



## ITINERARY ANDES TO AMAZON BIRDING TOUR

### Day 0: Arrival in Pitalito & Transfer to El Encanto Nature Reserve

Welcome to southern Colombia! Upon arrival at the Pitalito airport, we will transfer directly to **El Encanto Nature Reserve**. After settling into our rooms, we will waste no time and begin our journey at the reserve's famous feeders. This is a fantastic introduction to the region, offering incredible, close-up photography opportunities of dazzling hummingbirds and tanagers right from the comfort of the lodge.

### Day 1: Full-Day Birding at La Drymophila Nature Reserve

Today we dedicate a full day to exploring **La Drymophila Nature Reserve**. Nestled in well-preserved Andean cloud forests, this reserve is celebrated for its remarkable biodiversity. We will quietly hike the trails searching for secretive antpittas, colorful toucanets, and a wealth of high-altitude specialties hidden within the lush, moss-covered canopy.

**Targets:** East Andean Antbird, Western Fire-eye, Uniform Antshrike, Tolima Dove, Tolima Blossomcrown, White-bellied Antpitta, Hooded Antpitta, Chestnut-bellied Thrush, Schwartz's Antthrush, Rufous-tailed Tyrant, Geoffroy's Daggerbill, Black-chested Fruiteater and Yellow-throated Spadebill.

### Day 2: Morning at El Encanto & Scenic Transfer to Mocoa

We will spend a productive morning birding the varied trails and forest edges of **El Encanto** to catch any species we missed on arrival day. Mid-day, we pack up and begin our journey toward Mocoa. This drive is a spectacular geographical transition as we descend the eastern slope of the Andes, offering roadside birding opportunities where the species mix changes by the mile.

**Targets:** Gray-headed Tanager, Golden-eared Tanager, Guira Tanager, Indigo-capped Hummingbird, Ash-browed Spinetail, Red-billed Emerald, Pale-billed Hermit, Violet-fronted Brilliant, Golden-headed Manakin, Dusky-headed Brushfinch, Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant, Orange-crowned Oriole, Olivaceous Piculet and Bronze-green Euphonia.

### Day 3: Birding "Trampolín de las Aves" Route

Prepare for an unforgettable day on the legendary **Trampolín de las Aves** (The Birds' Trampoline). This famous mountain road cuts through pristine, dramatic subtropical forests where the cloud forest meets the lowlands. We will bird at strategic altitudinal stops along the route, searching for mixed-species flocks where rare Andean and Amazonian foothills specialties overlap.

**Targets:** Yellow-throated Tanager, Rufous-crested Tanager, Orange-eared Tanager, Grass-green Tanager, White-capped Tanager, Yellow-bellied Tanager, Turquoise Tanager, Deep-blue Flowerpiercer, Bluish Flowerpiercer, Green-backed Hillstar, Glittering-throated Emerald, Chestnut-eared Aracari, Creamed-Colored Woodpecker, Red-bellied Grackle.

### Day 4: Exploring the Amazonian Foothills



Today we focus entirely on the rich, humid forests of the **Amazonian foothills**. These lush lowlands host an immense diversity of colorful, fast-moving flocks. We will spend the day searching for localized foothill specialties, unique lekking manakins, and brilliant tanagers that thrive in this unique ecological transition zone.

**Targets:** Lettered Aracari, Golden-collared Toucanet, Orange-fronted Plushcrown, Lafresnaye's Piculet, Riparian Parrotlet, Peruvian Warbling-Antbird, Yellow-browed Tody-flycatcher, Cinnamon Attila, Opal-rumped Tanager, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, White-chinned Jacamar, Cobalt-winged Parakeet, Silvered Antbird, White-shouldered Antbird.

#### **Day 5: Riverside Birding in Puerto Asís**

We move deeper into the Amazon basin as we head to **Puerto Asís**. Our birding today will focus on the rich riverside forests, secondary growth, and tropical habitats bordering the waters. We will look for true Amazonian lowland specialties, including canopy-dwellers, specialized river island birds, and various raptors patrolling the waterways.

**Targets:** Rufous-headed Woodpecker, White-lored Antpitta, Black-banded Crake, Plum-throated Cotinga, Black-spotted Bare-eye, Riparian Antbird, Plumbeous Antbird, Long-billed Woodpecker, Ecuadorian Cacique, Butterfly Coquette, Scarlet-crowned Barbet, Hoatzin.

#### **Day 6: Pristine Rainforest Wilderness at Playa Rica**

Today we make a special excursion to **Playa Rica** to bird some of the most pristine terra firme and varzea (flooded) rainforest areas in the region. Known for its incredible structural diversity and breathtaking scenic surroundings, this area gives us our best chance at deep-forest Amazonian families, including antbirds, trogons, jacamars, and spectacular macaws.

**Targets:** Dusky-headed Parakeet, Gilded Barbet, Rufous-sided Crake, Thrush-like Wren, Mask Crimson Tanager, Red-bellied Macaw, Amazonian Umbrellabird, Amazonian Violaceous Trogon, Bare-necked Fruitcrow, Many-banded Aracari, Agamia agami, Pied Plover.

#### **Day 7: Final Breakfast & Departure**

Enjoy a final tropical breakfast at the lodge, taking a last look at the local birdlife. We will then handle your transfer to the airport in **Puerto Asís** for your domestic flight connections home, concluding an incredible journey from the high Andes to the Amazonian lowlands.