

2-Day Birding Tandayapa Valley + Mashpi Amagusa Reserve



Tandayapa valley the Garden of Birds is a premiere place for birdwatching. Located on the hills of the Western Andes in Ecuador. Tandayapa is located in a hot spot within the Andean Choco Biosphere Reserve. A special place for naturalist photographers between the Cloud Forest.

Mashpi Amagusa Reserve a place with mega-diversity. Listed as an Important Bird Area (IBA). Experience a complete ecological birding as part of including home grown food, lodging, trails, feeders and guiding.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Scout the Tandayapa valley finding out the best species (3,200 msl / 10,498 feet).

Birds from the high Andean forest or Paramo can be seen on the area. Walk on different trails in the reserve. In cold, cloudy weather with drizzle. The elusive Black-breasted Puffleg (*Eriocnemis nigrivestis*) can be spotted (Occasionally in November). Maybe you'll catch them with your camera; Purple-backed Thornbill, Sword-billed Hummingbird, Golden-breasted and Sapphire-vented Pufflegs, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Undulated Antpitta, Ocellated Tapaculo, Barred Fruiteater, Black-

chedsted Mountain-tanager, Golden-crowned and Grass-green Tanagers, and Blue-backed Conebill. Also a chance of Imperial Snipe, and an outside chance of Black-breasted Puffleg (mostly May-Sep) and and Grey-browed (Stripe-headed) Brush-finch.

Day 2: Observation day in Mashpi Amagusa Reserve (1,700 msl / 5,577 feet):

Amagusa Reserve protects the following varieties; Green Thorntail, Purple-throated Woodstar, Velvet-purple Coronet, Violet-tailed Sylph, Empress Brilliant, Brown Inca, White-whiskered Hermit, Purple-bibbed Whitetip, Toucan Barbet, Crimson-rumped Toucanet, Pacific (Buffy) Tuftedcheek, Rufous-rumped Antwren, Esmeraldas Antbird, Orange-breasted Fruiteater, Choco Warbler, Indigo Flowerpiercer, Black-chinned Mountain-tanager, Glistening-green, Lemon-rumped and Moss-backed Tanagers, and Golden-collared Honeycreeper (most of these birds can be seen at feeders).

The tour includes:

- Guide/Driver (English-speaking)
- Entrance fees for the mentioned activities
- Snacks

The tour doesn't include:

- Travel insurance
- Meals (Lunch)
- Tips and personal expenses
- Optional activities

What to bring?

Comfortable color dark clothing, hiking shoes, light rain poncho, rain/wind jacket, a cap, sun protector, sun glasses, binoculars, photography equipment.