Routes for birdwatching in San Martin
Among mountain ranges of moist cloud forests, tropical premontane forests, tropical forests valleys, dried forests valleys, and floodplains forests, the region of San Martin is prodigal in species of natural birds from each of its ecosystems.

According to the platform eBird 2022, 1,076 bird species have been registered so far. In the last version of the Global Big Day 2022, 615 species were watched on a day, putting this region as the 2nd destination in Peru with the greatest sighting of bird species.

has three routes and a total of 18 watching points, with paths and viewpoints appropriate for amateur and professional birdwatching.
1. **Route of birds from Alto Mayo**

This route is, with no doubt, the most spectacular bird route of Peru and one of the most interesting and diverse of the planet with more than 500 species to be possibly watched. Alto Mayo also offers the possibility of watching and taking pictures of the more than 62 species of hummingbirds thanks to the existence of many observatories of these species all along the route being the wonderful star the hummingbird Cola de Espátula.

The altitude variation that goes from 2300 m.a.s.l. of Abra Patricia to 850 m.a.s.l. of Moyobamba in just 121 km. has contributed to the development of different ecosystems highly biodiverse allowing the existence of a big number of endemic or unique species in the world, standing out the hummingbird Cola de Espátula, Long-whiskered owlet, the hummingbird Royal Sunangel, ocher front totoroi, brown totoroi, among others.

The most representative places that are part of this spectacular route are: Huembo Lodge, Owlet Lodge of Abra Patricia, Fundo Alto Nieva, Sendero Royal, The Protection Forest of Alto Mayo (Llantería), White Sand, Aguajales and Rencales of Santa Elena, Morro de Calzada and the ACP Waqanki.
Preservation center Waqanki

It’s a place of private preservation, which belongs to the family Altamirano. It is located at the outskirts of the city of Moyobamba, near Km 3 of the road Moyobamba - Jepelacio. They have a touristic shelter designed for birdwatching. Besides, they have gardens and drinkers appropriate for attracting hummingbirds. In a complementary way, they also have a garden of orchids. The place is visited by almost every birdwatcher that goes to Moyobamba.

Among the species we can find we have Mosquerito de Mishana (Mishana Tyrannulet), Frutero Garganta de Fuego (Fiery-throated Fruiteater), Saltarín Cabeza de Fuego (Fiery-capped Manakin), Zorzal de Várzea (Vargea Thrush), and Coqueta de Cresta Ruja (Rufous-crested Coquette).

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Orchids watching

Services you can take
Accommodation, food, tourist orientation

Information contact
Mobile number:
964785853 / 964016947 / 956034628

E-Mail:
wqankireservas@hotmail.com

Social media:
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Orquideario-Waqanki-Center/350672255003674

Webpage:
https://waqankiecolodge.com/

Office Hours
From 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Morro de Calzada

It is in an Area of Preservation and Recovery of Ecosystems, managed by the City Hall of Calzada. Located near the Km 483 of the road IIRSA North. It is a place of great importance on the North Birds Road. Here there have been registered 424 bird species (e-bird 2020), being the most important for tourism Mosquerito de Mishana (Mishana Tyrannulet), Saltarín Pintado (Painted Manakin), Búho Negruzco (Stygian Owl), Tangara de Hombros Rojos (Red-shouldered Tanager), Jacamar de Frente Ágil (Bluish-fronted Jacamar), Saltarín Cabeza de Fuego (Fiery-capped Manakin), among others. Its singular location and geography make it one of the most important bird shelters in the region of San Martín.

You can enter the city of Calzada by the road IIRSA North, then you take an unpaved road of about 2 Km until the gate of entry.

In this Route, we find Morro de Calzada Amazon Center in bird sighting points, research center, environmental education, recreation and reforestation, equipped for observation and photography of hummingbirds and tanagers; highlighting the following species: el Ermitaño de garganta negra, Colibrí de nuca blanca, Esmeralda de cola ágil, Coqueta de cresta rufa, Zafiro de cola dorada, Tangara del paraíso, Tangara mexicana, Tangara de Cara Negra, Eufonia de Garganta Púrpura, among other species more.

Besides, other birds such as the Trogón de corona ágil, Jacamar de frente ágil, Elanio plomizo, Tucán de pico acanalado, Tucancillo de Collar Dorado y la Moscareta de Mishana, among other species more.

Activities you can do:
- Walking
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation
- Camping
- Wood fire

Services you can take
Tourist orientation

Office Hours
From 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Activities of camping on the top of the morro must be previously coordinated with management.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
The reservation "Aguajal Renacal of Alto Mayo - Santa Elena" is a concession that is located in the Area of Preservation and Recovery of Ecosystems - Humedales de Alto Mayo. The reservation is managed by the Asociation for the Preservation of Aguajal and Renacal of the River Romero - ACARR. It is located at 9.6 Km to the North-West of Rioja city (straight). Besides birds you can watch river otters and different sloth species and monkeys.

It can be accessed easily from the city of Rioja, from where you keep going for approximately 5.4 Km by the road IIRSA North to the Km 479, and then 6.7 Km by the unpaved road. The full trip takes about 20 minutes. The tour to the interior of the reservation is done waterway.

The most attractive bird species of the area are: Carpintero de Cabeza Rufo (Rufous-headed Woodpecker), Mosquerito Amarillo (Yellow Tyrannulet), Carpintero Crema (Cream-colored Woodpecker), Búho de Anteojos (Spectacled Owl), Tangara del Huallaga (Black-bellied Tanager), Águila-azor Negra (Black Hawk), and five species of Martín Pescador.

### Activities you can do:
- Boat trip
- Birdwatching
- Flora y fauna observation
- Camping
- Wood fire

### Services you can take
Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

### Office Hours
From 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Activities must be previously coordinated with management.

### Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Reservation Arena Blanca

Located at the Km 400 of the road IIRSA North, in the town of Aguas Verdes. The property is in the buffer zone of the Preservation Forest Alto Mayo. The place got tourism importance on birdwatching thanks to the drinkers for hummingbirds and feeders for partridges.

The closest town is Aguas Verdes, which is located at 800 meters from the area of preservation. The biggest closed city is Rioja, located at 70 Km of distance, a trip that takes approximately an hour and a half. The next closest city is Moyobamba, at 93 Km of distance, a two-hour trip approximately.

List of birds: The most attractive bird species are Perdíg Cinérea (Cinereous Tinamou), Perdíg Chica (Little Tinamou), Codorníg de Pecho Rufo (Rufous-breasted Wood-quail), Cola- cerda Crestudo (Wire-crested Thorntail), Coqueta de Cresta Rufo (Rufous-crested Coquette), and 20 more species of hummingbirds that come to the drinkers.

Activities you can do

- Birdwatching
- Fauna observation

Information contact

Mobile number: 925702580
E-Mail: visitarenablanca@gmail.com
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/visitarenablanca

Services you can take

Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

Office Hours

From 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Type of Access

Previous presentation of ticket
La Llantería birds

Located at the Km 389 of the road IIRSA North, in the Protection Forest Alto Mayo. It is the most important area of BPAM in bird diversity, it could be considered as the richest species area of all the Northern circuit (near 90 bird species can be registered in a couple of hours), besides there’s a lek of Gallitos de las Rocas (Andean Cock-of-the-Rock). It’s also important for the big mixed flocks that fly over the area. Among the most interesting birds are the very most wanted Lanceolated Monklet, Versicolored Barbet, Vermilion Tanager, and the colorful Blue-naped Chlorophonia among others.

Activities you can do
- Walking
- Birdwatching

Information contact
Mobile number: 917949091
E-Mail: reservaeccologicalallanteria@gmail.com
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070064885145

Services you can take
Food, tourist orientation.

Office Hours
From 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Previous coordination with the manager, minimum 24 hours; for the type of birds you want to watch, sight is recommended between December and June.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
**Sendero Royal Sunangel**

Located at the Km 378, Venceremos area, of the road IIRSA North, in the Protection Forest Alto Mayo. The place has a high diversity of bird species, being the most important Angel-del-Sol Real (Royal Sunangel), Silfo de Cola Larga (Long-tailed Sylph), Colibrí Cola-de-raqueta (Booted Racket-tail), Carpinterito de Pecho Jaspeado (Speckle-chested Piculet) and a great diversity of tanager. The place is located at the top of a cliff and has an impressive view over the forest canopy.

**Activities you can do**

- Walking
- Birdwatching
- Flora observation

**Information contact**

Mobile number: 945668393

**Services you can take**

Tourist orientation

**Office Hours**

From 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Type of Access**

Previous presentation of ticket
Fundo Alto Nieva

It is an area of property private preservation and is located at the Km 374 of the road IIRSA North, about 98 Km from the city of Rioja. It's dedicated to preserve flora and fauna of the Alto Nieva cloud forests. The place has a high diversity of bird species which is important for the check lists of the birdwatchers.

The bird species that can be watched are: la Lechuza Bigotona (Long-whiskered Owlet), Cucarachero de Alas Blancas (Bar-winged Wood-wren), Tirano-tody de Lulu (Johnson’s Tody-flycatcher), Gralaria Frenti-ocre (Ochre-fronted Antpitta), Gralaria Rojiza (Rusty-tinged Antpitta). At the drinkers for hummingbirds you can watch high level species such as Hummingbird Cola-de-raqueta (Booted Racket-tail), Angel-del-Sol Real (Royal Sunangel), Calzadito Verdoso Sureño (Buff-thighed Puffleg), Angel-del-Sol Amatista (Amethyst-throated Sunangel), Silfo de Cola Larga (Long-tailed Sylph), Colibrí Ventri-blanco (White-bellied Hummingbird), among others.

Information contact for reservations

Mobile number: 995 090 370
E-Mail: pc_guias@yahoo.com
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/FundoAltoNieva
Webpage: http://perubirds.org/rutas_fundo_alto_nieva_en.shtml

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Flora y fauna observation

Services you can take
Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

Office Hours
From 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
It receives visits all day previous coordination

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Owlet lodge - Abra Patricia

Abra Patricia is a private property reservation that belongs to ECOAN (Association de Andean Ecosystems). It is in a Tropical Lower Montane Humid Forest, at a height of 2,300 meters above level sea. They have an ecologic shelter oriented to watch birds and nature. In Owlet Lodge there are different options for birdwatching: you can walk over the trochas near the cabins, you can visit the trochas nearby, or just watch hummingbirds at the drinkers. Besides, you can watch wild fauna species such as Mono Choro de Cola Amarilla, Venado Andino, and Oso de Anteojos.

The most important bird species of the área are Colibrí Pico-de-espada (Sword-billed Hummingbird), Calzadito Ventri-esmeralda (Emerald-bellied Puffleg), Silfo de Cola Larga (Long-tailed Sylph), Brillante de Pecho Gamuza (Fawn-breasted Brilliant), Tangara de Collar Amarillo (Yellow-scarfed Tanager), Gralaria Frenti-ocre (Ochre-fronted Antpitta), Gralaria Castaña (Chestnut Antpitta), Lechucita Bigotona (Long-whiskered Owlet), Monja de Cara Blanca (White-faced Nunbird), Mosquerito Inca (Inca Flycatcher), among many others.

Information contact for reservations
E-Mail: info@ecoanperu.org
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/Owletlodgebirds
Webpage: ecoanperu.org/lechucitabigotona/inicio.html

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation

Services you can take
Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

Office Hours
From 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
The Interpretation Center Huembo, is located in a concession of 39 acres managed by ECOAN (Andean Ecosystems Association). It is mainly a secondary forest, 10 minutes from the city of Pomacochas, Amazon Region. It is located exactly in the Kilometer 315.7 of the Fernando Belaunde Terry road. The main attraction of the area are the drinkers for hummingbirds that attract colibrí Cola-espátula (Marvelous Spatuletail).

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation

Services you can take
Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

Office Hours
From 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Information contact for reservations
E-Mail: reservas@ecoanperu.org
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064646025540

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
2. *Route of birds*  
*(Road Tarapoto – Yurimaguas)*

The route follows the Road Tarapoto - Yurimaguas, descending from the high jungle to the Amazonian plain; entering from the Regional Preservation Area Cordillera Escalera in some sections or the sighting points being located in its zone of influence.

In this section you can find the sighting points from where it has been registered more than 400 species.
Mirador del Restaurante
El Mono y La Gata.

This balcony is located at the Kilometer 14 of the road Tarapoto – Yurimaguas, in a mountain slope of the Regional Preservation Area Cordillera Escalera, it has a path of 200 meters that goes down toward the forest and balcony from the restaurant, where is possible to hear and watch many species, such as: toucans, tanagers, mosqueros, gallito de las rocas and mixed flocks.

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation

Information contact for reservations
Mobile number: 934 928773
E-Mail: elmonoylagata@hotmail.com
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/ElMonoyLaGata/

Services you can take
Food (Restaurant)

Office Hours
From 06:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Free access with consumption at the restaurant
The Tunnel

It’s located in the kilometer 18.5 from the road Tarapoto – Yurimaguas with a length of 4.5 meters. It can be found in the highest road pass, which connects San Martin to Loreto and goes near the Regional Preservation Area Cordillera Escalera. This place is well known on the roadside. It is possible to watch typical bird species from the tropical rainforest of high mountain, such as: Aeronautes montivagus, Pseudastur albicollis, Capito auratus, Automolus ochrolaemus y Leptopogon superciliaris.

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Landscapes observation

Type of Access
Free
The Association for the Preservation of Birds and Koepcke’s Hermit Biodiversity ACONABIKH.

The reservation is located at the kilometer 24.5 of the road Carretera Tarapoto – Yurimaguas in the Valley of Tiraco, it protects 30 acres of buffer zone rainforest from the Regional Preservation Area Cordillera Escalera, between 700 and 1200 meters above sea level, and it is a necessary place for watching and taking photos of natural birds of this ecosystem.

It guards near 22 hummingbirds species, but especially the Koepcke’s Hermit (Phaethornis koepckeae) – also known as the Ermitaño de Koepcke, endemic hummingbird of Peru and the Golden Headed Manaki. Besides we can find other bird species like Owls, Carpenters, Antbirds, Gleaners, Jacamara, Barn Owls, Mosquitos, Oropéndolas, Seed Birds, Jumpers, Tangaras, Tororoides, Toucans, Trepadores, Trogon, etc.

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching
- Landscapes observation

Services you can take
- Accommodation
- Food
- Trip and tourism agency (Tourism operator)

Information contact
Mobile number: 942880505
E-Mail: info@aconabikh.org
Webpage: https://www.aconabikh.org/

Office Hours
From 07:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Bosque Guardián.

Located in the buffer zone of Cordillera Escalera at 40 minutes from the city of Tarapoto, specifically in the Km 27.9 of the road Tarapoto – Yurimaguas. At 700 meters above sea level. It has an extension of 150 acres, many of them sustained recovered from cattle raids, cut downs and other human destructions.

Bosque Guardián looks to show that the interconnection between nature and human beings emphasizes through recognition, research, agroforestry and innovative initiatives to preserve emblematic species, such as the jaguar (Panthera onca), the biggest American feline that also lives in Cordillera Escalera.

Among its services it offers walking and biking to observe the most shocking wild fauna and flora in a network of balconies, tour by our cacao area and the trying of fresh molasses, know Melipona native bees and taste its honey which the Indigenous villages used as medicine for breathing problems. It also offers workshops of vegetal fibers paper and handmade products.

Activities you can do
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation
- Swimming

Services you can take
- Food, accommodation, tourist orientation.

Office Hours
From 09:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous reservation
Sabaloyacu waterfall

This waterfall is part of the Bird Route from the Regional Preservation Area Cordillera Escalera at 1 hour 50 minutes from Tarapoto in the km. 43 of the Tourist Corridor Tarapoto – Yurimaguas. The fall of water has 1 meter high and it breaks in a pool of 20 square meters and 4 meters deep of cold and clear water.

On the way to the waterfall you can watch resident bird species, typical of the tropical rain forest and the características de los bosques tropicales húmedos and the profuse vegetation like mosses, ferns and bromeliads, among the branches of the bushes and leafy trees.

They are managed by the Association for the Preservation and Protection of Natural Resources Sabaloyacu.

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching
- Flora and fauna observation
- Swimming

Information contact for reservations
Mobile number: 931 169 132
E-Mail: cataratasdesabaloyacu_2015@hotmail.com
Social media: https://www.facebook.com/Sabaloyacu

Services you can take
Tourist orientation

Office Hours
From 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Birds route from the seasonal dry forest of Huallaga

It’s not a very common ecosystem in this Amazon region for which its biological diversity, especially bird life, offers visitors exclusive specialties characteristic of this ecosystem. The attraction of this route are Ricuricocha Lagoon, Pucayaquillo Waterfall, Pumarrinri Lodge and the road Juan Guerra - Upaquihua Creek.
Ricuricocha Lagoon

A 2.5 Km del centro de la ciudad de Tarapoto. Se accede a ella a través de La Hacienda El Águila. Es una depresión natural que producto de las lluvias, forma una extensa laguna con una superficie de 850 000 m2, con un perímetro de 7000 m, y una profundidad de 4 a 5 metros.

This lagoon has been formed by rainfalls, creating a mirror of 727,172.00 m2, presenting an ecosystem of dry seasonal forest surrounded by trees of quinilla, bolaquiro, tangarana, pashaca and others.

This place is inhabited by diverse species of wild and ichthyological fauna. It is considered as a point of interest for birdwatching. The main bird species of the place are Pato Crestudo (Comb Duck), el Ermitaño del Planalto (Planalto Hermit), el Pato-siluador de Pico Rojo (Black-bellied Whistling-duck), Zambullidor Chico (Least Grebe), Carpintero de Pecho Moteado (Spot-breasted Woodpecker), among others.

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching
- Boat trip
- Pedal boat ride
- Fishing

Information contact for reservations
Mobile number: 948 851 809
Social media: https://web.facebook.com/haciendaelaguita.Ricuricocha

Services you can take
Food.

Office Hours
From 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Type of Access
Previous presentation of ticket
Pucayaquillo Waterfall

Located at 22 km northwest Tarapoto, in the district of Shapaja, province and region of San Martín. The waterfall has a height of 20 meters and its waters fall through a rock wall until a sand pool of 1 meter deep. The path for getting to the waterfall has an extension of 1.8 km and is surrounded by vegetation, ideal for watching flora and fauna species.

The most important bird species you can watch there are: Tangara Manchada (Dotted Tanager), Mosquerito de Mishana (Mishana Tyrannulet), among other tanagers and little antebirds.

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching
- Flora y fauna observation
- Swimming

Services you can take
- Tourist orientation

Office Hours
- From 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Type of Access
- Previous presentation of ticket
Pumarinri Lodge

It’s a rural touristic shelter, it is located at the Km. 16.5 of the road Colombia Bridge – Chaguta. It offers birdwatching excursions following the road to Chaguta and boat excursions by the Huallaga river, likewise night trips to watch owls and barn owls.

The bird species you can watch are: Campephilus melanoleucos (carpintero marcial), Melanerpes cruentatus (Carpintero de penacho amarillo), Psarocolius decumanus (Oropéndola crestada), Lophostrix cristata (Búho Crested) y Strix huhula (Búho Negri-bandeado)

Activities you can do
- Walks through the circuits
- Night walks
- Birdwatching
- Boat trip

Information contact for reservations
Mobile number:
950 465396

E-Mail:
info@pumarinri.com

Social media:
https://www.facebook.com/PumarinriAmazonLodge

Webpage:
https://www.pumarinri.com/habitaciones/

Services you can take
Food, accommodation, tourist orientation, wi-fi.

Office Hours
From 6:00 am - 6:00 pm

Type of Access
Previous reservation
Road Juan Guerra – Upaquihua Creek

Located in the city and district of Buenos Aires, province of Picota, region of San Martín, at 43 km from Tarapoto.

Birdwatching can be done along the road Fernando Belaunde Terry, among other towns of Juan Guerra and Buenos Aires, where more than 190 bird species have been identified.

The most attractive bird species of this kind of forest are Casiornis Rojizo (Rufous Casiornis), Ermitaño del Planalto (Planalto Hermit), Saltarín de Vientre Sulfúreo (Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-manakin), Verdecillo Cabega-gris (Ashy-headed Greenlet), y Batará Pígarroso Norteño (Northern Slaty Antshrike).

Activities you can do
- Walking / Trekking
- Birdwatching

Type of Access
Free