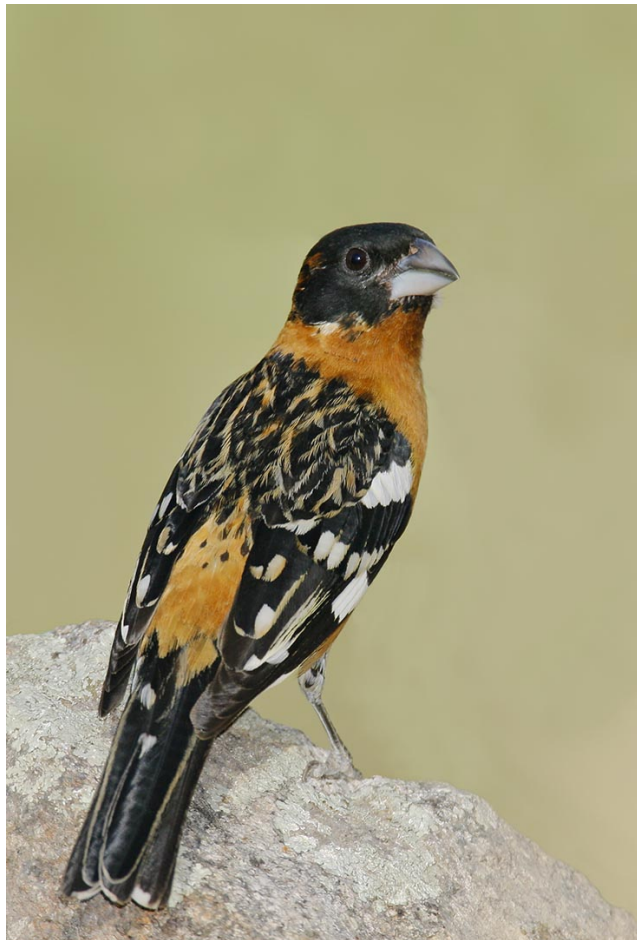




Sabrewing Nature Tours

Exploring the Sky Islands in
Southeast Arizona
with Eric Ripma

August 1 - 8, 2020



Southeast Arizona is well known as the hummingbird capital of the United States but many people forget about all of the other amazing bird species of the area. Join us as we explore the "Sky Islands" of Arizona from Tucson to Portal and everywhere in between.

Itinerary Overview:

August 1: Arrival and transfer to Hotel in Tucson
August 2: Morning birding in Tucson – Transfer to Portal
August 3: Full day birding in the Chiricahua Mountains
August 4: Morning birding near Portal – Transfer to Sierra Vista
August 5: Full day birding in the Huachuca Mountains
August 6: Morning birding around Sierra Vista – Transfer to Green Valley
August 7: Full day birding in Patagonia
August 8: Birding Tumacacori, and Madera and Montosa Canyons – Transfer to Tucson
August 9: Depart for Home

Detailed Itinerary:

August 1: Arrival and transfer to Hotel in Tucson

Arrive in Tucson and gather for group dinner. We will do some birding on the east side of Tucson if time permits. Highlights include all the common desert birds, Rufous-winged Sparrow, Harris's Hawk, Black-throated Sparrow, Curve-billed Thrasher, Pyrrhuloxia, White-winged Dove, and Black-tailed Gnatcatcher.

Overnight: Tucson, AZ – Hampton Inn or similar

August 2: Morning birding in Tucson – Transfer to Portal

We'll spend the morning birding in Tucson. If we do not get Rufous-winged Sparrow on the first day, we will make a stop at Saguaro National Park and then move on to some riparian habitat in search of species such as Abert's Towhee, Bewick's Wren, Gray Hawk, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Summer Tanager, and Northern Beardless Tyrannulet. Our next stop will be Sweetwater Wetlands where we will find an assortment of waterfowl, shorebirds, Harris's Hawk, and Tropical Kingbird. From here, we will depart from Tucson and head towards Portal. We will make a stop at Wilcox, to search for shorebirds, waterfowl, Scaled Quail, and a great chance to find a rarity.

Overnight: Portal Peak Lodge

August 3: Full day birding in the Chiricahua Mountains

Our day will begin in the deserts around Portal. Highlights could include Crissal and Bendire's Thrashers, as well as the common desert birds. Our next stop will be at the South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon where we will search for Elegant Trogon, Arizona Woodpecker, Painted Redstart, Hepatic Tanager, and others. We will then continue higher up into the Chiricahuas to Barfoot Park and Rustler Park. Here we will find Mexican Chickadee, Western Bluebird, Red Crossbill, Olive and Red-faced Warblers, Yellow-eyed Junco, and other high elevation species. After dinner, we will head back out in search of owls such as Western Screech-Owl, Elf Owl, and Northern Pygmy-Owl, as well as Mexican Whip-poor-will.

Overnight: Portal Peak Lodge

August 4: Morning birding near Portal – Transfer to Sierra Vista

On our final day in the Chiricahuas we will work to find any species that we might have missed in the area so far. We will also bird along the road to Paradise, looking for Black-chinned Sparrow and Juniper Titmouse along the way. On the way to Sierra Vista, we will make another stop at Wilcox as the site has an incredibly high rate of turnover and you just never know what you might find.



Pyrrhuloxia

Overnight: Sierra Vista, AZ – Hampton Inn or similar

August 5: Full day birding in the Huachuca Mountains

Today we will be birding in the famous Huachuca Mountains. We will start at one of the most well know locations for hummingbirds in southeast Arizona, Miller Canyon. After spending some time watching the feeders, we will hike up the canyon in search of Spotted Owl. We'll then head on to Carr Canyon to find Greater Pewee, Buff-breasted Flycatcher, and many warbler species. If time permits, we will spend time birding some grasslands south of Sierra Vista for Botteri's and Cassin's Sparrow.

Overnight: Sierra Vista, AZ – Hampton Inn or similar

August 6: Morning birding around Sierra Vista – Transfer to Green Valley

Our final morning in Sierra Vista will be spent looking for any of our targets that we may have missed the day before. We will then be off in the direction of Green Valley and Florida Canyon.

Overnight: Tubac, AZ - Tubac Golf Resort & Spa

August 7: Full day birding in Patagonia

Today we will make the drive to Patagonia making several birding stops including the very famous Paton House for Violet-crowned Hummingbird.

Overnight: Tubac, AZ - Tubac Golf Resort & Spa

August 8: Our final day will be spent looking for some very special birds. Black-capped Gnatcatcher, Five-striped Sparrow, and Varied Bunting are all possibilities as we bird, Tumacacori, and Madera and Montosa Canyons.

Overnight: Tucson, AZ – Hampton Inn or similar

August 9: Depart from Tucson

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Tucson, Arizona: \$2,399

Single Supplement: \$500

Price Includes:

Expert Guides
Ground Transportation
All Lodging
All Meals
Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Tucson, Arizona
Passport and Visa Fees
Alcoholic Beverages
Personal Items
Travel Insurance
Tips

Deposit:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to hold your spot on this tour. The remaining balance is due no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled start date of the tour (May 3, 2019).

If you have any questions about this tour or would like to sign up for it, please contact Rob at robert.ripma@gmail.com or by phone at 317-324-8505.



Participant 1:

Name (As it appears on Passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number – Expiration - Country of Origin

List current health and physical limitations: _____

List any allergies: _____

List any medications: _____

List any dietary restrictions or preferences: _____

In Case of Emergency Please Notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Participant 2:

Name (As it appears on Passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number – Expiration - Country of Origin

List current health and physical limitations: _____

List any allergies: _____

List any medications: _____

List any dietary restrictions or preferences: _____

In Case of Emergency Please Notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Sabrewing Nature Tours

Terms, Conditions, and Waiver

TERMS: To register for a tour or workshop please complete the above registration form and sign below to acknowledge the terms. Send this form along with you Tour/Workshop Registration Form and your deposit or full tour amount to Sabrewing Nature Tours (SNT) at the below address. Registrations will be processed on a first come first served basis. We will place your name on the waiting list if your tour is full.

The deposit for this trip is \$1,000 per participant. Deposits and all signed forms are required to secure registration of your spot on the tour. Deposits are refundable less a 20% processing fee ONLY if the spot can be filled with another participant at the full tour price. Deposits received after a tour has filled will be returned and your name will be placed on a waiting list. Payment in full is due at least 90 days prior to the start of the tour. Registrants who have not paid their remaining balance will forfeit their deposit and their place on the tour. Payment by personal check is strongly preferred. If you would like to pay with a credit card, additional fees will apply. We strongly suggest you consider trip insurance to cover you in the event of a medical or other emergency that would prohibit you from joining the tour.

The activity level required for each tour will be described on the tour page. If in doubt, please contact SNT to determine if a tour is right for you. Any physical or medical concerns including allergies and/or dietary restrictions should be communicated to SNT. All tours will be non-smoking during group activities including but not limited to meals, slide programs, vehicle travel, and when birding/photographing in close proximity to other participants. Tour groups will be kept small for the enjoyment of all participants. Target group sizes are listed in each tour description on our web site. SNT reserves the right to exceed the target group size by no more than one participant.

Tours will be held regardless of weather conditions. Severe weather may dictate informal discussion and/or a slide program while we wait for the weather to break. Tours will begin at the scheduled time. Tardiness may result in missing the boat, or van so to speak. There are no guarantees in nature. Tours are designed to coincide with excellent nature viewing opportunities. Decisions will be made daily to determine where the group should be to maximize opportunities. Deviation from the scheduled itinerary may be necessary.

It is imperative that all participants follow rules and suggestions set forth by the leaders and/or local guides. Failure to comply could pose a safety risk to you or other tour participants. For the safety of all clients we reserve the right to restrict access to tour functions at any time.

Airfare is NOT included in the price of the tour unless otherwise noted on the tour page. Registered participants will receive more specific details of what to bring as well as a more detailed outline of what can be expected on the tour upon payment in full and no later than 60 days prior to the start of the tour.

Photo tour participants wishing to get the most from their tour will have a working knowledge of their camera equipment prior to the tour. Suggestions on exposure modes, camera settings and a variety of techniques will be verbalized throughout the tour. Do bring your camera's manual. Every camera is unique in its operation thus it is impossible to know every feature of every camera model. Participants will be put in the best locations to take advantage of the light, wind, and habitat. We will work to improve compositions and make suggestions to vary your perspective that will improve your resulting images. Participants will also learn techniques to successfully capture action and behavior images.

Waiver: I am aware that certain risks and dangers are inherent to nature travel and photography and may occur during a Sabrewing Nature Tours event and that such risk and dangers cannot be eliminated without diminishing the quality of the workshop/tour for which I have registered. Risks include but are not limited to theft or other loss of equipment or personal belongings; illness, injury, accident or death; travel hazards by air, boat, automobile or other vehicle; exposure to elements and other forces of nature and acts of God; both native and non-native wildlife, insects and flora as well as political, civil or military disturbance, strike, quarantine, government restriction and terrorist threat. I understand on or off trail hiking can present risk of falls that may result in damage to camera equipment, or significant personal injury or death. I understand Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for inclement weather and cannot and does not guarantee subject matter will be available for photography on any given date or location. I further understand I am solely responsible for additional expenses incurred by me due to medical emergency or other travel delays, including but not limited to the expense of extra nights lodging or flight itinerary changes. I voluntarily assume all risks and will hold Sabrewing Nature Tours, its partners and cooperating agents, the workshop leader(s), any and all co-leaders, assistants and other participants harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, claims, debts, and demands which arise in connection with the tour. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for my heirs, administrators, and executors, and for all members of my family, including any minors accompanying me. In the event a lawsuit is filed, the enrolling participant agrees to do so solely in Hamilton County in the State of Indiana.

I have read and agree with the above terms and conditions.

Participant 1: Signature

Date

Participant 2: Signature

Date

Please complete forms, sign the second form, and send them with your deposit or full tour amount.