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## The Grand Birding Tour

### 15 days

### Uruguay

Uruguay is a small country in southern South America, measuring roughly 600 km from north to south and from east to west. Despite its compact size, it offers a remarkable variety of environments: Pampas grasslands, Atlantic Forest remnants, savannas, extensive wetlands, ocean and estuarine coasts, countless rivers and streams, palm woodlands, rolling hills, and deep ravines.

This diversity of landscapes translates into an impressive richness of birdlife, which can be enjoyed easily, in a short period of time, and with relatively little travel between hotspots. Uruguay is also an important feeding and breeding destination for numerous migratory species that arrive in both summer and winter, traveling from the far north and south of the continent.

In addition, the country remains scientifically underexplored. Biologists continue to discover new species of flora and fauna, and dozens of bird species have been added to the national list in just the last few years.

On this tour, you'll explore Uruguay's finest birdwatching hotspots, moving through a remarkable mosaic of landscapes that host an exceptional diversity of species. The itinerary includes several Protected Areas and many of the country's most valuable Important Bird Areas (IBAs), ensuring access to prime habitats and high-quality birding experiences.

With expert local guiding and carefully chosen locations, it is possible to observe around 250 bird species out of the 500 recorded to the country over the course of the tour — including regional specialties, sought-after endemics, and a rich mix of migratory birds.

Beyond the birds, this journey offers a deeply immersive experience in Uruguay's rural life and cultural traditions. While the itinerary features a variety of accommodations — including comfortable hotels and strategically located lodges — some nights will be spent in family-run rural houses, where you'll share meals prepared with local recipes, and connect with people who are directly involved in conservation and deeply rooted in their land. These meaningful exchanges — with local hosts, producers, and guardians of the natural environment — add a unique and memorable dimension to the tour, giving you a true sense of place and community.



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## Tour Summary

	Area	Description of the accommodations	Services & Amenities
Days 1-2	Farrapos Wetlands	Located near key birding spots. A charming countryside lodge set in peaceful, natural surroundings. Comfortable rooms, warm hospitality and ample outdoor space. Ideal base for relaxing after a day in the field.	Comfortable suites, Wi-Fi, maid service, gallery and seating areas immersed in nature.
Days 3-5	Rincón de Franquía	A modern and elegant boutique hotel nestled in the northernmost city of Uruguay, just several minutes from the key birding spots.	Comfortable rooms, A/C, Wi-Fi, maid service, laundry, outdoor pool, garden areas for leisure, bar and shared lounge spaces.
Days 6-8	Quebrada de Laureles	A family-run lodge which offers an immersive rural and nature experience in one of Uruguay's most striking landscapes, providing guests with authentic access to local wildlife. With a limited number of guest rooms, it combines heartfelt hospitality and personalized attention from hosts closely connected to the land.	Home-style meals prepared on-site, walking trails across the quebradas, Wi-Fi in shared spaces, maid service.
Days 9-10	Quebrada de los Cuervos	A family-run lodge with limited number of guest rooms which offers a comfortable and authentic countryside stay within the heart of	Home-style meals prepared



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		Quebrada de los Cuervos National Park. Genuine hospitality, and a sense of immersion in nature in one of Uruguay's most scenic regions.	on-site, comfortable rooms with A/C, Wi-Fi, maid service.
<b>Days 11-12</b>	Eastern Wetlands	Located just steps from the entrance of Fortín de San Miguel National Park. A charming hotel which combines comfort and immediate access to woodlands, marshes and ocean coasts.	Rooms with A/C, Wi-Fi, outdoor pools, laundry, maid service.
<b>Days 13-14</b>	Coastal Lagoons	Beachfront apartments with private balconies and ocean views. Located just a few minutes from some of the key birding spots in the area.	A/C, Wi-Fi, outdoor swimming pools, garden, direct access to the beach, maid service.
<b>Day 15</b>	Maldonado Wetlands		

## Itinerary and Target Birds

### Day 1: Montevideo to Uruguay's Western Corridor

- **Pick up** at the agreed time and location in Montevideo Capital City.
- Our first stop will be **Penino Beach**, located within the **Santa Lucía Wetlands Protected Area** (approximately 40-minute drive). Here, the mouth of the Santa Lucía River meets the mighty Río de la Plata, providing rich feeding grounds for waders and shorebirds along the coast. Waterfowl gather in several ponds, while the characteristic **Pampas Grasslands** are home to tall-grass specialists.
- We then continue with a **5-hour drive to Paysandú Department**, making several birding stops along the way and enjoying lunch at a local restaurant. These stops offer a great introduction to Uruguay's emblematic birdlife, including the industrious **Rufous Hornero** and its adobe "oven" nest, the ubiquitous **Great Kiskadee** and **Monk Parakeet**, the charming **Rufous-collared Sparrow**, and the elegant **Southern Lapwing**.
- Arrival and **check-in** at a country lodge.
- In the **afternoon**, we will explore nearby areas where **Prosopis woodlands** — typical of Uruguay's western region along the Uruguay River— are still preserved. We'll look for species associated with this habitat, particularly members of the **Furnariidae** family, such as the **Brown Cacholote** and **Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper**. This is also a great place to look for the uncommon **White-fronted Woodpecker**.
- **Dinner** at a local restaurant near the lodge.



*Snail Kite and Rufous-capped Antshrike. By Bill Pohley.*



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## Day 2: Esteros de Farrapos Protected Area

- **Breakfast** at the lodge.
- After breakfast, we'll take a **40-minute drive to the Esteros de Farrapos Protected Area**, created to safeguard the islands and riverbanks of the **Uruguay River**, which forms the natural border with Argentina. This area encompasses wetlands, riparian forest, and valuable **Espinal woodland**, a habitat now rare in the rest of the country. The birdlife here is an interesting mix of woodland and wetland species.
- We'll begin our birding in the **riverside town of San Javier**, a former Russian colony founded by settlers who arrived in the early 20th century. We'll keep an eye out for **Plush-crested Jays** and **Giant Wood Rails** in the park and along the riverfront.
- **Lunch** at a local restaurant in San Javier, where traditional Russian food is served.
- Mid-afternoon **rest** at the lodge.
- In the afternoon, we'll return to the protected area to visit **Puerto Viejo**, where we'll walk under the riparian forest in search of **Bicolored Hawk** and **White-barred Piculet**. Later, we'll hike a short trail through a small but well-preserved patch of **Espinal forest**, which often yields **Little Thornbird** and **Lark-like Brushrunner**.
- Return to the lodge.
- **Dinner** at a local restaurant.

**Target birds:** Ringed Teal, Giant Wood Rail, White-Barred Piculet, White-Fronted Woodpecker, Bicolored Hawk, Brown Cacholote, Chotoy Spinetail, Lark-Like Brushrunner, Little Thornbird, Tufted Tit-Spinetail, Suiriri Flycatcher, Plush-Crested Jay, Chestnut Seedeater, Dark-Throated Seedeater.



*Top: Dark-throated Seedeater and Chestnut Seedeater. Bottom: Scissor-tailed Nightjar and White-fronted Woodpecker.*

### Day 3: Northern Borderlands

- **Breakfast** at the lodge and **check-out**.
- After breakfast, we'll take a **3-hour drive to the town of Bella Unión**, the northernmost town of Uruguay, located near the **triple border with Brazil and Argentina**. Upon arrival, we'll **check in** at a boutique hotel.
- **Lunch at La Chacra Restaurant**, a family-run place where most of the ingredients are organically grown on-site.
- In the **afternoon**, we'll explore the **surroundings of Bella Unión**, driving along country roads in search of farmland birds. We'll pay special attention to species calling from roadside hedges such as **Fulvous-crowned Scrub-Tyrant** and **Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant**, both of which can only be found in this area during the tour.
- We'll also visit the nearby **village of Mones Quintela**, home to one of the few **Red-rumped Cacique** breeding colonies in Uruguay.



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- At **sunset**, we'll take a short walk along an old, abandoned road leading to a bridge over a calm stream — an ideal spot to listen for the haunting song of the **Little Nightjar**.
- **Dinner** at La Chacra.

#### Day 4: Rincón de Franquía Protected Area

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- Short drive (20 min) to the Rincón de Franquía Protected Area (IBA), located at the confluence of the Uruguay and Cuareim Rivers. This reserve protects valuable riparian forests, ponds, and regenerating pastures, creating a rich mosaic of habitats. Several tropical bird species reach their southernmost distribution limit here and are not found elsewhere in Uruguay. The area has also been remarkable for new bird records in the country — including the Short-crested Flycatcher — and for the rediscovery of species such as the Black-collared Hawk. In addition to birdlife, we'll keep an eye out for the elusive Broad-snouted Caiman that inhabits these wetlands.
- **Lunch** at La Chacra.
- In the **afternoon**, we'll return to **Rincón de Franquía**, visiting the scenic point where the **Uruguay and Cuareim Rivers** meet, marking the **Uruguay–Argentina–Brazil triple border** — a good spot to search for the **Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture**. We'll then enjoy an **evening hike** along an easy trail through the bush, where **Diademed Tanagers** and **Golden-billed Saltators** are frequently seen.
- **Dinner** at La Chacra.



*Riparian forest on the shores of the Uruguay river.*



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### Day 5: Espinal Forest & Northern Marshes

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- **Morning:** 30-minute drive to **Colonia Palma** and its surrounding areas. This region preserves one of the best remaining tracts of **Espinal forest**, home to several rare and localized species such as the **White-naped Xenopsaris** and **Pale-breasted Spinetail**, along with a rich community of birds characteristic of this unique habitat.
- **Lunch** at La Chacra.
- **Afternoon:** 30-minute drive to a nearby area of **marshes**, the only known site in Uruguay for the **Ash-throated Crake**, a secretive species rarely observed elsewhere. These wetlands are also an excellent place to find several Seedeater species, including the **Rusty-collared, Chestnut, and Dark-throated Seedeaters**.
- **Dinner** at La Chacra.



*Top: Red-rumped Caique and White-browed Meadowlark. Bottom: Greater Ani and Squirrel Cuckoo.*

Target birds from days 3 to 5: Black-collared Hawk, Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, Greater Ani, Smooth-billed Ani, Squirrel Cuckoo, Dark-billed Cuckoo, Barn Owl, Common Potoo Little Nightjar, Cream-backed Woodpecker, Checkered Woodpecker, Greater Thornbird, Large Elaenia, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, Fulvous-crowned Tody-Tyrant, Fuscous Flycatcher, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Short-crested Flycatcher, Rufous Casiornis, Diademed Tanager, Purple-throated Euphonia, Golden-rumped Euphonia, Grayish Saltator, Golden-billed Saltator, Yellow-billed Cardinal, Red-rumped Caciue, White-browed Meadowlark.

### **Day 6: Journey to the heart of Uruguay**

- **Breakfast** at the hotel and **check-out**.
- After breakfast, we'll take a 3-hour drive to **Valle del Lunarejo National Park**, located in the department of Rivera. This spectacular area features hills, ravines, basaltic grasslands, and marshes. We'll start by birding from a hide facing a marsh that hosts a **nesting colony of herons and storks**, and where **Yellow-chinned Spinetail** can also be observed.
- **Lunch** at **Posada Lunarejo**, a country lodge located a few meters from the hide,

surrounded by beautiful hill landscapes.

- After lunch, we'll enter the municipal sector of the National Park, exploring the forested areas in search of **woodland species**, including **Olivaceous Elaenia**.
- By **late afternoon**, we'll drive for about one hour to reach our next accommodation, located in the **Quebrada de Laureles** area, Department of Tacuarembó. This remote and scenic region, designated as an **Important Bird Area (IBA)**, features open basaltic grasslands intersected by deep ravines carved by streams and creeks. These gullies create a stable microclimate that shelters a lush subtropical ravine forest.
- After **check-in** and a short rest, we'll enjoy the **magnificent view** from the dining terrace overlooking one of the country's most pristine landscapes.
- **Dinner** with our warm and welcoming hosts.



*Ravine in "Bichadero" seen from above and from within.*

### **Days 7 and 8: Quebrada de Laureles — Hills, Ravines and Hidden Waterfalls**

Full days dedicated to birding in **Quebrada de Laureles**.

During these two days, we'll explore a variety of habitats, hiking down into ravines, walking along creek beds and visiting small waterfalls. These are home to the **Golden-winged Cacique**, **Fawn-breasted Tanager**, and **Olivaceous Elaenia**, among others.

The surrounding **highland grasslands** are an excellent area to search for **Wedge-tailed Grass-**



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**Finch, Long-tailed Reed-Finch**, and the charismatic **Red-legged Seriema**, whose loud, echoing calls can be heard across the hills at dawn. Other characteristic species include **Buff-necked Ibis, White-eyed Parakeet**, the striking **Blue-tufted Starthroat**, and the continent's largest bird, the **Greater Rhea**.

Nearby ponds and marshes host **Maguari Storks, Plumbeous Ibises**, and the elusive **Orange-breasted Thornbird**.

Evening and night walks may reveal nocturnal wildlife, including frogs, armadillos, and foxes. Night birds of interest include **Long-tufted Screech Owl**, the spectacular **Scissor-tailed Nightjar, Band-winged Nightjar**, and **Common Potoo**.

**All meals** at the accommodation.

Some special birds from days 6 to 8: Greater Rhea, Maguari Stork, Buff-Necked Ibis, Plumbeous Ibis, Crane Hawk, Red-Legged Seriema, White-Eyed Parakeet, Great Horned Owl, Tropical Screech-Owl, Long-Tufted Screech-Owl, Common Potoo, Scissor-Tailed Nightjar, Little Nightjar, Blue-Tufted Starthroat, Cliff Flycatcher, Crested Black-Tyrant, Olivaceous Elaenia, Green-Backed Becard, Orange-Breasted Thornbird, Short-Billed Canastero, Chestnut-Backed Tanager, Fawn-Breasted Tanager, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Chestnut Seedeater, Green-Winged Saltator, Great Pampa-Finch, Red-Crested Finch, Wedge-Tailed Grass Finch, Long-Tailed Reed Finch, Golden-Winged Cacique, Yellow-Rumped Marshbird.



Top: Bicolor Hawk and Crane Hawk. Bottom: Crested Black-Tyrant and Short-billed Canastero.



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### Day 9: From Bichadero to Quebrada de los Cuervos

- **Breakfast and check-out.**
- **6-hour drive to Quebrada de los Cuervos Protected Area**, with birding stops and a picnic snack along the way.  
Our destination lies in the heart of the eastern hill ranges, where patches of hill forest cover the slopes and the landscape combines **grasslands, marshes, and streams**. This area is also an **Important Bird Area (IBA)** due to the presence of vulnerable and near-threatened species such as **Straight-billed Reedhaunter, Black-and-white Monjita, and Saffron-cowled Blackbird**.
- **Check-in and lunch** at our accommodation for the night.  
This traditional cattle ranch has long welcomed visitors to the protected area. Our host, **Angélica**, is an exceptional cook known for her **homemade meals**, which are always a highlight of the stay.
- **Afternoon birding** around the property.  
Angélica's land is ideal for exploring **pastures and bushland**, where we may find **Mottled Piculet, Dusky-legged Guan, and Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper**. The property also features striking rock formations, where angled slabs of stone provide shelter for a variety of small creatures, from insects to reptiles.
- **Dinner and overnight** at the ranch.

### Day 10: Exploring Quebrada de los Cuervos

- **Breakfast** at the ranch.
- **Full day birding in Quebrada de los Cuervos and its surroundings.**  
This is one of Uruguay's **oldest protected areas**, where cattle have been absent for decades. As a result, former grasslands have regenerated into dense scrublands, providing habitat for species uncommon elsewhere, such as the **Lesser Grass-Finch and Red-winged Tinamou**.  
The area's main attraction is the dramatic **gorge** itself, where **wooded slopes** harbor species like **Gray-throated Warbling Finch and Green-winged Saltator**, along with the **three vulture species** that give the site its name.  
In these ravines grows the **Yerba Mate tree**, whose leaves are used to make the traditional tea-like drink consumed daily by nearly all Uruguayans.  
Along the surrounding country roads, bogs dominated by **Eryngium plants** (known locally as caraguatá) provide essential habitat for the **endangered species** that justify the creation of this **Important Bird Area**.
- **All meals and overnight** at the ranch.



*IBA – Quebrada de los Cuervos and surrounding areas.*

Some target birds for days 9 and 10: Red-Winged Tinamou, Dusky-Legged Guan, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Lesser Yellow-Headed Vulture, Squirrel Cuckoo, Scissor-Tailed Nightjar, Mottled Piculet, White-Eyed Parakeet, Sharp-Tailed Streamcreeper, Straight-Billed Reedhaunter, Black-And-White Monjita, Tropical Parula, White-Necked Thrush, Diademed Tanager, Chestnut Seedeater, Lesser Grass-Finch, Green-Winged Saltator, Saffron-Cowled Blackbird



*Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, White-eyed Parakeet, and Lesser Grass-Finch.*

### **Day 11: Wetlands & History at Fortín de San Miguel**

- **Breakfast and check-out.**
- We'll begin our journey heading east, driving about 3 hours to **Fortín de San Miguel National Park**. As we approach this region, the landscape transforms — the rolling hills give way to vast plains dotted with lagoons, marshes, and rice fields that host countless bird species. This area forms part of the **Eastern Wetlands Important Bird Area (IBA)**, the largest in Uruguay, home to endangered species and a key refuge for migratory shorebirds.
- **Check-in and lunch** at countryside hotel.

Our lodging, Hotel Fortín de San Miguel, was built in stone to evoke the style of the nearby 18th-century fort, blending history and nature in perfect harmony.

- **Afternoon visit to San Miguel National Park.**

Inside the protected area, we'll explore the **historic San Miguel Fort**, originally built by the Spanish in the 1700s to defend the frontier against Portuguese expansion. The park also preserves patches of native woodland, extensive marshes, and a herd of "**criollo**" **cattle**, descendants of the first European livestock introduced to South America. Birds to look for include the striking **Chestnut-backed Tanager** and various swallow species that gather near the fort and the open-air Gaucho Museum. We may also take a short drive to **Chuy**, the border town where Uruguay and Brazil meet seamlessly — crossing the street takes you from one country to the other.

- **Dinner and overnight** at the countryside hotel.



*Black-and-white Monjita (pohleyphoto.com) and Saffron-cowled Blackbird.*

## Day 12: Birding the Eastern Wetlands IBA

- **Full day birding in the Eastern Wetlands.**

Today we'll dedicate the entire day to exploring several birding sites within an hour's drive of our hotel. These wetlands provide a glimpse of what the Uruguayan lowlands looked like before rice farming reshaped the landscape. The **reedbeds** are home to rails, blackbirds, and numerous aquatic species. This area is crucial for several endangered species, such as the **Marsh Seedeater**, **Black-and-white Monjita**, and **Saffron-cowled Blackbird**. Among our top targets are the **Sulphur-bearded** and **Curve-billed Reedhaunters**, two Pampas endemics.

- The landscape here is particularly remarkable, dotted with groves of native **Butiá palms**, forming the characteristic *palmares* of southeastern Uruguay. Some local

families produce jam and liquor from the fruits of these palms, a distinctive cultural feature of the region.

- Driving along country roads often rewards birders with views of **Roseate Spoonbills**, **Savanna Hawks**, and **Cinereous** and **Long-winged Harriers** patrolling the fields.
- **All meals and overnight** at the country hotel.

Some special birds for days 11 and 12: Greater Rhea, Southern Screamer, White-Faced Whistling-Duck, Brazilian Teal, Silver Teal, Yellow-Billed Teal, Black-Necked Swan, Coscoroba Swan, Maguari Stork, Wood Stork, Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Stripe-Backed Bittern, Roseate Spoonbill, Bare-Faced Ibis, Plumbeous Ibis, White-Faced Ibis, Savanna Hawk, Cinereous Harrier, Long-Winged Harrier, Magnificent Frigatebird, Collared Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Large-Billed Tern, Limpkin, Gray-Cowled Wood-Rail, Plumbeous Rail, Red-And-White Crake, Rufous-Sided Crake, Spotted Rail, Spot-Flanked Gallinule, Many-Colored Rush Tyrant, Black-And-White Monjita, Blue-And-White Swallow, Brown-Chested Martin, Gray-Breasted Martin, Curve-Billed Reedhaunter, Straight-Billed Reedhaunter, Sulphur-Bearded Reedhaunter, Yellow-Chinned Spinetail, Chestnut-Backed Tanager, Marsh Seedeater, Rusty-Collared Seedeater, Saffron-Cowled Blackbird, Scarlet-Headed Blackbird, Yellow-Winged Blackbird.



*Top: Marsh Seedeater and Spotted Rail. Bottom: Rusty-collared Seedeater, Scarlet-headed Blackbird, and Plumbeous Rail.*

### **Day 13: Between forests and the Sea**

- **Breakfast and check-out.**
- We'll start our journey south, heading toward the Atlantic coast.



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- **Birding en route to La Paloma.**

Our first stop will be **Santa Teresa National Park**, a 3,000-hectare reserve protecting native and exotic woods, marshes, and ocean coastline. Here we may spot **Gray-cowled Wood Rails** and **White-throated Hummingbirds**, and it's also one of the best places to see **Capybaras** in Uruguay.

- Next, we'll stop at the seaside village of **Punta del Diablo** for lunch at a local restaurant. Once a quiet fishing village, it now attracts local tourism while retaining its rustic charm. A seaside walk here is a beautiful way to experience the **South Atlantic Ocean**.

- Afterwards, we'll continue driving about one hour to **La Paloma**, a coastal town with some of the most scenic beaches in the country.

- **Check-in** at a beach hotel.

- **Afternoon birding** along ocean shores.

These are excellent sites for marine species such as **Kelp and Brown-hooded Gulls**, **Neotropic Cormorants**, and the impressive **Great Grebe**, the world's largest grebe. The tide pools along the rocky shore attract migratory waders like **White-rumped Sandpipers**, **Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs**, and **American Golden-Plovers**.

- **Dinner** at La Paloma along the town's charming pedestrian street lined with small, cozy restaurants.

#### **Day 14: Lagoons & Coastal Birds**

- **Breakfast** at the beach hotel.

- Fifteen minutes from La Paloma lies the stunning **Laguna de Rocha Protected Area**, a vast brackish lagoon separated from the sea by a long sandbar and surrounded by grasslands and marshes. It's a haven for **Chilean Flamingos**, **Coots**, and **Black-necked and Coscoroba Swans**, often gathering in huge numbers. We'll explore the eastern shore and walk along the sandbar where the lagoon periodically opens to the ocean, creating a unique ecological exchange.

- Afterwards, we'll drive about an hour to **Laguna Garzón Protected Area**, which encompasses another coastal lagoon and one of the largest remnants of **psammophilous scrub**, an endangered plant community along the coast.

- **Lunch at La Balsa Restaurant**, run by Fernando, a local chef known for his seafood dishes prepared with ingredients freshly caught from the lagoon.

- **Afternoon birding around Laguna Garzón and José Ignacio Lagoon.**

We'll search for the **Wren-like Rushbird** and the colorful **Many-colored Rush Tyrant** among the reeds.

- **Dinner** at a local restaurant in La Paloma.



*Chilean Flamingos and other birds at Laguna de Rocha Protected Area.*

#### **Day 15: Estuaries and Ocean Shores of Maldonado**

- **Breakfast** at the beach hotel and **check-out**.
- We'll drive for about an hour and a half to **Laguna José Ignacio**, an excellent area for shorebirds and terns, including **Snowy-crowned**, **Yellow-billed**, and **Sandwich Terns**, as well as **Collared Plovers** and **Black-necked Stilts**.
- We continue next to **Esteros de Maldonado**, a vital estuary where migratory birds and waterfowl thrive along the Maldonado stream and coastal wetlands. The muddy banks are rich in crabs that attract **Ringed Kingfishers**, **Chiloe Wigeons**, and the elusive **Bay-capped Wren-Spinetail**, a Pampas endemic.
- Next, we'll continue across **Punta del Este Peninsula**, birding along ocean shores, rocky beaches, and small wetlands. Despite being a famous summer resort, the area remains surprisingly biodiverse. The rocky peninsula marks the meeting point between the **Río de la Plata** and the **Atlantic Ocean**, offering opportunities to see **Ruddy Turnstones** and **Semipalmated Plovers**, as well as **South American Sea Lions** lounging by the port.
- We'll then visit **Laguna del Diario**, a freshwater lagoon surrounded by marshy vegetation, to look for **Rufous-sided Crake** and **Scarlet-headed Blackbird**.
- **Farewell lunch at Punta Ballena**. Our final stop is Punta Ballena Peninsula, an iconic rocky outcrop overlooking the ocean. From here we can enjoy a **panoramic farewell to Uruguay's coast**. The site hosts unique coastal flora, including a cactus species found nowhere else on Earth.
- **Drop-off** at accommodation or Montevideo International Airport.

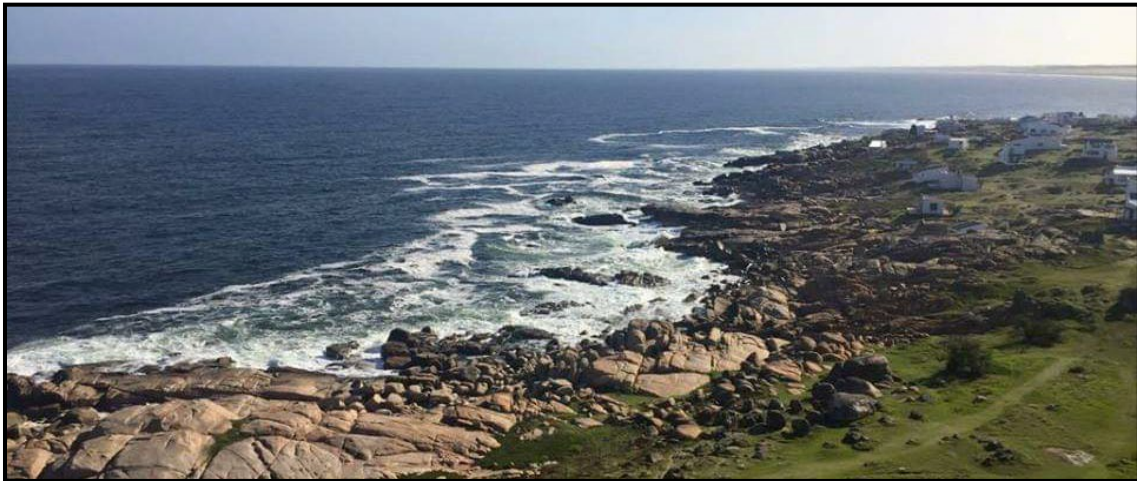
#### **End of tour.**

Target birds from days 13 to 15: Chilean Flamingo, Great Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Black-



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Necked Swan, Coscoroba Swan, Chiloe Wigeon, American Oystercatcher, Blackish Oystercatcher, Black-Necked Stilt, American Golden-Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Two-Banded Plover, Rufous-Chested Dotterel, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, White-Rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Buff-Breasted Sandpiper, Paraguay Snipe, Ruddy Turnstone, Gray-Cowled Wood-Rail, Rufous-Sided Crake, Red-Fronted Coot, Red-Gartered Coot, White-Winged Coot, Kelp Gull, Brown-Hooded Gull, Olrog's Gull, Black Skimmer, Common Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, South American Tern, Snowy-Crowned Tern, Yellow-Billed Tern, Ringed Kingfisher, White-Throated Hummingbird, Buff-Winged Cinclodes, Bay-Capped Wren-Spintail, Wren-Like Rushbird, Many-Colored Rush Tyrant, Scarlet-Headed Blackbird



*Rocky coasts of the Southwest Atlantic Ocean.*



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### **What to bring**

Bring comfortable clothing, waterproof footwear (if possible), insect repellent, and sunscreen. To reduce plastic waste, please bring your own reusable water bottle. Bottled water will be available throughout the tour for refills.

### **Tour Considerations**

Daily itineraries may be slightly adjusted during the tour due to weather conditions or at the guide's discretion to enhance the overall experience and maximize birding opportunities.

Bird lists are based on previous records; sightings of specific species cannot be guaranteed.

### **What's Included / What's Not Included**

All meals and accommodations mentioned in the itinerary are included. Not included: tips (except for restaurant staff), travel insurance, flight tickets, alcoholic beverages, tea/coffee and additional dishes.



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## Extensive Bird List

Anhinga, Amazon Kingfisher, American Golden-Plover, American Kestrel, American Oystercatcher, Aplomado Falcon, Ash-Colored Cuckoo, Austral Negrito, Baird's Sandpiper, Band-Winged Nightjar, Bare-Faced Ibis, Barn Owl, Bay-Capped Wren-Spinetail, Bicolored Hawk, Black-Chested Buzzard-Eagle, Black Skimmer, Black Vulture, Black-And-Rufous Warbling-Finch, Black-And-White Monjita, Black-Capped Warbling-Finch, Black-Crowned Monjita, Black-Crowned Night-Heron, Black-Necked Stilt, Black-Necked Swan, Blue-And-White Swallow, Blue-And-Yellow Tanager, Blue-Billed Black-Tyrant, Blue-Black Grassquit, Blue-Tufted Starthroat, Bran-Colored Flycatcher, Brazilian Teal, Brown Cacholote, Brown-And-Yellow Marshbird, Brown-Chested Martin, Brown-Crested Flycatcher, Brown-Hooded Gull, Buff-Breasted Sandpiper, Buff-Browed Foliage-Gleaner, Buff-Necked Ibis, Buff-Winged Cinclodes, Burrowing Owl, Campo Flicker, Cattle Egret, Cattle Tyrant, Chalk-Browed Mockingbird, Checkered Woodpecker, Chestnut-Backed Tanager, Chestnut-Capped Blackbird, Chilean Flamingo, Chiloe Wigeon, Chimango Caracara, Chivi Vireo, Copi Blackbird, Chotoy Spinetail, Cinereous Harrier, Cliff Flycatcher, Cocoli Heron, Collared Plover, Common Gallinule, Common Miner, Common Nighthawk, Common Potoo, Common Snipe, Common Tern, Correndera Pipit, Coscoroba Swan, Crane Hawk, Cream-Backed Woodpecker, Creamy-Bellied Thrush, Crested Black-Tyrant, Crested Caracara, Crested Doradito, Curve-Billed Reedhaunter, Dark-Billed Cuckoo, Dark-Throated Seedeater, Diademed Tanager, Double-Collared Seedeater, Dusky-Legged Guan, Eared Dove, Euler's Flycatcher, European Goldfinch, European Greenfinch, Fawn-Breasted Tanager, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Firewood-Gatherer, Fork-Tailed Flycatcher, Freckle-Breasted Thornbird, Fulvous-Crowned Scrub-Tyrant, Fuscous Flycatcher, Giant Wood-Rail, Gilded Hummingbird, Glaucous-Blue Grosbeak, Glittering-Bellied Emerald, Golden-Billed Saltator, Golden-Crowned Warbler, Golden-Winged Cacique, Grassland Sparrow, Grassland Yellow-Finch, Gray Monjita, Gray-Breasted Martin, Gray-Cowled Wood-Rail, Gray-Headed Gull, Grayish Baywing, Grayish Saltator, Great Black Hawk, Great Egret, Great Grebe, Great Horned Owl, Great Kiskadee, Great Pampa-Finch, Greater Ani, Greater Rhea, Greater Thornbird, Greater Yellowlegs, Green Kingfisher, Green-Backed Becard, Green-Barred Woodpecker, Green-Winged Saltator, Guira Cuckoo, Harris's Hawk, Hepatic Tanager, Highland Elaenia, Hooded Siskin, House Sparrow, House Wren, Hudsonian Godwit, Kelp Gull, Large Elaenia, Large-Billed Tern, Lark-Like Brushrunner, Lesser Grass-Finch, Lesser Yellow-Headed Vulture, Lesser Yellowlegs, Limpkin, Little Nightjar, Long-Tailed Reed Finch, Long-Tufted Screech-Owl, Long-Winged Harrier, Magnificent Frigatebird, Maguari Stork, Many-Colored Rush-Tyrant, Maroon-Bellied Parakeet, Marsh Seedeater, Masked Gnatcatcher, Monk Parakeet, Mottle-Cheeked Tyrannulet, Mottled Piculet, Nacunda Nighthawk, Narrow-Billed Woodcreeper, Neotropic Cormorant, Ochre-Faced Tody-Flycatcher, Olivaceous Elaenia, Osprey, Pearly-Vented Tody-Tyrant, Pectoral Sandpiper, Peregrine Falcon, Picazuro Pigeon, Picui Ground-Dove, Pied-Billed Grebe, Plumbeous Rail, Plush-Crested Jay, Purple-Throated Euphonia, Red-And-White Crake, Red-Crested Cardinal, Red-Crested Finch, Red-Fronted Coot, Red-Gartered Coot, Red-Legged Seriema, Red-Rumped Cacique, Red-Rumped Warbling-Finch, Red-Winged Tinamou, Ringed Kingfisher, Ringed Teal, Roadside Hawk, Rock Pigeon, Roseate Spoonbill, Rosy-Billed Pochard, Royal Tern, Ruddy Ground-Dove, Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Rufous Casiornis, Rufous Gnateater, Rufous Hornero, Rufous-Bellied Thrush, Rufous-Browed Peppershrike, Rufous-Capped Antshrike, Rufous-Collared Sparrow, Rufous-Sided Crake, Rusty-Collared Seedeater, Saffron Finch, Saffron-Cowled Blackbird, Sandwich Tern, Savanna Hawk, Sayaca Tanager, Scimitar-Billed Woodcreeper, Scissor-Tailed Nightjar, Screaming Cowbird, Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Sharp-Tailed Streamcreeper, Shiny Cowbird, Short-Billed Canastero, Short-Billed Pipit, Short-Crested Flycatcher, Silver Teal, Small-Billed Elaenia, Snail Kite, Snowy Egret, Snowy-Crowned Tern, Solitary Black Cacique, Sooty Tyrannulet, Sooty-Fronted Spinetail, South American Tern, Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet, Southern Lapwing, Southern Rough-Winged Swallow, Southern Screamer, Southern Yellowthroat, Spectacled Tyrant, Spix's Spinetail, Spot-Flanked Gallinule, Spot-Winged Pigeon, Spotted Nothura, Spotted Rail, Squirrel Cuckoo, Straight-Billed Reedhaunter, Streaked Flycatcher, Striated Heron, Stripe-Backed Bittern, Stripe-Crowned Spinetail, Striped Cuckoo, Suiriri Flycatcher, Sulphur-Bearded Reedhaunter, Surucua Trogon,



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Swainson's Flycatcher, Tawny-Headed Swallow, Tropical Kingbird, Tropical Parula, Tropical Screech-Owl, Tufted Tit-Spinetail, Turkey Vulture, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Upland Sandpiper, Variable Antshrike, Variable Oriole, Variegated Flycatcher, Vermilion Flycatcher, Warbling Doradito, Wattled Jacana, Wedge-Tailed Grass-Finch, Whistling Heron, White Monjita, White Woodpecker, White-Barred Piculet, White-Browed Meadowlark, White-Browed Warbler, White-Crested Tyrannulet, White-Eyed Parakeet, White-Faced Ibis, White-Faced Whistling-Duck, White-Fronted Woodpecker, White-Rumped Sandpiper, White-Rumped Swallow, White-Spotted Woodpecker, White-Tailed Hawk, White-Tailed Kite, White-Throated Hummingbird, White-Tipped Dove, White-Tufted Grebe, White-Winged Becard, White-Winged Coot, Wood Stork, Wren-Like Rushbird, Yellow-Billed Cardinal, Yellow-Billed Pintail, Yellow-Billed Teal, Yellow-Billed Tern, Yellow-Browed Tyrant, Yellow-Chinned Spinetail, Yellow-Headed Caracara, Yellow-Rumped Marshbird, Yellow-Winged Blackbird.