



Green Honeycreeper
by Stephen Ingraham

COSTA RICA



POINT & SHOOT NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY with Stephen Ingraham

December 7-15, 2018

Discover the abundant species of neotropical birds and other wildlife inhabiting this small but biodiverse country. Between the majestic Great Green Macaw, colorful tanagers and energetic hummingbirds, learn from an expert photographer and practice your skills during this excellent opportunity to seek out some of Central America's most beautiful birds and learn about its unique fauna and flora.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Photograph some of the country's most sought-after birds on guided walks.
- Explore the trails of Selva Verde Lodge's 500-acre rainforest reserve with a regional bird expert for the chance to see the endangered Great Green Macaw.
- Visit the Organization for Tropical Studies La Selva Biological Station, where more than 450 avian species have been recorded.
- Take part in optional activities like river rafting or horseback riding.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DECEMBER 7 - SAN JOSÉ

Individual arrivals in San José. Check in at the hotel. *Overnight at Hotel Buena Vista.*

DECEMBER 8 - SARAPIQUÍ

Early birding around the hotel grounds. After breakfast have an orientation with your guide, then check out of the hotel and depart for La Paz Waterfalls and Cinchona. Have lunch at La Paz and visit the hummingbird gardens and butterfly farm. Continue to Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. This afternoon take a hike in the reserve with your guide. Protecting 500 acres of rainforest, Selva Verde offers many covered walks, birding trails, and lookout points. Selva Verde provides opportunities to see species such as the Keel-billed Toucan, Great Green Macaw, White-winged Becard, Sunbittern, Acadian Flycatcher, and Wood Thrush. Boots are available for use if the trails are muddy. Take an optional walk after dinner to discover nocturnal frogs and insects. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 9 - CHILAMATE

This morning depart early for the Organization for Tropical Studies La Selva Biological Station. La Selva is world renowned for scientific research on rainforest ecosystems and has been studying this forest for more than 50 years. Be on the lookout for the Ornate Hawk Eagle, Crested Guan, Great Tinamou, Pied Puffbird and Spectacled Owl, as possible sightings. Return to the lodge for lunch. Your afternoon is free to participate in optional activities such as rafting or horseback riding (arranged at the reception after your arrival and paid on site), spending time by the pool, or looking for avian visitors in Selva Verde's botanical garden area. Later this afternoon enjoy a guided birdwatching hike or take in the river views from the patio overlooking the Sarapiquí River. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 10 - SARAPIQUÍ

Enjoy an early excursion to the Nature Pavilion, a 10-acre reserve with several viewing platforms that attract toucans, trogons, tanagers, and 10 species of hummingbird. This afternoon visit wildlife artist Cope's house to enjoy his natural photo studio with many close-up opportunities. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 11 - SARAPIQUÍ

Take a morning boat ride on the Sarapiquí and/or Puerto Viejo Rivers. Spend some time in the town of Puerto Viejo with leisurely return to the lodge for free time this afternoon. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 12 - SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

Travel to the Savegre Valley with lunch en route. Afternoon time to relax and enjoy the hummingbird feeders. *Overnight at Savegre Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 13 - SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

Spend a full day photographing Resplendent Quetzal and other

birds around the area. Savegre's private biological reserve protects high elevation habitat of mostly oak forest and highland cloud forest that attracts a huge variety of avifauna. The large centennial oaks are laden with lichens and mosses that contrast with the colorful bromeliads and 170+ bird species. Elevation here is 7,200-8,000 feet. *Overnight at Savegre Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 14 - SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

Have another day in the San Gerardo area to explore temperate forest and páramo habitats for chances to photograph species such as the rare Red-fronted Parrotlet, Costa Rican Pygmy-owl, Dusky Nightjar, Silvery-fronted Tapaculo, Ochraceous Pewee, Silvery-throated Jay, Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher, Volcano Junco and Timberline Wren. *Overnight at Savegre Lodge. (BLD)*

DECEMBER 15 - FAREWELL!

Depart for the airport and flights home. Flights should be scheduled to depart after 1:00 p.m. (B)

ABOUT YOUR LEADER



STEPHEN INGRAHAM was the Birding Product Specialist for ZEISS Sports Optics for 12 years. He is now the Senior Brand Ambassador for Birding. He travels extensively for ZEISS, both nationally and internationally. He has been birding and photographing birds for over 30 years. You can explore his work at weiw.lightshedder.com or

follow his Pic for Today Blog at p4td.lightshedder.com

PROGRAM PRICING

\$1,915 (based on 8 participants)

Includes entrance fees, private vehicle transportation, full-time birding guide, meals, accommodations, and activities as mentioned.

Cost does not include international airfare, gratuities, or items of a personal nature.

THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on double occupancy. With the maximum of 10 participants the cost will be \$1,750. Single occupancy rooms are available at the additional cost of \$170 per person. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$100 cancellation fee until September 3, 2018 at which time non-refundable final payment is due. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174 or visit www.travelinsured.com. Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:

Contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877-907-5360 | Visit holbrook.travellingraham-cr18