

# BIRD TREKS

## OREGON & NORTHERN CALIFORNIA *Klamath Basin & Coastal Hotspots*

**Dates** Thursday, 5 October through Saturday, 14 October 2017: 10 days and 9 nights

**We'll visit** Great coastal locations including Yaquina Bay, Newport, Boiler Bay, Seal Rock, and Siletz Bay for masses of seabirds, plus Sauvie Island on the Columbia River.

A full day pelagic trip with *Tim Shelmerdine and Oregon Pelagic Tours* to **Perpetua Bank**, which hosts the highest concentration of seabirds on the Oregon coast. One year we saw **THREE** species of Albatross!

The **Klamath Basin** in Oregon and **Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge** in northern California, for lots of waterfowl, raptors, and specialties such as **Clark's Grebe** and the unique **White-headed Woodpecker**.

Some of the many species that we hope to see include . . .

Red-throated Loon  
Pacific Loon  
Eared Grebe  
Western Grebe  
Clark's Grebe  
Black-footed Albatross  
Northern Fulmar  
Buller's Shearwater  
Sooty Shearwater  
American White Pelican  
Brandt's Cormorant  
Pelagic Cormorant  
Greater White-fronted Goose  
Cinnamon Teal  
Golden Eagle  
California Quail  
Sandhill Crane  
Marbled Godwit  
Long-billed Dowitcher  
Red-necked Phalarope  
Red Phalarope  
Pomarine Jaeger  
California Gull



We will look for the rare  
**Great Gray Owl.**  
- - *Randy Miller*

Sabine's Gull  
Common Murre  
Pigeon Guillemot  
Cassin's Auklet  
Rhinceros Auklet  
Western Screech-Owl  
Great Horned Owl  
Lewis's Woodpecker  
Red-breasted Sapsucker  
Williamson's Sapsucker  
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker  
White-headed Woodpecker  
Gray Jay  
Clark's Nutcracker  
Mountain Chickadee  
American Dipper  
Mountain Bluebird  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Wrentit  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Townsend's Warbler  
Golden-crowned Sparrow  
Yellow-headed Blackbird

*[Day 1 begins on page 2]*

# OREGON & NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

## Klamath Basin & the Pacific Coast

5 - 14 October 2017

### DAY

### AGENDA

- 1 Plan to arrive at Portland International Airport by early afternoon. Participants often prefer to arrive in Portland a day early, just in case of a flight delay. We'll work our way toward the coast with our first planned stop being Tillamook Bay and Bayocean Spit, one of the prime birding areas in the Pacific Northwest. We should be able to find a nice assortment of Pacific **seabirds**, **shorebirds**, and **waterfowl**, and then head south to spend the night in Lincoln City.
  
- 2 Most of our day will be devoted to searching for coastal species, many of which will be different from those that we'll see on tomorrow's pelagic trip. Siletz Bay should yield some of our expected **loons** and **cormorants**. Lingered **shorebirds** congregate at Drift Creek, a great location to search for **Baird's Sandpiper** and **Marbled Godwit**. A flock of **Pectoral Sandpipers** could yield a big bonus, the rare **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**. Boiler Bay is good for **Black Oystercatcher**, **Marbled Murrelet**, **Common Murre**, and any number of pelagic species. We will make several stops around Yaquina Bay in Newport to look for **Harlequin Duck**, 'jetty' **shorebirds**, **Western Grebe**, and flocks of **scoters** and other **sea ducks**. We'll also search for the elusive **Wrentit**. This area yielded an unusual **Palm Warbler** on a previous tour. Our second night in Lincoln City.
  
- 3 The entire day will be spent at sea with Tim Shelmerdine and Oregon Pelagic Tours. Our offshore destination is Perpetua Bank. Tim says: "We have refined our route and timing to detect the most species and highest number of birds, including albatrosses and rarities. **Albatrosses** will include **Black-footed**, and possibly **Laysan** and others. We encounter commercial fishing boats frequently that attract hundreds, and even thousands of seabirds, which we leisurely scrutinize at point blank range! Marine animals, including whales, dolphins, seals, sharks, and other fish are often spotted. Our expert seabird guides help you spot and identify all the birds and marine life that we encounter. Your fantastic bird watching trip starts in Yaquina Bay with abundant waterbirds and the chance for rocky-type shorebirds on the jetties. Then, on our large, comfortable charter vessel, you move along shore briefly, viewing **Marbled Murrelets**, **Pigeon Guillemots**, and other near shore specialties, including **Gray Whales**. Soon we're heading offshore, while your guides point out pelagic birds flying by or sitting on the water ahead. Our first chum stop is on the shelf break, 27 miles off Newport. After we're satisfied here we head south 15 miles to the seaward slope of the Perpetua Bank sea mount. At this outstanding underwater feature we'll again use chum to attract albatrosses and other seabirds right up to the boat for you to observe and photograph!" What a day! We will return to a good dinner and a restful night at the same motel in Lincoln City. [NOTE: We may have to adjust our tour schedule slightly to accommodate any change in the pelagic trip schedule.]

*[Day 4 begins on page 3]*

4 Our morning starts along the coast, returning to some intriguing areas visited on Friday and stopping at a few new ones. Seal Rock State Park is our most reliable location to look for **Surfbird** and **Wandering Tattler**, plus **sea ducks** and **gulls**, and pods (herds) of **Harbor Seals** and **Sea Lions**. Then we turn inland toward Eugene and an afternoon at Fern Ridge Lake. Raptors may include **Cooper's Hawk**, **Rough-legged Hawk**, and **White-tailed Kite**, with the chance of a **Short-eared Owl** quartering over the grasslands. We'll look for **shorebirds**, **rails**, and **bitterns** in nearby marshlands and mudflats, and check the hedgerows for **Golden-crowned Sparrows** and perhaps an **Orange-crowned Warbler** and **Bewick's Wren**. Overnight in Eugene.

5 Our first stop is majestic Crater Lake, Oregon's only National Park. This will give us our best opportunity for high elevation species such as **Gray Jay**, **Clark's Nutcracker**, and **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch**. A past tour yielded **Say's Phoebe**, **Prairie Falcon**, and a flock of **Evening Grosbeaks**. Lodgepole and pine-hemlock forests contain **Sooty Grouse**, **Black-backed** and **American Three-toed Woodpeckers**, **Steller's Jay**, **Mountain Chickadee**, and **Townsend's Solitaire**. Extensive Ponderosa Pine stands to the south are home to **White-headed Woodpecker**, **Williamson's Sapsucker**, **Pygmy Nuthatch**, and **Red Crossbill**. Today's birding may not be easy, but the birds that we find will be very rewarding. Our night is in Klamath Falls.



**Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels**  
usually find US!  
- - John Puschock

6 Today we explore Upper Klamath Lake and Fort Klamath, with their forests, fields, and beautiful streams. This is one of the best areas in North America to see large numbers of **waterfowl** and **raptors**; nearly 350 species of birds have been identified here. The weather can be expected to be beautiful, with 300 days of sunshine annually. We will make a special effort for the magnificent **Great Gray Owl**: there are several especially good areas near Fort Klamath for this majestic species. We **heard one** and then had **close looks** at a second one on a previous tour. You can expect **Mountain Bluebird**, **White-headed Woodpecker**, **California Quail**, and **Ruffed Grouse**. Overnight in Klamath Falls.

7 Today we make the short drive south to Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Lake NWRs in northern California. There are so many varied habitats that the birding opportunities are almost endless. You will probably see larger numbers of waterfowl today than you have ever seen in your life! New species that we may find include **Black-crowned Night-Heron**, **Tricolored Blackbird**, **Western Meadowlark**, **Clark's Grebe**, **Ferruginous Hawk**, and **Sandhill Crane**. We may find **Canyon Wren** and **Rock Wren** on the same rocky cliff, with **Townsend's Solitaire**, **Loggerhead Shrike**, and **Yellow-headed Blackbird** nearby. Our third night in Klamath Falls.

*[Day 8 is on page 4]*

- 8 We'll have part of the day for more exploration in this incredible area, looking for any species that may have eluded us during the past few days, perhaps **Lesser Goldfinch** or a difficult woodpecker. Then it will be time to drive north to Portland with stops at Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge along the way. Ankeny NWR is always on the agenda for **Acorn Woodpecker**, **Cinnamon Teal**, and **Greater White-fronted Goose**. Overnight in Portland.
- 9 **Sauvie Island** in the Columbia River is just a short drive from Portland. Past highlights here have included hundreds of **Sandhill Cranes**, thousands of **waterfowl** of many species, a wonderful variety of **songbirds**, and often **Merlin** and **Rough-legged Hawk**. We'll have the entire day to explore Sauvie and several additional areas along the Columbia River. The final night of the tour is in Portland.
- 10 We'll shuttle to the Portland International Airport for our flights home.

The tour map is available by clicking on:

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1GUG5W-7EYPb\\_C8rc\\_apdAc3-0ro](https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1GUG5W-7EYPb_C8rc_apdAc3-0ro)

The checklist from previous Oregon tours is available at:

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

\*\*\* If you wish to explore a brand new area, please consider our 4-day extension to the extreme **NORTHWEST CORNER OF OREGON**, including Fort Stevens, Clatsop Spit, and the mouth of the Columbia River. See the separate itinerary for complete details. \*\*\*



We often get very close looks at **Black-footed Albatross**. They love chum! - - Jason Horn

*[Final details are on page 5]*

**Leader** The leader of the **Klamath Basin and Coastal Oregon Tour** has yet to be selected. Your leader will be quite familiar with the birds of Oregon and northern California, and will give you a wonderful tour of this incredibly beautiful portion of the Pacific Northwest.

**Price** \$3195 per person, based upon double occupancy. Single accommodations are available at an extra charge of \$535. These figures are approximate, but should be very close to the final tour fee and single supplement. We will take a maximum of seven participants. On rare occasion we may extend the maximum to ten participants. See our separate itinerary for the details and price of **Oregon's Clatsop Spit Extension**.

**Includes** Expert guide service, lodging for all nine nights, **ALL meals** for the entire tour, entrance fees, pelagic trip, and ground transportation within Oregon and into California. **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 Portland, Oregon. BIRD TREKS will, upon request, gladly help you obtain the best possible airfare. Also not included are the costs 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 32 years of experience in the travel industry and is a veteran birder. 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 telephone number in case of any travel emergency. She can also assist you with all pre- and post-tour travel plans. There will be a small fee for these services.

**Deposit** A \$700 deposit will assure your reservation on this great tour. The balance is due 5 August 2017.



We'll look for Tufted Puffin  
on our full day at sea.  
- - John Puschock

**Refund & 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** and mention **BIRD TREKS, ACCAM # F021096**. You can easily apply via the Internet at **www.allianztravelinsurance.com**, or apply by phone at **1-866-884-3556**.

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