

WHITE-TAILED STARFRONTLET (*COELIGENA PHALERATA*) BY VICTORIA RESTREPO**HIGH INTENSITY!**

This program is for serious birders. Expect at least 5-6 hours of birding each day.

COLOMBIA

BIRDING & PHOTOGRAPHY WITH VICTORIA RESTREPO

November 6–15, 2021

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 9-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 the hopes of photographing an array of tropical avifauna, including flycatchers, hummingbirds, tanagers, toucans, and more. Throughout your journey, practice bird photography techniques in action, plus meet members of the local indigenous community and learn about birding as a sustainable development resource.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Photograph abundant and endemic bird life in 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, home to more than a quarter of the country's 73 endemic species.
- Learn about bird-based tourism initiatives during your stay at El Dorado Reserve in the Santa Marta Mountains.
- Meet the indigenous Wayúu people in Riohacha and learn about their culture, represented in their weaving, ceramics, vegetation, and gastronomy.



DAWN AT SIERRA NEVADA BY VICTORIA RESTREPO

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



KEEL-BILLED TOUCAN (RAMPHASTOS SULFURATUS) BY VICTORIA RESTREPO

NOVEMBER 6 - BOGOTÁ

Arrival at the Bogotá International Airport, followed by transfer to our hotel. This is an arrival day and no meals are included.
Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn.

NOVEMBER 7 - 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 feet, average temperatures 53-77°F. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 8 - 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 Seed eater, 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 our Bogotá hotel. Chingaza National Park (Eastern Andes): elevation 8,530-11,810 feet, average temperatures 41-53.6°F. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 9 - RIOHACHA

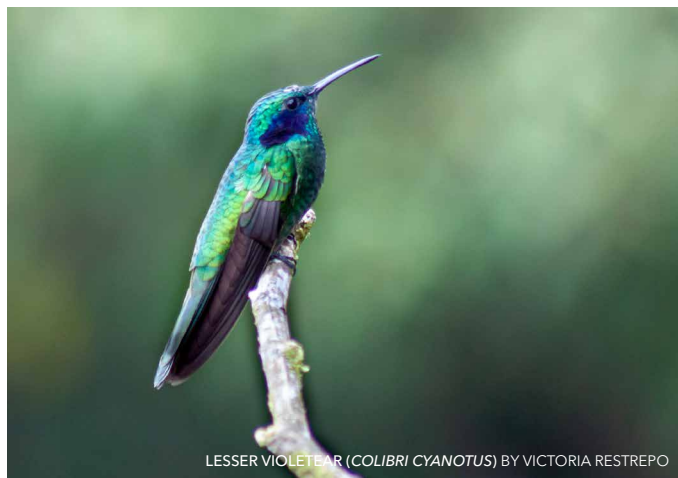
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the domestic flight to Riohacha, located on Colombia's Caribbean coastline. Upon arrival, head to your hotel in time for lunch at the hotel's restaurant. Taroa Lifestyle Hotel is the first "Wayúu Lifestyle Hotel" in Colombia; the hotel is staffed by indigenous 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)*

NOVEMBER 10 - SANTA MARTA

This morning will be spent birding the dry scrubland of Los Flamencos Nature Sanctuary, 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, we'll transfer to Santa Marta for more birding opportunities and search for the Chestnut-winged Chachalaca before checking into the hotel for the evening. *Overnight at Hotel Costa Azul. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 11 - 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 Plumeleteer, 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



LESSER VIOLETEAR (COLIBRI CYANOTUS) BY VICTORIA RESTREPO



BLUE-AND-YELLOW MACAW (ARA ARARAUNA) BY VICTORIA RESTREPO

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 feet, average temperatures 59-77°F. *Overnight at El Dorado Lodge. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 12 - EL DORADO

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 Leaftosser, 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)*

NOVEMBER 13 - SANTA MARTA

We'll spend the morning birding around El Dorado Reserve and start our descent towards Santa Marta with birding en route. We'll use the 4x4 jeeps until we reach Minca, where we'll have lunch and afterwards continue in our bus. This afternoon, enjoy birding in La Cabaña Forest and visit some feeders nearby before we check into our hotel in the evening. *Overnight at Hotel Costa Azul. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 14 - BOGOTÁ

After an early breakfast, we'll transfer to 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 Bicoloured Conebill, Pied Puffbird, Stripe-backed Wren, Caribbean Hornero, Russet-throated Puffbird, Blue-winged Parrotlet, Glossy Ibis, White Ibis, Green Ibis, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Large-billed Tern, Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird, Sapphire-throated Hummingbird and more. We'll then leave to Barranquilla airport for our early afternoon flight to Bogotá. Lunch will be at the Barranquilla airport. Upon arrival, we'll transfer to our hotel and get ready for our final birding checklist and farewell dinner. *Overnight at Hilton Garden Inn. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 15 - DEPART

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



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ALL PHOTOS BY VICTORIA RESTREPO



LAND PRICING

\$4,975 per person

Cost includes internal flights, meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, in-country transportation, full-time guide for duration of the program, bottled water on the bus, all tips and gratuities, a donation to National Audubon Society, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare or items of a personal nature.

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.

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

Price is based on 10 participants in double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip, add \$525 per person. A \$500 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$300 cancellation fee until August 3, 2021, at which time non-refundable final payment is due.



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit holbrooktravel.com/restrepo-cosm21 or contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877-907-5360