



Natural Selections

BIRDING, WILDLIFE, AND PHOTO TOURS



Marvelous Spatuletail

Birding Northern Peru - Chasing Peruvian Endemics and More!

10 Nights/11 Days

Peru is one of the 10 most biodiverse countries on Earth. With 1,846 bird species – of which 110 are endemic-myriad near-endemic and range restricted species, and beautiful landscapes at every turn, it is easy to see why this is one of South America's most sought-after birding destinations. And to the north, excellent lodges and some of the best hummingbird and Antpitta feeding stations anywhere make it easy to see why Northern Peru provides some of the most rewarding birding in all of Peru. On this compact, yet highly diverse birding route we'll be after targets such as Marvelous Spatuletail (e), Royal Sunangel (e), Long-whiskered Owlet (e), White-faced Nunbird (ne), Pale-billed Antpitta (e), Rusty-tinged Antpitta (e), Ochre-fronted Antpitta (e), Johnson's Tody-tyrant (e), Bar-winged Wood-wren (e), Yellow-scarfed Tanager (e), and many, many more!

Tour Overview

Day 1: Arrive Lima, overnight near Lima airport (LIM)
Day 2: Fly to Trapoto
Day 3: Pumarini Lodge to Waquanki Lodge
Days 4 and 5: Waquanki Lodge
Day 6: Waquanki Lodge to Owlet Lodge
Days 7 to 10: Owlet Lodge
Day 11: Owlet Lodge to Tarapoto, flight to Lima (LIM)

10 Night/11 Day Itinerary

Day 1, Arrive at Jorge Chávez International Airport, Lima:

Today we'll arrive Lima, Peru and transfer to the nearby Wyndham hotel to relax before tomorrow's flight to Tarapoto.

Meals: Dinner depending on time of arrival

Lodging at Wyndham Costa del Sol

Day 2, Lima to Tarapoto:

Today we'll make local flights from Lima to Tarapoto City and upon arrival, head straight for a birding site called "Upaquihua" which is an area of semi-deciduous forest south of Tarapoto.

Walking the trails here, our main targets will be: Northern Slaty Antshrike, (huallagae race), Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin, Planalto Hermit, Lafresnaye's Piculet, Stripe-chested Antwren, Chestnut-throated Spinetail, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, White-bellied Pygmy-Tyrant, Varzea Thrush, Ashy-headed Greenlet and more. In the late afternoon we'll head to



Deep-blue Flowerpiercer

Pumarinri Lodge in time for dinner and relaxing.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Pumarinri Lodge*

Day 3, Pumarinri Lodge to Waqanki Lodge:

Early this morning, we will go to "La Escalera" a mountain range north of Tarapoto, and a site known as "The Tunnel". Roadway birding along either side of the Tunnel is a highly productive area where we'll look for Blackish Pewee and Plumbeous Euphonia among others, and if we are very lucky, we could find the elusive Dotted Tanager. At around mid-morning we'll visit a nearby hummingbird feeder site known for the very special and patchily distributed Koepcke's Hermit. Other hummingbirds here include; Long-tailed Hermit, Black-throated Hermit, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Gould's Jewelfront, Black-throated Mango, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Sparkling Violetear,

Brown Violetear, Golden-tailed Sapphire, Sapphire-spangled Emerald, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Long-billed Starthroat, Gray-breasted Sabrewing and more.

At this feeding station there is also a trail system, and if time allows, we'll explore for Golden-headed Manakin, Fiery-capped Manakin, White-plumed Antbird and others.

Around mid-day we'll head to Moyobamba, making one official birding stop at a reliable Oilbird cave which is just by the road near Moyobamba. Once at Moyobamba at our comfortable Waqanki Lodge we will do some birding on the grounds as time allows and be sure to watch the lodge's feeding station for the Rufous-crested Coquets which frequent here.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Waqanki Lodge*



Silvery Tanager

Day 4 and 5, Full days at Waqanki Lodge:

At Waqanki Lodge we have two full days, where at least one morning we will be birding along the famous Mysquiyacu trail for special targets such as Fiery-throated Fruiteater and Scarlet-breasted Fruiteater which can be difficult elsewhere. We'll also be on the lookout for Lafresnaye's Piculet, Chestnut-throated Spinetail, Peruvian Warbling Antbird, Spot-backed Antbird, Blackish Antbird, Long-tailed Woodcreeper, Tschudi's Woodcreeper, Black-and-white Tody-tyrant, White-bellied Pygmy-tyrant, Mishana Tyrannulet, Red-billed Tyrannulet, Sooty-headed Tyrannulet, Fiery-capped Manakin, Green Manakin, White-throated Spadebill, Foothill Schiffornis, Yellow-bellied Tanager, Green-and-gold Tanager, Turquoise Tanager, Flame-crested Tanager, Blue Dacnis, Purple Honeycreeper and more. If the group is up to it, we can make a hike to the top of the mountain here for Ash-throated

Antwren (Endemic and range restricted) and the Buff-throated Tody-Tyrant and few more higher elevation species.

We'll also spend plenty of time at the lodge's Hummingbird feeding station, enjoying an amazing collection of species apart from the cute and ever-present Rufous-crested Coquet. Other species here include; Black-throated Hermit, Long-tailed Hermit, Great-breasted Sabrewing, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Sparkling, Lesser (Green) and Brown Violetear, White-chinned and Golden-tailed Sapphire, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Violet-headed Hummingbird and more.

In the gardens and grounds of the Lodge itself we will look for different bird species like the Varzea and Pale-breasted Thrush, Rusty-backed Antwren, Cinereous-breasted Spinetail, Stripe-necked Tody-tyrant, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, Wedge-tailed Grass-finch.

In nearby Moyobamba we'll have time to look for Masked Duck, Spotted Rail, Russet-crowned Crake, Pale-eyed Blackbird, Point-tailed Palmcreeper, and more. In addition, Waqanki Lodge is a great place for nocturnal birding, so nights will have us looking for Band-bellied Owl, Black-banded Owl, Stygian Owl, Foothill Screech-Owl, Striped Owl, Blackish Nightjar, Spot-tailed Nightjar and Rufous Nightjar.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Waqanki Lodge*

Day 6, Waqanki Lodge to Owlet Lodge:

An early start today will take us to Owlet Lodge, with several official birding stops along the way. Our first stop will be at Arena Blanca Reserve where their feeding stations attract species like Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail, Little and Cinereous Tinamou, Orange-billed Sparrow, and hummingbirds including; Green Hermit, Reddish Hermit, Black-throated Hermit, Blue-fronted Lancebill, Green-fronted Lancebill, Gray-breasted Sabrewing, Rufous-crested Coquette, Wire-crested Thorntail, Long-billed Starthroat, Many-spotted Hummingbird, Sapphire-spangled Emerald, Golden-tailed Sapphire, Fork-tailed Woodnymph and more.

Continuing our way, the next official stop will be near Afluente and a site known as "Ilantería" which is a particularly good birding area along the road. The forest here provides a great setting for mixed-species flocks and there is a

good chance for Andean Cock of the Rock as well. Other species here include the endemic Peruvian Piedtail, Black-mandibled Toucan, Speckle-chested Piculet, Golden-winged Manakin, Scaled Fruiteater, and others. Continuing on our way we will get to Owlet Lodge in time for dinner and relaxing.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Owlet Lodge*

Day 7 to 10, Owlet Lodge:

Owlet Lodge sits within a private reserve operated by a Peruvian NGO "ECOAN". We will base ourselves here while birding a variety of sites including the lodge's entrance road and extensive trail system, covering an elevational range between 2200 – 1000 mts. We'll also spend plenty of time birding around the lodge itself where a diverse array of hummingbird feeders and flowering vegetation attracts Sword-billed Hummingbird, Long-tailed Sylph, Chestnut-breasted Coronet, White-bellied Woodstar, Fawn-breasted Brilliant, Sparkling Violetear, Lesser Violetear, Speckled Hummingbird, Emerald-bellied Puffleg, Collared Inca, Bronzy Inca and rarely the Rufous-vented Whitetip.

Ochre-fronted Antpitta



Southern Emerald Toucanet

By basing ourselves here, we'll have access to a number of specialties including; Long-whiskered Owlet (E), Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan, White-collared Jay, Royal Sunangel (E), White-faced Nunbird, Rufous-vented Tapaculo (E), Ochre-fronted Antpitta (E), Chestnut Antpitta (E), and Rusty-tinged Antpitta (E), Equatorial Graytail, Johnson's Tody-Flycatcher (E), Cinnamon-breasted Tody-Tyrant, (NE), Bar-winged Wood-Wren (E), Yellow-scarfed Tanager (E), White-capped Tanager, Blue-browed and Green-throated Tanager, Crested and Golden-headed Quetzal, Lanceolated Monklet, Masked Trogon, Scaly-napped Parrot, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Tyrannine Woodcreeper, Streak-headed Antbird, Ecuadorian Tyrannulet, Sulphur-bellied Tyrannulet, Black-capped Tyrannulet, Bicolored Antvireo, Sharpe's Wren, Green-and-black Fruiteater, Black-capped Hemispingus, and Black-crested Warbler.

On one of our days at Owlet, we'll make a special trip to nearby San Lorenzo as this is a special birding site for the Pale-billed Antpitta, another Peruvian endemic. Others here include; Russet-mantled Softtail (E), Red-hooded Tanager, Barred Fruiteater and Gray-breasted Mountain Toucan. After mid-morning we will also visit Huembo Lodge where the amazing and endemic Marvelous Spatuletail comes regularly to the lodge's feeders along with others like Purple-throated Sunangel, Andean Emerald, White-bellied Hummingbird, Little Woodstar, and more.

Back at Owlet Lodge we will also bird lower elevations for different species like Crested Quetzal, Golden-headed Quetzal, Equatorial Graytail, Red-billed Parrot, Yellow-throated Toucan, Golden-olive Woodpecker, Olive-backed Woodcreeper, Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner, Montane Foliage-gleaner, Ash-browed Spinetail, Streaked Xenops, Lined Antshrike, Blackish

Antbird, Rufous-rumped Antwren, Yellow-breasted Antwren, Northern White-crowned Tapaculo, Versicolored Barbet, Peruvian Piedtail (E), Black-streaked Puffbird, Lanceolated Monklet, Ornate Flycatcher, Olive-chested Flycatcher, Golden-winged Manakin, Gray-mantled Wren, Black-bellied (Huallaga) Tanager (E), Vermilion Tanager, Olivaceous Greenlet, Scarlet-rumped (Subtropical) Cacique and many more.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Owlet Lodge*

Day 11, Owlet Lodge to Tarapoto and flight to Lima:

This morning we'll have an early departure to Tarapoto and head straight to the airport for catching the late afternoon flight to Lima.

Meals: Breakfast

Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail



Koepcke's Hermit

Included in this itinerary:

Local flights Lima - Tarapoto – Lima, accommodations from night 1 to night 10, meals from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 11, ground transport for the entire trip, bilingual birding guide, entrance fees to local attractions and reserves.

Not Included:

Laundry, souvenirs, alcoholic beverages, tips, travel insurance, additional services offered in lodges, and other items of a personal nature.

Travel insurance:

We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance. In the event that you need to cancel your trip due to medical or other reasons, this insurance will protect you.



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109 Eaglewood Way, Athens, Georgia 30606

info@naturalselectionstours.com

www.naturalselectionstours.com