

Albatross

Birding and Nature Tours



Central Chile Birding Trip

December 04-09th, 2018

Guide: Rodrigo Silva

Participant: Nick Robinson

Albatross Birding & Nature Tours

www.albatross-birding.com

ITINERARY

Day 1:

We started our trip in Santiago, where Rodrigo picked Nick up, who after travelling through Patagonia, arrived to the Central zone. The first day we went to the mountains southeast of Santiago, specifically, to the El Yeso valley, which is accessed after going up more than 45 km following the Maipo River. We made our first stop in the town of El Ingenio to then start to gain altitude, making birding stops at different elevations. Some prominent birds that we saw this day are Moustached Turca, Crag Chilia, Diademed Sandpiper-plover and Gray-breasted Seedsnipe. Overnight in Santiago.

Day 2:

This day we moved to the south, specifically to the area of Vilches, where the Nothofagus forest has its northern distribution limit. After about 4 hours of travelling, we visited the Colbún Lake and Maule river, where we found some highlights birds such as Burrowing Parrot, Spectacled and Torrent Duck. In the afternoon we walked through the forest and had the good fortune to get spectacular views of Chucao Tapaculo and Chestnut-throated Hut-huet. At the evening we tried our luck with the owls and on our last stop we had success with a couple of Rufous-legged Owl. Overnight in Vilches.

Day 3:

In the morning we visited a different sector of the forest and although it took a long time, we finally found a spectacular pair of Magellanic Woodpecker, which were photographed at close range. After lunch we returned to Santiago, making an unsuccessful stop at Los Lingues to look for the Screaming cowbird. Finally we arrived to Santiago, where we stayed overnight.

Day 4:

We started the day heading towards the coast, specifically, to the Maipo Estuary, which always offers good birding and a large number of birds. We continued our journey to the north, visiting the lagoons of San Antonio Port. After lunch we visited El Tabo, where we birded in a ravine that still conserves some native coastal thicket and we ended the day in Algarrobo, where we could observe some excellent birds like Plumbeous Rail, Spot-flanked Gallinule and the specialty of the place, Striped-backed Bittern. Overnight in Valparaíso.

Day 5:

This day we embarked on a pelagic excursion from Valparaíso, entering the Humboldt Current. With a spectacular weather, the trip ended with 3 species of albatrosses, added to fantastic views and lots of tubenoses. Once on the mainland we headed to the north along the waterfront, making our first stop at Roca Montemar, Reñaca, where we could observe the spectacular Inca Tern and the endemic Seaside Cinclodes. We continued to the north to reach the Aconcagua Estuary. Finally we arrived at Cachagua, where one of the largest colonies of Humboldt's Penguins are located in the central zone, although this time we could only observe a few specimens. Overnight in Santiago

Day 6:

On the last day we birded the mountains located east of Santiago, following the path that leads to the ski resorts of Farellones and Valle Nevado. We made stops at different heights, focused on finding some endemic species and specialties that were pending. Fortunately, we succeeded with Chilean Tinamou and Creamy-rumped Miner, thus closing a successful trip through the heart of Chile. Finally, Nick was Dropped-off at Santiago Airport.

BIRD LIST (152 bird species, 6 mammals & 2 reptiles)

Taxonomic order and notes follows South American Classification Committee

<http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html>

Endemic species are shown in **bold**

TINAMOUS

1. **Chilean Tinamou** – *Nothoprocta perdicaria*

DUCKS

2. Coscoroba Swan – *Coscoroba coscoroba*
3. Andean Goose – *Chloephaga melanoptera*
4. Upland Goose – *Chloephaga picta*
5. Torrent Duck – *Merganetta armata*
6. Spectacled Duck – *Specularis specularis*
7. Chiloe Wigeon - *Anas sibilatrix*
8. Yellow-billed Teal – *Anas flavirostris flavirostris*
9. Yellow-billed Pintail - *Anas georgica*

10. Cinnamon Teal – *Anas cyanoptera*
11. Red Shoveler – *Anas platalea*
12. Lake Duck – *Oxyura vittata*

NEW WORLD QUAILS

13. California Quail - *Callipepla californica*

GREBES

14. White-tufted Grebe - *Rollandia rolland*
15. Pied-billed Grebe - *Podilymbus podiceps*
16. Great Grebe - *Podiceps major*
17. Patagonian (Silvery) Grebe – *Podiceps occipitalis occipitalis*

PENGUINS

18. Humboldt's Penguin – *Spheniscus humboldti*

ALBATROSSES

19. Black-browed Albatross – *Thalassarche melanophrys*
20. Buller's Albatross – *Thalassarche bulleri*
21. Salvin's Albatross – *Thalassarche salvini*

SHEARWATERS

22. Southern Giant-Petrel – *Macronectes giganteus*
23. White-chinned Petrel - *Procellaria aequinoctialis*
24. Westland Petrel - *Procellaria westlandica*
25. Sooty Shearwater - *Ardenna grisea*
26. Pink-footed Shearwater - *Ardenna creatopus*

DIVING-PETRELS

27. Peruvian Diving-Petrel – *Pelecanoides garnotii*

STORM-PETRELS

28. Fuegian (Wilson's) Storm-Petrel – *Oceanites oceanicus chilensis*

BOOBIES

29. Peruvian Booby – *Sula variegata*

CORMORANTS

30. Red-legged Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax gaimardii*

31. Neotropic Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*
32. Guanay Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*

PELICANS

33. Peruvian Pelican – *Pelecanus thagus*

HERONS

34. Stripe-backed Bittern – *Ixobrychus involucris*
35. Black-crowned Night-Heron – *Nycticorax nycticorax*
36. Cattle Egret – *Bubulcus ibis*
37. Cocoi Heron – *Ardea cocoi*
38. Great Egret – *Ardea alba*
39. Snowy Egret – *Egretta thula*

IBISES

40. Black-faced Ibis – *Theristicus melanopsis*

NEW-WORLD VULTURES

41. Black Vulture - *Coragyps atratus*
42. Turkey Vulture - *Cathartes aura*
43. Andean Condor – *Vultur gryphus*

HAWKS

44. White-tailed Kite – *Elanus leucurus*
45. Chilean Hawk – *Accipiter chilensis*
46. Variable Hawk - *Geranoaetus polyosoma*

RAILS

47. Spot-flanked Gallinule - *Porphyriops melanops*
48. Plumbeous Rail – *Pardirallus sanguinolentus*
49. Red-gartered Coot – *Fulica armillata*
50. Red-fronted Coot – *Fulica rufifrons*
51. White-winged Coot – *Fulica leucoptera*

PLOVERS

52. Black-bellied Plover – *Pluvialis squatarola*
53. Southern Lapwing - *Vanellus chilensis*
54. Diademed Sandpiper-Plover – *Phegornis mitchellii*

OYSTERCATCHERS

- 55. American Oystercatcher – *Haematopus palliatus*
- 56. Blackish Oystercatcher – *Haematopus ater*

STILTS

- 57. Black-necked Stilt – *Himantopus mexicanus*

SANDPIPERS

- 58. Whimbrel – *Numenius phaeopus*
- 59. Ruddy Turnstone – *Arenaria interpres*
- 60. Surfbird – *Calidris virgata*
- 61. Sanderling – *Calidris alba*
- 62. Baird's Sandpiper – *Calidris bairdii*
- 63. Magellanic (South American) Snipe – *Gallinago paraguayiae magellanica*
- 64. Red Phalarope – *Phalaropus fulicarius*
- 65. Lesser Yellowlegs – *Tringa flavipes*

SEEDSNIPES

- 66. Gray-breasted Seedsnipe – *Thinocorus orbignyianus*

SKUAS

- 67. Chilean Skua – *Stercorarius chilensis*
- 68. Parasitic Jaeger – *Stercorarius parasiticus*

GULLS

- 69. Brown-hooded Gull – *Chroicephalus maculipennis*
- 70. Franklin's Gull – *Leucophaeus pipixcan*
- 71. Kelp Gull - *Larus dominicanus*
- 72. Inca Tern – *Larosterna inca*
- 73. South American Tern – *Sterna hirundinacea*
- 74. Elegant Tern – *Thalasseus elegans*

SKIMMERS

- 75. Black Skimmer – *Rynchops niger*

PIGEONS

- 76. Rock Pigeon – *Columba livia*
- 77. Chilean Pigeon – *Patagioenas araucana*
- 78. Eared Dove - *Zenaida auriculata*

- 79. Picui Ground-Dove – *Columbina picui*
- 80. Black-winged Ground-Dove – *Metriopelia melanoptera*

OWLS

- 81. Rufous-legged Owl – *Strix rufipes*
- 82. Austral Pygmy-Owl - *Glaucidium nana*

HUMMINGBIRDS

- 83. Green-backed Firecrown - *Sephanoides sephaniodes*
- 84. White-sided Hillstar – *Oreotrochilus leucopleurus*
- 85. Giant Hummingbird - *Patagona gigas*

WOODPECKERS

- 86. Striped Woodpecker - *Veniliornis lignarius*
- 87. Chilean Flicker - *Colaptes pitius*
- 88. Magellanic Woodpecker – *Campephilus magellanicus*

FALCONS

- 89. Mountain Caracara – *Phalcoboenus megalopterus*
- 90. Chimango Caracara - *Milvago chimango*
- 91. American Kestrel – *Falco sparverius*
- 92. Peregrine Falcon – *Falco peregrinus*

PARROTS

- 93. Austral Parakeet – *Enycognathus ferrugineus*
- 94. Burrowing Parrot – *Cyanoliseus patagonicus*

TAPACULOS

- 95. Chestnut-throated Huet-huet – *Pteroptochos castaneus*
- 96. Moustached Turca - *Pteroptochos megapodius***
- 97. White-throated Tapaculo - *Scelorchilus albicollis***
- 98. Chucao Tapaculo – *Scelorchilus rubecula*
- 99. Magellanic Tapaculo - *Scytalopus magellanicus*
- 100. Dusky Tapaculo – *Scytalopus fuscus***

OVENBIRDS

- 101. Rufous-banded Miner – *Geositta rufipennis*
- 102. Creamy-rumper Miner – *Geositta isabellina*
- 103. White-throated Treerunner – *Pygarrhichas albogularis*
- 104. Crag Chilia – *Ochetorhynchus melanurus***

- 105. Wren-like Rushbird – *Phleocryptes melanops*
- 106. Scale-throated Earthcreeper – *Upucerthia dumetaria*
- 107. Buff-winged Cinclodes – *Cinclodes fuscus*
- 108. Gray-flanked Cinclodes – *Cinclodes oustaleti*
- 109. Dark-bellied Cinclodes – *Cinclodes patagonicus*
- 110. Seaside Cinclodes – *Cinclodes nigrofumosus***
- 111. Thorn-tailed Rayadito - *Aphrastura spinicauda*
- 112. Des Murs's Wiretail - *Sylviorthorhynchus desmursii*
- 113. Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetails – *Leptasthenura aegithaloides*
- 114. Dusky-tailed Canastero – *Pseudasthenes humicola***

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- 115. Chilean (White-crested) Elaenia – *Elaenia albiceps chilensis*
- 116. Tufted Tit-Tyrant - *Anairetes parulus*
- 117. Ticking Doradito – *Pseudocolopteryx citreola*
- 118. Many-colored Rush Tyrant – *Tachuris rubrigastra*
- 119. Austral Negrito – *Lessonia rufa*
- 120. Spectacled Tyrant – *Hymenops perspicillatus*
- 121. Spot-billed Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola maculirostris*
- 122. Cinereous Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola cinereus*
- 123. Ochre-naped Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola flavinucha*
- 124. Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola rufivertex*
- 125. White-browed Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola albilora*
- 126. Black-fronted Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola frontalis*
- 127. Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant – *Agriornis montanus*
- 128. Fire-eyed Diucon - *Xolmis pyrope*
- 129. Patagonian Tyrant - *Colorhamphus parvirostris*

COTINGAS

- 130. Rufous-tailed Plantcutter - *Phytotoma rara*

SWALLOWS

- 131. Blue-and-white Swallow - *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*
- 132. Chilean Swallow - *Tachycineta meyeni*

WRENS

- 133. House Wren - *Troglodytes aedon*
- 134. Austral (Sedge) Wren – *Cistothorus platensis hornensis*

THRUSHES

135. Austral Thrush - *Turdus falcklandii*

MOCKINGBIRDS

- 136. Chilean Mockingbird - *Mimus thenca***

PIPITS

137. Correndera Pipit – *Anthus correndera*

TANAGERS

138. Gray-hooded Sierra-Finch - *Phrygilus gayi*
139. Mourning Sierra-Finch – *Phrygilus fruticeti*
140. Plumbeous Sierra-Finch - *Phrygilus unicolor*
141. Band-tailed Sierra-Finch – *Phrygilus alaudinus*
142. Common Diuca-Finch - *Diuca diuca*
143. Greater Yellow-Finch - *Sicalis auriventris*
144. Grassland Yellow-Finch - *Sicalis luteola*

SPARROWS

145. Rufous-collared Sparrow - *Zonotrichia capensis*

BLACKBIRDS

146. Austral Blackbird - *Curaeus curaeus*
147. Yellow-winged Blackbird – *Agelasticus thilius*
148. Shiny Cowbird – *Molothrus bonariensis*
149. Long-tailed Meadowlark - *Sturnella loyca*

FINCHES

150. Yellow-rumped Siskin – *Carduelis uropygialis*
151. Black-chinned Siskin - *Spinus barbatus*

OLD-WORLD SPARROWS

152. House Sparrow - *Passer domesticus*

MAMMALS

1. Fence Degu – *Octodon degu*
2. Coypu – *Myocastor coypus*
3. European Rabbit – *Oryctolagus cuniculus*
4. Gray Fox – *Pseudalopex griseus*

5. Marine Otter – *Lontra felina*
6. South American Sea-lion – *Otaria flavescens*

REPTILES

1. Thin tree lizard – *Liolaemus tenuis*
2. Short-tailed Racer – *Tachymenis chilensis*