

## RIO QUIJOS ECOLODGE

Ecuador Tel/WhatsApp 0939707753 or 0984572020

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### About Bird Watching in Ecuador

Ecuador is one of the best places in the world for bird-watching. With approximately 1,600 species, counting resident species and migrants, no nation in the world has as great a diversity of birdlife in as small an area as Ecuador. The country holds approximately one-sixth of the world's bird species in an area about the size of Colorado, allowing us to share more different species in a week or two than you could enjoy just about anywhere else.

Our bird watching focuses specifically on the eastern part of the country - from the eastern peak of the Andes, the gateway the "Oriente" region of Ecuador. From cloud forests to rainforest, the Oriente of hosts some of the planet's biodiversity "hot spots," with a greater diversity of birds than just about anywhere else in the world.

### About Our Trips

Our trips are full-service trips and include private transportation, a multi-lingual guide, lodge based accommodations and meals. Count on rising early for full days of bird watching. Some days are specific to one zone, but other days include traveling to multiple zones that host varying species. We work to minimize travel between zones to maximize time enjoyed spotting birds. Following is a full 2-day itinerary. We also provide custom itineraries from one to multiple days.

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## Two-Day Deluxe Bird Watching Expedition

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### DAY 1

Papallacta Pass (Antenas), Cayambecoca reserve and Rio Quijos Ecolodge.

#### 5:00 AM Pick-up at your hotel in Quito\*

We will stop to enjoy a box breakfast along the route to our first day's birding. Our destination is just one hour from Quito, where you will have an opportunity to observe the beautiful birds of the upper Amazon paramo along the Papallacta Pass inside the Cayambe Coca National Park.

Anticipated Birds include:

Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe  
Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle  
Bar Bellied Woodpecker  
White-chinned Thistletail  
Many striped Canastero  
Rainbow-bearded Thornbill  
Viridian Metaltail  
Giant Conebill  
Paramo seedeater  
Bar-winged Cinclodes  
Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager  
Plumbeous Sierra-finch.

Just before lunch we will visit the Papallacta lagoon to see:

Andean Teal  
Yellowbilled Pintail  
Blue-winged Teal  
Neotropical Cormorant.

After a delicious box lunch, we will travel 45 minutes to Cayambe Coca National Park.

Here we will find local bird species such as:

Masked Mountain-Tanager  
Blue-backed Conebill  
Black backed Bush-Tanager  
Pale-naped Brush-Finch  
Bluemantled Thornbill  
Black-headed Hemispingus  
Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager  
Agile Tit-Tyrant  
Spectacled Whitestart  
Ash-colored Tapaculo  
Tawny rumped Tyrannulet

We will finish the day at the RioQuijos Ecolodge, your lodging for the evening.

At the Rio Quijos EcoLodge, you will have an opportunity to view any of the 22+ identified species of hummingbirds at the feeders and gardens. More bird species can be seen along the trails that wind along the river and through the forest adjacent to the lodge.

The list of birds of the lodge is quite extensive and includes:

Torrent Duck  
Speckled Hummingbird  
Long-tailed Sylph  
Bronzy Inca  
Booted Racket-tail  
White-tailed Hillstar  
Violet-fronted Brilliant  
Sunbittern  
Inca Jade

After a full day of bird watching, we will relax and enjoy a delicious dinner at the lodge. After dinner we will take time to review birds identified and photos from the day.

## DAY 2

We get up very early (5:30 AM) and go out to a special location to look for the stunning Andean Cock-of-the-rock. In this location, several males gather to engage in competitive display (LEK).

Later in the morning we will take a break and eat our boxed breakfast surrounded by the first growth trees of the Amazon cloud forest landscape. After our breakfast we will continue searching for the beautiful birds found here in the cloud forest.

The birds to see:

Black-And -Chestnut Eagle  
Speckle-Faced Parrot  
Crested-Quetzal  
Masked Trogon  
White-throated Toucanet  
Crimson-Mantled Woodpecker  
Powerful Woodpecker  
Azara's spinetail  
Striped Treehunter  
Olive-backed Woodcreeper  
Bicoloured Antvireo  
Red Breasted Blackbird  
Russet-Backed Oropendola  
Slaty Brush-Finch.

We will return to the Rio Quijos EcoLodge for Lunch.

After lunch, we will spend the afternoon observing the bird species that are found around the lodge, including:

Cattle Egret  
Black Vulture  
Roadside Hawk

Andean Motmot  
Amazon Kingfisher  
Lafresnaye's Piculet  
Long-tailed Tapaculo  
Montane Woodcreeper  
Montane Foliage-gleaner  
White-tailed Tyrannulet  
Sulphur-bellied Tyrannulet  
Torrent Tyrannulet  
Streak-necked Flycatcher  
Slaty-capped Flycatcher  
Rufous-breasted Flycatcher  
Variegated Bristle-Tyrant  
Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant  
Ashy-headed Tyrannulet  
Golden-faced Tyrannulet (Golden-faced)  
Smoke-colored Pewee  
Black Phoebe (White-winged)  
Golden-crowned Flycatcher  
Tropical Kingbird  
Barred Becard  
White-winged Becard  
Brown-capped Vireo  
Green Jay (Inca)  
Blue-and-white Swallow (cyanoleuca)  
House Wren  
Swainson's Thrush  
Black-billed Thrush

After a full day, a complimentary shuttle is available back to Quito. We can also provide drop off service at Pappallacta Hot Springs. Additional nights can be arranged at the Rio Quijos EcoLodge as well.

## OVERVIEW

Length: 2 days BIRDING. (Additional days can be added to the tour)

Physical difficulty: Moderate

Focus: Birding and bird photography

Group size: Minimum 2, maximum 8 participants.

Price \$350.00 for person

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- English-speaking birding guide
- One evening accommodation at the Rio Quijos EcoLodge
- Day One - 3 meals, Day Two - breakfast and lunch
- Entrance fee to all the reserves and activities
- Complimentary Shuttle to and from Quito

SERVICES NOT INCLUDED:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Gratuities
- Laundry services

If you are outside of Quito leading up to the trip, arrangements can be made for accommodations at the RioQuijos EcoLodge the night before the trip, as well as additional nights' accommodations after the trip.

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