

ALVARO'S ADVENTURES
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URUGUAY

Gaucha Birding and Wine

Nov 30 to Dec 15, 2024

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Spectacled Tyrant

Uruguay is one of those countries you have seen on the map, and likely know little about except that it is small and sandwiched between behemoths, Argentina and Brazil. You may also get it confused with very different Paraguay. The names of both countries come from the Guarani indigenous language, and there is some controversy over what Uruguay means. Some say it means “river of painted birds” while others say it is “river of the wood-quail” as the Uru is the Spot-winged Wood-Quail, which sadly no longer exists as far south as Uruguay. Either way, it is a country named for birds!

Uruguay's official name is the ROU (República Oriental del Uruguay), essentially the Republic east of the Uruguay River. Implying how its history has been tied to Argentina, to its West and on the other side of the Uruguay River. After independence from Spain, garnered by the national hero Jose Artigas, Argentina proposed governing the region. Artigas would have none of it and took over Montevideo against the Argentines and formed an alliance of several provinces and formed an autonomous government. Eventually some of these provinces re-joined Argentina. Posterior to this Portugal took over the “Oriente” yet this was roughly at the time that Brazil became an independent state, in this turmoil 33 rebels were able to take back control of the “Oriente” and under a treaty, Uruguay became an independent state in 1828. Fast forward to today, and Uruguay is one of the most politically interesting nations in the New World. Widely recognized as the most socially liberal country in the Americas (and

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yes, this includes Canada and the US). Uruguay is the most secular nation in the New World, with clear separation of church and state, and no official religion. In Latin America it is ranked first in indices of democracy, peace, low perception of corruption, and is highest in press freedom. It is the most socially advanced nation in the region in terms of personal freedoms, tolerance and inclusion; it was the first nation in Latin America to legalize marihuana, same sex marriage is legal, and it is a country where women are a very high part of the labor force. We mention these things because Uruguay is so poorly understood, and often compared to be like Argentina. While the Pampas (grasslands), big slabs of grilled beef and gauchos unite the two nations, they are actually quite different. As well, for a small nation, per capita this is one of the most successful soccer countries on earth, having won the world cup on two occasions. The first world cup took place in Montevideo in 1930. How the Uruguayans built the first World Cup Stadium is an interesting story and a matter of pride.

How about the birding? Well, it is great. Much of Uruguay's birding happens in relatively open places, such as grassland, forest edge, mudflats, beaches, lakes and wetlands and as such it offers a great deal of great birding and photo opportunities. The diversity is nice, from shorebirds to a plethora of fancy and colorful blackbirds, seedeaters and finches, to tropical species in the north. Uruguay is fun, mellow birding where more often than not you are able to see the birds well. There are gallery forests as well as thicker forests in the north, where we may be looking for some harder to see species, but on the whole even there the birds are not too tough to get a good look at. Although there are no endemic birds in Uruguay, there are some nice specialties. It is perhaps the best place to see the endangered Saffron-cowled Blackbird and the Black-and-white Monjita; this unrelated pair of species appears to forage in a cooperative manner! The details are not clearly understood, but you can see the monjitas munching on the insects scared up by the blackbirds while they send out alarm information when a predator comes by. Uruguay is also a great place to see some of the rare "Cappuccino" seedeaters, like the Marsh, Chestnut and Dark-throated seedeaters. The endangered Yellow Cardinal is also a possibility in Uruguay. This gorgeous cardinal like tanager is pursued relentlessly for the cage bird trade, locations with Yellow Cardinals are tightly guarded. We hope we have some luck.

As so much of Uruguay is wetland, there are many gorgeous waterfowl that can be found in the county. Some widespread species, and others like the Ringed Teal more local and uncommon. Rails as we all know are difficult to find, and often go unseen and undetected. As such, the actual distribution of these rails and where and how to find them is being discovered as we speak. In some of our early trips to Uruguay we discovered that Spotted Rails were not all that rare, and hopefully we shall find them again. Rufous-sided Crake is common, and the uncommon Red-and-white Crake is actually not that difficult to find. More recently spots for the little-known Dot-winged Crake have been found, we look forward to trying to find them. In the mudflats and

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grasslands is where we find overwintering Boreal shorebirds. It is not uncommon to see non-breeding shorebirds on trips to the Neotropics, although in Uruguay some of the rarer and most conservation sensitive species are to be found. In particular, we have the “grasspipers,” shorebirds that are particularly keen on grasslands. Masses of American Golden Plovers winter here, and in some places we may pick up the Buff-breasted Sandpiper. If we find the flocks, you may see more “Buffies” here than you might experience in the rest of your life elsewhere! Similarly, in the northern dry grasslands we may have a chance of finding Upland Sandpipers, these are hard to find, but it is a kick to find these very particular habitat specialists in the areas where they spend much of their lives. Mudflats may have numbers of Hudsonian Godwits, along with big flocks of White-rumped sandpipers. As we watch them, we will be enjoying the Snowy-crowned Terns, Chilean Flamingos, Cayenne (Sandwich) terns in the mudflats, and the gorgeous, often solitary beaches of Uruguay.

There is a lot to see, antshrikes, firewood-gatherers, Red-legged Seriema, Greater Rhea, Diademed Tanagers, marshbirds, cachalotes, horneros, Lark-like Brushrunner, doraditos, reedhaunters, Southern Screamer, Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, Thornbirds, Bay-capped Wren-Spintail, to pull out some of the more exotic sounding birds! But also, so much more in terms of just fun and easy-going birding, great landscapes, wonderful people and superb food. You will wonder... can I retire here somehow? I know that is the question I always ask!

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Dark-throated Seedeater

Places we shall visit.

Farrapos and the West

Farrapos is a recently designated National Park, right along the shores of the large Uruguay River. In the west of the country one can find various species which are absent from the rest of Uruguay, as well as widespread species which we shall see throughout the trip. There are also some less common but widespread species we may find, like Ringed Teal and Crane Hawk for example. But here some of the specialties include Chotoy Spinetail, Tufted Tit-Spinetail, White-fronted Woodpecker, Lark-like Brushrunner, Short-billed Canastero as well as Dark-throated and Chestnut seedeaters. The influence here is of the Chaco, as some of the species which extend south from the Chaco into the dry forest adjacent to the Pampas are found in this latitude of Argentina and in this area of Uruguay.

Bella Union and the Northwest

As Uruguay is a temperate nation, the farther north you go the more subtropical and tropical species you will find. Two areas of particular diversity are the Northwest

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and Northeast of the country. Here in Bella Union one may find Cream-backed Woodpecker, Large Elaenia, Rufous Casiornis, Purple-throated and Golden-rumped Euphonia as well as Red-rumped Cacique and the Yellow-billed Cardinal. Perhaps the local and unusual White-naped Xenopsaris will show up for us.

Valle del Lunarejo

In the center-north of the county one finds a hilly landscape, with ravines and even waterfalls. Not what you would expect in a nation that is so often depicted as flat and grassy. Here there are forests along the rivers, dry grasslands, and nice wetlands. Some of the specialties include the Buff-necked Ibis, Bicolored Hawk, Crane Hawk, White-eyed Parakeet, Blue-tufted Starthroat, Short-billed Canastero, Olivaceous Elaenia, Cliff Flycatcher, Crested Black-Tyrant, Green-backed Becard, Green-winged Saltator, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Chestnut-backed Tanager, Wedge-tailed Grass Finch, Golden-winged Cacique and Yellow-rumped Marshbird.

Grasslands, Wetlands and lakes of the East.

Starting in the north at the Quebrada de los Cuervos, we will bird an area of grassland, shrubby forest and ravines. In the grassland we may find the Black-and-white Monjita as well as the Saffron-cowled Blackbird, perhaps Red-winged Tinamou and if we are lucky the Lesser Grassfinch. Wetlands closer to Chui may be chock-full of ducks, including Silver Teal, Red Shoveler, Black-necked and Coscoroba Swans among many others. The reeds adjacent to the ponds may harbor Rufous-sided and Red-and-white crakes, Spotted Rail, Curve-billed Reedhaunter, Sulphur-bearded Spinetail, the gorgeous Scarlet-headed Blackbird, Many-colored Rush-Tyrants, Spectacled Tyrant while handsome Long-winged Harriers patrol overhead. The mudflats and coast may allow us to see American Golden-Plovers, Pantanal Snipe, Yellow-billed Terns, Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Black Skimmer, Chilean flamingo and mixed flocks of Hudsonian Godwits, yellowlegs, Baird's as well as White-rumped Sandpipers. This is a very rich area for birding, and we will have some great opportunities for photography as well as observation.



Nancunda Nighthawk

Itinerary

Day 0. Nov 30, 2024: Arrival in Montevideo. Arrival in the Montevideo area, many flights arrive in the morning after an overnight flight. We will not have any scheduled birding today. Some may want to arrive a day before, and we could spend this day doing some tourist visits, in the Montevideo area. Overnight in Montevideo.

Day 1. Dec 1, 2024: Montevideo to Colonia. We have a 3-hour drive to the Department of Colonia, we will be birding along the way. Among one of the birding spots is the Santa Lucía Wetlands, a Natural Reserve and an Important Bird Area to the west of Montevideo which comprises coasts and marshes, native and exotic woods, in suburban and rural areas. Check in at [Casa de los Limoneros](#) lodge before noon. Then it is a short drive to [Los Cerros de San Juan Winery](#) for wine

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tasting and lunch. We will bird a bit around the lodge in the afternoon and evening. Night at Casa de los Limoneros.

Day 2. Dec 2, 2024: Colonia Area. After breakfast, short birding in the surroundings of Colonia del Sacramento and afterwards transfer to Riachuelo (15 min) and birding until noon. Transfer to Bodega Hacienda del Sacramento where we will have lunch and wine tasting. Afterwards, birding in the surroundings and back at the hotel. Night at Casa de los Limoneros.

Day 3. Dec 3, 2024: Estancia La Paz. After breakfast, transfer to Estancia La Paz (3 hrs 30 min). Check in and birding in the surroundings. Lunch at the estancia. In the afternoon, birding in grasslands and woods close to the estancia. Dinner at the estancia. Owling in the surroundings. Night at Estancia La Paz.

Day 4. Dec 4, 2024: Farrapos N.P. Optional birding around the estancia before breakfast. After breakfast 30 min drive to Puerto Viejo (protected area at the edge of Farrapos National Park). The local town of San Javier was settled by Russians fleeing religious persecution in Tsarists times in 1913. Now their culture has mixed with Uruguayan here over the years, but some local dishes still have a Russian flavor. We will be birding in Espinal biome and gallery forest here. Lunch at the estancia (or local restaurant). In the afternoon, birding in marshes and grasslands perhaps finding our first "Capuchino" seedeaters. Dinner at the estancia. Night at Estancia La Paz.

Day 5. Dec 5, 2024: Artigas. After breakfast, we will drive for 3 hours to a protected area and an Important Bird Area called Rincón de Franquía. This is in the Department of Artigas, right in the triple border between Brazil-Argentina-Uruguay. Here, new bird species have recently been recorded in Uruguay like the Red-rumped Cacique and the Short-crested Flycatcher. Many tropical bird species have their southernmost limits of distribution here. The closest city is called Bella Unión where we will stay two nights in a hotel. Once we get to the hotel, we will have lunch. Afterwards, we will watch birds in the protected area until sunset including in the wetlands where we may find Ash-throated Crake, Dark-throated Seedeater, Chestnut Seedeater, Greater Thornbird. Night in Bella Unión.

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Day 6. Dec 6, 2024: Rincón de Franquía. Full day birding in Rincón de Franquía and surroundings. Night in Bella Unión.

Days 7. Dec 7, 2024: Transfer to Posada del Lunarejo (3 hrs). Upon arrival we will have lunch. In the afternoon, we will be bird watching in the surroundings of the posada and at the public entrance of the Valle del Lunarejo National Park. Dinner at the posada.

Days 8. Dec 8, 2024: Valle del Lunarejo. Full day birding in private areas of the National Park and surroundings. Lunch and dinner at the posada. Owling close to the posada.

Day 9. Dec 9, 2024: To Quebrada de los Cuervos. After breakfast, we will drive the Department of Treinta y Tres, where we find the protected area Quebrada de los Cuervos (Crow's Ravine, actually pertaining to vultures, not crows). On our way we shall visit Bodega Cerro Chapeu, for lunch and wine tasting. The Quebrada is another Important Bird Area because of the occurrence of vulnerable and near threatened bird species like the Straight-billed Reedhaunter, Black-and-white Monjita and Saffron-cowled Blackbird. We will be staying at a local estancia overnight near Quebrada de los Cuervos.

Day 10. Dec 10, 2024: Quebrada de los Cuervos. Full day in the protected area Quebrada de los Cuervos. We will be birding the grasslands, as well as the gully (quebrada) today. At the park, we will go birding along a walking trail that ends in a viewpoint where the whole area can be appreciated from the top of the cliffs. We will have lunch at Estancia El Proyecto. After lunch we will drive around the protected area looking for birds in marshes and grasslands. Overnight near Quebrada de los Cuervos.

Day 11. Dec 11, 2024: To Rocha Department. After breakfast we will drive to the Department of Rocha, where there is one of the most important wetlands in the country. Marshes, ocean coasts and forests are found here in a protected area of 780,000 hectares. The marshes are recognized by the RAMSAR International Convention and are also categorized as Important Bird Areas for being home to endangered species and a crucial stop for migrant bird species that arrive in large numbers of individuals. We will stay right in front of Fortín de San Miguel National Park which protects native woods and marshes that are surrounding a historical fort from the 1800s. Our hotel is also surrounded by a beautiful park

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where we can watch birds after lunch. In the afternoon, we will go birding in the nearby marshes until sunset. Night at Fortín de San Miguel.

Day 12. Dec 12, 2024: Bañado del Indio and Santa Teresa National Park. We will watch birds in the park around the hotel until breakfast time. After breakfast we will drive for 45 minutes to the Bañado del Indio, where we will look for marsh nesting species. This spot is part of the RAMSAR Wetland reserve and where it is possible to find the Marsh Seedeater, an endangered species. If lucky we may stumble upon Plumbeous Rail, or Red-and-white Crake. We will return to the hotel for lunch, and bird within an hour's drive from the hotel looking for marsh nesting and grassland species. Night at Fortín de San Miguel.

Day 13. Dec 13, 2024: Rocha and Maldonado. Optional birding before breakfast in nearby marshes (Routes 19 and 15; 30 min driving). After breakfast, Check-out and birding in Bañados de los Indios if there are species we did not find there yesterday. Transfer to Santa Teresa National Park (30 minutes), after short birding, 15 minutes driving to Punta del Diablo and lunch at a local restaurant. Afterwards, it is 1 hour drive to Hotel La Pedrera. After check-in and short rest, birding in Laguna de Rocha National Park. Dinner at a local restaurant, overnight at Hotel la Pedrera.

Day 14. Dec 14, 2024: Punta del Este and Lagoons: After breakfast, birding in Rocha Lagoon National Park a National Park where we will look for Chilean Flamingos among other birds. We will take a boat trip crossing the lake from east to west. The driver will be waiting for us on the other side, and we will go to have lunch in a local restaurant at Bodega Garzón where we will have a tasting and lunch. After a short rest at our hotel, we shall be birding along the coast and in Esteros de Maldonado Protected Area. Night at Posada de los Pájaros.

Day 15. Dec 15, 2024: Punta del Este to Montevideo. Close to the hotel there are several hotspots for birdwatching. The first one to visit in this day is Laguna del Diario. It is a small lagoon of 4 hectares, at 50 meters from the beach. The activity of birds here is generally pretty high. Next spot is the Wetlands of Maldonado River. This is an Important Bird Area that receives migrant gulls, plovers, sandpipers and terns. Lunch will be at Punta Ballena, and after lunch we will drive to Montevideo where you can be dropped off at the airport, or you can continue back to Montevideo.



Saffron-cowled Blackbird

About the Physical Requirements & Pace

We plan to bird some of Uruguay's best birding sites and also to see a wide cross section of the country, both its scenery, habitats, wineries (known as bodegas) and people. We will be birding near the border with Argentina, as well as Brazil, and the coast of the Atlantic and the Rio de la Plata, essentially all corners of this small but fascinating country. The pace is somewhat relaxed, there are no strenuous walks for example, even so, by the end of the tour we will have seen a large proportion of Uruguay's regularly occurring bird species. The most strenuous parts of the tour will be several long drives to reach the best birding sites, but these are but a few hours long. There may be some early mornings and optional pre-breakfast birding near hotels, or you may choose to sleep in a bit more. Uruguay is about the safest and mellowest country in all of South America. It is an uncomplicated and relaxing place to bird.

Note that we will be getting up early to take advantage of the best birding times, though when possible, we'll offer some afternoon time for a siesta or swim (if pool or

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beach is available). Much of the country is flat, but in the north, there are some hills and canyons. We will keep to mostly flat terrain and easy trails, but a few trails may require a bit more care and walking shoes with some support are recommended. In the a few areas, trails can be a bit muddy at times, so be prepared for that possibility.

The style of this tour is to stay mainly at ranch houses that have been setup for tourism (estancias), which will give it a different feel from purely hotel-based tours. We will have rooms with private baths, but the rooms themselves may not all be the same size, style, or décor. Most of these lodges have pre-set meals, and sometimes they are prepared by the owner or family that runs the estancia, giving a homey feel to the food and accommodation. Note that Uruguayans eat a lot of meat, often asado or grilled, which is typical of gaucho culture. Vegetarian food is available, although it is often pasta which Uruguayans eat as much of as meat.



Curve-billed Reedhaunter

Your Guides



Rafael Tosi My name is Rafael Tosi. I grew up in Colonia del Sacramento and nearby town Tarariras, I also lived in Winnipeg, Canada during a few years. I've been an animal enthusiast since I can remember, so after high school I moved to

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Montevideo to become a biologist, first focusing on Paleontology, and then on to Zoology for a master's degree. Throughout my career I got hooked on birds and have been ever since. I've worked in diverse research projects and environmental impact assessments, where I've learned much during long field hours, not only about birds but also the natural life of Uruguay in general. Since then, I've moved back to my hometown in Colonia, where I work as a preschool and high school teacher. A couple of years after my settlement, I've decided to begin offering birding tours. Colonia is a highly touristic city, but ecotourism is not exploited in the least, I would like to offer nature tours to any nature enthusiasts who would like to get to know our rich biodiversity. At the same time, this would provide income to local communities, thus promoting conservation and awareness of natural areas and species, something much needed.



Tropical Parula

Financial Information

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FEE: \$6900 from Montevideo.

DEPOSIT: \$500 per person

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: Aug 2, 2024

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (Optional): \$500

LIMIT: 10.



Red-legged Seriema

Additional Information

DOCUMENTS: A current passport valid six months beyond the date of your return is necessary for US citizens to enter Uruguay. You do not need a visa for entry under 90 days. If you are not a US citizen, please check with the Uruguayan consulate nearest you for entry requirements. Information about consulates and entry requirements is generally available online or phone or e-mail. Passports should have an adequate number of blank pages for the entire journey.

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AIR ARRANGEMENTS: Please plan to arrive in Montevideo by Nov 30, 2024. Flights back home at the end of the tour can be booked out the evening of Dec 15, if you would like to arrive early or remain later than the tour we can arrange for extra nights at the hotel. Be sure to check with Alvaro's Adventures to confirm that the flights you have chosen will work with our itinerary and to confirm that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate. Once purchased, most airline tickets are non-refundable and carry a penalty to change. We are not responsible for these fees.

TOUR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS: The tour fee is \$6900 for one person in double occupancy from Montevideo. It includes all lodging from Day 1 through Day 14. All meals from lunch on Day 1 through dinner on Day 15 are included. Wine tastings and beer and wine during meals are included. Cocktails and "fancier drinks" are not included. Otherwise also included are all ground transportation, entrance fees, tips for hotel and restaurant staff, and the guide services of the tour leaders. Items of a personal nature are not included. The above fees do not include your airfare to and from Montevideo, hotel in Montevideo, airport taxes, visa fees, optional tips to local drivers, phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature.

The single supplement for the tour is \$500. If you do not have a roommate but wish to share, we will try to pair you with a roommate from the tour; but if none is available, you will be billed for the single supplement. Our tour fees are based on double occupancy; one-half the cost of a double room is priced into the tour fee.

TOUR REGISTRATION: To register for this tour, complete the Registration/Release and Indemnity form and return it with a **deposit of \$500** per person. If registering by phone, a deposit and the Release and Indemnity form must be received within fourteen days, or the space will be released. **Full payment** of the tour fee is due 120 days prior to departure, or **by Aug 3, 2024. We will bill you for the final payment at either 120 days or when the tour has reached sufficient subscription to operate, whichever date comes later.** Since the cost of your trip insurance and airline tickets is generally non-refundable, please do not finalize these purchases until you have received final billing for the tour or have been advised that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate by Alvaro's Adventures.

SMOKING: This is a non-smoking tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Refund of deposit and payment, less \$100 handling fee, will be made if cancellation is received up to 120 days before departure. If cancellation occurs between 119 and 70 days before the departure date, 50% of the tour fee is refundable. Thereafter, all deposits and payments are not refundable.

This policy only applies to payments made to Alvaro's Adventures for tour (and any services included in those fees). Airline tickets not included in the tour fee and

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purchased separately often carry penalties for cancellation or change are sometimes totally non-refundable. Additionally, if you take out trip insurance the cost of the insurance is not refundable so it is best to purchase the policy just prior to making full payment for the tour or at the time you purchase airline tickets, depending upon the airlines restrictions.

The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger. The right is reserved to substitute another guide for the original one. Where this is necessary, notification will be given to tour members, and they will have the right to cancel their participation and receive a full refund.

Alvaro's Adventures's is a Registered Seller of Travel in the State of California (CST # 2105497). Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. This ensures your right to a prompt refund: Upon cancellation of the transportation or travel services, where the passenger is not at fault and has not canceled in violation of any terms and conditions previously clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger, all sums paid to the seller of travel for services not provided will be promptly paid to the passenger, unless the passenger advises the seller of travel in writing, after cancellation. This provision does not apply where the seller of travel has remitted the payment to another registered wholesale seller of travel or a carrier, without obtaining a refund, and where the wholesaler or provider defaults in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service. In this situation, the seller of travel must provide the passenger with a written statement accompanied by bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a wholesale seller of travel, proof of current registration of that wholesaler.

TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EMERGENCY INSURANCE: We strongly recommend you consider purchasing trip cancellation (including medical emergency) insurance to cover your investment in case of injury or illness to you or your family prior to or during a trip. Because we must remit early (and substantial) tour deposits to our suppliers, we cannot offer any refund when cancellation occurs within 70 days of departure, and only a partial refund from 70 to 119 days prior to departure (see CANCELLATION POLICY). In addition, the Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies overseas and if it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. US medical insurance plans seldom cover health costs incurred outside the United States unless supplemental coverage is purchased. Furthermore, US Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States.

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When making a decision regarding health insurance, Americans should consider that many foreign doctors and hospitals require payment in cash prior to providing service and that a medical evacuation to the United States may cost well in excess of \$50,000. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas often face extreme difficulties. When consulting with your insurer prior to your trip, please ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas healthcare provider or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses that you incur.

RESPONSIBILITY: For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the tour, each tour participant and each parent or legal guardian of a tour participant who is under 18 agrees to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Alvaro's Adventures, its agents, servants, employees, shareholders, officers, directors, attorneys, and contractors as more fully set forth in the Release and Indemnity Agreement on the reverse side of the registration form. Alvaro's Adventures acts only as an agent for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, airplane, or other means, and assumes no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity caused by defect in such vehicles or for any reason whatsoever, including the acts, defaults, or bankruptcies of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. Alvaro's Adventures accepts no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. The tour participant shall bear all such losses and expenses. Alvaro's Adventures reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. Alvaro's Adventures reserves the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely.

Participants should be in good health and should consult a physician before undertaking a tour. If you have questions about the physical requirements of a tour, please contact our office for further information. Participants should prepare for the tour by reading the detailed itinerary, and other pertinent matter provided by Alvaro's Adventures. Each participant is responsible for bringing appropriate clothing and equipment as recommended in our bulletins.

THE RECEIPT OF YOUR TOUR DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE CONSENT TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS. EACH TOUR PARTICIPANT AND EACH PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A TOUR PARTICIPANT WHO IS UNDER 18 SHALL SIGN AND DELIVER THE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION. 3/24 AJ

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Yellow-chinned Spinetail