



Dominican Republic

January 15-24, 2023

Tentative Itinerary

Day 0: Santo Domingo

We arrive in Santa Domingo, possibly late in the day.

Day 1: Puerto Escondido

Morning pick up in Santo Domingo to see the Hispaniolan Parakeet at a site in the Colonial Zone of the city, then leave the city and begin making our way west to the birding lodge with a brief stop in the town of Azua for lunch on route, then continue and look for Hispaniolan Palm Crow (localized endemic) along the shores of Lake Enriquillo as we drive west to Puerto Escondido and the Villa Barrancoli Birding Lodge (in the village of Puerto Escondido) and the nearby Rabo de Gato Trail for afternoon birding, followed by some night birding, after which we spend the night at the lodge.

Day 2: Zapoten Cloudforest

Early start and drive up to Zapoten Cloudforest for early AM birding, then drive back down to the mountain for lunch, then free time to rest after checking into a small comfortable hotel in the nearby town of Duverge, followed by late afternoon and night birding in the area of Puerto Escondido, then spend the night at the hotel in Duverge.

Day 3: Puerto Escondido

Today is another day and night in the area of Puerto Escondido. Activities for this day will depend on the species seen and still missing. We will bird at the top sites in the area and go after any species we might have missed previously. Night birding in the early evening again and staying at the hotel in Duverge one final night.

Day 4: Lake Enriquillo, Cachote birding site

Early AM birding at Loma Charco Azul nature trail, then look for the Hispaniolan Palm Crow at a nearby site off the shores of Lake Enriquillo (if necessary), followed by lunch on the road on the way to the Cachote birding site for afternoon birding and searching for the elusive Eastern Chat Tanager, then spend the night at the lodge there.

Day 5: Santo Domingo

Early morning birding around the lodge, followed by lunch on the road back to Santo Domingo,

where we arrive at around 5 PM to check you in and drop you off for the night at your prearranged comfortable hotel in the heart of the Colonial Zone of Santo Domingo, followed by free time to explore the area and have dinner at the restaurant of your choice.

Day 6: Paraiso Cano Hondo

Pick up and depart from your hotel to drive 3 hours to Los Haitises National Park. Once we arrive, we enjoy a private boat ride through the mangroves and around the shores and small islands of the park in search of West Indian Whistling Duck and other shore/sea birds, followed by a typical Dominican lunch at the eco-lodge where we will spend the night, which is called Paraiso Cano Hondo. After lunch, you have free time to rest or bird and enjoy the property on your own before we go looking for the Ashy Faced Owl at around 6 PM.

Day 7: Sabana de la Mar

Breakfast at the lodge followed by morning birding and looking for the Ridgeways Hawk and other species nearby, after which we have lunch in the village of Sabana de la Mar, then look for shorebirds nearby and drive back to Santo Domingo in the afternoon where we will stay in the Colonial Zone.

Day 8: Santo Domingo

We will spend the day exploring the Ciudad Colonial, the oldest continuously inhabited European-established settlement in the Americas. The area has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The Spaniards used this settlement as the first point of influence in the Americas, from which they conquered other Caribbean islands and much of the mainland of the Americas. We will tour the area and visit Casa Colon, Fortaleza Ozama, and the Basilica Cathedral Santa Maria La Menor. Tonight is our final night in the Ciudad Colonial.

Day 9

We fly home in the morning.