COLOMBIA BIRDING TRIP CENTRAL ANDES BIRDING TOUR 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: \$4,350 USD per person (double occupancy) + \$400 USD additional for single occupancy



Colombia, the country with the greatest biodiversity in the world per square meter, has immense natural wealth, diversity of ecosystems, fauna, flora and within its extensive geography stands out a place that is known as the Biogeographic Chocó, a territory with an incalculable natural, ethnic and cultural wealth, there we will star the tour.

This territory has the most diverse types of ecosystems, from mangroves, swamps, flooded forests, dry, humid and cloud forests to paramos with characteristics similar to those that we will also find in the center of the country.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival in Colombia, Cali

This will be the day of your arrival in Colombia, we will meet at the Alfonso Bonilla International Airport, Cali, depending on the flight time we can have dinner in a restaurant in the city, the check in time at the hotel is 3:00 pm, this day will serve to meet us, clarify doubts and rest to start one of the most relaxing and pleasant activities, photography and bird watching.

Overnight at City Pluss Hotel or similar

Day 2 Bosque de Niebla Reserve

In the morning we will leave for Bosque de niebla, a natural reserve recognized in the Valle del Cauca for hosting a species not so easy to observe and photograph: Chesnut Wood-Quail (E). There we can also find species such as Multicolored Tanager (E), Greenish Puffleg, Rusty Flowerpiercer, Goldennaped Tanager, Southern Emerald Toucanet, Three-striped Warbler, White-bellied Woodstar, White-vented Plumeleteer, Scrub Tanager (NE), Scaled Fruiteater, Blue-necked Tanager, Fawn-breasted Brilliant, Scaled Antpitta among others. Flame-rumped Tanager, Little Tinamou, among others, in addition to enjoying the grandiose gardens that many hummingbirds come to feed on.

Overnight at La Araucana Lodge

Day 3 Doña Dora Anchicayá

Early in the morning at approximately 4:30 am, we will head towards the top of Anchicayá, El descanso, Doña Dora located at approximately 1600 m.a.s.l, the tour is approximately 1 hour by car, this reserve is a very special place because there live species not so easy to find and provides the opportunity to photograph them, there is the place of residence and nests the Toucan Barbet and Andean Cock of the rocks, other species of interest that can be watched and photographed are Tawny-bellied Hermit, Rufous-gaped Hillstar, Tricolored Brushfinch, Golden Tanager, Empress Brilliant, White-whiskered Hermit, White-whiskered Hermit, Rufous-naped Hillstar, Orange-bellied Euphonia , Colombian Chachalaca (E), Velvet-purple Coronet , Blue-winged Mountain Tanager, Blackwinged Saltator, Grayish Piculet (E), Rufous Throated Tanager, Golden-collared Honeycreeper, Crested Ant-Tanager (E), among others.

Overnight at La Araucana Lodge

Day 4 Sonso Lagoon – Transfer to Manizales

At 6:00 am, we will head towards Laguna de Sonso, located at approximately 934 m.a.s.l.m. The tour is about two hours by car. On this day we will bring breakfast to eat on the way.

In Laguna de Sonso we will be able to photograph birds associated with lagoons such as Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Greater Ani, Little Cuckoo, Spectacled Parrotlet, Great Antshrike, Blue-black Grassquit, Yellow Oriole, Apical Flycatcher (E), Horned Screamer, Jet Antbird, Cinnamon Becard among others. We will have lunch on the way and in the afternoon, we will arrive at the Manizales city.

Overnight at Estelar Recinto del pensamiento Hotel

Day 5 Rio Blanco Reserve

At 6:00 am we will go to start the activity in the Natural Reserve of Río Blanco, this reserve has 4,932hectares of cloud forest, is located between 2,150 and 3,700 m.a.s.l. The average temperature is 11°C (52°F) and has a relative humidity of 90%; There you can see more than 400 species of birds throughout the route of which are commonly observed Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (**NE**), Brownbanded Antpitta (**E**), Slate-crowned Antpitta, Grass-green Tanager, Green-and-black Fruiteater, Mountain Velvetbreast, Green and grass Tanager, Lesser Violetear, Bicolored Antpitta (**NE**), Slate-crowned Antpitta, Plushcap, Pearled Treerunner, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Red-hooded Tanager, Sharpe's Wren, Black Flowerpiercer, Barred Becard, Streaked Xenops, Montane Woodcreeper, Beryl-spangled Tanager, Among others, we will be there all day and in the afternoon we will return to the hotel.

Overnight at Estelar Recinto del pensamiento Hotel

Day 6 Hacienda El Bosque

Today we will go to Hacienda El Bosque by shuttle bus. The tour will take an hour and half to arrive at one of the top places in Manizales for the photography of Antpittas, species that are difficult to find in the forest since they are very shy and can't be seen, this place is perfectly adapted for your observation and photography. There will meet some of the star attractions fondly named; Lunita, a Crescent-face Antpitta, Armando, a Gray-browed Brush-Finch, Tuki, a Gray-breasted Mountain Toucan, as well as Barred Fruiteater, Hooded Mountain-Tanager, Masked Flower piercer, Mountain Velvet Breast, Golden-fronted Redstart, among others at this magical place, we will spend all morning here. At 12:00 a.m. we will have lunch in the reserve restaurant. At 1:00 p.m. we will continue with our adventure in Hacienda El Bosque until 5:00 p.m. then, we will continue to Recinto del Pensamiento Hotel by bus, the route is about half an hour. When we arrive at the reserve, we will check in at 05:30 p.m., then we will enjoy the afternoon spoils of the reserve and relax there.

Overnight at Estelar Recinto del pensamiento Hotel

Day 7 National Natural Park Los Nevados

This day we will enjoy Termales del Ruiz Hotel, we will leave at 6:30 am and we will make an approximate tour of 1 hour, There you can appreciate the beauty of the cloud forest and Paramo, unique and vulnerable ecosystems, place of Frailejones, It is only 30 minutes from the entrance of the Los Nevados National Natural Park (NNP), the hotel has viewpoints and feeders for some species of hummingbirds such as Tourmaline Sunangel, Purple-backed Thornbill, Rainbow-bearded Thornbill (NE), Black-thighed Puffleg, Golden-breasted Puffleg (NE), Shining Sunbeam, Buff-winged Starfrontlet, Great Sapphirewing, Viridian Metaltail, , Blue-and-black Tanager, Scarlet-bellied Mountain and it is possible among its forests and roads to find others like Golden-crowned Tanager, Many-stripedCanastero, Andean Tit-Spinetail, White-throated Tyrannulet, Plumbeous Sierra Finch, Plain-colored Seedeater, Scarlet bellied Mountain Tanager, among others. It is located at 3500 m.a.s.l. The average temperature is 8°C, around 10:00 am we will go to the entrance of NNP, to search among the gardens of the páramo al among others. It is located at 3500 m.a.s.l. The average temperature is 8°C, around 10: am we will go to the entrance of PPN, to search among the gardens of the paramo to Buffy Helmetcrest (E), We will return to the hotel and if you can take a bath in the thermal pools that the hotel has, in the same way there we will have lunch and return to the hotel in the afternoon.

Overnight at Estelar Recinto del pensamiento Hotel

Day 8 Jardin Antioquia

At 7 am we will have breakfast and check out, then we will head to Jardin Antioquia, a small town, known for its brightly colored houses, colorful flower displays and milk candy, is home to the forest reserve of the Andean of the Rock, the tour will be approximately 5 hours and half by car. At noon we'll have lunch in a restaurant in Jardin, Antioquia, then, we'll start the activity at 2:30 p.m. in Andean Cock of the rocks reserve until 05:30 p.m. We'll move to the hotel to check in and then we'll have dinner in a restaurant in Jardin at 07:00 p.m.

Overnight at Passiflora Hotel

Day 9 Mirador El Roble Reserve

In this day we will go to the Mirador El Roble reserve, which is approximately two hours away, where the last antpittas that we will see in the Andean zone are found in the feeders of the place, we will have breakfast and lunch in the place, and we will return to the hotel in the afternoon; possible species: Slate-crowned Antpitta, Mountain Cacique, Bluish Flowerpiercer, Chami Antpitta, Black-collared Jay, Southern Emerald-Toucanet, Streak-throated Bush tyrant, Chestnut-naped Antpitta.

Overnight at Jardin Passiflora

Day 10 Transfer to Medellin

This will be the day to return home, the journey from Jardin Antioquia to the Jose Maria Cordova International Airport on the way you will be able to observe beautiful landscapes on the way to the airport.

Overnight in Hotel Estelar.

Day 11. Departure from Colombia

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"

FB: https://www.facebook.com/birdsandphotography.ET.tours/

FB:https://www.facebook.com/WildPhotoErnest/

Instagram & YouTube: @wildphotoernest

email: zapatarail2014@gmail.com

Dated: February 2025