



Owls of Northern Peru



The endemic **Koepcke's Screech Owl** (photo Alan van Norman) is one of our targets on this trip.

Owls are our favorite bird family, and we love to show owls to our clients and friends. We have designed this 14-day itinerary to take you to Northern Peru and show you some of the best birds of this part of the planet, like **Marvelous Spatuletail**, **Peruvian Plantcutter**, **Tumbes Tyrant**, **Rufous-crested Coquette**, **Grey-breasted Mountain Toucan**, **Andean Condor**, **Torrent Duck**, **Chestnut** and **Ochre-fronted Antpittas**, **Royal Sunangel**, **Lulu's Tody-Flycatcher**, and of course as many owls as possible.

Birding Ecotours has been operating tours in Northern Peru for almost a decade and has been pioneering in developing a tour like this.

Our main objective during this trip will be to track down and show you possibly 18 species of owls. All of them have been recorded on previous Birding Ecotours tours, so we have good knowledge of where they are to be found.

From Lima we will fly to the tropical city of Tarapoto, where we will have the chance to see typical Amazon lowland species like **White-throated Toucan** for those who have never been in the lowlands before and to visit some nice hummingbird feeders with species like the endemic **Koepcke's Hermit**, **Gould's Jewelfront**, **Black-throated Mango**, and **White-necked Jacobin**, among others. Other species we might find include **Hoatzin**, **Carmioli's Tanager**, **Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo**, **Slate-colored Grosbeak**, **Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner**, **Green Honeycreeper**, **Black-faced Dacnis**, **Paradise Tanager**, and many more. At night we will try for our first target of the trip, **Tawny-bellied Screech Owl**.

We will continue our trip, exploring an interesting area with a diverse mosaic of habitats like black river waters, open savanna and grasslands, and humid forest. Here we can find birds such as **Sungrebe**, **Point-tailed Palmcreeper**, **Oilbird**, a great set of hummingbird feeders visited by **Rufous-crested Coquette**, **Black-throated** and **Long-tailed Hermits**, **White-chinned** and **Golden-tailed Sapphire**, **Brown Violetear**, and **Grey-breasted Sabrewing**. Other birds here include species like **Rusty-backed Antwren**, **Black-faced Tanager**, **Wedge-tailed Grass Finch**, **Masked Duck**, the endemic **Huallaga Tanager**, **Lafresnaye's Piculet**, **Fiery-throated Fruiteater**, **Black-and-white Tody-Flycatcher**, and others. At night we will try for **Band-bellied Owl**, **Stygian Owl**, **Striped Owl**, **Black-banded Owl**, **Tropical Screech Owl**, and **Vermiculated Screech Owl**. **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** can be seen by day and at night.

Later we will visit the pristine montane forest of Abra Patricia. On the way to the mountains we will look for **Andean Cock-of-the-rock** and **Versicolored Barbet** among others. Here we will have a chance to find the first mixed feeding flocks of the tour. Our base at the mountains will be the Long-whiskered Owllet Lodge, and from here we will explore the area, looking for the endemic **Chestnut** and **Ochre-fronted Antpittas**, other classic cloudforest species like **Pearled Treerunner**, **Streaked Tuftedcheek**, **White-**

capped Tanager, Chestnut-crested Cotinga, Green-and-black Fruiteater, Royal Sunangel, and Lulu's Tody-Flycatcher, among others. At night we will try for **Rufous-banded Owl**, **White-throated Screech Owl**, **Cinnamon Screech Owl**, and the famous and mysterious **Long-whiskered Owlet**, one of the least-known owl species in the world, which was seen for the first times in 2008 and 2010, respectively.

We will visit the hummingbird feeders at the Huembo Interpretation Center, where we will have close-up views of the endemic **Marvelous Spatuletail**, and at night we will try for the elusive **Buff-fronted Owl** and for **Koepcke's Screech Owl**.

The Leymebamba mountains are not only a very rich archeological area with impressive pre-Hispanic buildings, but also very rich in avian diversity, with species like the endemic **Yellow-scarfed Tanager**, **Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager**, **Golden-headed Quetzal**, **Northern Mountain Cacique**, **Blackish Tapaculo**, and the endemic **Russet-mantled Softtail**, and we will also try for the recently recorded **Neblina Tapaculo**. Our main target here will be the **Andean Pygmy Owl**.

Finally, we will descend to the coast for two days, looking on the way for species like **Maranon Crescentchest**, **Maranon Spinetail**, and the endemics **Little Inca Finch**, **Peruvian Plantcutter** and **Rufous Flycatcher**, and many more. Our last targets of the tour are **West Peruvian Screech Owl**, **Pacific Pygmy Owl**, and **Burrowing Owl**.

If you are a keen birder and have a particular fondness for owls, this is your trip! Come with us and discover this magical land and some of the best owls of this part of the world.

Please contact us for details.