

Birding at Urugua-í & La Araucaria Provincial Parks

Tour duration – 2 days / 1 night
Starting: August 13th Ending: August 14th



Green-headed Tanager © Pablo Petracci – Trogon Tours

The most important forest south of the Amazon is formed by a set of subtropical rainforests including the Brazilian “Mata Atlántica” and the Interior Atlantic Forest in the Argentine province of Misiones. These forests host dozens of unique species of orchids, small primates, bats of rare habits and endemic birds.

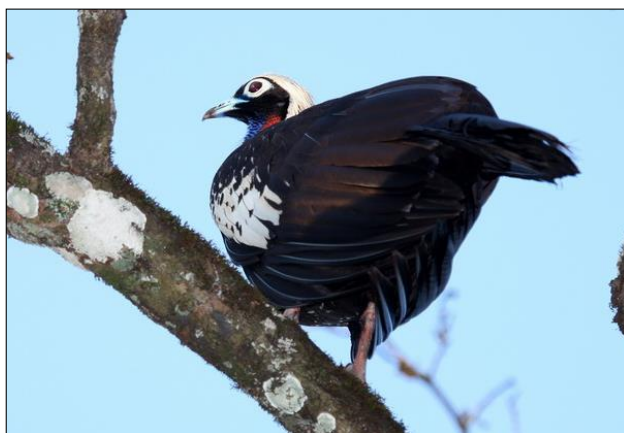
*Around one million hectares of the highly endangered Interior Atlantic Forest still stand in patches spread throughout the Argentine province of Misiones. Thanks to the efforts made by several local conservation organizations and individuals, most of them have been declared provincial reserves, and at the present they are linked to each other and to Iguazú National Park, forming a big, single conservation unit, known as the Green Corridor. This continuous forest cover supports healthy populations of big mammals, such as Jaguar, South American Tapir and Giant Anteater among others. There are areas of the Green Corridor where the forest canopy is dominated by giant Monkey-puzzle Trees (*Araucaria angustifolia*). This Araucaria forest cherishes some true forest jewels, such as Araucaria Tit-Spinetail, Red Howler Monkey and the rare Vinaceous-breasted Parrot.*

Our tour itinerary in a glimpse

Day	Itinerary
1	Iguazú to Urugua-í and La Araucaria Provincial Parks
2	La Araucaria Provincial Park to Iguazú

Our detailed tour itinerary

Day 1 - Urugua-í and La Araucaria Provincial Parks. We will start this morning 5:30 AM and drive 60 kilometres south of Iguazú, to go exploring Urugua-í Provincial Park. The forest here settles at a higher altitude, and its birds are different to the ones found in Iguazú. This reserve was created to protect an 84,000 hectares relict of Misiones Mountain Forest; a very particular habitat situated 600 meters above sea level, higher than the remaining forests of Misiones. This distinct ecosystem with a dense bamboo understorey is favoured by several bird species randomly seen in Iguazú or any of the other lowland forests. The riverine forest along the Uruzú River is excellent for birds like Black-fronted Piping Guan, Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper and Streamside Warbler. The bamboo stocks host Spotted Bamboo-Wren, Planalto Tapaculo, Dusky-tailed Antbird, Bertoni Antbird and Speckle-breasted Antpitta among others. Green-chinned Euphonia is also possible here, as well as Black Hawk-Eagle. The very rare Greenish Tyrannulet is a resident in Urugua-í, and chances to see it are very high. After lunch we will go visiting a local provincial park called La Araucaria, which protects a relict of the Paraná Rainforest with a good patch of *Araucaria angustifolia*, a local species of monkey-puzzle tree. This evening we will make a special effort to see here the very rare and localized Vinaceous-breasted Amazon. A small population of this parrot roosts inside the reserve, so our chances are very good. We will finish our birding day waiting for the sun to go down, so as to try for two species of owls: Stygian and Striped.



Black-fronted Piping Guan © Luis Segura – Trogon Tours

Day 2 - San Pedro to Puerto Iguazú. We will pay a second visit to La Araucaria early this morning for more birds, and focus on finding some highly localized specialties, like Canebrake Groundcreeper and Araucaria Tit-Spinetail. After birding this area, we will leave around 4 PM for Puerto Iguazú.

RAO-CBO-RFO Birding at Urugua-í & Araucarias Provincial Parks

(2 days / 1 night)

Included services:

- Full time **Trogon Tours'** English-speaking birding/naturalist **local leader**.
- **Private transportation** for all transfers and excursions.
- **Accommodations** on a twin/double room basis (if more than ten people accommodations will be based on three or four, according to availability) **with breakfast included**. All rooms **en-suite**. Please bear in mind that breakfast in Argentina is **NOT American style**, and it normally includes only a hot beverage, toast, croissants, butter and jam.
- All **lunches, boxed-lunches and dinners** from box breakfast on day 1 until box lunch on day 2 of the tour. **No drinks included**.
- **Admission fees** to all national parks and nature reserves.
- **Local guides** where required by law.
- **Drinkable water** on board the vehicles **while on tour**.

Not included:

- International and domestic airfares and airport taxes.
- Personal travel and medical insurance.
- Beverages
- Tips of any kind
- Anything not stated on "Included services".

Prices per paying tour participant expressed in **US Dollars** and based on a **minimum of 05 clients**, with all services in private: **US\$ 395.00**.

Single room supplements available: **US\$ 25.00**.

Payments and refunds: A 30% deposit is required on tour services request to secure your bookings. The 70% balance due is to be paid 60 days before tour departure date. It is Trogon Tours' commitment to try and get back as much money as possible in concept of cancellation refunds. Regardless, Trogon Tours deals with a number of service providers, all with different cancellation policies. Therefore, full refunds for cancellations can only be guaranteed 60 days prior to tour departure date, **less all bank fees and commissions**. Between 60 days and tour departure date, all refunds are subject to service providers' policies.

Tipping Policy: We do not include tips on our quotations since it is our belief that this is a very private issue. Regardless, tips are always welcome in Argentina and locals do expect to get tipped. General tipping guidelines can be provided on request.

Travel and Medical Insurance: Trogon Tours highly recommends that clients **purchase a travel and medical insurance** to cover for unexpected cancellations at short notice, and for possible medical emergencies while on tour.



Great Egret © Luis Segura – Trogon Tours

Program designed by
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