



Bexar Audubon Colombia | Atlantic Coast & Santa Marta Mountains Flyway Expedition

January 26 - February 3, 2022

ITINERARY

BLD = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Wednesday 01/26/2022 Barranquilla Barranquilla Plaza

Upon arrival in Barranquilla, you'll be met and transferred to your hotel.

Check-in starts at 3 pm.

Room type - Standard

Thursday 01/27/2022 Riohacha Taroa Hotel (BLD)

After an early breakfast and program orientation, transfer to the Northern University to see the Chestnut-winged Chachalaca and then continue to KM 4 to begin the day's birding in the mangrove habitat of Salamanca National Park. The wetlands of this area provide habitat for numerous species of shorebirds. Target species will include Bicoloured Conebill, Pied Puffbird, Stripe-backed Wren, Caribbean Hornero, Russet-throated Puffbird, Blue-winged Parrotlet, Glossy Ibis, White Ibis, Green Ibis, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Large-billed Tern, Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird, Sapphire-throated Hummingbird and more. Have lunch in a local restaurant and continue with the transfer to Riohacha, about 4-5 hours from Salamanca - Rio. Check-in at the Taroa Lifestyle Hotel in Riohacha which is the first Wayúu Lifestyle Hotel in Colombia. Every space in Taroa Lifestyle Hotel is inspired on the Wayúu culture, which is represented in their weaves, ceramics, vegetation, and gastronomy. The hotel is staffed with native Wayúu people.

Room type - Standard

Friday 01/28/2022 Riohacha Taroa Hotel (BLD)

Today we'll visit Los Flamencos Sanctuary and focus on the wetlands and shorebirds. Los Flamencos Sanctuary is an important coastal wetland and dry forest reserve created to protect a large population of the American Flamingo. This 17,000+ acre reserve of marshes, lagoons, and dry forest is also habitat to 185 other bird species (80% are migrants). We will also spend some time birding the dry scrubland where you will search for specialties such as the Tocuyo Sparrow, Vermilion Cardinal, Chestnut Piculet, White whiskered Spinetail, Pearl Kite, Aplomado Falcon, Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, Burrowing Owl, Green rumped Parrotlet, Brown throated and Blue crowned Parakeets, Red billed Emerald, Buffy Hummingbird, and many others. Afterwards, we will visit the village of Camarones, where we'll learn about the Wayúu indigenous people. We'll have a chance to meet with our local guide's family, visit their home and learn about their arts and crafts, especially the handmade, colorful bags (mochilas). Have lunch at a local restaurant at Camarones Beach then search for some Key species: Vermilion Cardinal, Tocuyo Sparrow, Orinocan Saltator, Blue crowned Parakeet, Buffy Hummingbird, Chestnut Piculet, Bare eyed Pigeon, White whiskered Spinetail, Glaucous Tanager, Pileated Finch, Tawny crowned Pygmy Tyrant.

Room type - Standard

Saturday 01/29/2022 Santa Marta GHL Costa Azul (BLD)

Breakfast at the hotel, birding en route to Santa Marta. The peninsula of La Guajira, which is located on the northern part of the country, is considered one of the driest areas and by lacking rainfalls throughout the year. The area is framed within sub-xerophytic conditions, where low-growth shrubs and spiny trees dominate the landscape and those special conditions are the ones that help maintain a unique diversity of species. The dry forests in La Guajira are distributed in territories from the Wayuu, an indigenous

community, which is now accessible thanks to the good relationship established with them. The trails are basically sandy walkways in between shrubs and stocky forests, swamps and some creeks, which are dry through the majority of the seasons. Continue to Santa Marta, have lunch in a local restaurant en route. Check-in at the beachfront hotel. Time to enjoy the beach or birding in the surrounding area.

Elevation: sea level / Track: rural unpaved road / Temperature: 82-97°F

Room type - Standard

Sunday 01/30/2022 El Dorado Reserve El Dorado Lodge (BLD)

Early this morning birding en route to El Dorado at Minca. The village of Minca is located on the foothill of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, at the northwestern corner of the region. Being on the foothills at low-elevations, a dry forest ecosystem predominates across the ridges, whereas the pre-mountain forest begins to transform itself above the village, mixing with coffee crops to create a green atmosphere and a home to many local bird species as well as migratory. It is a very active place for any foreign visitor and even birdwatchers. It is also easy to find some interesting species such as the Golden-winged Sparrow and the Black-backed Antshrike, which tend to be difficult to find in other regions of the country. En route we'll be birding in the humid tropical forest around the town of Minca, where we'll have lunch while watching hundreds of hummingbirds visiting the nearby feeders. After lunch board several 4x4s and continue up into the mountains to the beautiful El Dorado Lodge, the ProAves Foundation's flagship lodge. Situated in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, this area is home to a vast array of species, including the Santa Marta Blossomcrown, Santa Marta Sabrewing, Streak-capped Spinetail, Scarlet-fronted and Orange-chinned Parakeets, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Steely-vented Hummingbird, Lineated and Crimson-crested Woodpeckers, Ochre-bellied Flycatcher, Cinnamon and White-winged Becards, Black-chested Jay, Rusty Flowerpiercer, Streaked and Grayish Saltators, Crested Oropendola, Thick-billed Euphonia, and many others.

Elevation: 2,300 – 3,600 feet / Mobility: Easy, rural unpaved road / Temperature: 82-86°F

Lowlands of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. (2,620 - 7,550 feet; Temperature: 59-77 °F)

Room type - Standard

Monday 01/31/2022 El Dorado Reserve El Dorado Lodge (BLD)

We'll spend today exploring the San Lorenzo Ridge. The highest coastal mountain range in the world, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is home to an incredible 20 endemic species which account for 27 percent of the endemics in the entire country. Search for as many of these species as you can find along the altitudinal gradient of the San Lorenzo Ridge. Some of the species that you may hope to find in the Santa Marta Mountains include the Santa Marta Parakeet, Santa Marta Screech-Owl, White-tailed Starfrontlet, Santa Marta Woodstar, Rusty-headed Spinetail, Santa Marta Antpitta, Brown-rumped Tapaculo, Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant, Yellow-crowned Whitestart, White-lored Warbler, Santa Marta Warbler, Santa Marta (Black-cheeked) Mountain-Tanager, Black-backed Thornbill, Colombian Nevada Brush-Finch, Bang's Wood-Wren, Black-fronted Wood-Quail, White-tipped Quetzal, White-rumped Hawk, Band-tailed Guan, Sicklewinged Guan, Band-tailed Pigeon, Scarlet-fronted Parakeet, Red-billed Parrot, Masked Trogon, Golden-olive Woodpecker, Yellow-billed (Groove-billed) Toucanet, Emerald Toucanet, Montane Foliage-gleaner, Spotted Barbtail, Streaked Xenops, Gray-throated Leaf-tosser, Strong-billed Woodcreeper, Rusty-breasted Antpitta, Rufous Antpitta, Mountain Elaenia, Black-capped Tyrannulet, Venezuelan and White-throated Tyrannulets, Olive-striped Flycatcher, Black-throated Tody-Tyrant, Cinnamon Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant, Golden-breasted Fruiteater, Orange-billed and Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrushes, Great Thrush, Black-hooded Thrush, Slate-throated Redstart, Three-striped Warbler, White-sided Flowerpiercer, Blue-naped Chlorophonia and many others.

Room type - Standard

Tuesday 02/01/2022 El Dorado Reserve El Dorado Lodge (BLD)

El Dorado Natural Reserve is located on the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, inside a matrix of cloud forests. It is the perfect place for hiking and searching endemic species over this isolate range on the mountains or to simply sit and enjoy the birds that visit the feeders overlooking the Caribbean Sea on the foothills of the mountain. Since it is located at a mid-altitude inside the highlands, it is the ecotone between lower mountain forests and higher cloud forests, which creates a confluence of species from both areas. The Natural Reserve has one of the most recognized eco-lodges in the country and it is known for its incredible

feeders for hummingbirds (some of which are endemic), tanagers, guans, wood-quails, making this experience in El Dorado truly an unforgettable one. We will spend the day birding for the Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner, Santa Marta Antbird, Santa Marta Wood-Wren, Coppery Emerald, Black Hawk-Eagle, Military Macaw, Red-billed Parrot, Lined Quail-Dove, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Brown Violetear, Steely-vented Hummingbird, Keel-billed Toucan, Lineated and Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Greenish and Forest Elaenia, Ochre-bellied Flycatcher, Social and Piratic flycatcher, Cinnamon and White-winged becard, Rufous-breasted and Rufous-and-white wren, Black-chested Jay, Brown-capped Vireo, Rusty Flowerpiercer, Streaked and Grayish saltator, Yellow-bellied Seedeater, Crested Oropendola, Thick-billed Euphonia and more. During the northern winter months these foothills harbor a good number of North American breeding migrants including Swainson's Thrush, Yellow-throated Vireo, Tennessee, Golden-winged, Cerulean, Blackburnian, and Black-throated Green warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Summer Tanager. *Elevation: 5,900 feet / Mobility: Easy - Medium, rural unpaved road, biking trails along the reserve / Temperature: 61-75°F*
Room type - Standard

Wednesday 02/02/2022 Barranquilla Barranquilla Plaza (BLD)

We'll spend the morning birding around El Dorado Reserve and start our descend towards Santa Marta with birding en route. We use the 4x4 jeeps until we reach Minca, where we'll have lunch and afterwards continue in our bus to Baranquilla with more birding en route.

Room type - Standard

Thursday 02/03/2022 Departure (B)

We'll then leave to Barranquilla airport for our early afternoon flight back to U.S. Transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S.

Check out is at 12 pm.

LAND PRICE PER PERSON**\$2,975.00****Based on a Group of Eight****Single Supplement: \$335****Optional Costs:**

- **Flight from Pereira to Barranquilla: \$125 per person (subject to change)**
- **Barranquilla Plaza Hotel: \$98 per person (single or double occupancy)**
- **Airport to/from Hotel Transfers (included on arrival and departure tour dates): \$40 per person**

Includes:

- Accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities listed in itinerary
 - Private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary
 - Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
 - Full time guide for duration of program
- Travel Protection: post-departure insurance including emergency medical and evacuation
 - Bottled water on the bus
- Donation: \$300.00 per person Total: \$150.00 per person to National Audubon / \$150.00 per person to Bexar Audubon
 - Carbon offset
 - Departure tax

Tour Does Not Include:

- Items of personal nature
 - Gratuities
- Optional activities and/or tours
- Optional Trip Cancellation Insurance
 - International Airfare
- Pre and/or Post Extensions