

# BIRD TREKS

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

**Dates** Sunday, 9 July through Sunday, 16 July 2017: 8 days and 7 nights

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

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 that leaves from the quaint village of Percé.

An incredible variety of habitats ranging from vast coastal wetlands, to pristine salmon rivers, and the northeastern terminus of the Appalachian Mountains.

### 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	Breeding 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 at:  
<http://www.birdtreks.com/birds-previously-seen/QUGA.pdf>

Click here to see a **map of the tour route**:  
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1KUOeFAWtSqfrmL6XBuaMR1gSGYU>

## **GASPÉ PENINSULA & COASTAL NEW BRUNSWICK**

**9 - 16 July 2017**

<b><u>DAY</u></b>	<b><u>AGENDA</u></b>
1	Plan to arrive at the Moncton, New Brunswick Airport during the afternoon. As time permits, we'll bird the vast wetlands and grasslands at the mouth of the Tantramar River, searching for such varied species as <b>Mourning Warbler</b> , <b>Nelson's Sparrow</b> , <b>Short-eared Owl</b> , and <b>Sora</b> , with a chance for the highly elusive <b>Yellow Rail</b> . Overnight near Sackville.
2	We will spend a good part of the day at Kouchibouguac National Park in coastal New Brunswick. This 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 <b>Olive-sided Flycatcher</b> , <b>Gray Jay</b> , <b>Boreal Chickadee</b> , and many warblers including <b>Blackburnian</b> and <b>Bay-breasted</b> . There is a small nesting colony of <b>Piping Plovers</b> on the outer beach: on a previous tour we had good looks at several of these diminutive shorebirds. Past visits have also yielded <b>Coyote</b> and <b>Porcupine</b> . 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 <b>Common Terns</b> and often lots of <b>shorebirds</b> and <b>gulls</b> . The south shore of the Gaspé Peninsula abounds with great scenery, an occasional <b>eider</b> , and all three species of <b>scoters</b> . We could easily see a <b>whale or two</b> as we drive along the coast. We'll stop to enjoy one of the many crystal clear salmon streams, with a chance for <b>Wilson's Snipe</b> and <b>Canada Warbler</b> . 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: <b>Northern Gannets</b> at our feet, <b>Black-legged Kittiwakes</b> overhead, and <b>Common Murres</b> and <b>Razorbills</b> coming and going from the nesting cliffs. <b>Atlantic Puffin</b> and <b>Harlequin Duck</b> are possible, as are <b>Gray Seal</b> , <b>Finback Whale</b> , and <b>Humpback Whale</b> . Among the songbirds we'll look for <b>Philadelphia Vireo</b> , <b>Winter Wren</b> , <b>Mourning Warbler</b> , and <b>White-winged Crossbill</b> . Vagrants to Bonaventure are impressive: <b>Dickcissel</b> and <b>Lark Sparrow</b> are just two that have been found here. 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 do our best to see and hear 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 Nearby habitats have 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, or 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 Gite 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 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 **Sackville Water Park**. This spectacular tour will end at Moncton Airport for our mid-afternoon flights home.

*[More details are on page 4]*

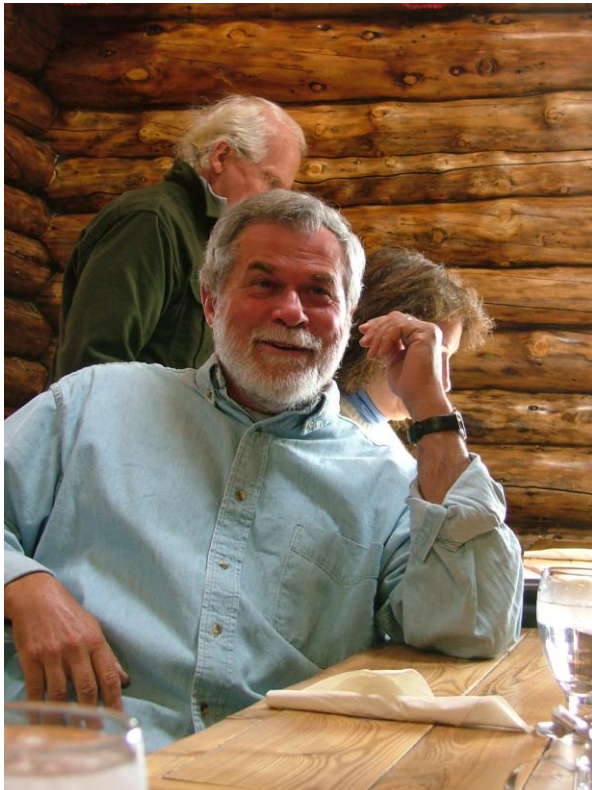


The Village of Percé, as viewed from Mount Ste. Anne - - **FANTASTIC!** - - Bob Schutsky

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## Leader

Our Gaspé Peninsula & Coastal New Brunswick breeding bird tour is scheduled to be led by **Bob Schutsky**, who will give you a wonderful tour of this incredibly beautiful area on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Bob is the founder of Bird Treks and leads many of the scheduled tours. He has been an active birder for 44 years. He has birded throughout the United States, parts of Canada, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Kenya, Philippines, and Spain. His birding career began in 1972 with an ornithology course at the University of Miami in Florida from which he graduated with a BS in Biology. Much of his work for the next 20 years as an environmental consultant involved the identification, study, and censusing of birds. He recently completed a 15-year shorebird migration survey on the lower Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. He taught bird identification classes at several local schools and universities. He initiated and organized the Southern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Christmas Bird Count, wrote a bird column for the Lancaster, PA Sunday News, and helped to coordinate, compile, and author the “Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania”. He wrote portions of “A Guide to the Birds of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania” and held former Pennsylvania Big Year and Big Day records. Birds and the love of nature are his life pursuits, and Bob thrives on sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm with others. Bob lives near the shore of the Susquehanna River in Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania, with his wife Nancy.



**Bob Schutsky**  
- - photo by Mary Brenner

*[Final details are on page 5]*

**Price** \$4095 per person based upon double occupancy. Single accommodations are available at an extra charge of \$515. Prices are approximate. We will take a maximum of seven participants. On rare occasion we may extend the maximum to ten participants.

**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 leaders 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 32 years of experience in the travel industry and is a veteran birder. Contact her through Bailey Travel-Travel Time at **1-800-224-5399**, or you can e-mail her at: **lori@baileytravel.com**. Lori's direct phone line is **717-855-2128**. 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 \$900 deposit will assure your reservation on the tour. The balance is due 9 May 2017.

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

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