

ITINERARY

SUCCINCT SURINAME: COTINGAS & TRUMPETERS

January 4-15, 2025



The Guianan Toucanet is one of the Guiana Shield endemics we'll be watching for. This one showed very well for us at Brownsberg on last year's tour. Photograph by participant Alan Wight.

We include here information for those interested in the 2025 Field Guides Succinct Suriname 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 web site)
- a detailed information bulletin with important logistical information and answers to questions regarding accommodations, air 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

Suriname lies in the heart of one of the greatest wilderness regions of tropical South America. Its sparse population (only about 750,000 people) is settled almost entirely near the coast, leaving the vast interior in a wild, unspoiled state. Formerly Dutch Guiana, Suriname has been a sovereign, democratic nation since 1975. It's a delight to travel in Suriname—things generally go at a relaxed, even-keeled pace. Field Guides has operated many tours to Suriname in the recent past, and we're delighted to be going back to Suriname with this revised, succinct itinerary inaugurated in 2020 and visiting several bird-rich venues.

Isolated from both the Amazon basin to the south and the northern Andes to the west, Suriname maintains a flavor all its own, both in its natural history and in its people. Its population reflects a rich mixture of cultures and religions, from Javanese, East Indian, European, Chinese, African, and Amerindian to Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, and Christian. Add to this

Suriname's Dutch heritage, and you have a country distinctly different from any other in South America. Infrastructure within the country continues to improve, and a growing number of good birding sites have become accessible.

The bird life here is also quite distinctive. Rufous Crab Hawk, Gray-winged Trumpeter (here, probably the easiest trumpeters anywhere in the world), Caica and Red-fan parrots, Green-throated Mango, Crimson Topaz, Guianan Toucanet, Blood-colored Woodpecker, Arrowhead (Guianan) Piculet, Black-throated and Band-tailed antshrikes, Dusky Purpleuft, Crimson Fruitcrow, Capuchinbird, Guianan Red-Cotinga, Guianan Cock-of-the-rock, White-fronted and Black manakins, White-throated Pewee, Pale-bellied Mourner, Glossy-backed Becard, Rose-breasted Chat, Blue-backed Tanager, Finsch's Euphonia, and Red-and-black Grosbeak are just a few of the many specialties birders come to Suriname hoping to see.

With vast areas away from the coast still untouched by humans, Suriname offers an outstanding lowland rainforest experience, and this will be the primary focus of our tour. Taking advantage of the country's extensive nature reserve system—particularly at Brownsberg Nature Park—we'll spend a considerable portion of our tour birding in the very heart of the forest. We'll have simple but adequate accommodations in the park and at a new lodge to the southwest of Brownsberg with some great birding trails literally at our doorstep. On daytrips out of the capital city of Paramaribo and nearby Zanderij, we'll also visit Suriname's grassy savannas, marshes, remnant coastal plain forest, and coastal mangrove swamps.



The Rufous Crab Hawk is found in a narrow band along the eastern coast of South America from Venezuela to south-east Brazil. This beautiful hawk feeds on crabs, hence the name, and it is one of the many raptors we'll see.

Photograph by participant Kevin Watson.

We can expect to tally about 375 species of birds on this tour, all of which are well illustrated in the new Suriname field guide (Brill). Many of the typical Neotropical bird families are well represented, including the following cross section: 5 species of macaws, 25 hummingbirds, 6 jacamars, 8 puffbirds, 40 antbirds, 10 manakins, 11 cotingas, 70 flycatchers, and 30 species of raptors! Join us for this fabulous tropical birding experience to Suriname!

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:** Good amounts of walking (2-4 miles per day) along trails, some of which will be on level ground, but some trails are narrow, uneven, and rather muddy, with obstacles such as tree roots or stream crossings. Several trails have steep, sometimes slippery sections. Walking sticks can be useful.
- **POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** As elsewhere in remote areas of the tropics, road conditions and trail conditions vary from year to year and even week to week. Our daily plans and pace will need to adapt to the conditions as we find them. The accommodations at Brownsberg will be the most basic of the places we stay with shared bathrooms and bunk beds.
- **PACE:** After a predawn breakfast (usually at 5:00 a.m.), we bird until lunch time. Normally, weather permitting, we bird again after lunch following a short siesta. On several evenings, we'll also try for nocturnal birds. Some days we will drive upwards of 3 hours broken up with restroom stops of course.
- **WEATHER:** Temperatures will range from the 50s at night to the 90s F during the day. Rain showers are likely, especially in January and humidity will be high. Early mornings at Brownsberg can be quite chilly, so make sure to bring a light jacket.
- **BATHROOM BREAKS:** Participants should be prepared to make comfort stops in nature, as there are no other options when away from our lodgings.
- **OPTING OUT:** Participants can easily opt to sit out a day or sometimes a half-day except on travel days.

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.

About the Birding Areas



Paramaribo area—Several areas within a relatively short drive of the city offer some fine birding opportunities in habitats we will not find in the interior, including coastal mangroves, coastal swamp forest, and freshwater marshes. Coastal mangroves are home to the attractive Rufous Crab Hawk, while coastal swamp forest in the Meerzorg area is the haunt of Blood-colored Woodpecker, Arrowhead (Guianan) Piculet, Slender-billed Kite, Spotted Puffbird, Blackish Antbird (now split from Riparian Antbird), Crimson-hooded Manakin, Cinnamon Attila, Ashy-headed Greenlet, Wing-barred Seedeater, and numerous others. Freshwater marsh species range from Ash-throated and Gray-breasted crakes to Long-winged Harrier and Black-collared Hawk.

Zanderij and Colakreek — The two white-sand savanna habitats, characterized by scattered *Curatella* trees and *Clusia* bushes interspersed throughout coarse grassland in 'low-bush' savanna

and denser, taller (though rather stunted compared to the tall forests of the interior) woodland patches ('high-bush' savanna) bordering the grassy savanna habitats, are often very rewarding. In these distinctive habitats near the International Airport in Zanderij, the avifauna includes the likes of Crested Bobwhite, Russet-crowned Crake, Green-tailed Goldenthrout, Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, Tufted Coquette, Bronzy Jacamar, Northern Slaty-Antshrike, Black-headed Antbird, White-fringed Antwren, Black Manakin, Saffron-crested Tyrant-Manakin, Rufous-crowned Elaenia, Pale-bellied Mourner (rare), Olivaceous Schiffornis, Cayenne Jay, Campina Thrush (recently split from Black-billed Thrush), Finsch's and Plumbeous euphonias, and Black-faced Tanager, among many others. Our basic but comfortable lodging at Colakreek on the final two days of the tour gives easy access to many of these savanna habitats.



*There are only three species of Granatellus chats in the world, and the Rose-breasted Chat is the only one in South America. It's never common anywhere, so it's always a highlight to see well!
Photo by guide Micah Riegner.*

Brownsberg Nature Park—This large park to the south of the capital city is certainly among the premier birding spots in South America. Brownsberg's main topographic feature is the 1500-foot-high Mazaroni Plateau, the highest area we'll visit during our tour. By walking trails and a couple of good dirt roads (which are virtually unused beyond the main compound), we'll have a chance to explore much of the forest here. Some of it is tall and open, while other areas support lower trees with a tangled undergrowth of vines and shrubs. The higher elevation of this area supports a noticeably distinct avifauna. While some of the birds we'll see at Brownsberg will be similar to those at Fredberg, others will be seen only here or will be difficult to find elsewhere. Specialties of the plateau and adjacent slopes include the following: Black Curassow, Foothill Screech-Owl, Wing-banded Antbird, Black-throated Antshrike, White-fronted and White-throated manakins (the former now split from Orange-bellied [Tepui] Manakin of eastern Venezuela and Guyana), White Bellbird with its loud, sharp "kong-kay" calls, Glossy-backed Becard (seldom seen anywhere), Sharpbill, the rare White-throated Pewee (known from only a handful of locations but regular here), Red-and-black Grosbeak, and Blue-backed Tanager, one of the largest and showiest of its family in Suriname. The park also features some interesting mammals, especially monkeys. With luck, we may see one of Suriname's most striking species, the Guianan (White-faced) Saki. Oh...and the strange Gray-winged Trumpeter is a reliable visitor to the main compound here!

All of the birding at Brownsberg will be on foot. Our accommodations will be simple, with shared bathrooms and no hot water. The main compound overlooks the Brokopondo Reservoir far below, created to power the Suralco aluminum plant at Paranam. The overlook is a good place to watch for passing raptors, especially the Ornate Hawk-Eagle which seems to frequent the lodge area.

Fredberg—This is a fairly new lodge located in the expansive lowland rainforest to the southwest of Brownsberg. We were able to visit this exciting new site in 2018 for the first time and came away impressed with the extent of undisturbed lowland forest habitat and the fine variety of birds that it hosted, especially the variety of cotingas. Our local tour operator has raved about it as a new and important birding destination in the country, and we couldn't agree more! Many of the forest birds that we used to find only at Palumeu far to the south (like Crimson Fruitcrow) or at Raleigh Falls to the west (Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock) are found regularly here, and there's no need for an internal flight to get here – it's an easy drive from Brownsberg via good paved highway and a good dirt logging road. Our birding here will be along a good trail system and along the roadside of little-used dirt logging roads with very few steep or difficult sections. Lodging here is simple but comfortable with private cabins with two beds each and private toilets, and larger double-occupancy duplex bungalows with private bathrooms and cold water showers. Shower facilities are shared for those staying in the private double cabins and are in a separate building nearby, and meals are prepared buffet-style in the main lodge building.



The Blood-colored Woodpecker is a specialty of the coastal woodlands of the Guianas. We'll look for this unusually colored bird near Paramaribo. Photograph by participant Benedict De Laender.

Itinerary for Succinct Suriname

Day 1, Sat, Jan 4. Departure from Miami. Currently, Surinam Airway's direct flight from Miami departs in the afternoon on January 4, arriving in Paramaribo (after a stop in Georgetown, Guyana) at around 8:15pm. After clearing immigration and customs, report to the Ashruf kiosk. Check the screen for your name. A driver will take you to the hotel in Paramaribo, about 45 minutes away. Night in Paramaribo.

Day 2, Sun, Jan 5. Meerzorg area; afternoon near Weg-naar-Zee. After sleeping in a bit after our late flight, and after breakfast this morning at our hotel, we'll drive across the bridge over the Suriname River to the community of Meerzorg. Just a few miles away we'll visit two main habitats: remnant plantation forest and seasonally flooded coastal forest. This coastal area used to be a maze of plantations and is still crisscrossed by numerous manmade canals and ditches. Much of it is now tall second-growth forest and is home to a number of special birds, foremost among them a duo of endemic Guianan woodpeckers: Arrowhead (Guianan) Piculet and Blood-colored Woodpecker. Trails may be muddy and overgrown today, so bring along appropriate footwear. After lunch and a short break, we'll have a late afternoon outing to an area northwest of Paramaribo. Here we'll look for birds of the coastal mangrove forest, such as Scarlet Ibis, Rufous Crab Hawk, Spot-breasted Woodpecker, Straight-billed Woodcreeper, Spotted Tody-Flycatcher, Pale-tipped Tyrannulet, and Yellow-breasted Flycatcher. Several marsh species, such as Ash-throated and Gray-breasted crakes (almost never actually seen), Black-capped Donacobius, Masked Yellowthroat, and Yellow-hooded Blackbird are also possible. The timing of our visit to the coastal mangroves is dependent upon the local tides, so we may reverse the order that we bird these two sites today. After our birding in the coastal environs, we'll drive to Colakreek. Night in Colakreek.

Day 3, Mon, Jan 6. Kraka-Zanderij road and Colakreek area; to Brownsberg Nature Park. Our main destination this morning will be the extensive areas of 'low-bush' and 'high-bush' savannas and adjacent savanna border forest in the vicinity of Colakreek and the Zanderij International Airport. The two main savanna habitats here are home to a specialized avifauna that favors the scattered clumps of small trees in the low-bush savanna and the more densely packed *Clusia* bushes and trees in the high-bush areas. Trails through the adjacent woodland will allow us to escape the midday sun and to look for flocks. *Mauritia* palm groves in the area attract such species as Red-bellied and Red-shouldered macaws, Sulphury Flycatcher, Point-tailed Palmcreeper, and Epaulet (Moriche) Oriole. By mid-afternoon, and after lunch at Colakreek, we'll continue southward to Brownsberg Nature Park. After settling into our rooms, we'll spend the remainder of the afternoon birding in the park near our accommodations. Night at Brownsberg.



Near Fredberg we'll visit a lek of the spectacular Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock. Photograph by guide Micah Riegner.

Days 4-5, Tue-Wed, Jan 7-8. Brownsberg Nature Park. We'll have these full days to explore the park and nearby areas. Most of our birding will be along forest trails or the park roads on foot. On one or more nights, we'll want to do some owling near our cabins. All of our meals will be at a new restaurant near our accommodations during our stay. One of our big targets for this tour, the Gray-winged Trumpeter, is a regular visitor to the edge of the main clearing here at the reserve and will be a major focus while we're here—until we see it, of course, which might be on that first afternoon that we arrive! After the trumpeter is in the bag, we'll have the balance of our time here to explore the few roads and trails emanating from the main compound in search of a number of seldom-seen prizes. Nights at Brownsberg.

Day 6, Thu, Jan 9. To Fredberg Lodge. Following a morning of birding along the Brownsberg entrance road and lunch at our usual restaurant, we'll drive to Fredberg Lodge to the southwest of Brownsberg. After arriving at the lodge and getting settled into our accommodations, we'll make our first venture into the nearby forest with our local guide. Night at Fredberg Lodge.

Days 7-9, Fri-Sun, Jan 10-12. Fredberg Lodge. We have three full days to bird the various trails of this remote area. Breakfast will be early at the lodge, and we'll then hit the nearby trails in search of the many fabulous forest birds that this area has recently produced. The list for this site is just getting started, but it already exceeds 340 species! Just about every scarce and special bird of the Guianan Shield lowlands has either already been recorded here or is a real possibility. It should be fun adding to the accruing knowledge of this area and getting to know its diverse avifauna! Nights at Fredberg Lodge.

Day 10, Mon, Jan 13. Morning birding at Fredberg; afternoon drive to Colakreek. We have one more morning to bird the nearby trails before our post-lunch drive back to Colakreek. After a short break, we'll offer the option to head back out into the field to track down any target birds in the Colakreek/Zanderij area that we may not have seen or seen as well as we'd like. This is also a nice afternoon to just take some time off at the bungalows. Night in Colakreek.

Day 11, Tue, Jan 14. Colakreek and savanna habitats. We'll have a full day to explore the grounds and nearby areas. Most of our birding will be along forest trails or the nearby savanna roads on foot and by bus. On one night here, we'll want to do some owling near our cabins. All of our meals will be at our lodge or at a nearby restaurant. Night at Colakreek.

Day 12, Wed, Jan 15. Departure for Miami. We will head to nearby Paramaribo Zanderij Airport early this morning for our return flight home. Suriname Airways has a direct flight that departs Paramaribo at 6:30am (with a stop in Georgetown), arriving in Miami at 2:30pm. Have a safe journey!

About Your Guide

Micah Riegner grew up exploring the Central Arizona Highlands and was fortunate to have parents who took him along on college field courses ranging from the coast of Mexico to the mountains of Costa Rica, where encounters with tinamous, barbets, and jacamars launched him into the birding world at a young age. During his time at Prescott College, he made annual pilgrimages to Amazonia, where he worked as a guide and participated in expeditions, mostly in Brazil. For his master's he studied the foraging ecology of Amazonian woodcreepers. When he's not in the field, he tries to make time to paint birds and other creatures that spark his interest.

Micah is a generous guide with an easy laugh and is eager to share his love of birds and nature in the years to come. We know you will have a great time traveling with him!

Visit <https://fieldguides.com/our-staff/> for Micah's complete tour schedule; just click on his photo.

Micah will be accompanied throughout the tour by our local guide and tour operator, Sean Dilrosun.

*"Kudos to **Micah Riegner**, who was an excellent guide. He has a calm demeanor and seemed unflappable. He was patient with all of us birders and always made sure everyone got on the bird. His enthusiasm was contagious."*
G.H. *Arizona's Second Spring*

Financial Information

FEE: \$4575 from Paramaribo

DEPOSIT: \$450 per person

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: July 8, 2024

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (Optional): \$400. Singles are not available at Fredberg Lodge, and may not be available at most of the other locations, depending on how many singles are on the tour. The only place where we can guarantee singles is at Paramaribo.

LIMIT: 8

Other Things You Need to Know

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

ACCOMMODATIONS: While our hotel in Paramaribo is a comfortable and modern one, accommodations at Fredberg and Brownsberg will be much simpler. Brownsberg is managed by STINASU, Suriname's Foundation for Nature Preservation, and the facilities for visitors generally comprise simple, shared rooms with bunk beds and shared bathing facilities with cold water showers. At Fredberg Lodge, shower facilities for a few of the private cabins are shared in a separate building nearby, but the new double-occupancy duplex bungalows have private toilets and private cold water showers. All beds at Fredberg have mosquito netting, though mosquitoes here are quite scarce. The rooms at Colakreek are simple but are air-conditioned and completely screened, and each of the five duplex cabins share toilet/shower facilities (i.e. – two rooms sharing a toilet/shower in each duplex bungalow).

DOCUMENTS: A current **passport valid for six months beyond the dates of travel** and a **visa** are necessary for US citizens to enter Suriname. If you are not a US citizen, please check with the Suriname consulate nearest you for entry requirements. Information about consulates and entry requirements is generally available online or you can contact us and we will be happy to look this up for you. Passports should have an adequate number of blank pages for the entire journey. Some countries require a blank page for their stamp and as a precaution it is best to have one blank page per country you will visit or transit.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS: Field Guides is a full-service travel agency and your tour manager will be happy to assist you with flights to join this tour. Field Guides does not charge a service fee for these services to clients booking a tour. However, we understand that tech-savvy clients often prefer to shop online or that you may wish to use mileage to purchase tickets. Regardless of which method you choose, your tour manager will be happy to provide assistance regarding ticket prices and schedules, along with rental cars and extra hotel nights as needed.

Please be sure to check with your tour manager prior to 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. Once purchased, most airline tickets are non-refundable and carry a penalty to change. Field Guides cannot be responsible for these fees.

Also, it is imperative that we receive a copy of your comprehensive flight itinerary—including any and all flights not covered in the tour fee—so that we may track you in the event of missed connections, delays, or other mishaps.

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 \$4575 for one person in double occupancy from Paramaribo. It includes all lodging from Day 1 through Day 11, all meals from breakfast on Day 2 through dinner on Day 11, all ground transportation, entrance fees, tips for baggage handling and meal service, and the guide services of the tour leader.

The above fee does not include your airfare to and from Suriname, visa fees, any alcoholic beverages, optional tips to local drivers, phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature. 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 **single supplement** for the tour is \$400. NOTE: Singles are not available at Fredberg Lodge, and may not be available at most of the other locations, depending on how many singles are on the tour. The only place where we can guarantee singles is at Paramaribo.

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 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 new electronic registration form and medical questionnaire. (We are no longer accepting the paper version.)

Please mail your **deposit of \$450** per person, or 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 July 8, 2024**. **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 you consider purchasing trip cancellation (including medical emergency) insurance to cover your investment in case of injury or illness to you or your family prior to or during a trip. Because we must remit early (and substantial) tour deposits to our suppliers, you acknowledge and agree that we will not issue a refund when cancellation occurs outside of our cancellation policy as published in the itinerary (see CANCELLATION POLICY). In addition, the Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies overseas and if it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. US medical insurance plans seldom cover health costs incurred outside the United States unless supplemental coverage is purchased. Furthermore, US Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States.

When making a decision regarding health insurance, Americans should consider that many foreign doctors and hospitals require payment in cash prior to providing service and that a medical evacuation to the United States may cost well in excess of \$50,000. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas often face extreme difficulties. When consulting with your insurer prior to your trip, please ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas healthcare provider or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses that you incur.

US citizens will receive information from us regarding optional tour cancellation/emergency medical insurance. Our agent, CSA, will insure for trip cancellation and interruption, medical coverage, travel delay, baggage loss and delay, and emergency medical transportation. If you purchase the insurance prior to, or within 24 hours of making final payment for the tour, and cover all non-refundable parts of the trip (including any non-refundable flights and in some cases, other arrangements), pre-existing conditions are covered. You may purchase your CSA policy on-line by visiting our website at <https://fieldguides.com/trip-cancellation-insurance/> and clicking the link to CSA. The CSA webpage also includes a contact number.

Currently we are unable to offer CSA insurance policies to residents of New York and Hawaii. We have had clients provide positive feedback after acquiring insurance thru InsureMyTrip (<https://www.insuremytrip.com/>) in the past, and would suggest that company as an alternative. When purchasing insurance with a company other than CSA, you will want to understand whether the timing of your purchase will affect coverage before paying your first deposit. Insurance purchase requirements can vary from company to company, and such requirements could limit your options if you do not look into this until making your final payment for your tour. Please let us know if you have any questions about this.

Please note, once the insurance is purchased it is non-refundable, so please check with your tour manager prior to making the purchase to assure the tour will operate as scheduled. Citizens of other countries are urged to consult their insurance broker.

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 where 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.

3/2020 DS; 7/2020 KT; peg 2022, 6/23, 5/24; updated 9/24 peg
NCP 7/2020