



ICONS: a new look at specialised travel

What's the idea behind "ICONS"?

The natural world is full of special places and even more special species (how's that for a tongue-twister!) and I've been fortunate to spend my career travelling the globe to record them for all to see. From the coldest Arctic outpost to the darkest jungle and a multitude of places in between, I've pointed a variety of cameras at willing, and not-so-willing, subjects to demonstrate the wild beauty that exists all around us. As such, after 30 years of so of running around, I want to make my experience more widely available than I can normally do. Time limits me to the number of trips I can be on personally, so this is a great way of ensuring you get the trip you want regardless.

Ok, so you're not going to be there in person?

No. The idea behind the "Icons" trips is that they are specifically targeted and focused on places I know and work but won't have the time to lead a group trip to. As such, you get to do exactly what you would do if I was taking you as a group but on your own timetable.

But you've obviously been there?

Absolutely. As is the case with any trip I organise (whether it be a photo-group led by me or a tailor-made trip for someone), I have been, worked, photographed and/or filmed in the location on multiple occasions....without guests. You will do things as close as possible to how I do them when working on commission. This has always been my

raison d'être when it comes to travel. If I don't know the area, then I'll just advise you to look elsewhere. Everything I put together for you is something I have first-hand experience of and that's how you get to benefit. This isn't about being a one-time visitor/never have been-style travel agent. Every time you reserve through me, you're getting the benefit of years of experience of knowing that location and species.

Got it. So, this is more of a bespoke travel service?

Yes, in a way it is. I will help steer you on the best times to visit and advise how long you would require as a minimum to achieve what you want to, but otherwise it's all down to you how long you'd like to stay. My involvement will be to make sure I get you into the right location that fits your budget and matches your expectations.

Are sightings guaranteed?

Well...if only they were. Suffice to say, I load the dice but nature rolls them. You will certainly have the best chance you can possibly have to get the images you want, but nothing in the wild is guaranteed of course!.

What about if the animals or places I want to see or go to are not listed?

For now, I've highlighted some of the possible trips that you might want to focus on. These are reflective of the "Icons" idea in that they are keystone species or headline locations and events. This is not everything though. I can put you into innumerable situations based on what you want to see – nothing is impossible (unless it is!), and as such if there are animals or places here you don't see listed, then simply ASK. The list here is emblematic, not total.

So, if I want to see, something in particular, you'd sort it out?

As best as I can 😊 For sure, I'd come up with a number of possibilities for example that you could then match to your expectations and budget. I'd be there all the way through that decision process to help and steer if needed.

Is this a group trip?

Yes....and no!. Just to confuse! These trips can be booked by an individual or a group of friends. Some locations might have restrictions so I'd discuss this with you at the time of booking. However, remember that in some places, unless you're specifically having a private guide or vehicle (which I will attempt to ensure is possible at all places), then you may be joining in with a group of other guests. For individuals, if you are amenable, I will often see if someone else wants to do the same trip as you and can match you up – this will make your budget stretch further too. However, there's no compulsion for that of course.

But can I still do one of the trips you are leading as well?

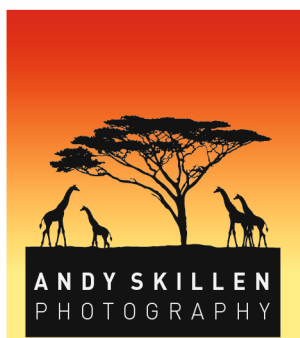
Of course! This is simply a way of tapping into my network and fixing a tailored photographic trip for yourself without the need to wait for me to be there with you.

Any extras you throw in?

Haha! Well, actually yes! Any **ICONS** trip will include (where practicable) a day's refresher course with the camera with me in person; a pre-departure zoom chat to go over any issues/questions; a full set of briefing notes on locations and photographic experiences you can expect and plan for and a post-trip review of up to 30 of your images from the trip to discuss how amazingly you've done 😊 (Or...some thoughts on what to do next time....). This will include some thoughts on editing too.

Brilliant. What do I do?

Simple! Reach out! The list you see is not exhaustive, but more meant to be provoking. If your bucket-list trip is there, great, but if not, simply ask. I will always say "no" if it's not something I can do and as I'm always off around the world working on new things anyway, then there's a chance you can get into places I've literally only just finished working in.



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