

BIRD TREKS

GASPÉ PENINSULA of QUEBEC & COASTAL NEW BRUNSWICK for *Boreal Nesters, Seabirds & Whales*

Dates Thursday, 5 July through Thursday, 12 July 2012: 8 days and 7 nights

We'll visit **Bonaventure Island**, home of **30,000 pairs of Northern Gannets**, many other nesting seabirds, and a nice variety of warblers and finches.

Percé Rock, repository of **four million fossils** and home to a large nesting colony of **Great Cormorants** and **alcids**. Plus, an exciting **whale watch boat ride** from Percé.

An incredible variety of habitats ranging from vast coastal wetlands to pristine salmon rivers.

Some of our target species include . . .

Northern Gannet	Alder Flycatcher
Great Cormorant	Gray Jay
American Bittern	Common Raven
Common Eider	Boreal Chickadee
Common Goldeneye	Philadelphia Vireo
Harlequin Duck	20+ nesting warblers such as
Bald Eagle	Tennessee
Merlin	Nashville
Spruce Grouse	Cape May
Ruffed Grouse	Blackpoll
Sora	Mourning
Wilson's Snipe	Wilson's
Black-legged Kittiwake	Nelson's Sparrow
Common Murre	Fox Sparrow
Razorbill	Lincoln's Sparrow
Black Guillemot	Pine Grosbeak
Short-eared Owl	White-winged Crossbill
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Pine Siskin
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Evening Grosbeak

We'll also search for . . .

Northern Goshawk	Northern Saw-whet Owl
Golden Eagle	Black-backed Woodpecker
Glaucous Gull	Bicknell's Thrush
Yellow Rail	Red Crossbill
Atlantic Puffin	Common Redpoll



We'll see **Northern Gannets** nesting on Bonaventure Island, 30,000 of them!
- - Ron Simpson, tour participant

A complete species list from our previous **GASPÉ TOURS** is available upon request.

Click here to see a **map of the tour route**:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&ll=48.741701,-65.181885&spn=2.713225,7.141113&z=8&msid=117812928873209532533.00046075262f5ffbea13b>

GASPÉ PENINSULA & COASTAL NEW BRUNSWICK

5 - 12 July 2012

DAY

AGENDA

- 1 Plan to arrive at the Moncton, New Brunswick Airport during the afternoon. We'll bird the vast wetlands and grasslands at the mouth of the Tantramar River, searching for such varied species as **Mourning Warbler**, **Nelson's Sparrow**, **Short-eared Owl**, and **Sora**, with a chance for the elusive **Yellow Rail**. Overnight near Sackville.
- 2 We will spend a good part of the day at Kouchibouguac National Park in coastal New Brunswick. It is a beautiful area that contains varied habitats including ocean, salt and freshwater marshes, bogs, and boreal coniferous forest. Birds that we may see include **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, **Gray Jay**, **Boreal Chickadee**, and many warblers including **Blackburnian** and **Bay-breasted**. There is a small nesting colony of **Piping Plovers** on the outer beach: on our most recent tour we had good looks at several of these diminutive shorebirds. Past visits have yielded **Coyote** and **Porcupine**. We'll drive on to Campbellton at the head of Chaleur Bay, on the New Brunswick side, across from the Gaspé Peninsula. This is where we will spend the night.
- 3 After we enter Quebec (and change our clocks), there is a large tern colony at Carleton that contains **Common Terns** and often lots of **shorebirds** and **gulls**. The south shore of the Gaspé Peninsula abounds with great scenery, an occasional **King Eider**, and all three species of **scoters**. We could easily see a **whale or two** as we drive along the coast. We'll stop to enjoy one of the many crystal clear salmon streams, with a chance for **Wilson's Snipe** and **Canada Warbler**. The view from the overlook above the town of Percé is spectacular! We will spend our next three nights in Percé at the eastern end of the Gaspé Peninsula.
- 4 An experienced local captain will take us on a morning boat ride around Percé Rock, then sail on to Bonaventure Island where we'll spend the day. And what a day it will be: **Northern Gannets** at our feet, **Black-legged Kittiwakes** overhead, and **Common Murres** and **Razorbills** coming and going from the nesting cliffs. **Atlantic Puffin** and **Harlequin Duck** are possible, as are **Gray Seal**, **Finback Whale**, and **Humpback Whale**. Among the songbirds we'll look for **Philadelphia Vireo**, **Winter Wren**, **Mourning Warbler**, and **White-winged Crossbill**. Vagrants to Bonaventure are impressive: **Rock Ptarmigan**, **Say's Phoebe**, **Dickcissel**, and **Lark Sparrow** are just a few. Our second night in Percé.

[Day 5 begins on page 3]

- 5 Areas near Percé contain many wonderful species including **Pine Grosbeak**, **Lincoln's Sparrow**, **Fox Sparrow**, **Boreal Chickadee**, and lots of **warblers**. **Bicknell's Thrush** breeds at the top of Mount Saint Anne; we'll try to find one. Barachois Marsh has winnowing **Wilson's Snipe** and we've found as many as three species of **whales** feeding together at Point Saint Pierre. We will plan on an afternoon whale watch boat trip out of Percé. Our third and final night in Percé.
- 6 The Gaspé fish hatchery has lots of interesting songbirds including **Philadelphia Vireo**, **Palm Warbler**, **Cape May Warbler**, and **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**. As we drive through Forillon National Park we'll look for a feeder full of **Evening Grosbeaks**, a female **Spruce Grouse** with her chicks, and a **Merlin** strafing a flock of **Pine Siskins**. The view from the top of Cap des Rosiers is well worth the hike. We'll drive west through Murdochville to the Chic-Choc Mountains and spend two luxurious nights at Gîte du Mont Albert.
- 7 We are now at the northeastern terminus of the Appalachian Mountains. Areas above tree line are home to **Common Redpoll**, **American Pipit**, **Horned Lark**, and **Woodland Caribou**. Lower altitudes are good for **Ruffed Grouse**, **American Three-toed Woodpecker**, **Gray Jay**, and **Blackpoll Warbler**, with a chance for **Boreal Owl**. **Moose** are regular in this area, especially at Lake Paul. A second luxurious night at Mont Albert.
- 8 Today is mostly a travel day back to Moncton. Any extra time will be used for birding stops, perhaps at **Kouchibouguac** or **Tantramar Marsh**. This spectacular tour will end at Moncton Airport for our mid-afternoon flights home.

[Final details are on page 4]



The village of Percé, as viewed from Mount Ste. Anne - - **FANTASTIC!** - - Bob Schutsky

SPECIAL NOTE ! This tour is co-sponsored by **Bird Treks** and **Connecticut Audubon Society (CAS) EcoTravel**. Representatives from both groups have worked together to give you the best possible itinerary and logistics. **Bob Schutsky**, owner of **Bird Treks**, will be the primary tour leader. **CAS EcoTravel** will provide the second highly qualified leader should the number of participants require it. Please join **Bob, Bird Treks, and Connecticut Audubon Society EcoTravel** in this wonderful adventure into New Brunswick and Quebec!

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Leader Our Gaspé Peninsula & Coastal New Brunswick breeding bird tour will be led by **Bob Schutsky**, who will give you a wonderful tour of this incredibly beautiful area on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Bob has birded the Gaspé Peninsula many times. Connecticut Audubon will provide a second leader if the number of participants warrants.

Price \$2945 per person based upon double occupancy and a minimum of five participants. Single accommodations are available at an extra charge of \$425.

Includes Expert guide service, lodging for seven nights, **ALL meals**, boat and ferry rides, entrance fees, and ground transportation from Moncton, New Brunswick. **ALL tips** are also included in the tour fee, except for anything that you may wish to give to your tour leader(s) and boat crew.
Does not include the cost of airfare to and from Moncton, New Brunswick. **BIRD TREKS** will, upon request, help you obtain the best possible airfare. Also not included are the cost of alcoholic beverages and items of a personal nature.

Extra Services We offer the services of our exclusive Bird Treks travel agent, **Lori Heathcote**, in arranging your air travel. Lori has 26 years of experience in the travel industry and is a veteran birder. Contact her through Bailey Travel at **1-800-224-5399**, or you can e-mail her at **lori@baileytravel.com**. By dealing with Lori you have the security of a 24-hour toll-free telephone number in case of any travel emergency. She can also assist you with all pre- and post-tour travel plans. There may be a fee for these services.

Deposit A \$600 deposit will assure your reservation on the tour. The balance is due 5 May 2012.

Refund and Cancellation Policy With written notice more than 60 days prior to the first day of the tour, 100% of your deposit will be refunded, minus a \$75 service fee. With 30-60 days notice, you will receive a 50% refund of the full cost of the tour. No refund can be made with less than 30 days notice. You will receive a full refund if you provide a replacement for your spot on the tour. No partial refund can be given once the tour begins. We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** that you purchase trip cancellation insurance to protect your investment. Contact **Allianz Global Assistance** (formerly Access America) and mention **BIRD TREKS ACCAM # F021096**. You can apply via the Internet at **www.allianztravelinsurance.com** or by phone at **1-800-284-8300**.

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