

# Albatross

*Birding and Nature Tours*



## Birding the Pacific Coast and La Campana National Park



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## Birding the Pacific Coast and La Campana National Park

### Albatross-Birding

This report covers two day trips in the Central area of Chile.

A coastal day looking for a good collection of ducks and sea birds and a second day observing endemic species in a more dramatic landscape.

#### DAY 1:

We picked up Frieda early morning and drove directly to Algarrobo.

Our first stop was “El Membrillo Wetland”, where we made efforts to find the Stripe-backed bittern, a really cryptic bird that use the reeds to fish its meal. After several scannings, it didn’t want to show itself. Although we had very nice views of : Coscoroba swan, Pied-billed Grebe, Red gartered coot and Snowy egret among others.

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Red-gartered Coot (*Fulica armillata*) Photo: Daniel Terán.

After this, we drove south of Algarrobo to “Pájaro niño island”, a big rock close to Algarrobo Yachting club. This place has a little nesting colony of Humboldt penguin. We got good views with the spotting- scope, of some penguins who were resting over the rocks.

In addition, we had very nice views of Rufous-chested Dotterel, Blackish Oystercatcher, and the first endemic bird of the trip: Chilean sea side Cinclodes. Then, “Lalo” drove directly to Maipo river mouth, one of the most important wetlands in the central coast, recently designated as a Site of regional importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN). We started walking through the beach. The day was partially cloudy, with good light and not too much wind. We had nice views of typical reed birds like, Grass wren, Wren-likeRushbird, Many-colored Rush Tyrant, Plumbeous Rail.



Plumbeous Rail (*Pardirallus sanguinolentus*) Photo: Daniel Terán.

Likewise, we had good observation of shorebirds, like: Collared plover and two individuals of Hudsonian Godwit. Gulls were well represented with: Kelp Gull, South American Tern, Brown-hooded Gull, within breeding plumage and a big group of a very interesting specie who nest in the middle of Atacama Desert in northern Chile, Gray Gull.

The lunch was at Las Cruces town in a very nice restaurant, with our table just over the sea rocks. Here, while we enjoyed a very good fish plate, we saw just in front of us the Peruvian Booby.

Finally, we visited Cordova Creek to see some tapaculos and small bush birds. We had success with the Des Murs's wire tail and our second endemic bird, Dusky tapaculo, to finish this way an excellent birding day.



**DAY 2:**

We drove early in the morning from Santiago, avoiding the heavy traffic of the morning, and while a heavy rain was still falling in the city. We arrived at La Campana National Park just when the sun started to rise up.

In our first walk we already obtain the first birds that included: Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail, Fire-eyed Diucon and Patagonian Forest Earthcreeper. This last one was confirmed by reviewing the photo files.



Patagonian Forest Earthcreeper (*Upucerthia saturator*) Photo: Eduardo Navarro.

In addition we got the first two endemic birds of the day: Dusky-tailed Canastero and Moustached Turca.

Inside the park we continued looking for other endemic birds that included: two White-throated Tapaculo and one Chilean Tinamou, walking a few meters from us, and completing the list of the endemic birds of the central area.

In a small forest area we got the chance to see Thorn-tailed Rayadito and two different woodpeckers: Chilean flicker and Striped Woodpecker.

We could also spot some birds of prey Harris's Hawk and Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle. When we were leaving from the park, we spotted a huge flock of Chilean Pigeon within the vineyards.



Chilean Pigeon (*Patagioenas araucana*) Photo: Daniel Terán.

After lunch, while driving to Batuco, we stopped to watch some Andean Condors flying over us, and this way completing Frieda's wish list.

During the afternoon we went through Lampa wetlands. We started at the Batuco Lagoon where we were able to add:

- White-cheeked Pintail
- Andean Goose
- Great Grebe
- Burrowing Owl

Later at Cadellada Laguna we had excellent sightings of: Black-headed Duck and Silvery Grebe, completing two excellent birding days with almost 100 species in total.

## BIRD LIST

**English name Scientific name**

### **TINAMOUS (Tinamidae)**

- 1 Chilean Tinamou *Nothoprocta perdicaria*

### **DUCKS (Anatidae)**

- 2 Black-necked Swan *Cygnus melancoryphus*  
 3 Coscoroba Swan *Coscoroba coscoroba*  
 4 Andean Goose *Oressochen melanopterus*  
 5 Chiloe Wigeon *Anas sibilatrix*  
 6 Yellow-billed Teal (*flavirostris*) *Anas flavirostris flavirostris*  
 7 Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*  
 8 White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis*  
 9 Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*  
 10 Red Shoveler *Anas platalea*  
 11 Black-headed Duck *Heteronetta atricapilla*  
 12 Lake Duck *Oxyura vittata*

### **NEW WORLD QUAIL (Odontophoridae)**

- 13 California Quail *Callipepla californica*

### **GREBES (Podicipedidae)**

- 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 (Spheniscidae)**

- 18 Humboldt Penguin *Spheniscus humboldti*

### **BOOBIES (Sulidae)**

- 19 Peruvian Booby *Sula variegata*

### **CORMORANTS (Phalacrocoracidae)**

- 20 Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*  
 21 Guanay Cormorant *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*

**PELICANS (Pelecanidae)**

- 22 Peruvian Pelican *Pelecanus thagus*

**HERONS (Ardeidae)**

- 23 Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*  
24 Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*  
25 Great Egret *Ardea alba*  
26 Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

**IBISES (Threskiornithidae)**

- 27 White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi*

**NEW WORLD VULTURES (Cathartidae)**

- 28 Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*  
29 Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus*

**HAWKS (Accipitridae)**

- 30 White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*  
31 Cinereous Harrier *Circus cinereus*  
32 Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus*  
33 Variable Hawk *Geranoaetus polyosoma*  
34 Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*

**RAILS (Rallidae)**

- 35 Spot-flanked Gallinule *Porphyriops melanops*  
36 Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus*  
37 Red-gartered Coot *Fulica armillata*  
38 Red-fronted Coot *Fulica rufifrons*  
39 White-winged Coot *Fulica leucoptera*

**PLOVERS (Charadriidae)**

- 40 Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*  
41 Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*  
42 Rufous-chested Dotterel *Charadrius modestus*

**OYSTERCATCHERS (Haematopodidae)**

- 43 American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*  
44 Blackish Oystercatcher *Haematopus ater*

**AVOCETS and STILTS (Recurvirostridae)**

- 45 White-backed (Black-necked) Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus melanurus*

**SANDPIPERS (Scolopacidae)**

- 46 Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
- 47 Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica*
- 48 Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
- 49 Magellanic (South American) Snipe *Gallinago paraguaiiae magellanica*

**GULLS (Laridae)**

- 50 Brown-hooded Gull *Chroicocephalus maculipennis*
- 51 Gray Gull *Leucophaeus modestus*
- 52 Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*
- 53 South American Tern *Sterna hirundinacea*

**PIGEONS (Columbidae)**

- 54 Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*
- 55 Chilean Pigeon *Patagioenas araucana*
- 56 Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*
- 57 Picui Ground Dove *Columbina picui*

**OWLS (Strigidae)**

- 58 Austral Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium nana*
- 59 Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*

**HUMMINGBIRDS (Trochilidae)**

- 60 Green-backed Firecrown *Sephanoides sephaniodes*

**WOODPECKERS (Picidae)**

- 61 Striped Woodpecker *Veniliornis lignarius*
- 62 Chilean Flicker *Colaptes pitius*

**FALCONS (Falconidae)**

- 63 Chimango Caracara *Milvago chimango*
- 64 American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*

**TAPACULOS (Rhinocryptidae)**

- 65 Moustached Turca *Pterotochos megapodius*
- 66 White-throated Tapaculo *Scelorchilus albicollis*
- 67 Dusky Tapaculo *Scytalopus fuscus*



**OVENBIRDS (Furnariidae)**

- 68 Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops*
- 69 Patagonian Forest Earthcreeper *Upucerthia saturator*
- 70 Buff-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes fuscus*
- 71 Gray-flanked (Oustalet's) Cinclodes *Cinclodes oustaleti*
- 72 Seaside Cinclodes *Cinclodes nigrofumosus*
- 73 Thorn-tailed Rayadito *Aphrastura spinicauda*
- 74 Des Murs's Wiretail *Sylviorthorhynchus desmursii*
- 75 Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail (Central Chile) *Leptasthenura a. aegithaloides*
- 76 Dusky-tailed Canastero *Pseudasthenes humicola*

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS (Tyrannidae)**

- 77 Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus*
- 78 Many-colored Rush Tyrant *Tachuris rubrigastra*
- 79 Austral Negrito *Lessonia rufa*
- 80 Dark-faced Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola maclovianus*
- 81 Fire-eyed Diucon *Xolmis pyrope*
- 82 Patagonian Tyrant *Colorhamphus parvirostris*

**COTINGAS (Cotingidae)**

- 83 Rufous-tailed Plantcutter *Phytotoma rara*

**SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)**

- 84 Chilean Swallow *Tachycineta meyeri*

**WRENS (Troglodytidae)**

- 85 House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*
- 86 Austral (Sedge) Wren *Cistothorus platensis hornensis*

**THRUSHES (Turdidae)**

- 87 Austral Thrush *Turdus falcklandii*

**MOCKINGBIRDS (Mimidae)**

- 88 Chilean Mockingbird *Mimus thenca*

**PIPITS (Motacillidae)**

- 89 Correndera Pipit *Anthus correndera*

**TANAGERS (Thraupidae)**

- 90 Gray-hooded Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus gayi*
- 91 Common Diuca-Finch *Diuca diuca*
- 92 Grassland Yellow-Finch *Sicalis luteola*

**SPARROWS (Emberizidae)**

- 93 Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*

**BLACKBIRDS (Icteridae)**

- 94 Austral Blackbird *Curaeus curaeus*  
95 Yellow-winged Blackbird *Agelasticus thilius*  
96 Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*  
97 Long-tailed Meadowlark *Sturnella loyca*

**FINCHES (Fringillidae)**

- 98 Black-chinned Siskin *Spinus barbatus*

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS (Passeridae)**

- 99 House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*