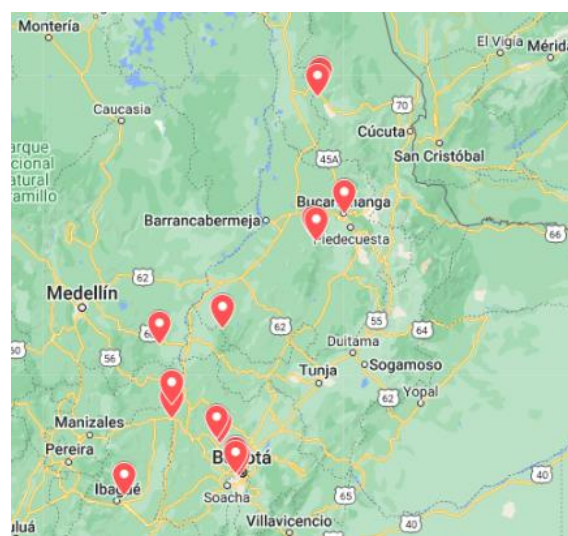


MANAKIN NATURE TOURS
www.manakinnaturetours.com
info@manakinnaturetours.com
 Cra 4F No. 47C 04 Casa 6 Mnz

CLASSIC COLOMBIAN MAGDALENA VALLEY

The lowlands of the Magdalena Valley provide the perfect habitat for over 500 bird species and stand out as a remarkable hotspot of endemism. This route takes you through the tropical rainforests of the Magdalena Valley and the stunning ecosystems of the Eastern Andes. You'll have the chance to observe a variety of beautiful birds thriving in the region's biodiverse secondary forests. Notably, this area is home to some of Colombia's most enigmatic and sought-after species, including those with restricted distributions such as the iconic Blue-billed Curassow.



Tour Map:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1WYNeJ6E_fLNNXYqlf6pUJKqhDJsLVQ0&usp=sharing

ITINERARY

July 6: Day 1. Arrival to Bogotá/ Night in Hilton Garden Inn

July 7: Day 2. Florida, Jardín Encantado, Lake Tabacal / Night in Honda Waka Hotel

July 8: Day 3. Honda Dry Forest / Night in Honda Waka Hotel

July 9: Day 4. Guarinocito Lake, transfer Victoria, Bella vista / Night in Victoria
July 10: Day 5. Bellavista and around, transfer Rio Claro / Night in Rio Claro
July 11: Day 6. Rio claro Natural Reserve / Night in Rio Claro
July 12: Day 7. Rio claro Natural Reserve / Night in Rio Claro
July 13: Day 8. Transfer Paujil Natural Reserve / Night in Paujil
July 14: Day 9. Paujil Natural Reserve / Night in Paujil
July 15: Day 10. Paujil Natural Reserve/ Night in Paujil
July 16: Day 11. Transfer San Vicente de Chucurí / Night in San Vicente
July 17: Day 12. Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve / Night in San Vicente
July 18: Day 13. Transfer Ocaña / Night in Ocaña
July 19: Day 14. Bush Bird Reserve / Night in Ocaña
July 20: Day 15. Bush Bird Reserve, transfer Bucaramanga, fly to Bogotá/ Night in Hilton Garden Inn
July 21: Day 16. Fly to home

DETAILED ITINERARY

July 6/ Day 1. Arrival to Bogotá/ Night in Hilton Garden Inn

Our protocol staff will be waiting for you to transfer to the hotel and to welcome you to Colombia, you will have instructions for the activities next day.

Night in Hilton Garden Inn: http://www.hiltonhotels.com/es_XM/colombia/hilton-garden-inn-bogota-airport/

July 7/ Day 2. Florida, Jardín Encantado, Tabacal Lake / Night in Honda

La Florida District Park / Bogotá



Bogotá, the vibrant capital of Colombia, sits at an altitude of 2,600 meters with a comfortable temperature range of 12-20°C. This bustling metropolis, home to ten million residents, was once surrounded by wetlands, though only a few remnants remain today. For birdwatching enthusiasts, La Florida District Park is a top choice within the city. This Park features a wetland area as part of an important conservation and reforestation initiative. It serves as a crucial habitat for birds native to the Cundiboyacense plateau and provides a vital resting spot for migratory species. Strolling along the wetland's edge is a delightful experience, with floral bushes lining the path offering excellent opportunities to observe rare and restricted bird species as Bogota Rail. La Florida District Park seamlessly combines urban convenience with rich natural beauty, making it an ideal destination for birdwatchers and nature lovers.

Elevation: 2600 masl / **Mobility:** Easy, trails along the lake, grasslands / **Temperature:** 12-20°C

Ebird

Hotspot:

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L656882/bird-list>

Key species: Bogota Rail, Rufous-browed Conebill, Spot-flanked Gallinule, Yellow-hooded Blackbird, Blue-winged Teal, Andean Ruddy Duck, Subtropical Doradito, Silvery-throated Spinetail, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Apolinar's Wren, Black Flowerpiercer, Sparkling Violetear, Lesser Goldfinch, Andean Siskin, Smoky-brown Woodpecker.

Jardín Encantado (Enchanted Garden) / San Francisco

Enchanted Garden (Jardin Encantado), located just 1.5 hours from Bogotá in the picturesque town of San Francisco, is a charming rural retreat renowned for its vibrant hummingbird activity. For over 25 years, Mrs. Leonor Pardo has maintained hummingbird feeders, turning this spot into a premier destination for bird enthusiasts. Visitors can observe between 12 to 16 different hummingbird species, with more than 23 species recorded to date. This enchanting garden has captivated hundreds of bird lovers and curious tourists alike, offering a perfect introduction to the world of birdwatching. Its allure extends to international acclaim, having been visited by notable figures such as the Princess of Japan and various ambassadors. Jardín Encantado stands as a must-visit gem near Bogotá, combining natural beauty with a welcoming atmosphere.

Elevation: 1600 masl / **Mobility:** easy, stationary / **Temperature:** 20-26°C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1452352/bird-list>

Key species: Indigo-capped Hummingbird, Gorgeted Woodstar, White-Bellied Woodstar, Red-Billed emerald, Short-tailed emerald, Black-throated Mangoo, White-necked Jacobin, Ruby Topaz, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, White-vented Plumleteer, Brown Violetear, Andean Emerald.

Tabacal Lake/ La Vega



Located in the municipality of La Vega 1.5 hours from the city of Bogotá, this small lagoon is surrounded by montane and premontane forest full of birds and very good diversity; in the rural area around the lake, some areas for agriculture and secondary growth predominate that house more than 350 species of birds. Walking along the paths of this lagoon is always productive, it is very easy and quiet, there you can see some species of birds known only to the northeast of Colombia that coincidentally by foothills of the eastern mountain range are also there.

Elevation: 1300-1600 masl / **Mobility:** Easy, Unpaved rural road, trails around the lagoon / **Temperature:** 22-28 ° C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1252637/bird-list>

Key Species: Bay-headed tanager, Scrub tanager, Plain-colored tanager, Rosy thrush tanager, Speckle-breasted Wren, Black-bellied Wren, Rusty-breasted Antpitta, White-throated Crake, Ringed Kingfisher, Spectacled Parrotlet.

Night in Hotel Rural Waka: <http://www.wakahotel.com>

July 8/ Day 3. Honda Dry Forest / Night in Honda- Waka Hotel

On this day, you will continue with bird watching activities in the surroundings of Honda, where you will have the opportunity to observe a great variety of species.

Night in Hotel Rural Waka: <http://www.wakahotel.com>

July 9/ Day 4. Guarinocito Lake, transfer Victoria, Bella vista / Night in Victoria Charca de Guarinocito / Caldas



Welcome to the Integrated Management District, a stunning 75-hectare tropical dry forest nestled within an abandoned meander of the Magdalena River. This unique ecosystem, nourished by rain and streams, boasts an impressive array of flora, including samanes, guácimos, payandés, and over 80 other plant species like the American oil palm. The rich biodiversity here supports a vibrant community of wildlife, from colorful beetles and butterflies to remarkable amphibians like the yellow frog. Reptiles such as alligators and aquatic turtles thrive alongside fascinating mammals, including the gray marmoset and nocturnal monkey. With a diverse population of birds uniquely adapted to wetland habitats, this area is a true haven for nature lovers. In this protected environment, we harmoniously blend tourism, sustainable practices, and conservation efforts, showcasing that a balanced coexistence between people and ecosystems is not only possible but thriving.

Elevation: 189 - 2000 masl / **Mobility:** Easy / **Temperature:** 23-36 ° C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L6248331/bird-list>

Key species: Rufous-tailed Jacamar, White-throated Crake, Least Bittern, Cocoi Heron, Neotropic Cormorant, Southern Lapwing, Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Anhinga, Yellow-hooded Blackbird, Greater Tinamou, Lesser Tinamou, Buffon's Hummingbird, Cholibá Scops Owl.

Night in Maria Paula Hotel: <https://es-es.facebook.com/hotel.mariapaula>

July 10/ Day 5. Bellavista and around, transfer Rio Claro / Night in Rio Claro

Bellavista Natural Reserve - Important Area for the Conservation of Birds and Biodiversity (AICA) / Victoria



Welcome to Bellavista, a Public Natural Reserve located in the municipality of Victoria, in the department of Caldas. Set within the Mid-Magdalena tropical rainforests, this reserve offers a range of habitats that support a variety of bird species. Visitors can observe Woodpeckers, Manakins, Toucans, and other birds both within the forest and along its edges, including areas of secondary growth. Birdwatching here is

accessible, with an unpaved road that leads to a nearby community and a wildlife rescue center. Bellavista also provides opportunities to encounter some endemic species of the region, making it a worthwhile stop for bird enthusiasts exploring the area. During your visit, you can enjoy meals with views of the town of Victoria, known for its traditional architecture and quiet, rural atmosphere. A highlight of the town is the presence of large Ceiba trees in the main square, adding to the experience of a day spent in nature and local culture.

Elevation: 800-1200 masl / **Mobility:** Easy – Medium, dirt road, trails inside the reserve. /

Temperature: 26-32°C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L4465017/bird-list>

Key species: Beautiful Woodpecker, Antioquia Bristle-Tyrant, Sooty Ant-Tanager, Magdalena Antbird, White-mantlet Barbet, Colombian Chachalaca, Velvet-fronted Euphonia, Sooty-headed Wren, Black-faced Tanager, Citron-throated Toucan, Striped Manakin, White-bibbed Manakin, White-bearded Manakin, Golden-headed Manakin, Tawny-crested Tanager, Tody Motmot, Barred Puffbird, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Black-chested Jay, Orange-crowned Oriole.

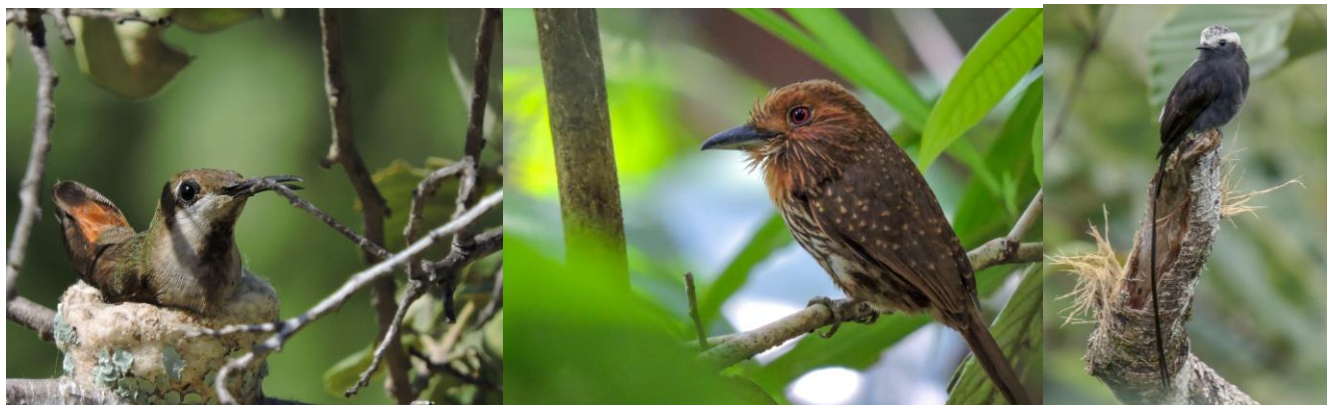
Night in Rio Claro: <http://www.rioclaroreservanatural.com>

July 11 – 12 / Day 6, 7. Rio claro Natural Reserve / Night in Rio Claro

Rio Claro Nature Reserve (Magdalena Valley) / Antioquia



Discover the enchanting beauty of this extraordinary natural reserve, nestled just 3 hours from Medellín, in the heart of the Mid-Magdalena River basin and alongside the Claro River. Here, the landscape is sculpted by limestone formations, beneath which a tropical rainforest thrives, creating a breathtaking setting rich in biodiversity and high levels of endemism. This reserve is not only a sanctuary for the region's unique bird species but also hosts a fascinating array of amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, and insects. As one of Colombia's most pristine forest remnants, it has remained untouched for centuries, providing a critical refuge for endangered species such as the White-footed Tamarin and the Neotropical Otter. The Claro River area stands out as one of the most biodiverse spots in the department of Antioquia, boasting the highest density of registered species in the region.



Elevation: 200-400 masl / **Mobility:** Easy – Medium, dirt road, trails inside the reserve / **Temperature:** 26-32°C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L2339182/bird-list>

Key species: Antbird, Stripe-throated Hermit, Ruby Topaz, Purple-crowned Fairy, Western White-tailed Trogon, Pied Puffbird, Barred Puffbird, White-whiskered Puffbird, Cinnamon Woodpecker, Jet Antbird, Pacific Antwren, Brown-capped Tyrannulet, Southern Bentbill, Long-tailed Tyrant, Rufous Piha, Blue Cotinga, Black-chested Jay, Rufous Wren, Scarlet-browed Tanager, Plain-coloured Tanager, Golden-hooded Tanager, White-ear Conebill, Slate-coloured Seedeater, Thick-billed Seed Finch, Large-bellied Seed Finch, Masked Yellowthroated, Orange-crowned Oriole, Fulvous-vented Euphonia.

Night in Rio Claro: <http://www.rioclaroreservanatural.com>

July 13,14 & 15 / Day 8, 9, 10 Transfer Paujil Natural Reserve / Night in Paujil

El Paujil ProAves Natural Reserve / Puerto Boyacá



Approximately three hours from Puerto Boyacá, the Blue-billed Curassow Reserve awaits along a charming rural road and a rustic, bumpy path. This hidden gem spans over 5,000 acres of lush tropical rainforest in the heart of the Magdalena Valley, one of Colombia's most endangered ecosystems since the era of colonization. Home to more than 300 bird species, including seven endemic to the region, the reserve is a crucial sanctuary for the critically endangered Blue-billed Curassow. El Paujil Natural Reserve is a haven for wildlife, where you can encounter rare mammal species like the critically endangered Magdalena Spider Monkey. As you journey along the access road, keep an eye out for spectacular bird species in the open

areas, including the striking Northern Screamer and macaws. Experience the magic of this reserve, where every moment unveils the wonders of Colombia's diversity and wildlife.

Elevation: 300 – 1200 masl / **Mobility:** Easy – Medium, rural unpaved road, trails in the reserve / **Temperature:** 24 – 32 °C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L5668662/bird-list>

Key species: Blue-billed Curassow, Sooty-ant Tanager, Beautiful Woodpecker, Saffron-headed Parrot, Channel-billed Toucan, Cinnamon Woodpecker, Blue Cotinga, Antioquia Bristle-tyrant, Southern Bentbill, Black-billed Flycatcher, Barred Puffbird, Blue and Yellow Macaw, Bare-crowned Antbird.

Night in Paujil Natural Reserve: <http://www.alianzaparalaconservacion.co/reservas/reserva-natural-de-las-aves-chamicero-del-perija/>

July 16/ Day 11. Transfer San Vicente de Chucurí / Night in San Vicente

On this day, you will travel to San Vicente de Chucuri, approximately 5 hours and 30 minutes from the Paujil Nature Reserve.

Night in Hotel Boutique Quinta Tibigaro <https://g.page/hotel-boutique-quinta-tibigaro?share>

July 17/ Day 12. Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve / Night in San Vicente

Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve / San Vicente de Chucuri



In the charming village of San Vicente de Chucurí, just three hours from Bucaramanga, the Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve is an excellent place for bird enthusiasts. This fertile landscape, surrounded by mountains, is renowned for its shaded coffee and cacao plantations. Scattered with native trees and small forested patches on the highest peaks, the reserve creates a verdant mosaic that's perfect for diverse bird species. The Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve offers an inviting environment for birdwatching with its gardens and strategically placed feeders. A serene unpaved road winds through this rural zone, providing an ideal pathway for observing a wide array of avian wonders.

Elevation: 1800 masl / **Mobility:** Easy – Medium, rural unpaved road / **Temperature:** 22-28°C

E-bird Hotspot: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1925997/bird-list>

Key species: Niceforo's Wren, Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird, Bar-crested Antshrike, Turquoise Dacnis, Beautiful Woodpecker, Yellow-browed Shrike-Vireo, Yellow-tufted Dacnis, Black-headed Brush-Finch, Scrub Greenlet, Rufous-naped Greenlet, Large-billed Seed-Finch, Andean Motmot, Spectacled Thrush.



Night in Hotel Boutique Quinta Tibigaro <https://g.page/hotel-boutique-quinta-tibigaro?share>

July 18/ Day 13. Transfer Ocaña / Night in Ocaña

On this day, you will transfer to Ocaña, approximately 5 hours and 30 minutes from San Vicente de Chucurí.

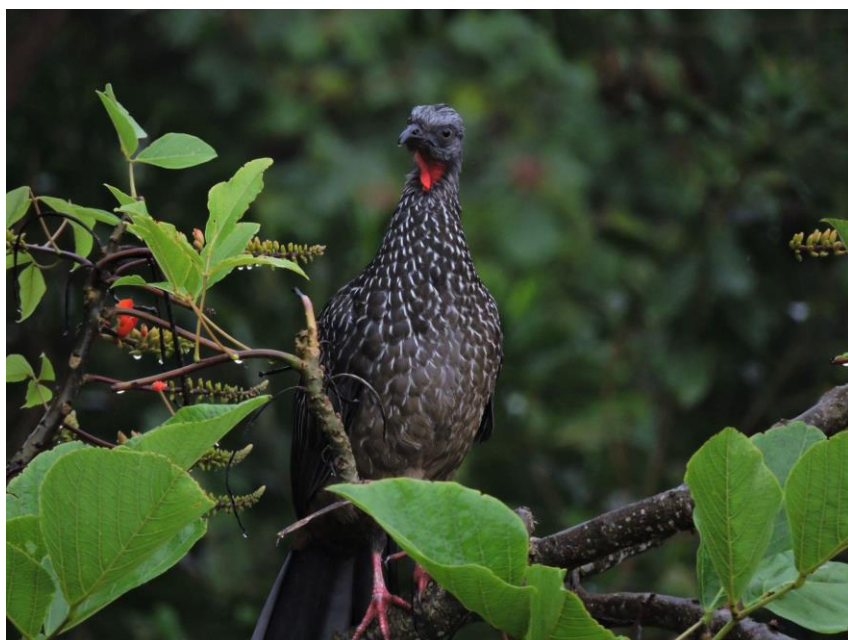
Night in Hotel Tarigua: <https://www.hoteltarigua.com/>

July 19/ Day 14. Bush Bird Reserve / Night in Ocaña

Bush Bird Reserve (RNA) /Ocaña

Just 25 minutes from the charming municipality of Ocaña in Norte de Santander, lies this remarkable natural reserve. Spanning 35 acres, it is dedicated to preserving the last remnants of sub-Andean and mountain forests, providing a sanctuary for some of the region's most elusive and endangered bird species. Among its treasures is the enigmatic Recurve-billed Bushbird (*Clytoctantes alixii*), rediscovered in Colombia in 2006 and a key highlight of this reserve. The reserve boasts a canopy dominated by *Rhipidocladum racemiflorum* bamboo, which is vital for the Bushbird's habitat and sustenance. Birdwatchers will find this reserve a paradise, with its extensive vegetation supporting a rich avian diversity. With over 250 species documented, including many endemics to the eastern Andes, it stands out as one of the most thoroughly researched birding locations in Norte de Santander.

Elevation: 700 – 900 masl / **Mobility:** Easy – Medium, rural unpaved road, trails inside the reserve, inclinations. / **Temperature:** 18-28°C / **E-bird Hotspot:** <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L652743/bird-list>



Key species: Recurved-billed Bushbird, Grey-throated Warbler, Striped-breasted Spinetail, Lined Quail-Dove, Klage's Antbird, Chestnut-bellied Thrust, Orange-billed Nightingale-thrust, White-bibbed Manakin, Band tailed Guan, Chestnut-capped Brush Finch, Black-headed Tanager, Burnished-buff Tanager, Speckled Tanager, Yellow-legged Thrush, Moustached Puffbird, Yellow-bellied Siskin, Cliff Flycatcher.

Night in Hotel Tarigua: <https://www.hoteltarigua.com/>

July 20/ Day 15. Bush Bird Reserve, transfer Bucaramanga, fly to Bogotá/ Night in Hilton Garden Inn

On this day, you will continue birdwatching at the Bush Bird Reserve and then transfer to Bucaramanga Airport, where you will take a flight to Bogotá.

Night in Hilton Garden Inn: http://www.hiltonhotels.com/es_XM/colombia/hilton-garden-inn-bogota-airport/

July 21/ Day 16. Fly to home

Distances between points of interest

Understanding distances allows you to estimate the time needed to travel between points of interest, and it also allows you to prepare adequately and have realistic expectations about the route.

| Departure and Arrival | Duration and Distance | Route Map |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Laguna Tabacal —> Honda Tolima | 2 h 22 min (98.2 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/Dj6qSNbzXfhoUAYo9 |
| Guarinocito —> La victoria | 35 min (28.0 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/heREi76D4CYpKF2S6 |
| Bellavista Natural Reserve —> Rio Claro | 2 h 28 min (144 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/5NGa23YejZfHCDnT7 |
| Rio Claro —> Paujil Natural Reserve | 3 h 30 min (155 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/RA39i3tCpWD6yJMB6 |
| Paujil Natural Reserve —> San Vicente de Chucurí | 5 h 14 min (215 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/kApEqQCuJm3CNW7MX7 |
| Cerulean Warbler Natural Reserve —> Ocaña | 5 h 19 min (287 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/BMskEW9A73Z3vJ429 |
| Bush Bird Reserve —> Bucaramanga | 4 h 36 min (180 km) | https://maps.app.goo.gl/JW4LH8xG6Nbnzkyr9 |

Some Hotels Descriptions

Hotel Rural Waka / Honda

Waka hotel is a place where you can connect with nature, enjoy simple things and make your days of rest a simply unforgettable experience. It has 15 rooms all with views of the pool or green areas or the mountains. <http://www.wakahotel.com>

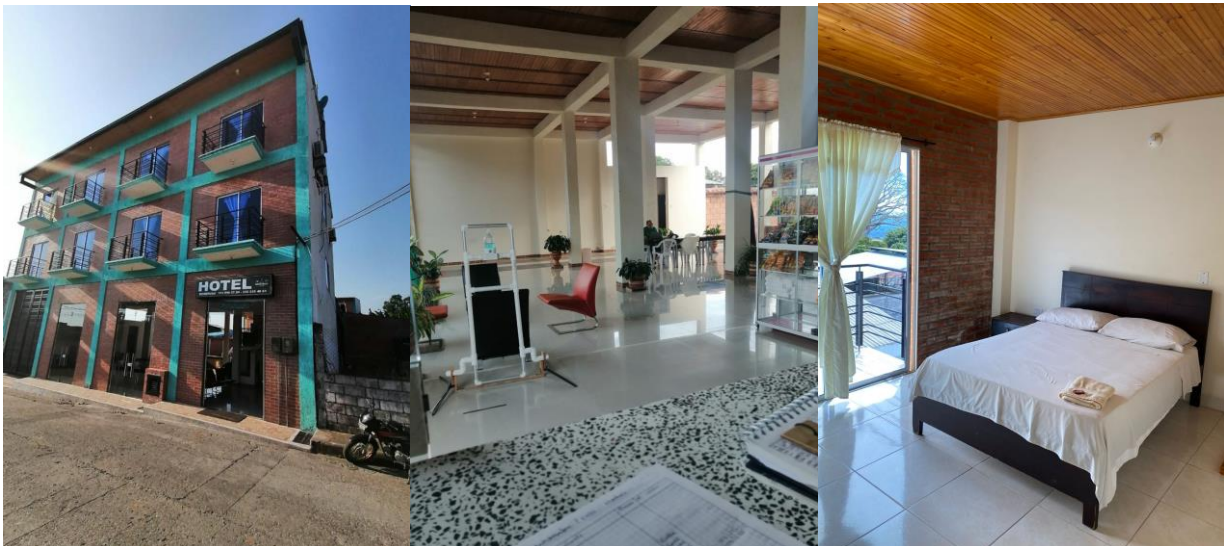
Wi- Fi: ☒ / Hot Water: ☐ / Air conditioning: ☒ / TV: ☒ / Laundry Service: ☒ / Hairdryer: ☐



Maria Paula Hotel/ Victoria - Caldas

The Hotel Maria Paula is conveniently located in the center of Victoria, Colombia. This charming accommodation offers guests a comfortable and welcoming stay, featuring spacious and well-equipped rooms. <https://es-es.facebook.com/hotel.mariapaula>

Wi- Fi: ☒ / Hot Water: ☐ / Air conditioning: ☐ / TV: ☒ / Laundry Service: ☒ / Hairdryer: ☐



Reserva Natural Rio Claro / Mulata - San Francisco

Two cores of rooms with a conventional closed structure, with semi-rustic finishes, surrounded by the forest and the singing of birds. Ideal for bird watchers (due to the high rate of sightings in the area), or for family groups and older people looking for contact with nature, tranquility and easy access. The rooms have a private bathroom and electrical connections. <http://www.rioclaroreservanatural.com>

Wi- Fi: ☐ / Hot Water: ☐ / Air conditioning: ☐ / TV: ☐ / Laundry Service: ☐ / Hairdryer: ☐



Hotel Boutique Quinta Tibigaro / San Vicente de Chucurí

This hotel offers room service and a 24-hour reception. The hotel has a sun terrace and hot tub. The accommodation's rooms have a private bathroom with a shower and free toiletries. They also offer free WiFi, and some rooms are also equipped with city views. It has an outdoor pool, garden, common room and restaurant. <https://g.page/hotel-boutique-quinta-tibigaro?share>

Wi- Fi: ☒ / Hot Water: ☒ / Air conditioning: ☒ / TV: ☒ / Laundry Service: ☒ / Hairdryer: ☒



Hotel Tarigua/ Ocaña

It's a cozy accommodation that offers guests a comfortable and convenient stay in this historic Colombian city. Located in a strategic area near the historic center of Ocaña, this hotel is just 20 minutes from Agua Clara Airport. It provides cozy rooms with modern decor, daily buffet breakfast, and free Wi-Fi connection. <https://www.hoteltarigua.com/>

Wi- Fi: ☒ / Hot Water: ☒ / Air conditioning: ☒ / TV: ☒ / Laundry Service: ☒ / Hairdryer: ☒



Prices 2026

\$ 4.760 USD – Net Price Per Person / All Inclusive

Single Room Supplement: \$550

Tour confirmed from 6 People, maximum number of participants 8

Included: Accommodation in double rooms, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast of last morning with open menu in restaurants and places in where is available, 2 snacks daily that include bottle water, fruit, etc., Water available all the time on the bus – big bottle to recharge the portable bottles, soda, bottle water or juice included with meals, private transfer airport – hotel – airport, all ground transportation including 4x4 vehicles where is necessary, domestic flights in economy class, entrances to reserves and national parks, Colombian event insurance and bilingual professional birding and wildlife guide.

Not Included: International flights and taxes, toiletries, laundry service, room service, tips or gratuity, medical expenses (not covered for event insurance), alcoholic drinks, international phone calls, activities not included in the itinerary, extensions of a trip due to circumstances beyond our control

Accommodation: Our hotels and lodges vary in quality but all are within close proximity to many of areas we wish to go birding or to see wildlife; MANAKIN NATURE TOURS, just operate high quality tours, in this case you can be sure that hotels and lodges will be from good to high quality, safe and clean. For more details about hotels that we use in this tour, please write to us or call us.

Tour Code: This is a fairly standard birding or wildlife tour with early morning starts and evening finishes to each day. Some days we may take picnic lunches in order to not waste time during the middle of the day or having to leave the site. The weather can be unpredictable with rain and sunshine both likely. At higher altitudes it can be chilly. We have an amazing photo opportunity for many species of hummingbirds and other species coming to feeders, we will also be looking for a good number of species that are very rare and seldom seen, but we will be going to areas that hold these sought-after species.



All Picture by Manakin Nature Tours: Spot-flanked Gallinule, as Bogota Rail, Blue-winged Teal, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Beautiful Woodpecker, Magdalena Antbird, White-mantlet Barbet, Colombian Chachalaca, Ruby Topaz, Pied Puffbird, White-whiskered Puffbird, Long-tailed Tyrant, Blue-billed Curassow, Yellow-browed Shrike-Vireo, Andean Motmot, Band tailed Guan