# ABA-Enjoy Very Special Birding

#### FEATURED ENDORSED TOUR

#### Custom Tours: Hawaii 2008

If a trip to Hawaii is in your plans, birding with Hawaii Forest & Trail guides is the best way to maximize your experience on the islands. The Hakalau Forest National Forest Wildlife Refuge holds Akepa, Akiapolaau, Amakihi, Apapane, Hawaii Creeper, l'iwi, Elepaio, Omao, Io and Pueo. Or try the Rainforest & Dryforest Birdwatching Adventure on Mauna Kea for Nene, Palila, Akiapolaau, Amakihi, Apapane, Hawaii Creeper, l'iwi, Elepaio, Omao, Io and Pueo. Hawaii Forest & Trail, www.hawaii-forest.com, info@hawaii-forest.com, (808)331-8505.

Jan 20-31 – Zapata Peninsula, Northern Archipelago & Eastern Endemic Regions of Cuba. Once again, pending license from the US Treasury, the Cuba Bird Study Program will visit the birding hotspots of Cuba. This is always an opportunity that depends on government relations at the highest level, however their past history has been successful in receiving the required permits. Cuba Bird Study Program, Gary Markowski, cubirds@aol.com, (860) 350-6752.

Mar 8-15 – Family Birding Trip in Ecuador. This Ecuador trip is designed for families who are interested in the best variety of nature, culture and birding in the Quito region. Trip includes subtropical rain forests, hummingbird reserve, waterfalls and swimming holes, and evening walks for bats and owls. Tropical Nature Travel, www.tropicalnaturetravel.com, travel@tropicalnaturetravel.com, (877) 888-1770.

#### April 3-12 – Zapata Peninsula, and the Mountains and Forests of Western Cuba.

This trip covers locations in western, central, and southern endemic habitats, and visits the southern Caribbean coast; excellent opportunities to see most of Cuba's endemics.

April 14-18 & 21-25 – Texas: High Island Migration. Take in the coastal beaches and marshes for huge numbers of shorebirds, to the famed migrant traps of High Island, then inland to the Pineywoods for that Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Birding America, www.birding-america.com, info@birding america.com, (800) 744-6150.

May-June – Pribilofs – St. Paul Island. St. Paul Island is home to millions of seabirds

nesting in easily observed colonies along the steep shores of the island. Thousands of migrating gulls, shorebirds, seabirds, ducks and passerines are drawn to this remote island in the Bering Sea. Wilderness Birding Adventures, www.wildernessbirding.com, info @wildernessbirding.com, (907) 694-7442.

May 10-21 – Birding in Peru with Barry Walker. This favorite tour includes lodges in Lima (sea level), Cusco (11,600 feet), Machu Picchu and of course the Manu Wildlife Center. To fully enjoy this trip, participants must be in sufficient good health (walking, uneven ground, high elevations). Find high Andean waterfowl, mixed flocks of tanagers, flycatchers, furnarids, plus plus! Target endemics of the area, with several days at the Manu, known for its high biodiversity, thus abundant variety of bird life. Contact Siemer & Hand Travel, www.siemerhand.com, (800) 451-4321.

May 26-June 9 – China: Sichuan and the Tibetan Plateau. Referred to as the "Heavenly Kingdom", this area's natural beauty and spectacular scenery provide a wonderful backdrop for most of the central Chinese endemics as well as up to 10 amazing pheasants. Tropical Birding, www.tropical birding.com, info@tropicalbirding.com, (800) 348-5941.

June – Gambell and Nome Tour. Visit two of the most famous birding spots during spring migration where streams of birds fly by. Great opportunities for Asian migrants and unusual breeders in a very special place. Wilderness Birding Adventures, www. wildernessbirding.com, info@wilderness birding.com, (907) 694-7442.



Please contact tour company directly for information and reservations, and identify yourself as an ABA member Tour companies pay ABA a commission for each ABA participant.



For more tours go to www.aba.org/tours

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