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Director/Tour Leader: Florencia Ocampo  
Montevideo, Uruguay.

## East Wetlands and Ravines

### 5 days

On this 5-day tour you will visit some of the most important hot spots for birdwatching in the country, including four Important Bird Areas integrated in the National System of Protected Areas. The environmental diversity is wide, including ravines, wetlands, grasslands, and endemic palm tree savanna. By the end of the tour can be seen **over 180 bird species** of the 455 recorded to Uruguay, which some of them are restricted to the Platine Region like the Straight-billed Reedhaunter, Black-and-white Monjita, Saffron-cowled Blackbird and Marsh Seedeater.



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## Itinerary

**Day 1:** Pick up and transfer to Crows Ravines (Quebrada de los Cuervos), in the Department of Treinta y Tres (250 km / 3 hours). This is a protected and Important Bird Area of 160,000 hectares where some of the special birds are Red-winged Tinamou, Greater Rhea, Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, Buff-necked Ibis, White-eyed Parakeet, Straight-billed Reedhaunter, Green-backed Becard, Black-and-white Monjita, Glaucous-blue Grosbeak, Lesser Grass-Finch, Chestnut Seedeater and Saffron-cowled Blackbird. We will first arrive to the posada, located at 8 km from the protected area. The place is surrounded by native woods and has its own spots for birdwatching. After having a homemade lunch here, we will start birding in the area. We will have dinner and stay overnight at the posada.



**Day 2:** Full day in Corws Ravines.

**Day 3:** Early in the morning, before breakfast, we will walk along the forests around the posada, looking for Rufous-capped Antshrike, Variable Antshrike, Golden-crowned Warbler, White-browed Warbler, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Yellow-winged Cacique, Sayaca Tanager, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, Diademed Tanager and Chestnut-backed Tanager. After breakfast, we will drive to the Department of Rocha, (200 km / 3 hours). By midday, we will arrive at the hote,l which is located right in front of the Fortín de San Miguel National Park. After having lunch, we will go for a walk, birding through native woods and marshes in the National Park. Some of the birds that can be seen on this day are White-throated Hummingbird, Gilded Hummingbird, Glittering-bellied Emerald, Campo Flicker, Green-barred Woodpecker, Gray-Monjita, Stripe-crowned Spinetail, Vermillion Flycatcher and Fork-tailed Flycatcher.

**Day 4:** Full day birding in the RAMSAR wetlands reserve and native forests. The East Wetlands Biosphere Reserve, is an Important Bird Area integrated in the RAMSAR



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Internacional Convention. Many exclusive bird species are found here, some of them in danger of extinction, like the Marsh Seedeater, the Saffron-cowled Blackbird and the Black-and-white Monjita. Some other birds that are present here are the Southern



Screamer, Black-necked Swan, Coscoroba Swan, Bare-faced Ibis, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Spotted Rail, Maguari Stork, American Wood-Stork, Yellow-winged Blackbird, Brown-and-yellow Marshbird, Sulphur-throated Reedhaunter and Scarlet-headed Blackbird. On this day we will also visit the Santa Teresa National Park, where there is a small population of capybaras that can be seen from a

hide as well as other birds like Wattled Jacana, White-winged Coot, Red-gartered Coot, Limpkin and Purple Gallinule and Gray-necked Wood-Rail.

We will arrive at the hotel by sunset. At this time, it is probable to see Nacunda Night-Hawks flying over the fields.

**Day 5:** After breakfast we will drive to the contiguous Department of Maldonado (200 km / 2 hours). We will go to several protected lagoons where we might see Brazilian Teal, Yellow-billed Teal, White-faced Whistling-Duck, Cocoi Heron, Whistling Heron, Plumbeous Ibis, Green Kingfisher, Amazon Kingfisher, Ringed Kingfisher, White-rumped Sandpiper, American Golden-Plover, Lesser Yellowlegs, Chilean Flamingo, Semipalmated Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, Ruddy Turnstone, Yellow-billed Tern, Snowy-crowned, Cabot's Tern, Common Tern, South American Tern, Royal Tern and Black Skimmer. We will have lunch in a local restaurant nearby the shores of one of the lagoons. Later, we will visit the Maldonado Wetlands Reserve (an IBA) where we will look for the Many-colored Rush-Tyrant, Rufous-sided Crake, Plumbeous Rail, Giant Wood-Rail, Spix's Spinetail, Masked Yellowthroat, Masked Gnatcatcher, Silver Teal, Rosy-billed Pochard, Chiloe Wigeon, Snail Kite and White Woodpecker. We will finish the tour here and we will drive for less than two hours to the Montevideo International Airport or to the previously agreed place.

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**Recommendations:** wear comfortable clothes and comfortable shoes for trekking (waterproof if possible). Bring sunblock, repellent and a personal water bottle to be refilled.

**Considerations:** the itineraries can be modified during on tour for reasons of climate or suggestions of the guide. Bird lists are based on previous records, it is not assured to see them all on tour.

**Bird list:** Glittering-bellied Emerald, White-throated Hummingbird, Gilded Hummingbird, Campo Flicker, Green-barred Woodpecker, White Woodpecker, White-spotted Woodpecker, Gray-necked Wood-Rail, Giant Wood-Rail, Southern Lapwing, Roadside Hawk, Harris's Hawk, Southern Caracara, Chimango Caracara, Monk Parakeet, Dark-billed Cuckoo, Guira Cuckoo, Rufous Hornero, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Small-billed Elaenia, Southern-beardless Tyrannulet, White-crested Tyrannulet, Swainson's Flycatcher, Vermilion Flycatcher, Great Kiskadee, Streaked Flycatcher, Cattle Tyrant, Tropical Kingbird, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Red-eyed Vireo, Gray-breasted Martin, Brown-chested Martin, Blue-and-White Swallow, Creamy-bellied Thrush, Rufous-bellied Thrush, Chalk-browed Mockingbird, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Rufous-collared Sparrow, Tropical Parula, Variable Oriole, Shiny Cowbird, Hooded Siskin, Neotropic Cormorant, White-tufted Grebe, Great Grebe, Black-necked Swan, Brazilian Teal, Yellow-billed Teal, Silver Teal, Cocoi Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret,

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Whistling Heron, Bare-faced Ibis, Plumbeous Ibis, Limpkin, Plumbeous Rail, Rufous-sided Crake, Common Gallinule, Red-gartered Coot, Red-fronted Coot, White-winged Coot, Wattled Jacana, Black-necked Stilt, American Oystercatcher, Southern Lapwing, Rufous-chested Dotterel (W), Collared Plover, American Golden Plover (S), Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Kelp Gull, Olrog's Gull (W), Brown-hooded Gull, Yellow-billed Tern, Common Tern, Snowy-crowned Tern, Royal Tern, Black Skimmer, Osprey (S), Snail Kite, American Kestrel, Ringed Kingfisher, Wren-like Rushbird, Sulphur-throated Spinetail, Spixi's Spinetail, Stripe-crowned Spinetail, Rufous-capped Antshrike, Sooty Tyrannulet, Bran-colored Flycatcher (S), Spectacled Tyrant, Austral Negrito (W), Gray Monjita, White Monjita, White-rumped Swallow, Masked Gnatcatcher, White-banded Mockingbird (W), Black-and-Rufous Warbling-Finch, Long-tailed Reed-Finch, Grassland Yellow-Finch, Great Pampa-Finch, Masked Yellowthroat, Yellow-winged Blackbird, Brown-and-Yellow Marshbird and many others.  
\*(W): Austral Winter, (S): Austral Summer.