Going Places

Following is a partial listing of nature and bird-oriented tours scheduled for the months of April-October, 1977. It has been compiled from information supplied by tour sponsors and American Birds is not responsible for any subsequent alterations in plans or prices. Recent fluctuations in dollar values and uncertainties regarding air fares means that in some cases quoted prices are approximate only.

An amazing array of fascinating tours is set forth below; readers should have no trouble finding the tours that are just right for them. Tour sponsors are listed by key initials: full names and addresses, to which all inquiries should be addressed, will be found at the end of the listings. Most have additional tours not listed here.

APRIL, 1977

- Trinidad and Tobago, 12 days. Nature, birds. Leaders, Russ Mason, Nina Steffee. \$785 from M1ami, FCT.
- 1 Texas Coast, 14 days. Birds, nature. Leader, Luther Goldman. \$583. WNT.
- 2 Texas, 14 days. Birds, natural history. Leaders, Jim Lane and Wallace Bailey. Corpus Christi to Houston. \$935. MAS.
- 9 Costa Rica, 15 days. Birds. Leader, Steve Hilty. \$1195 from Miami. BB.
- 14 Tropical Texas, 4 days. Birds. Leader, price N A. MT.
- 15 Jamaica, 10 days. Natural history, birds. Approx. \$995 from Miami. Leader, Charles Leck. NAS.
- 15 Texas Coast, 9 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, Rose Ann Rowlett. VENT. \$650 from Houston.
- 16 Texas Big Bend, 9 days. Birds, nature. Leader, Luther Goldman. \$295. WNT.
- 16 India, Nepal, 29 days. Birds. Leader, Ben King. \$3195 from New York. BB.

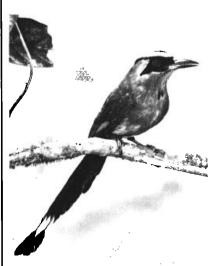
- 24 Texas, 20 days. Birds. Leader, Ben Feltner Price N.A. MT.
- 25 Texas, 15 days. Beaumont to Rio Grande and Hill country. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Roger Tory Peterson, John Rowlett, Victor Emanuel. \$1195 from Beaumont, VENT.
- 25 Trans-Texas, 14 days. Birds, wildlife Leader, Rose Ann Rowlett. \$895 from Houston VENT.
- 26 Arizona, 15 days. Birds, nature. Leader, Luther Goldman. \$444. WNT.
- 30 California, 16 days. Birds. Leader, Rich Stallcup. \$795 from San Francisco. BB.

MAY, 1977

- 7 Arizona, 14 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, Dale Zimmerman. \$695 from Tucson. RR.
- 10 Mexico. 10 days. Birds. Leaders, George Miksch Sutton, Jack Tyler, Warren Harden. \$440 from Guadalajara. HEC.
- 13 Scottish Highlands, 17 days. Naturalist's Tour. Leader, Augus B. Erskine. \$2000 from New York. Repeated May 27. HET.
- 14 Virginia, North Carolina, 15 days. Bırds Leader, Don Messersmith. Price N.A. WNT.
- 14 Southeastern Arizona, 9 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, Rose Ann Rowlett. \$695 from Tucson. VENT.
- 15 Arizona, 14 days. Birds, natural history Leaders, Doris Mager, Steve Fickett. \$795 from Tucson. FCT.
- 16 Arizona, 10 days. Birds, natural history Leaders, Jim Lane, Dave Clapp. \$845 from Tucson. MAS.
- 18 Big Bend, Texas, 10 days. Birds. Leader, Peter Koch. \$495 from Midland. RR.
- 19 Mexico, 10 days. Birds. Leaders, Jack Tyler, Warren Harden. \$600 from Dallas. HEC.
- 21 Nicaragua, 8 days. Birds. Leader, Dr. Jaime Pujals. \$1195 from Miami. BB.
- 21 Arizona, 8 days. Birds. Leader, Phil Norton \$595 from Tucson, BB.

- 24 Arizona, 11 days. Birds. Leader, price N.A. MT.
- 24 Texas, Big Bend, 8 days. Birds, natural history. Leaders, Victor Emanuel, John Rowlett. \$595 from El Paso. Repeats Oct. 16 \$495 from San Antonio, VFNT
- 25 Spain, 18 days. Birds. Leader, Annette Cretien, \$995 from Madrid, RR.
- 25 Peru, 26 days. Birds. Leader, Ted Parker. \$2695 from Miami. BB.
- 28 Alaska, 16 days. Birds. Leaders, Ben King, Terry Hall. \$2195 from Seattle. BB.
- 28 Russia, 26 days. Birds, ecology, wildlife reserves. Leaders, Christopher Leahy, Thomas Maden, \$3200 from New York, MAS.
- 28 Galapagos Islands, 14 days. Wildlife, birds, by boat. From \$1155 from Miami, \$1260 from New York. Also Aug. 20, Oct. 29. Various leaders. HET.

- JUNE, 1977
- 1 Alaska, 17 days. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Davis Finch. Will Russell. Price N.A. NB.
- 1 Alaska, 17 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, Ben Feltner, \$1995 from Seattle, RR.
- 5 Northeast Mexico, 7 days. Cloud forest birds Leader, Fred Webster. \$170 from Gomez Farias, Tamaulipas, GSS.
- 10 Kenya, 21 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, John Williams, \$3164, WNT.
- 12 Europe, 13 days. Bird sanctuaries. Leader, Annette Cretien. \$895 local, RR.
- 14 Churchill/Winnipeg, 10 days. Birds, natural history. Leader, Jim Lane and another. \$750 from Winnipeg. MAS.
- 17 Britain and Outer Islands, 17 days. Nature, people, history, by yacht. Leaders, H. Shapiro, Thomas D. Nickelson, Francois Vuilleumier, Garrett Olmstead. \$2495 up. AMNH.



BIRDING TOURS SINCE 1955

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- 19 Galapagos, Ecuador, 16 days. Natural history, birds. Leaders, Dora Weyer, Dennis Puleston. Approx. \$1400 from Miami. NAS.
- 22 Russia, 15 days. Birds, wildlife, culture. Leaders, N.A. \$1450 from New York. Repeated Sept. 7. O.
- 23 Western Europe, 21 days. Birds, nature. Leaders, Don Baldwin, Doris Mager. \$1880. FCT.
- 25 Peru, 26 days. Birds, natural history. Leader, Peter Alden and another. About \$2900 from Miami. MAS.
- 25 England, Wales, Scotland, 24 days. Birds, sanctuaries. Leader, N.A. \$1870 from New York, RR.
- 25 Northwest Pacific, 11 days. Birds. Leader, price, N.A. MT.
- 26 Austria, Northern Italy, 24 days. Birds, culture. Leader, Bob Worthing. \$1295 from New York. NJAS.

JULY, 1977

- Cape Breton, Newfoundland, 14 days. Birds. Leaders, Russ Mason, Nina Steffee. \$895 from Halifax. FCT.
- 3 Northwest Canada, Coppermine River, 12 days. Wilderness trip, birds, wildlife. Leader, a naturalist. \$1650 from Yellowknife. Repeated July 17. NWE.
- 3 Yukon, Nahanni River, 12 days. Wilderness trip, birds, wildlife. Leader, N.A. \$1500 from Watstson Lake, Yukon. Repeated July 17, 31 NWE.
- 4 Arctic Canada, Bathhurst Inlet, 8 days Wildlife, birds. Leader, N.A. \$1325 from Yellowknife, NAS.
- 5 West Virginia, 15 days. Ecology. Leaders, Chuck and Helen Conrad. Price, N.A. WNT
- 5 Colorado, 12 days. Birds, natural history Leader, Jim Lane and another. About \$840 from Denver. MAS.

WORLD NATURE TOURS, INC. SELECTED TOURS FOR 1977

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PANAMA—GUATEMALA
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
VIRGINIA—NORTH CAROLINA
WEST VIRGINIA ECOLOGY

June 10-30 June 22-July 6 Aug. 31-Sept. 27 Dec. 28-Jan. 21 July 23-Aug. 13 Nov. 5-19 May 14-28

John Williams

Ben King Bob Fleming, Jr. Steve West Lilla Hind Don Messersmith Chuck & Helen Conrad

WORLD NATURE TOURS, INC. P.O. Box 693, Woodmoor Station Silver Spring, Md. 20901



Volume 31. Number 1

A PLEA TO BIRDERS . . .



to help us save tropical forests

The rampant destruction of rain forest in tropical America is threatening the existence of the richest bird fauna in the world. In Costa Rica, where a conservation ethic is taking hold, we're trying to save three of the most important virgin forests remaining—the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, and Tortuguero and Corcovado National Parks. RARE has committed tens of thousands of dollars to save these areas, and much more is needed for critical, threatened habitat elsewhere in Central America.

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LATIN AMERICAN PROJECTS

c/o National Audubon Society

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(a non-profit, volunteer organization devoted to endangered wildlife)

- 6 Churchill, 7 days. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Davis Finch, Will Russell. Price N.A. NB.
- 6 Samoan Islands, 21 days. Yacht cruise. Anthropology, nature. Leaders, N.A. \$1750 from California. TOC.
- 8 East Africa, 19 days. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, George Plimpton, Adrian Luekhurst. \$2950
 from New York, VENT.
- 10 Colombia, 23 days. Birds. Leader, Steve Hilty. \$1795 from Miami. BB.
- 14 East Africa, 14 days. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Burt and Rose Monroe. \$1995 from New York. 14-day extension \$590. FCT.
- 14 Alaska, Pribilof Is., 14 days. Wildlife, birds. Leader, Florence Krall. Approx. \$1485 from Seattle. Repeated July 21. Leader, William Jahoda. NAS.
- 15 Australia, 21 days. Birds, wildlife. Limit 12. Leader, Dr. Charles D. Fisher. Price, N.A. MT.
- 16 Olympic Peninsula, 9 days. Birds. Leader, Terry Wahl. \$595 from Seattle. RR.
- 16 Maine, Gasp8, 12 days. Birds. Leader, Bob Conn. \$795 from Bangor. RR.
- 21 Iceland, 17 days. Birds. Leader, Brynjar Viborg. \$1581 from New York. RR.
- 23 Panama and Tikal, 22 days. Birds, natural history, Leader, Steve West. Price, N.A. WNT.
- 25 British Columbia, Alaska, 14 days. Yawl cruise. Scenery, nature. Leader, N.A. \$700 from Sidney, B.C. Repeated July 10, Aug. 10, 21, Sept. 7. (Ten day trips \$500). TOC.
 - Northwest Canada, 7 days. Weekly departures from Yellowknife. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Glen and Trish Warner, \$1280. FCT.

AUGUST, 1977

- Sri Lanka (Ceylon), 17 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, Noble Proctor. \$1860 from New York. NAS.
- Colombia, 9 days. Birds. Leader, Steve Hilty.
 \$995 from Miami. BB.

From the shores of Gitche-gumee . . .



MINNEHAHA WILD RICE

Longfellow's legend of Hiawatha and Minnehaha is a poetic classic of the Sioux and Chippewa. Long before Longfellow, these Indians had found wild rice, mahnomonee, and made it the basic vegetable in their diet.

Minnehaha's people considered wild rice a perfect food: highly nutritious and richly delicious. They were right: 100% natural wild rice has five times the iron of white rice, twice the potassium and protein, and ten times the vitamins B-1 and B-2.

Once, wild rice grew from the Gulf of Mexico to Hudson's Bay, from the Atlantic to the Rockies. Today, it grows only along the Minnesota-Canada border.

Minnehaha Wild Rice is the finest quality of this rarest of grains. Enjoy it with fowl and game, fish and beef . . . the perfect touch at any meal.

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One-four lb_shipments @ \$6 85/lb_\$
My check is enclosed for total:
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Address
City
StateZıp
L

Volume 31, Number 1 99

- 6 New Guinea, 14 days. Extension to Australia. Leader, price, N.A. MT.
- 6 Southeast Arizona, 8 days. Birds, natural history. Leaders, Rich Stallcup, Arthur Earle. \$250, PRBO.
- 10 Venezuela, 7 days. Birds. Leader, Dr. Jaime Pujals. \$695 from Miami. BB.
- 10 Trinidad, French Guinea, 11 days. Birds, butterflies, jungle wildlife. Leader, N.A. \$1449 from New York. Repeated Oct. 10. HET.
- 11 New Guinea, 22 days. Birds. Leader, Brian Coates. \$3195 from San Francisco. BB.
- 22 Switzerland, Germany, Holland, 22 days. Birds, culture. Leader, Bob Worthing. \$1295 from New York. NJAS.
- 29 Britain, 12 days. Birds, culture. Leaders, Davis Finch, Will Russell. Price, N.A. NB.
- 31 Malaysia and Hong Kong, 28 days. Birds, natural history. Leader, Ben King. Price, N.A. WNT.
 - Tikal, Guatemala, 10 days. Birds, natural history, Mayan ruins. Leader, Christopher Leahy and others. Price, N.A. MAS.

SEPTEMBER, 1977

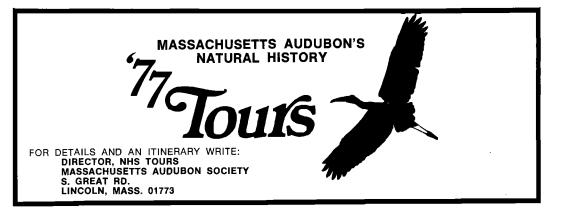
- 12 Canadian Islands, 11 days. Birds. Leaders, Dayis Finch, Will Russell. Price, N.A. NB.
- 18 Maine-Nova Scotia, 10 days. Birds. Leader, Price, N.A. WNT.

- 21 California, 15 days. Birds. Leader, Rich Stallcup. \$975 from San Francisco. BB.
- 24 California, 15 days. Birds, natural history. Leader, Jim Lane and another. San Diego to San Francisco. About \$970. MAS.
- 27 Bermuda, 7 days. Bird migration, natural history. Leaders, N.A. About \$765 from Boston. MAS.
- 28 Monhegan Island, Maine, 8 days. Birds Leaders, Davis Finch, Will Russell. Price, N.A. NB.
- 28 Australia, 21 days. Wildlife, birds. Leader, Stanley Quickmire. Approx. \$2400 from Los Angeles. Extension to New Guinea, 10 days Price N.A. NAS.

OCTOBER, 1977

- 8 Panama, 15 days. Birds, wildlife. Leader, price, N.A. MT.
- 15 Brazil/Argentina, 35 days. Birds, natural history. Leader, N.A. About \$4620 from M1am1. MAS.
- 16 Zambia, 29 days. Birds. Leader, Robert Dowselt. \$3185 from New York. BB.
- 29 Australia, 21 days. Birds, wildlife. Leaders, Russ Mason, Nina Steffee. \$2995 from Honolulu. 7-day extension New Zealand. \$850. FCT.

KEY TO SPONSORS — AMNH, American Museum of Natural History, CPW at 79th St.,



New York, NY 10024. BB, Bird Bonanzas, Inc., 12550 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 501, North Miami, FL 33181. FCT, Flying Carpet Tours, Inc., 6220 S. Orange Blossom Trail, Suite 194, Orlando, FL 32809. GSS, Gorgas Science Society, 4926 Strass Drive, Austin, TX 78731. HEC, Hacienda El Cobano, Univ. of Oklahoma, 555 E. Constitution Ave., Norman, OK 73037. HET, Hanns Ebensten Travel, Inc., 55 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036. MAS, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. MT. Merlin Birding Tours, P.O. Box 19687, Houston, TX 77024. NAS, National Audubon Society, Harwinton, CT 06790. NB, Northeast Birding, c/o Maude Russell, Seal Harbor, ME 04675. NJAS, Mohawk Travel of Livingston, 60 E. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039. NWE, North-West Expeditions, Ltd., Box 1551, Edmonton, Alta., Canada T5J 2N5. O, Orbitair, Ltd., 20 E. 46th St.,

New York, NY 10017. PRBO, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970. RR, Roadrunner Nature Tours, 3820 Hanover, Dallas, TX 75225. TOC, The Oceanic Society, Building 240, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123. VENT, Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, 1603 West Clay, Houston, TX 77019. WNT, World Nature Tours, Inc., P.O. Box 693, Woodmor Sta., Silver Springs, MD 20901 N.A. = Not available.

The following tour sponsors, with multiple listings during this period, are not represented on the calendar above: Ornitholidays, 44 Aldwyck Rd., Bognor Regis, Sussex, England (worldwide), Ontario Nature Tours, 511-71 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M4H, 1L3; (Canada, worldwide), and Wilderness Southeast, Inc., Route 3, Box 619, Savannah, GA 31406 (Southeast, Central America).

The Last Word

This is the second issue of American Birds in succession that has been slimmer than usual, with the major emphasis on the detailed population studies of representative tracts of land that we call Winter Bird-Population Studies and Breeding Bird Censuses. We hasten to assure our readers, particularly new subscribers, that these issues are not typical of what they will find in our pages in the months to come.

There are many ornithologists, particularly those who are primarily ecologists concerned with populations and the environments that sustain them, who believe that these studies are the most important of all the field work that we publish. They point to the increasing use of such studies in environmental impact statements, and the steady growth in numbers of institutions and of censustakers who are involved with this work. It is by means of such studies that we are beginning to understand where our continent's bird populations are, and more importantly, why.

There is no doubt, however, that a great majority of our readers consider that the issues featuring these studies are the least readable issues of the year. We suspect that numbers of readers simply will not make the (not inconsiderable) effort it takes to pore over page after page of detailed floristic analyses, long lists of bird species measled

with figures, and a format so standardized as to be almost hypnotic. We have been told that studies such as these — no matter how valuable — are of such limited general interest that they should be published in much smaller editions — somewhere else.

Be that as it may — for this year at least we are continuing publication: this is the fortieth anniversary of the Breeding Bird Census. It will reward the serious (and determined) reader with insights not easily gained anywhere else. What kind of bird associations breed in a weedy field in Colorado (Censuses 104-7), or a Maple Thicket in Utah (Census 114), or a Mixed Hardwood Forest in Alabama (Census 50), or in a residential neighborhood in Ontario (Census 167)? How lifesupportive is an Urban Park in California (Census 133) as compared to an Alaskan tundra (Censuses 141-2), or a marsh in the Florida Everglades (Census 144)? Each of the 170 censuses printed here tell us something not only about habitats, but the species that inhabit them.

Now that these two catch-up issues (December, 1976, and January, 1977) are behind us, American Birds will begin to give evidence of the promised improvement in content and appearance promised earlier. Our next, March issue, will assuredly be the finest we have yet published, and those that