

VIII YUCATAN BIRD FESTIVAL
United for Birds
November 19 – 22, 2009
Mérida – Valladolid, Yucatan, Mexico

PROGRAM

Thursday, November 19

6:00 a.m. Bird count (species and number of individuals) in private reserves within *ejidos* (community properties). Sites of conservation interest:

- Sihunchén Eco-Archeological Park, Hunucmá, Yucatán. A 45 min. drive northwest of Mérida; trails pass through an archeological site amid a dry tropical forest.
- Private ranch in the coastal village of Chabihau. An hour's drive northeast of Mérida with native coastal scrub vegetation.

Cost: \$150.00 mn or \$11.00 USD per person. Includes: continental breakfast. It does not include transportation. **Sign-up with:** Barbara MacKinnon H. at Tel: 927-5947; e-mail: barbaramackinnonde@gmail.com

Note: Limited to 8 persons per group. Maximum 2 groups per site.

9:00 a.m. Educazoo Program for children: workshops, talks, exhibits and videos about birds.

Place: The Century Zoo (Parque Zoológico El Centenario).

4:00 p.m. Register of participants for the Festival and for the Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*). **Cost:** \$300.00 m.n or \$23.00 USD; includes conferences, inaugural cocktail, commemorative kit and closing breakfast.

Place: Salón Izamal at the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).

4:00 p.m. Second Bird Song Contest. Sign-up with Melgar Tabasco. Tel: 925-39-47 or e-mail: mtabasco@ninosycrias.org. Limited number of participants.

Place: Salon Kabah at the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).

5:00 p.m. **Conferences in English:**

- "Different Migration Aspects of Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers on the Yucatan Peninsula" by: Dr. Jorge Correa Sandoval / Researcher at EcoSur-Chetumal, Q. Roo.
- "Secrets of the Yucatan Flamingo Population" by Dr. Rodrigo Migoya / Director of Niños y Crías A.C.
- "Bird Conservation Efforts on the Yucatan Peninsula" by: Bárbara MacKinnon H. / Honorary Board Member, Amigos de Sian Ka'an A.C.

Place: Salon Kabah at the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).

- 5:00 p.m. **Conferences in Spanish:**
- The Avefauna of Six Natural Protected Areas in the state of Yucatan” by: M en C. Juan Chablé Santos and Biol. Rosana Gonzalez Herrera, Autonomous University of Yucatan.
 - “The Yucatan Wren: its reproductive life” by: M en C. Jesús Vargas, University of Campeche.
 - “Different Migration Aspects of Western and Semipalmated Sandpiper on the Yucatan Peninsula” by: Dr. Jorge Correa Sandoval / Researcher, EcoSur-Chetumal.
- Place:** Salon Izamal at the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).
- 7:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony for the Photograph and Drawing Contests.
Place: Salon Izamal at the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).
- 7:00 p.m. Pictorial Exhibit “The Birds of Yucatan”.
Place: The Cultural Center (Casa de la Cultura), Valladolid.
- 7:30 p.m. Inauguration of the exhibit composed of the winning works from the photographic and drawing contest.
Place: Corredor of the 21st Century Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).
- 8:00pm. Inaugural cocktail.
Place: Salon Izamal of the 21st Century Yucatan Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones Siglo XXI).

Friday, November 20

- 6:30 a.m. Bird count in different reserves (private and within community lands –ejidos- in the area surrounding the 16th c. town of Izamal.
Cost: \$100.00 mn or \$8.00 USd per person.
- 10:00 a.m. Yucatecan country breakfast in the community (*ejido*) of Chumbec; reading of the rules for the Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*).
Cost: \$100.00 mn or \$8.00 USd per person.
- 12:00 p.m. Start of the Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*).
- Departure for overnight in Valladolid, Yucatan for “beginner” teams participating in the Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*).
 - Departure for teams participating in the “classic” Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*) Overnight: Team’s choice within the state of Yucatan.
- 8:00 p.m. Romantic Musical Serenade Night in Valladolid.
Place: Hero’s Park (Parque de los Héroes), Valladolid, Yucatan.

Saturday, November 21

- 5:30 a.m. Continuation of the Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*).
- 8:00 p.m. Yucatecan Festival: “Valladolid Music & Folklore”.

Place: Principal Park, Historic Center (Parque Principal del Centro Histórico), Valladolid, Yucatan.

NOTE: Overnight in Valladolid.

Sunday, November 22

10:00 a.m. The Bird-a-thon (*xoc ch'ich'*) ends.

10:30 a.m. Birds lists must be turned in.

Place: The Tourism Information Center at the Zací Sinkhole (Parador Turístico Cenote Zací), Valladolid, Yucatan.

10:30 a.m. Breakfast.

Place: The Tourism Information Center at the Zací Sinkhole (Parador Turístico Cenote Zací), Valladolid, Yucatan.

11:30 a.m. Awards and Closing Ceremony.

Place: The Tourism Information Center at the Zací Sinkhole (Parador Turístico Cenote Zací), Valladolid, Yucatan.

8:00 p.m. Musical Event: A Remembrance of Valladolid.

Place: Principal Park, Historic Center (Parque Principal del Centro Histórico), Valladolid, Yucatan.

- ❖ To form your Bird-a-thon team (*xoc ch'ich'*) contact Mr. David Salas. Tel: 985-59-91; cel phone: 045 9991 27-16-85 or e-mail: dsalas@cablered.net.mx ; dsalas60@gmail.com.
- ❖ Travel agency service with **Ecoturismo Yucatan**. Tel: 920-27-72, 018002881844 for nacional calls, or e-mail: toh@ecoyuc.com.