



American Birding
ASSOCIATION

BIRDING IN GUYANA

February 26 – March 7, 2010



With a two-night post-trip extension
to Karanambu Ranch



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ASSOCIATION

Dear ABA Member,

I am pleased to invite you on a fascinating, custom-designed itinerary through the South American country of Guyana. It is here that the Guiana Shield (one of four pristine tropical rainforests left in the world) converges with the Amazon Basin, and the unique geography of the country (which is about the size of Florida) creates a myriad of habitats for birds, ranging from coastal waters to mangroves, marshes, savannahs, mountains and tropical rainforests.

Over 800 species total have been recorded in Guyana, and of the 104 Guiana Shield endemics, 73 have been identified in Guyana. Highlights on this trip include Blood-colored Woodpecker, Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, Crimson Fruitcrow, Caica Parrot, Little Chachalaca, Sun Parakeet, Red-shouldered Macaw, Roraima Screech-Owl, Scissor-tailed Nightjar, Racket-tailed Coquette, Green Aracari, Black-spotted Barbet, Guianan Piculet, Ferruginous-backed Antbird, Guianan Streaked Antwren, Olive-green Tyrannulet, Guianan Red Cotinga, Cayenne Jay, Finsch's Euphonia, and Rose-breasted Chat.

Guyana can be broken down into **three major birding zones**: the coastal plain, the interior rainforest, and the savannah. We explore the coastal plain from our comfortable hotel in Georgetown, the capital, and also take in the city's Botanic Garden, a haven for countless birds. Next, fly to impressive Kaieteur Falls where the Potaro River plunges nearly 750 feet. Continue to Iwokrama to explore the vast forests of the interior. After two nights at the Iwokrama Field Station, we travel to the Atta Rainforest Lodge, where an extensive canopy walk provides unparalleled vantage points.

As we travel overland to the Rupununi Savannah and our lodge at the base of the Pakaraima Mountains, we search for the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock and other species. Grasslands and riparian woodlands mean an entirely different suite of birds in this region along the Brazilian border. Return to Georgetown for one last night or join a two-night extension to Karanambu Ranch.

Space is limited on this journey, so I encourage you to make your reservations today. We are thrilled to offer this unique adventure and hope you will join us as we explore Guyana together.

Sincerely,

Tamie Bulow
Conventions and Tours Manager

For more information or to join this trip, please contact
Siemer & Hand Travel at
(800) 451-4321 ext. 302, or email edwind@siemerhand.com



Guianan Streaked Antwren



Harpy Eagle

USA – GEORGETOWN, GUYANA *Friday, February 26*
 Depart the USA, arrive in Guyana and transfer to the hotel. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner. CARA LODGE (D)

GEORGETOWN BOTANIC GARDEN – COASTAL PLAIN
Saturday, February 27

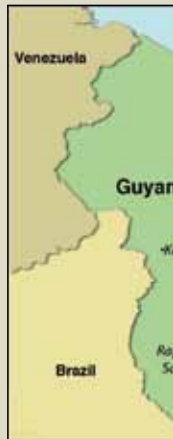
Visit the extensive Botanic Garden and search for Blood-colored Woodpecker. The gardens also host Gray Hawk, Pearl Kite, Red-bellied Macaw, Red-shouldered Macaw and a host of parrots. Also Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Black-crested Antshrike, Short-tailed Swift, Grayish Saltator, Silver-beaked Tanager, Buff-breasted Wren, Piratic and Ashy-headed Greenlet, as well as Golden-spangled Piculet, White-bellied Piculet, Spotted Tody-Flycatcher, Pinnated Bittern, Wing-barred Seedeater and Brown-throated Parakeet. Travel along the coast to see Guyana's national bird, the Hoatzin, and explore the Abery River, with opportunities to see Rufous Crab-hawks and Guianan Piculet. On the return to Georgetown, look for Black-capped Donacobius, Point-tailed Palmcreeper and Moriche Oriole.
 CARA LODGE (B,L,D)

KAIETEUR FALLS - IWOKRAMA FIELD STATION
Sunday, February 28

If the tide is out, we travel to the mudflats of the Demerara River for Scarlet Ibis and other shorebirds. Fly to Kaieteur, the world's highest free-falling waterfall. White-chinned and White-tipped Swifts and Orange-breasted Falcon can often be seen over the gorge. The flight continues to Iwokrama and by boat to the Iwokrama Field Station. This afternoon we look for Bronzy Jacamar, Chestnut and Waved Woodpecker, Amazonian Antshrike, Gray Antbird, and Strong-billed Woodcreeper. We may also see Gray-winged Trumpeter, Black-tailed, White-tailed, Violaceous and Collared Trogons, Plain-brown, Wedge-billed, White-chinned, Buff-throated, Chestnut-rumped and Barred Woodcreepers. As the day ends we look for Ladder-tailed Nightjar, Great and Common Potoo, and the rarer Rufous Potoo and White-winged Potoo. IWOKRAMA FIELD STATION (B,L,D)

IWOKRAMA FIELD STATION *Monday, March 1*
 Embark small boats and hear dawn song birds on the river including five species of tinamou, Marbled Wood-Quail, Band-rumped Swift, White-banded and Black-collared Swallows, and Guianan Streaked-Antwren. Harpy Eagle has been seen in the area as we watch for Greater Yellow-headed Vulture, King Vulture, Gray-headed, Double-toothed and Plumbeous Kites, and Black-faced Hawk. Hike to an elevation of 900 feet for a view of the forest canopy below and chances of Green Aracari, White Bellbird or a fly-by of one of five types of eagles. The trail may also reveal Little Chachalaca, Marail

Guan, Black Curassow, Squirrel and Black-bellied Cuckoos, Eastern Long-tailed and Reddish Hermits, Blue-crowned Motmot, Guianan White-necked Puffbird, Collared Puffbird, 8 species of antwrens, White-lore Tyrannulet and Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant. On the return trip we look for Caica, Blue-headed, Blue-cheeked and Mealy Parrots, Cocoli Heron, Lined Forest-Falcon and Pied Lapwing. We visit Fair View, an Amerindian village and take a walk on trails around the Field Station to look for Swallow-winged Puffbird, Black-spotted Barbet, Golden-collared, Yellow-throated, Crimson-crested and Red-necked Woodpeckers, Guianan Toucanet, 7 species of antbirds, Ringed Antpipit, Black-tailed Tityra and Thrush-like Schiffornis. During our stay at Iwokrama we will also be looking for Black Nunbird, Blue Dacnis, Spangled and Pompadour Cotingas, White-shouldered, Blue-backed and Turquoise Tanagers, Buff-cheeked, Lemon-chested and Tawny-crowned Greenlets, Brown-throated Parakeet, White-crowned and Golden-headed Manakins, Violaceous, White-vented, and Golden-sided Euphonias, Fasciated, Mouse-colored, Dusky-throated, and Cinereous Antshrikes and Guianan Red-Cotinga, Black-necked Aracari, Rufous-capped and Black-faced Antthrush, Gray-crowned and Yellow-margined (Zimmer's) Flycatcher, Rufous-tailed Flatbill, White-breasted Wood-Wren, Spotted Puffbird and Musician Wren. After dark, we listen for night birds such as Spectacled Owl, Long-tailed Potoo, Zigzag Heron, and Blackish Nightjar.
 IWOKRAMA FIELD STATION (B,L,D)



IWOKRAMA FIELD STATION – ATTA RAINFOREST LODGE
Tuesday, March 2

Depart before dawn along the road through the heart of the Iwokrama Forest where there is a chance to see the elusive Jaguar. The road also offers excellent birding, including a unique habitat known as Mori Scrub, characterized by an unusual low, sandy forest. This supports Rufous-crowned Elaenia and Red-shouldered Tanager, among others. We also look for Guianan Red-Cotinga, Pompadour Cotinga, Blue-backed Tanagers, Olive-green Tyrannulet, Rufous-winged Ground-cuckoo and Marail Guan. After lunch at the Atta Rainforest Lodge, visit the Iwokrama Canopy Walkway for Caica Parrots, Painted Parakeets, Guianan Toucanet, Pompadour Cotinga, Plumbeous Pigeon, Red-and-green Macaw, and Screaming Piha. ATTA RAINFOREST LODGE (B,L,D)



Hoatzin



Blood-colored Woodpecker

ATTA RAINFOREST LODGE *Wednesday, March 3*
 Welcome the dawn chorus from the canopy walkway. Look for Paradise Jacamar, White-necked Puffbird, Yellow-throated Woodpecker, Todd's Antwren, Black-tailed and Black-crowned Tityras and Dusky Purpletuft. Bird along the jungle trails for White-plumed, Spot-winged and Ferruginous-backed Antbird, Ash-winged and Long-billed Antwren, McConnell's and Gray-crowned Flycatcher, Plain Xenops and Wedge-billed Woodcreeper. **ATTA RAINFOREST LODGE** (B,L,D)

ATTA RAINFOREST LODGE – RUPUNUNI SAVANNAH
Thursday, March 4

Early morning birding provides a chance of seeing Mealy, Orange-winged and Blue-cheeked Parrot, Flame-crested Tanager, Slate-colored, Red-and-black, and Yellow-green Grosbeak, Slender-footed Tyrannulet, Black-capped Becard, Gray-fronted Dove, Ruddy Pigeon, Buff-checked Greenlet, Purple-breasted Cotinga, Golden-winged Parakeet, Black-throated Antshrike, Rufous-throated Sapphire, the recently split Guianan Puffbird and even the rare Crimson Fruitcrow. After breakfast we search for the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock. Continue to the Rupununi Savannah, where Fork-tailed Flycatchers and Savannah and Black-collared Hawks patrol the grasslands. At dusk, look for Nacunda Nighthawk and White-tailed Nightjar. **ROCK VIEW LODGE** (B,L,D)



RUPUNUNI SAVANNAH *Friday, March 5*
 With its tropical gardens and flowering trees, our lodge resembles an oasis in the savannah, and attracts many species of birds, particularly nectar feeders and frugivores. Amethyst Woodstar, White-chinned Sapphire, Long-billed Starthroat and several hermits patrol around the grounds. Nearby forest patches are home to Amazonian Scrub Flycatcher, Rufous-browed Peppershrike and a variety of antbirds. Bird in the foothills for Cinereous Mourner, Finsch's Euphonia, Reddish Hermit, Rufous-bellied Antwren, Green-tailed and Yellow-billed Jacamar. We also visit the Amerindian community of Surama, whose inhabitants still observe many of the traditional practices of their forebearers, while looking for White-throated Toucans, and White-tailed and Savannah Hawks. Harpy Eagles have also been seen here. In the afternoon, we bird along the river. **ROCK VIEW LODGE** (B,L,D)

RUPUNUNI SAVANNAH – GEORGETOWN
Saturday, March 6
 After a final morning of birding, we fly back to Georgetown. **CARA LODGE** (B,L,D)

GEORGETOWN – USA *Sunday, March 7*
 After breakfast proceed to the airport for the flight to the USA. (B)

OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION

RUPUNUNI SAVANNAH – KARANAMBU RANCH
Saturday, March 6

After early morning birding and breakfast, travel by boat to Karanambu Ranch keeping an eye out for Jabiru nesting along the river, as well as Crestless Curassow, White-necked Jacobin and Drab Water Tyrant. Karanambu is the home of Diane McTurk, widely known for her work rehabilitating orphaned Giant River Otters. Our birding here will focus on Spotted Puffbird, Striped Woodcreeper, Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin and Golden-spangled Piculet. The area also provides habitat for 8 species of nightjars. **KARANAMBU RANCH** (B,L,D)

KARANAMBU RANCH *Sunday, March 7*
 Explore Karanambu and its varied habitats. Grasslands host Double-striped Thick-knee, Bi-colored Wren, and Bearded Tachuri while forest patches host Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, Violaceous Trogon, Blue Ground-Dove, Plain-crowned Spinetail and Great Antshrike. The river is home to Stripe-backed Bittern. We also aim to find South American Snipe, Rufous-throated Sapphire, Yellow Tyrannulet, Cliff Flycatcher and Ruddy-breasted Seedeater, and make a special effort to locate the odd-looking Capuchinbird. **KARANAMBU RANCH** (B,L,D)

KARANAMBU RANCH – GEORGETOWN
Monday, March 8
 After a final morning of birding, we fly back to Georgetown. **CARA LODGE** (B,L,D)

GEORGETOWN – USA *Tuesday, March 9*
 After breakfast proceed to the airport for the flight to the USA. (B)

This itinerary may change to suit weather conditions or at the discretion of the leaders.

Land Program Cost Includes:

- Birding expeditions led by experienced local birding guides
- Accommodations at well-located hotels and birding lodges
- All flights within Guyana and land travel by private expedition vehicles
- All meals
- Gratuities to drivers and guides

- All sightseeing and bird watching excursions as outlined in the itinerary, including all entrance fees to parks, sanctuaries, and reserves
- All transfers with luggage handling at the airports and hotels in Guyana for those traveling on program dates
- Pre-trip service, suggested reading list and pre-departure information

General Information:

Land Program Cost: *Per person, double occupancy*.....\$4,595
 Single Room Supplement: *Subject to availability*.....\$ 395

Post-trip Optional Extension: *Per person, double occupancy* . \$ 795
 Single Supplement on Extension: *Subject to availability*.....\$ 195

■ LAND COST EXCLUDES: International airfare; airport fees and departure taxes; transfers for those not traveling on the program dates; meals not specified in the daily itinerary; charges for items of a personal nature including laundry, beverages and excess baggage charges; independent travel arrangements; travel and accident insurance; passport and visa fees.
 ■ TOUR SIZE: The trip price is based on a group size of 12 participants. For a group of 6-11 participants, a small group surcharge not to exceed \$420 may be applied. ■ HEALTH: All participants must be in good health. This program is active and involves walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs. Many locations are not handicap accessible. To determine if this trip is appropriate for you, any condition that may require special medical attention or other accommodation must be reported at the time of your reservation. ■ DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis if accompanied by a completed reservation form and a deposit of \$600 per person. Final payment is due by December 23, 2009, and must be paid by check. ■ CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Refunds, less a cancellation fee of \$350 per person, will be made if we are notified on or before

December 23, 2009. No refunds will be granted after that date. All cancellations must be in writing. ■ TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel insurance is strongly recommended. To protect for the following three conditions, insurance must be purchased within 15 days of your initial tour deposit. 1) a pre-existing condition pertaining to you, a travel companion, or an immediate family member; 2) unforeseeable events or their consequences including cancellations by an airline, cruise line or tour operator as a result of financial insolvency; and 3) terrorist act(s) which occur in your departure city or in a city which is a scheduled destination for your trip and within 30 days of the scheduled departure date. ■ RESPONSIBILITY: A detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability of Siemer & Hand Travel, Inc. and the American Birding Association for loss of property, injury, illness or death will be provided to passengers upon enrollment and is available to prospective travelers upon request.
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Please make check payable and mail to *Siemer & Hand Travel*, 50 Osgood Place, Suite 230, San Francisco, CA 94133. Phone: (800) 451-4321. Fax: (415) 788-4133.

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ _____ (\$600 per person) to hold ____ place(s) on **Birding in Guyana**
 Or charge my deposit to:

- MasterCard Visa Diners Club American Express Discover Card

Card Number	Expiration
Signature as it appears on credit card	
Name (as it appears in your passport)	Date of Birth
Name (as it appears in your passport)	Date of Birth
Street	
City/State/Zip	
Telephone:	Business
Home	
Email	

I request trip cancellation insurance covering the full trip cost. By purchasing the coverage now, I also am protected for the three conditions stated in the Travel Insurance section in the General Information. (Multiply the full program cost—including any non-refundable air—by .075 for each traveler for a total premium of \$_____.)

Accommodations preference for single travelers:

- I wish to have single accommodations at an additional cost of \$395 (subject to availability).
- I will share accommodations with: _____
- I am willing to share with another participant: non-smoker smoker (shares cannot be guaranteed)
- I wish to participate in the optional extension to Karanambu Ranch at an additional cost of \$795.
- I wish to have single accommodations at Karanambu Ranch at an additional cost of \$195 (subject to availability).

I/We have read the General Information section and agree to its terms.

 Signature(s) Date