

Panama ~ Migration Spectacular

Birds of the Canopy and Highlands

November 12 – 22, 2015 with Mark Faherty

Panama offers optimum birding amid a surprising range of habitats. We are delighted to partner on all our Panama trips with Panamanian Raul Arias de Para and the Canopy Tower family, whose mission is, *"To share the nature, history, and culture of the Republic of Panamá with passion and enthusiasm, focused on customer satisfaction and guided by the principles of conservation and social responsibility."*

Always popular, this year we have timed our annual Panama birding tour to take advantage of the end of fall migration, when resident breeding birds are joined by wintering migrants and transients from North America. As we enjoy the Neotropical bird groups such as antbirds, woodcreepers, tyrant flycatchers, hummingbirds, and tanagers, we will also observe the flight of migrating raptors passing overhead on the way to their wintering grounds in South America. The Canopy Tower observation deck provides an excellent vantage point for observing kettles of *Swainson's & Broad-winged Hawks*, *Turkey Vultures*, and other raptors swirling overhead!

Our base is the justifiably famous Canopy Tower. It offers that rare combination of easy access to extensive tropical forest, fine accommodations, good food and water, and a wealth of wonderful birds to be seen. After a full week there, we will transfer to the delightful Canopy Lodge, roughly two hours west of Panama City and nestled in the Talamancan Foothills. Here we'll find extensive and lush cloud forest, dry Pacific savannahs, and an assortment of new birds.

If you can do only one Neotropic birding trip – go to Panama. And if you are a seasoned tropical birder, Panama can still surprise and delight you. Join us.



Day-to-Day Itinerary

Day 1: November 12, 2015 ~ Arrival at Canopy Tower

Participants will arrive at Tocumen International Airport near Panama City early afternoon and transfer to Canopy Tower, located at the top of Semaphore Hill in the rainforest of Soberanía National Park. After we get oriented to this very special lodge, we will take our drinks to the observation deck. The view from this platform is incredible! Here, there's an eye-level perspective of the rainforest canopy. Many birds, including toucans, parrots, tanagers of various types, hawks, and dozens of others, as well as two species of sloths, monkeys, and other mammals are commonly seen. From this vantage point you can also see ships transiting the Panama Canal, the majestic Centennial Bridge, and miles of rainforest! (Dinner and overnight at CANOPY TOWER)



Day 2: November 13, 2015 ~ Canopy Tower, Semaphore Hill Road, & Ammo Dump Ponds

Start your day right! Early morning birding – eye to eye with the canopy - while you enjoy orange juice and hot coffee and tea on the Observation Deck. Watching the sunrise over the forest is a moving experience. You will hear the “croaking” calls of the *Keel-billed Toucans* and see *Pale-vented & Scaled Pigeons* perched atop trees. In the early morning, it's likely we'll see a number of tanagers flitting among the leaves and flowers of *Cecropia* trees looking for insects, fruit, and nectar. Some of the bird species that we are likely to see from the Observation Deck are *Green & Red-legged Honeycreepers*, *Green Shrike-Vireo*, *Blue Cotinga*, *Mealy & Red-lored Parrots*, *Keel-billed Toucan*, *Collared Araçari*, flycatchers of various kinds, and raptors, including *King Vulture* and *Ornate Hawk-Eagle!*

Midmorning, after breakfast, you'll start exploring Soberanía National Park by taking a pleasant walk down Semaphore Hill Road. This winding, shady, paved road, festooned on the shoulders by wildflowers of many types, is a little more than a mile long and crosses a large creek about halfway down. The bird list here is extensive, and includes birds from the forest interior as well as edge-dwellers. *Olivaceous Flatbill*, *Plain Xenops*, *Lesser Greenlet*, *Black-breasted & White-whiskered Puffbirds*, *Fasciated & Western Slaty Antshrikes*, *Slate-colored Grosbeak*, *Bay-headed & White-shouldered Tanagers*, *Black-throated Trogon*, *Broad-billed & Rufous Motmots*, and *Great Jacamar*

may be found. *Great Tinamou* is often heard, but harder to see. We will catch a ride back just in time to enjoy a delicious lunch at the Canopy Tower.

In the afternoon, we will take a short drive to the Ammo Dump Ponds, located just past Gamboa on the way to Pipeline Road. It is the best place to see the elusive *White-throated Crake*, as well as a host of other waterbirds. *Least Grebes* and *Purple Gallinules* are common, and *Rufescent Tiger-Heron* and *American Pygmy Kingfisher* are also resident. Here, we often find *Greater Ani*, *Red-legged Honeycreeper*, *Whooping Motmot*, *Yellow-tailed Oriole*, *Southern Lapwing*, *Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet*, *Black-bellied Whistling-Duck*, *Panama, Social, & Rusty-margined Flycatchers*, and even an *Olivaceous Piculet*! Birding here will be excellent, as we add to our impressive list of birds! (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)



Day 3: November 14, 2015 ~ Pipeline Road & Summit Gardens

After breakfast, we'll board the Birdmobile (open-air vehicle), which will take us to Pipeline Road, the best place in Central Panama to find forest birds, and one of the premier birding spots in the world! This morning we will concentrate our efforts at the beginning of Pipeline, where we'll look for *Greater Ani*, *Gray-necked Wood-Rail*, *Yellow-tailed Oriole*, *Masked Tityra*, *Rosy Thrush-Tanager*, *Plain Wren*, *Streaked Flycatcher*, *Violaceous Trogon*, *Red-throated Ant-Tanager*, *Squirrel Cuckoo*, *Southern Bentbill*, *Forest Elaenia*, *Panama Flycatcher*, *Blue Ground-Dove*, and *Little Tinamou*. Other birds recorded here are *Black-bellied & Buff-breasted Wrens*, *Golden-collared Manakin*, *White-necked Puffbird*, *Violaceous*, *Slaty-tailed*, *Black-throated*, *White-tailed*, & *Black-tailed Trogons*, *Purple-crowned Fairy*, *Yellow Tyrannulet*, *White-bellied & Dusky Antbirds*, and *Fasciated & Western Slaty Antshrikes*.

We will take a lunch break back in town and then have another very short drive to Summit Gardens, a center for recreation, education, and conservation, dedicated to reflect and enhance Panama's tropical and cultural diversity. The botanical gardens are great for migratory warblers and other forest-edge species, including a colony of *Chestnut-headed Oropendolas*, *Yellow-margined Flycatcher*, *Laughing Falcon*, *Gray Crane*, & *Great Black Hawks*, *Collared Forest-Falcon*, *Tropical Pewee*, *Masked Tityra*, *Golden-fronted & Scrub Greenlets*, *Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet*, *Yellow-rumped Cacique*, *Giant Shiny*, & *Bronzed Cowbirds*, and *Blue Cotinga*. This park is the best place to find *Streak-headed Woodcreeper*, a difficult species to get elsewhere. It has an exhibit about the Harpy Eagle, Panama's national bird, including a life-size nest and interpretive panels, tracing the importance of the Harpy in Panamanian history and culture dating back to pre-Columbian times. (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)

Day 4: November 15, 2015 ~ Plantation Trail & Chagres River

After breakfast we will take a short ride to the bottom of Semaphore Hill to Plantation Trail, another premier birding area. This easy trail passes through mature rainforest and follows a small creek (Rio Chico Masambi) and is a reliable place to find *Golden-crowned Spadebill*. Oftentimes, at the parking area near the entrance, *Black-chested Jay* can be found. Other birds to look for along the trail include *Ocellated*, *Bicolored*, *Chestnut-backed*, *White-bellied*, & *Spotted Antbirds*, *Broad-billed & Whooping Motmots*, *trogons*, *White-whiskered Puffbird*, *Plain Brown*, *Northern Barred*, & *Cocoa Woodcreepers*, *Cinnamon*, *Crimson-crested*, & *Black-cheeked Woodpeckers*, *White-breasted Wood-Wren*, *Song Wren*, *Dot-winged*, *Checker-throated*, & *White-flanked Antwrens*, *Purple-throated Fruitcrow*, *Bright-rumped Attila*, *Gray-headed Tanager*, *Red-capped & Blue-crowned Manakins*, *Great Tinamou*, *Ruddy-tailed Royal*, & *Yellow-margined Flycatchers*, *Yellow-rumped Cacique*, *Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser*, and, occasionally, a *Great Jacamar* or the endemic *Yellow-green Tyrannulet*!

After lunch we'll take a short drive to Chagres River and the accompanying fields and forest. First, we must stop at the Canopy B & B, in the picturesque village of Gamboa, to look at the bird feeders! At the feeders, we are likely to see *Shining & Green Honeycreepers*, *Lemon-rumped*, *Crimson-backed*, & *Blue-gray Tanagers*, *Thick-billed Euphonia*, and *Yellow-bellied & Variable Seedeaters*, with *Central American Agoutis* lurking about under the feeders. Next, we'll be off to Chagres River, the main tributary for the Panama Canal. The birding along the river banks and the forest edges of Gamboa Resort can be spectacular. Here, we search for *Amazon*, *Green*, & *American Pygmy Kingfishers*, as well as, *Cinnamon Woodpecker*. We could also see *Gray-Necked Wood-Rail*, *Cocoi*, *Green*, & *Striated Herons*, *Wattled Jacana*, *Pied-billed Grebe*, *Anhinga*, *Royal & Sandwich Terns*, *Brown Pelican*, *Neotropic Cormorant*, *Tricolored & Little Blue Herons*, *Rufescent Tiger-Heron*, *Mangrove Swallow*, and *Blue Cotinga*! (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)



Day 5: November 16, 2015 ~ World Famous Pipeline Road & Rainforest Discovery Center

After breakfast we will board the Birdmobile again and return to Pipeline Road, one of the premier birding spots in the world! We will spend a full day here, searching for the area's super-rare specialties, *Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo* and *Harpy Eagle*, both recorded here. Eight species of wrens, five trogons, four puffbirds, three motmots, and many tanagers and flycatchers, along with the unusual *Brownish Twistwing*, *Great Jacamar*, and *Common Potoo*, and others are often found! Army ant swarms are found occasionally, attended by a host of birds including, *Bicolored*, *Ocellated*, & *Spotted Antbirds*. Plus, we will hunt for *Golden-collared*, *Red-capped*, & *Blue-crowned Manakins*, always high on the list of birder favorites! To be seen in the forest are *Olive & Sulphur-rumped Tanagers*, *Purple-throated Fruitcrow*, *Black-crowned & Masked Tityras*, *Cinnamon & Crimson-crested Woodpeckers*, *Scarlet-rumped Cacique*, *Red-lore & Brown-hooded Parrots*, *Collard Araçari*, *Pheasant Cuckoo*, *Speckled Mourner*, *Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner*, *Chestnut-mandibled & Keel-billed Toucans*, *Black-striped*, *Northern Barred*, & *Plain-brown Woodcreepers*! While crossing several rivers, we'll search for *Sunbittern* and *Green-and-rufous Kingfisher*.

We will also make a stop at the nearby Panamá Rainforest Discovery Center, which is an ecotourism and environmental education facility created and administered by Fundación Avifauna Eugene Eisenmann. The covered visitor center has several hummingbird feeders (attracting species that may be photographed easily), bathrooms, lunch tables, and a small gift shop with drinks and snacks. The center contains several attractions, the best of which is a 100-foot-tall observation tower, with four rest platforms—each stopping at a different layer of the rainforest. The view from the top is a great spot to scan for hawks such as *Double-toothed Kite* and *Semiplumbeous Hawk*. To maximize our time in the field, a nice picnic lunch will be enjoyed along Pipeline Road—but with scope and binoculars at the ready. (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)



Day 6: November 17, 2015 ~ Summit Ponds, Old Gamboa Road, & Chagres River North

Old Gamboa Road and the associated ponds at Summit are great places to find Canal Zone birds of many types. At Summit Ponds, we will scan for *Green, Striated, Capped, & Boat-billed Herons* as well as *Green, Ringed, Amazon, Green-and-rufous (rare), & American Pygmy Kingfishers*, which are all resident here! Also, we'll seek out *Rusty-margined & Streaked Flycatchers, Mangrove Swallow, Bat Falcon, Cocoa Woodcreeper, and Lineated & Crimson-crested Woodpeckers*. Going straight past the two ponds, we'll be on Old Gamboa Road, one of the birdiest spots around. This road passes through a variety of habitats and has plenty of specialties, including *Blue Ground-Dove, Great Antshrike, Jet Antbird, Black-tailed & Royal Flycatchers, Lance-tailed & Golden-collared Manakins*, and the delightful *Rosy Thrush-Tanager!* Also resident is *Gray-headed Chachalaca*, with *Spectacled Owl* a real possibility too, as the guides know where they often roost. Lunch at Canopy Tower.

After lunch we'll head to the river banks, where in the accompanying forest edges, it's possible to see *Gray-necked Wood-Rail, Green & Striated Herons, Black-tailed Flycatcher, Wattled Jacana, White-throated Crake, and Anhinga*. The Embera, whose trails lead from the river, are indigenous people of Panama and one can often see them fishing from their canoes. At the river we'll search for *Least Grebe, Muscovy Duck, and Black-bellied Whistling-Duck*. (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)

Day 7: November 18, 2015 ~ Metro Park & Miraflores Locks

The day will begin again with early morning birding – eye to eye with the canopy while enjoying orange juice and hot coffee and tea. After breakfast we will head towards Panama City to explore Metro Park. This 265-hectare national treasure is located within Panama City's Ancon district, and is the only protected area in Central America located within city boundaries. Standing along the Panama Canal's eastern shore, the park is home to dozens of species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and trees, with lookout points, four well-marked trails, a scenic road, and a Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute canopy structure.



The afternoon will include a visit to the **Miraflores Locks and Visitor Center to watch ships pass through the narrow locks of the Panama Canal**. In addition to seeing firsthand the operation of the Canal, you may also explore the world-class museum there. *Magnificent Frigatebirds* can be seen

gliding overhead! We'll return to Canopy Tower for dinner and evening birding from the rooftop. (Overnight at Canopy Tower; B, L, D)

Day 8: November 19, 2015 ~ Travel from Canopy Tower to Canopy Lodge

No need to wake up early today. After a leisurely breakfast and a last look for hawks from the Observation Deck, we'll board a comfortable air-conditioned van for the 2-hour ride to El Valle de Antón, also known as Crater Valley.

This lovely village is nestled in the crater of a long-dormant volcano that last erupted 3.5 million years ago. The resultant scenery is unique -- a steep valley surrounded by jagged peaks and filled with flowers, streams, and verdant forests. We will arrive in time for lunch. Our home for the next three nights will be Canopy Lodge, a charming ecolodge built next to a bubbling mountain stream and adjacent to the protected area of Cerro Gaital Natural Monument. This is a truly beautiful location on the Pacific slope where the elevation and cooling breezes keep temperatures comfortable throughout the year.



We'll explore the gardens and bird feeders where we might see: *Crimson-backed, Blue-gray, White-lined, Flame-rumped, Dusky-faced, & Plain-colored Tanagers, along with Red-crowned Ant-Tanager, Thick-billed Euphonia, Chestnut-headed Oropendola, Streaked & Buff-throated Saltators, Lineated & Red-crowned Woodpeckers, Red-legged Honeycreepers, Yellow-faced Grassquit, Social Flycatcher, Ruddy Ground-Dove, Barred Antshrike, Clay-colored Thrush, Rufous Motmot, Rufous-tailed, Snowy-bellied, & Violet-headed Hummingbirds, and Garden Emerald!* (Overnight at Canopy Lodge; B, L, D)

Day 9: November 20, 2015 ~ Cerro Gaital & Las Minas

The patio overlooking the lodge's feeding stations and a small mountain stream is the place to be for early morning birding. Birds typically seen coming to the feeders include many species of tanagers, honeycreepers, and hummingbirds, including those cited above.

After breakfast we'll proceed to Cerro Gaital, a steep, forested, mist-shrouded mountain that can be seen from the lodge. Cerro Gaital (3,500') is the namesake of Cerro Gaital Natural Monument, which protects more than 335 hectares of mature cloud forest. This area offers an array of birds not seen in the lower elevations. Sightings recorded here include: *Black Guan, Blue-throated Toucanet, Orange-bellied Trogon, Spotted Barbtail, Scaled Antpitta, and Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo.* From a mirador on Gaital, migrating raptors and other resident species, including *White & Barred Hawks* can be seen! We'll return to the lodge for lunch before heading to Las Minas. The road here follows the ridge line, with sweeping vistas of forested mountains speckled with grasslands and small fincas. The views from here are fantastic. On a clear day, near the summit, both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans can be seen, and it's a great place to view the raptor migration! (Overnight at Canopy Lodge; B, L, D)

Day 10: November 21, 2015 ~ Altos del Maria &

Departing early in the morning after breakfast, we'll drive from El Valle in air-conditioned 4x4 SUV's up into the mountains. As the sun rises over the highlands ahead of us, spectacular mountains, vast valleys, and towering cliffs come into view! Set in the mountains on the continental divide east of El Valle, Altos del Maria provides an outstanding addition to our Panama's Hawk Migration Spectacular Tour. Ascending

an excellent paved road, we will climb a ridge to our destination, an expansive area of cloud forest at 3,600 ft. This area harbors an exciting variety of highland forest birds. Some of the characteristic species of this cloud forest include *Black-crowned Antpitta*, *Black-headed Saltator*, *White Hawk*, *Barred Forest-Falcon*, *Orange-bellied Trogon*, *Spotted Woodcreeper*, *Red-faced Spinetail*, *Spotted Barbtail*, *Russet & Great Antshrikes*, *Tufted & Sulphur-rumped Flycatchers*, *Rufous-browed Tyrannulet*, *White-ruffed Manakin*, *Ochraceous Wren*, *Gray-breasted Wood-Wren*, *Pale-vented Thrush*, *Green Shrike-Vireo*, *Yellow-billed Cacique*, *Black-and-yellow*, *Bay-headed*, *Dusky-faced*, & *Tawny-crested Tanagers*, *White-vented Euphonia*, *Slate-colored Grosbeak*, and *Yellow-eared Toucanet*. Even the bizarre *Brown-billed Scythebill* is seen here regularly.

After a picnic lunch in the forest, we will drop down into a valley and climb to the ridge on the opposite side. Reaching some large swaths of mature humid forest along this ridge, we'll explore some trails and roadside spots in search of even more forest birds. Around midafternoon, we will head back into El Valle for some relaxation time prior to dinner. If time allows, we can head into town to explore. (Overnight at Canopy Lodge; B, L, D)

Day 11: November 22, 2015 ~ Return home

After early morning birding around the lodge and breakfast, we will return to Panama City and Tocumen International Airport in time for afternoon flights home. (B)



ABOUT YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS

The Canopy Tower birding lodge is located on top of Semaphore Hill, 900 feet above sea level, just outside of Panama City. It overlooks Soberania National Park, a magnificent 54,000-acre, tropical lowland rainforest with an impressive diversity of wildlife. From the roof of the tower, we will have extraordinary looks down into the tree tops and across the broad expanse of forest. Birds and mammals will be all around us. The roof of the tower provides 360-degree visibility, and the large windows in the dining room provide additional views into the forest. The floors just below the dining area house comfortable bedrooms with full baths and hot water in each. **[Note: Single room occupants share a bathroom.]** The tower does not have air conditioning; however, each room is equipped with a fan and a large window to enhance natural ventilation.

The Canopy Lodge is a **full-service** lodge specializing in nature tourism, particularly birds. It is about 60 miles west of Panama City in the picturesque village of El Valle de Anton, right in the center of a gigantic crater of an extinct volcano. This is the largest inhabited crater in the Western Hemisphere and second only to the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania. It is surrounded by the Cerro Gaital Natural Monument. The lodge consists of 12 bedrooms, with private baths, an open living/dining room (with

WiFi Internet), and a well-stocked library with natural history books and bird guides from several countries of Latin America.

ABOUT YOUR GUIDE MARK FAHERTY

Mark has been the Science Coordinator at Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary since August 2007 and has led birding trips for Mass Audubon since 2002. While his current projects involve everything from oysters and horseshoe crabs to bats and butterflies, he has studied primarily bird ecology for the last 20 years, working on research projects in Kenya, Florida, Texas, California, Arizona, Mexico, and the Pacific Northwest. He was a counter for the famous River of Raptors hawk watch in Veracruz, Mexico, and has birded Africa, Panama, Belize, and both Eastern and Western Europe. Mark is an emcee and trip leader for multiple birding festivals and leads workshops on birding by ear, eBird, birding apps, and general bird identification. He is past president of the Cape Cod Bird Club and current member of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee.

PRICE, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS

Trip Price: \$ 3600 person/double occupancy; Single rooms are very limited. Travelers who choose a single room should be aware that the single rooms at Canopy Tower are considerably smaller than the regular rooms and share a bathroom. Single Supplement is \$400. A \$500 per person deposit is required.

GROUP SIZE: A minimum of 8 travelers is required. Maximum group size will be approximately 14 people.

Price Includes:

- All accommodations
- Meals as shown in the itinerary
- Local guide and naturalist

- All tips and gratuities (to be paid by Mass Audubon guide)
- All excursions, entrance fees including the Miraflores Locks museum
- Extensive trip preparation notes
- Medical Evacuation coverage (paid by Mass Audubon)
- Transportation within Panama

Price Does Not Include:

- Personal items, bar beverages, optional activities
- Passport fees, laundry, phone calls, or gift items
- International airfare or airport departure tax

TERMS & CONDITIONS

APPLICATIONS, RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS: Early applications are strongly encouraged. Trip rosters usually must be finalized 4 months before departure! All applications must be accompanied by a completed reservation form and a \$500 per person deposit. Deposits can be by check or credit card (Visa or MasterCard). We reserve the right to decline your application. In the case of questionable health, we reserve the right to require a physician's certification to affirm you are capable of the activities.

Final payment is due 90 days before the departure date. Final payment must be by check or money order.

RATES: All tour prices are based on double occupancy. If you would like us to find you a roommate, we will do our best, but cannot guarantee a share. If we cannot find a share, you will need to pay the single supplement. All forms and fares are accurate at the time of publication (August 2014) but are subject to change at any time prior to departure. It is our policy to only pass on the actual amount of any increases in airfares or land costs such as those increases due to the devaluation of the dollar. Rarely, a price increase may be called for if the group falls below the minimum, as listed in the itinerary.

FLIGHTS: You, the traveler, are responsible for booking and paying for your own international flights. Once you reserve your space, we will provide you with suggested flights and tell you which flights our leaders will take. You may book flights directly with the airline, online, or with a travel agent. Please be aware that most tickets are nonrefundable, therefore you should not book your flight arrangements until you have checked with us to be sure the tour has the minimum number of participants for the trip to go. We ask that you provide us with your flight details so we can be sure to meet you at the airport upon your arrival.

PHOTOS: Mass Audubon reserves the right to make use of any photograph taken on the tour. We guarantee that no photos of a comprising nature will be used. If you have questions, please contact us.

TRIP INSURANCE: A brochure and application for optional trip cancellation, illness, and baggage insurance will be sent to you upon registrations. We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance to protect yourself. Mass Audubon does provide Medical Evacuation Coverage as part of the tour price, but coverage is limited. We suggest you review policies on www.insuremytrip.com.

CANCELLATION Policy: If you need to change your booking, you must inform us immediately in writing. All cancellations must be done in writing and are effective upon receipt in the Massachusetts Audubon Travel Office. Cancellations received up to 121 days prior to departure will be refunded deposits less a \$300 per person fee. For cancellations between 120 and 90 days prior to departure, all deposits will not be refunded. There are no refunds for cancellations 90 days or less from departure. We strongly urge all travelers to purchase trip cancellation insurance. You will be sent information from the Massachusetts Audubon Society upon receipt of your deposit.

Your Responsibility: Although every precaution is taken to safeguard you and your belongings, group travel trips by their nature involve a certain amount of risk. Trip participants should understand that the domestic and international trips sponsored/operated by Massachusetts Audubon Society (Mass Audubon Tours) - hereafter collectively "M.A.S." - involve known and unknown risks. M.A.S. assumes no responsibility for injuries, death, financial losses or damage to clients' property caused by or occurring during participation in any of the travel trips sponsored/operated by M.A.S. Trip participants must assume responsibility for having sufficient skill and fitness to participate in the trips and activities offered or sponsored by M.A.S. Trip participants must also certify that they have no medical, mental or physical conditions which could interfere with their abilities to participate in the activities and/or trips they are participating in and they must assume and bear the cost of all risks that may be created, directly or indirectly, by any such condition. It is the responsibility of trip participants to have in place adequate insurance to cover

any injury, damage or emergency transportation costs related to their travel and/or participation in trip activities and/or to bear the costs of such injury, damage or emergency transportation costs. Because of the risks associated with the travel trips sponsored by M.A.S. we urge all trip participants to supplement their own insurance with travel or vacation or emergency response types of insurance. M.A.S. requires that all trip participants acknowledge and assume these risks by reading and signing an M.A.S. Release and Waiver and Assumption of Risk contract prior to departure.

CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL: Travelers will be provided with an itinerary and trip preparation information. It is expected that travelers will read this information prior to trip departure. Travelers will be responsible for completing an application reservation form, including the personal information and a release of liability. Travelers will be expected to abide by the terms set for in the invoice. During the tour, travelers are asked to respect and follow the directions of their guide and leader.



Reservation Form:

Passenger 1 (Name as shown on passport): _____

Nickname for Name tag: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Passenger 2 (Name as shown on passport): _____

Nickname for Name tag: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Email address: _____

Room Preferences:

____ I request single accommodations where available and will pay the single supplement.

____ I would like to be assigned a roommate. If one is not available, I will pay the single supplement.

Personal Information:

____ I/We are nonsmokers. (If you are a smoker(s), please check here ____ and note that smoking is limited to outdoors in non-group spaces)

____ Is there anything Mass Audubon should know about your health that might impact your ability to participate comfortably on this trip? Please describe on the back of this page.

Deposit:

____ Please find my enclosed **check** deposit of **\$500** per person. Checks should be made payable to "Massachusetts Audubon Society" OR ____ Please **charge** my credit card:

VISA MC Card # _____ Exp. _____

Signature