

# THE PEREGRINE



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**Upcoming Tours .....see p. 3**

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## FEATURED TOUR:

### NICARAGUA, MARCH 12-20, 2016

Nicaragua offers exciting opportunities for birders, including viewing endemic species such as the Nicaraguan Grackle, missed in other popular Central American destinations. Tour is led by Georges Duriaux and Liliana Chavarría Duriaux (photo below left), owners of the Reserva El Jaguar.



Get off the beaten birding path, and discover the natural beauty of Nicaragua. Our tour is centered at the montane Cloud Forest of the Reserva El Jaguar in the heart of this little-birded Central American country. El Jaguar is a private preserve that features montane cloud forest as well as shade-grown coffee (photo left), and is an example of an active coffee plantation combining with ecotourism to

preserve precious threatened habitat. Common resident bird species of Reserva El Jaguar include Slaty-breasted Tinamou, Highland Guan, Barred Forest-Falcon, Gray-necked Wood-Rail, White-faced Quail-Dove, Crimson-fronted Parakeet, Pheasant Cuckoo, Black-and-white Owl, Green-breasted Mountain-Gem, Emerald-chinned Hummingbird, Emerald Toucanet, Collared Trogon, Three-wattled Bellbird and many others. The nearby pine-oak zone above nearby San Rafael del Norte hosts wintering Golden-cheeked

Warbler and many other neotropical migrants.



The tour also visits the Atlantic rainforest at Refugio Bartola in the Indio Maiz Biological Reserve, which features numerous river tours, complete with Anhingas, kingfishers, herons, flycatchers galore, and a tremendous variety of other rainforest birds. Specialty species of this region include White-throated Crake, Great Green Macaw, Black-cheeked Woodpecker, Slaty-tailed Trogon, Black-striped Woodcreeper, White-fronted Nunbird, Red-capped Manakin (see photo right), and Nicaraguan Seed-Finch among others.



## E-BIRD CHALLENGE RENEWAL

The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's eBird software has become such a powerful tool for birders, and a great example of citizen science in action. Quetzal Tours encourages all of our guides and clients to enter their sightings into eBird, which furthers understanding of avian population dynamics throughout the world in general, and at our tour destinations in particular. To promote use of eBird in 2015, Quetzal Tours offers a 5% discount on any 2016 tour product (including custom tours and privately guided outings) to any e-birder who finishes 2015 as the top e-birder (either for checklists submitted or for species observed) in a country, state or county anywhere in the world. For a typical 1-week tour, this promotion will be worth over US\$100. This promotion will be renewed in 2016, so get out there folks, and keep on submitting your bird sightings to [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org).

## CUSTOM TOURS

All our [guides](#) are available for private tours and custom itineraries. If we don't have the tour you want, just let us know your desired destination, and we'll prepare a customized quote. Examples of recent custom tours include 10 days in Guatemala with Knut Eisermann, 4 days in western Colorado with Forrest Luke, 3 days in southern Colorado with Glenn Walbek, and two days in Belize with Peter Herrera. We will do our best to serve you.

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Quetzal Tours welcomes Austin Hess to our business operations team as our Facebook page manager. His first act in his new position was to design and inaugurate a [new Facebook page](#) for Quetzal Tours. Check it out [here](#), and then please share the page with your facebook friends, and don't forget to "like" it too. Austin is an avid young birder and a talented wildlife photographer. Check out Austin's photography [Facebook page](#).



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## TESTIMONIALS

Testimonials for our tours and tour guides are available on-line at [www.quetzal-tours.com](http://www.quetzal-tours.com). Here is a recent example from our Colorado Grouse Tour in April, 2015, led by Cole Wild:

*Our 8 days with Cole Wild in Colorado were amazing. We toured the whole state and experienced magnificent Rocky Mountain scenery. Cole showed 7 of us all the grouse and prairie-chickens and ptarmigan, as well as the three rosy-finches and prairie birds like Mountain Plover. Plenty of other critters too. Cole was not only a talented and knowledgeable observer, but also a great driver and he was tremendously patient in attending to our various needs. --Paul Roisen, Iowa*

Quetzal Tours is taking reservations for the following upcoming tours:

## INTERNATIONAL TOURS

**Guatemala Cloud Forest** with Knut Eisermann, March 5-13, 2016, \$2200

**Nicaragua** with Liliana Chavarría, March 12-20, 2016, \$2200

**Tropical Costa Rica** with Noel Ureña, April 4-13, 2016, \$2500

## USA TOURS

**Colorado Grouse Tour** with Cole Wild, April 17-24, \$1400

**Southeast Colorado Weekend** with Nick Komar, May 7-11, \$600  
(includes participation in the CFO Convention at Lamar, CO)



Itineraries available upon [request](#). Additional tours available in Texas, Hawaii, Arizona, New England, Honduras, Belize, Brazil, Ecuador, Jamaica, Peru. Please [contact](#) us to discuss your birding travel needs.

Travel safely!

*Nick Komar*, Founder

# Quetzal Tours

Your Next Adventure  
Starts Here!

