



White-bellied Seedsnipe | Agachona Patagónica | *Attagis malouinus*

Specialties in fall (4-day tour)

📍 Río Gallegos, Santa Cruz, Argentina



 Available anytime from October to March

 Group size: 2-6

 Tour category: birdwatching



Trip overview

Río Gallegos is one of the southernmost cities on the South American continent and it is home to more than 120 species of birds. It is located at the confluence of the Gallegos and Chico Rivers, in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina.

Together, these rivers form a rich estuary where the tides shape biodiversity. Wide marshes are developed on its southern coast, covered with *Sarcocornia* sp. and *Suaeda* spp. Grasslands and shrubs occupy the higher terrain.

Patagonian, Nearctic, and Antarctic birds can be found in this mosaic of environments, and many of them are of particular interest for both conservation and birding, such as **Ruddy-headed Goose, Hooded Grebe, Magellanic Plover, Red Knot and Austral Canastero.**

Therefore, the Río Gallegos Estuary in its entirety is an IBA (BirdLife International) and it is also recognized as an International Important Site by the WHSRN.

Tour details

Target birds for the area

Lesser Rhea, Flying Steamer-Duck, Chilean Flamingo, Silvery Grebe (Patagonian), Hooded Grebe, Rufous-chested Dotterel, Two-banded Plover, Magellanic Oystercatcher, White-bellied Seedsnipe, Magellanic Penguin, Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Fulmar, Cinereous Harrier, Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Short-eared Owl, Peregrine Falcon (South American, including the “pallid” form), Band-tailed Earthcreeper, Austral Canastero, Patagonian Yellow-Finch, White-bridled Finch.

Number of expected species

35-40

Mammal highlights

Guanaco, South American Gray Fox, Humboldt´s Hog-nosed Skunk, South American Sea Lion, Commerson’s Dolphin.

Itinerary¹

Day 1: Arrival at RGL.

Arrival at Río Gallegos International Airport “Piloto Civil Norberto Fernández” (IATA: RGL). Transfer to the hotel and check-in. Birding in Río Gallegos and surroundings. Dinner. Night in Río Gallegos.

Day 2: Exploration in the Coyle area. Overnight in RGL.

Morning transfer to the Coyle estuarine area. Look for the Hooded Grebe from the coast. Lunch in the field. Full day birding in the Coyle area. Transfer back to Río Gallegos. Dinner. Night in Río Gallegos.

Day 3: Adventure South of RGL.

Morning birding south of Río Gallegos. Visit Loyola Harbour in search of the Magellanic Plover and other shorebirds. Lunch in the field. Full-day birding in the area. Dinner. Night in Río Gallegos.

Day 4: End of the tour.

Search for the Hooded Grebe from the Río Gallegos coastline with a spotting scope. Lunch in the field. Half-day birding in the area. Transfer to the RGL Airport. Drop-off. End of the tour.

Inclusions

- ✓ Private ground transportations
- ✓ Guided services: local birding guide
- ✓ Spotting scope: Vortex Diamondback HD 65mm
- ✓ Accommodation: 3-star hotel
- ✓ Three meals a day: breakfast, box lunch and dinner (3-course meal)
- ✓ Drinking water for refill private bottles (in order to avoid plastic pollution and waste)
- ✓ Personal insurances
- ✓ Communication support in remote areas

Exclusions

- ✗ Flight tickets
- ✗ Alcoholic drinks
- ✗ Tips
- ✗ Extra services or anything not mentioned in this brochure

¹ Itinerary may be changed due to force majeure, accommodation availability, or unforeseen circumstances.

More information

Category

Birdwatching, with good opportunities to take photographs

Habitats

Sea coast, marshes, lagoons, shrublands and grasslands
(Magellanic Steppe and Argentine Sea)

Climate

Cold, semi-arid

Max group size

6 + 1 local guide (ask for larger groups)

Physical requirements

The physical difficulty of this tour is low (easy to moderate terrain).

Recommended equipment

Woolly hat, cap, sunscreen (+30), polarized sunglasses, layered clothing, waterproof jacket, trekking shoes.

Departures

This tour is available anytime from April to May. It requires prior reservation.

Price

If you want a quote for this tour, please *contact us*.

Combined with

This tour can be combined with:

- Patagonian forest tour (4 days / 3 nights)

Map

Specialties in fall

