



BIRDWATCHING & PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Northern Peru

The complete northern circuit in seventeen days — Tumbesian dry forest, the Marañón canyon and the cloud forest of Abra Patricia.

Photo © Carlos Calle

DURATION

17 days / 16 nights

ROUTE

Chiclayo to Cajamarca,
one way

DEPARTURE

Fly Lima–Chiclayo;
return

GROUP SIZE

2–6 travellers

FROM

\$7,100 per person

2 pax \$8,400 · 3–4 pax \$7,600 · 5+ pax \$7,100

Northern Peru is the densest concentration of range-restricted birds on the continent, and the reason is geography: in seventeen days you cross four biogeographic worlds that almost nowhere else sit this close together. The Tumbesian dry forest of the Pacific slope, the deep rain-shadow canyon of the Marañón, the humid east-slope cloud forest of Abra Patricia, and the Amazonian foothills around Moyobamba and Tarapoto. Each holds endemics found in that region and nowhere else on Earth, and this itinerary is built to take all four seriously rather than sampling one and calling it the north.

TARGET SPECIES

- **Marvelous Spatuletail**
- **White-winged Guan**
Marañón Crescentchest
Buff-bridled Inca-Finch
- **Royal Sunangel**
- **Rusty-tinged Antpitta**
- **Lulu's Tody-Tyrant**
Russet-mantled Softtail
Gray-bellied Comet
- **Koepcke's Hermit**
White-tailed Jay
Andean Cock-of-the-rock
- **Long-whiskered Owlet**
- **Peruvian Plantcutter**
Yellow-faced Parrotlet
Peruvian Pigeon
- **Ochre-fronted Antpitta**
Pale-billed Antpitta
Cinnamon Screech-Owl
- **Coppery Metaltail**
Purple-backed Sunbeam
Rufous-crested Coquette
- **Yellow-scarfed Tanager**
Spectacled Bear

• endemic to Peru

DAY BY DAY

Day 1 — Arrive Chiclayo

You are met at Chiclayo airport and settled into the hotel. If the flight lands early we bird the coastal wetlands of Puerto Eten for shorebirds, terns and the Peruvian Thick-knee.

Day 2 — Bosque de Pómac

A full day in the largest dry forest in the Pacific coastal belt, walking under thousand-year-old algarrobo between the Sicán pyramids. Peruvian Plantcutter and Rufous Flycatcher are the headline endemics, with Tumbes Swallow, Cinereous Finch and Necklaced Spinetail alongside them.

Day 3 — Chaparrí

Up to the community reserve above Chongoyape for the reintroduced White-winged Guan, plus White-tailed Jay, Tumbes Tyrant, Sulphur-throated Finch and the reserve's habituated Spectacled Bears. Night at the ecolodge inside the reserve.

Day 4 — Chaparrí to Jaén over Abra Porculla

A dawn session at Chaparrí, then the drive east over Abra Porculla — at 2,150 m the lowest pass in the Andes — birding the ravines for Piura Chat-Tyrant, Black-cowled Saltator and Chapman's Antshrike before descending into the Marañón drainage.

Day 5 — The Marañón at Jaén and Bellavista

A full day in the canyon scrub for its isolated endemics: Marañón Crescentchest, Yellow-faced Parrotlet, Buff-bridled Inca-Finch, Marañón Thrush, Little Inca-Finch and Chinchipe Spinetail, with Peruvian Pigeon along the river.

Day 6 — Jaén to Cocachimba & Gocta

East over the Utcubamba to the Gocta valley, birding roadside forest on the way. The afternoon is free for the Gocta waterfall trail — one of the tallest in the world — with Andean Cock-of-the-rock along the path.

Day 7 — Huembo & up to Abra Patricia

The morning at the Huembo reserve, where male Marvelous Spatuletails work the feeders and display in the scrub behind them. We then climb into the cloud forest and settle at the Owlet Lodge for four nights.

Day 8 — Abra Patricia

The Owlet Trail and the canopy tower for mixed flocks — Yellow-scarfed and Grass-green Tanagers, Bar-winged Wood-Wren, Rufous-vented Tapaculo. After dark we go out for the Long-whiskered Owlet.

Day 9 — Alto Nieva & Fundo Alto Nieva

The antpitta feeding stations for Ochre-fronted and Rusty-tinged Antpittas at close range, the Royal Sunangel lek, Lulu's Tody-Tyrant in the bamboo, and a night session for Cinnamon Screech-Owl.

Day 10 — Afluentes & Arena Blanca

We drop through the Afluentes forest for foothill mixed flocks, then spend the afternoon in the Arena Blanca hides, where Little and Cinereous Tinamous, quail-doves and Ochre-fronted Antpitta walk in to the feeders.

Day 11 — Waqanki, Moyobamba

Down to Waqanki for its hummingbird garden — Rufous-crested Coquette, Koepcke's Hermit, Golden-tailed Sapphire — the Masked Duck hide, and the Mishquiyacuillo ridge trail for foothill specialities.

Day 12 — Waqanki ridge & Morro de Calzada

A full day split between the Waqanki ridge at dawn and the isolated hill of Morro de Calzada, whose white-sand forest holds a distinct set of species including Mishana Tyrannulet and Zimmer's Antbird.

Day 13 — To Tarapoto & the Huallaga

East to Tarapoto, birding the Ricuricocha lake hide for waterbirds and marsh species and the dry Huallaga scrub for Huallaga Tanager and Northern Slaty-Antshrike.

Day 14 — Cordillera Escalera

A full day in the foothill forest above Tarapoto and at the ACONABIKH feeders — Dotted Tanager, Blue-rumped Manakin, Painted Manakin and the local hummingbirds — with an Oilbird colony in the afternoon.

Day 15 — West to Leymebamba

The long, scenic drive back west up the Utcubamba, stopping for Marañón specialities and the Pale-billed Antpitta trail before reaching Leymebamba in the evening.

Day 16 — Abra Barro Negro & the Atuen road

High temperate forest and elfin woodland at 3,600 m for Russet-mantled Softtail, Coppery Metaltail, Golden-plumed Parakeet and Neblina Tapaculo, then down toward Balsas.

Day 17 — Balsas, Marañón & Cajamarca

A dawn start in the Balsas canyon for Gray-winged Inca-Finch, Yellow-faced Parrotlet and Peruvian Pigeon, then the climb to Cajamarca — with a search for the Gray-bellied Comet and Great Spinetail if time allows — and the afternoon flight to Lima.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- 16 nights accommodation, including the Owlet Lodge and Chaparrí Ecolodge
- All meals from breakfast on Day 2 to breakfast on Day 17
- Specialised bird guide throughout, plus local reserve guides
- Private vehicle and driver for the whole circuit
- All reserve and park entrance fees, and the feeder-station contributions
- Airport transfers in Chiclayo and Cajamarca
- Our downloadable eBird checklist for every site on the route

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Single supplement (\$890) if you want a room to yourself
- Alcoholic drinks and meals off the set menu
- Travel insurance, personal expenses and tips

Ready to book, or want it tailored?

wildandestours.com/northern-peru/ · sales@wildandestours.com

Photo © Carlos Calle