



Ecuador Itinerary and Trip Details

Trip Details

No. of Travelers: 5 + 1 Trip Leader

Dates: February 15-23, 2017

Cost: \$2950 ea

Single supplement: \$300

Includes

- Accommodation and meals
- Internal domestic flight – Quito -> Santa Rosa/Loja -> Quito
- Transfers
- Private bilingual bird guide
- Private ground transportation
- Park fees

of bird species expected: 280-300

Habitats visited: Dry forest, ponds, Choco, Montane forest and Paramo forest

Altitudes: From 300 meters (900 ft) up to 3,300 meters (10,000 ft)

Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrival to Quito, transfer to Puenbo Birding Garden or similar. Normally flights arrive at night to Quito, the bed and breakfast is located just 17km from the new airport - Mariscal Airport, check in and overnight.

Day 2 - Early departure by plane to Santa Rosa, 06:00 am then birding in Dry forest (Arenillas National Park) a 13,000 hectare protected area where we will have the chance to see some tumbesian endemic birds such as: **White-tailed Jay**, **Collared Antshrike**, **Peruvian Pigmy Owl**, and others later then drive few minutes to La Tembladera pond to see some other bird like **Purple Gallinule**, **Woodstork**, **Horned Screamer**, **Masked Water Tyrant**, **Peruvian Meadowlark** and others, lunch or box lunch and then drive – birding to Buenaventura Reserve, arrival and first contact with hummingbird feeders. Check in and then time to update the bird list, dinner and overnight

Day 3 - Full day birding at Umbrella Lodge, choco-tumbesian forest, overnight at Umbrella lodge. We will focus to walk a super nice trail looking for the iconic **Umbrellabird**. There is a lek where we have a good chance to understand more about the ecology and behavior of this endangered bird. After this we will enjoy a good local breakfast and all the active fruit and hummingbird feeders, there are nice fruit trees around the main building just from here we can easily admire about 30 different species. Once bird activity slows down, we will have the chance to bird the main entrance to the reserve. Lunch at the reserve, some time to relax or siesta. In the early afternoon around 14:00 again ready to visit the upper area of the reserve trying to get **Scaled Fruiteater**, **Song Wren**, **Broad-billed Motmot**, **Scaly-crested Pigmy Tyrant**, **Club-winged Manakin** and others. Return for dinner and overnight.



Umbrellabird

Day 4 - Full day birding at Buenaventura, looking for **El Oro Parakeet** and **Song Wren**, **Chestnut-mandible Toucan** and others. We will visit the last property of the reserve, here we will learn about the conservation project of this endemic parakeet that was almost extinguished a few years ago, and after a lot of hard work by the foundation artificial nest boxes have been successful. Other birds to admire are **Gray-backed Hawk**, **Choco Toucan**, **Barred Becard**, **Velvet-purple Coronet**, lots of hummingbird feeders to enjoy around this area too. At the end of the day return for dinner and overnight

Day 5 - Drive- birding to Tapichala Reserve where we will enjoy our time with **Jocotoco Antpitta**, **Golden-plumbed Parakeet**, **White Capped Tanager**, **Gray-breasted Mountain**. Today the driving time is about 270 km we will cross to the eastern slopes of the Andes where it will be a different habitat, we will start from 1000m (3,300 feet) we will finish at 2,400m (7,200 feet) it is an upper montane forest. Here a few years ago a new antpitta was discovered then a foundation decided to preserve this area and its birds. During the trip we will enjoy: **Grey-cheeked Parakeet**, **Southern-beardless Tyrannulet**, **Tumbes Sparrow**, **Elegant Crescent Chest**, **Fasciated Wren**, **Amazilia Hummingbird**, and many others, lunch or box lunch will be provided. Arrival to the reserve and overnight.



Jocotoco Antpitta

Day 6 - At Tapichala Reserve where we will enjoy our time with **Jocotoco Antpitta**, the local guards of reserve feed this amazing Antpitta, every morning around 08:00 am, group will congregate in a hide and observe this very unique bird. Another possible Antpitta is the **Chesnut-naped Antpitta**, the trail is not difficult and worth it. Other nice birds might be: **Golden-plumbed Parakeet**, **White-capped Tanager**, **Gray-breasted Mountain**, **Turquoise Jay**, **Black-throated Tory Tyrant**, **Grass-green Tanager**, **Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager** and others. Lunch will be at the reserve. In the afternoon we will try one of the trails searching other birds like: **Chusquea Tapaculo**, **Golden-crowned Tanager**, **Undulated antpitta**. Dinner and overnight.

Day 7 - Full day birding at lower part of the reserve, here we will look for some tumbesian endemics



Blue-necked Tanager

such as; **Black-faced Tanager**, **Marañon Thrush**, **Straw-backed Tanager**, **Olivaceous Siskin**, **Blue-necked Tanager** and others, return for lunch at the reserve. Then drive - birding to Catamayo where we will spend last night. Around here we will try for some birds, like **Chestnut-throated Seedeater**, **Peruvian Meadowlark** and others. Dinner and Overnight.

Day 8 - Return to Quito by plane, then visit Antisana reserve to see **Andean Condor**, this reserve is key factor to protect a very special habitat "paramo" forest and temperate forest. This reserve is important to protect the water for Quito, some quality and local birds can be observed here: **Black-faced Ibis**, **Andean Gull**, **Giant Hummingbird**, **Shiny Sunbeam**, **Stout-billed Cinclodes**, **Caraculated Caracara**.

Lunch at traditional place where we will enjoy the local cuisine. Return to Puembo Birding Garden or similar to enjoy our last night in Ecuador. Farewell dinner.

Day 9 - Departure to international flight... For those leaving at night: a city tour or any other tour can be arranged.

Web resources:

www.fjocotoco.org

www.puembobirdingarden.com

[Buenaventura Lodge](#)

[Tapichalaca Lodge](#)