



Santa Marta Parakeet by Luis Eduardo Uruña



COLOMBIA

BIRDING THE ATLANTIC COAST AND SANTA MARTA MOUNTAINS

10 days | Choose your dates

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Be one of the few outsiders to explore birding-rich, remote regions of Northern Colombia led by expert local guides.
- Bird the coastal wetland and mangrove habitats of Salamanca National Park and Los Flamencos Sanctuary along Colombia's Caribbean coast.
- Explore the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, the highest coastal mountain range in the world and home to more than a quarter of the country's endemic species.
- Enjoy several days of birding at El Dorado Lodge, the ProAves Foundation's flagship lodge.
- Meet the indigenous Wayúu people in Riohacha and learn about their culture, represented in their weaving, ceramics, vegetation, and gastronomy.

Supporting Audubon and its partners in advancing sustainable development in bird hot-spots

Holbrook Travel is a supporting partner in Audubon and its partners' conservation work in Latin America and in the Caribbean. One key aspect of that work is the strengthening of **bird-based tourism** as a conservation and sustainable development tool. The tours developed from this initiative are designed to help protect key target areas along the flyways for migratory and local species. Initial sites are located in **Belize, Colombia, Guatemala, Paraguay** and **the Bahamas**.

These areas were selected by intersecting bird hot-spots with key **Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)** where Audubon and their partners (Belize Audubon, Patrimonio Natural, Calidris, WCS, Vivamos Mejor, Guyra Paraguay and the Bahamas National Trust) are carrying out vital conservation work. By overlaying conservation work with the economic support that bird-based tourism brings, this program **strengthens local communities** and the **long-term conservation** of these areas.

Participants on these tours have a direct economic impact on local people and communities, help preserve IBAs, and nurture an emerging ecotourism industry. By visiting these sites with our trained guides, you **help protect threatened habitats** by supporting local conservation and local communities that benefit from tourism.

WHAT MAKES FLYWAY EXPEDITIONS DIFFERENT?



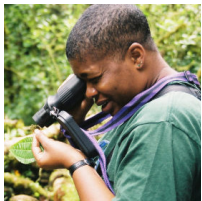
UNIQUE ITINERARIES

These birding itineraries are unique in that they are designed to help strengthen and support tourism in bird hot-spots and support conservation and local economic development. The initial program is focusing on nine sites in Belize, Guatemala, Paraguay and the Bahamas. The project is helping communities, local tour operators, and tourism boards attract bird watching tourists to the selected destinations and associated businesses. Participants will see the conservation activities first-hand and engage with the local community during their tours.



EXTENSIVE GUIDE TRAINING

Birding guides selected for the tours have taken part in comprehensive guide training in alliance with expert guides, local tourism authorities, and Audubon's local conservation partners. Guides are provided advanced levels of training which include bird identification, biology, ecology, and conservation alongside guiding ethics, group management, marketing, and business, plus basic English language where needed. Tours connect advanced regional guides with local guides to increase knowledge and capacity.



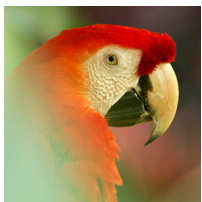
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

The National Audubon Society project provides local guiding businesses with access to equipment, including binoculars, scopes, and guidebooks; improves trails and associated infrastructure; and offers basic business support such as marketing and customer service training. Participants on the tours will benefit from these improvements and help support the important economic incentive to promote conservation.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Travelers will learn about targeted environmental education and outreach programs carried out by Audubon and its partners. These include programs at local schools, using local birdlife as a hook to engage youth, and courses for adult, community, and women's groups, and alternative livelihood programs. Tours may include a talk with community members or a school visit where participants can exchange their passion for birding.



BIRD CONSERVATION

With greater local awareness and appreciation for ecosystems, the program supports priority endemic bird species including the critically endangered Scarlet Macaw, Resplendent Quetzal and Bahama Oriole, plus migrant species that rely on key migratory flyways like the Piping Plover, Wood Thrush and Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and other wildlife including the Jaguar, Maned Wolf and Rock Iguana.

Photos by Greg Basco, Christa Dillabaugh, Pelin Karaca, and Martin Van Lokven

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Supporting Audubon and its partners in advancing sustainable development in bird hot-spots

This bird-based tourism initiative is a key conservation tool being implemented by the National Audubon Society that links poverty reduction and economic development directly with nature conservation. By building capacity within communities, especially on the edge of protected areas or Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, and working with tour operators and local organizations to drive an interested market to support the initiative, we all can make a vast difference for conservation and reduce the loss of habitat and birds. Holbrook Travel is a proud supporter of this work, having pioneered conservation, local guide training, and community outreach in Costa Rica. Together, we aim to create a network of community-based birding destinations across the hemisphere that offer skilled local birding guides, improved site interpretation and lodging, and related goods and services tailored to the birding community.

Birding the Atlantic Coast and Santa Marta Mountains

With over 1,900 avian species — more than any other country in the world — Colombia is a birder's paradise waiting to be discovered. This 10-day program focuses on the country's northern highlights, including the Caribbean region and the Santa Marta Mountains, famed for their high level of endemic species. Explore high elevation mountains, dry forest, and coastal habitats in search of an array of tropical avifauna, including flycatchers, hummingbirds, tanagers, toucans, and more. Throughout your journey, meet members of the local community and learn about conservation efforts to use birding as a sustainable development resource.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Santa Marta Mountains by Luis Eduardo Uruña

DAY 1 - BOGOTÁ

Upon arrival at the Bogotá International Airport, you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. This is an arrival day and no meals are included. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn.*

DAY 2 - BOGOTÁ

Today visit three very special places close to Bogotá. Start the morning at La Florida Park, a wetland ecosystem where it is possible to see important birds of the highland savanna, such as Bogotá Rail, Apolinar's Wren, Silvery-throated Spinetail, Noble Snipe, and Subtropical Doradito. Next, visit Jardín Encantado in the rural town of San Francisco. The feeders at this house and garden attract more than two dozen hummingbird species, including Indigo-capped Hummingbird, Gorgeted Woodstar, and White-bellied Woodstar. Then visit Laguna El Tabacal, an area of secondary forest with very interesting birds such as Rusty-breasted Antpitta, Rosy Thrush-Tanager, Gray-throated Warbler, Stripe-breasted Spinetail, and more. Eastern Andes - western slope - elevation: 8,530 ft - average temperatures: 53-77 °F. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

DAY 3 - BOGOTÁ

Depart very early in the morning and drive about an hour and a half to Chingaza National Park for a full morning of birding. Target species include Brown-breasted Parakeet, Silvery-throated Spinetail, Blue-throated Starfrontlet, Matorral Tapaculo, Golden-fronted Whitestart, Coppery-bellied Puffleg, Rufous-browed Conebill, Purple-backed Thornbill, Paramo Seedeater, Plush-capped Finch, Pale-naped Brush-Finch, Smoky Bush-Tyrant, Black-billed Mountain-Toucan, and Black-headed Hemispingus. Head to a local restaurant for lunch at about 2 pm and visit La Calera Hummingbird Garden en route back to your Bogotá hotel. Chingaza National Park (Eastern Andes) - elevation: 8,530-11,810 ft - average temperatures: 41-53.6 °F. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

DAY 4 - RIOHACHA

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the domestic flight to Riohacha, located on Colombia's Caribbean coastline. Upon arrival, head to your hotel in time for lunch at the hotel's restaurant. Taroa Lifestyle Hotel is the first "Wayúu Lifestyle Hotel" in Colombia; the hotel is staffed by indigenous Wayúu people, and every space in the hotel is inspired by Wayúu culture, which is represented in their weaving, ceramics, vegetation, and gastronomy. This afternoon, visit Los Flamencos Sanctuary and focus on the wetlands and shorebirds. Los Flamencos is an important coastal wetland and dry forest reserve created to protect a large population of the American Flamingo. This 17,000-acre reserve of marshes, lagoons, and dry forest also provides habitat for 185 other bird species, 80% of which are migrants. Afterwards, visit the village of Camarones and learn more about the Wayúu people. You'll have a chance to meet your local guide's family, visit their home, and learn about their arts and crafts, especially the handmade, colorful bags known as mochilas. *Overnight at Taroa Hotel. (BLD)*

DAY 5 - SANTA MARTA

Return to Los Flamencos this morning, this time focusing on the dry scrubland, where you will search for specialties such as the Tocuyo Sparrow, Vermilion Cardinal, Chestnut Piculet, White-whiskered Spinetail, Pearl Kite, Aplomado Falcon, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Burrowing Owl, Green-rumped Parrotlet, Brown-throated and Blue-crowned Parakeets, Red-billed Emerald, Buffy Hummingbird, and many others. After lunch at a local restaurant at Camarones Beach, transfer to Santa Marta for more birding opportunities and to search for the Chestnut-winged Chachalaca before checking into the hotel for the evening. *Overnight at Hotel Costa Azul. (BLD)*

DAY 6 - EL DORADO RESERVE

Early this morning, visit Puerto Vale to search for the endemic Chestnut-winged Chachalaca. Return to the hotel for breakfast, and then check out and journey toward El Dorado Reserve. En route, stop for birding in the humid tropical forest around the town of Minca, where you'll have lunch while watching hundreds of hummingbirds visiting the nearby feeders. From here, board several 4x4s and continue up into the mountains to the beautiful El Dorado Lodge, the ProAves Foundation's flagship lodge. Situated in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, this area is home to a vast array of species, including the Santa Marta Blossomcrown, Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner, Santa Marta Tapaculo, Santa Marta Antbird, Santa Marta Sabrewing, Santa Marta Wood-Wren, Santa Marta Brush-Finch, Coppery Emerald, Streak-capped Spinetail, Black Hawk-Eagle, Crested Bobwhite, Military Macaw, Scarlet-fronted and Orange-chinned Parakeets, Red-billed Parrot, White-tipped Dove, White-collared and Chestnut-collared Swifts, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Green Violetear, Brown Violetear, White-vented Plumeteer, Steely-

vented Hummingbird, Collared Aracari, Keel-billed Toucan, Golden-olive, Lineated, and Crimson-crested Woodpeckers, Black-backed Antshrike, Greenish and Forest Elaenias, Yellow-olive and Ochre-faced (Yellow-breasted) Flycatchers, Ochre-bellied Flycatcher, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Social and Piratic Flycatchers, Cinereous, Cinnamon, and White-winged Becards, Masked Tityra, Rufous-breasted and Rufous-and-white Wrens, Yellow-legged, Black-hooded, Pale-breasted, and Black-billed Thrushes, Black-chested Jay, Golden-fronted Greenlet, Brown-capped Vireo, Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush, Rusty Flowerpiercer, Bay-headed, Black-headed, Black-capped, Blue-gray, Palm, White-lined and Crimson-backed Tanagers, Streaked and Grayish Saltators, Golden-winged Sparrow, Yellow-bellied Seedeater, Yellow-backed Oriole, Crested Oropendola, Thick-billed Euphonia, and many others. Lowlands of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - elevation: 2,620-7,550 ft - average temperatures: 59-77 °F. *Overnight at El Dorado Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 7 - EL DORADO RESERVE

Spend today exploring the San Lorenzo Ridge and the El Dorado Reserve. The highest coastal mountain range in the world, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is home to an incredible 20 endemic species which account for 27 percent of the endemics in the entire country. Search for as many of these species as you can find along the altitudinal gradient of the San Lorenzo Ridge. Some of the species that you may hope to find in the Santa Marta Mountains include the Santa Marta Parakeet, Santa Marta Screech-Owl, White-tailed Starfrontlet, Santa Marta Woodstar, Rusty-headed Spinetail, Santa Marta Antpitta, Brown-rumped Tapaculo, Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant, Yellow-crowned Whitestart, White-lored Warbler, Santa Marta Warbler, Santa Marta (Black-cheeked) Mountain-Tanager, Black-backed Thornbill, Colombian Nevada Brush-Finch, Bang's Wood-Wren, Black-fronted Wood-Quail, White-tipped Quetzal, White-rumped Hawk, Band-tailed Guan, Sickie-winged Guan, Band-tailed Pigeon, Scarlet-fronted Parakeet, Red-billed Parrot, Masked Trogon, Golden-olive Woodpecker, Yellow-billed (Groove-billed) Toucanet, Emerald Toucanet, Montane Foliage-gleaner, Spotted Barbtail, Streaked Xenops, Gray-throated Leaf-tosser, Strong-billed Woodcreeper, Rusty-breasted Antpitta, Rufous Antpitta, Mountain Elaenia, Black-capped Tyrannulet, Venezuelan and White-throated Tyrannulets, Olive-striped Flycatcher, Black-throated Tody-Tyrant, Cinnamon Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant, Golden-breasted Fruiteater, Orange-billed and Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrushes, Great Thrush, Black-hooded Thrush, Slate-throated Redstart, Three-striped Warbler, White-sided Flowerpiercer, Blue-naped Chlorophonia, and many others. *Overnight at El Dorado Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 8 - SANTA MARTA MOUNTAINS

Spend the morning birding around El Dorado Reserve before starting the descent toward Santa Marta town, with birding en route. Use the 4x4 Jeeps until reaching Minca, where you'll have lunch. From here, continue in your group's private vehicle. This afternoon, enjoy birding at Taironaka Private Reserve before checking into the hotel at about 6 pm. *Overnight at Hotel Costa Azul. (BLD)*

DAY 9 - BOGOTÁ

After an early breakfast, transfer to the area known as KM 4 to begin the day's birding in the mangrove habitat of Salamanca National Park. The wetlands of this area provide habitat for numerous species of shorebirds. Target species will include Bicolored Conebill, Pied Puffbird, Stripe-backed Wren, Caribbean Hornero, Russet-throated Puffbird, Blue-winged Parrotlet, Glossy, White, and Green Ibises, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Large-billed

Tern, Sapphire-bellied and Sapphire-throated Hummingbirds, and more. Then transfer to Barranquilla airport for the early afternoon flight to Bogotá. Lunch will be at the Barranquilla airport. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and get ready for the final birding checklist review and farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

DAY 10 - DEPART

Transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)



Groove-billed Toucanet by Luis Eduardo Uruena

PROGRAM PRICING

\$4,195 (12 participants and 1 leader)

\$4,295 (10 participants and 1 leader)

Cost includes accommodations, activities, and meals as indicated in the itinerary, in-country transportation, full-time guide, part-time apprentice guides, and a donation to National Audubon to support the program.

Does not include international airfare, gratuities, alcoholic beverages, or items of a personal nature.

Valid for travel in 2020.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of Group Deluxe Travel Protection and provides protection in the event you need to cancel your program for a covered reason, leave your program early, are delayed going to or returning home from your program, or need to change or cancel your airfare, whether purchased through Holbrook Travel or independently. Contact your Holbrook Travel specialist for more details.

THE FINE PRINT

Rates are based on double occupancy for participants. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due to secure your reservation. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Non-refundable final payment is due at 95 days prior to departure.