Scenic area located on the south side of Suoxiyu Village. It is a calm lake surrounded by mountains covered with trees.

Then continue to Yellow Dragon Cave, is a karst cave located in Wulingyuan district. Its largest caverns can be bigger than baseball fields. It is divided into dry and wet levels, consisting of a large number of chambers, pools, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and hundreds of thousands of stalagmites, stalactites. Meals: Breakfast and Lunch.

Accommodation: Expert Village Courtyard Hotel or similar.

**DAY 13 | 16 September: Zhangjiajie – Guilin**

Transfer to the train station for the transfer to Guilin (07.17am – 14.15am).

On arrival, we will visit Guilin's two rivers (the Li and the Taohua) and four lakes (Rong, Shan, Gui and Mulong). The two rivers and four lakes form a continuous picturesque and beautiful waterway through the center of Guilin city. Standing in the water of Shan Hu are the Sun Tower and The Moon Tower. The Sun Tower is painted gold and the taller of the two. In the night it is lit with bright lights. The Moon Tower has deep brown beams and aqua eaves. After our photography session, we will go to our hotel in Guilin.

Accommodation: Li Jiang Waterfall Hotel or similar.

**DAY 14 | 17 September: Guilin – Yangshuo**

After breakfast, check out and transfer by coach to Yangshuo.

Li River cruise, whimsical hill landscape, tranquil lagoon-blue waters and lush vegetation. Li River is a blend of Guilin's most visually stunning and iconic natural scenery. A photographer's paradise.

Xianggong Mountain is a karst mountain in the west bank of Li River and the best place to overlook the river.

Accommodation: Mehood hotel Yangshuo or similar.

**DAY 15 | 18 September: Yangshuo**

After breakfast transfer to Xingping Wharf to photograph and experience the historic riverside town of Xingping and its remarkable ancient practice (fishing with cormorant).

Climb Laozhai Mountain, the highest mountain in Xingping Ancient Town to capture a (hopefully amazing) sunrise. Visit Rongshutan pier of Lijiang River in Xingping Ancient town. This is known as the best place to enjoy Xingping landscapes and the best photography spot of Lijiang River.

Cormorant fishing photography session. Enjoy the sunset at Yulong River at a small Li River's tributary over 35 km through small villages in the Yulong River valley.

Accommodation: Mehood hotel Yangshuo or similar.



**DAY 16 | 19 September: Yangshuo – Guilin – Kunming**

After breakfast, check out and transfer by coach to Guilin station (2 hours). Bullet train to Kunming (16.08pm – 20.48pm). On arrival transfer to the hotel.

Accommodation: Kunming Jinjiang Hotel or similar.

**DAY 17 | 20 September: Kunming – Yuanyang**

After breakfast, check out and transfer by coach to Stone Forest Kunming. This forest is known for its remarkable karst formations and unique natural scenery.

It is situated in the Lunan Yu Autonomous County, it is known as the “First wonder of the world”.

Drive to Yuanyang (4.5 – 5 hours), hotel check-in and dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

Accommodation: Flowers Residence or similar.

**DAY 18 | 21 September: Yuanyang**

Today we will visit Duoyishu Rice Terrace, which is part of the Honghe Rice terraces and was listed as World heritage Site by UNESCO in 2013. It is marked by spectacular terraces that cascade down the slopes of the towering Aliao Mountains and the banks of Hong River.

If reopened (due to the collapse caused by the sudden mud-rock flow), we will also visit Luohuzui (Tiger Mouth) Rice terrace and the 45th World Heritage Site of China.

Otherwise, we will visit Bada Rice Terraces. The 950 hectares symbolise “ladders to heaven” rising from 800 metres to 2000 metres. Bada Rice terraces is a great spot to catch the spectacular sunset and mysterious sea of clouds.

Accommodation: Flowers Residence or similar.

**DAY 19 | 22 September: Yuanyang – Kunming – Chengdu**

Drive back to Kunming Airport (4.5 – 5hours) then fly to Chengdu (17.40pm – 19.15pm).

On arrival transfer to hotel in Chengdu.

Accommodation: Dorsett Chengdu or similar.

**DAY 20 | 23 September: Chengdu**

Today we will visit the Chengdu Panda Research Base. This is a public non-profit breeding and research institute for giant pandas, red pandas and other rare animals in Chengdu where we will have the opportunity to photograph these beautiful and unique animals.

Transfer to Wide and Narrow Alley or Kuan Zhai Alley. These are some of the top historic districts in Chengdu city. They are formed by three alleys: Kuan Alley (wide alley), Zhai alley (narrow alley) and Jing alley.

*“Zhangye Danxia National Geological Park has vivid reds, oranges, and yellows that create a surreal landscape, making it a favourite spot for landscape photographers seeking to capture the mesmerizing patterns and colours of these sandstone and siltstone mountains.”*



Duoyishu Rice Terraces, Yuanyang









Visit to Wuhou temple/shrine, the most famous and influential temple in memory of Zhuge Liang, Liu Bei and other heroes in Shu of Three Kingdoms.

Our last stop today will be Anshun Lang Bridge, which is a beautiful bridge in a very vibrant and lively area. It has a cosy atmosphere and there are many viewing platforms to photograph the bridge from different angles.

This bridge has a long history and was built in the Yuan Dynasty. In Marco polo's travel notes, Anshun covered bridge is the most popular one in his impression. Profound one of the four bridges. The Anshun covered bridge was once washed away by floods, and the restored re-appeared in 2003.

Accommodation: Dorsett Chengdu or similar.

**DAY 21 | 24 September: Chengdu – Nine Village Valley (NVV)**

Today we will visit Huanglong Valley, home to hundreds of vivid pools of striking blue colours, formed by thousands of years of mineral deposits tumbling gently down through the bright green forest.

Accommodation: Holiday Inn Express Jiuzhaigou or similar.

**DAY 22 | 25 September: Nine Village Valley**

Enjoy a full day exploring the diverse scenery of splendid Nine Villages Valley, China's most awe-inspiring National Park. A national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes, forests and rushing waterfalls, the Nine Village Valley, Jiuzhaigou National Park is considered one of China's most beautiful areas.

Named after the nine Tibetan settlements scattered through the valley, the park is a World Biosphere Reserve, full of endemic flora and 140 species of birds. You will spend 5 to 6 hours walking around Long Lake, Five Coloured Lake and Nuorilang Falls.

*Note: Today we will be walking for approximately 5–6 hours on some uneven and slippery terrain. It is strongly advised that you wear sturdy footwear with ankle support.*

Accommodation: Holiday Inn Express Jiuzhaigou or similar.

**DAY 23 | 26 September: Nine Village Valley – Xian**

Transfer to the airport for our flight to Xian (06.20am – 07.45am). On arrival, transfer to visit the world-famous Terracotta Warriors. After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued and delighted visitors from all over the world. We will spend the morning viewing and photographing the warriors and their horses. We will then head to Muslim Quarter, which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Here, you will gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance: The start of the Silk Road.



In the evening we will enjoy a night tour around Xian. As night falls, Xian magically turns into a paradise on earth with everything looking surreal, neon lit shops and streets, evening food markets, pubs, cafes, etc. Another great opportunity for street photography.

Accommodation: Grand Park Hotel or similar.

**DAY 24 | 27 September: Xian – Zhangye**

In the morning we will take a stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th Century City Wall. Then, transfer to the airport for our flight to Zhangye (14.25pm – 16.30pm).

Accommodation: Yitel Zhishang Hotel Zhangye or similar.

**DAY 25 | 28 September: Zhangye**

Today we will visit Zhangye Danxia Geopar or rainbow mountain. We will get up early in the morning to experience and photograph a beautiful Sunrise and to enjoy a private tour around the park, after which we will have free time in the park to shoot as much as you like. Breakfast and lunch are packed meals.

Accommodation: Yitel Zhishang Hotel Zhangye or similar.

**DAY 26 | 29 September: Zhangye – Shanghai via Lanzhou**

Flight from Zhangye to Shanghai via Lanzhou (13.05pm – 18.05pm)  
(5hrs with a stopover at Lanzhou for 50mins).

Accommodation: Jin Jiang Tower or similar.

**DAY 27 | 30 September: Depart Shanghai**

Airport transfer.

*“The famous Terracotta Army in Xian is a UNESCO World Heritage site that tells a historic story through its thousands of life-sized statues of soldiers, horses, and chariots.”*



Terracota Warriors, Xian



## 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 China 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 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

Our guides will take us to a range of different locations most of which involve some short walks. Sometimes, we may take longer walks, but all excursions are optional and if you are tired, you can always sleep in and relax in the homestays/hotels. This expedition does not require high altitude travel but participants should be in good general health, however, there is not much strenuous walking/trekking involved. Temperatures can range drastically in the mountains from day to night. Packing layers is essential.

*“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



Chengdu Panda Research Base



ACCOMMODATION



Jin Jiang Tower



Wenhua Gin Lan Jia Hotel



Expert Village Courtyard Hotel



Holiday Inn Express Jiuzhaigou



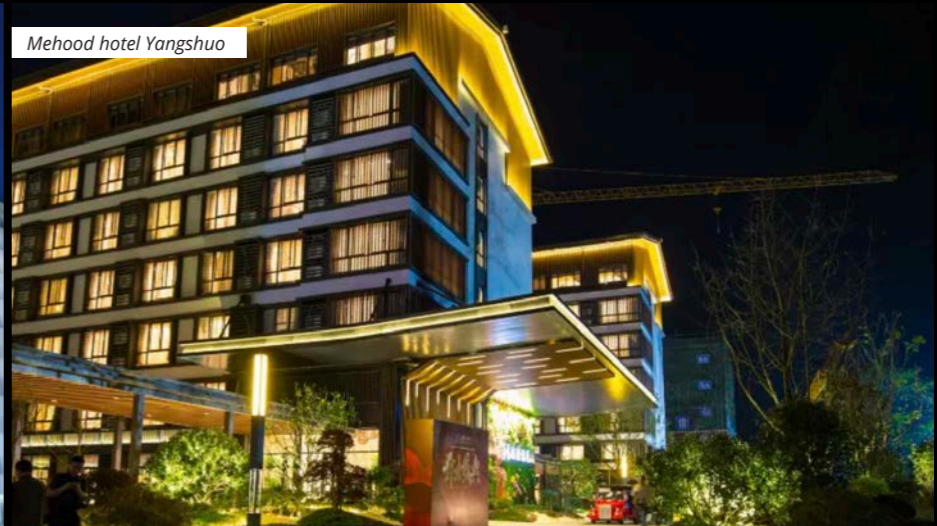
Xihai Hotel Huangshan



Haiyue Hotel Xiapu



Li Jiang Waterfall Hotel



Mehood hotel Yangshuo





**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 100 countries in his 25 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.

**Awards**

- Spanish Professional Photography Awards (AFP) – Landscape Winner (LUX Gold) 2014
- Australian Photographic Prize – Category Winner – Scenic, Travel 2023
- Australian Photographic Prize – Category Finalist – Wildlife 2023
- APPA AIPP Landscape Photographer of the Year – Runner-Up 2016
- APPA AIPP Creative Photographer of the Year – Runner-Up 2019
- Head On Landscape Prize – Exhibited Finalist 2013, 2016, 2018
- NSW AIPP Professional Photographer of the Year – Overall Winner 2018
- NSW AIPP Professional Travel Photographer of the Year – Winner 2017, 2018, 2019
- NSW AIPP Professional Nature Photographer of the Year – Winner 2016, 2017/Finalist 2018, 2019
- NSW AIPP Professional Landscape Photographer of the Year – Finalist 2014, 2016 2017/Winner 2018
- NSW Epson Signature Worthy Award – Winner 2017
- APPA AIPP Photographic Book of the Year – Finalist 2018, 2019
- ANZANG Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the year – Finalist 2013
- National Geographic Travel Contest – Finalist and Editors choice 2013
- Travel Photographer of the Year – Finalist (TPOTY) 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021
- Travel Photographer of the Year – Category Winner and Portfolio Runner-Up 2019, Category Runner-Up 2021
- TPOTY – Highly Commended 2014, 2015, Commended 2018, 2 x Special Mentions 2019
- International Landscape Photographer of the Year – Category Winner 2016, 2018, 2019
- EPSON Pano Awards Open Competition – Top 50: 2016, 2017, 2018
- IPA (International Photography Awards) – Finalist 2009, Honorable Mention 2009, 2013, 2015, 2019
- International Loupe Awards – Runner up 2010, Finalist 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013
- Wildlife Photographer of the Year – Final Round 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019
- GDT European Nature Photographer of the Year – Finalist 2017
- MontPhoto Landscape – Finalist 2020
- Eyes on Asia Awards – Runner Up 2013
- FOCUS Awards – Image of the Year 2016, 2018



Beiqi beach in Xiapu



## CHECKLIST

### 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
- Battery and chargers
- Shutter cable release
- Polarising filter and ND filters
- Laptop computer with Photoshop and Lightroom and/or Capture One
- External backup drives and memory cards for storage.

We recommend to shrink-wrap your baggage at your 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

- Passport (check expiry date)
- Visa (if required)
- Plane tickets (or print of e-ticket) – check weight requirements
- Details of travel insurance and health insurance policy
- Credit Cards and copy of your credit cards in case of loss
- Photocopy of your passport kept those in various locations for safety
- Photocopy of your Covid-19 vaccination certificates – kept those in various locations for safety
- Cash for tips/souvenirs/snacks ~ USD500
- Hiking boots (well-worn in)
- Water bottle
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Sunscreen, insect repellent
- Comfortable trousers
- Raincoat and waterproof jacket
- Wind jacket and jumper
- Head torch
- Alarm clock
- Personal toiletries
- Bath soap, shampoo, conditioner
- Lip balm and skin lotions
- Prescription medications in their original containers in your carry-on bag
- Earplugs
- Books/eBook for relax time

*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](mailto:ignacio@iptravelphotography.com.au)**



*“The terraced rice fields of Yuanyang, carved into the mountainside by generations of Hani people, showcase intricate agricultural landscapes that come alive with vibrant colors during planting and harvesting seasons.”*





# TERMS AND CONDITIONS



## WORKSHOP DATES AND PRICES

Tour dates: **4 – 30 September 2025**

The tour commences and ends in **Shanghai**

Cost is **USD\$19,290** per person, twin share;

Optional single room supplement **USD\$3,390**

Maximum **8** 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 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 April 2025**
- Bookings will be accepted strictly in the order they are received
- Important: the workshop requires a minimum of 4 participants to run so please don't book your flights until this has been confirmed.

## What's included

- 27 days (26 nights) tour, photography instruction by Ignacio Palacios
- All accommodation and main meals (B, L, D)
- All transportation and entrance fees to all sites, museums, and parks (camera fee not included)
- National Escort or local guide.
- Domestic flight tickets on Economy class
- Bullet train tickets on second class soft seat
- Red cap service at Railway station where available
- Complimentary one bottle of drinking water per full day tour
- China visa assistant/service fee for Australian passport holder (China Visa fee of \$110pp is not included)

- Local taxes

## What's not included

- International Flights
  - Accommodation and meals prior to or following the trip
  - Personal expenditure such as all drinks (including at meals) laundry service and souvenirs
  - Camera and Video entry charges at Monuments/Forts etc
  - Arrival/departure transfers if not travelling together with the group.
  - Early/late check in/out not guaranteed, if requested it might be an additional cost
  - COVID Related expenses due to testing
  - Travel, cancellation, and equipment insurances
  - Medical insurance
  - Visa
  - 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. As a guidance, if you would like to tip, we recommend RMB 15pp/day.*

## 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 April 2024 and 31 May 2025, 60% of the workshop cost will be payable
- If cancelled after 1 June 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 April 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
- Cancellation fees are not transferable.
- Bookings made after 1 April 2025 must be paid in full.

## 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, 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 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 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 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, 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.























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



**IGNACIO PALACIOS**  
TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

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