



# fieldguides<sup>®</sup>

## Birding Tours

MAY 2019

## Spring Rituals

**A**s we write this, a few weeks before you'll read it, both you and we are recording FOYs (firsts-of-the-year!). It might be the phoebe that magically reappeared and starts calling insistently near last year's nest. Or perhaps the *peeent* of a nighthawk suddenly overhead as you step outside...or the first sighting of a flock of peeps just back from distant Tierra del Fuego. Back in early January, by custom, we celebrated the New Year. Yet we birders know that our year truly begins with the pulse of birds moving northward after a long winter. It never gets old and never ceases to delight, that unpredictable progression of visual and audio surprises after months of absence. Just yesterday, "our" local Merlin chattered from a distant treetop—and we had to smile.

Our Field Guides calendar of course runs through all months of the year, yet we too have a spring ritual: this issue featuring the full Field Guides schedule for next year. Yes, it has been online on our website for some time now, and we've let you know in advance about various new tours on offer.

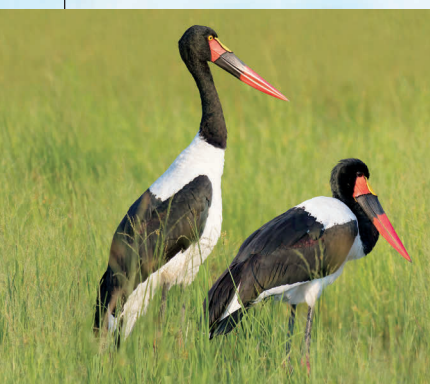
But our hard-working Scheduling Committee (thanks, Peggy, Dave, Megan, Ruth, and Doug!) has been tweaking all the details, adding some extra tours, and making sure our guides are in all the right places. And so, on pages 2-3, you'll find a listing of our 150-plus 2020 tours. To what in particular might we draw your attention? **Suriname** (Jan) and **Taiwan** (Feb) and **Southern India** (Nov) are back in our schedule. **Central Mexico & Baja** (Birds, Whales & Butterflies) along with **Myanmar** (both Feb) appear for the first time. **Roraima Adventure** (Brazil) moves to April, while **Michigan: Great Lakes Grandeur** (May) fills in a long-hoped-for spot on the spring map. In the meantime, **Southern Africa Spectacular** (Jul) and **South Africa: Birds, Wines & Wildflowers** (late Aug) have drawn a lot of interest.

We're reveling in spring, of course, on tours from Colorado, Texas, and Arizona to Florida, Cape May, and Alaska.

Beyond that, we look forward to settling into our diverse schedule of more than 130 distinct itineraries spanning the globe. And we very much look forward to seeing you out in the field, some time, somewhere!



Gray-winged Trumpeter from Brazil: Roraima Adventure; Crested Serpent-Eagle in Southern India; part of the Bagan tour complex in Myanmar; a pair of Saddle-billed Storks in South Africa; and Bret Whitney and his group enjoying the vistas on their Roraima Adventure.





# 2020 TOURS

2020 looks to be a busy year for Field Guides, with 150-plus departures to destinations around the globe. For full details of individual tours, including complete itineraries and triplists from past tours, visit our web site. And if you have any questions, please email us or call our Austin office. We look forward to hearing from you.



## JANUARY

Costa Rica: Birding the Edges (Part One)  
Amazonian Ecuador: Sacha Lodge I  
South Texas Rarities  
Guyana I  
Colombia: Bogota, the Magdalena Valley, and Santa Marta  
Northern India  
Costa Rica: Birding the Edges (Part Two)  
Thailand  
Winter Japan: Cranes & Sea Eagles  
New Mexico: Birding the Land of Enchantment  
**NEW** Succinct Suriname: Cotingas & Trumpeters  
Nowhere but Northeast Brazil!  
The Heart of Chile

Jan 4-13  
Jan 10-19  
Jan 11-17  
Jan 11-22  
Jan 11-26  
Jan 11-31  
Jan 12-21  
Jan 16-Feb 6  
Jan 17-Feb 1  
Jan 18-24  
Jan 18-29  
Jan 21-Feb 8  
Jan 25-Feb 8

## FEBRUARY

**RETURNING** Taiwan  
Panama's Canopy Tower  
Trinidad & Tobago  
**NEW** Central Mexico & Baja: Birds, Butterflies & Whales  
Cambodia: Angkor Temples & Vanishing Birds  
Owlberta: Alberta's Owls & More  
Colombia: Santa Marta Escape  
SE Ecuador: Orange-throated Tanager & Foothill Specialties  
Jamaica I  
Borneo I  
**NEW** Myanmar  
Western Panama: Chiriqui & Bocas del Toro

Feb 1-12  
Feb 2-8  
Feb 8-17  
Feb 8-19  
Feb 12-27  
Feb 15-21  
Feb 22-Mar 1  
Feb 22-Mar 2  
Feb 23-29  
Feb 25-Mar 13  
Feb 27-Mar 12  
Feb 28-Mar 8

## MARCH

Jamaica II  
Southwestern Ecuador Specialties: Jocotoco Foundation Reserves  
Mexico: Oaxaca  
Spring in South Texas  
Brazil Nutshell: Intervalles, Iguazu Falls & the Pantanal  
East Africa Highlights: Kenya & Tanzania  
Panama's Canopy Tower & Lodge  
Costa Rica  
Puerto Rico  
Ghana: Window Into West African Birding  
Hawaii  
Belize: Tropical Birding, Short and Sweet  
Guyana II  
Namibia & Botswana I

Mar 1-7  
Mar 1-15  
Mar 7-14  
Mar 7-15  
Mar 7-21  
Mar 7-27  
Mar 8-15  
Mar 14-29  
Mar 15-21  
Mar 21-Apr 9  
Mar 26-Apr 4  
Mar 28-Apr 4  
Mar 28-Apr 8  
Mar 31-Apr 19

## APRIL

Colorado Grouse I  
Bhutan  
Texas Coast Migration Spectacle I  
Colorado Grouse II  
Texas Coast Migration Spectacle II  
Texas' Big Bend & Hill Country  
Northeast India: Eaglenest, Kaziranga & More  
Israel Migration Magic  
Roraima (Brazil) Adventure  
Hungary & Romania: The Best of Eastern Europe  
Beyond the Ports of Portugal: A Birds & Wine Tour  
Arizona Nightbirds & More I

Apr 4-14  
Apr 4-23  
Apr 11-17  
Apr 11-21  
Apr 18-24  
Apr 18-27  
Apr 18-May 5  
Apr 20-May 3  
Apr 22-May 3  
Apr 25-May 11  
Apr 28-May 9  
Apr 30-May 4

## MAY

Spain: La Mancha, Coto Donana & Extremadura  
Arizona Nightbirds & More II  
Point Pelee Migration Spectacle  
Arizona: Birding the Border I  
Florida  
Birds Of Britain  
Colombia: Medellin Escape  
Spring in Cape May  
Arizona: Birding the Border II  
**NEW** Michigan: Great Lakes Grandeur  
Japan in Spring  
Idaho: Snake River to Sawtooths  
Brazil: Minas Gerais & Tocantins  
Pennsylvania's Warblers & More  
Alaska I - Part One (Pribilofs & Denali)  
Montane Ecuador: Cloudforests of the Andes  
Kenya Safari Spectacular  
Northern Arizona's Canyons and Condor

May 2-14  
May 7-11  
May 8-15  
May 8-1  
May 9-17  
May 9-18  
May 9-18  
May 10-16  
May 15-24  
May 16-24  
May 16-28  
May 23-31  
May 23-Jun 7  
May 26-31  
May 28-Jun 5  
May 29-Jun 7  
May 29-Jun 22  
May 30-Jun 5

## JUNE

Alaska II - Part One (Pribilofs & Denali)  
Alaska I - Part Two (Nome, Seward & Barrow)  
France's Loire Valley: Birds, Chateaux & Wine  
Galapagos: An Intimate Look at Darwin's Islands I

Jun 4-12  
Jun 4-14  
Jun 5-15  
Jun 6-16

Cory Gregory & local guide  
 Willy Perez & local guide  
 Chris Benesh  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & local guide  
 Mitch Lysinger & local guide  
 Terry Stevenson & Tom Johnson  
 Cory Gregory & local guide  
 Jay VanderGaast & Uthai Treesucon  
 Phil Gregory & local guide  
 Doug Gochfeld  
 Dave Stejskal & Micah Riegner  
 Bret Whitney & Marcelo Barreiros  
 Marcelo Padua & local guide

Phil Gregory & local guide  
 John Coons & local guide  
 Tom Johnson & local guide  
 Jesse Fagan & Micah Riegner  
 Doug Gochfeld & local guide  
 Jay VanderGaast  
 Cory Gregory & local guide  
 Mitch Lysinger  
 Eric Hynes & local guide  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & local guide  
 Doug Gochfeld & local guide  
 Jesse Fagan & Tom Johnson

Eric Hynes & local guide  
 Willy Perez  
 Dan Lane & Micah Riegner  
 Chris Benesh  
 Marcelo Padua  
 Terry Stevenson  
 John Coons & local guide  
 Jay VanderGaast & local guide  
 Tom Johnson & Cory Gregory  
 Phil Gregory & local guide  
 Chris Benesh  
 Jesse Fagan & local guide  
 Marcelo Barreiros & local guide  
 Joe Grosel

Tom Johnson & Micah Riegner  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & local guide  
 John Coons  
 Cory Gregory  
 John Coons  
 Chris Benesh  
 Phil Gregory & local guide  
 Doug Gochfeld & local guide  
 Micah Riegner & Tom Johnson  
 Terry Stevenson & local guide  
 Marcelo Padua & local guide  
 Cory Gregory

Chris Benesh & Godfried Schreur  
 Dave Stejskal  
 Jay VanderGaast  
 John Coons  
 Doug Gochfeld  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & Willy Perez  
 Jesse Fagan & local guide  
 Tom Johnson & Micah Riegner  
 Dave Stejskal  
 Cory Gregory  
 Phil Gregory & local guide  
 Eric Hynes & Micah Riegner  
 Marcelo Barreiros  
 Tom Johnson  
 Chris Benesh & Doug Gochfeld  
 Mitch Lysinger  
 Terry Stevenson  
 John Coons

Tom Johnson & Cory Gregory  
 Chris Benesh & Doug Gochfeld  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & Marcelo Padua  
 Mitch Lysinger & local guide

Brazil's Rio Roosevelt: Birding the River of Doubt  
 Mongolia: The Gobi Desert, Steppe & Taiga  
 Uganda: Shoebill, Rift Endemics & Gorillas  
 Alaska II - Part Two (Nome, Seward & Barrow)  
 Canadian Rockies: Alberta  
 Iceland  
 Machu Picchu & Abra Malaga, Peru I  
 Peru's Magnetic North: Spatuletails, Owllet Lodge & More  
 Alta Floresta & the Northern Pantanal, Brazil  
 The Norwegian Arctic: Spitsbergen & the Svalbard Archipelago  
 Amazonian Ecuador: Sacha Lodge II  
 Newfoundland & Nova Scotia

## JULY

Galapagos: An Intimate Look at Darwin's Islands II  
 Jaguar Spotting: Pantanal & Garden of the Amazon I  
 Wild Kenya: A Tented Camp Safari  
 Cloudforests of Ecuador: All the Best of the Wild Northwest  
 Jaguar Spotting: Pantanal & Garden of the Amazon II  
 Peruvian Rainforests of the Tambopata: Macaw Lick Extraordinaire  
 Papua New Guinea  
 Arizona's Second Spring I  
**NEW** Southern Africa Spectacular: Kruger, Victoria Falls & Chobe  
 Mountains of Manu, Peru I

## AUGUST

Arizona's Second Spring II  
 Oregon: From the Coast to the Cascades  
 France: Camargue & Pyrenees  
**NEW** South Africa: Birds, Wines & Wildflowers  
 Rio Negro Paradise: Manaus I

## SEPTEMBER

Ethiopia  
 Morocco  
 Maine in Fall: Seabirds & Coastal Migrants  
 Slice of California: Seabirds to Sierra I  
 Bolivia's Avian Riches  
 Ecuador's Shiripuno Lodge  
 Fall for Cape May I  
 Safari Brazil: The Pantanal & More  
 Alaska Fall Goldmine (Part One): Rarities on the Pribilofs  
 Fall For Cape May II

## OCTOBER

South Africa  
 Australia (Part One)  
 Alaska Fall Goldmine (Part Two): Ross's Gulls in Barrow  
 Jewels of Ecuador: Hummers, Tanagers & Antpittas  
 Northern Peru: Endemics Galore  
 New Guinea & Australia  
 Spectacular Southeast Brazil (Part One)  
 Northwestern Argentina  
 Australia (Part Two)  
 Louisiana: Yellow Rails & Crawfish Tails  
 Serra dos Tucanos, Brazil  
 Spectacular Southeast Brazil (Part Two)  
 Colombia: Cali Escape  
 Madagascar

## NOVEMBER

**RETURNING** Southern India: Western Ghats Endemics  
 Southern Argentina  
 Namibia & Botswana II  
 Colombia: The Llanos & More  
 New Zealand  
 Chile  
 Sri Lanka  
 Holiday at San Isidro, Ecuador  
 Vietnam  
 Holland: Birds & Art  
 Antarctica, the Falkland Islands & South Georgia Cruise

## DECEMBER

Guyana III  
 Paradise Revisited: Birding the remote upper Rio Negro, Brazil  
 Christmas in Oaxaca  
 Panama's Canopy Camp: Lowland Darien  
 Panama's Canopy Lodge  
 Arizona Winter Specialties  
 Holiday Costa Rica: Rancho Naturalista II  
 Trinidad & Tobago II  
 Holiday at Ecuador's Wildsumaco Lodge

Jun 6-21  
 Jun 6-24  
 Jun 6-26  
 Jun 11-21  
 Jun 11-21  
 Jun 12-21  
 Jun 12-21  
 Jun 20-Jul 2  
 Jun 20-Jul 5  
 Jun 24-Jul 6  
 Jun 26-Jul 5  
 Jun 28-Jul 8

Jul 4-14  
 Jul 11-22  
 Jul 11-26  
 Jul 13-23  
 Jul 18-29  
 Jul 19-Aug 1  
 Jul 23-Aug 9  
 Jul 25-Aug 3  
 Jul 25-Aug 9  
 Jul 31-Aug 11

Aug 1-10  
 Aug 29-Sep 8  
 Aug 29-Sep 8  
 Aug 29-Sep 9  
 Aug 29-Sep 12

Sep 4-24  
 Sep 7-22  
 Sep 9-18  
 Sep 10-19  
 Sep 11-27  
 Sep 17-26  
 Sep 19-25  
 Sep 19-Oct 4  
 Sep 26-Oct 4  
 Sep 27-Oct 3

Oct 1-23  
 Oct 2-22  
 Oct 3-9  
 Oct 3-20  
 Oct 7-25  
 Oct 10-28  
 Oct 14-31  
 Oct 17-Nov 4  
 Oct 20-Nov 4  
 Oct 29-Nov 2  
 Oct 29-Nov 8  
 Oct 29-Nov 14  
 Oct 31-Nov 8  
 Oct 31-Nov 23

Nov 1-21  
 Nov 3-19  
 Nov 3-22  
 Nov 8-18  
 Nov 8-26  
 Nov 15-Dec 5  
 Nov 20-Dec 7  
 Nov 21-30  
 Nov 21-Dec 11  
 Nov 29-Dec 6  
 Nov 30-Dec 21

Dec 5-16  
 Dec 18-28  
 Dec 19-26  
 Dec 25-Jan 2  
 Dec 26-Jan 2  
 Dec 27-Jan 2  
 Dec 27-Jan 4  
 Dec 27-Jan 5  
 Dec 27-Jan 6

Bret Whitney  
 Phil Gregory & local guide  
 Jesse Fagan & local guide  
 Tom Johnson & Cory Gregory  
 Jay VanderGaast & Micah Riegner  
 Godfried Schreur  
 Dan Lane  
 Dan Lane  
 Marcelo Padua  
 John Coons  
 Willy Perez & local guide  
 Chris Benesh & Cory Gregory

Willy Perez & local guide  
 Marcelo Barreiros  
 Terry Stevenson  
 Willy Perez  
 Marcelo Padua  
 Jesse Fagan  
 Doug Gochfeld  
 John Coons  
 Joe Grosel & local guide  
 Dan Lane

Chris Benesh  
 Cory Gregory  
 Megan Edwards Crewe & Willy Perez  
 Joe Grosel & Marcelo Padua  
 Bret Whitney & Marcelo Barreiros

Terry Stevenson & local guide  
 Jesse Fagan & Chris Benesh  
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 Dan Lane  
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 Bret Whitney & Marcelo Barreiros  
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 Dan Lane & Micah Riegner  
 Marcelo Padua  
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 Jesse Fagan & local guide  
 Phil Gregory & local guide

Terry Stevenson & local guide  
 Tom Johnson & local guide  
 Joe Grosel  
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 Mitch Lysinger  
 Doug Gochfeld & local guide  
 Godfried Schreur & Jay VanderGaast  
 Dave Stejskal

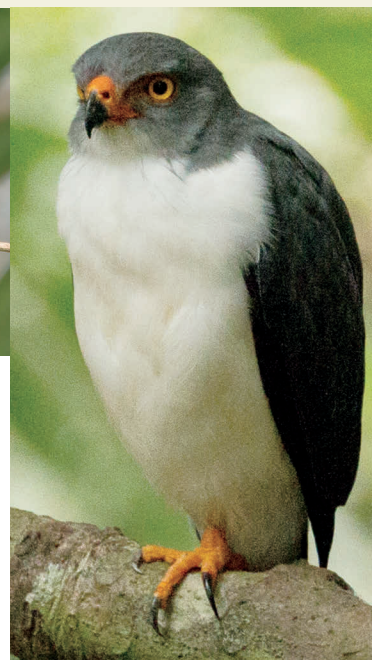
John Coons & local guide  
 Bret Whitney  
 Dan Lane & Cory Gregory  
 Chris Benesh & local guide  
 John Coons & local guide  
 Micah Riegner  
 Jay VanderGaast & local guide  
 Marcelo Barreiros & local guide  
 Willy Perez





Celebrating Christmas on our **Holiday Costa Rica** tour is a great way to observe the season. The emblematic Snowcap (top left) is one of the stars of Costa Rican birding and certainly was on our two recent trips; our lodge for the tour is one of the best places to see them. Other welcome sights and sounds included more hummers (this Green-breasted Mango at near left among twenty-plus others); Black-faced Solitaire, middle above, a bird not always seen but whose haunting song is one of the joys of cloudforest birding; Ornate Hawk-Eagle, with the sun shining through its primaries; and at far left, an unexpected Blue-and-gold Tanager, a bird found only in Costa Rica and Panama. (Photos by guide Cory Gregory)

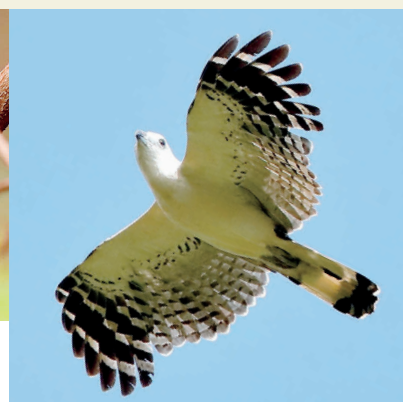
Our **Costa Rica: Birding the Edges** tour with Tom Johnson is split into two parts, The Deep South (I) and The Far North (II), the "edges" of this very birdy country. Shown here, our group from Part II watching for a bird of interest to emerge. At far right, also from the second tour, a stately Black Guan, a Chiriqui endemic restricted to the highlands of western Panama and Costa Rica. Tom notes in his report that the tour is a good one for hummingbirds, with thirty species on the first section alone, including such gems as this White-crested Coquette feeding on purple verbena. Another sight for Part I participants was a spotless White Hawk perched low in the forest. (Photos by participants Alison Van Keuren, Ron Majors, Jean Rigden, and Mary Trombley)



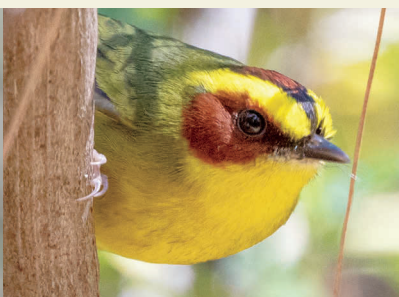
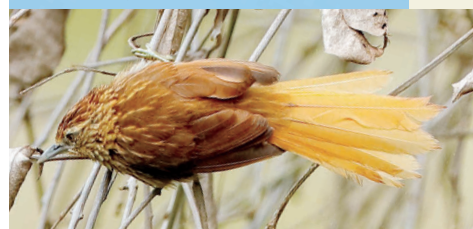
John Coons's **Panama's Canopy Tower & Lodge** tour in March combined stays at two rich sites, the lowlands of central Panama and the montane forests to the west. The handsome Semiplumbeous Hawk at right, nicely perched along Pipeline Road, is one of several raptor species we encountered at both locales, including a large group of migrating Broad-wings in the west. White-necked Jacobin, left of the hawk, was common at the Tower feeders and provided some excitement for the group, which watched as a Tiny Hawk swooped in and grabbed a Jacobin for lunch! We also saw Spotted Antbird, feeding in a mixed flock that included Bicolored Antbird among others, while we spotted Orange-bellied Trogon (a female here), a foothill species of limited range, near the Lodge. (Photos by participant Jody Gillespie)



Birding Panama's western foothills with Chris Benesh on his **Panama's Canopy Lodge** tour sounds like the perfect way to spend the New Year. Our holiday group—shown here with Chris (fourth from right) and local guide Tino Sanchez (at left)—enjoyed near-perfect weather and saw a wonderful assortment of birds. The outgoing Barred Antshrike, at right, and the Spectacled Owl next to it were the most popular birds of the trip. The little Tody Motmot to the right of the group is the smallest of the motmots and not always easy to see, though this year there were scope views for all. White-ruffed Manakin is a cloudforest species the group encountered several times in the mountains. (Photos by participant Robert McNab and guide Chris Benesh)



Shown here, from Bret Whitney and Marcelo Barreiros's **Nowhere But Northeast Brazil** tour are some of the rarest birds in the world, as well as some very striking ones. First up, Indigo (Lear's) Macaws, here flying past, but also seen well and at length at their nest holes by the tour group. It is estimated that about 450 pairs of these magnificent birds exist in the world, all of them nesting in the redrock canyon region of Brazil. A handsome Sao Francisco Sparrow peeks out at the group, and the poorly known White-collared Kite—its range restricted to just two Brazilian states—soars into view; below the kite, a lovely Striated Softtail, seen on the extension to Southern Bahia; and finally, WOW, the recently described Araripe Manakin, among the most distinctively plumaged of all the manakins—and that's saying something to be sure. (Photos by participant Holger Teichmann)



Pictured here, a sampling of the many perennial **Oaxaca** favorites that Dan Lane and Cory Gregory and their tour group enjoyed seeing this February. It's a colorful bunch, with perhaps Orange-breasted Bunting leading the pack; the bunting is a Mexican endemic that Dan Lane once described as looking like it had been "tied-died," which is pretty accurate for a bird that seems to have color everywhere. Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo (at right), one of the most colorful of its group, and Golden-browed Warbler are studies of similar colors in different places. And bringing some restraint to the vignette, a pretty Blue Mockingbird, another Mexican endemic. (Photos by guides Dan Lane & Cory Gregory)





## HIGHLANDS: TOUR TIPS

You've heard about the Andes forever, the rich diversity of birds (mixed flocks!), the breathtaking landscapes, unique and ancient cultures. Whether you're a veteran visitor or ready to take that first plunge, we have a mountain tour and a guide to fit you.

- **First-timers:** You'll really enjoy a tour based at a single lodge or perhaps two lodges, where you'll have more leisure to get to know the birds well, without travel during the stay.

- **Next up?** Once you've gotten to know the families of birds pretty well, a survey tour that covers more ground will challenge and thrill you as you see the way changes in elevations and habitat drive bird speciation.

- **Beyond the survey:** If you want a sharp focus on specialties and endemics, we have several itineraries covering areas particularly rich in birds with limited distributions.

**COLOMBIA:** Cali Escape • Medellin Escape

**ECUADOR:** Holiday at San Isidro Lodge • Wildsumaco Lodge • Cloudforests of Ecuador • Jewels of Ecuador • Montane Ecuador • Southwestern Ecuador Specialties • Southeastern Ecuador Specialties

**PERU:** Machu Picchu & Abra Malaga • Peru's Magnetic North • Mountains of Manu • Northern Peru: Endemics Galore • Central Peruvian Endemics

# InFocus

## COLOMBIA + ECUADOR + PERU

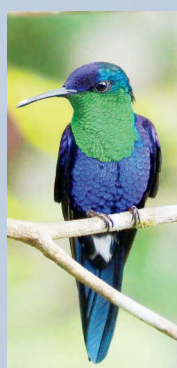
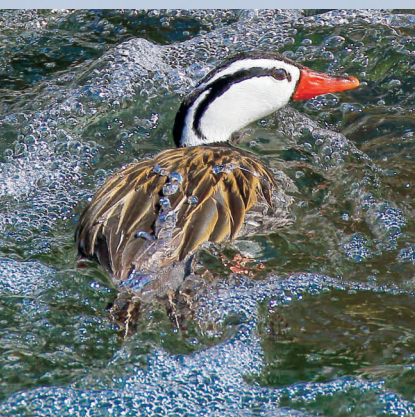
Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru share basic geographic similarity, with the Andes in the west, the Amazon basin in the east. Most of our tours in northwestern South America concentrate on the Andes, with a few in the lowlands or in both. So the first question to ask yourself: highlands or lowlands—or both? Here we offer an overview to help you navigate our itineraries to this spectacular corner of Earth.



Clockwise highland images from upper left: Andean Cock-of-the-rock; Black-capped Tanager; Crimson-mantled Woodpecker; Torrent Duck; Lanceolated Monklet; Crowned Woodnymph; Sword-billed Hummingbird; Jocotoco Antpittas; Antisana Volcano; Chestnut-breasted Coronet; guide Willy Perez with one of our groups in Ecuador's highlands; Toucan Barbet; ruins of Machu Picchu. Photos by our guides and by participants Benedict of Laender, Gregg Recer, Cathy Douglas, Doug Bailey, Kathy Brown, C.V. Vick, Paul Bisson, and Bob Speare.







## LOWLANDS: TOUR TIPS

The Amazon drainage basin is the world's largest, and the river is the world's greatest by any measure. The name conjures visions of primeval forests, flocks of macaws, and great gangs of antbirds. In addition to our offerings in Guyana, Suriname, and the Brazilian Amazon, we have three tours that approach the Amazon from the west, two in Ecuador and one in Peru. Off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands are another alternative to mountain birding, and we tour here in an ultra-comfortable yacht.

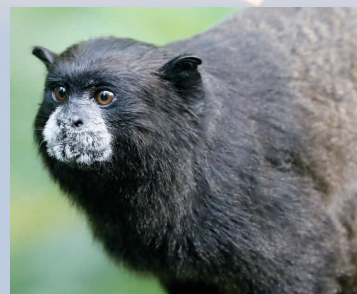
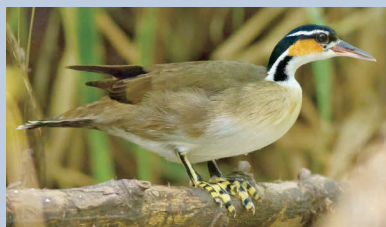
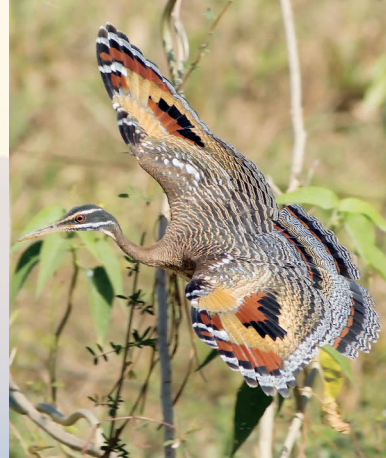
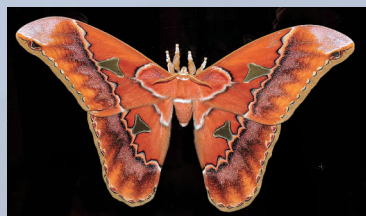
• **First-timers:** Try our Ecuador tours based at **Sacha Lodge** or **Shiripuno Lodge**—or come on out to the Galapagos.

• **Next up?** You'll be in heaven on **Rainforests of the Tambopata**, a survey tour that stays in three super-comfortable lodges.

## HIGHLANDS & LOWLANDS

We currently offer three tours in Colombia that showcase marvelous mixtures of highland and lowland avifaunas, a remarkable cross-section of South American birds that's perfect for those who prize diversity in the checklist.

Our short **Santa Marta Escape** takes you from the flamingo-studded Caribbean to the almost treeless high ridges of the Santa Marta Mountains and back again. For the more experienced, **Bogota, Magdalena Valley & Santa Marta** expands this itinerary to the south, while the **Llanos & More** tour gets into vast, beautiful wetlands, safari style. Also note that many tours can be combined to run consecutively—our website and office staff can fill you in on the details!



From the top, some highlights in the lowlands: Sunbittern in full fan, Scarlet Macaws at a mineral lick, Sungrebe, Black-mantled Tamarin, Hoatzin, fabulous Crested Owls, Rufous-crested Coquette, a Shiripuno boat ride, and Rothschildia silk moth. Photos by our guides and by participants Paula Crawley, Greg DuBois, and Larry Peavler.



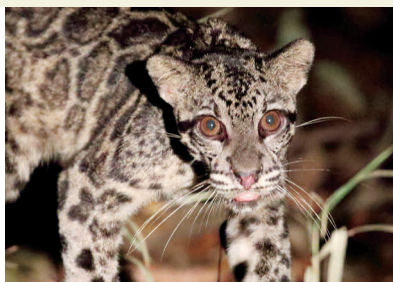




One of the features of our **Cambodia: Angkor Temples & Vanishing Birds** tour with Phil Gregory (handing off to Doug Gochfeld in 2020)—is the opportunity to see—along with the astonishing Angkor temples—a number of very rare waterbirds the likes of Giant and White-shouldered Ibis. This year's group was fortunate to see the White-shouldered (at left) on the ground with two juveniles at the nest. Greater Flameback, one of about a dozen woodpeckers on the tour, is, with its electric yellow-orange back, true to its name. Our group saw Oriental Pied-Hornbills regularly. Babblers are not always easy to see, so it was nice to have this pretty Puff-throated out in the open. (Photos by participant Becky Hansen)



**Borneo** is known both for its strange and beautiful birds and charismatic mammals—Orangutans, Proboscis Monkeys, and Pygmy Elephants are a few of the mammals we see regularly, but there are others that are rarely encountered, like this Clouded Leopard that our recent tour was lucky enough to cross paths with. And as for the birds, there were some stunners, including three shown here—Black-and-red Broadbill (below the leopard), Whitehead's Trogon (center), and Orange-bellied Flowerpecker at far right. The more delicately colored Striped Wren-Babbler is a pleasure to see so well. (Photos by participant Myles McNally)



A few of the sights from Phil Gregory's **Japan in Winter** tour in Jan/Feb included, from top left: a close view of Steller's Sea-Eagle, one of the largest raptors in the world—it's a handsome brute; a Great Spotted Woodpecker that conveniently stopped by a feeder; a classic Red-crowned Crane dancing on snow at the crane reserve at Tsurui—a birding highlight; a red-faced Snow Monkey, a species endemic to Japan that on winter mornings comes in from the forest where they spend the night, to bathe in the warm waters of the *onsens*, or hot springs; and a pair of Ural Owls at a day roost. (Photos by participant Becky Hansen)





You can imagine some of the sights on Jay VanderGaast's recent **Thailand** tour when Black-and-yellow Broadbill (top middle) comes in second for bird of the tour—Spoon-billed Sandpiper, an extremely rare wader with an unusual spatulate bill, was first. The brilliantly colored Scarlet-faced Liocichla, to the right of the broadbill, is seen in northern Thailand along the Myanmar border; the equally brilliant Hume's Pheasant was kind to us—our group saw it out in the open displaying on the road. Finally, this Brahminy Kite got a little too close to the Great Egret trying to spear the troublemaker with its bill. (Photos by participant Benedict de Laender and guide Jay VanderGaast)



As your eyes land on this majestic Tiger, it's clear these photos could be from nowhere else but Terry Stevenson's **Northern India** tour. (Terry was joined on this year's tour by Tom Johnson.) The Painted Spurfowl, left of the Tiger, is more often heard than seen and can only be seen in India. Greater Yellow-nape, at far left—there's only one—is a striking woodpecker. The Orange-bellied Leafbird, which would make any day better, was seen outside Corbett NP on a day that according to Terry was filled with colorful sightings. And finally, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch showing its typical upside-down nuthatch position. (Photos by guide Tom Johnson)



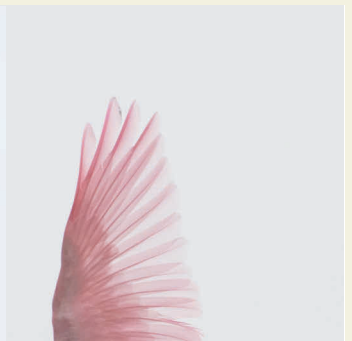
"Thousands upon thousands of Sandhill Cranes and geese lifting into the dawn sky, and rosy-finches swirling through the thin air at ten thousand feet," is how Cory Gregory describes our inaugural **New Mexico: Birding the Land of Enchantment** tour he co-led in late January with Doug Gochfeld. Two cranes shown here at sunset. A visit to a rosy-finch banding station that allowed for up-close views of all three species of rosy-finch was another highlight. As you can see from the photo, tour participants were able to help release some of the birds—here participant Caryn Throop releases a Gray-crowned. A few of the other sights we enjoyed included good numbers of Ferruginous Hawks and this good-looking female Red-naped Sapsucker. (Photos by guides Doug Gochfeld and Cory Gregory)







A Bearded Bellbird, mouth wide open belting out its loud call (claimed by some to sound like a bell) is one of the characteristic sights and sounds of Trinidad that our groups and their guides, Dan Lane and Doug Gochfeld, enjoyed on our recent **Trinidad & Tobago** tours. Trogons, like the Guianan Trogan at right, are an accommodating group of birds because once spotted, they will often sit quietly so that they can be easily observed. Trinidad & Tobago have their share of small birds as well; Asa Wright Nature Centre, where we spend six nights, is famous for its gardens, which attract the likes of this frilly Tufted Coquette. Blue-backed Manakin is a welcome sight that can be had only on Tobago. (Photos by participant Duane Morse and guides Dan Lane & Doug Gochfeld)



Chris Benesh reports that one of the highlights of his January **South Texas Rarities** tour was seeing not just one, but two male Hook-billed Kites at Bentsen State Park. With only a few individuals present along the entire Rio Grande Valley corridor, the kites are often difficult to find—but not this year. Roseate Spoonbills are much easier on a guide and a delight to see. Our group pauses for a moment at a site overlooking the tranquil Rio Grande. Nearby, they spotted the Audubon's Oriole at left. Primarily a coastal Mexican species, the oriole reaches the US only here in far southern Texas. (Photos by guide Chris Benesh)



**Antarctica** is the ultimate frontier for exploration and discovery on our planet. Doug Gochfeld's recent tour there visited the Antarctic Peninsula as well as South Georgia and the Falklands, and along the way saw a diverse array of wildlife, including penguins of half-a-dozen species. It's a glorious sight to watch Macaroni Penguins porpoising or "flying" across the deep blue ocean water; and this King Penguin certainly looks like royalty. A young, leucistic Antarctic Fur Seal offers its opinion of the photographer, or perhaps just wants to make a point about life in general. The group saw three or four of these pale ones, described by Doug as "one in ten thousand" seals. And some of our tour group took a break to commune with a nearby Snowy Sheathbill. (Photos by guide Doug Gochfeld)



# Slán go Fóill Terry and Karen



Last November, Terry and Karen McEneaney guided their final tour for FG. Fittingly, it was our *Ireland in Fall: Birds, Traditional Music & Pubs* tour, one of many new itineraries that Terry designed and and they co-led over the years. This one was special, though, a birding tour yes, but also a trip filled with the music and good cheer of Terry's beloved Ireland; it was a tour full of *craic*—a Gaelicized word for fun, entertainment, and enjoyable conversation—as numerous past participants would attest. And it was the

trailblazer for our popular *Birds and...* series of tours that now spans from France and Portugal to Chile, South Africa, and Mexico.

With Terry as field expert and Karen as effervescent organizer-in-chief, the two inaugurated numerous popular tours for the Field Guides repertoire, from an early dude ranch tour in Montana and a jaunt to Mexico's *Copper Canyon*, to the beautiful *Yellowstone in Winter*, our long-popular *Colorado Grouse*, and a spectacular summer Montana run from *Yellowstone to Glacier National Park*.

Terry and Karen have always been a delight to travel with—knowledgeable and generous and funny—each boundlessly upbeat and enthusiastic, and combining as a fabulous team covering the birds, natural history, local culture, and just plain traveling fun. We



Terry and Karen (front middle) with their group on a sunny day in Yellowstone.

know those of you who traveled with Terry and Karen will miss them out in the field as much as we already do. Our heartfelt thanks to a favorite twosome, and let's raise a toast to them—*Sláinte!*

## A selection of upcoming 2019 tours with space available

### JULY

- 2 **Papua New Guinea** with Jay VanderGaast
- 3 **Alta Floresta & the Northern Pantanal, Brazil** with Marcelo Padua & Marcelo Barreiros
- 13 **Wild Kenya** with Terry Stevenson
- 15 **Coudforests of Ecuador** with Willy Perez
- 16 **Borneo II** with Dave Stejskal
- 17 **Arizona's Second Spring** with John Coons

### AUGUST

- 2 **Brazil: Parrots & Cotingas — The Mighty Mouth of the Amazon** with Marcelo Padua
- 3 **Arizona's Second Spring** with Chris Benesh

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 **France: Camargue & Pyrenees** with Jay VanderGaast & Willy Perez
- 4 **Oregon: From the Coast to the Cascades** with Cory Gregory & Doug Gochfeld

- 5 **Slice of California: Seabirds to Sierra** with Tom Johnson & Micah Riegner
- 9 **Maine in Fall** with Eric Hynes
- 10 **Slice of California: Seabirds to Sierra** with Chris Benesh
- 21 **Fall for Cape May** with Cory Gregory & Micah Riegner
- 21 **Safari Brazil: The Pantanal & More** with Marcelo Padua & Dan Lane
- 29 **Fall for Cape May** with Tom Johnson

### OCTOBER

- 5 **Alaska Fall Goldmine: Part Two: Ross's Gulls in Barrow** with Doug Gochfeld
- 11 **Machu Picchu & Abra Malaga, Peru** with Dan Lane
- 12 **Brazil's Rio Roosevelt** with Bret Whitney & Marcelo Barreiros
- 22 **Australia, Part II** with John Coons & Doug Gochfeld
- 23 **Brazil: Roraima Adventure** with Micah Riegner & Tom Johnson
- 24 **Serra dos Tucanos, Brazil** with Marcelo Padua

See our web site for complete information.



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**Oregon: From the Coast to the Cascades**, Sep 4-14 with Cory Gregory & Doug Gochfeld

**Slice of California: Seabirds to Sierra**, Sep 5-14 with Tom Johnson & Micah Riegner or Sep 10-19 with Chris Benesh

**Maine in Fall: Seabirds & Coastal Migrants**, Sep 9-18 with Eric Hynes

**Fall for Cape May**, Sep 21-27 with Cory Gregory & Micah Riegner or Sep 29-Oct 5 with Tom Johnson

**Alaska Fall Goldmine: Rarities on the Pribilofs (Part I) & Ross's Gulls in Barrow (Part II)**, Sep 28-Oct 6 and Oct 5-9 with Doug Gochfeld

