



**ALUMNI
TRAVEL**



RESPLENDENT QUETZAL

COSTA RICA

Introduction to Neotropical Birding

March 21–28, 2022



AMERICAN PYGMY KINGFISHER

WHY COSTA RICA BIRDING? Birding in Costa Rica is an extraordinary experience; with more than 900 species recorded, the country offers great birding opportunities within relatively short distances, with diverse habitats across protected areas. Costa Rica's commitment to sustainability provides habitat for native and migrant birds alike.

If you've always wanted to go birding in Costa Rica – or never taken a birding trip abroad at all – this program is a great introduction to the neotropical birds of Central America. You'll spend time in the Caribbean lowlands and the mountainous southern highlands, seeking out species typical of the differing elevations and habitats. Our local birding guides are experts at identification by both sight and sound, and they'll help ensure your group spots as many of the country's 900-plus species as possible. Plus, you'll discover wildlife like frogs, monkeys, bats, and sloths. Combine that with its accessibility and friendly people, and Costa Rica is a perfect destination for beginners and more advanced birders alike.



MONTEZUMA OROPENDOLA



BIRDERS IN COSTA RICA

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Take guided hikes in the private, 500-acre rainforest reserve at Selva Verde Lodge, which provides habitat to more than 350 bird species, including the endangered Great Green Macaw.
- Ascend the 328-foot suspended walkway at Tirimbina Biological Reserve for the chance to see species that spend their time high within the forest canopy layer.
- Visit Nectar & Pollen Reserve, where some interesting possibilities include the Snowcap, Long-tailed Tyrant, and White Hawk.
- Search for the Resplendent Quetzal, Slaty Flowerpiercer, Ruddy Treerunner, and other high-elevation species in the cloud forests of the Talamanca Mountains.



SLATY FLOWERPIERCER

ACTIVITY LEVEL: EASY-MODERATE

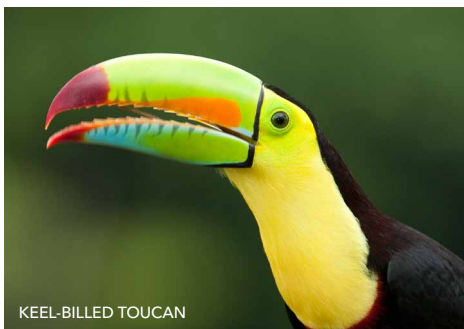
Participants should be able to walk at least 2-3 hours over some uneven and potential slippery surfaces without difficulty and should be able to ascend or descend 50 stairs consecutively. Physical activities typically last for at least 2-3 hours at a time.

MARCH 21 - SAN JOSÉ

Upon arrival in San José, you will be met and taken to the hotel. Check-in begins at 3 pm. Elevation is 3,100 feet. *Overnight at Hotel Bougainvillea.*

MARCH 22 - SARAPIQUÍ

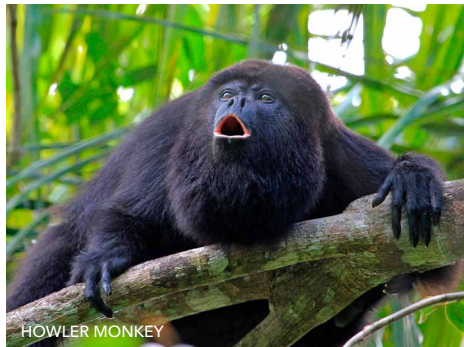
This morning, meet for breakfast and an orientation in the hotel restaurant, followed by an introduction to tropical birding from a local expert. Check out of the hotel and travel by bus to La Paz Waterfall Gardens, where you will have lunch and then visit the hummingbird gardens and butterfly farm. Continue on, stopping en route at a café in Cinchona known for its many hummingbird feeders. This afternoon, arrive to Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve and take a hike in the reserve with your guide. Selva Verde's reserve protects 500 acres of rainforest, and the lodge offers many covered walks, birding trails, and lookout points, with opportunities to see species such as the Keel-billed Toucan, Great Green Macaw, White-winged Becard, Sunbittern, Acadian Flycatcher, and Wood Thrush. Boots are available for use if the trails are muddy. Take an optional walk this evening to discover nocturnal frogs and insects. Elevation change: From 3,000 feet above sea level in San José to approximately 225 feet in Sarapiquí, with the highest point visited today at 6,200 feet at La Paz Waterfall Gardens. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge.* (BLD)



MARCH 23 - SARAPIQUÍ

Begin the day with early morning birding. After breakfast, set out to explore the reserve again on a different trail. Selva Verde's reserve is home to one of the largest almond trees in all of Central America, which provides habitat for the endangered Great Green Macaw. This afternoon, explore Tirimbina Biological Reserve on a guided hike. The trails at Tirimbina are designed to afford excellent opportunities for viewing rainforest

biodiversity. As a large proportion of life in the rainforest thrives in the canopy layer, visitors can experience the richness of treetop flora and fauna from a 328-foot suspended canopy walkway spanning one of the many stream valleys in the reserve. After dinner at Tirimbina, enjoy an informative talk on the lives of bats. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge.* (BLD)



MARCH 24 - SARAPIQUÍ

Depart early this morning for the Organization for Tropical Studies La Selva Biological Station. Established in 1968, La Selva is world-renowned for scientific research on rainforest ecosystems. Be on the lookout for the Ornate Hawk-Eagle, Crested Guan, Great Tinamou, Pied Puffbird, and Spectacled Owl as possible sightings. Return to the lodge for lunch. Your afternoon is free to participate in optional activities such as a boat ride on the Sarapiquí River, whitewater rafting or horseback riding (arranged at reception upon arrival and paid on-site), spending time by the pool, or looking for avian visitors in Selva Verde's botanical garden area. Later this afternoon, enjoy a guided birding hike, or take in the river views from the patio overlooking the Sarapiquí River. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge.* (BLD)

MARCH 25 - SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

Early this morning, check out of the lodge and depart for San Gerardo de Dota. En route, stop at Nectar & Pollen Reserve,



where some interesting possibilities include the Snowcap, Long-tailed Tyrant, Cinnamon Woodpecker, White Hawk, and others. Have lunch en route, and then check in at Trogon Lodge. Located in San Gerardo de Dota, a small community in the Talamanca Mountains at about 7,220 feet, the forest surrounding the hotel is home to massive oaks, colorful plants, and an incredible variety of animal life: birds, insects, mammals, and amphibians. The famous valley is a paradise for birdwatchers, with more than 170 species recorded here. The crown jewel is the magnificent Resplendent Quetzal, which lives in the region year round. *Overnight at Trogon Lodge. (BLD)*

MARCH 26 - SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

Spend the morning exploring the upper trails at Savegre Reserve in search of Resplendent Quetzal and some of the other species present here. (Note: The beginning of the trail is about a one-mile uphill climb.) The large centennial oaks of the forest are laden with lichens and mosses that contrast with the colorful bromeliads, adding to the



CLOUD FOREST LANDSCAPE

striking atmosphere of this forest. Explore the trails in search of such specialties as Spotted Wood-Quail, Costa Rican Pygmy-Owl, Resplendent Quetzal, Collared Trogon, Buffy Tuftedcheek, Ruddy Treerunner, Ochraceous Pewee, Barred Becard, Wrenthrush, and Golden-browed Chlorophonia, just to name a few. After lunch, journey to Cerro Buena Vista in Los Quetzales National Park to look for Volcano Junco, among other high-elevation (10,400 feet) species. Dinner is at the lodge this evening. *Overnight at Trogon Lodge. (BLD)*

MARCH 27 - SAN JOSÉ

After some early morning birding around the lodge, have breakfast and begin the return trip to San José. En route, stop at Paraíso



YELLOW-THIGGED BRUSHFINCH

del Quetzal for lunch. Upon arrival at the hotel, check in and take some time to freshen up and relax. Attend a farewell dinner this evening. *Overnight at Buena Vista Chic Hotel. (BLD)*

MARCH 28 - DEPART

Transfer to the airport in time to catch your afternoon flight home. Check-out is at 12 pm. (B)



PRICING: \$2,625 per person

Based on 10 participants. Single supplement is \$330.

Price includes:

- 7 nights' accommodations
- 19 meals – 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 6 dinners
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Private vehicle transportation
- Full-time guide for duration of the program
- All tips and gratuities
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- Departure tax

Price does not include: international airfare, trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff, drinks purchased on own, items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended (offered through the Alumni Association of University of Michigan).



MICHIGAN ALUMNI TRAVEL | RESERVATION FORM

Introduction to Neotropical Birding | March 21–28, 2022

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person/people on the tour listed below. I/ we understand the final payment is due no later than December 16, 2021 (95 days before departure). Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: Holbrook Travel, 3540 NW 13th Street, Gainesville FL, 32609. For questions, please contact the Alumni Association at alumnitravel@umich.edu or 855-764-0064 or contact Holbrook Travel at travel@holbrooktravel.com or 800-451-7111.

Full Passport Name _____ DOB _____ Gender _____

E-mail _____ Class Year _____

Full Passport Name _____ DOB _____ Gender _____

E-mail _____ Class Year _____

Badge Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Ph. (_____) _____ Cell Ph. (_____) _____

Please book my/our air from _____. I/we request an air upgrade to _____.

I will share a room with _____.

I request a single room (limited availability).

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due no later than December 16, 2021 (check or credit card).

ASSOCIATION'S DISCLAIMER

The Association is not the Tour Operator. The Association is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car-rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The Association acts only as an independent contractor and not as a principal, agent or joint venture for the airline, hotel, car-rental company, cruise line and/or tour operator named in brochure. As a result, the Association is not responsible for their acts or omissions. The Association acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond its control. The Association shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel and tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person's health, actions or general department impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.

Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all of the conditions set forth above.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price international airfare from your departure city; costs of passports; personal expenses such as beverages; laundry; room service; and meals not specified; communications charges; and trip cancellation insurance. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

International Air Transportation Estimated airfare: **\$789 round-trip, Detroit to San José, Costa Rica**. Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2 1/2 months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of our operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Cancellations, Changes and Refunds If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$0 charge; Cancel 95-0 days before departure: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Health and Medical Issues We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a no smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Required Information Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit ea.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue. **A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.**

Responsibility The liability of Alumni Association of the University of Michigan (AAUM) as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism; war, strikes; the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and AIC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.



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