

# ABA-Endorsed Tours

Enjoy Very Special Birding

## FEATURED ENDORSED TOUR

### Sep 28–Oct 12 – Drakensberg Mountains to the Elephant Coast of Kwazulu Natal

Leaving Johannesburg, we will search the arid kopjes for No. Black Korhaan, Orange River Francolin, Red-eyed Bulbul, Chestnut-backed Finch Lark and Black-throated Canary. On the rocky slopes of the mountains, we look for Jackal Buzzard, Drakensberg Rockjumper, Drakensberg Siskin and Bearded Vulture. Drop down to lower elevations for such birds as the Knysna Turaco and Cape Parrot before heading to the coast (Purple-crested Turaco, Pink-throated Twinspot, Gorgeous Bush Shrike, Green-spotted Wood-Dove), plus raptors. Continue to the grasslands for Southern Bald Ibis, Blue Korhaan, Yellow-breasted Pipit, and the rare and endangered Rudd's and Botha's Larks. Optional 3-night extension. Contact Avian Leisure Birding & Wildlife Safaris, enquiries@avianleisure.com, www.avianleisure.com, +27 21 786 1414.

### Mar 29–Apr 9 – Zapata Peninsula, Northern Archipelago & Western 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

### May 23-26 – 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, fumarids, 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.tropicalbirding.com, info@tropicalbirding.com, (800) 348-5941.

### May 28-June 5 – 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@wildernessbirding.com, (907) 694-7442.

### June 18-28 – The Galapagos Islands

Cruise the islands of Ecuador, beginning with a land trip in Quito, and ending in Guayaquil. Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station, for those special species of the Galapagos. The La Pinta is the newest ship in the fleet of Metropolitan Touring. Contact Jane Kress, Avalon Waterways, www.avalonwaterways.com, (877) 303-7735.

### Oct 3-18 and Oct 24-Nov 8 – Madagascar

Madagascar's flora and fauna are so different from anywhere else on Earth that it is often regarded as an eighth continent. Great chance to see all of the five families of birds that are found only here, as well as most of the 120 endemic species. Contact Tropical Birding, info@tropicalbirding.com, www.tropicalbirding.com, (800) 348-5941.

### Oct 4-21 – SE Brazil: Atlantic Rainforest & Savannah

Visit the best sites in both regions for maximum birds: endemic antbirds, cotingas, flycatchers, and tanagers of the coastal rainforest, plus the specialties of the drier savannah and gallery forests of the interior. Contact Tropical Birding, info@tropicalbirding.com, www.tropicalbirding.com, (800) 348-5941.

### Oct 12-26 – South Africa: Fairest Cape to Kruger

Expect to see over 400 species on this tour, including bee-eaters, hornbills, kingfishers, barbets and sunbirds in the beautiful country also rich in wildlife. Diversity increases with visits to tropical savanna, golden-green grasslands, the semi-desert Karoo and the heath-like fynbos. Contact Tropical Birding, info@tropicalbirding.com, www.tropicalbirding.com, (800) 348-5941.

### Nov 15-22 – Late Migrants & Winter Wildfowl of North Norfolk

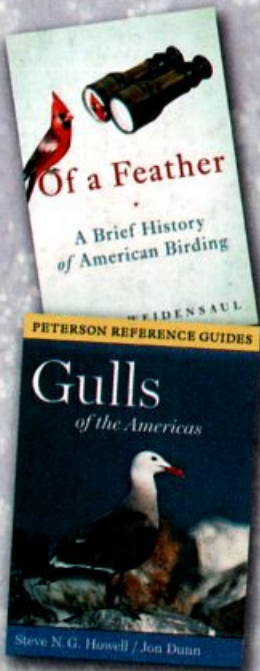
Visit the premier birding county in the UK to catch the over wintering specialties as they settle in, enjoy late migrants, and possibly encounter a few rare species. Traditional guest house accommodations. Contact Neil Donaghy, Celtic Tours, birds@celtictours.org.uk, 1 656 645 709.



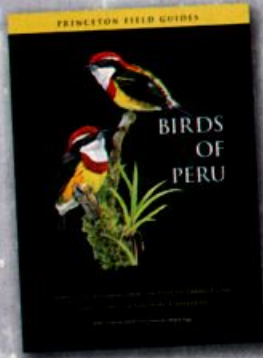
Please contact tour company directly for information and reservations, and identify yourself as an ABA member. Tour companies pay ABA a commission for each ABA participant.

For more tours go to [www.aba.org/tours](http://www.aba.org/tours)

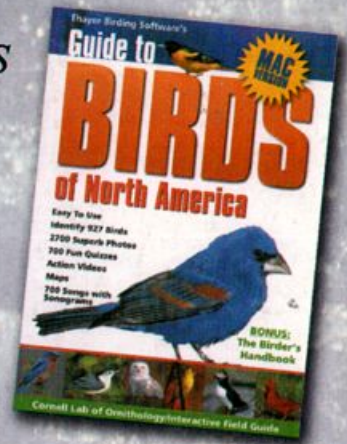
  
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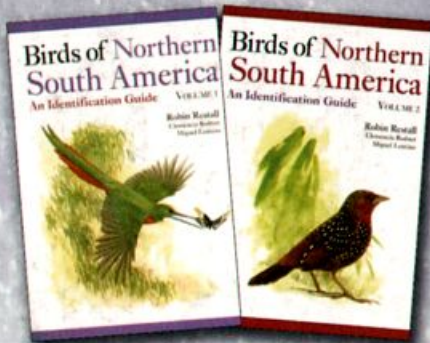
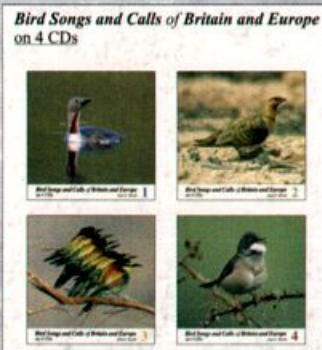


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