




MEXICO BIRDING TOURS

2023

DECEMBER 11TH – 15TH, 2023 

[Open Birding Tour]; **TRES MARIAS ISLAND** from Mazatlan
'Mexico's newest birding destination' – For more than 30 years Isla Maria Madre was a federal prison off limits to casual visitors; only now can one see the Tres Marias Hummingbird, and nearly 20 other unique subspecies – several of which will surely be listed as full species in the near future. This is a short trip – Dec 12th–14th on the island, with Mazatlan arrival on the 11th, and an *OPTIONAL* mainland birding day on the 15th [More than 15 Mexican endemic birds occur near Mazatlan]. Riding the ferry from the mainland to the island and back is the only major inconvenience, though many will welcome it as opportunity to look for interesting pelagic birds that are sure to be seen...

Tour Style [A – Easy Birding w/comfortable accommodations & pace]
Price/Itinerary available upon request



Tres Marias Amazon




Tres Marias Wren



Tres Marias

2024

NOVEMBER 9th – 23rd, 2024 

[Open Birding Tour]; **SOUTHEAST CHIAPAS** – Rainforest trails, riverine edge, multiple habitats, Lacandon River and wild tributaries, Mayan archaeology – a bit remote! Total Species - 400.

World-class birding amid vast tracks of intact forest for Slaty-breasted Tinamou, Great Curassow, Spotted Wood-Quail, Agami Heron, Ruddy Crane, Central American Pygmy-Owl, Mexican Antthrush, Scaly-throated Leaf Tosser, Ruddy Woodcreeper, Rufous-breasted Spinetail, Speckled Mourner, Lovely Cotinga, and Northern Nightingale-Wren.

[Tour Style C- Birding all day, every day]

Price/Itinerary available 12-months before departure



Gartered Trogon

Central American Pygmy-Owl

Golden-hooded Tanager

DECEMBER 4th – 14th, 2024**



[Heritage-Style Birding Tour] YUCATAN, MEXICO

Quality birding, sunny days, regional cuisine, Mayan archeological sites, and Cozumel Island for key birds that include Ocellated Turkey, Black-throated Bobwhite, Rufous-necked and Russet-naped wood-rails, Yucatan Poorwill, Yucatan Nightjar, Mexican Sheartail, Cozumel Emerald, Gray-collared Becard, Cozumel and Yucatan vireos, Gray-throated Chat, Rose-throated Tanager, and Orange Oriole.

Tour Style [A – Heritage-Style Touring - a comfortable & relaxed pace]

Price/Itinerary available 12-months before departure

**** SEVERAL MEXICO TOURS ARE 'REQUIRED' IN ORDER TO SEE ALL OF THE MAINLAND ENDEMIC BIRDS OF THE COUNTRY**

<https://legacy-tours.com/mexico-birding-tours/>



Rose-throated Tanager

Yucatan Vireo

Yucatan Gnatcatcher

2025

JANUARY 5th – 15th, 2025



[Heritage-Style Birding Tour] MONARCHS OF MEXICO – *The winter gathering of monarchs in the fir forests of Mexico's Central Volcanic Belt Mountains... Morelos, Guadalajara, and Guanajuato.*

A relaxed pace, colonial Mexico's splendor, and birding as recreation.

[Tour Style A - Birding daily - with the monarch butterflies, colonial cities, and tourist activities filling each day of exploration and wonder]

Price/Itinerary available 12-months before departure



Monarchs (close up)



Red Warbler



Monarchs (filling the forest)

MARCH 13th – 27th, 2025



[Open Birding Tour] OAXACA* - *Endemics of the Southern Highlands***, *Isthmus of Tehuantepec*, & *Sierra Los Tuxtlas*, *Vera Cruz*
More than fifty of Mexico's endemics occur in Oaxaca's 'Southern Highlands.' This route encompasses one the major stand-alone regions that every birder interested in seeing the key species of Mexico must visit. At least 15 of Mexico's endemic birds are found only here...

[Tour Style C- intense, birding all day, every day]

Price/Itinerary available 12-months before departure

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Rose-bellied Bunting



Sumichrast's Wren



Slaty Vireo

Style and Structure of Tour Planning:

[1] **OPEN BIRDING TOURS** - are offered primarily in Mexico, our 'patch' for the past thirty years. Participation is ***open*** to anyone on a first-come-first-serve basis. Tours in this style repeat a daily pattern of searching-out key target species, and are best characterized as a ***'birding as the primary-focus'*** experience.

[2] **HERITAGE-STYLE BIRDING TOURS*** - are conducted in countries with a 'manageable' bird-list, a variety of equally interesting experiences, a comfortable infrastructure, and relaxed accommodations. *Within Mexico only the 'Yucatan Tour' affords both the infrastructure and a 'targetable' bird-list to support a successful birding tour using the Heritage-Style format.*

[3] **FAR AWAY BIRDING TOURS** - offered in countries outside of North America with 'targetable' lists of birds, local guides for language service, unique birding, enjoyable meals, comfortable infrastructure and accommodations. *Michael always accompanies these tours, serving as the second guide.*

[4] **CUSTOM TOURS** - Approximately one-in-five of our departures are with small groups, couples, and individuals that have contacted Legacy Tours directly with a list of their target birds, a destination idea, or a special desire. *These trips require commitment and planning well in advance to lock-in optimum dates.*



Fishing 'pangas' on the north coast of Yucatan State

****Heritage-Style tours are 'birding tours' that focus on a more relaxed pace, upscale accommodations, more regular and higher quality meals, seeing some specialty birds during the tour, and while doing so, exploring the broad landscapes, unique peoples, and rich cultures that serve as context for our birding destinations.***

MEXICO TOURS 'ON HOLD' (DUE TO VIOLENCE OR LACK OF ACCESS):

APRIL 2024 - APRIL 2025

[Open Birding Tour]; *Finest Birding Route in North America*

CENTRAL MEXICO - 450 SPECIES - 60 MEXICAN ENDEMICS** 

Route includes: [1] West Mexican Pacific slope, [2] Sierra Madre del Sur de Guerrero, [3] Balsas River drainage, and [4] Transvolcanic Belt in less than 300 miles of travel. Every day of this trip has specific targets that are rare and local... this is a 'BIRDER'S ROUTE'.

[Tour Style C- Birding all day, every day]

JUNE 2023 - JUNE 2024 - JUNE 2025

[Open Birding Tour]; *Untamed Landscapes & Limitless Canyons*

NORTHERN MEXICO'S SUMMER ENDEMICS** 

This 'Must-Do' route targets a swath of Mexico's birds known more from myth than from birder's life-lists (half a dozen have been recorded by no other birding company); *Thicket Tinamou, Montezuma Quail, Thick-billed and Maroon-fronted parrots, Yellow-headed and Red-crowned amazons, Eared Quetzal, Flammulated Owl, Tamaulipas Pygmy-Owl, Tawny-collared Nightjar, Gray-collared Becard, Colima Warbler, Altamira Yellowthroat, Crimson-collared Grosbeak, and Worthen's Sparrow*. Route includes a morning mini-pelagic in the Sea of Cortez for *Craveri's Murrelet*. Begins in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon and ends in Hermosillo, Sonora.

[Tour Style C- Birding all day, every day]

JANUARY 2024 – JANUARY 2024

[Open Birding Tour]; BAJA SUR & NW MEXICO** 

'Mexico's most magical and enchanting region' - More than 30 endemic birds occur in NW Mexico. This 'stand-alone' destination is essential for birders who target the full basket of Mexican endemics. The route visits both Southern Baja California Sur and the Mexican States of Jalisco, Nayarit, and Sinaloa.

Tour Style [B – Birding daily w/ accommodations & pace comfortable]

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ALL OF THE MAINLAND ENDEMIC BIRDS OF THE COUNTRY**

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THE LAND OF THE HORNED GUAN - 200 TOTAL SPECIES 

MEXICO'S EL TRIUNFO BIOSPHERE RESERVE

IN-AND-OUT From Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas