THE BIRDS OF PANAMA
A BIRDER’S SAFARI HOSTED BY
BARB REVARD
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM PLANNING, COLUMBUS ZOO AND AQUARIUM

HARPY EAGLE

LIMITED TO 18 PARTICIPANTS

JUNE 16-23, 2017

Early Bird Special!
Send your deposit by September 15, 2016 and receive a copy of The Birds of Panama
Join me in discovering the incredible birds of Panama!

I am so excited to travel to Panama with the Zoo and Columbus Audubon! Panama is hands-down one of the “must visit” places on any birders wish list. With more species of birds than all of North America, in a country the size of South Carolina, this will be an amazing experience! And to make it even better, we will stay in the world-renowned Canopy Tower. Along with motmot’s, toucans and Harpy Eagles, a stay in the Canopy Tower and birding on the famed Pipeline Road are a definite tick on any birders life list!

An extraordinary expedition awaits, offering opportunities for all of us to discover, together, the magic and mystery of the birds of Panama!

HOST DETAILS:

Barb has been a member of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium team for 29 years and is responsible for developing programs which enhance the conservation education and/or entertainment experiences for Zoo and community audiences. She also develops community partnerships that strengthen the ability of the Zoo to promote and deliver quality education, conservation, and research projects. Having led the Zoo’s efforts in sustainability since 2008, Barbara is proud of the recently completed carbon footprint assessment and the development of a Sustainability Strategy Plan to lead the Zoo as they create future projects aimed at reducing their carbon footprint.
Panama – A Paradise for Birds!

Panama! – The name brings images of ocean-going ships passing through the Panama Canal – a short cut between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Or the word “isthmus” comes to mind as a narrow strip of land connecting North and South America.

But to those passionate about birds, Panama is a truly unique destination, for this is where many neotropical North American and South American birds meet. With 978 species on record, this tiny country boasts a greater variety of avian fauna than all of North America.

How is it that a country smaller than the state of South Carolina is home to such a diversity of birds? Panama is the southern-most range for many northern species, while a number of South American birds range no further north. And the narrowness of this enchanted land brings Atlantic and Pacific sea birds.

The geography of Panama adds to the diversity of its avian residents through its incredible variety of habitats – ranging from savannas and mudflats to cloud forests, wet forests and dry forests, among others. The ruggedness of the land has created tiny landscapes that have sheltered the development of unique species that are only found within these restricted ranges. There are 12 species of birds that are endemic to Panama and an additional 107 species that are endemic to the region.

Panama’s unique placement also offers a convenient pathway for many migrant species, including many that are familiar to those who live in Ohio. While we love our local birds, this birding safari will take place during the “Green Season” – when the local residents are the stars of the Panamanian countryside.

The Green Season

Beginning in May, changes in the weather patterns bring occasional rains to Panama. As with many tropical destinations, rainstorms here tend to be short but intense. These short-lived cloudbursts bring the blooming orchids and flowers out, along with their associated butterflies. Our tours are seldom interrupted as we seek birds in a variety of habitats (carrying a rain poncho – just in case!). This is the season Panamanians call “winter.” With temperatures moderating into the 70s and the intermittent showers, this is the off-peak season for the casual tourist, providing us with an exceptional value.

We’ve chosen the month of June for our birding safari because this is the “green season” – the time when the forests put on their greatest show. Many resident birds will be starting to nest and vocalize more often. There is plenty of food out there and you will see immature birds being fed by their parents, in the never-ending annual rituals of renewal.

With such an impressive variety of birds, it is hard to make a list of highlights. But there is one bird that truly stands out – Panama’s national bird – the Harpy Eagle. Although the Harpy has been extirpated from much of Central America, Panama’s lowland forests provide the perfect home for the largest, most powerful raptor found in the Americas. Wonderful sightings are possible, as you can see in the following report:
“Yesterday morning we had a visit from a very special bird. Just before 8 am, our eagle-eyed driver Lorenzo spotted a VERY large bird fly and land in a tree beside the Canopy Tower. It could only be one bird: A HARPY EAGLE. Excitement filled the Tower as the guests and staff, including our resident biologist Jenn SinaSac, got great looks as the eagle perched in the crown of the large tree.

This eagle had an antenna on her back from a radio transmitter and a blue band on her leg that read, “LV”. In 2009, Jenn volunteered on the Peregrine Fund’s Harpy Eagle Release and Conservation project in Soberania National Park. She recognized this eagle immediately.

LV was born and raised in the wild in Darién, Panama. At approximately a year of age, before she had even left the watch of her parents, she was shot in her wing. She was rescued and brought to Panama City where she underwent surgery to repair the damage, and when she gained enough strength, she was released into Soberania National Park on March 9, 2009. This eagle, affectionately named “Love”, was only a year-and-a-half old at the time of her release. Now, 5½ years after her release, she is in full adult plumage and perfect condition.” - 25 September 2014 from the staff of Canopy Tower.

The Canopy Family

During our explorations of Panama, we will become members of The Canopy Family, the country’s leading birding tour organization. The Canopy Family has grown out of the passion of Raúl Arias de Para, the grandson of one of the founders of the Republic of Panama. After a successful career in business, Raúl turned his skills toward conserving a waterfall that was close to his heart. Out of that simple beginning, he and his son, Daniel, have created three of the best places to discover the country’s neotropical birds. And they have trained and recruited the best professional guides to insure that their travelers maximize their days spent in Panama’s top birding habitats.

Our first destination is the Canopy Tower. Originally built as a radar station by the U.S. Air Force, in defense of the Panama Canal. Perched on top of Semaphore Hill, the tower and its 35 acres of surrounding rainforest within Soberania National Park were transferred to Panama in 1996. Shortly after that, Raúl signed a long-term contract to develop the Canopy Tower, with its proximity to the Panama Canal, into one of the world’s premier birding destinations.
A two hour drive to the southwest takes us to the village of El Valle de Antón, nestled with an enchanting mountain valley that also happens to be the center of a large extinct volcano. From here, we explore the foothills of the Panamanian mountains, with a very different set of habitats and their resident birds and mammals. This is the land that Raúl’s father obtained as a retreat almost a century ago. Now it houses the Canopy Lodge, a full-service lodge dedicated to serving travelers who wish to discover yet another magical part of Panama.

**Panama’s Birds**

There are simply too many amazing birds at these two destinations to list or show here. We can only give you an all-too-brief glimpse into the spectacular avian species that make Panama one of the top birding destinations in the world.
From the moment you meet our representatives in Panama City, you are in the hands of one of the most experienced and recognized teams in Panama – the professionals of The Canopy Family. I have traveled with them personally and found them to be dedicated to making sure you safely enjoy every aspect of your Panama safari – while maximizing your opportunities to spot and identify an amazing diversity of birds. Each member of The Canopy Family team is committed to your needs and interests, through exceptional personal service and attention to detail.

Your journey is sure to be enhanced by our professional guides, fluent in English, whose knowledge and determination to show you everything you wish to see is matched only by their dedication to your safety and comfort. In the 28 years I’ve traveled in Central and South America, these are the best bird guides I’ve had the pleasure to meet.

Tom LaRock, Managing Director, World Safaris

**Your Panama Birder’s Safari Itinerary**

**JUNE 16 - FRIDAY** – DEPARTURE FROM YOUR US AIRPORT AND ARRIVAL IN PANAMA CITY, PANAMA – TRANSFER BY AND ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY TOWER

**JUNE 17 - SATURDAY** – AM SEMAPHORE HILL – PM AMMO DUMP PONDS – ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY TOWER

**JUNE 18 - SUNDAY** – AM PIPELINE ROAD – PM CHAGRES RIVER – ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY TOWER

**JUNE 19 - MONDAY** – LAKE GATUN & THE PANAMA CANAL – PM SUMMIT PONDS & OLD GAMBOA ROAD – ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY TOWER

**JUNE 20 - TUESDAY** – AM PANAMA RAINFOREST DISCOVERY CENTER – PM TRANSFER TO AND ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY LODGE

**JUNE 21 - WEDNESDAY** – AM LAS MINAS ROAD – PM CARA IGUANA ROAD – ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY LODGE

**JUNE 22 - THURSDAY** – AM CERRO GAITAL – PM VALLE CHIQUITO – ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CANOPY LODGE

**JUNE 23 - FRIDAY** – TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT – DEPARTURE TO YOUR HOME

Please note that this itinerary is subject to change, based on local conditions and opportunities - and park regulations.

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact Patti Cattey, Community Engagement Coordinator, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium at:

614-724-3558  patti.cattey@columbuszoo.org or Tom LaRock, Managing Director, World Safaris at: 336-776-0359 (office)

or 703-981-4474 (mobile)  tom@safariprofessionals.com
Friday – Departure from USA and Arrival in Panama City, Panama

Our international travels bring us to Tocumen International Airport – the starting point of our Panama birding adventure. Upon clearing immigration and customs, we enter the arrival hall and meet our World Safaris representative, who guides us to our waiting vehicle for our ride to The Canopy Tower, located at the top of Semaphore Hill in the rainforest of Soberanía National Park. We will meet with our local guides and be given an orientation to our temporary home for the next four nights. With a cold drink in hand, we will head up to the Observation Deck. The view from the deck is incredible - a unique 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 we can also see ships transiting the Panama Canal, the majestic Centennial Bridge and miles and miles of rainforest! We may also want to watch the hummingbird feeders at the base of the Tower for White-vented Plumeleteer, White-necked Jacobin, Long-billed Hermit, Violet-bellied and Blue-chested Hummingbirds. With a bit of luck, we may spot a Snowy-bellied Hummingbird! (D)

Saturday - Semaphore Road and Ammo Dump Ponds

We will meet on the Observation Deck for early morning birding, enjoying hot coffee, tea and orange juice as we scan the canopy for birds. 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, Scaled Pigeon, Mealy & Red-lobed Parrots, Keel-billed Toucan, Collared Araçari, flycatchers of various kinds and raptors, including King Vulture and Ornate Hawk-eagle! After breakfast, at mid-morning, we’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 near the bottom. 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 & Black-crowned Antshrikes, Slate-colored Grosbeak, Bay-headed & White-shouldered Tanagers, Black-throated Trogon, Broad-billed & Rufous Motmots and Great Jacamar may be found. The Great Tinamou is often heard, but harder to find. This road is also great for raptors—White, Tiny & Great Black Hawks have been spotted. Your morning bird list will be impressive, as we catch a ride back just in time to enjoy a delicious lunch.

The Ammo Dump Ponds are located just past the village of 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 water birds. Least Grebes and Purple Gallinules are common, and Rufescent Tiger-heron and American Pygmy-kingfisher are also resident. Here, we hope to find Greater Ani, Red-legged Honeycreeper, Whooping Motmot (a species recently split from the Blue-crowned Motmot), Yellow-tailed Oriole, Southern Lapwing, Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet, Tropical Kingbird, Scrub Greenlet, Lesser Kiskadee, Black-bellied Whistling-duck and Panama, Social & Rusty-marginated Flycatchers and Olivaceous Piculet! Birding here will be excellent, as we add to our impressive list of birds! (B/L/D)

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**SUNDAY – PIPELINE ROAD AND THE CHAGRES RIVER**

Pipeline Road is considered by many to be one of the top birding spots in the world. We use the Canopy Tower’s Birdmobile to go deep into the forest—Pipeline Road is the best place in central Panama to find forest birds, and plenty of them. Eight species of wrens, five trogons, four puffbirds, three motmots, many antbirds and even more flycatchers have been reported from the road. Army ant swarms are found frequently, attended rarely by Rufous-vented Ground-cuckoo, and there are many Manakin leks right beside the road. Pipeline Road is also a great place for raptors: all three Forest-Falcons are heard, if not seen with ease, and Tiny and Plumbeous Hawks and Ornate Hawk-eagles have been reported a few times. We will expect an exciting morning, filled with birds and wildlife!

After lunch, we take a short drive to Chagres River and its nearby fields & forest. First, we must stop at the Canopy Bed & Breakfast in the picturesque village of Gamboa, to look at the bird feeders! With a beautiful backdrop of Cerro Pelado, the backyard at the Canopy B&B is teeming with bird life. At the fruit feeders, we are likely to see Red-legged, Shining & Green Honeycreepers, Lemon-rumped, Crimson-backed & Blue-gray Tanagers, Thick-billed Euphonia, Yellow-bellied & Variable Seed-eaters, Whooping Motmot and Gray-headed Chachalaca, with Central American agoutis lurking about to scoop up fallen seeds. Then we are off to the Chagres River, the primary source of water for the Panama Canal. The birding along the riverbanks and the forest edges of Gamboa Resort can be truly spectacular! Here, we search for Amazon, Green & American Pygmy-kingfishers, as well as, Whooping Motmot and Cinnamon Woodpecker. We could also see Gray-Necked Wood-rail, Coci, 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, Black-cheested Jay, Lesser Kiskadee, Rusty-margined Flycatcher, Yellow-billed Cacique, Black-bellied & Buff-breasted Wrens, Fasciated & Barred Antshrikes, Cinnamon Becard, Slaty-tailed Trogon, White-bellied Antbird, and, possibly Slaty-backed Forest-falcon and Blue Cotinga! (B/L/D)

**MONDAY – JUNGLE BOAT TOUR ON GATUN LAKE - PANAMA CANAL AND SUMMIT PONDS**

After breakfast we board a 20 ft. boat with a 75 hp outboard motor, for a spectacular tour on the Panama Canal. Most of the Panama Canal is actually an artificial lake, Lake Gatun, and this tour will depart from Gamboa, just 15 minutes from The Canopy Tower. Along the way we will pass huge cargo ships and ocean liners and will also visit hidden coves and beautiful inlets with fascinating fauna and flora. We will also
stop at Monkey Island to look for Mantled Howlers and White-faced Capuchins that roam the island. There is also a chance to see some interesting reptiles, including American Crocodile (some reach 14 or more feet in length) and its smaller relative, the Spectacled Caiman, along with Green Iguana, Basilisk Lizard and Black River Turtle. A little scarcer, but not impossible, is the Neotropical River Otter and, if we are really lucky, a manatee. There is also a Proboscis Bat roost here we will probably see! Birds we will look for include Black-bellied Whistling-ducks, Muscovy Ducks, Great Black-Hawk, Snail Kite, Gray-necked Wood-rail, Limpkin and three species of kingfishers, Amazon, Green & Ringed. After our lovely morning on the lake, we will head back to The Canopy Tower for lunch.

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 seek out Rusty-margined & Streaked Flycatchers, Mangrove Swallow, Cocoa Woodcreeper, Bat Falcon, and Lineated & Crimson-crested Woodpeckers. Going straight past the two ponds we’ll continue birding along 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! We also will find species like White-bellied Antbird, Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Yellow-backed Oriole, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Yellow-headed Caracara and more. Also resident are Gray-headed Chachalaca, with Spectacled Owl a real possibility, too, as our guide knows where they often roost. (B/L/D)

TUESDAY – PANAMA RAINFOREST DISCOVERY CENTER AND CANOPY LODGE

After breakfast we depart to the Panama Rainforest Discovery Center, which is an ecotourism and environmental education facility created and administered by Fundacion Avifauna Eugene Eisenmann. It is located off Pipeline Road, adjacent to Soberanía National Park. The Center contains several attractions, the best of which is a 100-foot-tall observation tower, with four viewing platforms—each stopping at a different layer of the rainforest. And the view from the top is incredible! Here, we scan for hawks like Double-toothed Kite and Semiplumbeous Hawk. We also explore the almost ¾ mile circuit of well-maintained forest trails, ending at a pond, which draws in lots of birds! Snail Kite, Wattled Jacana, Little Blue Heron and Sungrebe are often found at the pond. Along the trails we look for White-necked
Puffbird, motmots, trogons, manakins, antbirds, wrens, tanagers and flycatchers.

The covered Visitor Center has several hummingbird feeders (attracting species that may be easily photographed), bathrooms, lunch tables and a small gift shop with drinks and snacks. We return to The Canopy Tower for lunch.

After lunch, we will gather our gear and head two hours west of the Panama Canal, to the picturesque foothills of western Panama! As we settle in to our rooms at the beautiful Canopy Lodge, we will want to grab our binoculars and visit the veranda overlooking the manicured gardens and the platform bird feeders, always stocked with bananas! Crimson-backed, Blue-gray, White-lined, Flame-rumped, Dusky-faced & Plain-colored Tanagers, along with Red-crowned Ant-tanager are about. Frequent visitors include Thick-billed Euphonia, Chestnut-headed Oropendola, Streaked & Buff-throated Saltator, 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! (B/L/D)

**Wednesday – Las Minas and Cara Iguana Trail**
After breakfast (during which we watch for Orange-billed Sparrow calling off the end of the dining area), we head to Las Minas, an excellent place for spotting a wide variety of birds. The road follows the ridgeline, with sweeping vistas of forested mountains, speckled with grasslands and small fincas (farms). The views from here are fantastic, as on a clear day near the summit, both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans can be seen! Specialties of the region include Black-and-yellow, Bay-headed & Emerald Tanagers, Tawny-capped Euphonia, Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant, Spot-crowned Antvireo, Gray-headed Kite, Barred Hawk, Bat Falcon, Ornate Hawk-Eagle, Swallow-tailed Kite, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, White-tipped Sicklebill, Green Thorntail, Orange-bellied & Black-throated Trogons, Wedge-tailed Grass-finch, Tawny-faced Gnatwren, Plain Antvireo, the endemic Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker, Spotted Woodcreeper, Red-capped & White-ruffed Manakins, Band-rumped Swift and Black Guan have all been recorded here! A forested slope here is also our best chance for Black-headed Anthrash!

With a full stomach and some rest, we head to Cara Iguana Trail, where we enjoy outstanding foothill birding in some of the last remaining examples of quality Dry Pacific Forest. Specialties we hope to find in this bird-rich habitat are Lesser Elaenia, Yellow-olive & Panama Flycatchers, Pale-eyed Pygmy-tyrant, Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Lance-tailed Manakin, Rufous-breasted & Rufous-and-white Wrens, Rosy Thrush-tanager, Tody & Whooping Motmots and Long-billed Gnatwren. Also resident are Striped Cuckoo, Little Tinamou, Common Potoo, Dusky & White-bellied Antbirds, Barred Antshrike, White-winged Becard, Tropical Screech-Owl and Bat Falcon. Hummers to watch for are Garden Emerald, Long-billed...
Today after breakfast, we proceed to Cerro Gaital, a steep, forested, mist-shrouded mountain that you see from the lodge! Cerro Gaital (3,500') is the namesake of Cerro Gaital Natural Monument, which protects more than 1.3 square miles of mature cloud forest. This area offers sightings of Black Guan, Blue-throated Toucanet, Orange-bellied Trogon, Spotted Barbtailed, Common Bush-tanager, Silver-throated Tanager, Black-headed Anthrushing, Slaty Antwren, Spot-crowened & Plain Antvireo, Black-faced Grosbeak, Blue Seedeater, Rufous-capped Warbler, Gray-headed Kite, White Hawk, Tawny-capped Euphonia, Pale-vented Thrush, Northern Schiffornis, White-tailed Emerald, Green-crowned Brilliant, Violet-headed Hummingbird and Crowned Woodnymph. Scaled Antpitta and Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo have been recorded here, as well!

After lunch we are off to Valle Chiquito - a valley that is accessible by a newly paved road and passes through nicely forested woodlands, which are crossed by two rivers. At Rio de Jesus we search for Green Kingfisher and listen for Sepia-capped Flycatcher. We hope to see a nice colony of Chestnut-headed Oropendolas in a Cecropia tree. We will also try for Tody Motmot, Yellow-throated Vireo, Yellow-backed Oriole, White-bellied Antbird, Gray-chested Dove, Yellow-billed Cacique, Zone-tailed & Gray-lined Hawks, Black Hawk-eagle, Lance-tailed Manakin, Panama Flycatcher, Black-headed Tody-flycatcher, Little Tinamou, Long-billed Starthroat and Garden Emerald. Wrens are abundant here, with Black-bellied, Rufous-and-white, Bay, & Rufous-breasted Wrens all lurking about in the thickets! (B/L/D)

This morning after a leisurely breakfast we will have some time to watch the birds feeding in the garden, and keep an eye out for kingfishers and basilisk lizards along the river. Then, we will say our goodbyes to the Canopy Lodge and our local guides, and depart for Panama City to catch our return flights home. (B)
CANOPY TOWER
**THE BIRDS OF PANAMA - HOSTED BY BARB REVARD, COLUMBUS ZOO AND AQUARIUM & COLUMBUS AUDUBON**

$2,495 per traveler sharing double occupancy in standard rooms – five rooms available

$3,125 per traveler sharing double occupancy in a suite/corner room combination – two combinations available

There are three single rooms available, without additional cost. Single rooms at Canopy Tower share a bath. Assignment of these three single rooms will be made to the first travelers to submit their complete registration forms and their deposits.

Only 18 travelers may participate on The Birds of Panama. A minimum of ten (10) participants, not including the leader, is required for this tour.

A nonrefundable deposit of $750 per person* is required no later than December 15, 2016 to confirm your reservation at the above price. Fees for the use of credit and debit cards are not included in the price. If you wish to use a credit or debit card for your deposit, please add $25 to your deposit amount.

We strongly recommend submitting your Panama birding safari registration as early as possible to insure your reservation, which cannot be confirmed until your registration and deposit are received.

Full payment of the balance is due no later than February 15, 2017. Balance payments are accepted by check.

To give you maximum flexibility, international air transportation is not included. **Please note that you will need to arrive in Panama City, Panama no later than 6PM on June 16, 2017 and depart no earlier than 12PM on June 23, 2017.** Roundtrip economy flights between Columbus and Panama City, Panama are currently estimated at $650 per person. Please note that this estimate may not reflect the price available when you book your tickets. We recommend you make your international travel arrangements through Cathy King, an independent air travel professional. You may contact Cathy at 828-421-5000 or adventuretrips@hotmail.com.

Estimated optional expenses not included in the safari price:

Tips for your safari guides and camp/lodge staff are optional and not included. We recommend the following guidelines in the event you receive exceptional services and wish to tip those who serve you.

- **Birding Guides:** Total of $10-15 per day per traveler
- **Lodge Staff:** Total of $5-10 per day per traveler
- **Airport Driver, if not wearing a Canopy Tower shirt:** $5

Optional laundry service is available at all camps and lodges.

If your return flight departs from Panama City in the morning, you should book your departure a day later than shown in this itinerary. An additional night at the Riande Airport Hotel can be arranged at an additional cost.
*In the event that the minimum number of safari registrations is not met and the safari is cancelled, your full deposit will be returned.

**Included in the Safari Price:**

**Land Transportation in Panama:** All your ground transportation, including transfers, as shown in the above itinerary, are included.

**Accommodations and Meals:** All your lodge accommodations are based on two people sharing a room. However, a limited number of single accommodations may be available. We include full-board *table d'hôte* meals, as shown in the above itinerary, throughout your birding safari.

**Birding Safari Activities:** All birding activities are included, as shown in the above itinerary.

**Miscellaneous Fees and Tips:** All service charges, hotel taxes as imposed by government agencies and park and reserve entrance fees are included.

**Pre-departure Preparation:** You will receive extensive, personalized information on all aspects of your safari, including health and safety, passports and visas, packing recommendations, electricity, currency, and local customs, as well as a map of Panama so you may track your travels.

**Not included in the Safari Price:**

Transportation between your home and Panama, passports and visas (visas are not currently required for U.S. passport holders entering Panama), travel insurance, immunizations, excess airline baggage charges, airline fuel surcharges, guide tips, beverages (other than water, tea and coffee) and items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry and room service; souvenirs; telephone and internet charges; and any activities not included in the safari itinerary or those activities listed as optional.

**For the comfort of all safari travelers, smoking is not permitted in vehicles or in the lodges.**

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*Keel-billed Toucan*
WORLD SAFARIS REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Safari: The Birds of Panama – hosted by Barb Revard, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium & Columbus Audubon  
Safari dates: June 16-23, 2017

Based on double occupancy, the price of this safari is $2,495 per person in standard rooms; $3125 in double suite/corner room combination

- A $750 per person non-refundable deposit is required no later than December 15, 2016 to reserve a place for each traveler on this safari.
- The balance is due no later than February 15, 2017.

Enclosed is $_______________________ as a deposit for a total of _______ persons on this safari.

Accommodations Requested:
( ) Double/Twin – two travelers sharing a room @ $2,495 per traveler – sharing with ____________________________
( ) Double Suite/Corner Room combination – limited to two, with a supplemental price of $630 per traveler – sharing with ____________________________
( ) Single – one traveler in a single room @ $2,495 per traveler, with shared bath.
( ) Single – one traveler in a standard double room, @ $3,510 per traveler. Single accommodations may be available but are not guaranteed.

Air transportation to and from Panama is not included in the birding safari price. You may make your own flight arrangements. If you would like us to assist you in purchasing your international air tickets, please let us know.

( ) Please assist us with international air

SCHEDULES & FARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND MAY RESULT IN PRICE INCREASES

I certify that I have read, understand and accept the terms of the "Cancellations" and "Terms and Conditions" included on this sheet, and;

1. I am aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available during all or part of my trip. This includes emergency medical care, presence of physicians, and adequate medication. I hereby release World Safaris, their staff and safari escorts from liability in case of accident or illness while I am participating in this safari and do further agree to absolve from all responsibility World Safaris and their staff from all loss, damage or expense which I may incur by reason of any such accident or illness.
2. I shall be responsible for all uninsured medical expenses.
3. I hereby authorize necessary hospitalization and/or treatment while I am participating in this safari.
4. I assume the risk for traveling in countries where standards of safety, maintenance, and health may not be common to those in the United States.
5. I understand that weather and other conditions may necessitate changes in the activities and schedule of this safari.

Signature: ________________________________________ Today’s Date: _______________________

Signature: ________________________________________ Today’s Date: _______________________

Please note: Your signature on this form indicates that you understand and accept the terms and conditions of this safari. Registrations cannot be accepted without a signature. The signature of a parent or legal guardian is required for anyone under 18 at the time of registration.

Make checks payable and mail your reservations to: World Safaris, 5306 Villas Ct., Winston-Salem, NC 27103

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Please read the other side and complete the personal information form. Due to requirements in Panama, we are unable to finalize your registration without a completed personal information form and a copy of your passport.

COLUMBUS ZOO AND AQUARIUM DISCLAIMER: Columbus Zoo and Aquarium (hereafter “Zoo”) is not the tour operator. Zoo is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond Zoo’s control. Zoo acts only as agent for participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, Zoo shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of any participants due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond its control. Zoo shall not be responsible for alteration of the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure; in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on Zoo’s part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s health, actions or general deportment in the opinion of Zoo impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. Applicants for participation in this tour accept in full all the conditions set forth above.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium strongly recommends that you purchase a travel insurance program which covers baggage, medical costs, trip interruption and cancellation. World Safaris nor the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium are liable for any accident, injury, or illness, and are not liable for theft, damage, or loss of personal effects or baggage. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium offers a comprehensive insurance package which allows the Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion to be waived if purchased within 21 days of the initial trip payment. Information will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation and deposit. For details you can call the Zoo at 614-724-3558, or go to the Zoo’s website at: https://www.travelinsure.com/select/?pcode=33004/.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS – World Safaris, Safari Professionals and our representatives agree to work for you in the making of reservations and/or other arrangements with travel service providers on the following terms: We do not own, manage, control, or operate any of the travel service providers with whom we make your travel arrangements. We serve as agents for certain travel service providers, including Airlines Corporation carriers and in-country operators and we make your travel arrangements with these travel service providers in accordance with their terms and conditions. Should you have any questions concerning those, please contact either the travel service provider or World Safaris. All coupons, exchange orders, receipts, contracts and tickets issued by us or a travel service provider are subject to applicable tariffs as well as any terms or conditions imposed by the travel services provider. We are not responsible for events of force majeure including disease, acts of war, terrorist attacks, unfavorable weather conditions, earthquakes, political instability or for inadequate visas or passports. Any and all controversies, claims or disputes of any nature arising before, on and after the date of this agreement and claims brought by or against the client, this travel agency, or a third party, shall be settled by a single arbitrator in Forsyth

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County, North Carolina in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. You acknowledge that this agreement involves interstate commerce. Our sole knowledge and the expertise on which you may rely are in the making of travel arrangements. In the case of all travel arrangements the contract in use by the provider of such transportation or lodging, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and such travel supplier. World Safaris reserves the right to cancel or withdraw the safari prior to departure and to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant of the safari if their actions impose upon or disturb the other participants of the safari. The right is also reserved to amend the itinerary should it be found necessary for the benefit of the participants of the safari or for other reasons. By accepting these travel arrangements you confirm that you have read this agreement and understand that it is the sum total of our agreement with you and supersedes all prior arrangements or understandings. This agreement cannot be changed except in writing and signed by Michael Hutchins or Thomas LaRock.

**CANCELLATION:** All cancellations must be submitted in writing and are subject to the following cancellation fees:

The deposit generally covers the costs of canceling the services already booked, if the cancellation is received in our office no later than April 1, 2017. If the fees charged by our suppliers exceed the deposit, an extra charge may apply. A minimum cancellation fee of $500 will apply to all cancellations.

Cancellations received in our office after April 1, 2017 are subject to cancellation fees of 100% of the safari price. Refunds for any services that are voluntarily not used will not be issued.

**HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS:** To enjoy your travels to the fullest, you should be in good physical and mental health. Any physical disability requiring special attention or treatment must be reported in writing to World Safaris when the reservation is made. World Safaris reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of World Safaris, in such physical or mental condition as to be incapable of group travel or who may require care and attention beyond that which World Safaris can provide.

To assist you in preparing to make the most of your safari, you will receive a detailed personal Safari Guide after you register for your Birds of Panama tour. We strongly recommend you read it thoroughly when you receive it and, again, a few weeks before your departure. You may call us at any time for answers to your questions.

Please Complete the Traveler Information Form
TRAVELER INFORMATION: Please complete the following for each traveler.

Name_________________________ Address:____________________________________________________

Date of Birth_________________ Phones: Home/Office ___________________ Mobile___________________

E-mail Address:_______________________ Nickname______________________________

Passport Number _________________ Country of Issue _________________ Date of Expiration _________________

Person to contact in case of emergency & relationship (spouse, child, parent, friend) Phone numbers

Contact address________________________________________________________ E-Mail _________________

List the names of medications you are currently taking, dietary preferences or requirements, allergies (including food allergies), disabilities or special health care needs that may affect your ability to fully participate in this safari:

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Health Insurance Company: ___________________________ Policy # ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________________________ Today’s Date: ____________________________

PLEASE ENCLOSE A COPY OF THE PHOTO PAGE OF YOUR PASSPORT