

# TYPES OF CLOUDS

A Visual Guide to the Sky

## HIGH ALTITUDE (ABOVE 20,000 FT)

### **Cirrus**

Thin, wispy, feathery strands made of ice crystals.

### **Cirrocumulus**

Small, white rippling patches resembling fish scales.

### **Cirrostratus**

Transparent, whitish veil that often creates halos around the sun.

## MIDDLE ALTITUDE (6,500 - 20,000 FT)

### **Alto cumulus**

Gray or white sheet-like layers with round masses.

### **Altostratus**

Grayish blue sheets that cover the entire sky.

### **Cumulonimbus**

Dense, towering vertical clouds associated with thunderstorms and heavy rain.

## LOW ALTITUDE (BELOW 6,500 FT)

### **Stratus**

Uniform flat gray layers looking like elevated fog.

### **Cumulus**

Fluffy, white cotton-like clouds with flat bases.

### **Stratocumulus**

Low, puffy, grayish clouds that form in patches or rows.

METEOROLOGY REFERENCE CHART № NO. 01