

COLOMBIA Magdalena Valley Birding

Include a 7-day **Santa Marta Extension** and save **\$1,000**



Chestnut-capped Piha! Our target for this tour is around 400-450 bird species

15 days / 14 nights

\$4,800

Per person in double occupancy
Single room is \$500 more

Best times to travel 2021-2022

Jan - March, June - Aug, Nov - March 2022

Valley of Magic Tour

This tour will take us on a magical journey along the Magdalena River and sections of the Eastern and Central branches of the Andes Cordillera seeking to find Colombia's most iconic bird specialties in beautiful nature locations such as the **American Bird Conservancy** co-funded Chestnut-capped Piha and Blue-billed Curassow reserves. The tour starts conveniently in Colombia's capital city of Bogota and ends in the beautiful city of Medellin

BIRDS OF INTEREST

All endemics Blue-billed Curassow, White-mantled Barbet, Beautiful Woodpecker, Velvet-fronted Euphonia, Antioquia Bristle-Tyrant, and

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- Accommodation in beautiful hotels and lodges
- Private land transportation - Van and 4x4
- All meals included
- Internal flights if needed
- 1 beer or a glass of wine with meals
- The convenience of paying with a Credit Card or PayPal at no extra cost
- Basic travel insurance
- \$100 donation to a local conservation initiative

NOT INCLUDED

- International flight
- Comprehensive Travel Insurance
- Personal expenses (International phone calls, tips, laundry)
- Other expenses no specify

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ITINERARY

DAY 1 - Arrival to Bogota International Airport

DAY 2 - Chingaza and Hummingbird Observatory

Located just 1.5 hours east from Bogota, **Chingaza National Park** includes areas of High Andean Forest and Paramo. Key bird specialties here include (E) Brown-Breasted Parakeet, (E) Green-bearded Helmetcrest.

Hummingbird Observatory is a private residence that welcomes up to 18 species of hummies including (NE) Blue-throated Starfrontlet, (NE) Coppery-bellied Puffleg, and Sword-billed Hummingbird

DAY 3 - Tabacal Lagoon and Enchanted Garden

Tabacal lagoon is a beautiful wetland located 1.5 hours west from Bogota. It is the go-to spot to find Black-bellied Wren, Ruddy Foliage-gleaner, and White-bearded Manakin.

Enchanted Garden is a private residence where 27 hummingbird species have been seen including (E) Indigo-capped Hummingbird, (NE) Red-billed and Short-tailed Emerald and Indigo-Topaz Hummingbird

DAY 4-5 - Blue-billed Curassow Reserve

Created with support from **ABC**, the **Paujil** reserve exists to support the habitat of the Endemic and endangered Blue-billed Curassow right at the heart of the Magdalena Valley. **Specialties:** (E) White-mantled Barbet, Colombian Chachalaca, (E) Sooty Ant-Tanager, and (E) Beautiful Woodpecker

DAY 6-8 - ½ day Paujil and Río Claro Reserve

Located in a humid tropical forest, Río Claro is recognized as a very productive hotspot where up to 150 species have been seen in a single day. This is the go-to spot to see Antioquia Bristle-Tyrant and the motionless Barred Puffbird. Other birds of interest include (NE) Yellow-browed Shrike-vireo, (NE) Scarlet-browed Tanager, (NE), Saffron-headed Parrot. Nearby there is an Oilbird colony that is always worth to go and check.

DAY 9 - Beautiful Medellin!

This day includes morning birding nearby to go after the newly re-discovered **Antioquia Brushfinch** and an (optional) city tour in the afternoon

DAY 10-12 - Chestnut-Capped Piha Reserve

Another **ABC** supported reserve, the Chestnut-capped Piha is a birding paradise thanks to its location right in the intersection between the Central Andes Cordillera and the Choco Bioregion. Specialties include: (E) Black-and-gold Tanager, (E) Chestnut Wood-quail, (E) Parker's Antbird, (NE) Scarlet-and-white Tanager, (NE) Purplish-mantled Tanager, (NE) Sooty-headed Wren

DAY 13-14 - Jardin, Antioquia

Jardin is a beautiful colonial town located 3 hours south from Medellin. Just in town, you will find the most amazing Cock-of-the-Rock Lek and just outside town, we'll find the **Yellow-eared Parrot Reserve**, dedicated to the preservation of the endemic and endangered species. Other birds of interest include (E) Turquoise Dacnis, Black-billed Mountain-Toucan, Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager, Speckle-faced Parrots, Masked Flowerpiercer, White-capped Tanager, (NE) Tanager Finch, Chestnut-crested Cotinga and the endemic Dusky Starfrontlet.

Day 15 - We drive back to Medellin and to the airport for your connecting flight in Bogota