



PARADISE Tanager BY IAN SEGEBARTH

PERU

Spectacles of Nature: Birding Amazonia, Andes, the Desert Coast

13 DAYS | Choose your dates | Best season to travel: **SEP - JUL**

CUSTOMIZE
THIS
PROGRAM!

Peru is divided into three zones: the coast, the Andean mountain range, and the Amazon jungle basin, all of which are culturally and linguistically different. From the snow-peaked Andes to desert lowlands, steamy cloud forests to sun-kissed Pacific shores, Peru's tremendous range of ecosystems and the consequent diversity of its endemic species make the country a birder's paradise. Will you find a Humboldt Penguin waddling along the rocky coast? A Blue-crowned Motmot darting over the ruins of Machu Picchu? Or maybe even a Harpy Eagle hiding in the forest mist?

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Spot some of the 400-plus species of birds that fly above Machu Picchu.
- Explore the Amazonian lowlands by boat and on foot to look for colorful macaws, tanagers, and the enigmatic Hoatzin.
- Discover the unique mist-fed ecosystem of Lomas de Lachay, home to the underground nesting Burrowing Owl.
- Visit Pantanos de Villa, a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance that provides important habitat for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds.
- Witness the seabirds of Ballestas Islands, including species such as the Humboldt Penguin, Peruvian Booby, Inca Tern, and the endangered Peruvian Diving-Petrel.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Bilingual local guide
- Driver
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting



PARACAS NATIONAL RESERVE BY PATTY HPO



ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DAY 1 - LIMA

Upon arrival in Lima, you will be met and escorted to the hotel. *Overnight at Casa Andina Select.*

DAY 2 - LIMA

Following breakfast and orientation take a field trip to Lomas de Lachay National Reserve, an oasis of mist in the Peruvian desert. Receive a lecture on 'the desert birds among the mist.' The reserve covers an area of 5,070 hectares (12,528 acres) in the foothills of the Huaral Province, and its unique geography and resulting climate have created a special ecosystem where dwarf forests and small birds and mammals thrive. Lachay boasts 55 species of birds from 15 families including residents and migrants. Species often spotted in the area include the Vermilion Flycatcher, Cactus Canastero, Andean Tinamou, and Burrowing Owl, as well a variety of hummingbirds. This afternoon return to the hotel for a overview lecture on the birds of Peru before dinner. *Overnight at Casa Andina Select. (BLD)*

DAY 3 - TAMBOPATA

After breakfast transfer to the airport for the flight to Puerto Maldonado. Upon arrival, transfer to the Infierno River Port to board a boat for the 45 minute trip to the lodge, stopping along the way to search for Pied Lapwing, Collared Plover, King Vulture, Bat Falcon, Olive and Russet-backed Oropendola, Ringed Kingfisher, and Amazon Kingfisher. The lodge is a short walk from the river's edge and is located within the territory of the Infierno Community, adjacent to the Tambopata National

Reserve. A welcome orientation and dinner will be provided at the lodge. *Overnight at Posada Amazonas. (BLD)*

DAY 4 - TAMBOPATA

After breakfast take a walk (about 30 minutes) to the 98 ft. canopy tower for bird observation. This area offers the best chance to see Hawk-Eagles, and on a lucky day perhaps even a Harpy Eagle. The flocks here are composed mainly of tanagers (Paradise Tanager, Green and gold Tanager, Flame-crested Tanager, Turquoise Tanager, Opal-rumped Tanager, and others) as well as Cream-colored Woodpecker, Gilded Barbet, Plum-throated Cotinga, and Striolated Puffbird. Macaws and toucans are often seen flying along the horizon, including Chestnut-eared, Lettered, Emerald, Curl-crested, and Brown-mandibled Aracari. From the canopy tower venture towards a small clay lick that attracts Dusky-headed and Black-capped Parakeet and Cobalt-winged Parrotlet. Return to the lodge for lunch. Afternoon birding along the Shahue Trail in search of Fiery-capped Manakin, Round-tailed Manakin, Palerumped Trumpeteer, and Pavonine Quetzal. *Overnight at Posada Amazonas. (BLD)*



DAY 5 - TAMBOPATA

This morning enjoy a 30 minute boat ride followed by a walk to an oxbow lake. Search the palm swamp and grassland vegetation for species such as the Pale-vented Pigeon, Azure Gallinule, Rufescent Tiger Heron, Gray-breasted Crake, and Rufous-sided Crake. Lunch at the lodge, followed by afternoon birding in secondary forest. Secondary forest can be created in a number of ways: from degraded forest recovering from selective logging, to areas cleared by slash and burn agriculture that have been reclaimed by forest. Generally, secondary forest is characterized by a less developed canopy structure and smaller trees. This means we will focus on: Banded Antshrike, Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant, Streaked Flycatcher, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Solitary Black Caciue, Gray-fronted Dove, and Ruddy Ground-Dove. After dinner this evening venture out near the lodge to spot Pauraque, Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl, Great Potoo, Long-tailed Potoo, Ocellated Poorwill and if lucky a Mottled Owl or Crested Owl. It may also be possible to take some macro shots of American Bullfrogs, Horned Frog, tree frogs and other creatures of the night. *Overnight at Posada Amazonas. (BLD)*

DAY 6 - YUCAY

After breakfast at the lodge, walk to the river to board the boat back to Tambopata River Port and transfer to the Puerto Maldonado airport for your flight to Cusco. Upon arrival in Cusco you can watch for a variety of hummingbird species during your journey to the Sacred Valley. This afternoon, take an excursion to the famed Pisac Market before heading to the hotel for dinner and a lecture on Andean birds. *Overnight at Sonesta Hotel Posadas del Inca. (BLD)*

DAY 7 - MACHU PICCHU

Early morning birding around the hotel grounds, followed by breakfast and then transfer to Ollantaytambo train station. The scenic train ride to Aguas Calientes follows the meandering Urubamba River on a journey through the Peruvian Andes. Upon arrival, your journey continues with a bus transfer to Machu Picchu. Look for the endemic Cusco Brushfinch, Inca Wren, and Tricolored Brushfinch among the ruins. Dinner will be at the hotel. ***Note: there is a strict hand luggage only policy on Peru Rail, so be prepared to pack a backpack weighing less than 11 lbs for the journey to Machu Picchu and the rest of your luggage will be stored until you return.*** *Overnight at Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. (BLD)*

DAY 8 - CUSCO

After early morning birding in the cloud forest, travel by train to Ollantaytambo Station. The journey to Cusco includes a visit to the town of Chincheros, an early Inca center. Enjoy an opportunity to tour a local weaving cooperative and learn about the styles and techniques of this ancient tradition. After the late afternoon arrival in Cusco, check in at the hotel and spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. *Overnight at Casa Andina Private. (BLD)*

DAY 9 - CUSCO

Breakfast at the hotel before a field trip to Huacarpay Lagoon, a small highland lake and a favorite birding spot near Cusco. Receive a lecture on the birds of the area and some time to seek out a variety of Andean birds including ducks, herons, and grebes.

The reed beds harbor species such as Wren-like Rushbird, Many-colored Rush Tyrant, and Yellow-winged Blackbird. Eat a picnic lunch on site, then have the rest of the afternoon at leisure to explore the city of Cusco or continue birding. Dinner is at a local restaurant for a taste of the regional fare. *Overnight at Casa Andina Private. (BLD)*

DAY 10 - PARACAS

After breakfast transfer to the airport for a morning flight to Lima. Transfer by bus to Paracas, stopping en route for a birding field trip at Pantanos de Villa, a protected area recognized

by the Ramsar Convention as a Wetland of International Importance for aquatic birds. After a box lunch continue the journey to Paracas and walk to the salt marsh observation tower to view flamingos and shorebirds. Later transfer to the hotel for a lecture on the Peruvian desert and the Humboldt Current, followed by dinner. *Overnight at Hilton Paracas. (BLD)*

DAY 11 - BALLESTAS ISLANDS

Venture on an early morning boat excursion to the Ballestas Islands, a breeding site for seabirds such as Humboldt Penguin, Peruvian Booby, and Inca Tern. Other target birds are the endangered Peruvian Diving-Petrel, skuas, and even albatrosses. Continue towards the continental shelf, possibly spotting shearwaters, petrels, storm-petrels, and other pelagic birds. After lunch at the hotel visit Paracas Reserve to see the cathedral, shorebirds, and the Mirador sea lion colony. Dinner at the hotel. *Overnight at Hilton Paracas. (BD)*



DAY 12 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel followed by a morning of birding in the along the dunes and desert (includes a boxed lunch). This afternoon, enjoy birding in agricultural fields before a late afternoon arrival in Lima. Upon arrival in Lima connect with your evening flights out of Jorge Chávez International Airport to the US. (BL)

DAY 13 - ARRIVE

Arrive back in the United States.

LAND PRICING

\$4,995 (10 participants + 1 leader)

\$4,795 (12 participants + 1 leader)

Price includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, private transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, local guides in each region for duration of program, and carbon offset.

International airfare, gratuities, or items of a personal nature are not included.

Valid for travel in 2020.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. 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 the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

THE FINE PRINT

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.



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BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT

