



# Tropical Audubon Society



## Tour de Oregon

**June 15-23, 2019**



Oregon birding guide Stefan Schlick and TAS Field Trip Coordinator Brian Rapoza lead this 9-day, 8-night tour, which begins and ends in Portland and includes visits to birding locations on both the east and west sides of the Cascade Mountain Range. This beautiful state offers a wide array of unique habitats, many of which we'll visit on this tour: west-side forests dominated by Douglas Fir and Western Hemlock, east-side Ponderosa Pine forest, the spectacular Pacific coastline, sagebrush steppe with its mix of sage and juniper, and finally, the extensive wetlands of Malheur National Wildlife

Refuge. This tour is designed for intermediate to advanced birders and is limited to ten participants. The itinerary may include short to moderate hikes each day.

**Costs: \$1,450.00 per person double occupancy** (not including air fare to Portland); **\$350.00 single supplement.** Cost includes van transportation, hotel accommodations and park entrance fees. Bottled water will be provided to all participants. Not included are tips, laundry costs and other incidental expenses. Meals will be eaten in local restaurants and are paid for by each participant.

All trip participants are responsible for their own personal travel insurance to cover accidents, medical expenses or loss of personal belongings. Trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended; see <http://www.tripinsurancestore.com/> for additional information. All participants must indicate upon booking any medical conditions that could limit participation in the tour.

**Reservation Requirements:** To request a tour application, email Brian Rapoza at [fieldtrips@tropicalaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@tropicalaudubon.org). To reserve your space, a completed application and deposit of \$200.00 must be submitted within 30 days of request. Make out a check to Tropical Audubon Society and mail to:

**Brian Rapoza, TAS Field Trip Coordinator**  
**14525 SW 88 Street, J-207**  
**Miami, FL 33186**

Balance of payment must be received by March 15, 2019 to ensure your reservation. No refunds for cancellations after March 15. Again, trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

## **Itinerary** (subject to change)

### **Day 1, June 15 - Arrival in Portland**

Participants should plan to arrive at Portland International Airport (PDX) in the afternoon or early evening. Overnight in the Portland area.

### **Day 2, June 16 - Northern Oregon Coast Range**

Our first morning, we'll bird the forest roads of the Oregon Coast Range near the town of Timber, targeting Hermit and MacGillivray's Warbler, Olive-sided, Hammond's and Pacific-slope Flycatcher and American Dipper. With luck, we'll hear or see a Sooty Grouse on South Saddle Mountain, as the season when they display is nearing its end. In the afternoon, we'll make our way to Seaside, where we'll stay two nights.

### **Day 3, June 17 - Haystack Rock, Bayocean Spit**

This morning we'll visit Haystack Rock, where we should be able to see Tufted Puffin, all three Pacific coast cormorants, Pigeon Guillemot, Harlequin Duck and Black Oystercatcher. From there, our focus will be to find the cute, but skulking Wrentit at Bayocean Spit, but we'll likely have to work for it. We're also hoping to catch up with Black Phoebe, a local specialty of the Tillamook area. Overnight in Seaside.



### **Day 4, June 18 - From Seaside to Bend**

This will be mostly a travel day as we're relocating from the temperate rain forests of the Oregon coast to the dry forests on the east side of the Cascades. There'll be some brief stops along the way, including Fernhill Wetlands, the delightful Little Crater Lake and Pelton Dam. Main targets for today are Lincoln's and Lark Sparrow, Bullock's Oriole and Lazuli Bunting. Overnight in Bend.

### **Day 5, June 19 - Around Sisters**

This will be an action-packed day as we'll spend the whole day in the forests around the town of Sisters. We'll visit Calliope Crossing, Whispering Pines, Indian Ford and Cold



Springs campgrounds to look for White-headed, Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Green-tailed Towhee, Calliope Hummingbird and Pinyon Jay. Pygmy Nuthatches and Western Bluebirds are usually common. Overnight in Bend.

**Day 6, June 20 - Sagebrush steppe, Cabin Lake and Ft. Rock**

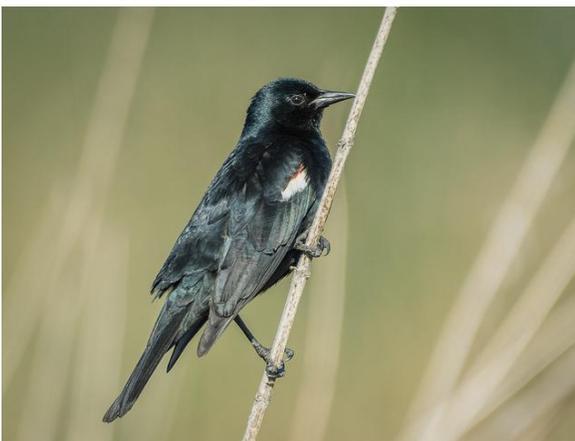
An early morning in the sage is a must! There, we should

find Sagebrush, Brewer's and Vesper Sparrow, Sage Thrasher and Mountain Bluebird. We'll cruise through the Paulinas, past China Hat campground and stop at Cabin Lake, which typically has lots of Cassin's Finches and Red Crossbills coming to the drip. There actually is no lake, so the name is misleading. Near Ft. Rock we hope to see Ferruginous Hawk and Prairie Falcon. Cabin Lake and Ft. Rock are two of the quintessential eastern Oregon birding locations that one must visit. From there we'll drive another 2 hours to Burns, gateway to Malheur NWR, where we'll stay overnight.



**Day 7, June 21 - Malheur NWR**

We'll spend the whole day in and around Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. There, we'll look for Black Tern, Clark's and Western Grebe, Franklin's Gull, Wilson's Phalarope, Long-billed Curlew and Trumpeter Swan in the wet fields south of Burns and at the Narrows. Vagrants will have passed through by now and we'll likely have to dodge the mosquitoes. At night, we'll run up to Idlewild campground and listen for Common Poorwill and Flammulated Owl. Overnight in Burns.



**Day 8, June 22 - Prineville and Hatfield Lakes**

As we work our way back from Burns to Madras, we'll largely work to clean up what we missed so far. If time permits, we'll swing by Hatfield Lake, a neat wetland near Bend for Ash-throated Flycatcher and the like. We'll also look for Tricolored Blackbird near Prineville. Overnight in Madras.

## **Day 9, June 23 - Transfer back to PDX**

From Madras, it'll be a just over 2-hour drive to get back to Portland airport for your mid-day flight home.

### **Essential Supplies:**

Warm clothing (dress in layers)  
Waterproof hiking shoes  
Rain gear  
Binoculars  
Spotting scope (optional)  
Field guides  
Water bottle  
Insect repellent  
Snacks  
Money for meals, incidental expenses

**Please pack light, and bring only what you really need!** We will be traveling by minivan (one guide and five participants per van) and will have no room for large suitcases. Though you can check your luggage on the flight to Portland, one rectangular suitcase with wheels, of a size approved by airlines for carry-on is preferred. Suitcases will be stored in the back of each van. Also bring a small backpack to store field guides, water (essential for hikes!) and other everyday supplies. Backpacks will be stored in the passenger area. Guides will have spotting scopes, so bringing your own is not essential.

*\*\*\* Images are courtesy of Frode Jacobsen, Nik McPhee, Don Faulkner, Stefan Schlick, Becky Matsubara (in order of appearance) \*\*\**