

# PEDRO GASCA NATURE GUIDE



Birding Colxal nay The great Experience

Valley and foothills

The perfect intro to know the main species of Puerto Vallarta

**This is the beginning to discover main spots of birding (from the valley to the hills), the geographical location of Puerto Vallarta surrounded by many rivers like: Mascota, Ameca, Pitillal, Rio Cuale, Mismaloya, Tomatlán, and Yelapa, which supplies with important nutrients to the estuary, mangroves and swamps. That is what make this tourist destination be one of the most important places to the bird watching where you have the opportunity to see some species like:**

**Social and vermilion flycatcher, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, kiskadee, White collared seedeater, Groove Billed ani, hawks, American kestrel, Yellow winged cacique, Elegant qualls, parakeets, pigeons and doves.**

## **SEA BIRDS AND SHORE BIRDS**

**During the winter, one of the most seen is the white pelican. They usually live in estuaries, ponds or lakes and also during the winter, is possible to see some petrels on the sand of the beaches.**

**During the year is possible to see, in a large flock brown pelicans, along the beaches and Banderas Bay.**

**Other species that we can see on the shores during the year are brown and blue footed boobies, gulls, terns, skimmers, sandpiper, plovers, cormorant.**

**The magnificent frigate bird is also one of the main species that we can see.**

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## **Marsh and ponds:**

**In the rivers and estuaries the most common birds that we can see are grebes, cormorants, anhinga, herons, egrets, storks, Ibises and spoonbills.**

## **Bird watching Tours**

### **Discover Cabo Corrientes.**

**This is one of the most interesting tours specially designed for beginners, intermediate, advanced.**

### **Places to visit:**

- ☀ "Orchid route": Las Guásimas is considered the best kept secret place in the low jungle where you can see a great variety of birds.**
  
- ☀ "Pond and Estuary": Villa del Mar is a rich place on birds concerned. Here we have the opportunity to sail in the river on a typical panga, and watch river and estuary birds. As a recommendation, you can enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant.**

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- ☀️ **The Oyster route** is designed to see the difference of the environment of Cabo Corrientes that goes from the oaks and pines to the low caducifolia jungle.
- ☀️ **“Ralcilla Route”** is the best way to see some hawks and kits and before to end the tour, try the best traditional beverage called ralcilla, made it from the blue agave with the local community
- ☀️ **Yelapa- Marletas Islands:** Spectacular view of marine birds from the Yelapa Village, where the nature is still in good conditions because hasn't been changed. To make this tour, we need to take a boat to the Natural Protected Area of Marletas Islands.
- ☀️ **Las Palmas - Río Mascota:** Around 20 minutes driving from the airport, is located one of the main rivers in Vallarta named Río

Mascota, there is possible to see some birds as: Gray hawk different sparrows, common black hawk, green king fisher, hummingbirds.

Something special in addition on this tour is to take the long road to San Sebastian del Oeste and Mascota and see mountain birds in another kind of environment.

- ☀️ **Nuevo Vallarta :** Located near the Flamingos golf course it the Crocodile farm, an special place to find a perfect spot to see some pond birds. You can also ask us about the kayak trip.

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☀️ Punta de Mita - Sayulita - San Francisco- San Blas.  
These places are located at Nayarit State.

☀️ Routes highly recommended from Puerto Vallarta to Manzanillo: Cabo Corrientes, Tomatlán, La Huerta, and Cihuatlán.

☀️ Main sites to bird watching on this route: Cajón de Peñas Dam, Rio Cultzamala, Río Marabasco, Biosphere Reserve of Cultzmala

## TRIP'S ESPECIFICATIONS:



### BEGGINERS

Duration of the tour: 4 hours

Schedule: 7:00 am to 12



### FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO EXPLORE A LITTLE BIT MORE

Duration of the tour 5-6 hours

Schedule 6:30 to 1 pm



### EXPERTS AND ADVANCED

Duration of the tour 7-8 hours

Schedule: 6:30 - 2:00 pm.

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We recommend bring to the trip:

- ☀ Sun block protection
- ☀ Organic bug spray. (We have on sale, if you forgot to get it.)
- ☀ Binoculars (You can ask for a pair to us)
- ☀ Hat & Comfortable hike shoes.
- ☀ Clothes in a suitable color, like beige, brown or green.
- ☀ Bandana

Our tours include:

- ✓ Transport & Bilingual guide
- ✓ Bird check list & trip report
- ✓ Binoculars, Tripod & Telescope
- ✓ 3 Book guides: Sibley, National Geographic and Birds of Mexico and Central America.
- ✓ Organic Coffee and Milk
- ✓ Integral Cookies
- ✓ Tropical fruit of the season
- ✓ Water and First Aid Kit
- ✓ 8 pax max – 4 pax min.
- ✓ Prices: Starting from \$ 50 USD p/p. To \$80 USD p/p

**Pedro Gasca has the knowledge about birds, plants, animals, geology, natural history of Mexico and Central America. He has been working protecting the nature and designing environmental educational programs for the Natural Protected Area of La Primavera in Jalisco State. He is also founder member of The National Park of Huatulco, in Oaxaca State. He had participated in birding programs at Dolphin Research Center and Everglades National Park in FL, USA and participated in international summer camps**

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In New England, USA, member of American Bird watching Association and Institute Cornell of Ornithology.