



PANAMA ESCAPE: AN EASY WEEK OF BIRDING FROM THE CANOPY TOWER LODGE

03–09 DECEMBER 2027



Keel-billed Toucan is one of the most impressive species to be found near the Canopy Tower.

Overview

Our exciting seven-day trip to Panama is designed to explore one of the greatest birding hotspots in Central America, the famous Canopy Tower Lodge, where we will be based for the entire trip. This tour serves as a perfect introduction to neotropical birding, particularly for those who have never set foot in this magical part of the world. Our tour includes early starts (which you can opt out of if preferred) and full mornings for each day but we ensure the afternoon activities are kept flexible, allowing for exploration of the lodge surroundings at your own leisure. Guests can use this time to search for additional bird species, enjoy the lodge and observation deck, or pursue personal photography at a more relaxed pace. We invite you to discover Panama, spending the entire week based in one fantastic destination (without the stress of overland travel across the country), and to enjoy our short, relaxed birding vacation.

Our tour focuses exclusively on exploring the surroundings of the Canopy Tower, including the popular Pipeline, Achiote, and Semaphore Hill Roads, the Rainforest Discovery Center Tower, and the Summit Ponds near the Gamboa Wetlands. Each day we will have the chance to enjoy the magnificent forest views from the impressive Canopy Tower observation deck. Being 50 feet (15 meters) above the ground, the deck provides a unique eye-level view of the canopy forest and its birdlife, all while enjoying our morning cup of coffee.



*The attractive **Green Shrike-Vireo** can be seen around Canopy Tower.*

During these seven days, we will look for species such as **Green Shrike-Vireo**, **Brown-hooded Parrot**, **Blue Cotinga**, **Slaty-tailed Trogon**, **Northern Black-throated Trogon**, **White-tailed Trogon**, **Gartered Trogon**, **Black-breasted Puffbird**, **White-whiskered Puffbird**, **Collared Aracari**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, **Yellow-throated Toucan**, **Purple-throated Fruitcrow**,

American Pygmy Kingfisher, Semiplumbeous Hawk, Boat-billed Heron, Song Wren, Black-bellied Wren, Bay Wren, Ocellated Antbird, Spotted Antbird, Dot-winged Antwren, White-flanked Antwren, Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser, Grey-headed Chachalaca, Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Cinnamon Woodpecker, Southern Mealy Amazon, Blue Dacnis, Green Honeycreeper, Blue-crowned Manakin and Red-legged Honeycreeper. The hummingbird feeders attract species such as **White-necked Jacobin, Violet-bellied Hummingbird, Long-billed Hermit and Purple-crowned Fairy.**

In addition to birds, Panama offers some of the best chances to see other Neotropical wildlife such as **Brown-throated Sloth, Nine-banded Armadillo, White-nosed Coati, Central American Agouti, Geoffroy's Tamarin and Mantled Howler Monkey.**

Detailed Itinerary (7 days/6 nights)

Day 1. Arrival and transfer to Canopy Tower Lodge

You will arrive in Panama City, meet our Birding Ecotours tour leader and be transferred to the famous Canopy Tower Lodge. We will spend the afternoon enjoying the lodge surroundings and, if time permits, the Summit Ponds, looking for species such as the elusive **White-throated Crake, Boat-billed Heron, Wattled Jacana, Rufescent Tiger Heron and Purple Gallinule.** Other birds include **Lemon-rumped Tanager, Palm Tanager, Crimson-backed Tanager and Black-striped Sparrow.** We might also have our first mammal encounters here with **Lesser Capybara and Brown-throated Sloth.**

Overnight: Canopy Tower Lodge, (or similar) where we stay for the entire week



*We'll keep a lookout for army ant swarms, where we hope to find birds such as **Spotted Antbird.***

Day 2. Canopy Tower, Semaphore Hill and Summit Ponds

We will meet at the observation deck before dawn and while enjoying some coffee we will listen out for the early calls of **Barred** and **Slaty-backed Forest Falcons** emanating from the forest canopy and will also try to detect the secretive **Green Shrike-Vireo** and the beautiful **Blue Cotinga**. Other birds include **Southern Mealy** and **Red-lored Amazons**, **Brown-capped Tyrannulet**, **Collared Aracari** and the striking **Keel-billed Toucan**. After breakfast, we will bird the famous Semaphore Hill, looking for **Rufous** and **Broad-billed Motmots**, **Slaty-tailed Trogon**, **Semiplumbeous Hawk**, **Plain-colored** and **White-shouldered Tanagers**, **Fulvous-vented Euphonia** and **Green Honeycreeper**. Before lunch, we will check the hummingbird feeders around the lodge entrance, hopefully enjoying views of **Blue-chested Hummingbird**, **Violet-bellied Hummingbird**, **White-necked Jacobin** and **Snowy-bellied Hummingbird**.

Overnight: Canopy Tower Lodge (or similar)



*The localized **Blue Cotinga** can be seen in the forest around our lodge.*

Day 3. Discovery Tower and Pipeline Road

We will have a full day on the famous Pipeline Road, enjoying the incredible avian diversity as we add to our ever-growing list. Target birds include species like **Black-breasted Puffbird**, **White-tailed**, **Gartered** and **Northern Black-throated Trogons**, **Song Wren**, **Golden-collared Manakin**, **Purple-throated Fruitcrow**, **Great Jacamar** as well as **Fasciated** and **Black-crowned Antshrikes**. If we encounter any army ant swarms, we might see the striking **Ocellated Antbird** and also **Spotted** and **Bicolored Antbirds**, with **Northern Barred** and **Plain-brown Woodcreepers** hopefully in attendance too. We will visit some hummingbird feeders and perhaps be entertained by species such as **Long-billed** and **Stripe-throated Hermits**, **Crowned Woodnymph** and if we are lucky **Rufous-crested Coquette**.

Overnight: Canopy Tower Lodge (or similar)

Day 4. Pipeline Road and Canopy Tower Lodge

We will spend a full morning exploring the Pipeline Road in search of any species we may have missed during our previous day. We will have a relaxed, non-driving afternoon, enjoying birds close to the lodge from the observation deck or hummingbird feeders.

Overnight: Canopy Tower Lodge (or similar)

Days 5–6. Achiote Road and Canopy Tower Lodge

We will spend two full mornings exploring the famous Achiote Road looking for species such as **Slaty-tailed, White-tailed, Gartered and Northern Black-throated Trogon, Collared Aracari, Black-breasted Puffbird, Keel-billed Toucan, Yellow-throated Toucan, Black-cheeked Woodpecker, Cinnamon Woodpecker, Black-striped Woodcreeper, Spot-crowned Barbet, Red-capped Manakin, Golden-collared Manakin, Purple-throated Fruitcrow, Chestnut-backed Antbird, Spotted Antbird, Dot-winged Antwren, Southern Bentbill, Fasciated Antshrike, Jet Antbird, Black-bellied and Bay Wrens, Blue Cotinga, White-whiskered Puffbird, Rufous Motmot and Brown-hooded Parrot.** The afternoons will be spent enjoying relaxed birding around the lodge, from the observation deck or at Summit Ponds.

Overnight: Canopy Tower Lodge (or similar)



White-whiskered Puffbird will be searched for along the famous Achiote Road.

Day 7. Departure from Panama City

Today we will leave the Canopy Tower Lodge for Panama City's Tocumen International Airport, from where you can catch your connecting flights back home.

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 guide from the one advertised due to tour scheduling or other factors.

Tour Details

Duration:	7 days
Group size:	4–8
Dates:	03–09 December 2027
Start:	Panama City, Panama
End:	Panama City, Panama
Prices:	US\$ 4,125 per person sharing, assuming 6–8 participants (2027)
	US\$ 4,671 per person sharing, assuming 4–5 participants (2027)

Single supplements: US\$ 583 (2027)

Price includes:

Transfers from the airport to the lodge and back to the airport
Six nights of accommodation at the Canopy Tower Lodge
All meals (from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 7)
Snacks and some drinks
Unlimited bottled water in the tour vehicle, but not pricey bottled water from restaurants
Land transportation
Private Birding Ecotours leader
Local guides
Entrance and admission fees

Price excludes:

All flights
Trip cancellation and medical insurance
Laundry services
Drinks
Gratuities (please see our [tipping guidelines blog](#))