



Portland Audubon General Ecotour Information

What is included? Unless otherwise stated in the “Trip Packet” you receive after registering for a program, the following is included in the cost of the tour: all land transportation as noted in the itinerary; all accommodations for the dates of the program; all park fees and cost of activities except those on “Free Days”, All meals except dinners; the educational and guide services of the trip leaders and local experts. Trip costs are based on double occupancy. The availability of a single occupancy rate will vary from trip to trip. When requested and available, the additional cost is approximately 50% of the lodging cost/night. In some cases a “forced single occupancy” will be necessary due to circumstances beyond our control. If this is the case the additional cost will be approximately 25% of the lodging cost/night. The trip cost does not typically include the following: airfare, phone calls, items of a personal nature, snacks, alcoholic beverages, passport and visa fees, immunizations, laundry, and trip insurance. All fees are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of itinerary publication and are subject to adjustment in the event of any changes in these tariffs or rates of exchange.

Type of travel Vans or small buses are most often used for Portland Audubon tours unless otherwise specified in the tour itinerary.

The pace and style of our tours The primary goal of our trips is to experience and learn about the natural world, especially the area’s birds and other wildlife, and of course, to have fun! As birding is often a primary focus of our tours, and birds are active in the morning, we will often have early morning outings before breakfast. The pace of most of our trips is moderate which encourages anyone in good health to attend and enjoy the experience. Each trip itinerary will provide detailed information on the amount of walking and the specific physical requirements. Some lodging will be more basic than others, but our accommodations on our trips are always safe and comfortable. We strive to keep our trip as affordable as possible and lodging is often the single largest expense of any trip; we look for value without sacrificing comfort or safety. We also strive to immerse participants in the local culture, and we find that staying in large chain hotels is counter to this goal.

Equipment to bring What should you bring? Binoculars! The personal fit and feel of your own binoculars is important for your enjoyment and comfort level. Please bring a pair in good working order to get the most out of the experience. The Portland Audubon Nature Store (503-292-9453) offers a wide variety of optics and field guides for our trips and most destinations around the world. Members receive discounts on the purchase of optics from the Nature Store. Other items to bring include the basics for travel: good walking shoes, clothes for all types of weather, and a personal water bottle. Bringing your own spotting scope is optional. Because space is often limited in the vans, please contact trip coordinator before hand if you plan to bring your own scope.

Each trip packet will include a complete equipment list, and most trips have a “pre-trip meeting” to discuss equipment and the itinerary to better prepare you for the experience.

Who to contact with questions Each trip packet will contain specific information on the itinerary and tour details. Unless otherwise stated in the trip information, Portland Audubon’s Adult Education Coordinator, Erin Law, will be available to answer questions and inquiries on local and international tours. Erin can be reached at 503-292-6855x119 or elaw@audubonportland.org. In the event the Adult Education Coordinator is not available, contact Dan van den Broek, Ecotour Manager, with your questions: dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org