

ITINERARY
MEXICO: OAXACA'S ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC SLOPES
March 7 - 18, 2027



The lovely Red-breasted Chat is endemic to the Pacific slope of Mexico. It is one of only four Granatellus species, a group that is currently placed with the cardinals, and not the New World warblers. We'll look for this beauty in the coastal forest near Huatulco. Photograph by participant Wally Levernier.

We include here information for those interested in the 2027 Field Guides Mexico: Oaxaca's Atlantic and Pacific Slopes tour:

- a general introduction to the tour
- a description of the birding areas to be visited on the tour
- an abbreviated daily itinerary with some indication of the nature of each day's birding outings

These additional materials will be made available to those who register for the tour:

- an annotated list of the birds recorded on a previous year's Field Guides trip to the area, with comments by guide(s) on notable species or sightings (may be downloaded from our website)
- a detailed information bulletin with important logistical information and answers to questions regarding accommodations, flight arrangements, clothing, currency, customs and immigration, documents, health precautions, and personal items
- a Field Guides checklist for preparing for and keeping track of the birds we see on the tour
- after the conclusion of the tour, a list of birds seen on the tour

Oaxaca sits at the juncture of two distinct biogeographic realms--the Pacific and Atlantic (Gulf) Slopes. Combine this with its rugged, mountainous topography, and you get *the* most biodiverse state in all of Mexico. From hot cactus deserts to chilly conifer-cloaked ridgetops and bromeliad-laden cloudforests, and from thorny coastal scrublands to lush lowland rainforests on ancient limestone ledges, Oaxaca boasts a staggering number of habitats that translates to an impressive number of birds, many of which are found nowhere else. On our venerable Oaxaca Valley tour, we explore the numerous habitats surrounding Oaxaca City. If you've taken that tour, or plan to take it at some point (and you absolutely should!), here's an opportunity to experience even more of Oaxaca!

For this new tour, we'll start in Oaxaca City and head south into the mountains (the Sierra Madre del Sur) in search of White-throated Jay, Garnet-throated Hummingbird, and Red-headed Tanager near the picturesque town of San Jose del Pacifico. We'll then bird our way down the winding highway to Huatulco, searching the distinctive Pacific slope cloudforest for tasty morsels such as Blue-capped Hummingbird, Gray-crowned Woodpecker, and Wagler's Toucanet (the Pacific form of Northern Emerald-Toucanet, which many authorities consider a separate species). We'll spend several days birding the dry coastal forest in Parque Nacional Huatulco, where we'll have the chance to see the flashy Red-breasted Chat, Flammulated Flycatcher (which is part of the otherwise South American "Flatbills" of genus *Rhynchocyclus*, but looks like a miniature *Myiarchus*), Citreoline Trogon, Spot-breasted Oriole, Orange-fronted Parakeet, Orange-breasted Bunting, Colima Pygmy Owl, and Lesser Ground-Cuckoo. A night excursion here could yield Mottled Owl, Pacific Screech-Owl, and maybe a Northern Potoo! If the weather allows, we'll do a morning boat trip off the coast of Huatulco. Here, thanks to a subduction zone, the sea floor plummets to more than 3,000 feet deep just a few miles offshore, so birds, marine mammals, and sea turtles that occur in the pelagic zone can be seen within a relatively short boat ride. We may see a number of shearwaters, including Wedge-tailed, Galapagos, and Black-vented shearwaters, both Black and Least storm-petrels, and any of the three jaegers. We have seen four species of dolphins (Bottle-nosed, Common, Spinner, and Spotted) and could see a whale or two! Local biologists have recorded 21 species of whales and dolphins over the years. Olive Ridley and Green sea turtles are also very good possibilities.

From Huatulco, we'll drive the coastal highway to Juchitan, land of the stunning Rosita's (Rose-bellied) Bunting and the local Sumichrast's (Cinnamon-tailed) Sparrow. We'll scope the coastal wetlands for waterbirds and bird the thornscrub before crossing the isthmus over to Valle Nacional, where we'll spend the next few days. The limestone outcroppings in this area are home to the unusual Sumichrast's Wren, another bird named in honor of the Swiss-Mexican ornithologist who spent a considerable time in Oaxaca in the late 1800s. During our exploration of the Gulf cloudforest, we'll keep our eyes peeled for goodies like White-naped Brushfinch, Slate-colored Solitaire (check out a recording of that bird!), Blue-crowned Chlorophonia, and Unicolored Jay.

These are just a few of the nifty birds we hope to find--the actual list of potential species is almost mind-boggling! All this, combined with Oaxaca's famously delicious cuisine, vibrant culture, and breathtaking landscapes, is sure to make this a delightful getaway. So, dust off your binoculars, pack your sense of adventure, and prepare for 12 days of outstanding Oaxacan birding!

*This tour may be combined with **MEXICO: OAXACA VALLEY I, February 28 - March 7, 2027.***



The Cinnamon-tailed Sparrow is found only in a small area of thorny scrub forest from southern Oaxaca to western Chiapas. Photograph by participant Jason Leifester.

We want to be sure you are on the right tour! Below is a description of the physical requirements of the tour. If you are concerned about the difficulty, please contact us about this and be sure to fully explain your concerns. We want to make sure you have a wonderful time with us, so if you are uncomfortable with the requirements, just let us know, and we can help you find a better-fitting tour! Field Guides will not charge you a change or cancellation fee if you opt out within 10 days of depositing.

Physical requirements of this tour

- **TRAILS & WALKING:** Moderate amounts of walking (1-3 miles in the morning, 1-2 miles in the afternoon), mostly on roads or packed dirt trails. In some instances, we will need to hike up some steep, and possibly slippery, trails with loose rocks and gravel. Our cabins at San Jose del Pacifico are situated along a very steep, brick walkway. We will assist you with bags if necessary.
- **POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** This tour has a considerable amount of driving. The longest drive we do is between Juchitan and Tuxtepec, which is about 6.5 hours. We will likely stand for long periods to observe flocks of birds in the heat and humidity. On our boat trip, we may experience rough water. If you are prone to sea sickness, plan accordingly.
- **PACE:** Early starts (5:30 a.m. breakfast) followed by birding until lunch, which is sometimes a picnic. In the afternoons, we will bird or take in cultural attractions. On most days, we will be away from the hotel for the entire day. There will be a few optional nighttime excursions to look for birds, but we will return to the lodge by about 10:30 p.m. While we are staying in Tuxtepec, we will need to leave at 4:30 am to get to our birding sites at a decent time.
- **WEATHER:** Temperatures range from the low 40s in the early morning in the higher elevations of mountains to the mid-90s F in the lower elevations with high humidity. Rain is certainly a possibility.
- **ELEVATION:** In the mountains, we reach almost 10,000 feet; however, much of the tour will be closer to sea level.
- **VEHICLE SEATING:** So that each participant has an equal opportunity during our travel, we employ a seat rotation system on all tours. Participants will need to be flexible enough to maneuver to the back of the vehicle on occasion. Those who experience motion sickness will need to bring adequate medication for the duration of the tour, as we are not able to reserve forward seats for medical conditions.
- **BATHROOM BREAKS:** Whenever possible, we use modern, indoor restrooms. On most days, participants must be prepared to make a comfort stop in nature. And, yes, the boat does have a bathroom.
- **OPTING OUT:** We will be on the go for much of the tour, moving from town to town, so there will be few opportunities to opt out. Those who would like to opt out of the boat trip can spend the morning around the hotel in Huatulco.

If you are uncertain about whether this tour is a good match for your abilities, please don't hesitate to contact our office; if they cannot directly answer your queries, they will put you in touch with the guide for the tour.

About the Birding Areas

San Jose del Pacifico is a picturesque town at 8,000 feet nestled within the Sierra Madre del Sur (aka Sierra Miahuatlan). The town is famous for its hallucinogenic mushrooms, which you are more than welcome to try when you're not on a Field Guides tour! The forest surrounding the town is a mix of pine and oaks, and some of the birds that can be seen in the vicinity include the elusive White-throated Jay, Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo, Long-tailed Wood-Partridge, and Garnet-throated Hummingbird. There are numerous side roads around town, some of which are quite steep.

La Soledad and Pluma Hidalgo are two small villages whose main export is coffee. Bromeliad-laden cloud forest grows at this elevation (5,000 feet), which is habitat for numerous species, including the endemic Blue-capped Hummingbird, Wagler's (Emerald) Toucanet, Collared Trogon, White-faced Quail-Dove, Mexican Hermit, Eared Poorwill, Gray-crowned Woodpecker, and Fan-tailed Warbler.

Huatulco sits right on the Pacific Coast. The forest that grows here is a short-stature deciduous thorn scrub. Parque Nacional Huatulco is a 29,400-hectare reserve just outside of town with a system of trails and boardwalks. Some of the birds in this area include Colima Pygmy Owl, Citreoline Trogon, Ivory-billed Woodcreeper, Red-breasted Chat, Flammulated Flycatcher and Olive Sparrow.



The Isthmus of Tehuantepec is the narrowest stretch in Mexico from the Pacific to the Atlantic. This 200-km strip of low-elevation habitat is an important biogeographic break, and there are numerous examples of species turnover from the mountains in Oaxaca and the mountains of Chiapas. This low-lying region is also the windiest part of Mexico, where trade winds from the Gulf of Mexico get funneled between the two mountain ranges. Consequently, numerous energy companies have installed wind turbines, which unfortunately kill thousands of birds each year, especially during migration. Rose-bellied Bunting and Cinnamon-tailed Sparrow are our two main target birds in this part of Oaxaca.

The town of **Tuxtepec** sits right at the foothills of the Sierra Madre Oriental and is surrounded by giant limestone ridges, home to the endemic Sumichrast's Wren. Here, we have access to lowland tropical forest as well as the cloud forest up in the mountains. The lowlands here have been cleared for agriculture except where the karst limestone makes this impossible (lucky for the wren!), and Gulf coast forest birds hang on in these patches. Things we'll keep an eye out for include Collared Trogon, Keel-billed Toucan, Emerald Toucanet (this is the nominate form, different from Wagler's on the Pacific slope), and a whole host of tanagers, brushfinches, flycatchers, the northernmost spintail, and even an antbird or two! We will also visit several elevations of the Sierra Madre Oriental here to look for more montane species, ranging from Azure-hooded and Uicolored jays to Slate-colored Solitaire (perhaps the most beautiful bird song in the world?), Common Chlorospingus, Blue-naped Chlorophonia, Bumblebee, and Emerald-chinned hummingbirds, among others. Higher up, we will be back in a pine-oak forest similar to San Jose del Pacifico, but with a few different species (Dwarf Jay instead of White-throated, for example).

Itinerary for Mexico: Oaxaca's Atlantic and Pacific Slopes

Day 1, Sun, 7 Mar. Arrival in Oaxaca (or continue from the Mexico: Oaxaca Valley I 2027 Tour). Upon arrival into Oaxaca City, you'll be met at the airport by our local driver (who should be carrying a sign with your name and "Field Guides" on it) and transferred directly to our hotel. The ride from the airport to our hotel can take about 45 minutes. We'll get together in the hotel lobby at **7:00 p.m.** for a short get-acquainted session; then, we'll head to dinner, where we'll discuss our plans for the tour. Night in Oaxaca City.

Day 2, Mon, 8 Mar. Drive to San Jose del Pacifico. After breakfast at the hotel, we'll drive to the town of San Jose del Pacifico. We'll check into our cabins, have lunch, and spend the afternoon birding the high elevation pine/oak forest around town. Some of the species we'll keep an eye out for include Hooded Yellowthroat, Mountain Trogon, Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo, and Red Warbler. Night at San Jose del Pacifico.

Day 3, Tue, 9 Mar. Birding around San Jose del Pacifico. We'll have breakfast and bird the grounds of our lodge and on nearby sideroads in the highland pine-oak forests looking for Bumblebee and Garnet-throated Hummingbirds, mixed warbler flocks, Black-headed Siskins, and the elusive White-throated Jay. Night at San Jose del Pacifico.

Day 4, Wed, 10 Mar. Birding around Pluma Hidalgo. After breakfast, we will pack up and descend into the mid-elevations of the Pacific slope, stopping on a side road that enters a nice patch of the more humid tropical forest near Pluma Hidalgo. The road down is very windy, so if you are prone to motion sickness, plan accordingly. Some of our main targets will be the endemic Blue-capped Hummingbird, and “Wagler’s” Emerald Toucanet, Fan-tailed Warbler, Red-headed Tanager, and many of the other specialties of this humid habitat. We’ll have a picnic lunch and continue birding another side road that visits similar habitat on the other side of the highway at a site called “La Soledad.” Finally, the late afternoon will see us heading down to the coast, arriving at our hotel in the resort town of Huatulco. Night in Huatulco.

Day 5, Thu, 11 Mar. Boat trip out of Huatulco; birding Parque Nacional Huatulco. After breakfast at the hotel, we’ll board the boat and spend the morning out on the water. We won’t need to venture far to see numerous pelagic species, likely including Wedge-tailed, Pink-footed, Galapagos, and Black-vented shearwaters, a few boobies, Magnificent Frigatebird, and others. We’ll return to Huatulco for lunch at a beach restaurant, then spend the afternoon at Parque Nacional Huatulco looking for Red-breasted Chat, Flammulated Flycatcher, Colima Pygmy-Owl, and Citreoline Trogon, and then after dusk we’ll turn our attention to Pacific Screech-Owl, Mottled Owl, and Northern Potoo. Night in Huatulco.



We'll take a boat trip out of Huatulco to look for seabirds such as the Pink-footed Shearwater. These large shearwaters are considered vulnerable, as they have a small breeding range, and face several threats.

Photograph by participant Steve Parrish.

Day 6, Fri, 12 Mar. Birding PN Huatulco and drive to Tehuantepec. We’ll spend a couple of hours birding around Huatulco in search of more dry forest species like Lilac-crowned Parrot, Lesser Ground-cuckoo, Colima Pygmy-Owl, Russet-crowned Motmot, and the “Long-crested” form of Northern Cardinal before driving the coastal road south to Juchitan. After checking into our hotel, we’ll bird Laguna Superior for shorebirds and waders. Night in Tehuantepec.

Day 7, Sat, 13 Mar. Birding around Juchitan; drive to Tuxtepec. After an early breakfast, we’ll drive to a site about 40 minutes from Tehuantepec to look for Rose-breasted (or Rosita’s) Bunting and Cinnamon-tailed (or Sumichrast’s) Sparrow. We will then do lunch in Juchitan and continue the long ~7-hour drive to Tuxtepec, our longest drive of the tour. Night in Tuxtepec.

Days 8-10, Sun-Tue, 14-16 Mar. Birding around Tuxtepec and Valle Nacional. We’ll have three full days to bird the Gulf slope lowlands and foothills around Tuxtepec and Valle Nacional. One morning, we’ll dedicate to looking for the mysterious Sumichrast’s Wren, denizen of limestone outcrops that are draped with forest. This site is also home to a huge diversity of other low-elevation species such as Lesson’s Motmot, Mayan Antthrush, various woodcreepers, flycatchers, Black-faced Grosbeak, Blue Bunting, and an impressive diversity of wintering warblers. We shouldn’t be lacking for things

to look at! Another morning, we'll drive up into the cloud forest to look for White-naped Brushfinch, Unicolored and Azure-naped jays, and Blue-crowned Chlorophonia, among many other residents of the lovely, humid cloud forest. The aural experience may be one of the trip's highlights, with the ethereal songs of Slate-colored Solitaires and Black-headed nightingale-thrushes forming a memorable background. These are the days in which we will need to leave our hotel in Tuxtepec at 4:30 a.m. Nights in Tuxtepec.



The Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush inhabits cloud forests on the Caribbean slope. We'll look and listen for these lovely birds in the highlands near Tuxtepec. Photograph by guide Micah Riegner.

Day 11, Wed, 17 Mar. Drive back to Oaxaca City. We'll pack up early today and head up slope on the highway that returns to Oaxaca City, stopping to bird the lower cloud forest along the way. We'll have another chance at some of the cloudforest species listed above, as well as a few pine-oak species at the higher elevations such as Common Raven, Gray-barred Wren, and Audubon's Oriole. We will have our final lunch in a quaint restaurant along the highway that we have come to know well as we head back to Oaxaca City. Night in Oaxaca City.

Day 12, Thu, 18 Mar. Departure for home. You may schedule your departure for any time today; we will provide transportation to the airport based on departure times. ¡Que les vaya bien!

About Your Guides

Dan Lane was barely out of diapers when his love for birds manifested itself. He was an active birder in his home state of New Jersey until he moved to Louisiana to pursue a master's degree studying Neotropical birds at Louisiana State University. By 1999, he'd received his degree and participated in three LSU expeditions to Peru and Ecuador, discovering a new species of bird (Scarlet-banded Barbet) along the way. His increasing experience with the Peruvian avifauna, coupled with having the luck of being "in the right place at the right time," landed Dan coauthorship on the recently published *Birds of Peru*—alongside his childhood heroes Ted Parker and John O'Neill. Meanwhile, his continuing fieldwork has resulted in uncovering additional new species to science (although writing these up, sadly, takes far more time than finding the birds, and Dan's way behind schedule).

"Dan Lane is superior in all aspects as a guide—excellent recognition of bird sounds, patient in drawing birds in for views, and able to relate to group members with relaxed courtesy and helpfulness. We rate Field Guides the highest." J.N. & E.H., Amazonian Ecuador: Sacha Lodge

Dan's interests in birds also include illustration, bird vocalizations, and bird biogeography and evolution. He's pleased to share his knowledge with participants on tours and loves birding with folks who are really enthusiastic about seeing BIRDS! Working with Field Guides is a blast, and Dan thoroughly enjoys the friendship and fun the Field Guides family provides. His favorite areas are largely in tropical Latin America, but on occasion, he has led tours to other corners of the globe and, of course, (somewhat) regularly birds near his home in Louisiana.

Alex Sundvall is a proud Minnesota native and has truly loved birds all his life. At the young age of five, he took a field trip with his kindergarten class to their local Nature Center and learned all about birds. At the end of the trip, the class got to watch staff release a Dark-eyed Junco they had been rehabilitating, and from that moment he was hooked! With the help of his very supportive and encouraging parents, he learned everything he could about birds and birding. Even as a child, whenever anyone asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up, he would always reply: "I'm going to be an ornithologist!"

This love of birds and nature has followed him throughout his life. He graduated from the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Sciences with a degree in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology with a double minor in Forest Ecosystem Management and Conservation; and Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management. In 2016, Alex received the Young Birder Award from the Minnesota Ornithologists Union, and he has served as an alternate on his State's Bird Records Committee.

Growing up in Minnesota, Alex developed a passion for studying bird migration. In the past he has worked as both a Counter and Count Interpreter at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory in Duluth, MN. Even now, in his free time he'll often drive somewhere, post up for the day, and just count migrating birds as they pass by.

In recent years, Alex has led numerous tours across the US and beyond -- from the deserts and sky islands of the Southwest to the hallowed shores of Attu, Alaska, and everything in between. He loves teaching people about birds and showing them all that nature has to offer!

*"I really enjoyed **Alex**. His ability to get onto various birds and ensure that all group members were able to get on them as well was greatly appreciated." R.S., Texas's Big Bend & Hill Country*

Visit <https://fieldguides.com/our-staff/> for complete guide tour schedules; just click on a photo.

Financial Information

FEE: \$4750 from Oaxaca

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (Optional): \$650

DEPOSIT: \$475 per person

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: September 8, 2026

LIMIT: 14

Other Things You Need to Know

TOUR MANAGER: The tour manager for is Nicole Cannon. Nicole will be happy to assist you in preparing for the tour. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact her!

DOCUMENTS: Be sure to verify the latest entry requirements for each country you will visit or transit.

Passport: A current passport is required for U.S. citizens to re-enter the United States. It should be in good condition, valid for at least 6 months beyond your return date, and have at least one blank page for each country on your itinerary.

If you are not a US citizen, please check with the Mexican consulate nearest you for entry requirements.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS: This tour begins and ends in Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, Mexico. (Oaxaca International Airport, OAX). Flights are available from most cities to Oaxaca via Mexico City, Dallas, or Houston.

Arrival: Oaxaca, Day 1, in time for dinner at 7:00 PM.

Departure: Oaxaca, Day 12, any time

Please be sure to check with your tour manager before purchasing your ticket to make sure the flights you have chosen will work well with the tour itinerary and that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate.

LUGGAGE: Please be aware that many airlines have recently modified their luggage policies and are charging additional fees for checked bags. Updates could easily occur before your departure, so you may wish to contact your airline to verify the policy. Additional charges for bags on any flights, whether these are covered by the tour fee or not, will be the client's responsibility.

SMOKING: Almost all of our clients prefer a smoke-free environment. If you smoke, please be sensitive to the group and refrain from smoking at meals, in vehicles, and in proximity to the group on trails and elsewhere.

TOUR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS: **The tour fee is \$4750 for one person in double occupancy from Oaxaca City.** It includes all lodging from Day 1 through Day 11, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through dinner on Day 11, all ground transportation, including airport transfers, entrance fees, and the guide services of the tour leader(s). Tipping at group meals and for drivers, porters, and local guides is included in your tour fee and will be handled for the group by your Field Guides leader(s). However, if you would like to recognize your Field Guides leader(s) or any local guide(s) for exceptional service, it is entirely appropriate to tip. We emphasize that such tips are optional and not expected.

The above fee does not include your airfare to and from Oaxaca City, airport taxes, any checked or carry-on baggage charges imposed by the airlines, any alcoholic beverages, breakfast on Day 12, optional tips to local drivers, phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature.

The single supplement for the tour is \$650 for those requesting a single room. If you do not have a roommate but wish to share, we will try to pair you with a roommate from the tour, but if none is available, you will be billed for the single supplement. Our tour fees are based on double occupancy; one-half the cost of a double room is priced into the tour fee. The single supplement is calculated by taking the actual cost of a single room and subtracting one-half the cost of a double room (plus any applicable taxes).

TOUR LIMITS: Our limits are firm and we don't exceed the limit by one to accommodate a couple when only one space remains open. However, on occasion, we will send along a guide in training on a tour. In these cases, one seat in the van or bus will be taken by the guide in training. Our guides will have a rotation system within the vehicle so that clients share the inconvenience equally. We hope this minor inconvenience will be more than offset by the advantages of having another guide along.

TOUR REGISTRATION: **To register for this tour, please contact us at fieldguides.com/contact-us/.** Our office will be in touch with you by email by the next business day (Mon-Fri) with instructions on how to complete our electronic registration form and medical questionnaire. (We are no longer accepting the paper version.)

Please send your deposit of \$475 per person; see <https://fieldguides.com/payment-options/> for our Payment Options. **Full payment of the tour fee is due 180 days prior to departure, or by September 8, 2026.** We will bill you for the final payment at either 180 days or when the tour has reached sufficient subscription to operate, whichever date comes later.

Since the cost of your trip insurance and airline tickets is generally non-refundable, please do not finalize these purchases until you have received final billing for the tour or have been advised that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate by your tour manager.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Refund of deposit and full payment, less \$100 handling fee, will be made if cancellation is received up to 180 days before departure. If cancellation occurs between 179 and 90 days before the departure date, 50% of the full tour fee is non-refundable, which would include the full deposit if the final payment has not yet been paid. Thereafter, all deposits and payments are not refundable and non-transferable.

Our cancellation policy only applies to payments made to Field Guides for tour (and any services included in those fees). Airline tickets not included in the tour fee and purchased separately often carry penalties for cancellation or change, or are sometimes totally non-refundable. Additionally, if you take out trip insurance the cost of that insurance is not refundable, so it is best to purchase the policy just prior to making full payment for the tour or at the time you purchase airline tickets, depending upon the airline's restrictions.

The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure. In most such cases, full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger. Note this exception, however: If you have been advised pre-tour that there is a non-refundable portion of your tour fee no matter the reason for Field Guides cancellation of the tour, that portion will not be refunded. The right is reserved to substitute in case of emergency another guide for the original one.

TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EMERGENCY INSURANCE: We strongly recommend purchasing trip cancellation (including medical emergency) insurance to protect your investment in case of injury or illness to you or an immediate

family member before or during a trip. Because we must remit early and substantial deposits to our suppliers, we cannot offer refunds for cancellations outside of our Cancellation Policy. If a participant is unable to join or continue a tour due to illness, all related expenses will be their responsibility, and no refunds can be issued for missed days. Please wait to purchase insurance until we notify you that the tour is confirmed to operate, as most policies are non-refundable.

For full details, visit our Trip Cancellation Insurance page at <https://fieldguides.com/trip-cancellation-insurance/>.

RESPONSIBILITY: For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the tour, each tour participant and each parent or legal guardian of a tour participant who is under 18 agrees to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Field Guides Incorporated, its agents, servants, employees, shareholders, officers, directors, attorneys, and contractors as more fully set forth in the Release and Indemnity Agreement on the registration form. Field Guides Incorporated acts only as an agent for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, airplane, or other means, and assumes no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity caused by defect in such vehicles or for any reason whatsoever, including the acts, defaults, or bankruptcies of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. You acknowledge and agree that Field Guides Incorporated is not responsible for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. The tour participant shall bear all such losses and expenses. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary when deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely.

Participants should be in good health and should consult a physician before undertaking a tour. If you have questions about the physical requirements of a tour, please contact our office for further information. Participants should prepare for the tour by reading the detailed itinerary, the information bulletin, and other pertinent matter provided by Field Guides. Each participant is responsible for bringing appropriate clothing and equipment as recommended in our bulletins.

THE RECEIPT OF YOUR TOUR DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE CONSENT TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS. EACH TOUR PARTICIPANT AND EACH PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A TOUR PARTICIPANT WHO IS UNDER 18 SHALL SIGN AND DELIVER THE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.

Updated DFL June 2026; 6/26NC; 7/26peg