**Georgia Audubon Travel – 2022**

**Location:** New Jersey/Mid-Atlantic

**Duration:** 7 days

**Dates:** December 1 (Thu) to December 7 (Wed)

**Group Size Limit:** 9 (minimum of 6)

**Guides:**

* Adam Betuel - Georgia Audubon conservation director
* George Armistead - George Armistead is a lifelong Philadelphian and chief network officer at Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures. He has guided trips to all seven continents, and authored two books on birds, including The ABA Field Guide to the Birds of Pennsylvania. A big Phillies, Eagles, Sixers, and Flyers fan, George received a masters in environmental studies from University of Pennsylvania, and is an associate at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

**Tour Price:**

* Georgia Audubon Members- **$3,500**
* Non Members (Includes a one-year Georgia Audubon membership) - **$3,550**
* Single supplement for non-shared hotel room: **$350/person**

**Cost Includes:** One local expert birding tour leader (George Armistead) and a co-leader from Georgia Audubon (conservation director Adam Betuel), a 2nd local guide/driver, accommodations in all destinations (double room), all transportation during the trip including pick-up and drop-off at the airport, all meals from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 7, all non-specialty beverages, all entrance fees to parks & reserves, taxes

**Cost Does NOT Include:** Airfare and any accompanying baggage fees, wine, premium beer, liquor, or specialty coffee (non-alcoholic beverages included with each meal), snacks, beverages, room service, or sightseeing not specified in itinerary, souvenirs, laundry, travel insurance (strongly recommended), medical costs, guide & driver gratuity, personal communications (hotel phone calls, cell phones, etc), any other incidentals that participants may wish to purchase

**Payments:**

1. $500.00 (members) or $550 (non-members) due to reserve spot on trip (or full payment)
2. Full payment must be made by September 1, 2022

**Cancellation:** ​ If notice of cancellation by the participant is received by July 1, 2022 a refund of all payments made will be given (less a $50 administrative fee). If notice of cancellation is received between July 2, 2022 and August 31, 2022 a 50% refund of the tour fee will be given unless the space(s) can be filled, in which case a full refund will be given (less a $50 administrative fee). Thereafter, all deposits and payments are non-refundable unless the space(s) can be filled, in which case a full refund will be given (less a $50 administrative fee). In the event of tour cancellation due to weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other unforeseen emergency situation, a 100% refund will be given, less any expenses incurred by the tour operator.

**Number of bird species expected**: 140-160

**Target Species:** Harlequin Duck, Common Eider, King Eider, Brant, Purple Sandpiper, Great Cormorant, Razorbill, Snowy Owl, Short-eared Owl, Snow Bunting, Rough-legged Hawk, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Red-throated Loon, American Tree Sparrow, Eurasian Wigeon, Long-tailed Duck, Common Merganser, Virginia Rail, Snow Goose, and more.

**Pace/Walking Effort:** Easy in general. Very few long walks. Most walking will be on shorter loop trails and along roads. Some walking on the beach will be required and may be tiring to some. Mainly flat terrain. There is one section of Barnegat where we will likely walk on a rock jetty. Nothing too difficult but you will need to be reasonably nimble (or forgo that section). It is likely you will spend a lot of time on your feet. Most days the birding should be done around 5:00 pm, allowing for people to relax before dinner and ensuring a good night’s sleep. Certain birds of course could alter this plan slightly.

**Tipping:** Tipping is completely up to each participant and is not obligatory. However, it is encouraged that you tip our local guides and drivers should they excel at their job. Tips at meals is included in the trip cost and will be covered by the guides.

**Photography:** Opportunities should be plentiful and at times, likely very good. With it being the winter months, clear views of many species can be expected (weather permitting of course). At places like Barnegat, it is not uncommon to have some of the focal species close by, either in the water or on the rocks/beach. If bad weather is around, the flexibility of this itinerary will allow us to reshuffle days, increasing the chances for good sightings and photo opportunities.

**Climate:** Early winter in New Jersey can be very cold to much more temperate. Even if the days are warmer, we will likely still be on the beach or near water where winds can be strong, making it chilly. We will keep an eye on the forecast leading up to the trip but layers, coats, hats and gloves, and other cold weather gear are likely to be needed.

**Accommodations:** Comfortable and good but not luxurious. 3 or 3.5 star establishments. For the entire trip, we will only be using 3 hotels, and one of those for 4 nights. This was done so that the trip could be more comfortable for trip-goers while still producing great birding opportunities.

**If you have any further questions, please contact Adam Betuel**

**Adam.Betuel@georgiaaudubon.org**

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