COLOMBIA
PHOTO EXPEDITION

Feb 17- Mar 2, 2027


Great Sapphirewing


Masked Tanager


Flame-rumped Tanager


Golden Tanager

THE BEST OF THE ANDES

WILDSTOCK™ Photography



Harpy Eagle

Colombia

Hello Everyone

We are excited to introduce Colombia as our newest wildlife photography destination—a country where dramatic Andean landscapes, extraordinary biodiversity, and a remarkable variety of wildlife come together. From misty cloud forests and high-elevation páramo to lush valleys and tropical foothills, Colombia offers an incredible range of habitats and photographic opportunities.

Our adventure will take us through several regions of the Colombian Andes, including the spectacular Los Nevados National Park, where volcanic peaks, high-altitude landscapes, and unique Andean wildlife create an unforgettable setting. Along the way, we will explore some of the country's most productive habitats for hummingbirds, with opportunities to photograph a remarkable diversity of species, often at close range. We will also keep our eyes—and cameras—ready for some of Colombia's more elusive inhabitants, including the magnificent Harpy Eagle, as well as colorful tanagers, toucans, parrots, owls, and many other birds and wildlife species.

As with our other Wildstock Photography adventures, this will be more than a photography trip. We will immerse ourselves in Colombia's natural history, explore its diverse ecosystems, and take time to understand the wildlife and landscapes we encounter. Whether photographing a tiny hummingbird hovering just inches from the lens or searching the forest canopy for one of the world's most powerful eagles, every day will bring new opportunities.

Join us as we explore Colombia—the extraordinary biodiversity of the Andes, one photograph at a time.

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Day	Itinerary	Activities
Feb 17	Bogotá	Explore Bogotá- Since we arrive the day before we could explore near the hotel • Expedition briefing subject to flight schedule The arrival night gives the group time to settle in, organize photography equipment and begin the expedition rested before the first high-Andean field day. Field focus: Arrival, orientation and equipment preparation. Meals: Dinner Lodging: Ibis Museum Hotel
Feb 18		High-Andean Cloud Forest Opening Muisca Birding + RNSC El Zoque | Accommodation: Hotel Ibis Bogotá • Early departure from Bogotá toward the Guasca highlands • Morning session at Muisca Birding focused on feeders, cloud forest and localized specialties • Midday transition and lunch • Afternoon session at RNSC El Zoque • Late-afternoon return to Bogotá The first field day opens in cool Eastern-Andean cloud forest, combining productive feeder photography with forest specialties and a complementary afternoon reserve session. Field focus: High-Andean hummingbirds, antpittas, mountain toucans, spinetails, parrots and mixed forest species. Meals: All meals Lodging: Ibis Museum Hotel
Feb 19		Mid-Elevation Andean Photography Reserva Natural Fute + Tenasuca | Accommodation: Hotel Ibis Bogotá • Early departure from Bogotá • Morning photography and observation session at Reserva Natural Fute • Midday lunch and transfer • Afternoon field session at Tenasuca • Return to Bogotá in the late afternoon / evening This day shifts into a lower Andean band, using a productive morning reserve and a complementary second site to expand photographic variety beyond the high-elevation opening. Field focus: Mid-elevation hummingbirds, forest-edge birds and broader Andean photographic diversity. Meals: All meals Lodging: Ibis Museum Hotel
Feb 20	Guayabetal	**Transfer to the Eastern Foothills** Bogotá > Casa Hillebrand (Guayabetal) • Relaxed morning departure from Bogotá toward Guayabetal (approx. 2 hours) • Arrival at Casa Hillebrand and lunch at the lodge • Afternoon photography at the lodge feeders, gardens and forest edge • Early dinner and rest before the 4:30 am departure A deliberately light day that moves the group to the eastern foothills, with time to photograph around the lodge and rest well before the early start toward the Harpy Eagle Reserve. Field focus: Foothill hummingbirds, tanagers and lodge specialties, including Band-bellied Owl when present at its day roost. Meals: All meals Lodging: https://www.casahillebrand.com/

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Feb 21	Vista Hermosa	**Journey to the Harpy Eagle Reserve** Casa Hillebrand > Vista Hermosa > Alto Guapaya > Harpy Eagle Reserve | Accommodation: Harpy Eagle Reserve (safari tents) • 4:30 am departure toward Vista Hermosa (approx. 4–4.5 hours) • 4x4 transfer with the local community to Alto Guapaya (approx. 1.5 hours) and breakfast with a local family • 3.3 km trail to the reserve on foot (1.5–3 hours) or on horseback (optional); luggage travels on horses • Arrival around 2:00 pm, settling into the tents and first observation at the nest The longest travel day of the expedition is also the way into its main experience. The trail from Alto Guapaya is walked at an easy pace with local companions, and the afternoon is reserved for a first, unhurried look at the Harpy Eagle nest. Field focus: Transfer, forest birds and primates along the trail, and a first Harpy Eagle session. Meals: All meals. Lodging: Accommodation: Harpy Eagle Reserve (safari tents) See attached document about the harpy eagle camp.
Feb 22		**Harpy Eagle Full-Day Photography** Harpy Eagle Reserve | Accommodation: Harpy Eagle Reserve (safari tents) • Early morning at the nest hide (the main hide is about 70 m from the nest tree) • Feeder session, with peak activity around 10:00 am • Lunch at the hides and continued observation according to activity • Optional trail walks for forest birds and primates A full day inside the reserve, dedicated to the expedition's principal raptor. Staying on site lets the group adapt to the eagles' activity and the light rather than work within a fixed short window. Field focus: Harpy Eagle behavior and photography; feeder species and forest birds. Meals: All meals. Lodging: Accommodation: Harpy Eagle Reserve (safari tents) See attached document about the harpy eagle camp.
Feb 23		**Harpy Eagle Morning + Return to Vista Hermosa** Harpy Eagle Reserve > Alto Guapaya > Vista Hermosa • Final session at the nest hides • Lunch at the reserve • Walk back down to Alto Guapaya, leaving the reserve no later than 3:00 pm • 4x4 transfer to Vista Hermosa, check-in and overnight A last session with the eagle before walking back down with the reserve team. The afternoon is a transfer, ending with a quiet night in Vista Hermosa. Field focus: Harpy Eagle (final session), followed by the return transfer. Meals: All meals. Lodging: La Posada Monte Real

Feb 24	Guayabetal	**Sendero La Herrería - Guayabetal Specialties** Vista Hermosa > Guayabetal + Sendero La Herrería • Early departure from Vista Hermosa, arriving in Guayabetal around 9:00 am • Ascent to Sendero La Herrería and field session from about 10:30 am through the afternoon • Field lunch • End of the field session and overnight at Sendero La Herrería The return from Vista Hermosa leads straight into the principal Guayabetal specialty session, with a slower forest rhythm built around localized understory birds, hummingbirds and humid-forest targets. Field focus: Cundinamarca Antpitta, foothill hummingbirds, brushfinches and humid-forest specialties. Meals: All meals Lodging: https://senderolaherreria.com/
Feb 25	Bogotá	**Arcaaves + Afternoon at leisure** Guayabetal > Arcaaves > Bogotá | Accommodation: Hotel Ibis Bogotá • Morning departure from Sendero La Herrería • Birding and photography session at Arcaaves • Lunch and transfer to Bogotá • Afternoon at leisure at the hotel A lighter day after the Harpy Eagle and Guayabetal blocks: one productive Bogotá-region session and a free afternoon to rest, back up images and prepare for the Central Andes. Field focus: Bogotá-region hummingbirds, tapaculos, spinetails and conebills. Meals: All meals Lodging: Ibis Museum Hotel
Feb 26	Manizales	**Transfer to the Central Andes Bogotá > Manizales | Accommodation: QUO Manizales** • Morning departure from Bogotá • Private overland transfer toward Manizales • Strategic comfort stops and lunch in route • Arrival and check-in at QUO Manizales • Evening rest and preparation for the high-Andean field block A dedicated transfer day protects the following morning for the strongest Central-Andes activity window and gives the group time to reset before another sequence of intensive photography days. Field focus: Travel, Meals: All meals Lodging: https://www.estelarrecintodelpensamiento.com/

Feb 27		**Hacienda El Bosque** • Early departure from Manizales toward Hacienda El Bosque • Morning high-Andean forest session • Lunch in the field • Afternoon session according to activity and light • Return to Manizales A full day in high-Andean forest, giving time to work understory specialists and mountain birds patiently rather than at a passing pace. Field focus: Crescent-faced Antpitta, mountain toucans, high-Andean hummingbirds and parrots. Meals: All meals Lodging: https://www.estelarrecintodelpensamiento.com/
Feb 28		**El Color de Mis Rêves - Montane photography reserve** • Early departure from Manizales • Morning feeder, forest-edge and natural-perch photography session • Midday lunch and rest • Afternoon quiet observation and target refinement • Return to Manizales in the late afternoon. A photography-centered day with a slower pace, clean observation opportunities and time to work repeated encounters rather than move rapidly between locations. Field focus: Mountain toucans, antpittas, jays, owls and colorful high-Andean forest birds. Meals: All meals Lodging: https://www.estelarrecintodelpensamiento.com/
Mar 1		**Termales del Ruiz + PNN Los Nevados** Hotel Termales del Ruiz + PNN Los Nevados (Brisas sector) • Early departure from Manizales toward the Ruiz sector • Morning at Termales del Ruiz and the Brisas páramo sector of PNN Los Nevados • Lunch • Afternoon return to Manizales and rest The expedition's highest point: open páramo and volcanic slopes for altitude-adapted hummingbirds and large raptors, with an easy afternoon before the return to Bogotá. Field focus: Buffy Helmetcrest, high-Andean hummingbirds, Andean Condor and páramo specialists. Meals: All meals. Meals: All meals Lodging: https://www.estelarrecintodelpensamiento.com/
Mar 2	Bogotá	Return to Bogotá + Departure Manizales > Bogotá | End of expedition Breakfast and check-out Private overland transfer to Bogotá (approx. 7–8 hours) with lunch en route Arrival in the late afternoon and drop-off at El Dorado International Airport Evening departure flights A dedicated transfer day closes the expedition. Return flights should be booked for the evening of 2 March (departing no earlier than 9:00 pm) to leave enough margin for the road. Field focus: Transfer and departure.

Additional Notes

International flights. The expedition ends with a road transfer from Manizales to Bogotá on 2 March, arriving in the late afternoon. Please book return flights departing Bogotá on the evening of 2 March, no earlier than 9:00 pm. The route is fully overland: no domestic flights are included or required. I'm, suggesting to arrive on the Feb 16 and depart on March 3. We should be able to make reservations at the

Access to the Harpy Eagle Reserve. The reserve is remote. From Vista Hermosa, a 4x4 transfer of about 1.5 hours reaches the community of Alto Guapaya, followed by a 3.3 km trail of 1.5 to 3 hours in a warm, humid climate, mostly flat with a few short climbs. Luggage travels on horses and local porters assist, so participants only carry a daypack and camera gear. Departures from the reserve take place no later than 3:00 pm.

Optional horse ride. Participants who prefer not to walk the trail can ride with a local handler: COP 240,000 (approx. USD 80) per person, round trip. Please request it in advance.

More than the Harpy Eagle. Besides the two hides at the nest, the reserve has active feeders for other birds, with peak activity around 10:00 am, and trails for forest birds and primates.

Accommodation at the reserve. The reserve has only four safari-style tents for two people each, with twin beds or a double bed and a private bathroom. With eight participants all tents are occupied, so single rooms are not available for these two nights. Single rooms apply at all other hotels on the route.

Route design. To keep transfers lighter and allow more unhurried time for photography, which is the focus of this expedition, the route does not include the Tolima section or the Sumapaz páramo. Leaving out Sumapaz avoids a pre-dawn, high-altitude outing right before the early start toward the Harpy Eagle Reserve; páramo habitats and their specialists are still covered at PNN Los Nevados. Photography gear. The main hide is about 70 m from the nest tree; we recommend a 600 mm lens for the Harpy Eagle sessions. Accommodation in Manizales. The four nights in the Central Andes are based at Hotel Estelar Recinto del Pensamiento, a hotel set within an ecological park. Feeder and perch photography takes place at the field sites (Hacienda El Bosque and El Color de Mis Rêves), as we did not find a feeder lodge in the area with capacity for the group.
faunaris.

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Faunaris

TENT CAMP INFORMATION · HARPY EAGLE RESERVE

The Safari Tent Camp

Alto Guapaya, Vista Hermosa (Meta), Colombia · Prepared for Wildstock Photography

The camp sits on a forested ridge inside the reserve, a few steps from the hides and with the Harpy Eagle nest tree in view from most of the camp. There are only four tents, which keeps the experience quiet and close to the birds.



The camp: four raised safari tents on wooden decks, surrounded by forest.

- **Four safari-style tents**, about 56 m², two guests each
- **Twin beds or one double bed**, with quality linens
- **Solar power and satellite internet**, fan and lantern in each tent
- **Hides at the nest**, the main one about 70 m from the nest tree
- **Private bathroom in every tent**, with hot-water shower
- **Private terrace** with hammocks
- **Coffee and tea station** inside the tent
- **Feeders and forest trails** for other birds and primates

INSIDE THE TENTS

Spacious, simple and comfortable



Twin-bed setup with writing desk, storage chest and screened windows on three sides.



Double-bed setup for couples.



Twin beds, with natural light and ventilation.



Coffee and tea station, fan and rechargeable lantern in every tent

PRIVATE BATHROOM

Every tent has its own bathroom

There are no shared facilities. Each tent has a private bathroom area at the back, separated by canvas partitions and curtains, with a flush toilet, a hot-water shower and a wash basin, all on wooden decking.



Toilet and shower, each in its own enclosure.



Flush toilet with window for light and ventilation.



Wash basin with towels and amenities.

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Bird Highlights - Representative Targets by Site

The species below are representative photographic targets associated with the documented sites on the route. The selection intentionally mixes hummingbirds with antpittas, raptors, parrots, toucans, tanagers, owls and other distinctive birds. Wildlife remains wild and all species should be understood as potential targets rather than guaranteed sightings.

How to read this section: Each site lists a maximum of six representative targets chosen to show the photographic and biological character of that stop. Wildlife remains wild; sightings are never guaranteed, and field emphasis may shift according to activity, weather, flowering cycles and access conditions.

Muisca Birding - Guasca

High-Andean cloud forest combining feeders with localized Eastern Andes specialties.

- Tourmaline Sunangel (Heliangelus exortis)
- Coppery-bellied Puffleg (Eriocnemis cupreoventris)
- Blue-throated Starfrontlet (Coeligena helianthea)
- Sword-billed Hummingbird (Ensifera ensifera)
- Muisca Antpitta (Grallaria rufula)
- Black-billed Mountain-Toucan (Andigena nigrirostris)

Reserva Natural Fute

Mid-elevation feeder and flowering-corridor photography with a broad Andean mix.

- Golden-bellied Starfrontlet (Coeligena bonapartei)
- Buff-tailed Coronet (Boissonneaua flavescens)
- Speckled Hummingbird (Adelomyia melanogenys)
- White-booted Racket-tail (Ocreatus underwoodii)
- Slate-throated Redstart (Myioborus miniatus)
- Blue-necked Tanager (Stilpnia cyanicollis)

PNN Sumapaz - Laguna Chisacá

Páramo specialists, wetlands and open high-elevation target work.

- Green-bearded Helmetcrest (Oxypogon guerinii)
- Bronze-tailed Thornbill (Chalcostigma heteropogon)
- Bogotá Rail (Rallus semiplumbeus)
- Noble Snipe (Gallinago nobilis)
- Apolinar's Wren (Cistothorus apolinari)

RNSC El Zoque

Complementary high-Andean reserve adding hummingbirds, parrots and forest specialties.

- Glowing Puffleg (Eriocnemis vestita)
- Great Sapphirewing (Pterophanes cyanopterus)
- Speckle-faced Parrot (Pionus tumultuosus)
- Silvery-throated Spinetail (Synallaxis subpudica)
- Black-collared Jay (Cyanolyca armillata)

Tenasuca

Complementary Day 2 field stop paired with Reserva Natural Fute.

- Brown-capped Vireo (Vireo leucophrys)
- Beryl-spangled Tanager (Tangara nigroviridis)
- Streaked Saltator (Saltator striatipectus)
- Crowned Woodnymph (Thalurania colombica)

Reserva Chiguazá

Mutar Forest and edge session adding tapaculo, antpitta, conebill and highland diversity.

- Pale-bellied Tapaculo (Scytalopus griseicollis)
- Rufous-browed Conebill (Conirostrum rufum)
- Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (Grallaria ruficapilla)
- Superciliaried Hemispingus (Thlypopsis superciliaris)
- Green-tailed Trainbearer (Lesbia nuna)
- Black-backed Grosbeak (Pheucticus aureoventris)

Casa Hillebrand

Eastern-foothill lodge habitat combining hummingbirds, owls and diverse forest birds.

- Long-tailed Sylph (Aglaiocercus kingii)
- Band-bellied Owl (Pulsatrix melanota)
- Andean Cock-of-the-rock (Rupicola peruvianus)
- Scaled Piculet (Picumnus squamulatus)
- Green-bellied Hummingbird (Saucerottia viridigaster)
- Magpie Tanager (Cissopis leverianus)

Sendero La Herrería

Guayabetal Humid foothill forest centered on localized antpittas and complementary forest specialties.

- Cundinamarca Antpitta (Grallaria kaestneri)
- Violet-fronted Brilliant (Heliodoxa leadbeateri)
- Emerald-bellied Puffleg (Eriocnemis aline)
- Chestnut-capped Brushfinch (Arremon brunneinucha)
- Ochre-breasted Brushfinch (Atlapetes semirufus)

Sendero El Paramuno

Monserrate Accessible high-Andean Forest and ridge habitat used for a relaxed Bogotá photography session.

- Long-tailed Sylph (Aglaiocercus kingii)
- Bronze-tailed Thornbill (Chalcostigma heteropogon)
- Sword-billed Hummingbird (Ensifera ensifera)
- Golden-bellied Starfrontlet (Coeligena bonapartei)
- Pale-bellied Tapaculo (Scytalopus griseicollis)
- Silvery-throated Spinetail (Synallaxis subpudica)

Harpy Eagle Reserve - Vista Hermosa Dedicated flagship-raptor block with two observation windows and an overnight inside the reserve.

- Harpy Eagle (Harpia harpyja) and others.\

Arcaaves Complementary

Bogotá-region birding stop paired with the Monserrate afternoon.

- Short-tailed Emerald (Chlorostilbon poortmani)
- Stygian Owl (Asio stygius)
- Pale-bellied Tapaculo (Scytalopus griseicollis)
- Silvery-throated Spinetail (Synallaxis subpudica)
- Rufous-browed Conebill (Conirostrum rufum)
- Plushcap (Catamblyrhynchus diadema)

Hacienda El Bosque

High-Andean Forest and reserve habitat with strong mountain-bird photographic potential.

- Crescent-faced Antpitta (Grallaricula lineifrons)
- Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan (Andigena hypoglauca)
- Cauca Guan (Penelope perspicax)
- Chestnut Wood-Quail (Odontophorus hyperythrus)
- Golden-breasted Puffleg (Eriocnemis mosquera)
- Buff-winged Starfrontlet (Coeligena lutetiae)

PNN Los Nevados

Brisas Open high-Andean and páramo environments with altitude-adapted specialists and large raptors.

- Buffy Helmetcrest (Oxypogon stuebelii)
- Rufous-fronted Parakeet (Bolborhynchus ferrugineifrons)
- Stout-billed Cinclodes (Cinclodes excelsior)
- Tawny Antpitta (Grallaria quitensis)
- Andean Condor (Vultur gryphus)
- Carunculated Caracara (Daptrius carunculatus)

El Color de Mis Rêves

Photography-focused montane setting with feeders, forest light and visually distinctive high-Andean birds.

- Black-collared Jay (Cyanolyca armillata)
- Bicolored Antpitta (Grallaria rufocinerea)
- Andean Pygmy-Owl (Glaucidium jardinii)
- Black-billed Mountain-Toucan (Andigena nigrirostris)
- Hooded Mountain Tanager (Buthraupis montana)

Hotel Termales del Ruiz

High-Andean Forest and volcanic-slope birding with hummingbird, parrot and antpitta diversity.

- Tolima Blossomcrown (Anthocephala berlepschi)
- Brown-banded Antpitta (Grallaria milleri)
- Golden-breasted Puffleg (Eriocnemis mosquera)
- Rainbow-bearded Thornbill (Chalcostigma herrani)
- Black-thighed Puffleg (Eriocnemis derbyi)
- Yellow-eared Parrot (Ognorhynchus icterotis)



Long-tailed Sylph



Crowned Wood-nymph



Red-headed Barbet



Golden-naped Tanager



Chesnut-crowned Antpitta



Blue-winged Mountain Tanager



Masked Trogon



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