

A journey of discovery, and into the mystery and majesty
of Mother Nature's most awe-inspiring spectacle

**“A revolution in STORM
CHASING has arrived”**

A large, dramatic photograph of a massive tornado funnel cloud touching down. In the foreground, a car is visible, and on the right side, a person's face is partially visible, looking towards the storm. The scene is filled with dark, swirling clouds and a sense of intense power.

FLEXI-CHASER 2006
Flexible, Expedition Storm Chasing in
Tornado Alley USA
Register your interest NOW!

Dear Thunderbolt Tours member,

We hope you have had the a most enjoyable Christmas & holiday season and wish you the very best for 2006!

Our new year's resolution has been to set in place a brand new concept in tornado and storm chasing in the United States - one that we hope will open the door for almost anyone who has been captivated by the spectacular weather of Tornado Alley.

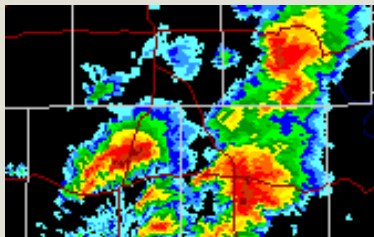
In 2005, many members were unable to participate due to the somewhat rigid time constraints of a tour, while others found the cost of joining a tour just beyond their means.



A revolution in Tornado Alley storm chase touring has arrived! Welcome to "Flexi-Chaser" for Flexible, Expedition storm chasing!

Tornado Alley Flexi-Chaser 2006 - What's in it for me?

- Firstly, and it is always an important consideration, you can save huge \$ on the cost of your trip. We offer single-day, 7-day, 14-day and season (28 day) expedition passes.
- You choose your accommodation. With Flexi-Chaser 2006, you can select your preferred hotel in each town where we stay the night. 5-star comfort perhaps or would you rather spend less money on hotels and more on mini-DV cassettes? The choice is yours!
- You will be a part of the excitement and camaraderie of a storm chasing tour expedition but retain the flexibility of being in a smaller group (4 or less people)



within the vehicle, or by yourself if you choose to. You may prefer to forego the chasing and visit tourist attractions on days where violent weather is not as likely, and then re-join later! There is no need to pay to be dragged around the countryside in a packed tour bus on down (non-chase) days if you don't wish to!

- A smaller group within a larger expedition also offers much greater flexibility with respect to your arrival and departure dates.
- Feel a sense of involvement and accomplishment in being part of the team rather than being just another passenger in the back of a van.



Tornado Alley Flexi-Chaser 2006 - when does the expedition begin and what can I expect on the chase?

Flexi-Chaser USA 2006 runs from May 10—June 10 2006. Within this period there will be multiple dates on which you can join and depart the expedition. You can attend for one day or one month - whatever best suites you.

Thunderbolt Tours will issue all 2006 member vehicles with two-way radio equipment and a code name operating at a set frequency! This will enable you to remain in constant contact with our expert storm chasers in the lead chase vehicle. You will be able to ask questions whenever you please.



You will enjoy the thrill of the chase as we guide you up close to tornadoes, lightning, and incredibly spectacular storm cloud formations. You will learn the essentials in severe weather forecasting, how to use the technical 'tools of the trade', chase strategy / positioning and how to observe the skies. This is the best opportunity available for the severe weather experience of a life-time!



What happens when I arrive in the US?

The expedition begins! Expedition members will meet in Oklahoma City on your scheduled arrival day. You will need to join our expedition forum to arrange your travel plans and secure your place in the chase team. Similarly, at the end of your trip, your transfer to the airport or nearby hotel will be scheduled into the expedition itinerary

But will I learn on TBT Flexi-Chaser 2006?

Absolutely! Education has always been a hallmark of the Thunderbolt Tours EXPERIENCE and is a cornerstone of Flexi-Chaser 2006.

Each morning over breakfast we will have a detailed daily weather briefing that will outline the severe weather situation and our target area to which we will head to observe severe weather.

You will be shown how to gather weather data, what information to use in forecasting severe storms and tornadoes, tactical chasing (in terms of getting up close to severe weather yet knowing how to remain safe and with the best contrast for photography) and, most importantly, how to read the skies!



But if I am in my own vehicle, and prefer to be alone, how do I know what is going on?

Whether you are in your own vehicle or in a group vehicle, you will be part of the convoy and in constant communication with other vehicles in the expedition via radio and during regular rest breaks.

But I don't have access to a car?


Don't worry, you will be able to 'car-pool' you with other members who elect to chase with in a group. We will do everything we can to ensure you get to experience the chase as part of the Thunderbolt Tours 2006 tornado alley expedition. Flexi-Chaser 2006 is the best opportunity you will ever have of chasing with the experts in a year where violent weather is set to erupt on the Great Plains like never before!

So how much does it cost?

Flexi-Chaser is by far the most economical and efficient way to chase storms in tornado alley. If you are in a vehicle of 4, the per day cost is significantly cheaper than any storm tour company. For further savings, you need only chase and hence pay for the days that you tag-a-long with the Thunderbolt crew. Even if you stay overnight and feel the next morning that you don't wish to chase, there is no obligation to do so. We will remain in daily contact and provide you with a severe weather briefing daily so you can plan ahead.

I want in - when does the expedition begin?

Our Tornado Alley USA expedition begins on **May 10, 2006**. Contact us at the address below and express your interest to join us as a Flexi-Chaser in 2006. You are also advised to join our 2006 expedition forum to facilitate information exchange, discussion relating to the expedition, updates, or handy hints on travel in the USA. A vast knowledge bank is at your fingertips to ensure that you enjoy the most rewarding travel experience possible.



**Join us this coming May!
Flexi-Chaser 2006
Experience It**

Send E-mail: tbtbookings@thunderbolttours.com
Visit the Flexi-Chaser 2006 forum on Australian Severe Weather
<http://www.australiasevereweather.com/forum/index.php> and register today!