



From the Western Andes to Cali

7 days of endemic birds, cloud forests, wetlands, and culture
before the Bird Fair

This seven-day pre-tour takes us through some of the most remarkable birding landscapes of Colombia's Central and Western Andes, beginning in Pereira and continuing through the Otún Quimbaya area, the Tatamá region, Buga, and the wetlands of the Cauca Valley before arriving in Cali.

Along the way, we will explore a remarkable variety of ecosystems, from Andean cloud forests and high-elevation habitats to dry-valley wetlands, while searching for an exceptional diversity of Colombian birdlife. The journey offers opportunities to encounter some of the region's most sought-after and endemic species, including Cauca Guan, Multicolored Tanager, Crested Ant-tanager, Hooded Antpitta, Grayish Piculet, Apical Flycatcher, and Horned Screamer.

The forests around Montezuma and Tatamá will provide particularly rewarding birding, with colorful tanagers, antbirds, tapaculos, toucans, hummingbirds, and mixed-species flocks, complemented by excellent feeder photography opportunities. Beyond birding, the itinerary combines nature, landscapes, and local culture.

We will make scenic stops along mountain roads and rivers, experience the biodiversity of Buga Territorio de Aves and Laguna Sonso, and finish in Cali with a cultural city tour. This carefully paced journey offers a rich introduction to the region, combining outstanding birding with memorable experiences before the start of the Bird Fair.

Day	Activity	Overnight Stay	Altitude	
			feet	Meters
1	Arrival in Pereira.	Kumanday Lodge	5,482 ft	1,670 m
2	Morning birding around Otun Quimbaya area	Montezuma Lodge	5,741–7,467 ft	1,750–2,276 m
3	Full day birding at montezuma	Montezuma Lodge	4,429 ft	1,350 m
4	Full day birding at montezuma	Montezuma Lodge	1,350–2,600 m	4,429–8,530 ft
5	Birding at Ecohotel Hacienda el Diamante	Ecohotel Hacienda el Diamante	3,937 ft	1,200 m
6	Birding at Ecohotel Hacienda el Diamante and Laguna Sonso	Hotel Sonesta Cali	3,071 ft	936 m
7	City Tour in Cali	End of Services	3,264 ft	995 m
8	OPENING TO THE FAIR			

Detailed itinerary



Day 1. ARRIVAL IN PEREIRA AND BIRDING AT KUMANDAY LODGE

Upon arrival in Pereira, we will travel to La Florida, a charming rural village located just outside the city and surrounded by a remarkable diversity of birdlife. At Kumanday Lodge, we will have the opportunity to enjoy birding around the lodge and its tanager feeders, which regularly attract species such as Thick-billed Euphonia, Scrub Tanager, Golden Tanager, and several other colorful birds. The surrounding area also offers excellent opportunities to observe different species of swallows, flycatchers, and other birds that inhabit this rich Andean landscape, making for a relaxed and rewarding introduction to our birding adventure in Colombia.

Day 2. Birding around Otun Quimbaya area

Just a mere 15 kilometers away from the city of Pereira lies the breathtaking Otún Quimbaya Sanctuary, nestled amidst the picturesque western flank of the Central Mountain Range. Encompassing an impressive 90% of protected natural forests, in different states of succession, and mature forests. A privileged spot for birdwatching, boasting species accounting for 16% of all birds reported in Colombia.

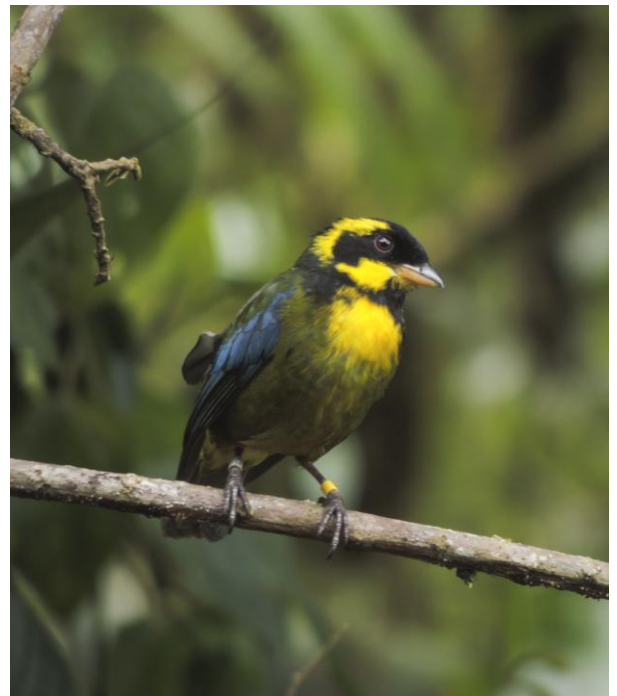
In the early morning, and no doubt with the distraction of the sound of the Howler Monkeys, we will take a walk along an open quiet road to connect with several sought-after birds including the elusive Hooded Antpitta and the endemics Cauca Guan, Multicolored Tanager and Crested Ant-tanager. Apart from those, there are other good species to be found: Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, Andean Motmot, Chestnut-breasted Wren, Moustached Antpitta, Golden-headed Quetzal, Collared Trogon, Wattled Guan, Rusty-winged Barbtail, Plumbeous-crowned Tyrannulet, Ashy-headed Tyrannulet, Black-billed peppershrike, Rufous-naped Greenlet.

Also, this place is well known for being the best site to see the mysterious Mountain Tapir. After lunch, we will drive to Montezuma Lodge. Along the way, we'll make strategic stops to admire the beauty of a nearby cascading river, where we might be fortunate enough to spot remarkable avian species such as the Torrent Tyrannulet, Torrent Duck, and White-capped Dipper, among others.

Day 3. Full day birding at montezuma

This day we will explore the lower section of the spectacular Tatamá Nature Reserve, one of the most biodiverse areas in Colombia's Western Andes. The morning will be spent walking quiet forest trails and visiting several birding spots around the reserve, including a small lagoon that attracts a variety of birds and other wildlife. Along the way, we'll enjoy the lush cloud forest while searching for colorful tanagers, antbirds, toucans, and many other species that inhabit these rich forests.

The reserve is also home to an excellent collection of hummingbird feeders, offering close views and wonderful photography opportunities. Here, species such as the Velvet-purple Coronet, Violet-tailed Sylph, Purple-bibbed Whitetip, Purple-throated Woodstar, Western Emerald, White-tailed Hillstar, Andean Emerald, and Greenish Puffleg regularly visit the feeders, creating one of the highlights of our stay in Tatamá.



Day 4. Full day birding at montezuma

After an early breakfast, we will travel by 4WD vehicle to the upper slopes of Tatamá National Park, where a scenic mountain road provides access to one of Colombia's finest high-Andean birding areas. From the highest point, we will gradually make our way downhill, stopping at scenic viewpoints and

strategically located observation towers that offer outstanding opportunities to appreciate both the spectacular landscapes and the remarkable birdlife of this unique ecosystem.

As we descend through different elevations, we'll search for many of the region's most sought-after birds while enjoying the ever-changing cloud forest scenery. This route offers excellent chances to observe a rich diversity of endemic and Chocó-region species, including colorful tanagers like Gold-reinged tanager (endemic and endangered), tapaculos, antbirds, flycatchers, and mixed feeding flocks, making for an unforgettable day immersed in one of Colombia's most pristine mountain forests.

Day 5. Birding at Ecohotel Hacienda el Diamante

After breakfast, we will travel to Buga, Valle del Cauca, located in the mid-lower section of the Central Andes and at the heart of Buga Territorio de Aves, an outstanding birding destination with more than 535 species recorded. The area offers excellent opportunities for both birdwatching and photography, with several species regularly visiting feeding stations, including the Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, Crested Bobwhite, Blue Ground Dove, Blue-necked Tanager, Crimson-backed Tanager, and many other species. We will explore the area at a relaxed pace, taking advantage of the feeders and surrounding habitats to enjoy close views of the local birdlife while discovering the remarkable diversity of this special region.



Day 6. Birding at Laguna Sonso

Just about 20 minutes from the city of Buga, Sonso Lagoon represents one of the few remaining wetlands of the dry Cauca Valley and an important refuge for a remarkable diversity of birdlife. During



our morning birding session, we will explore this unique ecosystem in search of species such as the endemic Grayish Piculet and Apical Flycatcher, Black-and-gold Oriole, Spectacled Parrotlet, Common Potoo, Jet Antbird, Bar-crested Antshrike, Comb Duck, Dwarf Cuckoo, and the only cis-Andean population of Horned Screammers in Colombia. After the birding activity, we will continue to Cali, where we will have the afternoon and evening to rest and prepare for the final day of the pre-tour.

Day 7. City Tour in Cali

On our final day of the pre-tour, we will explore the vibrant city of Cali, known as the world capital of salsa and one of Colombia's most culturally rich cities. We will visit some of its most emblematic landmarks while discovering the city's history, architecture, local traditions, and lively atmosphere. The tour will offer a different perspective on the region, combining cultural exploration with opportunities to experience Cali's unique identity before the start of the bird fair.

As you read through the itinerary, could you already picture yourself living this experience?



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**Reserve your spot with us at our special
World Birdfair**

**price per person: USD 3.950 doble room
Single supplement USD 530 n/a Montezuma**

Guaranteed departure with a minimum of 3 participants.

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Your World Birdfair experience is included — admission to the fair, access to the available day trips, and accommodation in Cali during the event. See below for everything included in your experience:

The price includes:

- Accommodation from September 24 to October 4, including your stay in Cali during the World Birdfair days.
- Meals from dinner on September 24 through lunch on September 30. During the World Birdfair, breakfast at the hotel is included.
- Private transportation throughout the pre-tour.
- Entrance fees and permits for all the sites visited during the tour.
- World Birdfair registration, including access to the day trips offered by the fair, with priority registration using our special code.
- Specialized birding guide throughout the pre-tour.
- Travel medical insurance in case of emergency, valid from September 24 to October 4.

The price does not include:

- International or domestic flights.
- Tips and gratuities.
- Lunches and dinners during the World Birdfair.
- Personal expenses or any expenses not specifically mentioned as included.
- Transportation between the hotel and the World Birdfair venue.