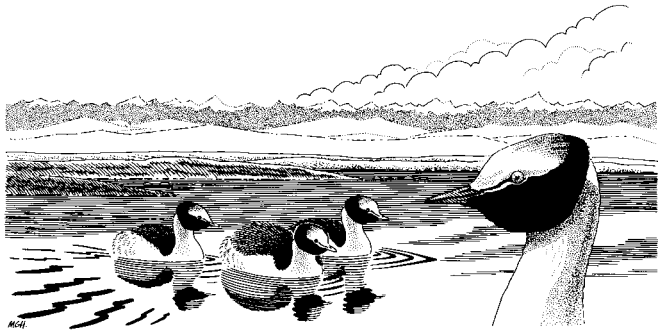


SOUTHERN & CENTRAL ARGENTINA

Group Size Limit: 10

Tour Category: Easy for the most part, occasionally Moderate (and one optional rather Demanding hike)



Hooded Grebes (Michael Hodgson)

Argentina is the eighth largest country in the world – almost a third the size of Europe! Stretching for over 2200 miles (3500 km) from the Bolivian border to the sub-Antarctic coasts of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina possesses an enormous variety of landforms and climates which is reflected in its great diversity of wildlife. Argentina is a classic destination, undoubtedly one of the best birding countries in the world, not only offering superb, mostly easy birding but also good accommodations, food, transport and roads.

Over 1000 species of birds have been recorded, an amazingly high total for a country which lies almost entirely outside the tropics and thus cannot boast any lowland tropical rainforest. With its fantastic scenery and marvellous and generally easy, open-country birding, ranging from impressive avian spectacles to a host of endemic species, Southern and Central Argentina is definitely one of the greatest birding journeys one can undertake. The contrasts are extreme, ranging from the arid landscapes of the Córdoba

region of central Argentina to the wild moorlands, mountains and fjords of Tierra del Fuego in the far south, and from the humid grasslands of the pampas and the windswept, semi-desert plateau of Patagonia in the east and southeast to the icy, snow-clad peaks of the Andes with their glaciers, mountain lakes and forests of breathtaking beauty in the west.

For the birdwatcher, Southern and Central Argentina provides an overwhelming variety of novel and spectacular experiences: rheas, tinamous, a great variety of seabirds (including penguins in their tens of thousands, albatrosses and diving-petrels), flamingos, most of South America's wildfowl, Andean Condor, some superb shorebirds including Magellanic Plover, seedsnipes, Snowy (or Pale-faced) Sheathbill, a bewildering array of ovenbirds with evocative names (miners, earthcreepers, cinclodes, horneros, cacholotes, spintails, canasteros, thornbirds, rayaditos and treerunners), a plethora of tyrant-flycatchers and an

exceptional assortment of finches and icterids, never mind the seals and whales!

Ours is the most comprehensive tour of Southern & Central Argentina available, producing more of the speciality birds than any other.

Our journey will take us from the pampas of the Buenos Aires region to the far south of the country so that we can experience this diversity to its full as we seek out some of the continent's most spectacular birds amidst some of the world's finest scenery.

After a short stopover in Buenos Aires, where we will look for Sharp-billed Reedhaunter and many other birds, we will explore the pampas of Buenos Aires province with its great abundance and variety of wetland and grassland birds, eventually working our way south via San Clemente del Tuyu to Bahia Blanca for the endemic Pampas Meadowlark and San Antonio Oeste for yet more endemics or near-endemics, including Hudson's Black-Tyrant, Carbonated Sierra-Finch and Yellow Cardinal.

Travelling still further south, we will reach Puerto Pirámides and Trelew on the windswept Patagonian coast of Chubut province, where the highlight of our stay will be the vast penguin colony at Punta Tombo (nearly a million birds!), and the impressive concentrations of seabirds and marine mammals at the Valdés Peninsula, never mind another great collection of endemics and regional specialities.

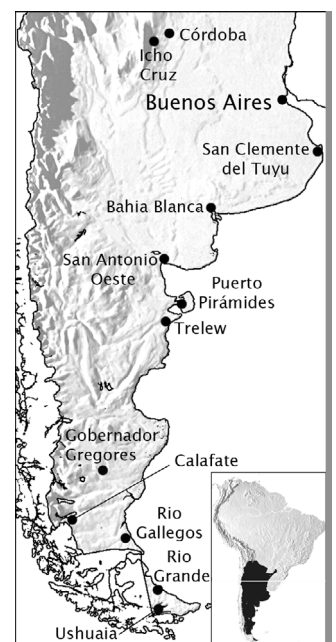
Finally we will explore southern Patagonia, penetrating far into the interior to visit newly discovered sites for the near-mythical endemic Hooded Grebe and Austral Rail, and watch Magellanic Plovers and Austral Canasteros. We will also enjoy the outstanding scenic grandeur of Los Glaciares National Park where an immense glacier advances into a large lake surrounded by

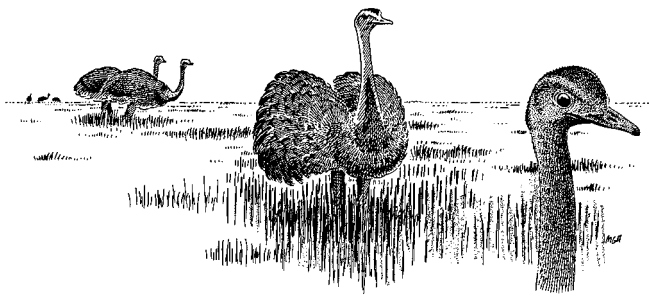
humid southern beech forest, inhabited by the splendid Magellanic Woodpecker and White-throated Treerunner, and high peaks where Andean Condors soar overhead.

Argentina is so spectacular a country, and the birding so enjoyable, that we are going to find it hard to leave after experiencing it for ourselves!

The optional pre-tour extension will see us heading northwestwards from Buenos Aires to Córdoba in order to explore the isolated and little known Sierra de los Comechingones, where we should find three highly localized endemic ovenbirds, Olog's and Córdoba (or Chestnut-winged) Cinclodes, and Córdoba Canastero, and the saline flats of Salinas Grandes, home of the endemic Salinas Monjita. We will also check out some woodland for the rare Black-bodied Woodpecker.

During the optional post-tour extension we continue to the island of Tierra del Fuego, at the very tip of South America. Here we will explore the grasslands and wetlands of northern Tierra del Fuego, home of the endangered Ruddy-headed Goose. Moving further south, we will be able to admire the spectacular landscapes around Ushuaia, the most southerly





Greater Rheas (Michael Hodgson)

city in the world, as we look for Kelp and Ashy-headed Geese, Flying and Fuegian (or Flightless) Steamerducks, and the uncommon Yellow-bridled Finch, while a boat trip in the Beagle Channel should produce Gentoo Penguins, Black-browed Albatrosses and Magellanic Diving-Petrels.

Birdquest has operated tours to Argentina since 1989.

Itinerary

Day 1 The tour begins in the morning at Buenos Aires, where we will stay overnight. Buenos Aires is a sprawling modern city on the shores of the Rio de La Plata. It lies on the edge of the great Argentine pampas, a rich, fertile region of open grasslands largely devoted to cattle ranching, but with innumerable shallow lakes and marshes teeming with waterbirds. The Costanera Sur reserve in the older part of the city provides an excellent introduction to the diverse birdlife of the region. Fortunately saved just in time from harbour development, a well laid out system of dykes gives us ample opportunities to examine the reed-fringed ponds and shrubby marshes of this fine reserve where we should find White-tufted and Pied-billed Grebes, Neotropic Cormorant, Whistling Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Snowy and Great Egrets, Fulvous and White-faced Whistling Ducks, Coscoroba Swan, Speckled and Silver Teals, Yellow-billed Pintail,

Rosy-billed Pochard, Lake (or Argentine Ruddy) Duck, the strange, parasitic Black-headed Duck (which often lays its eggs in the nests of coots!), Chimango Caracara, Plumbeous Rail, Spot-flanked Gallinule, White-winged, Red-gartered and Red-fronted Coots, Wattled Jacana, Lesser Yellowlegs, Southern Lapwing, Picazuro Pigeon, Eared Dove, Picui Ground-Dove, Monk Parakeet, the incomparable Guira Cuckoo, Glittering-bellied Emerald, Rufous Hornero, Freckle-breasted Thornbird, Wren-like Rushbird, White-crested Tyrannulet, the beautiful and aptly-named Many-colored Rush-Tyrant, Yellow-browed Tyrant, Tropical Kingbird, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Great Kiskadee, Gray-breasted Martin, White-rumped Swallow, Chalk-browed Mockingbird, Rufous-bellied Thrush, House Wren, Masked Gnatcatcher, Shiny Cowbird, Yellow-winged Blackbird, Masked Yellowthroat, Hooded Siskin, Rufous-collared Sparrow, Double-collared Seedeater and Black-and-rufous Warbling-Finch. With luck we will encounter one of the more secretive denizens of the marsh such as Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Masked Duck or Rufous-sided Crake. Coypus, here in their native habitat for a change, graze peacefully amongst the many wildfowl.

Day 2 This morning we will visit an area outside the city which holds a small

population of the localized Straight-billed Reedhaunter, as well as many other pampas species that we shall soon get to know well. Afterwards we will head off across the pampas towards the small seaside resort of San Clemente del Tuyu for a two nights stay. On the way we will investigate just a few of the myriad of lakes and marshes scattered throughout the grasslands. This is easy birding: in our first full day we should record over 100 species including spectacular birds like Greater Rhea, Spotted Nothura, Maguari Stork, Roseate Spoonbill, Southern Screamer and Black-necked Swan. By the time we reach San Clemente, we should also have seen almost all of the following: Spotted Nothura (a small partridge-like tinamou of the grasslands), Cocoi and Striated Herons, Western Cattle Egret, Bare-faced and White-faced Ibises, Chiloe Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, Red Shoveler, Black Vulture, Snail Kite, the handsome Long-winged Harrier, Roadside Hawk, Southern Crested-Caracara, American Kestrel, Giant Wood-Rail, Limpkin, White-backed Stilt (split from Black-necked), Spot-winged Pigeon, Burrowing Owl, Gilded Hummingbird, Ringed Kingfisher, Campo Flicker, Sulphur-bearded Spinetail, Curve-billed Reedhaunter, Small-billed Elaenia, Warbling Doradito, Bran-colored and Vermilion Flycatchers, Spectacled and Cattle Tyrants, Brown-chested Martin, Baywing (or Bay-winged Cowbird), Brown-and-yellow Marshbird, White-browed and Scarlet-headed Blackbirds, Grassland Yellow-Finch and Great Pampa-Finch. If we are lucky we will find one or two of the more elusive denizens of the area, which include Stripe-backed Bittern, Dot-winged Crake, South American Painted-Snipe and Buff-breasted Sandpiper. We will also check out some thickets and relict patches of native *tala* forest near the shores of Bahía Samborombón

that hold scrub and woodland species such as Dark-billed Cuckoo, Checkered Woodpecker, Spix's Spinetail, Creamy-bellied Thrush, Red-crested Cardinal and Epaulet Oriole which are less easily found in the more open areas around San Clemente.

Day 3 Today we will focus much of our attention on Punta Rasa, a low peninsula stretching north from San Clemente with a wide ocean beach to the east and extensive salt marshes, tidal mudflats and sandy dunes to the west. Situated in the outer reaches of the Rio de la Plata estuary, this is a very important staging and wintering area for a wide variety of ducks, waders, gulls and terns, and also attracts a good number of passerine migrants. Punta Rasa has become a popular birding locality for birdwatchers from Buenos Aires. Here we will be looking in particular for such species as Great Grebe, Chilean Flamingo, American Golden Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, White-rumped, Pectoral and Spotted Sandpipers, the endangered Olrog's Gull (split from Band-tailed), Kelp and Brown-hooded Gulls, Royal and Snowy-crowned Terns, the *eurygnatha* form of the Sandwich Tern (sometimes split as Cayenne Tern), Black Skimmer, White-throated Hummingbird, Tufted Tit-Spinetail, Bay-capped Wren-Spinetail, Firewood-gatherer (named after its enormous stick nest), Grass Wren, Blue-and-white Swallow, Hellmayr's and Correndera Pipsits, Long-tailed Reed-Finch and Saffron Finch.

Day 4 After some final birding in the San Clemente area we will drive southwest to Bahía Blanca for an overnight stay. Along the way we will be on the lookout for such species as Red-winged Tinamou, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Gray-hooded (or Grey-headed) Gull and Short-eared Owl.



Burrowing Parrots (Nik Borrow)

Day 5 We will devote the first part of the day to looking for one of the rarest and most localized endemic species in Argentina, Pampas Meadowlark, which is threatened with extinction due to the conversion of natural pampas into pasture. After we have located the meadowlark, and also Grassland Sparrow and Long-tailed Meadowlark, we will head for San Antonio Oeste for an overnight stay. Along the way we will look for the rare endemic Yellow Cardinal as well as Pale-breasted Spinetail and the showy White Monjita.

Day 6 In the morning we will visit an area which is home to three localized and uncommon Argentine breeding endemics, Hudson's Black-Tyrant, Carbonated Sierra-Finch and Cinnamon

Warbling-Finch. Other birds we may well see today include two further endemics, Sandy Gallito and White-throated Cacholote (although both are fairly rare in southern Argentina), as well as Short-billed Canastero, White-tipped Plantcutter, the recently-described Straneck's Tyrannulet, the delightful Greater Wagtail-Tyrant, the uncommon Black-crowned Monjita, Southern Martin, the recently-split Chaco Warbling-Finch and Golden-billed Saltator. Later we will head south to Puerto Pirámides in Chubut province for a two nights stay. As we cross the vast semi-desert plains we will begin to appreciate the immensity of the flat, desolate, treeless, wind-swept 'wasteland' that is northern Patagonia (a land named, it seems, from the Spanish word *patacones*, meaning 'big feet', used by the invaders as their name for the local Amerindians).

Day 7 Puerto Pirámides is a small seaside village on the Valdés Peninsula. The village lies on the edge of the great steppe plains of Patagonia and overlooks a sweeping bay. The Valdés Peninsula is a rugged headland protruding 60 miles (100km) out into the Atlantic Ocean. Almost cut off at its base by two huge bays, the peninsula affords a remote haven for an impressive array of marine and terrestrial wildlife. We will spend today exploring this dramatic region, famous for its large colonies of seabirds and mammals. The bays around the peninsula are important mating and calving areas for the Southern Right Whale and we should see a series of these magnificent creatures breaching and sounding offshore, but in order to get close up views we will join one of the regular whale-watching boat trips, which often provide truly spectacular encounters with these leviathans. On shore there are large and impressive rookeries of South American Sealions and Southern

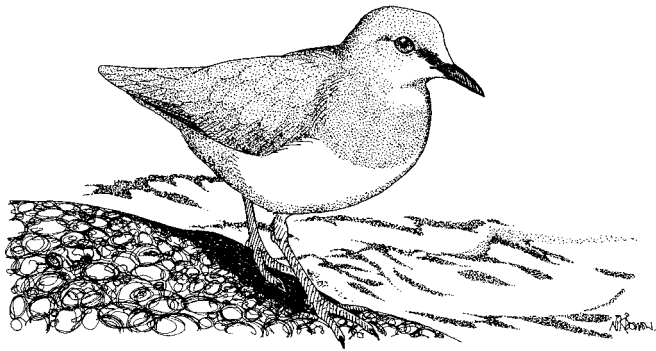
Elephant Seals. These seal colonies are a favourite scavenging area for Snowy (or Pale-faced) Sheathbills, a bird which really has to be seen to be believed, while Killer Whales (or Orcas) are regularly attracted by the presence of so many young pups and sometimes put on spectacular hunting displays. Many Southern Giant-Petrels are also attracted by the prospect of some scrumptious carrion and they are sometimes joined by a few Northern Giant-Petrels. While we will undoubtedly spend much of our time watching the remarkable concentrations of mammals and seabirds, we will also search the steppe interior of the peninsula for Lesser Rhea, Elegant Crested-Tinamou, Common Miner, the endemic Patagonian Canastero, Lesser (or Least) Shrike-Tyrant, the endemic Rusty-backed Monjita and Short-billed Pipit, as well as a variety of terrestrial mammals such as Guanaco (a smaller cousin of the Llama) and Patagonian Mara (an enormous rodent that sits on its haunches, rather like a kangaroo).

Day 8 This morning we will drive to the Trelew for an overnight stay. Here we will explore nearby Punta Tombo – a tiny peninsula compared to the Valdés to the north, but the site of the largest seabird colony on the Patagonian coast. This two miles (three kilometres) long peninsula of red volcanic rock with sand dunes, rocky shores and sandy beaches supports up to a million breeding Magellanic Penguins along with small numbers of Rock and Imperial Shags, Chilean Skuas, Dolphin and Kelp Gulls, and South American Terns. Watching the penguin colony at close range is quite an experience as thousand upon thousand of adults guard their burrow entrances, feed their young chicks, call noisily or march to and from the beach and the adjacent ocean (where thousand upon thousand

more are loafing or feeding). Punta Tombo is also the best locality for observing the Chubut Steamer-Duck, first described in 1974 and only known from coastal Chubut. Other birds which we may well find around Trelew itself or at Punta Tombo include Silvery Grebe, Crested Duck, Cinereous Harrier, Variable Hawk, American and Blackish Oystercatchers, the amazing Burrowing Parrot, Scale-throated Earthcreeper, the near-endemic Band-tailed Earthcreeper, Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail, Sharp-billed (or Lesser) Canastero, Gray-bellied Shrike-Tyrant, Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant, Austral Negrito, Patagonian Mockingbird, Mourning Sierra-Finch, Common Diuca-Finch and Patagonian Yellow-Finch. With luck, we will also encounter Darwin's Nothura.

Day 9 A morning flight will take us southwards to El Calafate, a small town situated on the shores of Lago Argentino, at the base of the southern Andes, where we will spend two nights. This afternoon we will begin our exploration of the Calafate area, looking in particular for the enigmatic Magellanic Plover, which is currently placed in its own monotypic family.

Day 10 The southern Andes are renowned for their exceptional scenic grandeur, for this is a land of jagged peaks and permanent snows, mighty glaciers and great lakes, and extensive southern beech forests. Some of the region's finest scenery lies in Glacier National Park, only a short distance to the west of El Calafate. We will spend some relaxing but highly rewarding time in this wonderful park, gazing in awe at the magnificent scenery, watching in amazement as huge chunks of ice break off from a glacier and crash into the lake, and birding the humid forests and lake shores. We will be concentrating our attention on finding species such as Black-



Magellanic Plover (Nik Borrow)

faced Ibis, the handsome Upland Goose, Andean (or Andean Ruddy) Duck, the uncommon Spectacled Duck, Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Austral Parakeet, the impressive Magellanic Woodpecker (the largest of the South American woodpeckers), Chilean Flicker, the strange Rufous-tailed Plantcutter, Bar-winged Cinclodes, the unusual Thorn-tailed Rayadito, White-throated Treerunner, Dark-faced Ground-Tyrant, White-crested Elaenia, Fire-eyed Diucon, Chilean Swallow, Austral Thrush, Gray-hooded Sierra-Finch and Austral Blackbird. Andean Condors are still common in this superb area and we should see them frequently as they soar over the wild landscape.

Day 11 We will penetrate deep into the interior of southern Patagonia today as we head for the Gobernador Gregores region for an overnight stay. On the way we will detour to some hidden upland lakes where we will look for the striking Hooded Grebe. (One of those near-mythical species, the Hooded Grebe was first described as recently as 1974.) These enigmatic birds show a tendency to change their breeding sites whenever conditions become unfavourable, so they may or

may not be present. We have been successful with the grebes in recent years, so with a bit of luck we will be rewarded with views of up to 50 or more of these lovely birds swimming on the blue waters, a truly memorable experience!

Day 12 The typical old Patagonian *estancia* where we stay is the very site where the Austral Rail was rediscovered (it was a species lost to science and considered extinct for 50 years until it was rediscovered here in the late 1990s). With patience and some luck, we will be enjoying our breakfast after seeing this mega-rarity for ourselves. Afterwards we will travel across the southern Patagonian steppes to the town of Rio Gallegos where we will stay overnight. Along the way we will stop and try to find the very rare and sparsely-distributed endemic Patagonian Tinamou, and we will also be keeping a lookout for Tawny-throated Dotterel and Chocolate-vented Tyrant.

Day 13 Today we will take a flight to Buenos Aires where the tour ends in the afternoon. (Depending on schedules, those returning to Buenos Aires today may have time to join the birding around Rio Gallegos prior to their flight.)

Tierra del Fuego Post-Tour Extension Itinerary

Day 13 We will look for the localized Austral Canastero and White-bridled Finch around Rio Gallegos this morning before passing through a small section of Chilean territory prior to taking the ferry over to Tierra del Fuego and then continuing to the small town of Rio Grande where we will stay for two nights. The ferry crossing provides a chance to see the handsome Commerson's Dolphin.

Day 14 Tierra del Fuego, named by Magellan after the warning fires that the now-extinct Ona Amerindians lit when they saw his ships, lies at the extreme southern tip of South America and is a wild land of grassland, windswept moors, *Nothofagus* beech forests, snow-capped peaks and glaciers. Today we will search the wide open grasslands of northern Tierra del Fuego for the rare Ruddy-headed Goose, whose 'mainland' population (as opposed to the still-thriving Falkland Islands population) has become rare through hunting and through the overgrazing of its habitat by the hundreds of thousands of sheep. We will also be looking out for Rufous-chested Dotterel, Two-banded Plover, the Magellanic form of the South American Snipe (which may represent a distinct species), Least Seedsnipe, Short-billed Miner and Cinnamon-bellied Ground-Tyrant.

Day 15 This morning we will drive through the wild scenery of Tierra del Fuego to Ushuaia for a two nights stay, stopping in the high mountains en route to search for the uncommon and rather elusive White-bellied Seedsnipe and also Ochrenaped Ground-Tyrant. This afternoon we will commence

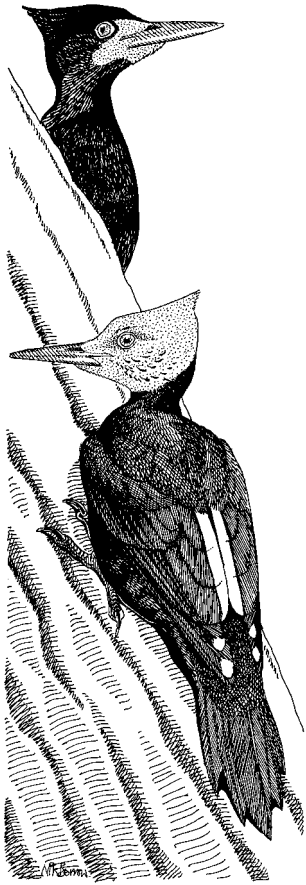
our exploration of the Ushuaia area.

Day 16 Ushuaia is situated at 55 degrees south and is the most southerly city in the world. Spring should have reached even this remote extremity of South America and we will have the benefit of long daylight hours, but the weather will still be rather cool at sea level and snow is by no means impossible when we are up in the mountains. Although the bird diversity at this latitude is very low, the quality is outstanding. During our stay at the veritable 'ends of the earth' we will visit Tierra del Fuego National Park, a spectacular region of seacoasts, forests, lakes and snow-capped mountains on the Chilean border. Species we should encounter amidst the wonderful scenery of the Ushuaia area include the attractive Kelp and Ashy-headed Geese, Fuegian (or Flightless) and Flying Steamer-Ducks, White-throated Caracara, Magellanic Oystercatcher, Dark-bellied Cinclodes, Black-chinned Siskin, Patagonian Sierra-Finch and the localized Yellow-bridled Finch. We will also take a boat trip out into the Beagle Channel in search of seabirds. We should enjoy great views of large numbers of Black-browed Albatrosses, Magellanic Diving-Petrels and Chilean Skuas, while a small colony of Gentoo Penguins have established themselves in the area. There is always the chance of seeing one or two of the uncommon visitors, such as Southern Fulmar or Wilson's Storm-Petrel.

Day 17 After some final birding around Ushuaia we will catch an afternoon flight to Buenos Aires where the extension ends.

Córdoba Pre-Tour Extension Itinerary

Day 1 The extension begins this morning in Buenos Aires. From here we will take a



Magellanic Woodpeckers
(Nik Borrow)

flight to Córdoba, Argentina's third largest city, and then continue to the small village of Icho Cruz for a two nights stay. We will arrive in time for some initial exploration.

Day 2 Not far away from Icho Cruz is the Pampa de Achala in the Sierra de los Comechingones, a mountain range which is much older than the Andes. These rugged sierras stretch across the horizon, one rocky ridge after

another. Here rushing streams tumble through *Polylepis*-filled gullies down to the pampa grasslands below. These hills are not only very imposing but offer marvellous views of the vast plains stretching away into the distance. The main attractions here are three ovenbirds with amongst the most restricted distributions of all South American birds, centred on these mountains. We shall make a concerted effort to locate all three. Olog's Cinclodes (often split from Gray-flanked) is frequently to be found hugging the banks of the rushing streams in dipper-like fashion, while Córdoba (or Chestnut-winged) Cinclodes (which has sometimes been treated as conspecific with Bar-winged) can be found leaping about on the rocky outcrops with fluttering wings. Grass slopes are the haunt of the Córdoba Canastero (often split from Puna). In addition to these exciting endemics we shall also hope to see Brushland Tinamou, Rufous-banded Miner, White-winged Cinclodes, Chaco Earthcreeper, Sooty-fronted and Stripe-crowned Spinetails, Lark-like Brushrunner, the noisy Brown Cacholote (often on its huge stick nest), Chiguanco Thrush, Tawny-headed Swallow, Stripe-capped Sparrow and Plumbeous Sierra-Finch. The beautiful Olive-crowned Crescentchest (now placed in its own family rather than with the tapaculos), is not uncommon in these parts and its trilling song should give away its presence. With a bit of luck we should also see one or two of the scarcer denizens

of the area, which include White-collared Swift, the eye-catching Red-tailed Comet, Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant, White-bellied Tyrannulet and Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch.

(Additional species likely in this region that should also be seen during the main tour include Turkey and Black Vultures, Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Spot-winged Pigeon, Pale-breasted Spinetail, Short-billed Canastero, White-tipped Plantcutter, Greater Wagtail-Tyrant, White Monjita, Southern Martin, Blue-and-white Swallow, Grassland Sparrow and Golden-billed Saltator.)

Day 3 Today we shall head north to Salinas Grandes, a large area of inland salt marsh. This is the type locality for the comparatively recently-described Salinas Monjita and we have a good chance of finding this rare endemic flycatcher at a site where it is fairly regular. Other birds we may see today in the dry country north of Córdoba include the rare Spot-winged Falconet, Blue-tufted Starthroat, the very impressive Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Crested Hornero, Crowned Slaty Flycatcher, Red-crested (or Red Pileated) Finch, Many-colored Chaco-Finch, Black-crested Finch and Black-capped Warbling-Finch. We will spend the night at the mountain village of Capilla del Monte, close to an area of woodland where we have a fair chance of finding the rare Black-bodied Woodpecker.

Day 4 After some final

birding around Capilla del Monte we will return to Córdoba and take a flight to Buenos Aires for an overnight stay.

Day 5 We will transfer to Buenos Aires domestic airport this morning to meet up with those arriving for the main tour. (This is Day 1 of the main tour.)

Accommodation & Road Transport: The hotels are of normal Birdquest standard almost throughout. The estancia guesthouse in the Gobernador Gregores region, where we stay one night, is pleasant and comfortable but there are only a few rooms. Singles will not be available and there will be three people in some or all rooms. Road transport is by small coach or minibus and roads are mostly good.

Walking etc: The walking effort is mostly easy, but there are some moderate walks and one optional rather hard uphill hike in Tierra del Fuego in search of White-bellied Seedsnipe. There are some long drives.

Climate: Rather variable. Temperatures will range from warm or hot in the pampas to cool or even cold in the south. Sunshine is likely to alternate with overcast conditions and we are likely to see some rain (or possibly even snow at high altitude in the far south). It will be rather humid in the pampas and it is often windy in the south.

Bird Photography: Opportunities are quite good.