

## COLOMBIA BIRDING TRIP CARIBBEAN COAST BIRDING TRIP

*Birding with:*  
**E&T Birding Tours**

Colombia is a beautiful country because its landscape, its people, and its BIRDS!

**DATES:** September 5–15, 2026

**PRICES:** \$4 600 USD per person (double occupancy) + \$300 USD additional for single occupancy



E&T BIRDING TOURS are inviting you to join us for a special birding tour focused on the endemic and near-endemic birds of northern Colombia, specifically in the stunning Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. This region is known for its remarkable biodiversity, where you can experience a range of habitats, from the tropical dry forests of La Guajira to the seashore.

This exciting tour offers the chance to witness breathtaking sunsets, with the sea on one side and the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra on the other. You'll have the opportunity to discover unique bird species while enjoying the rich cultural and culinary experiences that set this area apart from the rest of Colombia.

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 Arrival to Cartagena

Arrival day to Colombia, this will be the day of arrival in the country, you will be picked up at the Rafael Nuñez International Airport, check in at the hotel and meet our Bird Guide.

Cartagena, located on the shores of the Caribbean Sea, is renowned for its charming, colorful streets and serves as the gateway to South America. Situated in northern Colombia, it is the capital of the Bolívar region. Often referred to as "La Heroica," the city is surrounded by several archipelagos and islands, offering serene spots for relaxation.

In addition to its stunning landscapes, Cartagena boasts a vibrant nightlife, cultural festivals, and inviting beaches that are perfect for sightseeing and enjoying the refreshing sea breeze. Recognized as one of the most beautiful and well-preserved cities in the Americas, Cartagena de Indias is a treasure and a top tourist destination in Colombia.

Overnight at Estelar playa Manzanillo

<https://www.hotelesestelar.com/es/hotel/hotel-estelar-playa-manzanillo>

## **Day 2 Agricola Las Camelias Reserve – City Tour**

The reserve is home to over 200 confirmed bird species spread across 40 hectares of tropical dry forest. We will leave the hotel at 5:00 AM and spend the morning there until 11:00 AM. During our visit, we can expect to see a variety of birds, including the Crested Bobwhite, Groove-billed Ani, Rufous-breasted Hermit, Red-billed Emerald, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Spot-breasted Woodpecker, Turquoise-winged Parrotlet, Black-crested Antshrike, Lance-tailed Manakin, Lesser Kiskadee, Hooded Tanager, Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant, Yellow Tyrannulet, Stripe-backed Wren, and Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, among others. We will return at the hotel for lunch and then go to the walled city to take a tour of its streets, visit the San Felipe castle, its colonial streets, A beautiful journey with the best memories.

Overnight at Estelar playa Manzanillo

<https://www.hotelesestelar.com/es/hotel/hotel-estelar-playa-manzanillo>

## **Day 3 Mangrove**

On this day, we will explore a mangrove area, where we'll observe the diverse birds and mammals that inhabit these ecosystems. We'll also take the opportunity to enjoy some of the beautiful beaches that surround Cartagena, possible species: Brown-throated Parakeet, Yellow Oriole, Orange-chinned Parakeet, Spot-breasted Woodpecker, Stripe-backed Wren, Turquoise-winged Parrotlet, Blue Ground Dove, Buff-necked Ibis, among other, then we'll to return at the hotel for lunch and then go to Barranquilla city.

Overnight at Estelar El Prado

<https://www.hotelesestelar.com/es/hotel/hotel-estelar-en-alto-prado>

## **Day 4 Salamanca Island Park**

The Cienega Grande de Santa Marta is a brackish water lagoon, formed in low lands and continuous with the ocean. Its stability depends mainly on the balance between the fresh water that enters through the system of lagoons interconnected by pipes, the Magdalena River, the different rivers that descend from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and the salt water coming from the Caribbean Sea; Salamanca Island Park is a Protected Area of the national order of the System of National Natural Parks of Colombia, we will be there until noon, we will have lunch at a typical food restaurant on the way, Possible species: Pied Puffbird, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Chestnut Piculet, Northern Scrub-Flycatcher, Bicolored Conebill, Northern Screamer, Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird, Snail Kite, Cattle Tyrant, White-headed Marsh Tyrant, among others. Then we will transfer to the hotel located near Tayrona Park.

Overnight at Senda Hotel

<https://sendahotels.com/es/hotel/sendakoguiwa/>

### **Day 5 Tayrona National Natural Park**

The foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, the highest coastal mountain range in the world, extend into the sea like the fingers of a gigantic hand, creating stunning bays and inlets such as Chengue, Gayraca, Cinto, Neguanje, Concha, and Guachaquita. These areas feature white sand beaches bordered by mangroves, scrub, and forests, all surrounded by the crystalline waters of the Caribbean Sea. This breathtaking landscape is part of the many attractions offered by Tayrona National Natural Park.

After breakfast, we will head to the park, where we'll search for some of the more than 400 species of birds found in the area, including the Crested Guan, Lesser Scaup, Whooping Motmot, Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Pale-bellied Hermit, Orange-crowned Oriole, Crested Oropendola, Rufous-necked Wood-Rail, among others. We will enjoy lunch inside the park and then we will leave the park heading to Minca

Overnight at Hotel Minca

<https://www.hotelminca.com.co/>

### **Day 6 Minca and surroundings**

We will gradually ascend toward the Sierra Nevada after breakfast, embarking on our journey to seek out the region's endemic species. Lunch will be enjoyed at a location surrounded by bird feeders, providing excellent viewing opportunities. We will then continue our journey to the Mountain House Lodge, one of the most significant centers of continental endemism in the world. This historic site was also where Melbourne Armstrong Carriker, an American entomologist and ornithologist, conducted research through a series of expeditions to various altitudes in the early 20th century. His work led to the collection of bird specimens for several museums in the United States and resulted in the publication of *The Birds of the Santa Marta Region of Colombia*.

On the way to the lodge, we can expect to encounter a variety of species, including the Santa Marta Woodstar (E), Blue-naped Chlorophonia, Santa Marta Blossomcrown (E), Slate-throated Redstart, Tyrrian Metaltail, Plumbeous Kite, Scaled Piculet, Ruddy Woodcreeper, Olive-gray Saltator, Bicolored Wren, Keel-billed Toucan, Crane Hawk, Strong-billed Woodcreeper, Streak-capped Spinetail, Gray-throated Leaf-tosser, Band-tailed Guan, Black-banded Woodcreeper, and White-necked Jacobin, among others.

Overnight at Mountain House Lodge

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Mountain-House-100082953951545/>

### **Day 7 San Lorenzo Ridge**

On this day, we will depart at 4:30 AM for the upper reaches of the mountain range. Our main objective is to search for the Santa Marta Parakeet (E), Santa Marta Antpitta (E), Sierra Nevada

Antpitta (E), Santa Marta Tapaculo (E), Golden-breasted Fruiteater, Northern Mouse-colored Tyrannulet, Black-backed Thornbill, White-tailed Starfrontlet, Black-cheeked Mountain Tanager (E), White-tipped Quetzal, and others. It is believed that there are fewer than 100 individuals of some species remaining in the entire mountain range, making them extremely vulnerable. We may have the rare opportunity to be among the last to see these magnificent birds in the wild.

We'll also have chances to find areas with bird feeders, enhancing our birdwatching experience. The views of the mountain range and its snow-capped peaks will be breathtaking. After returning to the reserve for lunch, we will spend the afternoon exploring the surrounding areas for more birdwatching opportunities.

Overnight at Mountain House Lodge

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Mountain-House-100082953951545/>

### **Day 8 Minca- Riohacha**

Descend to the lower part of Minca and we continue to Riohacha, after breakfast we will take the tour stopping at some points to look for additional species, we will have lunch on the way and in the afternoon, we will arrive at the hotel, Riohacha, the capital of La Guajira, is one of the best kept secrets of the Greater Colombian Caribbean. Here you will discover long, unspoiled beaches, vibrant nature reserves and rich indigenous traditions, and you can also buy handcrafted products made by the talented women of the Wayú indigenous community.

<https://hoteltaroa.com/>

### **Day 9 Los Flamencos Flora and Fauna Sanctuary**

Birdwatching and photography will take place at the Los Flamencos Flora and Fauna Sanctuary in Camarones, a charming town about an hour and a half away. During the tour of the Sanctuary, you'll be guided to the best spots for birdwatching, including a special area for closely observing the Vermilion Cardinal. You'll also have the chance to see beautiful American Flamingos and various other species, such as the Dark-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, Double-striped Thick-knee, Chestnut Piculet, Gray-capped Cuckoo, Mangrove Rail, Peregrine Falcon, Scarlet Ibis, White Ibis, Reddish Egret, and Great-tailed Grackle.

While at the Sanctuary, you'll enjoy lunch near the beach and have opportunities to observe shorebirds and more. In the afternoon, we'll immerse ourselves in the cultural richness of the Wayú community with a special exhibition showcasing their traditions, we will finish the activity and you will have the opportunity to enjoy the beach a little before going to the hotel.

### **Day 10 Flight to Bogotá**

In the morning we will fly to Bogotá, and in the afternoon we will visit the Monserrate hill, an iconic place in the city, It's a high mountain that dominates the city centre of Bogotá and is at an altitude

of 3,152 m.a.s.l or 10341 ft, where there is a church with a shrine, devoted to El Señor Caido (“The Fallen Lord”) we will go up by means of a funicular, a type of steep angled climbing train, that will take us to the ecological path, it is a 360-meter-long area designed for birdwatching and photography, and the contemplation of nature. Located at the top of Monserrate, you can observe a variety of birds typical of the High Andean Forest ecosystem, among them, more than ten species of hummingbirds and other species of birds, typical of the American continent. Due to its easier access and its flat terrain, it makes the route easy to traverse; in the same breath, the best conditions of security, attention and service are provided. More than 100 species of birds have been recorded, the place has fruit feeders, nectar feeders, seed feeders, which attracts species as interesting to see as the Sword billed hummingbird, Blue-throated Starfrontlet, Longuemare's Sunangel, Tyrian Metaltail, Glossy Flowerpiercer, Slaty Brushfinch, Golden-fronted Redstart, Green-tailed Trainbearer, Pale-naped Brushfinch, Mountain Velvet Breast, White bellied Woodstar, Purple-backed Thornbill, Coppery-bellied Puffleg among others, birds that you can easily see and photograph.

Overnight at City Pluss hotel

<https://www.marriott.com/es/hotels/bogpo-city-express-plus-bogota-aeropuerto/overview/>

### Day 11 Departure from Bogotá

This will be the day to return home, the journey from hotel at the Dorado International Airport, happy and with wonderful memories

Day	Place	Overnight
1	Arrival Cartagena	Hotel Estelar Playa Manzanillo
2	Agricola Las Camelias - City tour	Hotel Estelar Playa Manzanillo
3	Manglar- Traslado a Barranquilla	Hotel Estelar El Prado
4	Parque Isla Salamanca	Hotel Senda Tayrona
5	Parque Natural Tayrona	Hotel La Casona Minca
6	Minca Alredores	Hotel Mountain House
7	San Lorenzo ridge	Hotel Mountain House
8	Parte Baja de Minca- Riohacha	Hotel Taroa
9	Camarones- SFF Los Flamencos	Hotel Taroa
10	Traslado Bogota- Cerro Monserrate	Hotel City Plus Marriot
11	regreso a casa	

### Price includes:

- Accommodation single room
- All meals, breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks.
- Entrance fees to all forest reserves on the tour and local guides.
- Medical assistance insurance
- Private transportation

### Price does not include:

- Laundry service
- Local calls
- Tips and personal expenses
- Additional consumption from hotel refrigerators
- Expenses not specified in the program

*Enjoy your adventure in one of the world's most biodiverse countries!*

## E&T BirdingTours

"We are looking for you"

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