

Southeast Arizona Birding & Wine Tour

November 7 - 10, 2014

Enjoy the perfect pairing of birds and wine

Join us in Southeast Arizona at the enchanting Casa de San Pedro, to experience an excellent blend of birding, cuisine, and wine.

Southeast Arizona hosts a fascinating array of birds in winter, especially raptors and cranes. Uncover the secrets behind these mysterious birds.

The wines of this region have grown in sophistication, quality, and popularity. The new Flying Leap Winery is featured in this November tour

Incredible Birding

You'll delight in the pageantry of scores of Sandhill Cranes, which now number in the tens of thousands. The cranes rest at Whitewater Draw, fanning out in fields of corn stubble and into natural grasslands. In wetlands and short-grass fields, they are joined by wintering shorebirds, Long-billed Curlews and perhaps rare Mountain Plovers.

Magnificent Raptors

Southeast Arizona is one of North America's richest wintering grounds for raptors. During this exciting weekend you'll learn about the ecological factors that made this area a magnet for hawks, eagles, and falcons. Birds prey on enormous numbers of wintering sparrows

and the abundant rodents drawn in by nearby farms.

We'll focus on observing raptor's behavior, habitat, ecology, and food sources. Explore areas where raptors' prey congregate including wetlands, agricultural fields, native riparian and grassland habitats, and even local feeders that attract prey.



Casa de San Pedro's elegant courtyard.

Diverse Wine

For experienced vinologists, tasting wines is much like a birdwatching, as they enjoy learning the intricacies of different vintages and varieties.

We've worked with experts to carefully weave local wines into this tour. You'll take in scintillating aromas, robust grapes, and subtle flavors.

Southeast Arizona is host to a remarkable number of varieties including Grenache

Noir, Sanguisive, Marsanne, and Malaysia Bianca. These grapes thrive in Arizona's clay sandy-loam soil and arid climate.

We'll discover these special grapes at several locations, most notably Flying Leap Winery. Vineyards feature tens of thousands of vines on gentle hills in the Dos Cabezas Mountains. Sample Flying Leaps' unique wines in their tasting room while learning about wine production, selection processes, and wine history.

Contact us at info@naturalistjourneys.com or call 866.900.1146. Cost is \$950 DBL and \$1195 SGL.

Itinerary

Friday, November 7

Arrive at your leisure and settle in at Casa de San Pedro. Enjoy local birding and indulge in hors d'oeuvres and wine followed by dinner.

Saturday, November 8

Spot raptors at Sulphur Springs Valley. Explore Wilcox Playa. Discover the region's kaleidoscope of wines at Flying Leap Winery. Authentic Mexican dinner by Elvia at the Casa.

Sunday, November 9

Explore the vibrant Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area. Enjoy Bald Eagles and hard to find Short, Long eared and Great Horned Owl. Conclude with a wine pairing dinner with Chef Rod Kass of Bisbee's Cafe Roka.

Monday, November 10

Admire the Huachuca Mountains' prime raptor grounds with Northern Goshawk and others at Fort Huachuca.

COST OF THE JOURNEY

Cost of tour is \$950 DBL and \$1195 SGL from the Casa de San Pedro. This cost includes 3N accommodations, all meals as specified in the itinerary including a fabulous Café Roka catered wine pairing, professional guide services, transport to field trips and wine tastings in vans, park and program entrance fees, and miscellaneous program expenses.

Tour cost does not include: round-trip transportation from your home city to the Casa de San Pedro (those from out of the region flying in ask about ride-sharing or shuttles), optional activities or items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone charges, gratuities, or beverages from the bar. Group Size: Maximum of 14, minimum of 4. Tour price is based on 6 persons. If fewer than 6 an alternate itinerary can be set for a small group staying at the Casa.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Directions to the Casa de San Pedro are available on their website. See you there for a great weekend!

Space is limited, book today! A \$300 deposit guarantees your spot. E-mail info@naturalistjourneys.com or call 520.558.1146 to book.