BIRDING TOUR AUSTRALIA: EASTERN AUSTRALIA – FROM THE OUTBACK TO THE WET TROPICS

30 OCTOBER–16 NOVEMBER 2027
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*Gorgeous **Pink Cockatoos** (formerly Major Mitchell's Cockatoo) is another top bird possible.*

Overview

Australia, the island continent, is a remote landmass that drifted away from Antarctica tens of millions of years ago. Without significant volcanic activity and other mountain-building forces it is also the flattest continent, with the world's oldest soils. Despite its lack of topography this incredible landmass is one of extremes. The Outback, the continent's core, is a vast and hostile desert with unpredictable weather patterns that sometimes flush the landscape green. Along the edges more regular precipitation allows ancient rainforests, heathlands, and fire-resistant sclerophyll woodlands to grow. Due to its long isolation and harsh environments Australia is now home to birds of a different feather, including eight endemic bird families and a further seven shared only with neighboring New Guinea. About 300 bird species are endemic to Australia, making it second only to Indonesia in this regard. Throughout this country's every extreme its amazing avifauna has shown the adaptability and resiliency to survive in even the most challenging environments. In addition, this avifauna is just dripping with charismatic species, from bowerbirds to parrots to fairywrens to kookaburras to cassowaries to lyrebirds. Throughout the course of this small-group tour we sample habitats ranging from the arid plains north of Deniliquin to the wet rainforests of the Atherton Tablelands in search of as many of these wonderful birds as possible, while also appreciating the many other unique plants and animals along the way.

Our journey begins at the cosmopolitan city of Melbourne, Victoria in southeast Australia, visiting coastal heathland for several localized habitat specialists such as **Gang-gang Cockatoo** and **Beautiful Firetail**. Farther north and west towards the interior, arid mallee vegetation and saline lakes provide habitat for the mound-building **Malleefowl**, the impossibly blue **Splendid Fairywren**, the gorgeous **Pink Cockatoo**, among a host of other species. On one evening we make a special effort to observe the monotypic **Plains-wanderer** in the dry plains of New South Wales.



*The highly sought-after **Plains-wanderer** (a monotypic family) is one of the core targets on the tour. We undertake an exciting evening excursion to search for this rare species.*

Following our time in New South Wales we will swing southeast through the sclerophyll forests of Chiltern and the temperate forests near Melbourne for targets such as **Turquoise Parrot** and **Superb Lyrebird**.

After an internal flight from Melbourne to Brisbane, Queensland, we drive up to the famous O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, nestled within a large tract of subtropical rainforest, for a totally new set of stunning birds such as **Paradise Riflebird**, **Regent Bowerbird**, **Satin Bowerbird**, **Noisy Pitta**, **Albert's Lyrebird**, and **Australian Logrunner**.

On the last leg of our journey we visit the Wet Tropics of far northern Queensland to explore one of the world's most ancient rainforests for key species such as **Southern Cassowary** and **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**. We also take a day trip to the Great Barrier Reef, where the colors and diversity of the fish and corals rival those of the birds, with a chance to swim with **Green Turtles**. Evening spotlighting sessions on many of these nights should also produce a host of endearing and unusual nocturnal birds and mammals, which may include **Papuan Frogmouth** and **Barking Owl**. Other target birds in the north include **Great-billed Heron**, **Australian Bustard**, **Victoria's Riflebird**, **Tooth-billed Bowerbird**, **Great Bowerbird**, **Golden Bowerbird**, **Fernwren**, and **Chowchilla** to name a few.



*The massive **Southern Cassowary** can be seen in northern Queensland.*

During our time in Australia, we will also look for some of the country's incredible and unique animals, including **Platypus**, **Short-beaked Echidna**, **Koala**, **Red Kangaroo**, **Eastern Grey Kangaroo**, **Common Ringtail Possum**, **Common Brushtail Possum**, **Musky Rat Kangaroo**, and **Common Wombat**. The birds in Australia are incredible, but so are the mammals, reptiles, and amphibians that we will see; they combine to result in an awesome wildlife-filled experience. This continent is a naturalist's dream!

Sometimes we do this tour in the reverse order shown in this itinerary. Please confirm the route for your tour with us before purchasing your flight tickets.

For those wishing to continue exploring Australia (and we fully recommend it), this tour can be combined with our **Birding Tour Australia: Tasmania Bird Tour – Tasmanian Endemics and the Orange-bellied Parrot** tour.

Detailed Itinerary (18 days/17 nights)

Day 1. Arrival in Melbourne

Non-birding day with your arrival into Melbourne airport, the rest of the day will be at your leisure. We will meet in our hotel near the airport for an evening welcome dinner together.

Overnight: Melbourne Airport Hotel



*The gaudy **Rainbow Lorikeet** can be seen around Melbourne – they are a common garden bird!*

Day 2. Melbourne to Geelong

Over the course of the day we will enjoy some of Australia's common and widespread, yet beautiful and interesting birds, such as **Magpie-lark**, **Rainbow Lorikeet**, **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo**, **Willie Wagtail**, **Laughing Kookaburra**, and **Australian Magpie**.

We will drive around Melbourne to the world-famous Werribee Western Treatment Plant area along the coast. Included in the Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance in 1983, this extremely rich, huge area contains a network of sewage treatment lagoons, unmodified saltmarsh,

creeks, and lakes, which host large numbers of both sedentary and migratory waterbirds. We will navigate a series of roads around this area, where water levels permit. Among a wide assortment of other species **Freckled Duck**, **Pink-eared Duck**, and **Musk Duck** will be top priorities, as well as the secretive **Australian Crake** and the highly localized **Striated Fieldwren**. The area is often great for raptors, and we may find **Black-shouldered Kite**, **Wedge-tailed Eagle**, **Australian Hobby**, and **Brown Falcon**.

We then continue southward along the coast to Geelong for the night. Along the way a few stops may produce **Black-tailed Nativehen**, **Black-fronted Dotterel**, **Cape Barren Goose**, and **Banded Stilt**. Maybe we will even spot our first **Eastern Grey Kangaroo** along the way!

Overnight: Geelong



*The localized **Rufous Bristlebird** is our top target at Aireys Inlet.*

Day 3. Geelong to Aireys Inlet, and finally to central Victoria

Composed of dense, low shrubs and scattered, twisted trees, coastal heathland occurs on impoverished soils with poor drainage. Despite the nutrient-poor soils, this habitat boasts a high diversity of plants as well as a unique community of birds that depend on them. We spend most of the morning exploring the scenic coastal heathlands of southwest Victoria, seeking out some of these species, such as **Southern Emu-wren**, **Beautiful Firetail**, and **Rufous Bristlebird**. Areas of taller vegetation may host the endearing **Gang-gang Cockatoo**, while a sea watch may yield **Shy Albatross**, **Australasian Gannet**, and other pelagic birds offshore.

As the day progresses, we drive inland into central Victoria for our first taste of box-ironbark forest, a habitat endemic to Australia. Because the component tree species in this habitat are such

prolific flower and nectar producers, there is a correspondingly high diversity of nectar-feeding honeyeaters and lorikeets, including the normally scarce and local **Tawny-crowned Honeyeater**, **White-fronted Honeyeater**, and **Purple-crowned Lorikeet**.

Overnight: Inglewood

Day 4. Central Victoria to Ouyen

We will focus our morning birding around Inglewood and nearby Mount Korong. Excellent habitat here hosts scarce species like **Red-backed Kingfisher** (in some years), **Southern Scrub Robin**, **Gilbert's Whistler**, **Painted Honeyeater** (along with a myriad of other honeyeaters) and **Shy Heathwren**. We eventually continue to Ouyen in northwestern Victoria. Along the way we will likely stop at Lake Tyrrell, a salt-crusted and mostly dry lakebed surrounded by saltbush and samphire. Despite its unlikely appearance this low vegetation is home to several charismatic birds, such as **Orange Chat**, **White-winged Fairywren**, **Rufous Fieldwren** and **Eastern Bluebonnet**, which we will target during our time here.

Founded in 1921, Wyperfeld National Park protects a significant tract of semi-arid mallee woodland and heathland. Depending on local conditions we may visit this site as we are passing. High on our list of priorities here would be the appropriately named **Malleefowl**, **Splendid Fairywren**, and **Southern Whiteface**, and other birds of the dry Australian interior are also possible.



*A top target while in mallee habitat will be **Malleefowl**.*

In the late afternoon we will arrive in Ouyen in the mallee habitat. Due to the number of secretive and highly sought birds here we will spend two nights, giving us plenty of time to try and connect

with some of the arid area's great birds like **Malleefowl**, notable for incubating its eggs in large nesting mounds.

Overnight: Ouyen

Day 5. Birding Hattah-Kulkyne National Park

As one of Australia's largest and most pristine mallee reserves, Hattah-Kulkyne National Park boasts a wide variety of bird species that are much more difficult to see elsewhere, such as **Mallee Emu-wren** and **Striated Grasswren**. We will spend the full day birding within and around the park and town. In addition to the species mentioned above we will be looking for one of the most spectacular parrots in all of Australia, **Pink Cockatoo** (see cover image). Hopefully the cockatoo will be accompanied by a rich and colorful supporting cast of dry-country specialties, such as **Regent Parrot**, **Mulga Parrot**, **Crested Bellbird**, and **Emu**. Possibly we will have our first look at the huge **Red Kangaroo** here too.

Overnight: Ouyen



*The rare **Mallee Emu-wren** (it is considered Endangered by BirdLife International) can be found in Hattah-Kulkyne National Park.*

Day 6. Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, travel to Deniliquin, and Plains-wanderer night trip

We will have a short early morning birding session in the wonderful Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, where we will continue to seek out the area's specialties, maybe including **White-winged Chough**, **Apostlebird**, **Chestnut Quail-thrush**, and many more. As the morning progresses, we will head out of Victoria into neighboring New South Wales. We will likely stop at Lake

Tutchewop along the way, which, depending on water levels, may hold the elegant **Red-necked Avocet** and the dapper **Banded Stilt**.



*The fairywrens are sure to be one of the most-enjoyed birds of the trip, this is a **Splendid Fairywren**, one of many fairywren species likely on the tour.*

We will have a long day today, because during the evening we will go out to search for the bizarre **Plains-wanderer**, the sole representative of an endemic Australian family, most closely related to the shorebirds (but its closest living relatives are thought to be the seedsnipes of South America!). Although this species is the star attraction of this site, we may also encounter other birds (depending on the state of the rainfall and vegetation), such as **Inland Dotterel**, **Banded Lapwing**, **Stubble Quail**, **Little Buttonquail**, **Eastern Barn Owl**, or **Australian Owlet-nightjar** on this nocturnal foray. We will return to our hotel late, likely around midnight or possibly later.

Overnight: Deniliquin

Day 7. Transfer to Wangaratta

After a late night we allow ourselves to sleep in before continuing our journey to Wangaratta via various sites in the Riverina bioregion, likely starting with Island Sanctuary. Targets on this more laid-back day include the vivid **Superb Parrot**, along with backup chances for the elusive **Gilbert's Whistler**, and the striking **White-backed Swallow** as we aim to arrive in Wangaratta in the midafternoon. We will start looking for some of the birds listed for Day 8 if time permits.

Overnight: Wangaratta

Day 8. Wangaratta to Healesville

We will spend the morning birding in the beautiful woodland around the Warby-Ovens National Park which protects what is arguably the best flora and fauna assemblage of box-ironbark forest and woodland in Australia and forms an important link between the foothills of the Australian Alps with the plains of the Murray River. The trees which define this habitat produce an abundance of nectar when flowering, attracting birds from far and wide. The sounds of birds can be almost deafening during these times! Targets attracted to these blooms include **Little Lorikeet**, **Black-chinned Honeyeater**, and **Painted Honeyeater**. Elsewhere in the forest we search for the rainbow-like **Turquoise Parrot**, the bark-peeling **Eastern Shriketit**, the ground-dwelling **Speckled Warbler**, and more. We may even come across the unusual **Short-beaked Echidna** here.

After lunch we continue our journey southward to the town of Healesville near the city of Melbourne for the night. Here we will have a chance for some evening spotlighting for birds such as **Greater Sooty Owl** and mammals, possibly possums and gliders and wombats (if we're lucky).

Overnight: Healesville



*Parrots are sure to continually impress during this tour, this is **Turquoise Parrot**.*

Day 9. Birding near Melbourne and conclusion of the "Outback" part of the tour

We will spend most of the day birding the tall, wet sclerophyll forests and swampy heathlands of this mountainous region. Within these mossy forests we hope to find several of Australia's most charismatic and emblematic birds. **Superb Lyrebird**, an unrivalled mimic and the world's largest songbird, will be chief among our targets. The forest and heathland communities are also home to **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo**, **Pilotbird**, **Olive Whistler**, **Eastern Whipbird**, **Flame Robin**,

Rose Robin, **Pink Robin**, **Red-browed Treecreeper**, **Australian Rufous Fantail**, and more. It is sure to be a wonderful end to the birding on this part of the tour. We will continue back to Melbourne, thus completing our circuit of Victoria, where we will spend the night in an airport hotel ahead of an early flight the next day.

Overnight: Melbourne



Rose Robin *is one of the five gorgeous Australasian Robin species we can see outside of Melbourne.*

Day 10. Transfer from Melbourne to Brisbane and to Lamington National Park

After an early morning flight we arrive in Brisbane, the state capital of Queensland, to continue our tour. We first stop at a few mangrove sites near the airport itself, searching for the endemic **Mangrove Honeyeater** and **Mangrove Gerygone**. Nearby wetland sites can hold the elusive **Spotless Crake**, and we could obtain our first sightings of **Comb-crested Jacana**, **Red-backed Fairywren**, and more while we search for them.

Afterwards we drive to the world-famous O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat at Lamington National Park. A colorful and interesting suite of birds attends the lodge gardens here, including **Crimson Rosella**, **Australian King Parrot**, **Regent Bowerbird**, **Satin Bowerbird**, **Australian Brushturkey**, and **Wonga Pigeon**. These birds are unusually tame and provide excellent opportunities for photography and our time here is always a major tour highlight.

Overnight: Lamington National Park



*Gorgeous **Regent Bowerbirds** are often present around our rooms!*



*The Lamington area will offer us our first chance at seeing a bird-of-paradise; this being a **Paradise Riflebird**.*

Day 11. Full day birding Lamington National Park

Situated in the heart of Lamington National Park, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat is well-known for its rainforest location, diverse wildlife, and interesting history. Using the lodge as our base we spend the full day exploring the verdant network of subtropical rainforest trails in search of several spectacular birds unique to the area. **Albert's Lyrebird**, **Australian Logrunner**, and **Noisy Pitta** inhabit the forest understory, while birds in the mid-story and canopy include **Paradise Riflebird**, **Topknot Pigeon**, **Black-faced Monarch**, and **Green Catbird**. We will make a concerted effort to see all of these species during our stay as well as leaving time to enjoy the site's good variety of mammals, a good number of which only come out at night.

Overnight: Lamington National Park

Day 12. Transfer from Brisbane to Cairns, birding the Cairns Esplanade

We will have a pre-breakfast birding walk into the forest near our accommodation once again, where we will keep searching for new and interesting species, maybe finding a cryptically plumaged **Bassian** and **Russet-tailed Thrushes** or the gorgeous and rather cute **Rose Robin**. After another sumptuous O'Reilly's breakfast, we drive off the mountain and head back toward the city in time to make our flight farther north on our tour of the Australian east coast.

When we arrive in Cairns, depending on the tide time, we might make the short jaunt from our hotel to the Cairns Esplanade to enjoy its variety of shorebirds, from the hulking **Far Eastern Curlew** to the dainty **Terek Sandpiper**. We are sure to see plenty of **Torresian Imperial Pigeons**, **Australasian Figbirds**, and **Metallic Starlings** flying around near our accommodation.

Overnight: Cairns



*A sighting of **Beach Stone-curlew** would be a highlight.*

Day 13. Cairns birding and travel to Mission Beach

We will spend the morning birding at sites around Cairns, and may include visits to the Cairns Esplanade, Cairns Botanical Garden, and Cairns Centenary Lakes. We may also visit some sites a little further out of town, time permitting. A large list of species is possible featuring a wide range of birds. If the tidal situation is right, we can expect a lot of shorebirds, likely to include **Great Knot**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Grey-tailed Tattler**, and with luck, **Beach Stone-curlew**. In and around the trees along Cairns Esplanade, we may find **Nankeen Night Heron**, **Bush Stone-curlew**, **Double-eyed Fig Parrot**, **Varied Honeyeater**, **Yellow Honeyeater**, and **Hornbill Friarbird**. Forested areas here may hold **Orange-footed Scrubfowl**, **Australian Brushturkey**, **Brush Cuckoo**, and **Grey Goshawk**.

After lunch we will commence our journey south towards Mission Beach. We will likely make a stop at Etty Bay along the way. Our main target in this area is the humongous and rare **Southern Cassowary**, the largest bird in Australia by weight (see picture in the introduction section).

Overnight: Mission Beach

Day 14. Birding near Mission Beach, travel to Lake Eacham

We will spend some time in the morning looking for **Southern Cassowary**. There are often other great birds to be found around Mission Beach, and we will try to locate these during the morning before departing and heading up into the Atherton Tablelands. Some other birds we might find while looking for the ancient dinosaur-like bird, might include **Australian Swiftlet**, **Fairy Gerygone**, **Yellow-spotted Honeyeater**, **Spectacled Monarch**, **Black Butcherbird**, **Green Oriole**, and **Dusky Myzomela**.



*Seeing a bright male **Golden Bowerbird** in the forests is a sight to behold.*

By mid-morning it will be time to leave the coast behind. We will spend the course of the next two days visiting a variety of sites on the Atherton Tablelands, a fertile plateau hosting several habitats from high altitude rainforest to drier eucalypt woodland. Although we will keep our itinerary flexible, based on our growing trip list, we will likely spend time birding the cooler wet forest of Mount Hypipamee National Park, Lake Barrine, and the Curtain Fig Tree for species including **Tooth-billed Bowerbird**, **Golden Bowerbird**, **Wompoo Fruit Dove**, **Grey-headed Robin**, **Chowchilla**, and more. We can, with some luck, also find **Victoria's Riflebird** and **Spotted Catbird** in the gardens of our accommodation at Lake Eacham, a wonderful spot itself.

Nocturnal activity is also often exciting here, and we will be sure to spend some time looking for a range of possums, gliders, and more, as well as for the diurnal **Musky Rat Kangaroo**. Here we will also have a search for the bizarre **Platypus** and unusual (and rather rare) **Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo**.

Overnight: Lake Eacham

Day 15. Birding in the Atherton Tablelands

The early morning activity around our accommodation is usually a wonderful experience and we will look for, and listen to **Spotted Catbird**, **Victoria's Riflebird**, **Yellow-breasted Boatbill**, **Australian Golden Whistler**, **Grey-headed Robin**, **Superb Fruit Dove**, **Wompoo Fruit Dove**, **Brown Cuckoo-Dove**, **Macleay's Honeyeater**, **Scarlet Myzomela**, and **Forest Kingfisher**.



*One of the other birds-of-paradise possible on this tour – **Victoria's Riflebird**.*

During the day we will visit the wetter higher elevations of the Atherton Tablelands, possibly trying to locate the shy **Chowchilla** and other targets like **Atherton Scrubwren**, **Mountain Thornbill**, **Tooth-billed Bowerbird** and **Golden Bowerbird**. We will also look for any wetland sites that might support **Magpie Goose**, **Sarus Crane**, **Brolga**, **Wandering Whistling Duck**, or **Plumed Whistling Duck** and potentially shorebirds and other waterfowl (depending on water levels here and in other parts of Australia).

In the afternoon we will make our way northward into the much drier part of the Atherton Tablelands, stopping at various sites, which may include Granite Gorge Nature Park and Mareeba town. There will be no shortage of potential targets, such as **Australian Bustard**, **Squatter Pigeon**, **Red-winged Parrot**, **Red-tailed Black Cockatoo**, **Spotted Harrier**, **Blue-winged Kookaburra**, **Great Bowerbird**, and **Double-barred Finch**. After a long day of birding, we will arrive at our accommodation.

Overnight: Mareeba



*A bird of the dry country, we will be looking for **Australian Bustards** as we come off the Atherton Tablelands.*

Day 16. Mareeba, Daintree River Cruise, and travel to Cairns

We will have a long day today. We will spend the early morning birding near to Mareeba and will make our way to the base of Mount Lewis. We will make a few stops along the way, for species such as **Yellow-bellied Flyrobin** and **White-browed Robin**. At the base of Mount Lewis, we will look for **Lovely Fairywren**, **Superb Fruit Dove**, **Northern Fantail**, and **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**.

In the afternoon we will start the journey down to the Daintree River, where we will have a late-afternoon boat cruise. By scanning the sandy banks and lush riverside vegetation from the comfort of our boat we will keep a sharp eye out for the bulky **Great-billed Heron**, family groups of **Shining Flycatcher**, the cryptically camouflaged **Papuan Frogmouth**, and flocks of the diminutive **Double-eyed Fig Parrot** – maybe even the rare **Little Kingfisher**.

We will stop for some dinner on our way back to Cairns, where we will arrive in the early evening and head to bed after what will have been a long and tiring, but excellent bird-filled day.

Overnight: Cairns



*One of our most important targets in the 'Wet Tropics' will be this **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher** – this migrant having recently arrived from Papua New Guinea.*

Day 17. Great Barrier Reef trip

We will spend the final full day of the tour on an enjoyable and relaxing boat trip to the Great Barrier Reef. The Great Barrier Reef is an ecosystem of many superlatives that no words can do justice. After an early breakfast we board a boat that will take us out to experience this incredible reef system. Our first stop is Michaelmas Cay, a tiny islet that hosts an impressive number of nesting seabirds. **Sooty Tern**, **Brown Noddy**, and **Greater Crested Tern** dominate, but **Lesser Crested Tern**, **Black Noddy**, and **Black-naped Tern** are also possible. **Brown Booby** and occasionally **Red-footed Booby** can be seen perched on man-made structures, while marauding **Great Frigatebirds** often soar overhead. We will spend some time here enjoying the spectacle. Weather and sea conditions permitting, we should be able to land on the cay to get close-up views of these seabirds. There is also the likelihood of snorkeling here, but for this part of our reef trip the focus is really on the birds, though we will also keep our eyes peeled for dolphins and sea turtles.



*The birds around Michaelmas Cay are outstanding, but the underwater life is just as mesmerizing. It's well worth jumping in, with a great chance of finding a **Green Turtle** amongst a myriad of kaleidoscopic tropical fish.*

After lunch the boat usually moves across to Hastings Reef, where there will be an option to snorkel, scuba dive, or take a glass bottom boat tour, all three options giving a wonderful opportunity to observe the plethora of shockingly colorful life below the surface. When we return to shore in the middle of the afternoon we will amble back to our hotel, looking for any birds along the Cairns Esplanade as we go (tide dependent).

Overnight: Cairns

Day 18. Transfer to Cairns Airport, tour concludes

Non-birding day with your departure from Cairns Airport.

Overnight: Not included

Please note that the itinerary cannot be guaranteed as it is only a rough guide and can be changed (usually slightly) due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides and other factors. In addition, we sometimes have to use a different international guide from the one advertised due to tour scheduling.

Tour Details

Duration:	18 days
Group size:	6-8
Dates:	30 October–16 November 2027 30 October–16 November 2028
Start:	Melbourne, Victoria
End:	Cairns, Queensland
Prices:	AU$ 18,580 per person sharing – based on 6–8 participants (2027) AU$ 19,540 per person sharing – based on 6–8 participants (2028)
Single supplements:	AU$ 2,220 (2027) AU$ 2,340 (2028)

Price includes:

All accommodation (as described above from Day 1 through Day 17)
Meals (from lunch on Day 1 until breakfast on Day 18)
Expert tour leader
National park/birdwatching reserve/protected areas entrance fees
Boat trips on the Daintree River and the Great Barrier Reef
Private transportation during the tour

Price excludes:

International flights
Airport transfers
Domestic flights within Australia during tour (Required Melbourne-Brisbane and Brisbane-Cairns. We can book these for you and provide costs to ensure that everyone is on the same flight – estimate about AU$900)
Any pre- or post-tour accommodation, meals, or birding/sightseeing/etc. excursions
Visa if required
Items of a personal nature, e.g. gifts, laundry, internet access, phone calls, etc.
Any pre- or post-tour accommodation, meals, or birding/sightseeing/monument excursions
Soft/alcoholic drinks (drinking water is safe from the taps, please bring a refillable water bottle)
Personal travel insurance
Gratuities (please see our tipping guidelines blog)