



FIJI AND SAMOA: PACIFIC BIRDING ADVENTURE

18–30 AUGUST 2027
24 AUGUST–05 SEPTEMBER 2028



The beautiful White-throated Fiji Whistler can be seen during our time on Kadavu.

Overview

The Pacific region contains hundreds of islands and includes numerous incredible birds. Our Pacific birding tour focuses on the endemics and specials of two island groups, Fiji (for ten days), and Samoa (for three days). This tour will offer an excellent introduction to the region, as well as being great for anyone who has birded in the Pacific but is yet to reach these wonderful and varied nations.

We will start our birding on the island nation of Fiji, where we will spend our time birding on Viti Levu, Taveuni, and Kadavu, three islands that will allow us a chance to find almost all the country's endemic birds, including the spectacular trio of **Orange Dove**, **Golden Dove**, and **Whistling Dove**. Aside from these star doves, we target over 25 other Fijian endemics, including all three species of colorful shining parrots, the interesting **Taveuni Silktail**, six endemic honeyeaters and some beautiful monarch flycatchers. Lots of other Fijian and Polynesian endemics are sure to be enjoyed too and we will make a special effort to look for the recently split **Fiji Island Thrush**, and **White-throated** and **Yellow-throated Fiji Whistlers**. During our time in Fiji, we will take a full-day pelagic boat trip to target some of the rare seabirds of this region, such as **Collared Petrel**, and hope to encounter the very little-known, and extremely rare, **Fiji Petrel**, a unique opportunity and one we are thrilled to be able to offer.



Orange Dove needs to be seen to be believed! What an incredible bird.

Once we've finished in Fiji, we continue to Samoa (formerly Western Samoa). We will focus on the endemics on the large island of Upolu, such as the prehistoric-looking **Mao** (a large honeyeater), **Flat-billed Kingfisher**, **Samoa Whistler**, **Samoa Flycatcher**, **Samoa**

Myzomela, and several other exciting species such as the near-endemic and beautiful **Blue-crowned Lorikeet**, of a genus endemic to Polynesia.

This is sure to be an epic birdwatching trip through some exciting Pacific islands and we look forward to showing you a range of unique and thrilling birds. For a more complete exploration of the southwest Pacific, consider combining this tour with our **New Caledonia: Kagu and Other Endemics** tour for a good chance of seeing the incredibly unique and exciting **Kagu**, plus the famous tool-using **New Caledonian Crow**, and truly stunning **Cloven-feathered Dove**, amongst many others!

Detailed Itinerary (13 days/12 nights)

Day 1. Arrival in Nadi, Fiji, and flight to the island of Taveuni

After your late-morning arrival to Nadi International Airport on Vitu Levu, Fiji's main island, we make the short transfer to the smaller Fijian island of Taveuni, our destination for the following three nights. We should have some time after our flight to bird around our hotel grounds where we will likely encounter some of the commoner Fijian species, including the colorful endemic **Collared Lory**, **Sulphur-breasted Myzomela**, and the near-endemic **Vanikoro Flycatcher**.

Overnight: Taveuni



*A common and widespread species in Fiji, **Collared Lory** could be one of the first members of this well-represented family we see on the tour.*

Days 2–3. Birding Taveuni, Fiji

For two days we visit various sites across Taveuni. Most of this time will be spent in the mountainous centre of the island, where we visit Des Voeux peak and Mount Manuka, to target the spectacular **Orange Dove**, **Taveuni Silktail** (a type of fantail), and **Azure-crested Flycatcher**, the latter two being endemics to this small island. Other range-restricted specials include **Maroon Shining Parrot**, **Fiji Wattled Honeyeater**, and **Yellow-billed Honeyeater**. We should start becoming familiar with some of the more widespread Fijian species, such as **Barking Imperial Pigeon**, **Fiji Goshawk**, **Polynesian Triller**, **Yellow-throated Fiji Whistler**, **Fiji Streaked Fantail**, **Fiji Woodswallow**, **Slaty Monarch**, **Fiji White-eye**, **Fiji Island Thrush**, and the secretive **Fiji Bush Warbler**, which are often easier to see on Taveuni compared to the other islands. It will be an exciting few days of birding, that's for sure.

We will also find time for some coastal birdwatching in the evenings, to target **Pacific Kingfisher** and some of the seabirds of this region, such as **Red-footed Booby**, **Brown Booby**, **Great Frigatebird**, **Lesser Frigatebird**, **Wedge-tailed Shearwater**, and **Bridled Tern**.

Overnight: Taveuni

Days 4–5. Birding Suva, Viti Levu, Fiji

Departing Taveuni in the morning, we fly to the island of Viti Levu to spend three nights in Suva, Fiji's capital city. For two days after our arrival on the island we will explore the forests of the Suva area, where most of our time will be spent within Colo-i-Suva National Park. Here we will seek our second beautiful dove, the **Golden Dove**, among other endemics restricted to this island, such as **Masked Shining Parrot**, **Giant Honeyeater**, and **Kikau**.

Colo-i-Suva is one of the most avian diverse sites in Fiji, and we should encounter many other Fijian and Polynesian specials here, such as **Chestnut-throated Flycatcher**, **Fiji Parrotfinch**, **Fiji White-eye**, **Polynesian Starling**, **Pacific Robin**, **Fiji Island Thrush**, **Slaty Monarch**, **Barking Imperial Pigeon**, **Collared Lory**, **Fiji Bush Warbler**, **Fiji Goshawk**, **Polynesian Triller**, **Black-throated Shrikebill**, **Fiji Shrikebill**, **Yellow-throated Fiji Whistler**, **Fiji Streaked Fantail** and if we're lucky, the aptly named **Shy Ground Dove**. We will also visit Suvi Basin among other sites, to target a duo of secretive and little-known endemics to Viti Levu – the **Pink-billed Parrotfinch**, and the recently rediscovered **Long-legged Thicketbird**. While these two species are rarely seen, we are working with those who rediscovered the thicketbird, so we will have the best chance of finding them.

Overnight: Suva



Kikau is a honeyeater with a limited global range.



Pacific Kingfisher can be found on Viti Levu and occasionally shows very well.

Day 6. Full day Fiji pelagic birding

Today we have a unique opportunity for a full-day pelagic birding trip in Fijian oceanic waters, heading to Gau Island, the only known breeding island of the Critically Endangered ([BirdLife International](#)) **Fiji Petrel**. While we would be very lucky to see this little-known and ultra-rare species, we will chum for other rare seabirds of this region, which include **Collared Petrel**, **Tahiti Petrel**, **Gould's Petrel**, **Polynesian Storm Petrel**, **Wilson's Storm Petrel**, **Wedge-tailed Shearwater**, and **Tropical Shearwater**, while being accompanied in our quest by **Sooty Tern**, **Bridled Tern**, **White Tern**, **Brown Noddy**, and **Black Noddy**. It is a rare opportunity to get onto the sea in this region, and while we don't expect to see all these species on every visit, there is always the chance of seeing something exciting.

Overnight: Suva



*The often confiding, **Kadavu Fantail** can be in the resort garden.*

Days 7–8. Birding Kadavu island, Fiji

We will take a mid-morning flight from Suva to Kadavu island, where we will take a boat to our secluded resort, for a peaceful two-night stay in paradise. That afternoon and the following day we will bird around Kadavu island from our resort, with the four most sought-after species, **Kadavu Honeyeater**, **Kadavu Fantail**, **Whistling Dove**, and **Crimson Shining Parrot**, all endemic to this small island and possible from our resort. We also look for the endemic **White-throated Fiji Whistler**, a recent split from **Yellow-throated Fiji Whistler**, alongside **Many-colored Fruit Dove**, **Polynesian Starling**, **Slaty Monarch**, **Collared Lory**, **Fiji Goshawk**, and

Fiji Shrikebill. Between birding we will have time to enjoy the peace of this tranquil spot, its pristine beaches, and diverse coral reefs just offshore.

Overnight: Kadavu

Day 9. Kadavu and flight to Suva

After a final morning birding on Kadavu, where we will target any of the four Kadavu endemics still at large, we will transfer by boat, then by plane, back to Suva.

Overnight: Suva

Day 10. Birding Suva, Viti Levu island, Fiji

Today we have a full day to revisit the Colo-i-Suva National Park, looking for any endemics that might still be missing. This will allow us time to thoroughly explore the diverse park and give us more chances of encountering the shy and often tricky species that inhabit this region, such as **Pink-billed Parrotfinch**, **Long-legged Thicketbird**, and **Shy Ground Dove**. We'll also concentrate on getting good views and photographs of some of Fiji's iconic birds, such as **Golden Dove** and **Masked Shining Parrot**, before we depart for Samoa.

Overnight: Suva



*We will look for **Fiji White-eye** while birding across the Fijian archipelago.*

Day 11. Flight to Upolu, Samoa

Today will mainly be a transfer day as we travel from Suva via Nadi International Airport, to Apia, the capital of Samoa on the island of Upolu. Here we will have an afternoon of birding near Apia, targeting the more widespread endemics, such as **Flat-billed Kingfisher**, **Samoan Starling**, **Samoan Whistler**, **Samoan Myzomela**, and **Samoan Fantail**. Several beautiful seabird species are common around the coast of the island, so we should get good views of the stunning **White-tailed Tropicbird**, alongside **Brown Noddy**, and **White Tern**.

Overnight: Apia



*The strikingly plumaged **Samoan Myzomela** can be found in Samoa.*

Day 12. Birding Upolu, Samoa

We will visit Malolo'leli reserve in our quest for the endemic **Mao** (a friarbird-like honeyeater) which is IUCN Red Listed as Endangered, using our expert local guides to help us find this rare species. Other endemics we target here include the unobtrusive **Samoan Flycatcher**, and **Samoan Triller**, and the beautiful **Red-headed Parrotfinch**. Aside from these endemics, we will target Polynesian specials, such as **Polynesian Wattled Honeyeater**, **Many-colored Fruit Dove**, the Samoan subspecies of **Crimson-crowned Fruit Dove**, and the beautiful, **Blue-crowned Lorikeet**. **Buff-banded Rail** are pleasantly common here, and we should see **Pacific Imperial Pigeon**, **Metallic Pigeon**, and **White-rumped Swiftlet**.

Overnight: Apia



Samoan Fantail is one of several endemics we should see while birding on Upolu.



Blue-crowned Lorikeet will be a special target while birding Samoa.

Day 13. Birding Upolu, Samoa before tour concludes and international departure

The final morning of the tour will be spent birding on Upolu, where we will target any remaining endemics and specials. The tour will end at midday with your international departure in the afternoon.

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

Tour Details

Duration:	13 days
Group size:	5–8
Dates:	18 – 30 August 2027 24 August – 05 September 2028
Start:	Nadi International Airport, Viti Levu, Fiji
End:	Apia International Airport, Upolu, Samoa
Prices:	USD \$8,125 per person sharing – based on 5–8 participants (2027) USD \$8,995 per person sharing – based on 5–8 participants (2028)

Single supplements: USD \$995 (2027)
USD \$1,145 (2028)

Price includes:

Expert tour leader and local guides
Meals (from dinner on Day 1 until breakfast on Day 13)
Accommodation based on two sharing (Day 1 to Day 12 as shown)
All entrance fees to national parks, nature reserves, etc.
All land-based transport and tolls while on tour
Pelagic boat trip while in Fiji
Airport and hotel transfers

Price excludes:

International flights to Nadi, Fiji, for the start of the tour
International flights from Apia, Samoa, at the end of the tour
Six international/domestic flights during the tour (Nadi to Taveuni, Taveuni to Suva, Suva to Kadavu, Kadavu to Suva, Suva to Nadi, and Nadi to Apia) – allow between US\$1,000 - US\$1,750 per person (based on 2025 estimated costs)
Items of a personal nature, e.g. gifts,
Alcoholic drinks
Personal insurance
Gratuities (please see our [tipping guidelines blog](#))