



## Southern Screamer Birding Tours LLC

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### BIRDING URUGUAY – 2015

**Seven-Day tour – for TWO or THREE clients.** Custom departures in March and in mid-November to mid-December. Personalized two- or three-day extension available on request.

**Day 1:** Arrival to Montevideo, the capital city. You will be met at Carrasco International Airport and driven to the hotel. Most flights through Miami arrive in the morning, allowing time for an afternoon birding tour through the city. Dinner in the “Old City”. Night at a hotel in the city.

**Day 2:** Montevideo east to the Departments of Maldonado and Rocha. We’ll get an early start, birding Laguna José Ignacio and Laguna de Rocha, two important ecosystems on the Atlantic coast. Night at estancia on the shore of Laguna de Castillos.

**Day 3:** Birding in Rocha. From our headquarters at the estancia, we will bird the coastal lagoons, surrounding grasslands and nearby coastal dry forests. We’ll stop for lunch in the picturesque fishing town of Cabo Polonio, and observe the local sea lion colony. Night at same estancia.

**Day 4:** We’ll continue east towards the border with Brazil, visiting Bañados del Este – a vast Biosphere Reserve, which includes seasonally flooded areas, such as Bañado del Indio. Night at a posada near the Brazilian border.

**Day 5:** Today we’ll be birding along the border between Rocha and Treinta y Tres, in the direction of Quebrada de los Cuervos, the first preserve in Uruguay’s Natural System of Protected Areas. Night at an estancia near the preserve.

**Day 6:** Hike into Quebrada de los Cuervos, a unique subtropical microclimate, and one of the most botanically diverse locations in Uruguay. The moderately strenuous hike includes some steep sections, but we’ll take it slowly and enjoy the birds along the way. Option to remain at estancia today, horseback riding is available. Night at same estancia.

**Day 7:** Early morning birding and breakfast at the estancia, return drive to Montevideo, including a vineyard tour followed by a traditional meal with wine-tasting. Flights generally return to US in the evening.

## Major birding destinations

**Atlantic Coast** – With its remote, unspoiled beaches, sand dunes, coastal lagoons and rocky outcroppings, Uruguay's Atlantic coast will be our destination for numerous species of coastal birds. Yellow-billed, Snowy-crowned and Cayenne Terns are possible, and there's always a chance for the Giant Petrel. Residents of the sand dunes include the Common Miner and Burrowing Owl. This area also includes Uruguay's last remnants of dry coastal forest, where we can see Diademed and Blue-and-Gold Tanagers, Stripe-crowned Spinetail, Southern Screamer and Many-colored Rush-tyrant.

**Bañados del Este** – this Biosphere Reserve is characterized by extensive marshes and wetlands, with a high diversity of birds. It is the wintering ground of nearly 70% of the world population of Buff-breasted Sandpiper; also American Golden Plover, several species of seed-eater, the rare Black-and-white Monjita, the Saffron-cowled Blackbird, the spectacular Scarlet-headed Blackbird, both Straight-billed and Curve-billed Reedhaunters and Black-necked Swans.

**Quebrada de los Cuervos** – a lush gorge carved through metamorphic rock by the Yermal Chico stream, this valley is the southernmost extension of South America's vanishing Atlantic Forest. Descending through a range of microclimates, we can find the Rufous-capped Antshrike, Spix's Spinetail, the Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, the spectacular White Woodpecker, mixed Tanager flocks and Uruguay's colorful vireo, the Rufous-browed Peppershrike.

**Tour cost with two clients: \$3800 per person, double-occupancy.**

**Tour cost with three clients: \$3100 per person, double-occupancy.**

Includes lodging, three meals a day, ground transportation and guiding. Not included: airfare, medical insurance, items of personal nature, alcoholic beverages and soft drinks, phone calls, personal tips.

**The single room supplement for the tour is \$700.** 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.

**Deposit is \$500 per person,** final payment due two months prior to departure. Deposit will be 100% refunded if tour does not fill. When you register for the tour you will receive additional detailed information with important logistics concerning air travel, currency, accommodations, field guide suggestions, and a bird checklist.

## FEE SUMMARY, PRICES GIVEN IN US DOLLARS

- **FEE per person:** from Montevideo: \$3800 for two-person trip, \$3100 for three-person trip
- **DEPOSIT:** \$500 per person
- **FINAL PAYMENT DUE:** Two months prior to departure
- **SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (Optional):** \$700