



Birds of the Central Colombian Andes

7 days journey through Colombia's richest birding landscapes

Join us on a seven-day pre-tour through some of the most rewarding birding destinations in the Colombian Andes, from the lush forests of Tinamú and Río Blanco to the high-altitude páramos of Nevado del Ruiz. Along the way, we will explore a remarkable variety of habitats and encounter an impressive diversity of Andean birds, including antpittas, tanagers, hummingbirds, mountain toucans, quetzals, and other highly sought-after species.

This journey combines some of the region's most productive birding experiences, including specialized feeding stations, hummingbird feeders, an active Golden-collared Manakin lek, and opportunities to search for endemic and range-restricted species. From the forests of the coffee region to the extreme elevations of the páramo, each destination offers a distinct birding experience and a chance to discover the extraordinary ecological diversity of Colombia's Central Andes.

Beyond birding, the itinerary offers an authentic introduction to the landscapes and culture of the region. We will immerse ourselves in Colombia's renowned coffee culture at Hacienda Venecia, explore the vibrant city of Cali, and enjoy the distinctive scenery of the Andean mountains. By the time we reach the bird fair, we will have experienced not only an exceptional selection of Colombian birds, but also the ecosystems, traditions, and people that make this region so special.

Day	Activity	Overnight Stay	Altitude	
			feet	Meters
1	Arrival in Pereira	Tinamu Lodge	3,937–4,265 ft	1,200–1,300 m
2	Full day Birding at Tinamu Reserve	Tinamu Lodge	3,937–4,265 ft	1,200–1,300 m
3	Full day birding at Rio Blanco	Recinto del Pensamiento	7,054–12,139 ft	2,150–3,700 m
4	Full day birding at Hacienda el Bosque	Recinto del Pensamiento	9,186–12,795 ft	2,800–3,900 m
5	Birding at Nevados & Termales del Ruiz	Recinto del Pensamiento	11,483 ft	3,500 m
6	Coffee Tour at Hacienda Venecia	Hotel Sonesta Cali	4,314–4,921 ft	1,315–1,500 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 Tinamú's Feeders

Upon arrival, we will have the opportunity to enjoy some birding at Tinamús tanager and hummingbird feeders. This is a great introduction to the incredible bird diversity of the region, with species such as Andean Motmot, Thick-billed Euphonia, Blue-necked Tanager, and Bay-headed Tanager commonly seen around the feeders.



This day will be dedicated to exploring Tinamú Reserve, a charming 12-hectare private reserve covered primarily by secondary forest and home to an impressive diversity of bird species.

Throughout the morning, we will visit different feeding stations at scheduled times, offering excellent opportunities for close views of species such as Jet Antbird, the endemic Parker's Antbird, Blue-lored Antbird, Bar-crested Antshrike, Great Antshrike, Moustached Puffbird, and Plain-brown Woodcreeper.

We will also have the chance to visit a Golden-collared Manakin lek, one of the highlights of the reserve and a great opportunity to observe this spectacular species displaying.

Time at the hummingbird feeders will provide opportunities to see species such as White-necked Jacobin, Steely-vented Hummingbird, Black-throated Mango, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, and White-vented Hummingbird, among many others.

Breakfast and lunch will be served at the reserve. In the afternoon, we can explore additional trails and bird along the open areas and access road, which can also be highly productive.

Day 3. Birding at Río Blanco Reserve

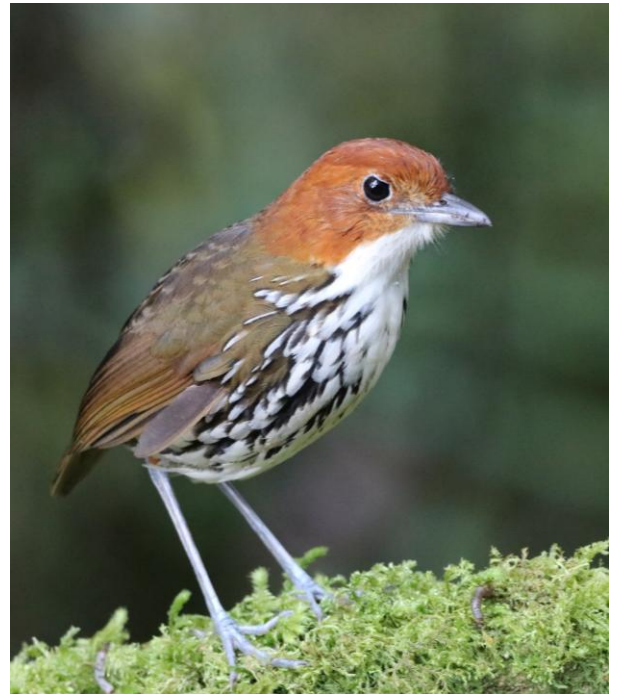
In the morning, we will head up to Río Blanco Reserve. Before entering the reserve, we will take advantage of the first hours of the day to bird along the road, looking for mixed-species flocks and species such as Superciliated Hemispingus, Black-capped Hemispingus, Chestnut-bellied Chat-Tyrant, and White-capped Dipper.

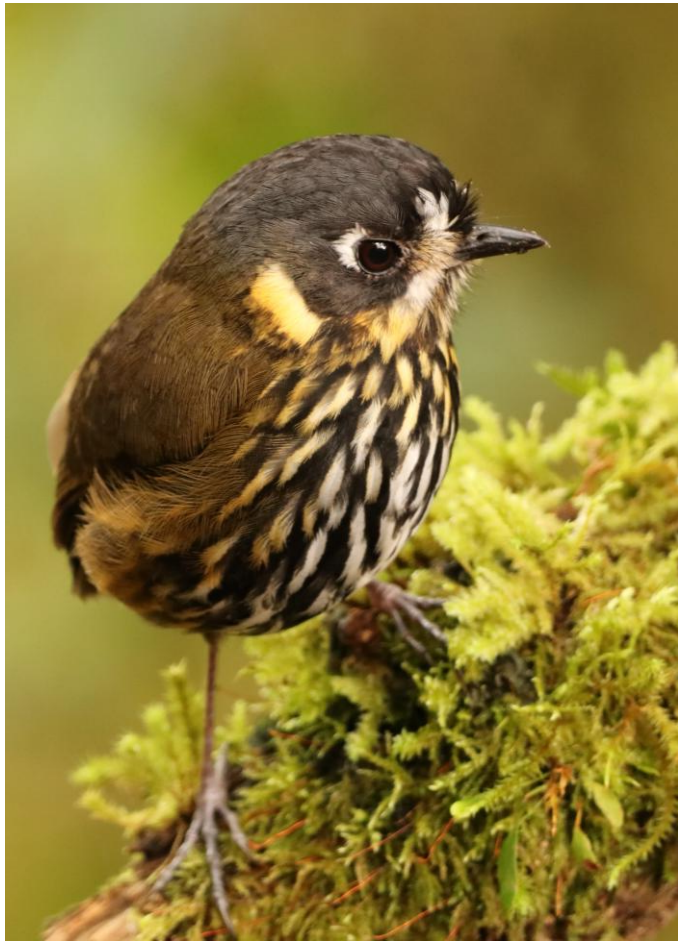
We will then continue to the reserve lodge, where we will have breakfast and enjoy the hummingbird feeders. Here, we can expect species such as Long-tailed Sylph, Speckled Hummingbird, Sparkling Violetear, and Fawn-breasted Brilliant, among many others.

Río Blanco is especially well known for its antpitta feeding stations. While birding inside the reserve, we will visit these sites for close views of species such as Chestnut-crowned Antpitta and the endemic Brown-banded Antpitta.

Throughout the day, we will also have opportunities to observe remarkable species such as Black-billed Mountain Toucan, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Golden-headed Quetzal, and high-Andean forest tanagers including Metallic-green Tanager, Grass-green Tanager, and Speckled Tanager, among many others.

After a full morning of birding, we will return to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, we can continue exploring the reserve and birding until approximately 4:00 PM.





Day 4. Birding at Hacienda El Bosque

After breakfast at approximately 6:40 AM, we will begin our birding session at Hacienda El Bosque. Our first stop will be the Crescent-faced Antpitta feeding station, which requires a 15-minute walk to reach. Since the viewing area is small, arriving on time is important to ensure a good opportunity to observe this species. If we are fortunate enough to see the antpitta before approximately 7:30 AM, we will continue to another feeding station in search of the Bicolored Antpitta.

We will then visit another feeding station where species such as Barred Fruiteater and Undulated Antpitta can be observed. Along the way, we will also have opportunities to observe several hummingbird species. Before lunch, we will visit the Slate-crowned Antpitta feeding station. In the afternoon, we will finish our birding session at another productive feeder area, where species such as Gray-breasted Mountain Toucan, Andean Guan, Blue-capped Tanager, and the beautiful Hooded Mountain Tanager are frequently seen, among many others.

Day 5. High-Altitude Birding: Nevado del Ruiz

This morning, we will head towards the high-altitude páramo ecosystem of Nevado del Ruiz, reaching elevations of up to approximately 13,450 feet (4,100 m). Due to the altitude and cold conditions, it is important to dress warmly in layers—at least three—including thermal pants, a waterproof jacket, gloves, a warm hat, and sunscreen. Along the way, we will make several birding stops to look for high-Andean species such as Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager, Black Flowerpiercer, Pale-naped Brushfinch, Tyrian Metaltail, and Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant, among others.

We will stop for breakfast at Laguna Negra, where we may also have the opportunity to observe species such as Andean Duck and Andean Teal. From there, we will continue higher into the páramo in search of the endemic Buffy Helmetcrest, one of the highlights of this unique high-altitude ecosystem. After spending the morning exploring the páramo and searching for high-altitude



species, we will head towards Termales del Ruiz, where we can enjoy the hummingbird feeders and explore the orchid trail, focusing on target species such as Tawny Antpitta, Crowned Chat-Tyrant, and Black-thighed Puffleg.

Day 6. Coffee Experience at Hacienda Venecia

We will then descend towards Hacienda Venecia. Since much of our journey through the region takes us through coffee-growing landscapes—and Colombian coffee is internationally recognized for its exceptional quality—we cannot miss the opportunity to experience the region's coffee culture firsthand. Our coffee experience will begin with a handcrafted cup of coffee and an introduction to the world of coffee in the cozy Coffee Lounge. Here, we will learn about the origin and history of coffee, its worldwide distribution, different coffee varieties and qualities, as well as coffee aromas and properties and the Coffee Cultural Landscape, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



After enjoying the perfect cup and recharging our energy, the interactive experience will continue with a walk through the coffee plantation, where we will learn about coffee cultivation and harvesting. After picking our own coffee cherries, we will visit the wet mill to learn about coffee processing and the stages involved before the beans reach the market.

We will then explore the roasting process, where science and art come together. The difference between a perfectly roasted coffee and an over- or under-roasted batch can be a matter of seconds. We will have the opportunity to see and taste coffee beans at different levels of roasting, experiencing how roasting brings out the aromas and flavors contained within the green beans. Whenever possible, we may also squeeze in some birding during the coffee experience.

After lunch, we will drive 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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price per person: USD 4.500 doble room

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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.