



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

Specialties in fall (4-day tour)

Río Gallegos, Santa Cruz, Argentina



Available anytime from April to May

Group size: 2-6

Tour category: birdwatching



Trip overview

Río Gallegos is one of the southernmost cities of the South American Continent and it houses more than 120 species of birds. It is located at the confluence of the Río Gallegos and Chico rivers, in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina.

These rivers form a rich estuary where the tides condition biodiversity. Wide marshes are developed on its south coast covered with *Sarcocornia sp.* and *Suaeda spp.* Grassland and shrubs occupy the higher terrains.

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

Therefore, the entirety of Río Gallegos estuary is an **IBA** (BirdLife International) and it is also recognized as an **International Important Site** of 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.

In the morning, transfer to the Coyle estuarine area. Look for the Hooded Grebe from the coast. Lunch. Full day of birding in the Coyle area. Then, transfer back to Río Gallegos. Dinner. Night in Río Gallegos.

Day 3: Adventure South of RGL.

Morning birding south of Río Gallegos. Then, visit to Loyola Harbor in search of the Magellanic Plover and other shorebirds. Lunch. Full day birding in the zone. Dinner. Night in Río Gallegos.

Day 4: End of the tour.

Search for the Hooded Grebe from the Río Gallegos seacoast with spotting scope. Lunch. Half day birding in the area. Transfer to the airport. Drop off. End of the tour.

More information

What's included?

This tour includes:

- ✓ Private ground transportations
- ✓ Guided services
- ✓ Spotting scope: Vortex Diamondback HD 65mm
- ✓ Accommodations: 4-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 and waste)
- ✓ Personal insurances

It does not include:

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

¹ Itinerary can be changed due to force majeure and accommodation availability.

Category

Birdwatching, with good opportunities to take photographs

Habitats

Sea coast, marshes, lagoons, shrublands and grasslands
(Patagonian 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, warm and waterproof clothing, winter gloves, 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 send an email to:
info@southernpatagoniatours.com.

Combined with

This tour can be combined with:

- Patagonian forest tour (4 days / 3 nights)

Map

Specialties in fall

