



Sabrewing Nature Tours

Southern Ecuador

with Edison Buenaño and a Sabrewing Guide

September 26 – October 9, 2020



Our Southern Ecuador tour gives you the opportunity to see many of the Tumbesian region endemics. We'll also look for many high elevation species, including Jocotoco Antpitta (pictured above), and visit the city of Cuenca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Itinerary Overview:

September 26: Arrival and Transfer to Hotel in Guayaquil
September 27: Manglares Churute and Transfer to Santa Ysabel
September 28: Reserva Yunguilla
September 29: Full Day at Umbrellabird Lodge
September 30: Umbrellabird Lodge and Transfer to Jorupe Reserve
October 1: Reserva Yunguilla
October 2: Full Day at Umbrellabird Lodge
October 3: Birding at Jorupe Reserve and Utuana Reserve
October 4: Utuana Reserve, Catamayo, Transfer to Loja
October 5: Podocarpus National Park and Transfer to Tipichalaca Reserve
October 6: Quebrada Honda Trail and Road Birding
October 7: Casa Simpson and Transfer to Copalinga Lodge
October 8: Bomboscara Area
October 9: Trails at Copalinga and Transfer to Cuenca
October 10: El Cajas National Park
October 11: Depart for Home

Detailed Itinerary:

September 26: Arrival in Guayaquil

Upon arrival, you will be picked up at José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport (Guayaquil) and transferred to the hotel for the night.

Overnight at Gran Hotel, Guayaquil



El Oro Parakeet

September 27: Manglares Churute and Transfer to Santa Ysabel

After an early breakfast, we'll drive to Cerro Blanco. Here we will visit Manglares Churute at Lake El Canclon. This 86,589-acre ecological reserve is located just 25 miles from Guayaquil. Our target bird here is the prehistoric-looking Horned Screamer. This is the only place in Ecuador where the bird breeds. While here, we'll also look for Least Bittern, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Least Grebe, Masked and Comb Ducks, Snail Kite, Savannah Hawk, Watted Jacana, White-throated Crake, Masked Water-Tyrant, Peruvian Meadowlark, and Pacific Pygmy-Owl. After lunch, we will embark on the four-hour drive to Santa Ysabel.

Overnight at Hotel Agua y Sol

September 28: Reserva Yunguilla

This morning we will search for one of Ecuador's (and the world's) most threatened species, the Pale-headed Brushfinch. This is the only known population of this Ecuadorian endemic. We will also have a chance to locate Purple-collared and Little Woodstars and many other species. After lunch, we'll travel to the Umbrellabird Lodge, where we will search for the lodge's namesake, the Long-wattled Umbrellabird.

Overnight at Umbrellabird Lodge

September 29: Full Day at Umbrellabird Lodge

We'll spend today at Umbrellabird Lodge, where we will walk the trails in search of El Oro Parakeet and El Oro Tapaculo, two more Ecuadorian endemics, among many other species. We will also have plenty of time to enjoy the lodge's hummingbird feeders. Who knows what may show up!

Overnight at Umbrellabird Lodge

September 30: Umbrellabird Lodge and Transfer to Jorupe Reserve

After an early breakfast, we will spend the morning combing the trails for any species that we may have missed the previous

day. After lunch we will travel to Macara, where we will spend the next two nights at the Jorupe Reserve. On the way we will make a special stop to look for Tumbes Swift, White-headed Brush-Finch, and Tumbes Swallow.

Overnight at Jorupe Reserve.

October 1: Birding at Jorupe Reserve and Utuana Reserve

After breakfast, we will explore the reserve's trails in search of Tumbesian specialties such as Watkin's Antpitta, Henna-hooded and Rufous-necked Foliage-Gleaners, and Gray-breasted Flycatcher. After lunch we will drive up to the Utuana Reserve, where at this higher elevation we hope to find Rainbow Starfrontlet, Purple-throated Sunangel, Piura Hemispingus, Black-crested Tit-Tyrant, Chapman's Antshrike, and Gray-headed Antbird.

Overnight at Jorupe Reserve.

October 2: Utuana Reserve, Catamayo, Transfer to Loja

After an early breakfast, we will return to the Utuana Reserve to try to find any species we may have missed the previous day. Then we will travel to Loja, stopping en route at Catamayo, known as "Finch Heaven", to look for Tumbes Sparrow and Drab Seedeater.

Overnight at Hotel El Libertador



Wire-crested Thorntail

October 3: Podocarpus National Park and Transfer to Tipichalaca Reserve

After breakfast, we will visit the Cajanuma area of Podocarpus National Park. Here we will be looking for Black-headed Hemispingus, Blue-backed Conebill, Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan, Plushcap, Golden-crowned Tanager, Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager, and the hard-to-find Masked Mountain-Tanager. After a tasty lunch in the town of Vilcabamba (known as the "Valley of Longevity"), we will begin the 2.5 hour drive to the Tapichalaca Reserve, where we will spend the next two nights. Upon arrival we will be free to relax and enjoy the hummingbird feeders!

Overnight at Casa Simpson

October 4: Quebrada Honda Trail and Road Birding

This morning we will hike the Quebrada Honda Trail to a very special feeding area where "Panchito" the Jocotoco Antpitta (pictured on the first page) comes in for his breakfast! Other tough-to-see targets we will search for include Ocellated, Ash-colored, and Chusquea Tapaculos. After lunch we will road-bird on the way to the town of Valladolid, where we will search for Maranon Thrush. As darkness approaches, we will try for Andean Potoo and Rufous-bellied Nighthawk.

Overnight at Casa Simpson

October 5: Casa Simpson and Transfer to Copalinga Lodge

After an early breakfast, we will spend the morning birding the lodge grounds in search of anything we may have missed. After lunch we will drive to Bomboscara and the Copalinga Lodge, where we will spend the next two

nights. We will have time this afternoon to search the lodge grounds for Wire-crested Thorntail, Spangled Coquette, and Violet-fronted and Black-throated Brilliants.

Overnight at Copalinga Lodge

October 6: Bomboscara Area

We will spend the day birding the Bomboscara area, where we hope to find such target species as Amazonian Umbrellabird, Coppery-chested Jacamar, Highland Motmot, Andean Cock-of-the-rock (the orange eastern race), and Olive Finch. In addition, there's always the possibility of a tanager flock that could include such gems as Paradise, Green-and-gold, Yellow-bellied, Spotted, Magpie, and Fulvous-crested Tanagers.

Overnight at Copalinga Lodge

October 7: Trails at Copalinga and Transfer to Cuenca

After a morning of birding along the trails at Copalinga, we will head for the beautiful city of Cuenca, which was declared a World Cultural Heritage Site in 1999. This drive will take about five hours and upon arrival, we'll have a chance to see a bit of the city.



Tit-like Dacnis

Overnight at Inca Real Hotel

October 8: El Cajas National Park

After breakfast, we will start the hour-long drive to El Cajas National Park, where we will search for Tit-like Dacnis, Violet-throated Metaltail, Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant, Bar-winged and Stout-billed Cinclodes, and Giant Conebill. At Toreadora Lake (12,000 ft) we will have a chance to see Andean Ruddy Duck, Andean Coot, Andean Teal, and if the day is sunny, Andean Condor as well. We head back to Guayaquil in the afternoon where we will check into our hotel and have a farewell dinner.

Overnight at Gran Hotel Guayaquil.

October 9: Depart for Home from José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport (Guayaquil)

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Quito, Ecuador: \$4,999

Single Supplement: \$500

Price Includes:

2 Expert Guides

Ground Transportation in Ecuador

All Lodging

All Meals

Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Guayaquil, Ecuador

Airport Taxes

Passport and Visa Fees

Alcoholic Beverages

Personal Items

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 (June 26, 2020).

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

Responsibility/Disclaimer Statement:

Sabrewing Nature Tours acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Sabrewing Nature Tours and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours/trips arranged by Sabrewing Nature Tours. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.



Flame-faced Tanager



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.