



Skagit Valley Birding

Tentative Itinerary
February 26-28, 2021
Leader: Stefan Schlick

This is a self-catering trip. You are responsible for booking and paying for your own lodging, meals, transportation, and any park entrance fees.

February 21st

Meet at our departure location in Portland, Oregon at **7:00 a.m.** Group introductions. We'll bird our way north with possible stops at Langus Riverfront Park near Everett, Tulalip Bay and the east shore of Port Susan Bay, seeking a variety of songbirds and waterbirds. The stops will depend on what is being seen. After sunset we will split up, take care of our food needs and check into the hotels that we booked for ourselves.

February 22nd

We'll set early for Samish Flats, where we'll seek out a variety of winter raptors, including the elusive Gyrfalcon, Northern Shrike and Short-eared Owl. Today, we'll also visit Samish Island and Padilla Bay, looking for a variety of winter waterfowl including Red-necked Grebe and Long-tailed Duck. Prepare for lunch in the cars. In the afternoon we will be birding a variety of forested uplands and shorelines at Washington Park, Bowman Bay and Deception Pass before returning to our respective home bases.

February 23rd

After breakfast, we set our course for more Skagit Flats, including the productive Fir Island Road units, where large flocks of Trumpeter Swans and Snow Geese are possible. We will also pay the Skagit Wildlife Area a visit; this is always one of the best stops of the trip. On the way back we will be stopping at the spectacular Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge en route for more shorebirds, forest birds aiming to arrive back in Portland no later than **6:00 p.m.**

