



## BIRDING THE NORTH: ARICA, ATACAMA AND THE ALTIPLANO

Length: 5 days/4 nights



This unique program explores the driest region on earth with a very diverse and productive list of birds that inhabits the Pacific coast and high plateau of the Andean range. This is the home of specialties as the Giant Coot, Puna, James and Chilean Flamingo, Oasis Hummingbird and the threatened and tame Chilean Woodstar among others. Our journey will take us from the coast to over 3.500 mts / 11.500 ft a.s.l. and will give us the chance to add a great list of birds that are not used to be found in other regions of Chile.

### ITINERARY

#### **DAY 1: ARICA, OASES AND VALLEYS**

Meet your guide at the airport of Arica to start exploring the Pacific Coast and the oases near the city as the Azapa and Chaca valleys looking for specialties as the Oasis Hummingbird, the much endangered Chilean Woodstar, Tamarugo Conebill, Peruvian Sheartail, Slender-billed Finch among others. // Box lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Arica

***Some of the species of the day:*** *Oasis Hummingbird, Chilean Woodstar, Slender-billed Finch, Peruvian thick-knee, Tamarugo Conebill, among others.*



*Chroicocephalus serranus*

#### **DAY 2: ARICA SURROUNDINGS: LLUTA VALLEY AND PUTRE**

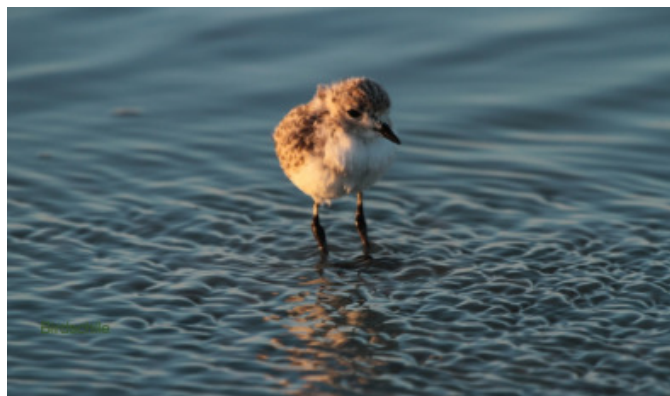
Early birding at the river Lluta mouth. This area is well known for the abundance of species of shorebirds and gulls and it is not unusual to spot some rarities. Later we will explore the valley of this river to look for specialties of the area. In the afternoon we will drive in direction to the Aymara village of Putre (3.400 mts.) taking advantage to do some birding as we approach to the slopes of the Andean range. // Breakfast, box lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Putre.

***Some of the species of the day:*** Guanay and Red-legged Cormorant, Inca Tern, Willet, Peruvian Booby, Belcher and Grey Gull, Peruvian Meadowlark, Sparkling Violetear, Andean Hillstar, Creamy breasted and Canyon Canasteros, among others.

#### **DAY 3: LAUCA NATIONAL PARK**

Today is the day of the endemics of the eco-region of the Altiplano or High Andean Plateau (Over 4.000 – 4.500 mts). Surrounded by stunning landscapes we will explore this world biosphere reserve from the first light of the morning to the end of the day to have a full comprehensive experience of this unique eco-system. // Breakfast, box lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Putre

***Some of the species of the day:*** Chilean, Puna and Andean Flamingo, Puna Ibis, Puna Plover, Andean Lapwing, Grey-breasted Seedsnipe, Diademed Sandpiper-Plover, Andean Flicker, Cordilleran Canastero, Andean Negrito, Black Siskin among many other species.



*Charadrius alticola*

**DAY 4: LAUCA NATIONAL PARK & PUTRE SURROUNDINGS / BACK TO ARICA**

A dedicated full day exploration of the whole area around Putre very well known for the abundance of specialties that inhabits the pre-puna shrubs habitats. Transfer to Arica. // Breakfast, box lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Arica.

***Some of the species of the day:*** Hooded Siskin, Thick-billed Siskin, Golden-billed Saltator, Blue-and-Yellow Tanager, Mountain Parakeet, Aplomado Falcon among many others.

**DAY 5: TRANSFER TO ARICA AIRPORT. END OF THE PROGRAM.**

Destinations	Arica, Altiplano, Putre, National Park Lauca
Departure	Arica
Length	5 days / 4 nights
Difficulty	Low. In some places we will reach high altitude (4.000 mts / 13.000 ft a.s.l.)
Activities	Bird watching Photography Scenic landscapes Birding focused trip Soft walk
Meals	Breakfast from day 2. Box lunch and dinner for every day (vegetarian, vegan and gluten intolerant options available upon request)
Accommodations	Day 1: Arica / Day 2-3: Putre / Day 4: Arica
Transportation	Professional Driver with license A2, modern vehicles, window seat guaranteed for each traveller, private terrestrial transportation
Insurances	Metlife coverage for each traveller between 18 and 64 years old
Equipment provided	Literature, field guide, birds check list, spotting scope. Extra set of binoculars available upon request. Window seat guaranteed during land transportation.
Equipment required	Sun-hat and sunscreen, comfortable shoes, protection from dust for your personal equipment (cameras, lens, binoculars), warm clothes for night and high altitude, light color clothing. Bottles for water. RECOMMENDATION: A good book and a field guide to bring during your trip in Chile is Alvaro Jaramillo's Birds of Chile, English version available at Amazon.com.
Not included	International and Domestic flights (we can book it for you upon request), tips, insurances and any other item not specified
Guide	Bilingual Naturalist guide expert in birdlife with International Wilderness First Responder Certification
Minimum of passengers	This trip is guaranteed to depart with a minimum of two participants. Maximum 8 participants.
Sustainability	0% Plastic emissions, Carbon Print compensation, Water to refill reusable bottles, small groups for low impact, 100% of the waste produced recycled, Conservation/Educational Programs supported through your booking
Booking and cancellations	Full payment of the trip fee must be done 60 days prior the departure 59 – 40 days prior the departure: 70% refund 39 – 20 days prior the departure: 50% refund Less than 20 days: no refund
Domestic flights route required	Flight in/out Arica must follow BirdsChile suggested route

