



Long-tailed Meadowlark | Loica Común | *Leistes loyca*

Birding in Río Gallegos (Half-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, Ruddy-headed Goose, Flying Steamer-Duck, Chiloe Wigeon, Chilean Flamingo, Tawny-throated Dotterel, Rufous-chested Dotterel, Two-banded Plover, Magellanic Oystercatcher, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Baird's Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Magellanic Snipe, Least Seedsnipe, South American Tern, Magellanic Penguin, Southern Giant-Petrel, Cinereous Harrier, Short-eared Owl, Peregrine Falcon (South American, included "pallid" form), Band-tailed Earthcreeper, Austral Canastero, Chocolate-vented Tyrant, Chilean Swallow, Patagonian Yellow-Finch.

Number of expected species

30

Mammal highlights

South American Gray Fox, Humboldt's Hog-nosed Skunk and Dwarf Armadillo

Itinerary¹

Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Hotel pick-up and transfer to Chimen Aike area in search of the Argentine near endemic Band-tailed Earthcreeper.
10:00 AM	Drive back to Río Gallegos and look for the threatened Ruddy-headed Goose and Austral Canastero.
12:00 PM	Lunch in the field
1:00 PM	Transfer to Laguna Ortiz (an urban reserve) and visit the city coast.
2:00 PM	Head back to the meeting point. Drop-off. End of the tour.

More information

Inclusions

- ✓ Private ground transportations
- ✓ Guided services
- ✓ Spotting scope: Vortex Diamondback HD 65mm
- ✓ Box lunch
- ✓ Drinking water for refill private bottles (in order to avoid plastic 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.

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 October to March. It requires prior reservation.

Price

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

Combined with

This tour can be combined with any of the other ones. Check them out at our website: www.caticuraecotours.com.

Map

Birding in Río Gallegos

Birding in RGL



Chimen Aike



Reserva Costera Urbana



Centro de Interpretación del Estuario

Half day tour

