



Sabrewing Nature Tours

Migration on the Upper Gulf Coast in *Texas*

April 18 - 25, 2020



The Upper Texas Coast is well-known as one of the best sites in the US to view migration. On this tour, we'll spend a week exploring many of the wonderful natural areas where so many of these migrants stop to refuel on their northward migration. That, combined with some local resident species, will lead to a long and diverse species list!

Itinerary Overview:

April 18: Arrival in Houston and transfer to Hotel
April 19: Morning birding around Houston and transfer to Beaumont
April 20: Full day birding the southeast Texas coast
April 21: Morning birding in Angelina National Forest and afternoon birding at Cattail Marsh in Beaumont
April 22: Full day birding Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Bolivar Peninsula, and High Island
April 23: Full day birding Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Bolivar Peninsula, and High Island and transfer to Galveston Island
April 24: Full day birding Galveston Island
April 25: Depart for Home

Detailed Itinerary:

April 18: Arrival in Houston and transfer to Hotel

Arrive in Houston and gather for a group dinner.

Overnight: Houston, TX – Houston Airport Marriott

April 19: Morning birding around Houston and transfer to Beaumont

We'll spend the morning birding at Baytown Nature Center. Highlights could include many species of waterfowl, shorebirds, terns, wading birds, and passerines such as Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. We will also stop by a couple places on the north side of Trinity Bay including a rookery where we will see many species of nesting wading birds. In the evening we may make it out to a couple spots around Beaumont where the number of migrants can be incredible!

Overnight: Beaumont, TX – Hampton Inn & Suites

April 20: Full day birding the southeast Texas coast

We'll spend the morning birding a few locations from Sea Rim State Park to Sabine Woods and beyond. The number of migrants in the region can be mind-blowing. We should see some specialties such as Seaside Sparrow and Clapper Rail as well as migrants from practically every family of birds.



Red-cockaded Woodpecker

Overnight: Beaumont, TX – Hampton Inn & Suites

April 21: Morning birding in Angelina National Forest and afternoon birding at Cattail Marsh in Beaumont

We'll spend the morning looking for a few specialty species of the piney woods region of eastern Texas. Our targets will be Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Swainson's Warbler, Bachman's Sparrow, and Brown-headed Nuthatch. In the afternoon, we will bird Cattail Marsh in Beaumont. This 900-acre marsh complex will give us a great chance to see a wide variety of waterbirds including our best chance to see a Least Grebe and Swallow-tailed Kite!

Overnight: Beaumont, TX – Hampton Inn & Suites

April 22: Full day birding Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Bolivar Peninsula, and High Island

We'll spend the whole day birding in and around the famed High Island, including a stop at Anahuac NWR. Much of the birding will depend on the weather, so we won't hold ourselves to a specific schedule. No matter how the weather turns out on this day, our species list is sure to be long and full of migrants!

Overnight: Beaumont, TX – Hampton Inn & Suites

April 23: Full day birding Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Bolivar Peninsula, and High Island and transfer to Galveston Island

Since migration changes so rapidly, we'll visit many of the same locations to see what new species might have come in. In the evening, we may bird a couple spots on the eastern tip of Galveston Island as we move to our next hotel.

Overnight: Galveston, TX – Homewood Suites

April 24: Full day birding Galveston Island

We'll spend the whole day birding on Galveston Island. We'll stop at a couple migrant traps such as Lafitte's Cove and Dos Vacas Muertas. We will also bird some areas with a mixture of marsh and beach such Galveston Island State Park. In the evening we will enjoy a farewell dinner in Galveston.

Overnight: Galveston, TX – Homewood Suites

April 25: Transfer to Houston in time to depart for home

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Houston, Texas: \$2,199
Single Supplement: \$450

Price Includes:

Expert Guides
Ground Transportation
All Lodging
All Meals
Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Houston, Texas
Passport and Visa Fees
Alcoholic Beverages
Personal Items
Travel Insurance
Tips

Deposit:

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to hold your spot on this tour. The remaining balance is due no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled start date of the tour (January 18, 2020).

If you have any questions about this tour or would like to sign up for it, please contact Rob at info@SabrewingNatureTours.com or by phone at 317-324-8505.



Upper Texas Coast 2020 -
REGISTRATION

Participant 1:

Name (As it appears on Passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number – Expiration - Country of Origin

Participant 2:

Name (As it appears on Passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number – Expiration - Country of Origin

List current health and physical limitations: _____

List any allergies: _____

List any medications: _____

List any dietary restrictions or preferences: _____

In Case of Emergency Please Notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

List current health and physical limitations: _____

List any allergies: _____

List any medications: _____

List any dietary restrictions or preferences: _____

In Case of Emergency Please Notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Sabrewing Nature Tours

Terms, Conditions, and Waiver

TERMS: To register for a tour or workshop please complete the above registration form and sign below to acknowledge the terms. Send this form along with you Tour/Workshop Registration Form and your deposit or full tour amount to Sabrewing Nature Tours (SNT) at the below address. Registrations will be processed on a first come first served basis. We will place your name on the waiting list if your tour is full.

The deposit for this trip is \$1,000 per participant. Deposits and all signed forms are required to secure registration of your spot on the tour. Deposits are refundable less a 20% processing fee ONLY if the spot can be filled with another participant at the full tour price. Deposits received after a tour has filled will be returned and your name will be placed on a waiting list. Payment in full is due at least 90 days prior to the start of the tour. Registrants who have not paid their remaining balance will forfeit their deposit and their place on the tour. Payment by personal check is strongly preferred. If you would like to pay with a credit card, additional fees will apply. We strongly suggest you consider trip insurance to cover you in the event of a medical or other emergency that would prohibit you from joining the tour.

The activity level required for each tour will be described on the tour page. If in doubt, please contact SNT to determine if a tour is right for you. Any physical or medical concerns including allergies and/or dietary restrictions should be communicated to SNT. All tours will be non-smoking during group activities including but not limited to meals, slide programs, vehicle travel and when birding/photographing in close proximity to other participants. Tour groups will be kept small for the enjoyment of all participants. Target group sizes are listed in each tour description on our web site. SNT reserves the right to exceed the target group size by no more than one participant.

Tours will be held regardless of weather conditions. Severe weather may dictate informal discussion and/or a slide program while we wait for the weather to break. Tours will begin at the scheduled time. Tardiness may result in missing the boat, or van so to speak. There are no guarantees in nature. Tours are designed to coincide with excellent nature viewing opportunities. Decisions will be made daily to determine where the group should be to maximize opportunities. Deviation from the scheduled itinerary may be necessary.

It is imperative that all participants follow rules and suggestions set forth by the leaders and/or local guides. Failure to comply could pose a safety risk to you or other tour participants. For the safety of all clients we reserve the right to restrict access to tour functions at any time.

Airfare is NOT included in the price of the tour unless otherwise noted on the tour page. Registered participants will receive more specific details of what to bring as well as a more detailed outline of what can be expected on the tour upon payment in full and no later than 60 days prior to the start of the tour.

Photo tour participants wishing to get the most from their tour will have a working knowledge of their camera equipment prior to the tour. Suggestions on exposure modes, camera settings and a variety of techniques will be verbalized throughout the tour. Do bring your camera's manual. Every camera is unique in its operation thus it is impossible to know every feature of every camera model. Participants will be put in the best locations to take advantage of the light, wind, and habitat. We will work to improve compositions and make suggestions to vary your perspective that will improve your resulting images. Participants will also learn techniques to successfully capture action and behavior images.

Waiver: I am aware that certain risks and dangers are inherent to nature travel and photography and may occur during a Sabrewing Nature Tours event and that such risk and dangers cannot be eliminated without diminishing the quality of the workshop/tour for which I have registered. Risks include but are not limited to theft or other loss of equipment or personal belongings; illness, injury, accident or death; travel hazards by air, boat, automobile or other vehicle; exposure to elements and other forces of nature and acts of God; both native and non-native wildlife, insects and flora as well as political, civil or military disturbance, strike, quarantine, government restriction and terrorist threat. I understand on or off trail hiking can present risk of falls that may result in damage to camera equipment, or significant personal injury or death. I understand Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for inclement weather and cannot and does not guarantee subject matter will be available for photography on any given date or location. I further understand I am solely responsible for additional expenses incurred by me due to medical emergency or other travel delays, including but not limited to the expense of extra nights lodging or flight itinerary changes. I voluntarily assume all risks and will hold Sabrewing Nature Tours, its partners and cooperating agents, the workshop leader(s), any and all co-leaders, assistants and other participants harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, claims, debts, and demands which arise in connection with the tour. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for my heirs, administrators, and executors, and for all members of my family, including any minors accompanying me. In the event a lawsuit is filed, the enrolling participant agrees to do so solely in Hamilton County in the State of Indiana.

I have read and agree with the above terms and conditions.

Participant 1: Signature

Date

Participant 2: Signature

Date

Please complete forms, sign the second form, and send them with your deposit or full tour amount.

757 Howe Drive, Carmel, IN 46032 | 317-324-8505

info@SabrewingNatureTours.com | www.SabrewingNatureTours.com