

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



12th to 25th April 2018 (14 days)

ST LUCIA, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Easy Birding in the Caribbean

NEW
ITINERARY
FOR 2018

The perfect introduction to the birds of the Caribbean and South America, on these relaxing islands.

We are delighted to be returning for our third visit to Trinidad and Tobago, this time with the addition of the beautiful island of St Lucia. We start by exploring the dramatic landscapes of this island including the **Vieux Fort Wetlands** and Grand Anse beach for **Leatherbacks**.

Flying on to Trinidad, we will stay at the renowned **Asa Wright Nature Centre** and Lodge. Here, it is possible to see 20-30 birds local to the area from the veranda before breakfast! Over 170 bird species have been recorded at this former coffee, cocoa and citrus plantation situated in a valley in Trinidad's northern mountain range. Natural secondary growth has filled the abandoned plantation areas with vines and a host of epiphytes with the result that the feeling is one of being deep in a **tropical rainforest**. Our time at Asa Wright will include a visit to Dunston Cave, the most accessible colony in the world of the bizarre, nocturnal **Oilbird** as well as to the famous Caroni island for the spectacular sight of hundreds of **Scarlet Ibis** returning to their mangrove roost at dusk.

We then take the short flight to Tobago, the smaller of the two main islands of this Caribbean country. Our local guide will show us some of the many highlights of this stunning island, known for its friendly atmosphere. We will visit the Tobago Forest Reserve, a haven for more than 200 species of bird, including Blue-backed Manakin and Blue-crowned Motmot, alongside more than 100 species of butterfly. We will also visit the Little Tobago Bird Sanctuary, where we will tour the marine reserve by glass-bottomed boat and have the option of **snorkelling** on Angel Reef.



Wildlife and culture holidays

Price
£4195

Single Room Supplement
£525

Full board

- Day 1** UK to St Lucia
- Day 2-4** St Lucia
- Day 5** St Lucia to Trinidad
- Days 6-8** Trinidad
- Day 9** Trinidad to Tobago
- Days 10-12** Tobago
- Day 13** Depart Tobago
- Day 14** arrive UK

Leaders

Laurie Jackson
and local guides

birds, general wildlife



Our profits are donated to the **Wildlife Trusts**



ITINERARY

Please note that the itinerary may be changed to suit the weather or other practicalities or at the discretion of the leaders.

Day 1 Thu 12th April Arrive in **St Lucia** and transfer to Fox Grove Inn

Day 2 Fri 13th April Soufriere Desbott Trail - An opportunity to see many endemics, Lesser Antilles and regional bird species as well as the town of Soufriere, the Diamond Botanical Gardens and the Sulphur waterfall.

Day 3 Sat 14th April East Coast/Quillesse/Vieux Fort Wetlands - A full day tour, which will take you to the coastal dry forest and to the rainforest for all the St. Lucia endemics.

Day 4 Sun 15th April North East Coast Tour – An afternoon birding tour at Grand Anse beach, which is also one of the most important beaches in the Caribbean for the nesting Leatherbacks.

Day 5 Mon 16th April Free morning before transferring to the airport for onward flight to Trinidad

Day 6 Tue 17th April Guided Orientation Walk – Explore the trails at Asa Wright Centre in the morning. **Nesting Leatherback Turtles** – An evening trip to the East coast to see this amazing spectacle.

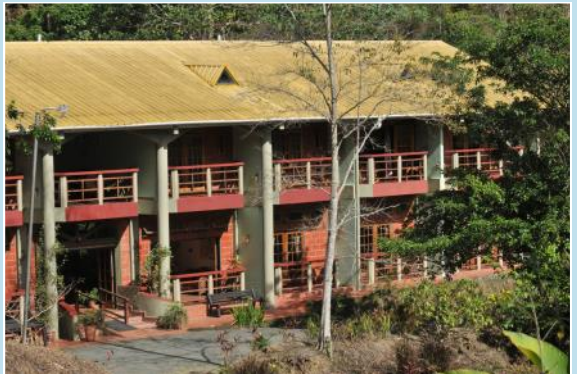
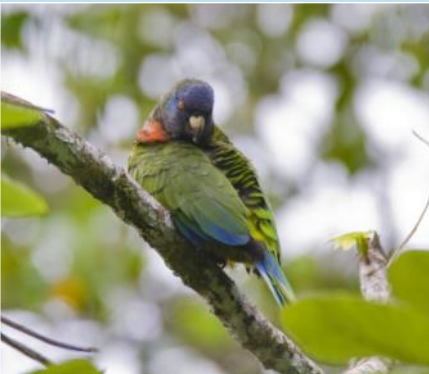
Day 7 Wed 18th April Blanchisseuse – Travel over the Northern Range to the seaside village of Blanchisseuse, with birding all the way to the North coast and along the Marianne River.

Day 8 Thu 19th April Dunstan Caves – to see the Oilbirds in the morning. **Caroni Swamp** - An afternoon boat trip to this specialised mangrove forest where your day will end with the spectacular flight of Scarlet Ibis returning to their roosts at dusk.

Day 9 Fri 20th April Morning spent on the trails at Asa Wright before transferring to airport and on to Tobago.

Day 10 Sat 21st April Guided Nature Walk – Discover the history, flora, fauna and bird life at Cuffie River.

Day 11 Sun 22nd April Island Tour – A full day visiting all the key sites around the island, with birding along the way, and including lunch on the beach at a local restaurant.



Day 12 Mon 23rd April Tour to Speyside and Glass-bottom boat trip to Little Tobago Bird Sanctuary – Birding on the island with an opportunity for snorkelling at Angel Reef on the way.

Day 13 Tue 24th April Last morning to enjoy the surroundings before our afternoon departure for the airport and return flight home.

Day 14 Wed 25th April Arrive back to the UK in the morning.

Fitness and health

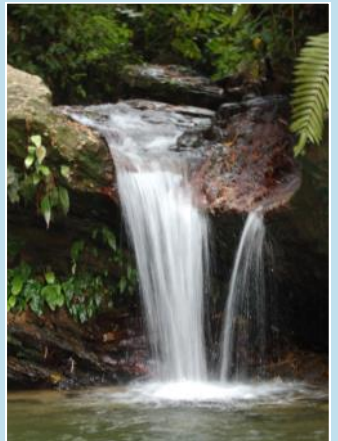
The walking is generally easy to moderate, but there may be some wet or uneven ground and some slopes, although nothing strenuous. You will need to have a reasonable level of general fitness and be prepared for the usual precautions and conditions when travelling in the tropics. Biting insects such as mosquitoes are likely to be present in some areas and prevention against bites is needed.

Yellow fever is present in some areas of Trinidad (not Tobago or St Lucia). Please consult your doctor to check if vaccination is recommended for you. A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required if arriving from a country with risk of yellow fever transmission (no requirement if taking group flights from UK).

Please check the FCO website for travel and health advice before booking: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/trinidad-and-tobago>

Accommodation and local travel

Our accommodation during this holiday will be at good hotels/lodges all with en-suite accommodation. Meals provided during the stay will be a mixture of local and international dishes. Requests for special diets can be accommodated. On St Lucia we stay at the **Fox Grove Inn**. On Trinidad our first base will be the famous **Asa Wright Nature Centre** where we stay for four nights enjoying the early morning tea/coffee, followed by breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, rum punch and dinner. Finally, on Tobago we stay at the **Cuffie River Nature Retreat** for four nights. Some lunches may be picnics. We will ensure that our travelling is as comfortable as possible.



Leaders and Guides

Laurie Jackson is an all round naturalist who has led many of our trips in recent years, from the Isles of Scilly to Lesvos, Transylvania and Svalbard. Laurie will help you to enjoy all aspects of the wildlife of the islands. We will be accompanied by local wildlife guides at each location.

Weather

We will be travelling in the 'dry' season and therefore should expect fine clear days with little or no rain and slightly cooler nights. In Trinidad and Tobago, temperatures are nearly constant all year round averaging 29C (84F) in the day and 23C (74F) at night. St Lucia is slightly cooler.

Passports and Visas

You must have a valid passport for this trip (valid for at least six months after the end of the holiday). Visas are not required for holders of UK/EU passports. For holders of other passports please check with the relevant embassy.

Flights

The group flights are with British Airways from Gatwick:
12 April Depart Gatwick 10.00, arrive St Lucia 13.45
16 April Depart St Lucia 14.45, arrive Trinidad 15.50
20 April Depart Trinidad 16.25, arrive Tobago 16.50
24 April Depart Tobago 18.05, arrive Gatwick 09.30 (25th)
In April St Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago are 5 hrs behind UK.

It is unlikely that other direct flights are available but it is possible to add on flights to and from Gatwick if needed.

Photos MotMot Travel and Wildlife Travel



TO BOOK

Contact us to check availability and reserve a place. Complete the Booking Form and send to Sunvil Holidays (CAA-ATOL Licence 808, ABTA V6218), our tour operator, with your deposit. All details about booking are given in the Booking Pack.

**DEPOSIT PER PERSON £1200,
SECOND INSTALLMENT ON CONFIRMATION OF HOLIDAY £1000
BALANCE DUE BY 11th January 2018**

INCLUDED: Return flight from UK to St Lucia. Trinidad, Tobago and return to UK. Local transport as specified in itinerary. Twelve night's accommodation, full board basis (breakfast, lunch and dinner). Entrance fees except during any optional sightseeing. Services of leader and guides.

NOT INCLUDED: Refreshments. Gratuities. Travel insurance.

WILDLIFE TRAVEL

**The Manor House, Broad Street,
Great Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6DH**

Tel: 01954 713575 email: wildlifetravel@wildlifebcn.org

www.wildlife-travel.co.uk



*Directors: Christine Donnelly, Brian Eversham, Philip Precey, Michael Russell, Dr Tim Upson
Wildlife Travel Ltd. Reg. No 2237697 (for Registered Charity numbers, please contact us)*