

CARIBBEAN REGION COLOMBIA

09 DAYS



INCLUDES



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Registro No.156891

REGISTRO NACIONAL DE TURISMO

REGISTRO ÚNICO EMPRESARIAL Y SOCIAL

CERTIFICA QUE

OCAMPO CUELLAR KEVIN ANDRES

NIT: 1193287348-1

OCAMPO EXPEDITIONS

Dirección Comercial:

CL 45 A # 120 - 44 BRR CIUDAD PACIFICA-CALI VALLE DEL CAUCA

Dirección para notificaciones:

CALLE 45 A #120 - 44

Fecha de asignación número del RNT: 6 de marzo de 2023

Se encuentra inscrito en el Registro Nacional de Turismo como:

AGENCIAS DE VIAJES

AGENCIA DE VIAJES OPERADORAS

Fecha de Expedición: 15/04/2024

Fecha de Vencimiento: 31/03/2025



Ana M. Lengua B.
Ana M. Lengua B.



CAMARA DE COMERCIO DE CALI



COMPANY LEGAL CERTIFICATION

Presentation

About us

Kevin Ocampo

At Ocampo Expeditions, I am proud to work closely with leading organizations and establish strategic partnerships that strengthen our nature tourism offerings. As the founder of the company, I am Kevin Ocampo, a passionate professional bird photographer and law student at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Through more than 10 years of experience birding and leading independent tours, I have made valuable industry connections.

My dedication and perseverance in birdwatching have led me to gain recognition both in the birdwatching community in Colombia and abroad. I am proud to have been awarded the prize for the best bird photographer in my region, an achievement that I personally received from the Mayor of Santiago de Cali.

In addition, I have had the opportunity to collaborate with government entities in bird tourism projects that focus on conservation and the promotion of responsible ecotourism in various areas of Colombia. These projects combine my passion for photography with my commitment to preserve the environment. My experience and knowledge have been valued, which has led me to lead initiatives that promote sustainable bird tourism.

Showcasing my work in multiple photography exhibitions has been a rewarding experience, as I have had the opportunity to share my best images with the public. This year, I have the honor of being the official photographer of the Colombian Bird Fair, a recognition that highlights my dedication and excellence in bird photography.

As an active member of the Valle del Cauca Ornithological Society (DACNIS), a community made up of professionals and bird enthusiasts, I collaborate with other passionate about the subject to promote the conservation and study of the species in our region.

My achievements and career have also given me the opportunity to be hired by prestigious universities, such as the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, to lead bird watching days on their campuses. These opportunities allow students to connect with nature and appreciate the biodiversity that surrounds us.

At Ocampo Expeditions, our strategic collaborations and partnerships allow us to provide high-quality experiences for our clients. Thanks to these connections, we have access to specialized local guides, reliable suppliers and the most impressive destinations in Colombia. Our commitment is to offer exceptional services and promote conservation through nature tourism.



Why birdwatching in the Caribbean, Colombia?

Introduction

Unique biodiversity

Birdwatching in the Caribbean Region of Colombia, which includes the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, La Guajira, and the Serranía del Perijá, is a unique and enriching experience for several reasons:

The Caribbean Region of Colombia is a paradise for birdwatchers due to its impressive diversity of species. In the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta alone, more than 600 bird species have been recorded, many of which are endemic or hard to find elsewhere in the world. La Guajira and the Serranía del Perijá also host a wide variety of species, making it an ideal destination for bird enthusiasts.

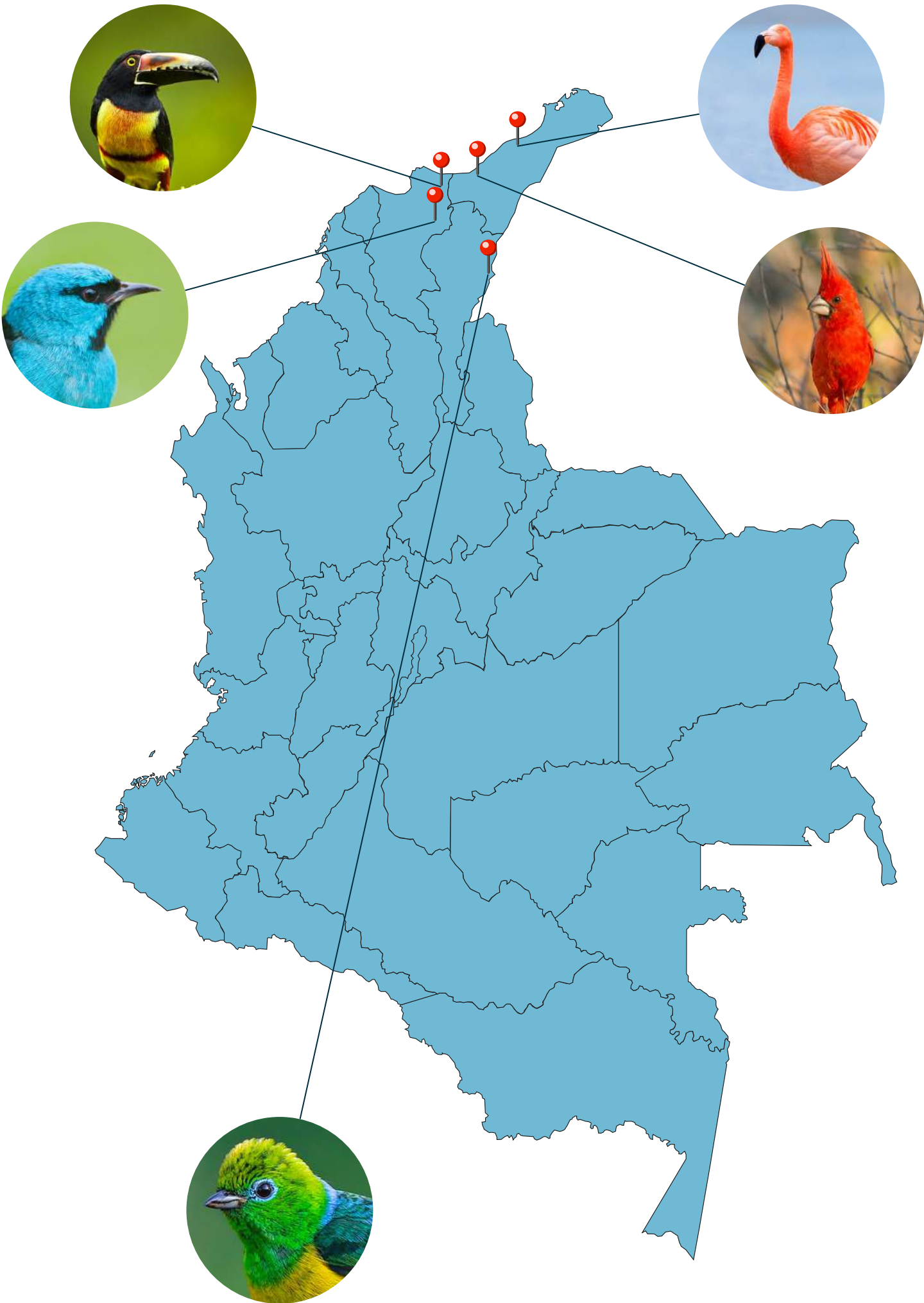
Furthermore, this region offers diverse landscapes, including mountains, beaches, forests, wetlands, and deserts. This means that birdwatchers can enjoy a variety of landscapes while searching for birds. From the high peaks of the Sierra Nevada to the Caribbean coasts and the arid lands of La Guajira, each place offers unique birdwatching opportunities.

The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is known for being a biodiversity hotspot, with several endemic species not found anywhere else in the world. These species, such as the Santa Marta parakeet (*Pyrrhura viridicata*) and the Santa Marta brush-finch (*Atlapetes melanocephalus*), are true gems for birdwatchers. Additionally, the region is also home to rare and threatened species like the Santa Marta blossomcrown (*Chaetocercus astreans*) and the Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*).

The Caribbean Region of Colombia is not only rich in biodiversity but also in culture and tradition. Local inhabitants, including the indigenous Wayúu communities, have a special relationship with birds and often have stories and myths involving these creatures. Birdwatching in this region provides an opportunity to immerse yourself in the rich local culture.

Furthermore, by birdwatching in this region, you also contribute to the conservation of these unique ecosystems and their inhabitants by raising awareness about the importance of protecting them. Many birds in the Caribbean Region of Colombia face threats such as habitat loss and poaching, and your visit can help promote sustainable practices and the conservation of these species.

TOUR MAP



What places will you visit?

Day 01 to 09, S. Nevada, Guajira & S. Perijá

- Day 01. Arrival at Simón Bolívar Airport, in Santa Marta, Colombia /Hotel in Minca.
- Day 02. Bird watching in Minca.
- Day 03. Bird watching in Minca (upper part).
- Day 04. Visiting Cerro Kennedy.
- Day 05. Trip to La Guajira.
- Day 06. Photographing birds in a coastal desert / Valledupar
- Day 07. Arriving at the Serranía del Perijá.
- Day 08. Searching for endemic birds of Perijá.
- Day 09. Birding in the morning and return Simón Bolívar Airport, in Santa Marta.

Note: the food included for each day is indicated as follows:
(B: breakfast, A: lunch, C: dinner).



Day 1 (-,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Arrival in Colombia

Santa Marta

Your exciting trip begins at the Simón Bolívar Airport in Santa Marta, where you will be received by one of our specialized guides with a warm welcome. Together you will go to the charming hotel selected for your rest and comfort.

In the afternoon, after settling in at the hotel, you will have free time to relax and adapt to your surroundings. Later, in the hotel lobby, our specialized guide will give an introductory talk. During this talk they will share essential information about the exciting adventure that awaits them in the coming days. They will explore the various ecosystems they will visit, the bird species they will be able to see, and the logistical details of their itinerary. This talk will not only prepare them for the adventure, but will also increase their excitement for what is to come.

In the evening, you can enjoy a relaxing dinner at the hotel or explore local cuisine at one of the nearby restaurants. This is a perfect time to rest and recharge before the exciting journey ahead.





Day 2 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Bird Watching in Minca

Exploring Minca and its Surroundings

In the cool and calm morning, we immerse ourselves in the natural wealth of Minca during an exciting birdbath in the Las Cabañas sector. As the sun rises in the sky and the vegetation awakens, our ears are filled with bird songs that fill the air.

After this exciting morning activity, we meet in a charming corner of Minca to enjoy a delicious breakfast. We shared stories and excitement as we reviewed our first observations.

Mid-morning, we venture out on a birdwatching route around Minca, exploring the shady trails of El Manakin. As we walk among the trees and bushes, our binoculars and cameras are ready to capture the beauty of the local species.

After a morning full of bird watching, we return to the hotel, where a revitalizing lunch awaits us. After lunch, the atmosphere becomes serene, and many take the opportunity to rest or explore Minca on their own.

In the afternoon, we embark on another birding and photography session on the Turpial route. The soft afternoon light highlights the colors and details of the birds, creating perfect opportunities to capture unique moments on our cameras.





Day 3 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Bird watching in Minca (upper part)

The third day finds us again in nature, this time in the Finca El memoria sector. The fresh air and lush vegetation make the morning perfect for bird watching.

After the morning activity, we share experiences and sightings while enjoying a delicious breakfast. The atmosphere in the hotel is lively, with enthusiastic conversations about the birds we found.

At mid-morning, we continue exploring the Campano La Y Route, following the songs of birds and attentive to any movement in the forest canopy. The sounds and colors of nature surround us in an immersive experience.

After a morning full of sightings, we retire to enjoy a lunch that satisfies both hunger and curiosity about the local birds. After dinner is a time to share anecdotes and reflect on what we have seen.

In the afternoon, excitement takes over again as we continue our birdwatching trip en route to the Mountain House Hotel. We explore the surroundings of the hotel, looking for birds that can surprise us at any time.





Day 4 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Visiting Cerro Kennedy

The fourth day begins with the anticipation of exploring the majestic Cerro Kennedy. We venture out early in the morning, ascending steep trails as the morning fog lifts and the landscape reveals itself before our eyes. The songs of mountain birds surround us, creating a magical atmosphere.

After an intense morning of sightings, we returned to the hotel to enjoy a breakfast provided by the hotel. Breakfast is a time to relax, discuss our most notable sightings, and prepare for more adventures.

We continue with our day of bird watching on Cerro Kennedy until the afternoon, exploring different altitudes and habitats in search of endemic and rare birds. The diversity of birds in this mountainous environment is astonishing.

After lunch, we retire for a well-deserved rest, where some may opt for a power nap or simply enjoy the serenity of the Mountain House Hotel's surroundings.





Day 5 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Trip to La Guajira

The fifth day of our exciting trip begins with a bittersweet feeling of leaving behind the comfort and charm of the Mountain House in Minca. After sharing laughter and memorable moments, we packed up our memories and said goodbye to this mountain retreat.

Our trip takes us to the Camarones Route, a new region that promises new adventures and discoveries. As we leave Minca behind and enter the changing landscape, anticipation grows among participants.

We arrived at the hotel in Camarones, an oasis on the Caribbean coast of Colombia. Check-in is quick and easy, and we soon find ourselves gathered at a table to enjoy a lunch that recharges us for the afternoon's activities. Local dishes offer an authentic flavor of the region, allowing us to also explore the gastronomy of Colombia.

In the afternoon, we venture to visit the flamingos and shorebirds in their natural habitat. Camarones is known for being an important place for observing these birds, and the spectacle of seeing flamingos feeding in the lagoons is impressive. Shorebirds, with their unique plumage patterns, also capture our attention as we travel along the coast.

As the sun slides toward the horizon and the birds return to their roosting spots, we return to the hotel. Night falls gently over Camarones, creating a relaxed and serene atmosphere that allows us to reflect on the wonders we have witnessed during the day. Conversations revolve around coastal birds, their ecological importance and the beauty of the marine environment we have been lucky enough to explore.





Day 6 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Photographing Birds In a Coastal Desert

The sixth day of our exciting expedition takes us back to nature, with a day of bird watching in the unique environment of the Guajira dry forest. This ecosystem is home to endemic birds and other species adapted to the arid conditions of the region.

We start early in the morning, when the freshness and tranquility of La Guajira surround us. As we explore the trails of this unique environment, our eyes fall on a variety of birds adapted to the scarcity of water and the aridity of the landscape.

After the morning activity, we meet to enjoy a well-deserved breakfast. The conversations revolve around the endemic species that we have been lucky enough to see, as well as the emblematic *Cardinalis phoeniceus*, which is one of the main attractions for bird watchers in this region.

We continue birdwatching in the dry forest during the morning, exploring different corners and unique habitats. Each step brings us closer to understanding how these birds have developed amazing adaptations to survive in a challenging environment.

At noon, we return to the hotel to enjoy an energizing lunch, discussing the morning's observations and sharing anecdotes about the endemic birds we have encountered.

After lunch, we checked out of the hotel, preparing to say goodbye to Camarones. The trip continues and we head towards Valledupar, with the satisfaction of having explored the riches of La Guajira and observed emblematic birds of the region.

The afternoon gives us the opportunity to relax along the way and reflect on our experiences in Camarones, knowing that we take with us priceless memories and a deeper appreciation for Colombia's birdlife.





Day 7 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Arriving at the Serranía del Perijá

The morning of the seventh day takes us to explore the Chamicero Route in Manaure, in search of unique birds that inhabit this arid but fascinating environment. As we walk through bushes and cacti, our eyes scan the landscape in search of unique birds.

After the morning activity, we meet to enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel. The conversations revolve around the adaptations of birds to the desert environment and the species that we have been lucky enough to see.

We continue our search for birds in the vicinity of the ProAves Reserve during the morning, entering a protected ecosystem that is home to a wide variety of species. The reserve's trails take us through varied habitats, from grassland areas to forest areas.

After lunch, we take a well-deserved rest before continuing to explore the surroundings of the reserve in the afternoon. The tranquility of the reserve allows us to observe birds in a more relaxed way and appreciate the details of their behavior.

At the end of the day, we return to the hotel, where the camaraderie between participants remains a fundamental part of the experience, sharing stories and sightings of the day.



Day 8 (B,L,D)

Detailed Itinerary

Searching For Endemic Birds Of Perijá

The eighth day begins early, with a departure from the hotel to the Serranía del Perijá, a mountainous region that is home to a great diversity of birds.

During the morning, we explore the winding trails of the Serranía del Perijá, observing endemic birds and enjoying the freshness of the mountain air. The environment is spectacular, with panoramic views and waterfalls that complement the experience.

After the morning activity, we meet to enjoy a comforting breakfast, sharing stories about the species seen and the beauties of the landscape.

We continue our birding in the reserve during the morning, paying special attention to the birds that can be difficult to find and that make the Serranía del Perijá a renowned birdwatching destination.

At noon, we returned to the hotel for lunch and a final check-up of our observations. It is a time to reflect on the incredible variety of birds we have seen and appreciate the natural wealth of the Serranía del Perijá.

In the afternoon, we head towards Jaguas de Ibirico, where we arrive at the hotel at sunset. Arrival at the hotel is a quiet moment to rest and enjoy the peace of the surroundings.



DAY 9 (B,L,-)

Detailed Itinerary

Last Day of Birding

Return to Santa Marta

The ninth and last day of our adventure takes us to the La Victoria village in search of iconic species on the Finca No Hay Como Dios Route. The morning finds us walking along rural trails and enjoying bird watching in a different environment.

As we progress through the morning birdbath, hunger leads us to enjoy an outdoor breakfast, replenishing our energy before continuing to explore the area.

After the morning activity, we returned to the hotel, where we checked out of the hotel and shared our latest observations. Lunch is an opportunity to talk about the sightings and experiences we have accumulated throughout the trip.

In the afternoon, we head back to Santa Marta, where our exciting birdwatching adventure in Colombia concludes. As we leave the region, we carry with us not only unforgettable memories, but also a deep appreciation for the richness of Colombian birdlife and the importance of conserving their natural habitats.



WHAT DOES THE TOUR INCLUDE?

- Private transportation during the tour.
- Lodging.
- Main meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner) as stipulated in this PDF document.
- Entrance fees to all reserves visited during the tour.
- Travel insurance.
- Accompaniment by a certified guide and bird expert.
- Driver.

WHAT DOES THE TOUR NOT INCLUDE?

- International or domestic flights.
- Laundry service.
- Personal hygiene items.
- Room service.
- Medical expenses that are not covered by travel insurance.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Activities not stipulated in the itinerary.
- Trip extensions due to force majeure events or unforeseeable circumstances.
- Tips.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Comfortable and climate-appropriate clothing:** Quick-drying clothing and warm clothing.
- **Appropriate Footwear:** Wear comfortable, sturdy shoes, and consider waterproof hiking boots for rough terrain.
- **Sun protection:** Wear high-factor sunscreen and a wide-brimmed hat or cap to protect yourself from the sun.
- **Insect repellent:** Bring insect repellent to avoid bites.
- **Binoculars and camera:** Bring binoculars to observe animals and a camera to capture special moments.
- **Water bottle and snacks:** Stay hydrated with a water bottle and bring energy snacks.
- **Field guide to the birds of Colombia,** this will help you identify and better understand wildlife during your wildlife watching tour.

VACCINES FOR COLOMBIA

We assume you are up to date with your vaccinations. A vaccination certificate is not required when entering Colombia, however, it is important to keep these recommendations in mind:

There are no major problems with mosquitoes in most reserves. It is recommended to be vaccinated against typhoid fever and hepatitis A. Yellow fever is very rare in Colombia.

Malaria is present in many low-lying areas of Colombia. Although it is not known to exist near our reserves, it is present in some cities in the regions of the Western, Central and Eastern Andes, Magdalena, Santa Marta, Guajira and Chocó. In these areas, it is best to reduce the number of insect bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants, and using insect repellent, especially at dawn and dusk.

Dengue, although not common, is also a possibility, and once again, it is recommended to reduce the risk of insect bites and be aware of the symptoms of this fever.

Leishmaniasis disease, transmitted by sand fly bites, is also a remote possibility in low-lying areas, and again, visitors should learn the symptoms. There have only been rare cases in the communities of the Magdalena Valley, but not within the reserve.

Mites are also found in long grass around the Caribbean coast, away from main routes. Cover your legs, pants, shoes and waist with insect repellent.

CANCELLATION POLICIES

We require written notification of any cancellation, which will have effect upon receipt. If you need to cancel your booking, you must inform us immediately by e-mail (ocampo.wpe@gmail.com) and we will confirm your cancellation. Depending on the date on which we acknowledge your notice of cancellation, cancellation fees will apply per person. In furtherance of this, the cancellation policies of OCAMPO EXPEDITIONS are laid out as follows:

- More than 90 days before the start of the tour: \$500 cancellation fee unless we fill your spot. If we can fill your spot, the cancellation fee will be waived.
- 89 – 60 days before the start of the tour: \$700 cancellation fee unless we fill your spot. If we can fill your spot, the cancellation fee will be waived.
- Less than 60 days before the start of the tour: No refunds will be given, and all payments will be forfeited. Full payment is required no later than 60 days prior to departure. If full payment is not received by this date you will be notified by email. If you do not respond within 3 business days, your spot will be forfeited and offered to participants on the waiting list.

PRICE INCREASES

As a result of the possibility of many circumstances beyond our control, the total cost of the trip is subject to change, although this is only considered as a last resort. Participants will be notified if there are any changes to the cost of the trip. We do our best to anticipate cost increases in services in each area in which we operate, but when there are unexpected increases, we reserve the right to increase our price by 10% of the trip price. If additional increases are required, participants may withdraw from the tour without incurring cancellation penalties.

If you wish to avoid the cost of a single room (single supplement) we will try to find you a roommate, but please note that this is not always possible and if we cannot find a suitable roommate you will be asked to pay the single supplement . Please note that your accommodation preferences will be honored to the extent possible, but cannot be guaranteed. In some remote locations (e.g. at field stations) this is not always possible and arrangements must be adjusted. When we are aware of these situations, participants will always be informed before making the reservation. When an unexpected change is needed (especially in remote locations where communication is difficult), unavailability at a particular hotel or accommodation is usually not previously reported and is only discovered upon arrival. Under these circumstances, your leader will do everything possible to satisfy the group's preferences.



For more information, you can go to
the following media:

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