

2020-2021

Pacific Northwest | Domestic | International

Ecotours



Travel with Portland Audubon to spectacular wild places throughout the Pacific Northwest and the world.



Orange-flanked Bush-robin, photo by Imran Shah.

Portland Audubon is dedicated to socially and environmentally responsible tourism.

Our top priority is to support local guides and locally-owned accommodations and businesses. We strive to highlight and invest in conservation initiatives in the places we visit. These trips not only highlight the amazing diversity of birds and wildlife, but local and global conservation issues as well.

By choosing to travel with Portland Audubon, you are supporting critical conservation work in Oregon. Your dollars help protect imperiled species such as Marbled Murrelet and Sage-Grouse. You also support our work to create green, sustainable, equitable, and resilient urban landscapes in the face of climate change.

We are happy to announce we will be introducing a carbon offset program for all trip flights. Please check our website for further details.

Our Philosophy

We strive to create a positive, non-competitive group dynamic that helps everyone feel welcome, comfortable, and engaged throughout the trip. This environment lends itself to the formation of lifelong friendships and deep connection with the natural world. The pace of our trips is suitable for avid birders and the novice alike. We model best practices in the field and always interact with nature in a respectful manner.

All of our ecotours are designed to keep you safe, curious, and inspired. We want every participant to experience the joy of discovery, the power of a strong conservation ethic, and a true sense of belonging in the Portland Audubon community.

About Ecotours

NEW! Early Bird Pricing

We are excited to introduce new, exceptional trip discounts for ecotours! Register early to receive the lowest price, guaranteed, for any of our 2021 trips! Deadlines vary per trip.

Early Bird Sale Deadlines

- Pacific Northwest ecotours: Sign up 3 months or more before the trip to receive Early Bird pricing
- International and domestic ecotours: Sign up 8 months or more before the trip to receive Early Bird pricing

Fees Include:

- Ground transportation
- Double-occupancy lodging
- Breakfasts, lunches, and snacks
- Entrance fees for planned activities
- Services of expert local guides and Portland Audubon leaders

Airfare is not included.

Deposits

A deposit is required to secure your place on a trip.

Tax-Deductible Trip

10% of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to Portland Audubon and supports our mission to inspire all people to love and protect birds, wildlife, and the natural environment upon which life depends.

Pacific Northwest

Klamath Basin

March 26-29, 2021

Early bird! \$895 members / \$995 non-members
Regular: \$1,095 members / \$1,195 non-members

Explore the Klamath Basin, home to six National Wildlife Refuges and one of the most important wetland ecosystems in Western North America. We will visit Upper and Lower Klamath Lake and Tule Lake N.W.R., and explore the meadows, forests, and grasslands. We'll see the spectacular spring migration of Snow, Ross's, and White-fronted Geese, along with a great diversity of waterfowl and raptors, including Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle, and Prairie Falcon.

Leaders: Candace Larson and Mary Coolidge

Birding Oregon: Desert to Ocean

June 6-12, 2021

Early bird! \$1,595 members / \$1,795 non-members
Regular: \$1,795 members / \$1,995 non-members

Explore all that Oregon has to offer, from Great Basin and high desert to pine and oak woodlands. Visit the coast to see breeding seabird colonies of Common Murre, Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorant, Black Oystercatcher, and Pigeon Guillemot. Our species count may reach more than 170 with other bird highlights such as White-headed Woodpecker, Green-tailed Towhee, and Marbled Murrelet.

Leader: Dan van den Broek

Malheur Foray

June 2021

Early bird! \$1,095 members / \$1,295 non-members
Regular: \$1,295 members / \$1,495 non-members

Join us to enjoy Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, located in remote and beautiful southeastern Oregon. Malheur is a world-class birders' paradise. We will search for Golden Eagles, Black-necked Stilts, White-faced Ibis, Burrowing Owl, and Prairie Falcons as well as mammals such as pronghorn.

Leaders: Candace Larson and Tara Lemezis



Overlooking Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Ice Age Floods

September 12-18, 2021

Early bird! \$1,895 members / \$2,095 non-members
Regular: \$2,095 members / \$2,395 non-members

Travel the path of the great Ice Age Floods from Missoula to Portland on this popular geology, birding, and wildlife tour. Our journey begins in western Montana, where a great lake once covered 3,000 square miles of land, before bursting through a massive ice dam and carving many of the geologic wonders we marvel at today. From the giant ripples of Camas Prairie to the astonishing channeled scablands of eastern Washington, the dizzying Grand Coulee and the awesome Columbia River Gorge, this tour keeps you in the flow throughout.

Leaders: Candace Larson and Mary Coolidge

Steens Mountain and Alvord Desert

October 2021

Early bird! \$1,195 members / \$ 1,395 non-members
Regular: \$1,395 members / \$ 1,595 non-members

Steens Mountain is one of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas. Rising to almost 10,000 feet high in the southeast corner of the state it presides over alkali desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur Basin. From our base in historic Frenchglen we may find Mountain Bluebird, American Pipit, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, and even bighorn sheep on the high peaks of the mountain.

Leaders: To be determined

Domestic

Arizona

January 6-10, 2021

Early bird! \$1,295 members / \$1,495 non-members
Regular: \$1,595 members / \$1,795 non-members

Escape from the cold, wet Portland winter and come with us to warm, sunny Arizona. We will search for Mountain Plover, Crested Caracara, Violet-crowned Hummingbird, and Chestnut-collared and McCown's Longspurs. A highlight of any winter Arizona trip is a visit to the Thrasher spot, where there is a chance for five species of thrashers including LeConte's, Crissal, and Bendire's. Birds abound in Arizona!

Leaders: Stefan Schlick and Randy Hill

Florida

March 25 - April 1, 2021

Early bird! \$2,295 members / \$2,595 non-members
Regular: \$2,595 members / \$2,895 non-members

Escape to sunny Florida! Search for pine specialists such as Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebird, Brown-headed Nuthatch and, with luck, Bachman's Sparrow and Whooping Crane. We'll look for the endemic Florida Scrub-Jay, visit Everglades National Park, venture out into the Lower Keys, see shorebirds at Marco Island and scour the local parks in South Florida for newly arriving migrants.

Leader: Stefan Schlick

Texas: Birding the Coastal Bend

April 12-20, 2021

Early bird! \$2,795 members / \$3,095 non-members
Regular: \$3,195 members / \$3,595 non-members

Each year, migratory songbirds reach the Texas Gulf Coast from the shores of Mexico and Central America. We'll likely see Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Dickcissel, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Wood Thrush, and over 20 species of warblers. We'll also search for specialties like Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Green Jay, Tropical Parula, and Audubon's Oriole.

Leader: Dan van den Broek

Springtime in Cape May

May 8-14, 2021

Early bird! \$2,295 members / \$2,595 non-members
Regular: \$2,595 members / \$2,895 non-members

Experience spring migration in a world-famous birding hotspot, home of the World Series of Birding. On this trip, we will look for more than 20 species of brilliantly colored wood-warblers, observing the incredible shorebird migration, and searching for seabirds along the Atlantic coast, all within 40 miles of the picturesque Mid-Atlantic town of Cape May. A highlight will be the spectacle of shorebirds feeding on horseshoe crab eggs as they journey north.

Leaders: Brodie Cass Talbott and Erin Law

New England

June 10-20, 2021

Early bird! \$2,795 members / \$3,095 non-members
Regular: \$3,095 members / \$3,395 non-members

Bird the ruggedly beautiful northern Atlantic coast region where our adventure begins looking for Bicknell's Thrush on Mt. Washington. Wood warblers are always a delight and we will see many such as Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Bay-breasted, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Prairie, and Canada. In the coniferous forests of Maine we will search for Boreal Chickadee and the elusive Spruce Grouse. Highlights include the rocky beaches and craggy coastline of Acadia National Park and a trip out of Bar Harbor to see whales and Atlantic Puffin.

Leaders: Stefan Schlick and Don Cogswell



Atlantic Puffin in New England, photo by Fyn Kynd.

International

Panama: The Great Transamerican Raptor Migration

October 15-22, 2020

Regular: \$2,995 members / \$3,295 non-members

Visit the emerald green rainforest in one of the biologically richest tropical regions on the planet! We will bird world famous Ancon Hill, located at the Pacific gateway to the Panama Canal, to view the massive raptor migration. Up to 20 species may be spotted with the majority being Turkey Vulture, Mississippi Kite, Broad-winged and Swainson's Hawk. We will also have plenty of time for other hotspots throughout Panama, including a stay at Gamboa Rainforest Resort and the birding mecca of Pipeline Road, home to five species of trogon.

Leaders: Erin Law and local guides

Colombia: Cauca Valley and Amazonian Piedmont

November 2-19, 2020

Regular: \$5,795 members / \$6,095 non-members

Discover the allure of enchanting Andean cloud forests and lush lowland rainforests. Colombia is a must-visit for any bird lover, containing almost 20% of the world's species in just 1% of the landmass with more bird species (1,950) than any other country in the world. Bird highlights include the stunningly beautiful Multicolored Tanager and Toucan Barbet, and the strange, prehistoric-appearing Hoatzin.

Amazonia Pre-trip Extension

October 26 - November 2, 2020

Regular: \$2,695 members / \$2,995 non-members

Join us for a pre-trip extension to explore the Amazon basin, including a lek visit to see the outrageously bright Guianan Cock-of-the-rock.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides



Red-legged Honeycreeper in Panama, photo by Andy Morffew.

Madagascar

November 2-16, 2020

Regular: \$6,495 members / \$6,795 non-members

Join Portland Audubon on a trip of a lifetime to Madagascar: land of lemurs, chameleons, and many odd endemic birds! We will visit the strange Didierea woodland, or "spiny forest", an awe-inspiring botanical wonderland. We will search for the elusive Brown Mesite with its strange dueting call in Ranomafana National Park and spend time observing the Perinet Reserve's most famous residents: the huge, singing lemurs known as the Indri. Finally, with some luck, we will find the majestic Madagascar Serpent Eagle, one of the rarest raptors in the world.

Leaders: Stefan Schlick and local guides

Belize

January 10-17, 2021

Early bird! \$3,595 members / \$3,995 non-members

Regular: \$4,095 members / \$4,595 non-members

On this exceptional tour, we will bird the impressive ancient Maya city of Caracol, cruise down the bird-rich New River, and visit a mix of tropical and pine forest in western Belize. We will team up with local experts to see some of the amazing 540+ species of birds found in Belize such as Tody Motmot, Roseate Spoonbill, American Pygmy Kingfisher, and the spectacular Scarlet Macaw.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek, Brodie Cass Talbott, and local guides

International



Orangutan in Borneo, photo by Louise Goggin.

Borneo

February 1-15, 2021

Early bird! \$7,495 members / \$8,295 non-members
Regular: \$8,095 members / \$8,995 non-members

Explore the world's third largest island and its unique habitats! We'll search for Whitehead's Trogon, Gray-throated Minivet, and Indigo Flycatcher on the flanks of the highest peak in Southeast Asia, Mt. Kinabalu. You will not forget the impressive canopy walk at the Rainforest Discovery Center, where in addition to incredible birds, Proboscis Monkeys and Bornean Pygmy Elephants await. During our stay at the Borneo Rainforest Lodge, we will have the opportunity to see the legendary Orangutan among a multitude of avian denizens.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides

Ghana: Rainforest to Savanna

February 8-23, 2021

Early bird! \$4,595 members / \$5,095 non-members
Regular: \$5,095 members / \$5,695 non-members

On this exciting trip to West Africa, we will travel with local guides and learn about Ghana's wildlife, culture, and history. We will cover habitats from grassland savanna to rainforest searching for the 760 bird species of Ghana. One of our first stops is the world-famous canopy walk of Kakum National Park. The ultimate birding highlight will be the hike up to the nest site of the White-necked Rockfowl, a prehistoric looking endemic bird of the Upper Guinea forests.

Leaders: Stefan Schlick and Erin Law

Mexico: San Blas, Nayarit

March 10-17, 2021

Early bird! \$2,395 members / \$2,695 non-members
Regular: \$2,795 members / \$3,095 non-members

San Blas is a charming coastal fishing area in Western Mexico, with sensational cuisine and spectacular birding. We will have the opportunity to enjoy viewing up to 30 Mexican endemics. The feature birds on an evening cruise through the pristine mangrove forests are Boat-billed Heron, Northern Potoo, and Bare-throated Tiger-Heron. A boat ride to Elephant Rock should yield nice looks at Brown and Blue-footed Booby with a good chance of spotting Red-billed Tropicbird.

Leaders: Stefan Schlick and local guides

Japan: Honshu and Hokkaido

May 17-29, 2021

Early bird! \$6,995 members / \$7,695 non-members
Regular: \$7,695 members / \$8,495 non-members

Japan has exquisite natural landscapes ranging from subtropical to Siberian taiga-like wilds that boasts 23 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, of which we will visit three. Japan's bird list has over 700 species with 16 endemics. Our tour will begin in Tokyo, where the mountains are blanketed with dense forests of oak, beech, and maple. We will search for the endemic Japanese Accentor on Mt. Fuji, Japan's most revered and sacred attraction, and travel to the northernmost island of Hokkaido, a volcanic landscape filled with crystal-blue caldera lakes and hot springs.

Japan: Ryukyu Pre-trip Extension

May 11-17, 2021

Early bird! \$3,395 members / \$3,795 non-members
Regular: \$3,795 members / \$4,195 non-members

The Ryukyu Islands are a sub-tropical chain of islands. We will visit the two largest islands in the chain, Okinawa and Amami, where we will search for much sought-after endemics as well as migrating birds and local specialties.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and Kirk Hardie



Versicolored Barbet in Peru, photo by Joao Quental.

Southern Germany & the Northern Alps

May 21 - June 4, 2021

Early bird! \$4,095 members / \$4,595 non-members

Regular: \$4,695 members / \$5,195 non-members

Join Stefan through Southern Germany and Northern Austria. We will begin with birding wetlands for the specialty birds of Baden-Wuerttemberg, where Stefan spent his childhood. We will visit the stunning Lake Constance and visit Lindau for a "Stadtbummel" and then the Rhine Delta, one of the most significant birding areas in Central Europe. In the Alps we will attempt to see the cliff-dwelling Wallcreeper and enjoy gondola rides (weather permitting) to look for Rock Ptarmigan, Alpine Chough, and Alpine Accentor. A guaranteed delight will be birding at one of Germany's famous sites, the Neuschwanstein Castle.

Leader: Stefan Schlick

British Columbia

August 17-22, 2021

Early bird! \$1,595 members / \$1,795 non-members

Regular: \$1,895 members / \$2,095 non-members

Join us on this late summer trip to search for passerine and shorebird migrants from coastal wetlands to the north Cascade Mountains. At Boundary Bay, migration of shorebirds will be in full swing. Red Knot, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper and Stilt Sandpiper are all possible. At Manning Provincial Park we will look for Boreal Chickadee, Three-toed Woodpecker, Pine Grosbeak, and Spruce Grouse. On top of fantastic migration birding, we will spend time in the picturesque Vancouver, BC.

Leader: Stefan Schlick

Peru: Manú Biosphere Reserve

September 12-22, 2021

Early bird! \$4,295 members / \$4,795 non-members

Regular: \$4,995 members / \$5,695 non-members

Explore the biodiversity of the Manú Biosphere Reserve on the east slope of the Andes. In the awe-inspiring cloud forest, we will search for dazzling birds such as Golden-headed Quetzal, Highland Motmot, and the Versicolored Barbet. Andean foothills give way to Amazonian lowland rainforest where species such as Red-bellied Macaws and Paradise Tanager can be spotted.

Leader: Dan van den Broek

China: Yunnan Province

October 12-27, 2021

Early bird! \$4,695 members / \$5,195 non-members

Regular: \$5,295 members / \$5,995 non-members

The beautiful Yunnan province has astonishing scenery and fascinating ancient culture. We'll spend time in the bird-rich forests and valleys of Nabang and around Mt. Gaoligong, walk the trails that were once part of the Southern Silk Road, look for Giant Laughingthrush in Shangri-La, and stop at the Songzanlin Tibetan Monastery.

Leader: Stefan Schlick

Kenya

October 14-29, 2021

Early bird! \$6,995 members / \$7,695 non-members

Regular: \$7,695 members / \$8,495 non-members

Kenya is renowned for its remarkable diversity of landscapes, animals, and cultures - boasting over 1,100 species of birds, all of Africa's "Big 5" mammals, large herds of grazing herbivores, plus fascinating history, friendly people, and delicious food. Our trip coincides with the migration of many birds to and from Asia and Europe, and many resident species will be sporting fancy breeding plumage, so we are likely to experience an unparalleled array of avifauna.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and Candace Larson

Brodie Cass Talbott

Brodie is an educator at Portland Audubon. After many years of wildland firefighting and leading river tours, he spent six years teaching across Asia. He has birded five continents and loves to share his enthusiasm for the outdoors with people from all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, focusing on increasing access to wild spaces for people from diverse communities.



Kirk Hardie

Kirk has led ecotours for 15 years, domestically and internationally, focusing on birds, but also geology and other topics. He is an adjunct faculty at Sierra Nevada University and has studied Lewis's Woodpeckers in Central Oregon, Gunnison Sage-Grouse in Colorado, and breeding birds in Oregon, California, and Nevada. He enjoys connecting people to the wonders of nature.



Candace Larson

Candace is an avid birder, mycology geek, and native plant enthusiast, with a passion for the diverse ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest. Candace leads domestic and international ecotours, focusing on bird biology and habitat preservation. She also works as a Field Biologist in Portland Audubon's Conservation program.



Mary Coolidge

Mary has worked with Portland Audubon's Conservation Team since 2008, and currently coordinates bird hazard campaigns: Bird Safe, Lights Out, and Get the Lead Out. These campaigns raise awareness about important threats to bird survivorship, from urban areas to wild landscapes. Mary also works for the Oregon Zoo's California Condor propagation program.



Dan van den Broek

Dan has over 15 years of experience leading international trips for Portland Audubon. With prior experiences at Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Redwood Sciences Lab, Klamath Bird Observatory, Costa Rica Bird Observatory, and Avifauna Northwest, Dan brings immense enthusiasm and passion for birds and natural history.



Stefan Schlick

Stefan is a birding expert and has birded Europe and North America extensively. After living in Wisconsin, Florida, California, and Washington, Stefan settled in Oregon where he served as a member of the Oregon Bird Records Committee. Stefan is enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge and love of birds.



Erin Law

Erin fell in love with birding while working at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and conducting years of avian fieldwork. She is passionate about advocating for environmental and social justice. She has traveled throughout Central and South America and loves nothing more than sharing her enthusiasm for the natural world, and for all cultures around the world.



Tara Lemezis

Tara is an avid birder, wildlife photographer, and native plant enthusiast - with a passion for all that is wild in the Pacific Northwest! She loves sharing her bird knowledge with people from all backgrounds, ages, and abilities - working to inspire them to protect the wild spaces and species in Oregon and beyond.

