



ADVENTURES AT THE EQUATOR

NORTHERN PERU & MACHU PICCHU

1-20 December 2017

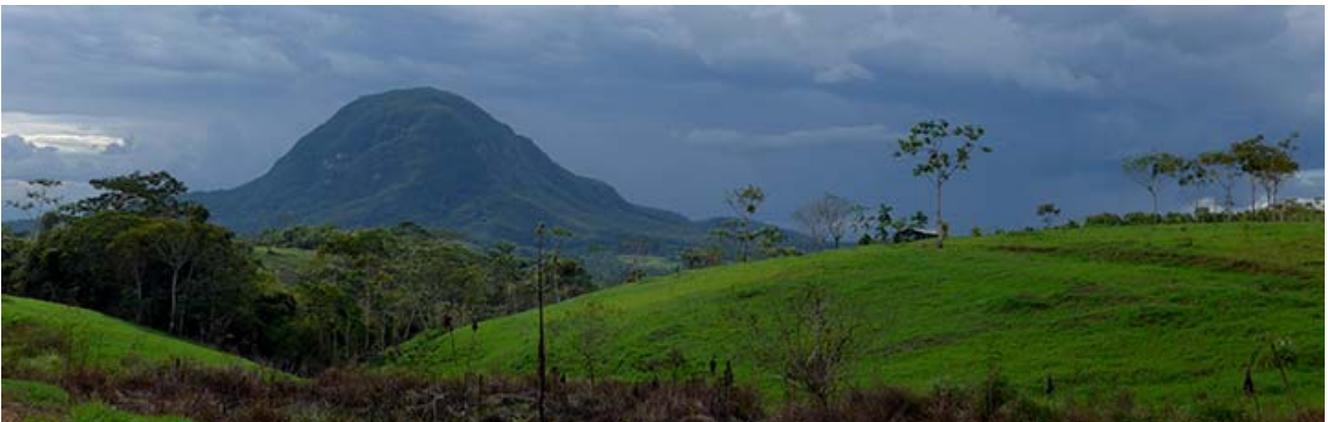
Machu Picchu Pre-trip Extension: Dec 1-5—\$4,030 double/\$4,330 single

Main Tour: Dec 6-20—\$8,700 double/\$9,100 single

I first visited Peru in September 2014, when the combination of jaw-dropping tropical birding and delightful Peruvian hospitality inspired me to add this tour to our calendar. We also found a tour operator, Wilson Diaz at Green Tours, who meets our very high standards for customer service, ethics, and fun! In case we needed even more motivation to take you to Peru, Wilson and I recently confirmed the presence of the magnificent and “near-threatened” Guayaquil Woodpecker near the southern limit of the species’ range—right along one of the prime spots on our tour route.

From the dry Pacific Coast habitats to the northern Andes and upper Amazon Basin, this adventure offers an outstanding introduction to equatorial birding. Read through our itinerary below with a Peru map and field guide (or your computer), and dream of what awaits. Immerse yourself in hundreds of hummingbirds (at one time!); cross one of the world’s most magnificent mountain ranges; explore cloud forests at the headwaters of the Amazon Basin; and visit some extraordinary community preserves; all part of a birding experience that will leave you breathless! Let us take you to Peru!

*Your host and lead guide,
Steve Shunk*



NOTE: This is a custom itinerary designed by and for Paradise Birding. We specifically requested that, whenever practical, we stay multiple nights in each location; that we not bird from dawn to dusk; and that we occasionally take afternoon breaks. These requests were made to help you thoroughly enjoy each of the special places we have chosen to visit and to give everyone ample opportunity to see Peru’s unique birds, without racing from spot to spot. Despite our casual approach, we still have a chance to see over 400 bird species—be prepared to be pleasantly overwhelmed!

MAIN TOUR SUMMARY (See page 13 for Machu Picchu pre-trip extension)

Our main tour begins and ends in Lima, the national capital of Peru. The itinerary for the next 14 days will follow an extraordinary route, from the Pacific Coast to the upper Amazon Basin.

Wednesday, Dec 6—Outside Lima: Puerto Viejo & Pucusana

Casual breakfast at the hotel, followed by our first full day, offering relaxing birding with extraordinary birds. We will drive about one hour south of the hotel to marshlands of Puerto Viejo which could produce **Great Grebe, Peruvian Thick-knee, Many-colored Rush-Tyrant**, and the endemic **Coastal Miner**. The nearby rocky shoreline hosts the Peruvian endemic **Surf Cinclodes**, which will likely be outnumbered by **American Oystercatchers**. After lunch at the port of Pucusana, we will take a short boat trip around the rocky island that shields the port. This amazing boat ride will get us very close to **Inca Terns, Blue-footed & Peruvian Boobies, Guanay & Red-legged Cormorants, and Humboldt Penguin**. We return to the hotel by 4 p.m. for an afternoon break, followed by dinner at a local restaurant. Night in Miraflores.

Thursday, Dec 7—Chiclayo to Chaparrí

We will rise very early this morning and transfer back to Lima airport for the morning flight to Chiclayo. After breakfast in the Chiclayo city center, we will drive about 3 hours to the Chaparrí Nature Reserve, with several birding stops en route. Birds along the way may include **Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Savanna Hawk, Pacific Parrotlet, Short-tailed Field-Tyrant, Parrot-billed Seedeater, Sulphur-throated Finch, and Peruvian Meadowlark**. We arrive at Chaparrí Lodge in time for a delicious lunch of traditional Peruvian foods.

Chaparrí is a private, community-owned reserve of 34,000 hectares (84,000 acres, or 131 mi²) comprising tropical dry forest in the lee of the Andes. This region is well-known for its population of endemic White-winged Guan, and we will visit a Spectacled Bear rehab center, where recovered captive bears are being prepared for their return to the wild.

After an early afternoon break, we make a short hike to the bear rescue center. Common dry-forest birds along the hike may include **Amazilia Hummingbird, Collared Antshrike, and Tropical Gnatcatcher**, along with Peruvian endemics and specialties like the **White-winged Guan, Tumbes Tyrant, and Elegant Crescentchest**. Dinner and night at Chaparrí Lodge.



Friday, Dec 8—Chaparrí & Casupe

This morning, we have an early-birding (6 a.m.) option to take a short walk to the nearby creek for a special hummingbird treat: each morning, several hummer species stop by the creek for their morning baths. Usual visitors include **Tumbes Hummingbird**, **Amazilia Hummingbird**, **Oasis Hummingbird**, **Purple-throated Woodstar**, and **Short-tailed Woodstar**. After 7 a.m. breakfast, we head for the dry forests of the high Andes foothills to look for an entirely new suite of birds. Just a few of the possibilities include **Porculla Hermit**, **Ecuadorian Trogon**, **Ecuadorian Piculet**, **Smoke-colored Pewee**, and **Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner**.

*Our trip to Casupe will be highlighted by our search for (and hopefully observations of!) the threatened **Guayaquil Woodpecker**. Members of the local community have begun a conservation project that will protect habitat for the woodpecker and other local wildlife. We will send you more details upon registration.*

After our box-lunch at the tiny village of Casupe, we will descend back to the valley floor to explore Tinajones Reservoir. The wetland and surrounding grasslands can produce **Southern Pochard**, **Savannah Hawk**, **Black-faced Ibis**, and a good selection of **sandpipers** and **swallows**; **Chilean Flamingos** have also been seen along the shores of the reservoir. Final dinner and night at Chaparrí.

Saturday, Dec 9—Chaparrí to Túcume

After our 8 a.m. breakfast, we will enjoy some casual birding around the lodge and its feeding station, where **White-tailed Jay**, **Tumbes Sparrow**, **Croaking Ground-Dove**, **Golden-bellied Grosbeak** and others are feeding practically at our feet. After a relaxing morning, we will have our final lunch at the lodge, followed by a 2.75-hour drive to Los Horcones de Túcume Lodge, north of Chiclayo. Casual afternoon birding on the grounds; dinner and night at the lodge.

Sunday, Dec 10— Túcume & Bosque de Pomac

Early breakfast at the lodge will be followed by a short drive to nearby Bosque de Pomac Reserve, where we will encounter several common Tumbesian endemics along with two threatened Peruvian endemics: the **Peruvian Plantcutter** and **Rufous Flycatcher**. Other species that occur here include **Necklaced Spinetail**, **Superciliated Wren**, **Fasciated Wren**, **Cinereous Finch**, **Scarlet-backed Woodpecker**, **Gray-and-White Tyrannulet**, **Tumbes Tyrannulet** (split from Mouse-colored Tyrannulet), **Tumbes Swallow**, and the engaging little **Peruvian Sheartail** hummingbird.



We will return to the lodge for lunch and a short afternoon break, followed by a visit to the **Royal Tombs of Sipan Museum**. This is one of the most modern and impressive archaeological museums in South America, holding a remarkable collection of Moché artwork that was discovered in the tomb of the famous Lord of Sipan. After our casual afternoon, we will return to the lodge for dinner and our final night on the Pacific slope of Peru.

Monday, Dec 11—Túcume to Jaén

After 7 a.m. breakfast at Los Horcones de Túcume, we begin our drive into the Andes, toward our base in the bustling town of Jaén. Shortly after leaving Túcume, we will make a side trip for our first chance to see the legendary **Andean Condor** and the endemic **Great Inca-Finch**. We then drive toward the Andes, reaching the mountain pass of Porculla before noon. Just before the pass we will stop to look for such specialties as **Ecuadorian Piculet**, **Piura Chat-Tyrant**, **Rufous-necked Foliage-Gleaner**, **Black-cowled Saltator**, and **Chestnut-crowned Antpitta**.

After a box lunch, we cross Porculla Pass and enter the Río Marañón valley—the Marañón is the mainstem source of the Amazon River. Here, the river has powerfully eroded the Andes, creating a high arid valley that is home to many endemic birds—both Peruvian and Marañón endemics. We arrive in Jaén in mid-afternoon to check-in at hotel Luna del Valle. Those who wish to enjoy a casual afternoon of birding will drive about 15 minutes to explore the rice fields north of the city, where we will look for **Spotted Rail**, **Paint-billed Crane**, and other waterbirds. **Lesser Nighthawks** are regularly seen flying at dusk. Dinner and night in Jaén.

Tuesday, Dec 12—Birding the Jaén Region

After breakfast we will spend the morning exploring the dry forests north of Jaén, between the towns of Tamborapa and La Coipa, where we will look for Marañón specialties like **Marañón Spinetail**, **Black-and-white Becard**, **Speckled-breasted Wren**, and **Buff-bellied Tanager**.

We will take our box lunch at the town of Tamborapa, followed by afternoon birding along the Tamborapa River in search of **Marañón Thrush**, **Fascinated Tiger-Heron**, and **Torrent Duck**. We return to the hotel in Jaén for afternoon break, followed by dinner at the hotel.

Wednesday, Dec 13—Jaén to Abra Patricia

We leave Jaén early this morning and head for Gotas de Agua private reserve. Upon arrival, we will enjoy coffee and snacks before an exciting morning of birding. Several Marañón specialties occur here, including **Little Inca-Finch**, **Marañón Gnatcatcher**, **Marañón Crescentchest**, **Spot-throated Hummingbird**, **Red-crested Finch**, and **Ecuadorian Ground-Dove**. After a couple hours of easy hiking, we enjoy a full breakfast of traditional foods at Gotas de Agua.

After breakfast, we resume our Andes crossing, with possible stops to look for raptors, rails, and other waterbirds around the rice fields, followed by another traditional meal in the town of Pedro Ruiz. Back on the road, we will climb into the Colán Mountains, where the Andean cloud forest will host another new suite of birds, including our first major hummingbird extravaganza.

By mid-afternoon we reach Abra Patricia Private Reserve, where we will spend the next 3 nights at the comfortable Owlet Lodge, named for the endemic **Long-whiskered Owlet**. In the gardens here, you will have ample time to casually enjoy myriad hummingbirds coming to the feeders, only a small few of which may include: **Chestnut-breasted Coronet**, **Green Violetear**, **Long-tailed Sylph**, **Speckled Hummingbird**, **White-bellied Woodstar**, **Sword-billed Hummingbird**, and **Collared Inca**. Dinner and night at Abra Patricia Owlet Lodge.

Thursday, Dec 14—Birding Abra Patricia

After an early breakfast, we will hike for about two-and-a-half hours on the Grallaria trail, which starts in the upper part of the lodge and wraps gently around the hill. The trail transects humid mountain forest that hosts birds such as **Ochre-fronted Antpitta**, **Sharpe's Wren**, **Cinnamon Flycatcher**, **Chestnut-crested Cotinga**, and **Golden-headed Quetzal**. Returning to the lodge by about 10 a.m., you are then on your own until lunch to nap, explore the trails, or just be overwhelmed by spectacular hummingbirds!

Following lunch at the lodge, we will have our first chance to spot the enigmatic **Long-whiskered Owlet**, a tiny owl that is endemic to this mountain range. We will walk down a relatively steep but well-developed trail for about one hour and wait until dusk, when our local guide will attempt to call the owl. Along the trail, we may also find **Smoky-brown Woodpecker**, **Ochre-fronted Antpitta**, **Bicolored Antvireo**, and **White-fronted Nunbird**. This optional excursion can be quite physically demanding, especially on the ascent back to the lodge after dark. Those who choose not to make the hike will have 6 p.m. dinner at the lodge, while hikers will return to the lodge for a later 8 p.m. dinner. Second night at the Owlet Lodge.

Friday, Dec 15—Pomacochas & Huembo

After breakfast, we will drive to the Huembo Conservation Center, which features protected habitat for the endemic **Marvelous Spatuletail** hummingbird. In addition to this otherworldly and magnificent bird, we will also see several of its cousins, including the **Andean Emerald**, **Brown Violetear**, **Purple-throated Woodstar**, and **Purple-throated Sunangel**. Away from the hummingbird station, the forest inside the reserve is an excellent place to see **Emerald Toucanet**, **Speckled-faced Parrot**, **White-sided Flowerpiercer**, and many others.

We will leave Huembo in late morning and head toward Pomacochas Lake. Roadside stops might produce **Citrine Warbler**, **Sickled-winged Guan**, and **Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager**. After lunch at a lakeside restaurant, we will explore the shoreline in search of **Plumbeous Rail**, **Puna Snipe**, and **Grassland Yellow-Finch**. We return to the Owlet Lodge for a relaxed afternoon. If we missed the **Long-whiskered Owlet** on the prior evening, we will make a second hike, with the same dinner schedule, followed by our final night at Abra Patricia.



Fawn-breasted Brilliant (left) and Long-tailed Sylph

Saturday, Dec 16—Abra Patricia to Waqanki

Breakfast will be served at 6 a.m., followed by some productive birding around the lodge itself. Even along the driveway and parking areas, we could see such superb birds as **Deep-blue Flowerpiercer**, and the endemic **Lulu's Tody-Flycatcher** and **Yellow-scarfed Tanager**.

We will then depart Owlet Lodge and enter the Río Mayo valley, making several stops along the route. The first will be at Alto Nieva Private Reserve, just 15 minutes from Abra Patricia, where the main attraction is the endemic **Royal Sunangel** hummingbird. Then we will drive to lower altitudes to look for **Huallaga Tanager**, **Red-ruffed Fruitcrow**, the fantastic **Andean Cock-of-the Rock**, plus more tanagers, antbirds, and woodpeckers.

Before noon, we will reach the lowest part of the Mayo mountains at the village of Aguas Verdes, where the hummingbird feeders at a private reserve can produce **Reddish & Green Hermits**, **Blue-fronted & Green-fronted Lancebills**, and **Violet-fronted Brilliant**. We will also visit the tinamou feeding station, which is often visited by **Cinereous** and **Little Tinamous**, **Gray-necked Woodrail**, and **Orange-billed Sparrow**.

After box lunch at Aguas Verdes, we continue into Río Mayo valley for about 2 hours until we get near the city of Moyobamba. Just before the city, a narrow side road gets close to a small pond where we may see **Yellow-tufted Woodpecker**, **Orange-backed Troupial**, **Donacobius**, and several different **seedeaters**. In late afternoon, we will check-in for our first of three nights at Waqanki Lodge, just a few minutes outside Moyobamba.

Sunday, Dec 17—Birding Waqanki

After a 7 a.m. breakfast at the lodge, we will make a 15-minute drive to Morro de Calzada, a lone mountain that rises over the valley and supports a great set of birds, including **Rufous Motmot**, **Blackish Nightjar**, **Mishana Tyrannulet**, and **White-browed Purpletuft**. We will return to Waqanki to spend the rest of the morning at their unbelievable hummingbird feeding station, where the main attractions include: **Black-throated Hermit**, **White-necked Jacobin**, **Fork-tailed Woodnymph**, **White-chinned Sapphire**, the fantastic **Golden-tailed Sapphire**, and the adorable **Rufous-crested Coquette**, with 20 new hummingbird species possible!

Following lunch at the lodge, you have the early afternoon to yourself, offering a chance to rest, watch hummingbirds, or just wander the grounds and forest. In the afternoon, we will walk up a small creek in search of **Bluish-fronted Jacamar**, **Montane Woodcreeper**, **Fiery-throated Fruiteater**, and **Peruvian Warbling-Antbird**. Dinner and night at Waqanki Lodge.



Golden-tailed Sapphires

Monday, Dec 18—Final day at Waqanki

Breakfast at the lodge will be followed by a full morning to yourself, allowing you plenty of time at the hummingbird feeders and along the trail through the orchid garden. Besides the hummingbird extravaganza, you may encounter **Lafresnaye's Piculet**, **Crested Oropendola**, **Yellow-vented Euphonia**, **Paradise Tanager**, and the endemic **Black-bellied Tanager**.

After lunch, we will embark on another casual hike up the Mishquiyacu trail, which you could walk day after day and keep adding new birds to your list! Dinner and night at Waqanki.

Tuesday, Dec 19—Waqanki to Tarapoto

After a brief morning on the lodge property, we will head toward Tarapoto, with a productive stop at Quiscarrumi Bridge, where we will peer down into the narrow chasm and marvel at a large roost of resident **Oilbirds** and, if we are lucky, the local colony of **Vampire Bats**!

After lunch in Tarapoto, we will check in at our hotel and then head out for a final afternoon in the field. While exploring the forests south of the city, near the town of Juan Guerra, we might encounter **Chestnut-capped Puffbird**, **Stripe-chested Antwren**, **Marañon Slaty Antshrike**, and **Carmioli's Tanager**. Dinner and night at the very comfortable Tucan Suites Hotel.

Wednesday, Dec 20—Tarapoto to Lima

After breakfast at the lodge, we will drive about 45 minutes to the **Koepcke's Hermit** Conservation Center, a private reserve that protects habitat for this endemic hummingbird. The bird is easy to see at the feeders inside the reserve, along with other hummers like the **Black-throated Brilliant**, **Gould's Jewelfront**, and up to 15 additional hummingbirds, several of which we have not seen at prior locations! In the surrounding forest we can walk a few minutes up the hill to look for **Golden-collared Toucanet** and **Golden-headed Manakin**.

Returning to Tarapoto for lunch and souvenir shopping in the city center, we will then transfer to the airport for our return to Lima (details TBA). Farewell dinner at the Airport Hotel in Lima.



Paradise Tanager

TOUR STYLE & PACE

Our Peru tour offers a relatively casual tropical birding experience, although the broad diversity and sheer numbers of birds may be overwhelming at times. We could see up to 400 bird species along our tour route, with a chance for more than 40 hummingbirds, plus over 50 flycatchers and 50 tanagers. Birding in dense topical jungle requires patience, and sometimes humility, but we complement the challenging jungle habitats with open country and aquatic birding, not to mention hours watching hummingbird feeding stations! Many bird species will be quite common, giving you ample chance for repeated encounters, and we will see plenty of “easy” birds, such as raptors and woodpeckers.

Daily outings will involve hiking on trails and roadsides at a pace that suits the average abilities of our group. Some trails, as described above, may be steep and rugged, but having two U.S. guides allows us to easily divide the group for varying ability levels. Birding around some of our lodges will include leisurely strolls through manicured gardens and along entry roads. Bird observation towers and viewing blinds may require climbing several flights of stairs.

In general, our tours operate at a relaxed pace, and they appeal to birders with a wide range of skill and ability levels. As expected, those guests with more advanced skills will be able to find and identify more of the anticipated species, while less-experienced birders can still be guaranteed excellent looks at many new birds. Each evening, we will review the birds and other highlights of the day, but we are not big ‘listers,’ so we will not let the prospect of a larger bird list drive our daily schedule. We also rarely bird from dawn to dusk, and we spend plenty of time at each location enjoying the behaviors of birds and other wildlife in their native habitats. While the focus of our tours is birding, we always enjoy sharing the broader natural and cultural history in the regions we visit.

FOOD & ACCOMMODATIONS

We love introducing you to local specialty foods. In Peru, we will enjoy a wide variety of traditional foods, including mouth-watering tropical fruits, world-class ceviche on the coast, and Peru’s famous potatoes and quinoa. Lodges and restaurants will serve a variety of vegetarian & rice dishes and locally raised meats. Especially in rural areas, we do not typically drink the tap water, although ample bottled water will be provided on all excursions and in your lodge rooms. Alcoholic beverages (at your own expense) may include refreshing lager beer or classic Peruvian pisco.



White-winged Guan on the roof at Chaparri Lodge

We also believe in comfortable lodging, staying multiple nights in each location whenever it is practical. We have worked closely with our local guides and have thoroughly scouted our tour route to select lodging that complements our relaxed tour pace, without compromising the birding experience. Our accommodations include very comfortable hotels—perhaps luxurious by Peruvian standards—and some very unique and remote lodges:

Main Tour

[Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel, Lima \(1 night\)](#)

[Casa Andina Select, Miraflores \(1 night\)](#)

[Chaparrí Lodge, Chaparrí Reserve \(2 nights\)](#)

[Los Horcones de Túcume Lodge, Túcume \(2 nights\)](#)

[El Bosque Hotel, Jaén \(2 nights\)](#)

[Abra Patricia Owllet Lodge, Abra Patricia \(3 nights\)](#)

[Waqanki Lodge, Moyobamba \(3 nights\)](#)

[Tucan Suites Hotel, Tarapoto \(1 night\)](#)

Machu Picchu Extension

[Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel, Lima \(1 night\)](#)

[Casa Andina Premium, Urubamba \(2 nights\)](#)

[Hotel Costa del Sol Ramada, Cusco \(2 nights\)](#)

PERSONAL HEALTH

Some of our birding sites are several hours from traditional medical facilities, so we expect participants to be in good health and comfortable with moderate activity levels. Please consult your physician regarding medicines required for traveling in Peru. Before you visit your physician, you may want to review the general health information for travelers available online from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). You should be current on your routine vaccines before the trip, all of which you should discuss with your doctor.

If you are taking prescription medications or over-the-counter medicine, be sure to bring ample supplies to get through the trip safely, plus extra doses in case of delayed travel schedules. We recommend that you travel with all medication in your carry-on baggage, ideally in original containers.

If you have any health problems that may limit your enjoyment of a tour or that you think may significantly restrict your activities—such as diabetes, asthma, heart troubles, difficulty walking, etc.—please contact us *and* talk with your doctor to discuss whether this tour will be suitable for you.

WEATHER & PACKING SUGGESTIONS

Peru straddles the equator and presents a wide range of tropical climates, from the Pacific Ocean to the Andes Mountains and upper Amazon basin. We may experience overcast conditions and possibly light rain at the coast, with dry sunny weather inland. It can be quite cool and humid in the cloud forests at Abra Patricia and quite hot at Waqanki. The high humidity of the tropics will make it seem hotter than the actual air temperature, especially for participants who live in arid climates. Most rainy situations can be managed with lightweight waterproof outerwear or a personal umbrella.



Everyone's traveling needs are different, and you may download a detailed travel planning checklist from our web site. Here are a few items you definitely should not forget:

PASSPORT: For U.S. citizens, a passport valid for six months beyond departure date, with one blank page for entry & exit stamps. Non-U.S. citizens should check with their local consulate or embassy for Peru travel regulations.

Medical Lists: List of medications you take regularly, including dosages; list of medical conditions and any special care requirements; list of emergency contacts. We request this information with your registration, but traveling with extra copies is a good practice.

Cash & Credit Cards: For personal essentials, and in case of emergency or other unplanned hindrances, you should have multiple ways to spend money. The unit of currency in Peru is the Nuevo Sol (PEN); you can typically purchase PEN at home or in the airports, but don't expect easy access to cash exchange during the tour. Airport shops will accept U.S. dollars (USD), but you will get a poor exchange rate on these purchases. Cash is the most efficient way to pay for souvenirs in rural locations, as well as alcoholic beverages at lodges and meals on the road.

Clothing: Lightweight field clothing, preferably long-sleeved shirts and long pants for protection against bugs and sun, although we will not typically encounter many biting insects along our route. Ideal clothing incorporates synthetic fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly, and resist wrinkles. Rainwear and/or a pocket umbrella are essential, and you may want a wide-brimmed rain hat. As of this writing, we do not have information on the availability of laundry services, but stay tuned!

Footwear: We recommend light waterproof hiking boots (over the ankle) and something lighter still for casual walks. Athletic shoes may be fine for the first few days in dry habitats, but they may become quite soiled and wet in muddy conditions in the mountains.

Misc. Equipment: Sunscreen, camera, sunglasses, light daypack or fanny pack, insect repellent, headlamp or flashlight, and batteries. You should bring your own binoculars, although your guides will bring a couple of extra pairs and at least two spotting scopes. Electricity in Peru runs at 220 volts, and outlets will take a European-type plug with two round pins. Some locations will take a plug with 2 flat prongs (like the US), but you must have the appropriate adapter or device to accept 220 volts.

Baggage: We suggest one medium-size or large bag and a smaller bag/carry-on. Your carry-on should have all of your necessities in case your checked bags get delayed, including change of clothing, money, travel documents, toiletries, medicines, and optical equipment. Once we book the internal flights for our trip, we will contact you with the baggage weight restrictions for those airlines.



Andean Cock-of-the-Rock

FLIGHT SCHEDULES

Our tour begins and ends at Jorge Chavez Int'l Airport in Lima (LIM), which can be reached via several major US flight hubs, including Los Angeles (LAX), Houston (IAH), and Miami (MIA). Peru time is the same as Central Time in the US, so jetlag is only moderate, although the long flights can be exhausting. Please carefully read the requirements and recommendations below before booking flights:

If you will join the Machu Picchu Pre-trip Extension: You must arrive in Lima by **Thursday, November 30**, although several flights will land very early in the morning on Friday, December 1. Your room at the airport hotel for Thursday night (and into Friday morning) is included in the tour fee.

If you only join the main tour: You must arrive in Lima by **Tuesday, December 5**, or early on the morning of Wednesday, December 6. Your room is included for the night of December 5.

For both of the options above, our tour formally begins at breakfast on the first day listed (December 1 and December 6). Therefore, we recommend that you arrive one day earlier than required to allow plenty of rest after the long flights. If you choose to arrive early, you will need to make your own reservation for a room at the Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We require that you purchase travel insurance. We have experience with medical emergencies in foreign countries, and travel insurance has always been of great benefit. Travel insurance typically covers costs associated with flight delays, trip cancellation, illness, medical expenses, lost baggage, and emergency transportation. If insurance is not offered when you purchase your flight, we recommend Travelex Insurance Services. Most U.S. health insurance plans do not cover costs incurred outside the U.S., although many credit cards include travel insurance when used for flights and tour fee.

<u>2017 TOUR FEE</u>	<u>4-6 Guests, 2 US guides</u>
Main tour fee for 2017:	\$8,700 double; \$9,100 single
Deposit, due w/registration:	\$500/person
Balance Due Aug 1, 2017:	\$8,200 double; \$8,600 single

Your tour fee includes:

- 🌐 Airport transfers from Lima airport (LIM);
- 🌐 Internal flights within Peru (Lima to Chiclayo, Tarapoto to Lima);
- 🌐 Ground transportation during the tour, including driver;
- 🌐 Lodging at single- or double-occupancy;
- 🌐 All meals and non-alcoholic beverages;
- 🌐 Snacks and beverages during travel days;
- 🌐 All taxes, permits, entry fees, and service-related gratuities, including tips for drivers;
- 🌐 A \$100 donation toward habitat conservation for Guayaquil Woodpecker;
- 🌐 The leadership of 2 U.S. guides and expert Peruvian national guide.



The fee does not include:

- 🌐 Round-trip flights from home to Lima;
- 🌐 Travel insurance (required for this trip; contact us with questions)
- 🌐 Alcoholic beverages;
- 🌐 Souvenirs and other personal items (such as telephone, laundry, spa services, etc.)
- 🌐 Guides' gratuities, which are never expected but always appreciated based on your satisfaction with our service (as a general guideline, the maximum gratuity for a tour such as this would be about 10%, and we pool tips for the tour and divide them equally among your three guides).

NOTE: Our tour fees are structured for an optimal birding experience, with the best possible client-to-guide ratio; this tour will operate with 2 U.S. guides and a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 guests.

REFUND POLICY: Once we confirm the tour has reached the minimum registration, \$100 of your deposit becomes non-refundable. If you cancel your reservation more than 120 days prior to the tour, you will be refunded any payments above the \$100 from your deposit. If you cancel between 119 and 60 days prior to the tour, you will receive a 50% refund of all fees paid. If you cancel less than 60 days prior, you forfeit your entire tour fee, unless you can fill your space with another birder. If you cancel at any time, your deposit and a portion of any other retained fees are transferrable to any future Paradise Birding tour. If we cancel the trip for any reason, all payments will be refunded, including the \$100 from your deposit.

TOUR REGISTRATION

To reserve your space for this tour, submit your \$500 deposit (per person) with the registration forms that follow this tour summary. These are also available to download as a PDF file from our web site. Please contact us with any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you in Peru this winter!

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Spectacled Bear

Cusco & Machu Picchu

1-5 December 2017

You are making the trip to Peru, so perhaps you should extend your vacation to experience the legendary Incan ruins and high Andes habitats around Cusco and Machu Picchu! We have designed a very special extension to our regular tour that will showcase renowned archaeology and excellent birding for an excursion you must not miss.

EXTENSION ITINERARY

We expect you to arrive the day or night before the tour starts, so please plan your flight itineraries to arrive in Lima on Thursday, Nov 30, at the earliest. See notes above under Flight Schedules for details.

Friday, Dec 1st—Lima to Cuzco

We will have an early breakfast at our airport Ramada Hotel to ensure ample time for our 8 a.m. flight to Cuzco. We arrive at 9:20 a.m., and we will be greeted by our local guide for the next two days. We then drive about two hours into the Sacred Valley of the Incas. We will check-in at Casa Andina Premium hotel in Urubamba and enjoy lunch at the hotel.

You will have the afternoon at your leisure to help you adjust to the altitude (see below), but this will not keep us from some outstanding birding! Even around the hotel we can find such spectacular hummingbirds as the **Great Sapphirewing**, **Shining Sunbeam**, and the largest of all hummers, the **Giant Hummingbird**. Dinner at the hotel.

Saturday, Dec 2nd—Machu Picchu

After a 6:45 a.m. breakfast at the hotel, we take a short drive to the town of Ollantaytambo, where we will board the train for Aguas Calientes, the entrance gate to Machu Picchu. Our 2-hour trip on the Vistadome or Expedition train (depending on availability) will take us through a spectacular canyon. Upon arrival, we board a shuttle bus to the archeological site.

The archaeological site of Machu Picchu is located at the peak of a mountain surrounded by the mighty Urubamba River, which runs east through the canyon almost a half-mile below the citadel. Our guided visit includes the Temple of the Sun, the Priestly Mansion, the Temple of the Three Windows, the Plaza, and the fountains and channels that form the Inca Baths.



As we explore Machu Picchu, we have a good chance for some special birds, such as **Inca Wren, Parodi's Hemispingus, Cusco Brush-Finch, and Tricolored Brush-Finch.**

After our visit to the ancient city, we will have a buffet lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge, a luxury lodge located inside the Machu Picchu protected area. Lunch will be followed by two hours of birding in the forest near Aguas Calientes, where we will search for **Green-and-white Hummingbird, Highland Motmot, Ocellated Piculet, Andean Cock-of-the-Rock, Masked Fruiteater,** and more. At about 5 p.m., we take the return train to Ollantaytambo and then transfer back to Casa Andina in Urubamba for dinner.

Sunday, Dec 3rd—Abra Malaga to Cuzco

We will have early breakfast at Casa Andina and then a full day birding around Abra Malaga, in search of Polylepis elfin forests specialists. The Malaga pass is located 54 km from the hotel, at an altitude of 4,230 m (see altitude notes below). The first section of the road after Ollantaytambo has patches of semi-humid mountain scrub where we will be looking for **White-tufted Sunbeam, Creamy-crested Spinetail, Tit-like Dacnis, and Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Finch.** At the pass we'll be looking for **White-browed Tit-Spinetail, Ash-breasted Tit-Tyrant, Stripe-headed Antpitta, Giant Conebill, and Royal Cinclodes.**

In the afternoon, we will transfer to Costa del Sol hotel in Cusco. Late afternoon at leisure, dinner at the hotel.

Monday, Dec 4th—Cusco

Our morning will include a guided city tour, with our first stop at the colonial style Main Plaza and the main cathedral church, followed by the Sun Temple, known as the Qorikancha; this temple, with its once gold-covered walls, was one of the most important buildings in the time of the Inca civilization, built to honor the Sun God, Inti. While exploring the city gardens, we will keep our radars on for **Rufous-collared Sparrow, Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch, or Cinereous Conebill.**

After lunch at a local restaurant, we will visit the Sacsayhuamán archaeological site, about 20 minutes from the city center. This site is surrounded by walls built with giant stone blocks. A few new birds are possible here, including **Aplomado Falcon, Andean Flicker, Creamy-crested Spinetail, Rusty-fronted Canastero, and Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Finch.** We return to the hotel by 4 p.m., and enjoy our farewell dinner at a local restaurant. Night at Costa del Sol hotel.



Tuesday, Dec 5th—Cusco to Lima

You will have the morning at leisure in Cusco, with ample time to wander the lovely streets and squares of this beautiful city. We will enjoy lunch at local restaurant, followed by an afternoon flight to Lima. Arrive in Lima, with final dinner at the Wymdham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel. Our main tour starts on Wednesday morning, and tonight's lodging is included in your tour fee.

PERSONAL HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

Your primary health consideration for the extension is your ability to tolerate high altitudes. Below is a table listing some of the high elevations we will encounter. It is very difficult to predict how each individual will respond to high-altitude travel, regardless of one's fitness at lower elevations. Most people do not experience symptoms of altitude sickness until they climb above 8,000 ft. This is the maximum elevation we will reach on our main tour, but the extension will take us well above this threshold. Consult your doctor about possible precautions and remedies for altitude sickness.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Altitude (ft.)</u>	<u>Altitude (m)</u>
Cusco	11,152	3,400
Pass to Urubamba	12,200	3,720
Urubamba	9,514	2,900
Machu Picchu	7,874	2,400
Malaga Pass	13,878	4,230

For other trip planning information, please see the detailed summary for the main tour, above.

TOUR EXTENSION FEE PER PERSON:

\$4,330 single, \$4,030 double; due with main tour payment.

Your tour fee includes:

- 🌐 Round-trip flight from Lima to Cusco;
- 🌐 Ground transportation, including driver;
- 🌐 Round-trip train ticket to Machu Picchu;
- 🌐 Lodging at single- or double-occupancy;
- 🌐 All meals and non-alcoholic beverages;
- 🌐 Snacks and beverages during travel days;
- 🌐 Entrance fees to all nature reserves and archaeological sites;
- 🌐 The leadership of 2 U.S. guide and expert Peruvian national guide.

See main tour, above, for fee exclusions.

PLEASE NOTE: *In part because of its status as an internationally acclaimed tourism destination, visiting Machu Picchu is expensive. We have done our best to keep the fee as low as possible, without compromising our high standards for customer service. As mentioned above, the tour extension will operate with 2 U.S. guides, a Peruvian national guide, and a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 guests.*





Paradise Birding Tour Confirmation and Registration

Greetings! This form will confirm your registration on the following tour:

TITLE: _____ **DATE(S):** _____

Please complete and return to the address below, along with either your \$500 deposit (includes nonrefundable \$100) or the complete tour fee. If you have already paid your deposit, your balance is due 90 days prior to the tour for domestic, 120 days for international tours. For your convenience, we happily accept VISA, Mastercard and American Express. Please also complete the Liability Waiver found on page two. THANK YOU!

Full Name: _____ Nickname (if any): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Sex: _____ Birth date: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Paradise Birding T-shirt preference; please circle your size and color. We'll do our best to accommodate you!

Size: Small—Medium—Large—Extra Large—XX Large | **Color:** Unisex (Blue—Green) or Ladies (Lavender—Yellow)

Would you like to receive periodic emailed updates & birding tips from Paradise Birding? Yes_ No _

Please tell us how you first heard about this Paradise Birding tour: _____

Roommate preference: *(If you will travel with a birding partner and wish to share a room, or if you are willing to share a room with another birder of the same sex, please indicate this here. If we are unable to match you with another birder, or where only single rooms are available, you will responsible for the single tour fee.)*

Dietary Preferences: *(Drink & food preferences. Please be specific. Our tours are often in remote regions without a wide variety of food choices, so we do our shopping for snacks and picnic lunches in advance. Also list any food allergies or dietary restrictions.)*

Medical Information: *(Please alert us to any medical or physical conditions that may affect you or your group's activities on an outdoor tour in remote locations; include any history of heart trouble, asthma, diabetes or epilepsy, as well as environmental and medication allergies. Please also include current prescription medications being taken. Use the back of this page or another sheet if necessary. NOTE: Anyone with an existing or potentially serious medical condition should consult a physician before participating in any outdoor or travel adventure.*

Emergency Contact: *(Please include detailed contact information for the person or persons we should contact in case of an emergency.)*

Name(s) and relationship(s) to you: _____

Contact number(s): _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ or Check #: _____

Signature: _____ Charge/Check Amount: \$ _____

Paradise Birding LLC | Stephen Shunk, Owner & Lead Guide

P.O. Box 547 | Sisters, OR 97759 | PH: 541-408-1753 | E-MAIL: steve@paradisebirding.com



HIKING AND BIRD WATCHING PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT and RELEASE and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

In consideration of the services of PARADISE BIRDING LLC, their officers, agents, employees, volunteers, advertisers, and stock holders, and all other persons or entities associated with this business (hereinafter collectively referred to as PARADISE BIRDING LLC) I agree as follows:

Although PARADISE BIRDING LLC has taken reasonable steps to provide you with appropriate equipment and skilled guides so you can enjoy an activity for which you may not be skilled, we wish to remind you this activity is not without risk. Certain risks cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of this activity. The same elements that contribute to the unique character of this activity can be causes of loss or damage to your equipment or accidental injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma, paralysis, or death. We do not want to frighten you or reduce your enthusiasm for this activity, but we do think it is important for you to know in advance what to expect and that you be informed of the inherent risks. The following describes some, but not all, of those risks:

- 1.) Accidents can occur on land. You could slip or fall during a hike, causing damage to equipment, personal injury, or even death. You could also otherwise be injured while hiking or visiting other land-based phenomena.
- 2.) You could suffer injuries or trauma during the land and air transportation portions of the trip, in vehicles or aircraft.
- 3.) Exposure to the natural elements can be uncomfortable or harmful. You should be aware that this exposure could cause hypothermia, sunburn, illness from drinking water or food, and/or dehydration.
- 4.) You will be staying at accommodations not owned or operated by PARADISE BIRDING LLC. You could suffer injury, damage to equipment, trauma, or even death while staying at these places.
- 5.) Errors on the part of PARADISE BIRDING LLC and its employees, including insufficient instruction or assistance.

I am aware that this birding tour, including related transportation and activities, entails risks of injury or death to myself. I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury or death. I agree to assume responsibility for the risks identified herein and other risks inherent to a birding trip. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

I certify that I am fully capable of participating in this activity. Therefore, I assume full responsibility for myself, including my minor children, for bodily injury, death, and loss of personal property and expenses thereof as a result of those inherent risks and dangers and of my negligence in participating in this activity.

I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. In the event that I file a lawsuit against PARADISE BIRDING LLC, I agree to do so solely in the state of Oregon, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state.

I have read, understood, and accepted the terms and conditions stated herein and acknowledge that this agreement shall be effective and binding upon myself, my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and estate for all members of my family including any minors accompanying me. I acknowledge I am not relying on any oral, written, or visual representations or statements made by PARADISE BIRDING LLC, including those made in its brochure and other promotional material, to induce me to go on the birding tour. I also acknowledge that in any and all promotional material the use of the word "safe," "safe as possible," or the like does not mean, imply or suggest that this trip is without risk. I have also read and agree to comply with the PARADISE BIRDING LLC cancellation policy.

Photographic Release: PARADISE BIRDING LLC reserves the right to take photographs or film records of any PARADISE BIRDING LLC tour, program, or activity, and each trip member hereby agrees that PARADISE BIRDING LLC may use such photographs or film records for promotional, commercial, or any other marketing purposes, including Internet use.

Name (please print): _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

If under 18, parent or guardian signature: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Cell/Primary Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Name of Trip: _____ Trip Date: _____