

# Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours



## CHILE: Penguins, Pumas & Plovers

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019

### 9 Wise Birding Clients

**Leaders:** Ryan Irvine, Claudio Vidal & Matias Ballarini

### HIGHLIGHTS OF TRIP

**Puma:** An incredible day on the 23<sup>rd</sup> when we watched 3 different Puma families for over 4 hours. This amounted to an amazing 12 individual animals in total!!

**Quintero Pelagic:** Incredible number of seabirds including 5 species of Albatross.

**Penguins:** The King Penguin colony at Tierra del Fuego was an undoubted highlight in addition to the Humboldt and Magellanic Penguin colonies.

**Inca Terns:** Watching a number of nesting pairs at incredibly close quarters on our second day left everyone speechless after such a wonderful sighting!

**Magellanic Woodpecker:** Spending 40 minutes watching and photographing a family was one of the highlights of the central Chile leg of the trip.

**Torres Del Paine NP:** The breathtaking scenery was an incredible backdrop to some amazing wildlife watching on our first two days in Patagonia.



**These Puma cubs at Torres del Paine were one of the many highlights!**

## **Tour Summary**

*Chile quite simply has everything, great birds, fabulous scenery, excellent food and accommodation, good wine and some stunning mammals. This was our inaugural tour to Chile and it was a real success as everyone enjoyed great views of Penguins, Plovers and no less than 12 Pumas! Despite a few complications due to the political unrest, our local guides work tirelessly to ensure that our itinerary stayed on track!*

*We covered the Central region of Chile and the far south in Patagonia with many fantastic sightings of species such as Condors, King Penguins, Inca Terns and some breathtaking Albatrosses on our pelagic. Then there were the mammals with breaching Peale's Dolphins, Sei Whale, Commerson's Dolphins, South American Grey Foxes and Humboldt's Hog-nosed Skunk, all in a spectacular landscape!*

## **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

We arrived at Santiago airport late in the morning and were greeted by Claudio and checked in to the nearby hotel in Santiago. The official tour was due to start the following day so we took the opportunity to recover from jet lag and explore a nearby town park, Cerro Santa Lucia. A nice gentle start to our Chilean adventure as we added our first birds of the trip, highlights being Plain-tailed Tit-Spintail, Rufous-tailed Plant-cutter, Tufted Tit-tyrant and Grey-hooded Sierra-finch. The mammal list also started with decent views of a Black Rat! The afternoon also saw some of the group head off for a city tour.

## **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

The plan for today was to head up into The Andes and hopefully connect with several endemics and target species. With the traditional site for Diademed Plover, El Yeso Reservoir closed to the public, we drove to Banos Colina in the El Yeso Valley to look for them. On the way to the site, an Andean Condor caught our attention and while watching it another two appeared. Stephen's main target achieved on our first stop! It proved to be a productive stop as several Moustached Turcas, a Great Shrike-tyrant, a Chilean Mockingbird and a mixed finch flock containing Grey-hooded, Mourning & Band-tailed Sierra-finches and Common Diuca-finch. Further stops along the valley added Grey-flanked Cinclodes, Black-winged Ground Dove, Black-billed Shrike-tyrant and the *australis* sub-species of Rufous-collared Sparrow.

As we reached Banos Colina the wind had picked up and snow was falling but that didn't dampen spirits as we set off to search the marsh and river area. Mountain Caracaras patrolled the car parks and several Ochre-naped and White-browed Ground-tyrants and Buff-winged Cinclodes fed busily on the ground around our feet while a pair of Grey-breasted Seedsnipe gave great views on the rocky valley floor. A Diademed Plover was heard on a couple occasions distantly but no luck finding it in deteriorating conditions. A Magellanic Tapaculo fed in a sheltered gorge as we searched for the plover.

Our next stop was Banos Morales and while we watched South American Snipe and California Quail, Claudio heard a distant Austral Pygmy Owl. Whilst searching for the owl we found a Striped Woodpecker and after a few minutes we found the owl perched high on a tree giving great scope views. Nearby there was another finch flock similar to the one earlier in the day plus Plumbeous Sierra-finches. Amongst the flock was another busy feeding Moustached Turca. Our final scheduled stop of the day was at El Manzanito where we had even better views of a Moustached Turca and a spot-billed Ground-tyrant. On the drive back to Santiago a Torrent Duck was spotted sleeping on a rock. A nice end to the day despite the inclement weather.

## **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

Today we moved to the coast. First stop was Parque Humedal Rio Maipo, where we spent the whole morning. The park had a nice mix of habitats with grasslands, scrub, freshwater / tidal lagoons and the beach. The scrub provided plenty of new trip birds including everyone's favourite; the Spectacled Tyrant and Many-coloured Rush Tyrant. A Dusky Tapaculo played hide and seek while several raptors flew overhead including White-tailed Kite and a male Cinereous Harrier. Picui Ground Doves were pretty abundant and a Giant Hummingbird buzzed around the scrub. The lagoons held good numbers of ducks and swans with both Black-necked and Coscoroba Swans mingling with Yellow-billed Teal, Yellow-billed and White-cheeked Pintails.

The tidal lagoons held small numbers of waders and a large number of roosting gulls and terns including a Snowy-crowned Tern and Elegant Terns. Out at sea many cormorants flew past including Red-legged and Guanay joining the Neotropic Cormorants. A flock of Peruvian Boobies fed nearby as an Arctic Skua hassled them.

We moved along the coast to Humedal De Cartagena, a small reserve with pools filled with wildfowl. Cinnamon Teal, Red Shoveler and Yellow-billed Teals were in good numbers and joined by smaller numbers of Chiloe Wigeon and Lake Ducks. White-tufted and Silvery Grebes were feeding amongst good numbers of Red-gartered Coots with smaller numbers of both Red-fronted and White-winged Coots. Other highlights included Spot-flanked Gallinule, White-faced Ibis and Grey Gull. We moved to another nearby lake, SN Laguna El Peral to look for Black-headed Duck. After searching through hundreds of ducks, we finally found two. The lake edge had a nice muddy bank that was good for waders, mainly Black-necked Stilts and Baird's Sandpipers.

The highlight of the day was yet to come as we moved on to the Hotel Oceanic at Valparaiso. The promenade outside the hotel is an excellent site for Inca Terns, nesting in holes on the promenade wall. Incredible views enjoyed by everyone of this amazing bird! A Seaside Cinclodes was an added bonus. We moved on further along the coast to 'The Rock' to see more Inca Terns and hundreds of roosting Peruvian Boobies. Hudsonian Whimbrels roosted with a large flock of Grey Gulls and a few Red-legged Cormorants flew past.

## **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

Our first birding spot of the day was our hotel balcony as we watched Marine Otters at close range on the shore line. Pink-footed Shearwaters, Peruvian Boobies and South American Terns fed distantly out to sea and a West Peruvian Dove on the roof was a nice surprise; their range ever expanding southwards.

On our way to Parque La Campana we found a nice flock of 30 Chilean Pigeons. Central Chile was suffering from a drought during our visit and it was very evident at the Parque. The whole area was very dry and dusty making birding difficult. A pair of Thorn-tailed Rayadito's greeted us at the car park but generally the area was very quiet due to the drought. Black-chested Buzzard-eagles soared overhead, White-throated Tapaculos, Moustached Turcas and Dusky-tailed Canasteros all called in the undergrowth but never showed. A striped Woodpecker was a lot more obliging, giving fantastic views for everyone.

We returned to the coast in the afternoon and we visited Islote Cachagua. A Giant Hummingbird fed in nearby gardens as we walked down to the viewpoint of the island. Over 50 Humboldt Penguins were on the island alongside many Peruvian Boobies and Pelicans. Out at sea a couple Chilean Skuas were harassing the large numbers of Kelp and Grey Gulls. Both American and Blackish Oystercatchers fed on the beach while a pair of Seaside Cinclodes fed on the rocks.

A quick stop at Laguna Cachagua added an Andean Gull to the trip list but the stars of the site were the displaying Great Grebes. There were large numbers of waders on the beach at Ritoque including 250+ Sanderling and 120 Hudsonian Whimbrel.

The day ended as it started, on the hotel balcony watching Marine Otters. This time however there were large numbers of birds feeding offshore, 200 Sooty Shearwaters, 5+ Pink-footed Shearwaters, 20 Peruvian Diving Petrels and 150 South American Terns. In amongst the feeding frenzy were at least two Sei Whales!

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

The highly anticipated pelagic out of Quintero started at 07:00hrs and as daylight crept in so did the birds, as Inca Terns and Peruvian Boobies passed the boat. The first albatrosses soon appeared as we sailed west, Black-browed and Salvin's cruising towards the boat! Shearwater numbers started to build up, mainly Sooty but also Pink-footed and the first flock of Grey Phalaropes sat on the water. Peruvian Diving-Petrels flew past quacking, imitating auks.

Once we were 10-15km from the coast we started to chum and slowly but surely the bird numbers started to build up. Hundreds of Pink-footed Shearwaters and White-chinned Petrels, a few Wilson's Storm-petrels danced in between the hoards and then the albatrosses started to arrive. 50+ Salvin's Albatross and 20+ Black-browed Albatross provided everyone with incredible views and then the shout came out, 'Royal!' The first Northern Royal Albatross glided into view and landed near the boat. Simply incredible! The rest of the morning was spent watching this amazing spectacle as more and more birds joined the flock. A couple Westland Petrels, Chilean Skuas and two Northern Giant Petrels were the next highlights until Claudio picked out a Chatham Albatross, a stunning adult. Once we got our eye in we soon found 2-3 more in amongst the Salvin's. A lone Buller's Albatross charged past the boat giving brief but good views. The final bird to arrive was a Markham's Storm-petrel, albeit briefly.

Sailing back to port the group enjoyed celebratory wine and as we neared the coast a few Humboldt Penguins sat on the sea. As we entered the bay we spotted a blow and we headed towards it and were soon watching 3-4 baleen whales at close range. At first it was thought that due to the size, blow and behaviour that they were Bryde's Whales, but Karen's excellent photos confirmed them to be Sei Whales. An excellent end to the pelagic.

After lunch we made our way to La Isla Concon, a coastal reserve with several lagoons. The first bird to appear was another Many-coloured Rush Tyrant, always a crowd pleaser! An Andean Gull was picked out amongst the large flock of Kelp and Brown-hooded Gulls and there were a good number of waders including Black-necked Stilts, American Oystercatchers and Hudsonian Whimbrels. The last stop of the day, before heading back to Santiago, was the Radisson Blu next to Roca de los Liles. The rocky outcrop at sea, just off the hotel, had at least 12 Red-legged Cormorants and two Guanay Cormorants roosting on them as more Inca Terns fed offshore.

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Today we explored the Los Bronces area in the Andes to the North east of Santiago. The weather was far better than our last day in the Andes and the bright sunshine helped us have a great morning's birding with the sunning backdrop of the Andes. Once up on the Hill Road we stopped at various locations seeing spectacular birds! More Moustached Turcas, Dark-bellied Cinclodes, Andean Condors etc. as well as several much sought after new birds such as White-throated Tapaculo (eventually!!). One bird kept eluding us though; the Crag Chilia.

We reached the end of the road and still no luck but finally one started calling and soon we were watching not one but four Crag Chilies. With all our targets for the morning under our belt we quickly started the long drive south to our next destination, Altos de Lircay.

Driving through the endless vineyards we added a few species along the way but the highlight was a Chilean Tinamou on the road side near San Clemente. A short walk at the end of the day at Altos de Lircay, the northern most part of the Patagonia forest, added a few good birds. A Green-backed Fire-crown, Striped Woodpecker, Patagonian Sierra-finch and the star of the walk, a Chestnut-throated Huet-huet, heard by all and seen by a lucky few as it remained elusive.

A post dinner walk at 23:00 resulted in us hearing a Rufous-legged Owl but it remained out of sight despite seemingly pin-pointing the tree it was on!

### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

An early morning at Altos de Lircay and a hike up to the pine woods was the plan today. While trying to get better views of the Chestnut-throated Huet-huet, a White-throated Treerunner fed nearby giving excellent views and was a great start to the walk. At our final destination on the walk Claudio saw a large woodpecker and we were soon watching a family of Magellanic Woodpeckers. We watched them interact together and heard the deafening drumming. A mesmerising 40 minutes later we left them in peace and soon ran into another White-throated Treerunner and a Striped Woodpecker. Austral Parakeets flew over and a short detour near the bus resulted in brief but excellent views of a Chucao Tapaculo. An incredibly elusive bird! What a great morning!!

We moved on to Lago Colbun in the early afternoon and soon picked up a mixed flock of Parakeets. First, eight Burrowing Parakeets flew past and then we found a mixed flock of four Slender-billed and at least six Austral Parakeets on a nearby tree. At the Parque Natural Trichahue we found more target species with six Spectacled Ducks and a pair of Torrent Ducks, as well as a flock of 43 Burrowing Parakeets that flew over. An excellent end to the birding before the drive back to Santiago.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

Today was supposed to be the day we flew to Puenta Arenas but due to the ongoing political unrest in the area, all flights were cancelled so we quickly hatched a new plan and headed out west to Laguna Batuco. The area around the lake was suffering from drought but the lake itself was a haven for wildfowl, holding thousands of ducks. A group of 11 Andean Geese were the highlight, although an obliging Grey Phalarope and Collared Plover came a close second and third!

Whilst birding, Claudio had managed to get a last minute booking at a resort in Olmue (out of the city) and we enjoyed the vast gardens and all-inclusive perks of the hotel.

### **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

Today started with a leisurely breakfast and an early morning in the hotel gardens as Claudio sorted out travel documents and details at the local police station. The gardens provided an opportunity to get better photos of a number of species like Giant Hummingbird and Chimango Caracara. Once all the relevant documents had been obtained we travelled back to Santiago airport via Camino Mina de Oro, where we managed to get decent views of two Dusky-tailed Canastero.

Thanks to Claudio's negotiating skills, we managed to get a late night flight and we arrived in Punta Arenas during the early hours of the morning.

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Matias picked us up at the airport at 03:00hrs and we drove straight to Torres del Paine, arriving at 07:50. Everyone was shattered but relived to have finally arrived! A Hog-nosed Skunk greeted us near the entrance and Guanaco's and Upland Geese lined the roadside. The rest of the morning was spent at our hotel at the base of the Torres del Paine range with breathtaking views and plenty of wildlife to keep us going as everyone rested after a hectic night. A brief Chilean Flicker was new and Steve found an Austral Parakeet nest. Mammal interest was now increasing as a Culpeo (Andean Fox) stalked around the hotel, keeping the European Brown Hares alert!

The afternoon was spent driving around the national park, enjoying the stunning scenery and picking up birds on the numerous pools, rivers and plains. Andean Condors were common, a Torrent Duck enjoyed the rapids by the Cascada Paine and families of Spectacled Ducks used small roadside pools. A picnic lunch at Laguna Azul proved productive as we added Crested Duck, Ashy-headed Goose, Magellanic Oystercatcher, Black-faced Ibis and Southern Caracara. Late afternoon provided an opportunity to visit a couple more lagunas. Here, we enjoyed views of Flying Streamer-duck, Chilean Flamingo, Sedge Wren and Wren-like Rushbird at Laguna Los Juncos and Andean Ruddy Duck at Laguna de los Cisnes. The evening was spent looking for Pumas but despite hearing them they frustratingly remained out of view. Five Lesser Rhea were the highlight of the evening. As we returned to the hotel at dusk a Short-eared Owl was seen hunting.

## **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

The day of the Puma and certainly a day everyone will remember for a long long time! Our trackers had already found a family of Pumas as we left at first light and we set up at a view point overlooking the area. Straight away we picked up a Puma walking along the hillside. As we watched it through the scope we soon realised there was a family, a mother and two large cubs. As we watched this family, another family was picked up sat on the hillside. SIX Pumas in one small hillside! We sat watching them interact with each other for almost two hours, occasionally distracted by a pair of Cinnamon-bellied Ground-tyrants. One of the Puma families eventually came close to the road and gave us excellent close views. What a morning and all before breakfast!

A Patagonian Tyrant in the hotel grounds was a pleasant surprise before we moved on towards Lago Grey for the afternoon. More Spectacled Duck families used the roadside pools and Patagonian Sierra-finches gave great views at Lago Grey to the backdrop of stunning glaciers. A stop at Laguna de los Cisnes provided a flock of 53 Chilean Flamingo, two Andean Ruddy Ducks and a Two-banded Plover.

At 18:00hrs we were back in position to watch Pumas. This time a family of five. We watched the adult female for 40 minutes sat under a bush before she moved off to suddenly be joined by four large cubs! Again we watched them for at least 2 hours, enjoying them at a distance so not disturb them. Lesser Rheas and a male Cinereous Harrier provided a bit of a distraction.

As we drove off towards our hotel our tracker found another Puma by the roadside!! We watched it disappear into a scrubby area only to reappear with a dead Rhea. It busily fed on the rhea as the light faded. Simply amazing, 12 Pumas in one day!!

### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

The Culpeo was once again lingering outside the hotel at breakfast time but it was time to say goodbye to Torres del Paine, its stunning scenery and amazing wildlife. The long drive south was broken up with sightings of Lesser Rheas, Black-faced Ibis and Chilean Flamingo flocks and Cinereous Harriers. A brief stop at Puerto Natales added Imperial Cormorants.

Our main stop of the day was at Laguna Los Palos and we were soon watching our target, the pigeon-like Magellanic Plover. They really are pigeon-like! In total we found six amongst good numbers of Baird's and White-rumped Sandpipers. Buff-winged Cinclodes and Common Miners fed in the nearby grasslands. A few miles further along the highway we came across another Hog-nosed Skunk and as we stopped to watch it, we found an Austral Canastero and a Southern Giant Petrel flew past off shore.

The ferry from Delgada to Tierra del Fuego was our first real chance to add southern seabirds on the trip. Magellanic and Imperial Cormorants flew past the port and during the crossing we saw many Magellanic Diving Petrels, two Magellanic Penguins and another Southern Giant Petrel. A Commerson's Dolphin gave a brief but great view. The long, slow drive to Porvenir was broken up by an unexpected encounter with an American Beaver. Introduced in 1946 the beaver has now expanded throughout Tierra del Fuego but is now considered a pest!

### **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Our first day on Tierra del Fuego saw us travel south along the coast towards Parque Pinguino Rey, the King Penguin colony. Several stunning Chillas (South American Grey Foxes) provided a welcome distraction as we made our way down to the colony. On arrival at the colony we were given an introduction by the reserve staff and then walked to the hide to see the King Penguins. The only mainland colony and only recently recolonised after a lengthy absence. It was fabulous to see 69 King Penguins together, including some juveniles. A couple of Dolphin Gulls landed nearby and Southern Giant Petrels, Chilean Skuas and a White-chinned Petrel were offshore. A Short-billed Miner at the car park was also new for the trip.

The entrance road to the parque was flanked by many lagoons holding good numbers of waders, 200+ White-rumped Sandpipers, 50+ Baird's Sandpipers and at least 10 Two-banded Plovers. An Apolomado Falcon hunted through the flocks of waders and nine Chilean Flamingos and 2 Black-faced Ibis fed amongst them. Further along the coast and another lagoon provided yet more Baird's and White-rumped Sandpipers. Amongst them were two Rufous-chested Dotterels. Patagonian Yellow-finch was the final bird of the day at a viewpoint overlooking Porvenir.

### **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

We visited Parque Estromatolitos first thing today, famous for its stromatolites, the oldest signs of life at 3,500 million years old! Several birds also called the park home with a pair of displaying Least Seedsnipe being a welcome addition, as was a Rufous-banded Miner. We checked the coastline and lagoons to the north of Porvenir for the rest of the morning before our afternoon ferry to Punta Arenas. Waders were, once again abundant and several Chillas were seen. The highlight was perhaps in Porvenir when we found a flock of 84 Dolphin Gulls. One of the smartest gulls in the world!

The two hour ferry trip to Punta Arenas was eagerly anticipated and it didn't disappoint with 11 Black-browed Albatross, 3 Wilson's Storm-petrels, 18 Southern Giant Petrels, 50+ Southern Fulmars and 7 Magellanic Diving-petrels in a biting wind!

A walk along the promenade outside our hotel in Punta Arenas provided more views of Black-browed Albatross, Southern Giant Petrels and Southern Fulmars out at sea. However, it was in a tiny area of scrub that Keith found the star bird - A Many-coloured Rush-Tyrant hopped around out in the open, often on the mud giving everyone excellent views and photo opportunities. It wasn't until we met Matais for dinner later that we realised just how rare it was. A couple of Whatsapp messages later and a local twitch was in full swing! The most southerly record ever!!

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

Another day and another penguin colony! This time we were sailing towards Isla Magdalena to see Magellanic Penguins, but first we sailed past Isla Marta to see the impressive South American Sea Lion colony. Karen picked out a lone South American Fur Seal amongst the throngs of sea lions and two Snowy Sheathbills were a much sought after species and a landmark bird for Keith. Black-browed Albatrosses and Southern Giant Petrels seemed to be ever present as we sailed to and from the islands and a couple groups of Peale's Dolphins added to the impressive spectacle.

Arriving on Isla Magdalena we slowly walked around the footpaths enjoying close range views of over 100 Magellanic Penguins. Equally impressive was the number of Kelp Gulls, as 10,000+ birds carpeted the island.

The afternoon saw some of the group enjoy the delights of Punta Arenas while the rest of us headed west along the coast. The road stuck tight to the coastline giving plenty of opportunity to find good birds and mammals. Magellanic Flightless Streamer-Ducks were plentiful, a Ringed Kingfisher flew past and a group of 14 Ruddy-headed Geese was another great target bird. Peale's Dolphins were seen on numerous occasions throughout the afternoon as Black-browed Albatrosses and Southern Fulmars flew overhead. We reached the end of the road, literally, and headed back to Punta Arenas for our final dinner.

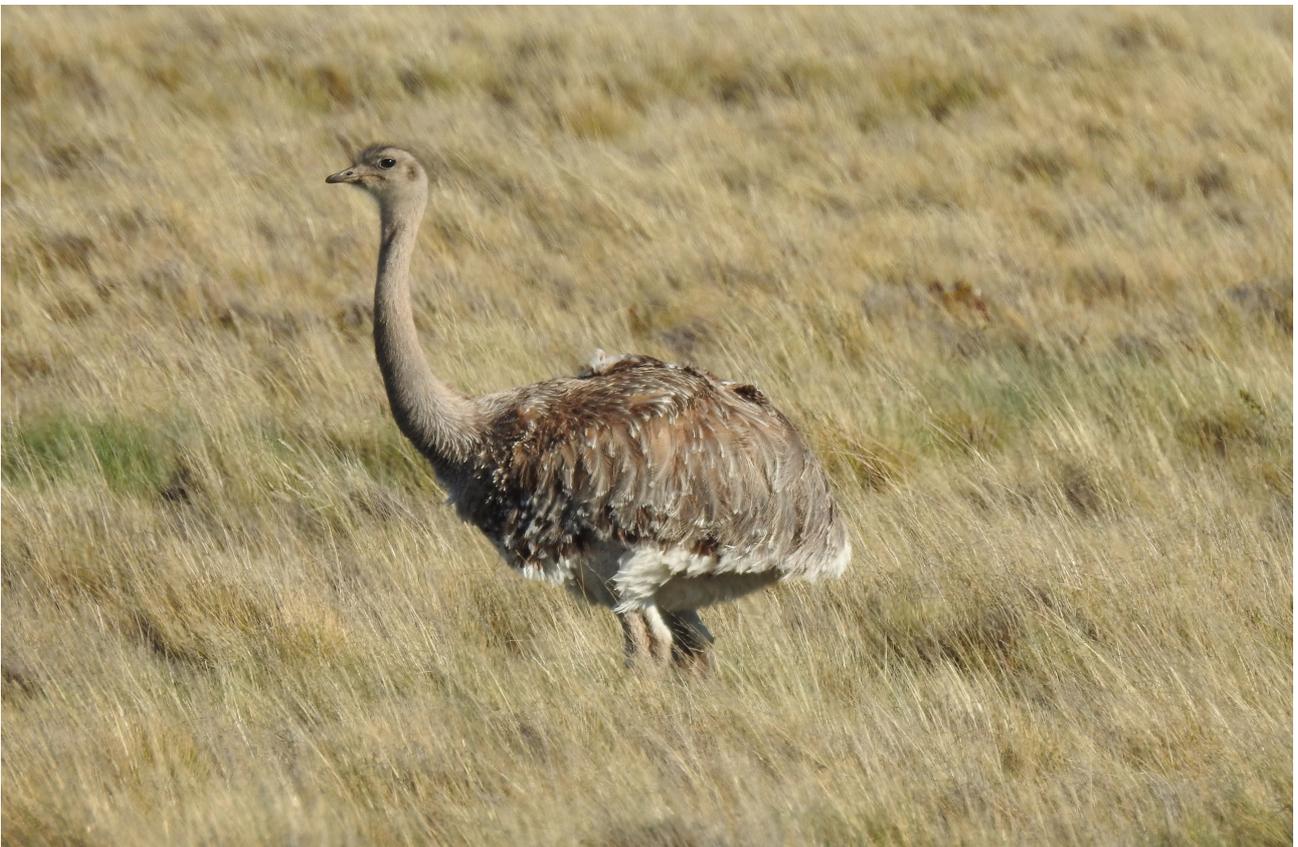
### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

A morning flight saw us say goodbye to Matais and Claudio as we caught our flight to Santiago before catching our connecting flight to London.

The end to a wonderful and eventful trip.



**Magellanic Plover, Patagonia (above)  
Lesser Rhea, Torres del Paine (below)**



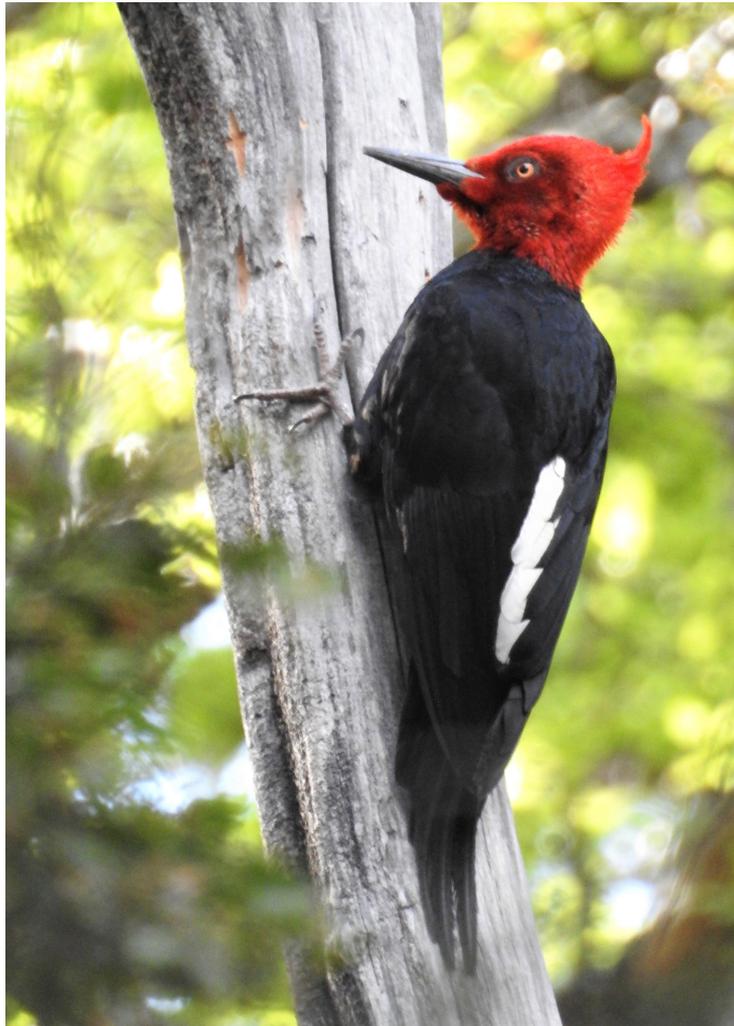


**King Penguin, Tierra del Fuego (above)  
Inca Tern, Valparaiso (below)**





**Moustached Turca, El Yeso Valley (above)  
Magellanic Woodpecker, Altos de Liracy**





**White-throated Treerunner, Altos de Liracy  
(above)**





**Chatham's Albatross (above) and Northern Royal Albatross, Quintero**





**Many-coloured Rush Tyrant, Punta Arenas (above)  
The most Southerly record thanks to a great find by Keith!  
Andean Condor, El Yeso Valley (below)**





**Great Grebe, Quintero (above)**  
**Silvery Grebe, Quintero (below)**





**Magellanic Penguin, Isla Magdalena (above)  
Dolphin Gull, Porvenir (below)**





**Northern Giant Petrel, Quintero Pelagic (above)  
and a fabulous pelagic scene (below)**





**Torrent Duck, Parque Tricahue (above)  
Spectacled Duck, Parque Tricahue (below)**





**Magellanic Flightless Steamer-duck, Punta Arenas  
(above)**





**Burrowing Parakeet, Parque Tricahue (above)  
Andean Condor, Torres del Paine (below)**





**Ashy-headed Goose, Torres del Paine (above)  
Ruddy-headed Goose, Punta Arenas (below)**





**Guanaco, Torres del Paine (above) and Torres Del Paine (below)**





**Torres del Paine (above) and our wonderful hotel**





**Magellanic Plover (above) and Patagonian Sierra-finch**





**South American Grey Fox (above)  
A fabulous Puma at Torres del Paine**





**Upland Goose (above)  
Northern Royal Albatross (below)**





Cheers! Salud!

**Conservation Donation - Following this tour to Chile £150 was transferred to the Wise Birding Holiday's central conservation fund.** Once a target amount has been reached this money will be used to support a single project in the hope of achieving more for species conservation. Currently this amounts to over £7,000. Some tours still donate money to help the smaller projects that we feel still benefit from smaller donations. Please visit our [Conservation News](#) & [Latest News](#) links to find out more.

## Wise Birding Holidays Ltd

3, Moormead, Budleigh Salterton, DEVON, EX9 6QA

Website: [www.wisebirding.co.uk](http://www.wisebirding.co.uk)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wisebirdingholidays](http://www.facebook.com/wisebirdingholidays)  
Email: [chris@wisebirding.co.uk](mailto:chris@wisebirding.co.uk)  
Telephone: 07973 483227

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**Bird & Mammal Checklist for Chile: 13- 28 October 2019 RED = Endemic BLUE = Heard only**

The bird list follows the nomenclature and classification from HBW Alive, del Hoyo, J, Elliott, A et al and the Mammals checklist follows IUCN taxonomy

#	Common name	Scientific name	
1	Lesser Rhea	<i>Rhea pennata</i>	Small flocks of 4 - 5 seen at Torres del Paine and then a count of 118 birds on the drive south between Torres del Paine and Punta Delgada.
2	Chilean Tinamou	<i>Nothoprocta perdicaria</i>	This endemic was seen near San Clemente on the 18th where a single bird was present.
3	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	Several flocks recorded throughout central Chile.
4	Black-headed Duck	<i>Heteronetta atricapilla</i>	A pair at SN Laguna El Peral on the 15th.
5	Andean Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura ferruginea</i>	Pairs recorded in Torres del Paine on the 22nd & 23rd.
6	Lake Duck	<i>Oxyura vittata</i>	Common on Laguna de Cartagena, Laguna Cachagua and Lago Batuco.
7	Coscoroba Swan	<i>Coscoroba coscoroba</i>	Relatively common on freshwater areas throughout. Largest flock was 200+ on Tierra del Fuego on the 26th.
8	Black-necked Swan	<i>Cygnus melancoryphus</i>	Largest flock (50+) at Puerto Natales on the 24th.
9	Andean Goose	<i>Chloephaga melanoptera</i>	11 at Laguna Batuco on the 20th.
10	Upland Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>	Common during the 2nd week in Patagonia.
11	Ashy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga poliocephala</i>	Recorded on three dates in Patagonia with 30 birds the highest count on the 27th.
12	Ruddy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i>	A group of 14 recorded on the 27th west of Punta Arenas.
13	Torrent Duck	<i>Merganetta armata</i>	Recorded in small numbers in the Andes and Torres del Paine.
14	Flying Steamerduck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>	Common in small numbers in Patagonia.
15	Magellanic Steamerduck	<i>Tachyeres pteneres</i>	Several pairs recorded west of Punta Arenas on the 27th.
16	Crested Duck	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>	Relatively common in Patagonia.
17	Spectacled Duck	<i>Specularnas specularis</i>	Small numbers, including family groups, recorded at Parque Natural Tricahue and Torres del Paine.
18	Red Shoveler	<i>Spatula platalea</i>	Common on most coastal lagoons.
19	Cinnamon Teal	<i>Spatula cyanoptera</i>	Recorded on three days.
20	Chiloe Wigeon	<i>Mareca sibilatrix</i>	Common on most lagoons, especially in central Chile.
21	White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>	Recorded on just two days.
22	Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>	Common on most lagoons, especially in central Chile.
23	Yellow-billed Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	Common on most lagoons, especially in central Chile.
24	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	A single bird recorded on the 16th.
25	White-tufted Grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>	Recorded on six dates in small numbers.
26	Great Grebe	<i>Podiceps major</i>	This stunning grebe was recorded on eight days in small numbers.
27	Southern Silvery Grebe	<i>Podiceps occipitalis</i>	Recorded on seven days, occasionally in large numbers.

#	Common name	Scientific name	
28	Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	Good numbers recorded over five dates in Patagonia.
29	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Common throughout.
30	Chilean Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas araucana</i>	Flocks of 20+ recorded on two days in central Chile.
31	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	Common throughout, except in Tierra del Fuego.
32	Western Peruvian Dove	<i>Zenaida meloda</i>	Several recorded over two days in central Chile.
33	Picui Dove	<i>Columbina picui</i>	A group of 10 birds recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
34	Black-winged Ground-dove	<i>Metriopelia melanoptera</i>	Recorded in small numbers in the higher altitudes in the Andes.
35	Green-backed Firecrown	<i>Sephanoides sephaniodes</i>	Recorded on two days in the Altos de Liracy area.
36	Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>	Recorded in small numbers over six days in central Chile.
37	Plumbeous Rail	<i>Pardirallus sanguinolentus</i>	One heard at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
38	Spot-flanked Gallinule	<i>Gallinula melanops</i>	Two recorded at Laguna de Cartagena.
39	White-winged Coot	<i>Fulica leucoptera</i>	Recorded on five days with a max. count 20+ birds.
40	Red-gartered Coot	<i>Fulica armillata</i>	Common throughout.
41	Red-fronted Coot	<i>Fulica rufifrons</i>	Recorded on three days.
42	King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	A fabulous spectacle with 69 birds recorded at Parque Pinguino Rey on the 25th.
43	Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	Two birds seen from the Delgada ferry and then 100+ at the colony at Isla Magdelana.
44	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	A total of 50 birds recorded at Islote Cachagua and 4 birds on the pelagic.
45	Wilson's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	A total of 12 birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic and 2 seen from the Punta Arenas ferry.
46	Markham's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma markhami</i>	One recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
47	Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	At least 4 birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
48	Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	At least 20 birds were seen on the Quintero pelagic. Plus 10-15 birds on both days around Punta Arenas.
49	Buller's Albatross	<i>Thalassarche bulleri</i>	A single bird recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
50	Chatham Albatross	<i>Thalassarche eremita</i>	At least 4 birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
51	Salvin's Albatross	<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	100+ birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
52	Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Three recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
53	Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Small numbers recorded at Tierra del Fuego and Punta Arenas.
54	Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>	Good numbers recorded off the Punta Arenas ferry and coastline.
55	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	200+ birds on the Quintero pelagic.
56	Westland Petrel	<i>Procellaria westlandica</i>	At least 3-4 birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.

#	Common name	Scientific name	
57	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	200+ birds off the Quintero coastline and pelagic and small numbers off the Punta Arenas ferry.
58	Pink-footed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna creatopus</i>	300+ birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
59	Peruvian Diving-petrel	<i>Pelecanoides garnotii</i>	50+ birds recorded on the Quintero pelagic.
60	Magellanic Diving-petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>	Small numbers off the Delgada and Punta Arenas ferries.
61	Black-faced Ibis	<i>Theristicus melanopis</i>	Small numbers recorded throughout the Patagonian areas.
62	White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	One recorded at Laguna de Cartagena.
63	Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Two recorded on the coastline near Islote Cachagua.
64	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Large numbers recorded along roadside fields on the 18th and 19th.
65	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	Three recorded at Laguna Batuco.
66	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Small numbers recorded on four days.
67	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Small numbers recorded on six days
68	Peruvian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus thagus</i>	Large numbers recorded on three days from the central coastline.
69	Peruvian Booby	<i>Sula variegata</i>	Large numbers recorded on three days from the central coastline.
70	Red-legged Cormorant	<i>Poikilocarbo gaimardi</i>	Small numbers recorded on three days from the central coastline.
71	Guanay Cormorant	<i>Leucocarbo bougainvilliorum</i>	Small numbers recorded on two days on the central coastline.
72	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Common throughout the coastlines visited.
73	Rock Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	Common on the Patagonian coasts.
74	Imperial Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	Common on the Patagonian coasts.
75	Snowy Sheathbill	<i>Chionis albus</i>	Two recorded on Isla Marta.
76	Magellanic Plover	<i>Pluvianellus socialis</i>	A count of 6 birds at Laguna Los Palos.
77	Magellanic Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus leucopodus</i>	Common in small numbers in Patagonia.
78	Blackish Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ater</i>	Small numbers recorded on the central Chilean coast.
79	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	Small numbers recorded on the central Chilean coast.
80	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Large numbers recorded on most lagoons in central Chile.
81	Collared Plover	<i>Charadrius collaris</i>	One recorded at Laguna Batuco.
82	Two-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	Common in small numbers in Patagonia, especially in Tierra Del Fuego.
83	Rufous-chested Plover	<i>Charadrius modestus</i>	Two recorded at Tierra Del Fuego on the 25th.
84	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	Common throughout.
85	Grey-breasted Seedsnipe	<i>Thinocorus orbignyianus</i>	At least 8 birds recorded in the El Yeso Valley on the 14th.

#	Common name	Scientific name	
86	Least Seedsnipe	<i>Thinocorus rumicivorus</i>	A pair displaying at Parque Estromatolitos.
87	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Common on the central Chilean coast.
88	Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	A flock of 12 birds at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
89	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Small numbers along the coast in central Chile.
90	Surfbird	<i>Calidris virgata</i>	Five feeding in the harbour at Quintero.
91	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Large flocks on the coast on the 16th.
92	Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	Large numbers in Tierra del Fuego.
93	White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	Large numbers in Tierra del Fuego.
94	South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>	Small numbers recorded in the Andes and Patagonia.
95	Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Large numbers recorded on the Pelagic and one bird found inland on Laguna Batuco.
96	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	One at Laguna de Cartagena.
97	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Two at Punta Arenas and two at Laguna Los Palos.
98	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	Small numbers recorded along the coastal lagoons in central Chile.
99	Andean Gull	<i>Larus serranus</i>	Singles recorded at Laguna Cachagua and La Isla Concon.
100	Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Larus maculipennis</i>	Common on the Pacific coast.
101	Grey Gull	<i>Larus modestus</i>	Common on the Pacific coast.
102	Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	Common on Tierra del Fuego.
103	Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>	A large flock off La Isla Concon on the 17th.
104	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Common throughout.
105	Inca Tern	<i>Larosterna inca</i>	Good numbers recorded on the Pacific coast on the 15th - 17th.
106	South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	Good numbers record on the Pacific and Patagonian coasts.
107	Snowy-crowned Tern	<i>Sterna trudeaui</i>	One roosting at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
108	Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>	A count of 15 birds recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
109	Arctic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	One recorded offshore at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
110	Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	Small numbers recorded offshore on the Pacific coast, Tierra del Fuego and Punta Arenas.
111	Austral Pygmy-owl	<i>Glaucidium nana</i>	One found at Banos Morales on the 14th.
112	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	One hunting outside our hotel in Torres del Paine.
113	Rufous-legged Owl	<i>Strix rufipes</i>	One heard at our hotel near Altos de Liracy.
114	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Small numbers recorded everyday in central Chile.

#	Common name	Scientific name	
115	American Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Small numbers recorded on two days in central Chile.
116	Andean Condor	<i>Vultur gryphus</i>	Good numbers seen in the Andes and Patagonia.
117	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	Two recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo and another on the drive to Altos de Liracy.
118	Cinereous Harrier	<i>Circus cinereus</i>	A male was recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo and good numbers in Patagonia.
119	Harris's Hawk	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	Small numbers recorded in central Chile on three days.
120	Variable Hawk	<i>Geranoaetus polyosoma</i>	Common in small numbers.
121	Black-chested Buzzard-eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>	Small numbers recorded in the Andes and Patagonia.
122	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	One recorded on the last day west of Punta Arenas.
123	Magellanic Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus magellanicus</i>	Adult male and female and a juvenile recorded at Altos de Liracy on the 19th.
124	Chilean Flicker	<i>Colaptes pitius</i>	Two records at Torres del Paine.
125	Striped Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis lignarius</i>	Good views of singles at Banos Morales, Parque la Campana and Altos de Liracy.
126	Southern Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Common in Patagonia.
127	Chimango Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus chimango</i>	Common throughout.
128	Mountain Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus megalopterus</i>	Two recorded at Banos Colina on the 14th.
129	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Small numbers recorded on 10 days.
130	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>	One recorded in Tierra del Fuego on the 25th.
131	Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	Small flocks seen in and around Santiago.
132	Austral Parakeet	<i>Enicognathus ferrugineus</i>	Small flocks at Altos de Liracy and Torres del Paine.
133	Slender-billed Parakeet	<i>Enicognathus leptorhynchus</i>	Half a dozen of these endemics were found in a mixed flock at Lago Colburn.
134	Burrowing Parrot	<i>Cyanoliseus patagonus</i>	Good numbers in the Lago Colburn and Parque Natural Tricahue on the 19th.
135	Chestnut-throated Huet-huet	<i>Pteroptochos castaneus</i>	A pair at Altos de Liracy on the 18th & 19th.
136	Moustached Turca	<i>Pteroptochos megapodius</i>	Small numbers in the Andes on 4 dates.
137	White-throated Tapaculo	<i>Scelorchilus albicollis</i>	A pair recorded in the Los Bronces area and also heard at Parque La Campana.
138	Chucao Tapaculo	<i>Scelorchilus rubecula</i>	One recorded at Altos de Liracy.
139	Magellanic Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus magellanicus</i>	One recorded at Banos Colina.
140	Dusky Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus fuscus</i>	One recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
141	Common Miner	<i>Geositta cunicularia</i>	Small number recorded in Patagonia on the 24th.
142	Short-billed Miner	<i>Geositta antarctica</i>	Small numbers recorded on three dates on Tierra del Fuego.
143	White-throated Treerunner	<i>Pygarrhichas albogularis</i>	Two recorded at Altos de Liracy on the 19th.

#	Common name	Scientific name	
144	Crag Earthcreeper	<i>Ochetorhynchus melanurus</i>	Two pairs recorded in the Los Bronces area on the 18th.
145	Wren-like Rushbird	<i>Phleocryptes melanops</i>	One heard at Torres del Paine on the 22nd.
146	Buff-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes fuscus</i>	Small numbers recorded in the Andes and Patagonia.
147	Grey-flanked Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes oustaleti</i>	Small numbers recorded in the Andes and Patagonia.
148	Dark-bellied Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes patagonicus</i>	Small numbers recorded in the Andes.
149	Seaside Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes nigrofumosus</i>	Small numbers on the Pacific coast.
150	Thorn-tailed Rayadito	<i>Aphrastura spinicauda</i>	Recorded on four days.
151	Plain-mantled Tit-spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura aegithaloides</i>	Recorded on seven days.
152	Austral Canastero	<i>Asthenes anthoides</i>	One recorded in Patagonia on the 24th.
153	Dusky-tailed Canastero	<i>Pseudasthenes humicola</i>	Two recorded at Camino a Mina de Oro on the 21st.
154	Rufous-tailed Plantcutter	<i>Phytotoma rara</i>	Recorded on four days.
155	Many-colored Rush-tyrant	<i>Tachuris rubrigastra</i>	Recorded on three days, including the southern most record ever at Punta Arenas on the 26th found by sharp-eyed Keith!
156	White-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>	Common throughout except on Tierra del Fuego.
157	Tufted Tit-tyrant	<i>Anairetes parulus</i>	Recorded on nine days.
158	Patagonian Tyrant	<i>Colorhamphus parvirostris</i>	One recorded at Torre del Paine on the 23rd.
159	Austral Negrito	<i>Lessonia rufa</i>	Common in Patagonia. Recorded on eight days.
160	Spectacled Tyrant	<i>Hymenops perspicillatus</i>	At least three recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
161	Ochre-naped Ground-tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola flavinucha</i>	At least 10 birds recorded in the Andes on the 14th.
162	Dark-faced Ground-tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola maclovianus</i>	Pairs recorded on the 14th and 23rd.
163	White-browed Ground-tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola albilora</i>	A pair recorded in the Andes on the 14th.
164	Cinnamon-bellied Ground-tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola capistratus</i>	A pair recorded in Torres del Paine on the 23rd.
165	Fire-eyed Diucon	<i>Xolmis pyrope</i>	Recorded on eight days.
166	Black-billed Shrike-tyrant	<i>Agriornis montanus</i>	One recorded on the 14th.
167	Great Shrike-tyrant	<i>Agriornis livida</i>	One recorded in the Andes on the 14th.
168	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Singles recorded on two days.
169	Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	One recorded at Parque Humedal Rio Maipo.
170	Chilean Swallow	<i>Tachycineta meyeni</i>	Common throughout.
171	Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	Common in central Chile.
172	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Common in small numbers throughout.



#	Common name	Scientific name	
	<b>MAMMALS</b>		
1	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Recorded on three days.
2	European Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	Common in Torres del Paine, recorded on four days.
3	Chilla (South American Grey Fox)	<i>Lycalopex griseus</i>	Several recorded at Tierra del Fuego over two days.
4	Culpeo (Andean Fox)	<i>Lycalopex culpaeus</i>	Singles recorded over three days at Torres del Paine.
5	Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>	Several pods recorded on the 27th near to Punta Arenas.
6	Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>	One seen from the ferry on the 24th.
7	Guanaco	<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	Very common in Patagonia.
8	Puma	<i>Puma concolor</i>	One of the highlights of the tour was seeing an incredible TWELVE different animals at Torres del Paine on the 23rd, including three families. We watched them for numerous hours!
9	Humboldt's Hog-nosed Skunk	<i>Conepatus humboldti</i>	Individuals recorded at Torres del Paine and Tierra del Fuego.
10	Marine Otter	<i>Lontra felina</i>	Small numbers recorded on the Pacific coast on two days.
11	South American Sea Lion	<i>Otaria byronia</i>	Large numbers recorded on the Pacific coast and Isla Marta.
12	South American Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>	One recorded at Isla Marta on the 27th.
13	Black Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	One recorded at Cerro Santa Lucia, Santiago on the 13th.
14	Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	3-4 recorded of the coast of Quintero on the 16th and 17th.
15	Mouse-eared Bat	<i>Myotis chiloensis</i>	One recorded on our night walk near Altos de Liracy.
16	American Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	One recorded on Tierra del Fuego on the 24th.

# Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours

