

# BIRD TREKS

## MONTAUK POINT & THE SOUTH SHORE OF LONG ISLAND, NY

**Dates** Thursday, 2 November through Tuesday, 7 November 2017: 6 days & 5 nights

**We'll visit** **Montauk Point**, at the extreme eastern end of **Long Island**. It's like birding in the Atlantic Ocean, from dry land!

The village of **Montauk** with its beautiful harbor, fishing boats, and quaint New England flavor.

**Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Point Lookout, Jones Beach, and Shinnecock Inlet** along the South Shore of Long Island.

### Target birds that we will search for include . . .

Red-throated Loon	Peregrine Falcon
Red-necked Grebe	American Oystercatcher
Northern Gannet	Purple Sandpiper
Great Cormorant	Iceland Gull
American Bittern	Lesser Black-backed Gull
Surf Scoter	Razorbill
Common Eider	Black Guillemot
Long-tailed Duck	Short-eared Owl
Harlequin Duck	Northern Shrike
Northern Harrier	Lapland Longspur
Merlin	Snow Bunting

### We could also encounter **RARITIES** such as . . .

Eurasian Wigeon	Snowy Owl
Barrow's Goldeneye	Northern Saw-whet Owl
Marbled Godwit	Western Kingbird
Black-headed Gull	Orange-crowned Warbler
Black-legged Kittiwake	Clay-colored Sparrow
Dovekie	Lark Sparrow
Common Murre	Red Crossbill
Thick-billed Murre	White-winged Crossbill



**Dickcissel** is one of many vagrants that we may find  
*Tom Amico, tour participant*

[Days 1 through 5 are on page 2]

# MONTAUK POINT, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

2 - 7 NOVEMBER 2017

- | <u>Day</u> | <u>Agenda</u>  |
|------------|--|
| 1          | This morning we will depart from Lancaster PA, then proceed to our first motel near JFK International Airport in Queens, Long Island, NY. Participants that joined me in Lancaster, or that arrive at the JFK motel by early afternoon, will be treated to some great birding at nearby Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (JBWR). We all return to the motel for dinner and our first night on Long Island. [ ** See page 4 for more details about the meeting locations.]   |
| 2          | This morning we will return to JBWR, as it has much to offer. Some of the target birds there include <b>Eurasian Wigeon, Brant, Northern Saw-whet Owl</b> , and late <b>shorebirds</b> and <b>herons</b> . There is sometimes a <b>Tufted Duck</b> in the NYC area. We'll bird our way east on Long Island, looking for <b>sea ducks, gulls, falcons, and bitterns</b> . We'll dine at the Shagwong Restaurant and spend the first of three nights in the village of Montauk.  |
| 3          | After a hearty breakfast at Mr. John's Pancake House, we'll enjoy the maritime scenery, <b>Harbor Seals</b> , and thousands of <b>ducks</b> at famed Montauk Point. Migrant seabirds may include <b>shearwaters, kittiwakes, and alcids</b> . <b>Parasitic Jaegers</b> may be seen close to shore. Montauk has a great reputation for <b>western vagrants</b> that may include <b>sparrows, warblers, flycatchers</b> , and such incredible finds as a <b>Dickcissel</b> or <b>Lark Sparrow</b> . Dinner at O'Murphy's Pub, on-the-green in Montauk. Our second night in Montauk.  |
| 4          | We have another full day at Montauk Point to search for <b>King Eider</b> among the numerous <b>Common Eiders, Razorbill, Black-legged Kittiwake</b> , and additional <b>pelagic species</b> . Songbirds may include <b>Baltimore Oriole, Blue-headed Vireo, Nashville Warbler</b> , or a flock of <b>Red Crossbills</b> . The woods at the recycling center often have large numbers of <b>Hermit Thrushes</b> , one or two lingering <b>warblers</b> , and perhaps a <b>Clay-colored Sparrow</b> . We may find an <b>unusual gull</b> such as <b>Little, Black-headed, or Iceland</b> in the Montauk Harbor. Hopefully there will be a rarity to chase. Previously we have observed <b>Northern Lapwing, Varied Thrush, Sandhill Crane, Pink-footed Goose, and Yellow-billed Loon</b> . These are very impressive finds from our previous tours. Our final night in Montauk. |
| 5          | As we drive west toward New York City, we'll look for <b>American Bittern</b> along Dune Road at Shinnecock, <b>rare gulls</b> at Sagaponack Pond, and <b>Snowy Owl</b> at Jones Beach. Point Lookout is renowned for its <b>Harlequin Ducks</b> , an occasional <b>Eared Grebe</b> , and a nice flock of <b>Bonaparte's Gulls</b> that has produced <b>Little, Black-headed</b> , and even an extremely rare <b>Ross's Gull</b> in past years. Our next stop will be decided upon according to the local bird reports. We'll spend our final night near Jamaica Bay.  |

[Day 6 is on page 3]

6 We'll have some of the morning to return to **Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge** for more **songbirds, waterfowl**, and another opportunity for **Northern Saw-whet Owl** and **crossbills**. The possibilities there are almost endless. If time allows, we'll visit nearby **Fort Tilden, Breezy Point**, or the **Gateway National Recreation Area**. These areas often hold a vagrant or two, and provide good vantage points for scoping seabirds. We'll return to JFK for your afternoon flights home, then make the 3 to 4-hour drive to Lancaster, PA, where the tour ends.

A map of the tour route and areas to be visited can be viewed by clicking on:

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=215986731009322774066.000462e850c17824efffd&msa=0&ll=41.335576,-72.630615&spn=2.408706,4.938354>

A checklist of previous tours can be viewed at:

<http://www.birdtreks.com/birds-previously-seen/NYLINOV.pdf>

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**Leader** Bird Treks' late autumn Montauk Tour will be led by **Bob Schutsky**, who is familiar with all of the good Long Island locations and has birded this area many times.

**Price** \$2085 per person based upon double occupancy. Single accommodations are available for an extra charge of \$345. We will take a maximum of seven participants. On rare occasion we may extend the maximum to ten participants.

**Includes** Expert guide service, entrance fees, ALL meals, all tips except to your guide, lodging for five nights, all ground transportation from PA or NY, and lots of great birds.

Does not include the cost of alcoholic beverages, anything extra that you may wish to give to your guide/driver, or 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 32 years of experience in the travel industry. Contact her at Bailey Travel/Travel Time toll-free at **1-800-224-5399**, direct at **717-855-2128**, or e-mail her at **lori@trvltime.com**. By dealing with Lori you have the security of a 24-hour toll-free phone number in case of any travel emergency. She can also assist you with all pre- and post-tour travel plans. There is a small fee for these services.

**Deposit** A \$500 deposit assures your reservation on the Montauk Tour. The balance is due 2 September 2017.

*[More information is on page 4]*



Harlequin Ducks always bring a smile!  
- - Tom Amico, tour participant

**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. 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** and mention **BIRD TREKS, ACCAM # F021096**. You can apply via the Internet at [www.allianztravelinsurance.com](http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com) or by phone at **1-866-884-3556**.

\*\* There are two Thursday morning (2 November) pick-up points. The first is the DoubleTree Resort, just south of Lancaster, PA at about 8 AM. Or, we will pick you up early in the afternoon at our motel near JFK International Airport in Queens, New York if you are arriving by plane. This motel will be selected at a later date.