

Four day Endemic Trail

Note: This itinerary is meant as a guide. Road, weather, human, and wildlife conditions may change our schedule.

DETAILED ITINERARY:

Day 1: After pick up at airport we will be on our way to Manatí where we will spend the first night, if time allows it we can do some birding and see some of the more common endemics. After dinner we will go out for the Puerto Rican Screech-owl.



Night at Manatí

Day 2: After an early breakfast we go to the Rio Abajo state forest for our search of the critically endangered Puerto Rican Parrot. Other species we can see at Rio Abajo are the Green Mango and Puerto Rican Emerald. Later we go to the limestone areas to get some of the more common endemics like: Puerto Rican Vireo, Puerto Rican Bullfinch and Puerto Rican Flycatcher, Adelaide's

Warbler among many others. In the afternoon we start driving toward the southwest of the island where we spend our next two nights. Will stop at Laguna Cartagena Refuge. Is in this refuge where we going to look for West Indian Whistling Duck. In the afternoon we'll wind our way around the southwestern corner of the island to our hotel in La Parguera. Parguera is famous as the most reliable site for the endangered, Yellow-shouldered Blackbird. Tonight, we go out looking for the Puerto Rican Nightjar.

Night in Parguera

Day 3: Today we leave the hotel very early in the morning and drive toward the western mountains. Walking the highland roads above 3,000 feet in elevation we hope to encounter two endemics restricted to this elevation the Elfin-woods Warbler and Puerto Rican Tanager. Elfin-woods Warbler has the habit of foraging

in dense growth. Other species in the Maricao Forest Reserve include Scaly-naped Pigeons, Loggerhead Kingbird, Puerto Rican Spindalis, and Antillean Euphonia.

Night at La Parguera

Day 4: If time allows, before dropping at airport we will do stop for Green-throated Carib and Antillean Crested Hummingbird on the Aguirre natural reserve later in the town of Caguas we stop for the Plain Pigeon.

All trips are available year round, but prices may be adjusted around special holidays.

Included: Guide, all meals, accommodation, transportation, checklist, and entrance fees.

Excluded: Overnight accommodation for DAY 4 unless you ask for it, Gratuities, Alcoholic beverages, Personal items, Air tickets, Airport taxes (if any), International airfare, and Electronic transfers fees.

Equipment:

Dress for hot and humid weather with possibility of rain. Earth colors preferable. Closed shoes or trainers (not sandals), hat, insect repellent and sun block recommended.

Money: Puerto Rico uses U.S. money for its currency. You will need money for any alcoholic beverages or soft drinks you may wish to consume, telephone calls, laundry, souvenirs, or any purchases you make of a personal nature. Most participants will want to bring \$100-\$200. Major credit cards are also widely accepted.

References: There are three field guides that cover Puerto Rican birds: A Guide to the Birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands by Herbert A. Raffaele, published by Princeton University Press, 1989; Puerto Rico's Birds in Photographs by Mark W. Oberle, published by Editorial Humanitas, 2010 (most update); and A Guide to

the Birds of the West Indies by Herbert Raffaele, James Wiley, Orlando Garrido, Allan Keith, and Janis Raffaele, published by Princeton University Press, 1998.

