



Sunrise Birding LLC
CHILE I
October 10 – 19, 2022
TRIP REPORT
Condors, Penguins & Pumas



Photos: Andean Condor, Pumas, Elegant Crested Tinamou by Steve Bird.
Magellanic Woodpecker, Magellanic Penguins by Gina Nichol.

Chile - Oct - 2022

10th Oct – 19th Oct 2022

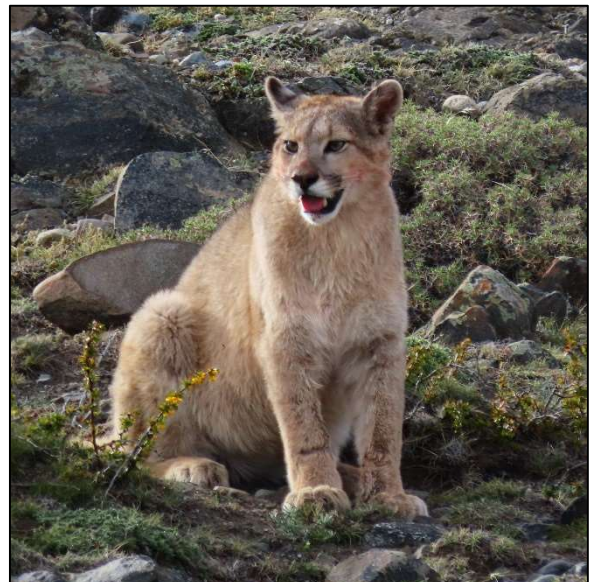
HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

- King Penguin
- Magellanic Woodpecker
- White-bridled Finch
- Darwin's Rhea
- Magellanic Plover
- Snowy Sheathbill
- Austral Pygmy Owl
- Kelp Goose
- Aplomado Falcon
- Magellanic Snipe
- Black-necked Swan
- Southern Fulmar
- Tawny-throated Dotterel
- Least Seedsnipe
- Chilean Skua
- Magellanic Horned Owl
- Cinereous Harrier
- Two-banded Plover
- Flightless Steamer Duck
- Pumas ! Pumas ! Pumas !
- Torrent Duck
- Andean Condor
- Dolphin Gull
- Sharp-billed Canastero
- Chilean Flamingo
- Great Grebe
- Austral Parakeet
- Black-faced Ibis
- Coscoroba Swan
- Ruddy-headed Goose
- Silver Teal
- Magellanic Penguin
- Rufous-chested Plover
- Spectacled Tyrant
- Flying Steamer Duck
- Magellanic Oystercatcher
- South American Tern
- Sharp-billed Canastero
- Correndera Pipit
- Torres del Paine Scenery
- Elegant Crested Tinamou
- Southern Giant Petrel
- Black-browed Albatross
- Magellanic Horned Owl
- Thorn-tailed Rayadito
- Black-chested Buzzard Eagle
- Chocolate-vented Ground Tyrant
- Long-tailed Meadowlark
- White-throated Treerunner
- White-chinned Petrel
- Giant Hummingbird
- Humboldt Penguin
- Puma
- Big Hairy Armadillo
- Southern Sea Lion
- Humboldt's Hog-nosed Skunk
- South American Gray Fox
- Guanaco
- Giant Bumble Bee
- Southern Giant Petrel Show !!

SUMMARY:

The area of Southern Chile known as Patagonia was the focus of this wonderful tour. Some of the most incredible scenery on Earth coupled with extraordinary wildlife sightings made this an unforgettable experience. With everyone arriving early in Santiago, Chile we were able to offer an additional day of birding to sites just a couple of hours from Santiago. This proved a good opportunity to see birds not seen elsewhere on the tour. Then we flew south to Punta Arenas where we were met with strong winds. Luckily, we only had a day or so of cold winds and the weather on the rest of the tour was outstandingly beautiful. Clear skies and sunshine in Torres del Paine National Park allowed stunning views of snow-capped mountains and icy blue lakes. Our two days of Puma tracking proved overwhelmingly successful with no less than 8 different Pumas seen. And I mean seen well with mothers and cubs watched at just 30 meters and totally unconcerned at our presence. Torres del Paine offered so much more with sunrises on the mountains, armadillos, skunks, herds of Guanaco,



beautiful Torrent Ducks, huge Magellanic Woodpeckers and even bigger Andean Condors. Our lodge in the park was a pure delight with its views and food to die for! Two ferry crossings allowed us to get a few seabirds including albatross, giant petrels and diving petrels, while a boat trip to Magdalena Island had us close to nesting Magellanic Penguins, Chilean Skuas and a bunch of South American Sea Lions which didn't distract us from the unexpected lone Snowy Sheathbill walking among them. And how could we forget the visit to a King Penguin colony. Surely this is one of the most attractive of all penguins, and even the big fat babies were sort of cute!! All in all, a fantastic tour with a fantastic group!



Photos: Puma by Gina Nichol, Torres del Paine scene (with Puma) by Gina Nichol.

Day 1 - 10th Oct Pre tour to Cachagua & Pullally

With everyone having arrived safely a day before the official start of our tour, we arranged a special day out. By 10 am everyone had arrived so we set off towards the coastal area of Cachagua. This pleasant beach and rocky island was a great introduction, as not only was the setting and scenery wonderful, but we also had perfect weather conditions, not too hot and not too cold.



As we approached the beach, we could see plenty of Kelp Gulls, a few Peruvian Boobies, and Peruvian Pelicans offshore. Our first look at the small rocky island that lies just a few hundred meters across a deep-water channel found us our first **Humboldt Penguins** (Photo: Rob Wilson) stood around or lazing on the guano encrusted rocks. Both American and Blackish Oystercatchers were seen and Neotropic

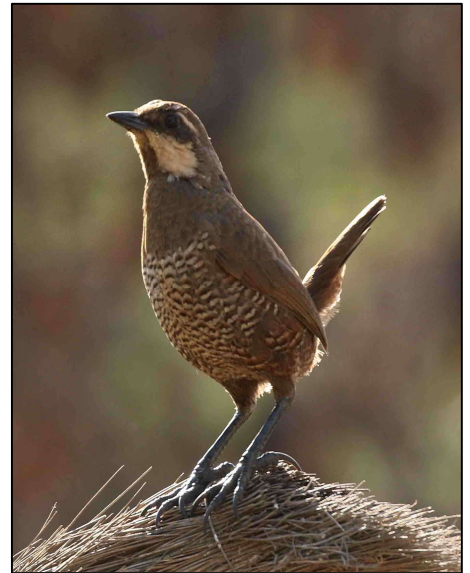


Cormorants were perched in two dead trees, A further search revealed two Red-legged Cormorants while distant Grey Gulls flew behind the island. A couple of **Chilean Seaside Cinclodes** (Photo: Gina Nichol) eventually gave great views and some people were lucky enough to spot an Otter before it disappeared in the seaweed. Chilean Swallows were also flying around as we walked to a beachside restaurant for lunch.

We then set off the estuary mouth of Pullally. The approach road had us stopping for Austral

Blackbirds, Long-tailed Meadowlark, a Grassland Yellow Finch, Variable Hawk and a Giant Hummingbird perched on some twigs. Once parked up we walked across the sand to an area just behind some dunes. A close Cinereous Harrier was joined by a Variable Hawk and we watched as they chased each other around.

Correndera Pipits were song fighting, an Austral Negrito flew across and landed on the shoreline and, in the shallow pools were Black-necked Stilts, a Grey (Black-bellied) Plover, and eventually we counted 19 Hudsonian Whimbrel. Again, further scrutiny revealed a Greater Yellowlegs, and several Snowy Plovers. Finally, before we turned around three Black Skimmers put in an appearance. The Correndera Pipits gave much better views in the grass and then back at the car park we got fantastic views of a pair of **Moustached Turcas** (Photo: Steve Bird).



As we drove out, some people in our group saw a Great Shrike-Tyrant and others got brief views of both Rufous-tailed Plantcutter and a Black-chinned Siskin while the Giant Hummingbird was also seen again. What a great day out, so we returned to our hotel ready for our early morning flight tomorrow to Punta Arenas.

Day 2 - 11th Oct

This morning after breakfast we headed for the domestic terminal at Santiago Airport for our flight to Punta Arenas. On arrival the weather was notably different from where we had just left and was fairly windy with just a slight chill in the air. We met with our local guide Rodrigo and driver Luis and were soon on our way to the hotel. Just a stone's throw from the sea it was possible to see lots of Kelp Gulls and the occasional Southern Giant Petrel flying around from our hotel windows!



We settled into our rooms before meeting for lunch. Ready to start our adventure, we drove along the coastal road where we saw many more Kelp Gulls. A stop further along produced our target bird or birds, a pair of rare Ruddy-headed Geese among the more common Upland Geese, as well as some smart looking Ashy-headed Geese. A few Chimango Caracaras flew around chasing Southern Lapwings and a smart looking Dolphin Gull flew right over our heads.

Photo: Ruddy-headed Goose by Gina Nichol.

Moving on we stopped and got out to scan a small delta. Here we saw all three species of geese again plus Southern Crested Caracara and a lone Baird's Sandpiper. Continuing on, we saw plenty of Crested Ducks, some distant Southern Fulmars and a Black-browed Albatross. A nearby meadow held some very nice close Ruddy-headed Geese, and both Caracaras species were seen together on the ground, while an American Kestrel was perched on a dead tree. Further on again and we came to the end of the road where we took a short walk beside a thick Beech Forest.



Here several Thorn-tailed Rayaditos performed well and we got good looks at both Magellanic and Blackish Oystercatchers together on some seaweed. A pair of Kelp Geese showed well and were to be our only ones of the trip, while nearby two Grey-flanked Cinclodes showed well. As we returned to our bus a Dark-bellied Cinclodes was seen on top of an old disused campervan. We then made our way toward town and our hotel but not before a stop for a pair of Flightless Steamer Ducks sat on a rock, some wonderful rainbows and a couple of Southern Fulmars and an Austral Negrito.

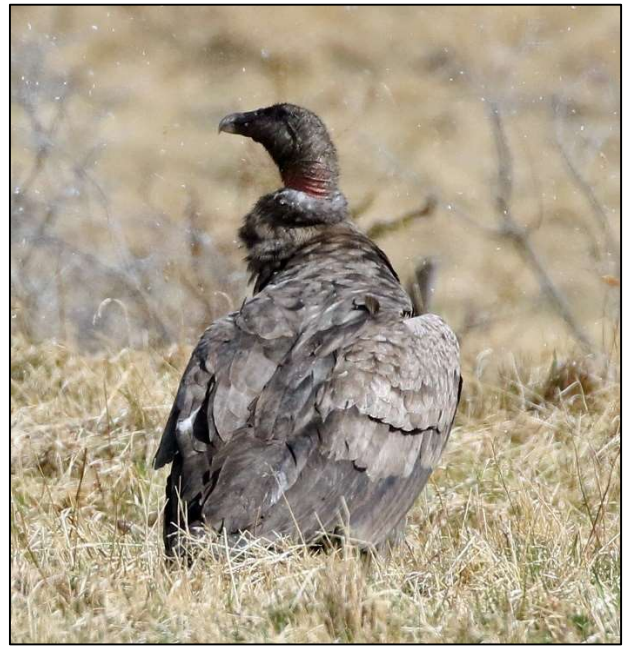


Photos: Kelp Goose by Steve Bird.
Rainbow by Gina Nichol.

Day 3 - 12th Oct

Today we woke to snow and strong winds but over breakfast the snow stopped and the wind also dropped a little. After breakfast we packed our luggage into the bus and set off towards our destination of Torres del Paine National Park. Our first stop however was just outside Punta Arenas where a couple of small ponds held Chilean Flamingos, plus a few Chiloe Wigeon and Red Shoveler. We also found Coscoroba Swan, a pair of Flying Steamer Ducks, which flew off and some Red-gartered Coots battling the rough water. A male Austral Negrito showed well and finally a lone Black-faced Ibis was spotted.

We were getting cold so we jumped back into the bus and continued our journey. The next stop after a restroom was a very wind-blown lake. We walked the shoreline until eventually we found our target bird, the dainty and beautiful **Magellanic Plover** (Photo: Steve Bird), a species in a family of its own. After watching this bird work its way along the rocky shore, we headed back to the warmth of the bus. A couple of people saw Buff-winged Cinclodes near to where we parked. Again, continuing on we drove past many Upland Geese, a few Southern Crested and Chimango Caracaras, plus our first Guanacos and Darwin's Rheas. Many more were seen along the rest of the journey.



A stop at Puerto Natales allowed us to get great looks at Black-necked Swans just off shore as well as groups of Brown-hooded Gulls and even a Southern Giant Petrel that flew along the beach and away. Moving on we spotted a few distant **Andean Condors** (Photos: Steve Bird) and then a group of about 20 perched on the ground feeding on a carcass close to the road. We stopped to walk back but unfortunately; they were flushed by some road workers who stopped right where the birds were feeding. We watched them in flight and slowly they came back. Both immatures and adult birds gave us fantastic close views.

Moving on we eventually entered Torres de Paine National Park. A stop beside a waterfall produced Dark-faced Ground Tyrant and American Kestrel but not the hoped-for Torrent Duck. Continuing on we eventually arrived at our fantastic lodge! We were welcomed with a special Pisco Sour and enjoyed a feast at dinner as it was barbecue night, Wow!!



Day 4 - 13th Oct

This morning there was no wind and the morning sun was glowing on the mountains in a beautiful pink hue. We had breakfast and then headed out on the first of our Puma tracking days. We drove past

numerous Upland Geese and several Darwin's Rhea before we got a call that one of our trackers had found a Puma. It was apparently walking a hillside so we parked at a convenient spot and waited for the cat to appear on the ridge. Several Guanaco were seen on the hillside and birds included close Grey-



hooded Sierra Finch, a few noisy Southern Lapwings, and then a showy Scale-throated Earthcreeper. Three Magellanic Snipe flew off and then came back and landed in the grasses where we got superb views. A Black-chinned Siskin appeared and a distant Long-tailed Meadowlark was seen.

Eventually, a Puma was spotted walking high on the hilltop. It was probably a male and we watched it for about 20 minutes before it disappeared behind a rock. We then got a call that another, different Puma had been spotted. We arrived at the spot and walked to a viewing spot. Tucked deep into the low scrub was the head of a sleeping Puma, no more than 35 meters away. As we watched this cat, another lifted its head, and occasionally one or both would lift up and have a quick look around. One then rolled over on its back and waved a paw in the air. We were just about to leave when a Guanaco let out a distress call which made not two, but three **Pumas** (Photo: Gina Nichol) all sit up and look around. Wow what a sighting!!



After a few minutes, the cats returned to their position of being laid down and hardly visible. What luck we had to be in the right place at the right time! A Correndera Pipit tried to distract us with its song flight and we got good views when it perched on a nearby bush.

We left the Pumas and headed back to the lodge for lunch hoping the cats would stay asleep until we returned in the late afternoon. After lunch and a short rest, we set off to a nearby area of scrub where we got views of a Grey-bellied Shrike-Tyrant flitting low among the bushes and refusing to land in the

open. A showy pair of Straight-billed Canastero cooperated and were later voted as having a high cute factor.



From here we drove back to the area where we had seen Pumas earlier. A Southern Gray Fox was seen along the way and then arriving at our site we were informed that the Pumas had moved and trackers were searching. A female Cinereous Harrier flew close by before we moved on a little and then decided to climb a small hill with wide open views. There, Steve spotted the heads of two Pumas looking over a hill top. We got a few distant photos and then walked a little closer where excellent views were had before the two cats got up and walked behind the hill. Here we watched a pair of Cinnamon bellied Ground Tyrants, before David one of our trackers beckoned us up a hill to where we had eye level

views of the two **Pumas**.
(Photo: Gina Nichol)

It was a fantastic show with different light settings as the sun slowly disappeared behind the cloud before setting. Totally amazed by these views, we made our way back the bus and headed back to the lodge where once again a fine feast awaited us.



Day 5 - 14th Oct

After breakfast, we set off on another quest for Pumas. We arrived at an area where a short walk or truck ride for those that didn't want to walk, took us to a spot where 4 Pumas lay on a rocky mound. There was a carcass of a Guanaco nearby and a couple of the Pumas had blood on their faces from feeding on this fairly fresh kill. We positioned ourselves with the snowy mountains as a nice backdrop to the **Pumas** (Photo: Gina Nichol) and watched them as they mostly lazed around, sometimes sitting up when a Guanaco gave out an alarm call. A couple of Austral Negritos showed well for us and then a Least Seedsnipe was seen calling from the top of a rock. We spent a couple of hours watching these cats at just 30 meters away, another incredible experience.



Returning to the bus, we saw Correndera Pipit and Scale-throated Earthcreeper, before continuing on to a track around the edge of a reedbed. On the small pond were some Lake Duck, Red-gartered Coots and a White-tufted Grebe. Nearby, two Cinereous Harriers, Black-chested Buzzard Eagle and Andean Condors were seen and then after a little enticing we got super views of a Grass Wren. In the distance, Gina spotted a Spectacled Tyrant which was well seen and then a couple of people got to see a Yellow-winged Blackbird fly past. Chilean Swallows flew around and an Austral Thrush sang from a dead bush.

Moving on we spotted some Yellow-billed Pintail on a small pond, and then down by a waterfall we walked a short distance along the river edge until we spotted a male **Torrent Duck** (Photo: Steve Bird).



As we watched this attractive bird, it swam down river toward us allowing great photo opportunities. Then a second male also came down river past us. We then returned to our wonderful lodge for lunch.

After lunch and a short break, we returned to the bus and then got to see a Chilean Flicker in the nearby trees. Back aboard the bus, we set off back to the Pumas with the kill. We passed a Big Hairy Armadillo and the usual geese and rheas. At the Puma spot the four Pumas were still there but one was feeding on the dead Guanaco. As we watched, another joined in the feast while the other two just sat and watched or feel asleep. A close flock of Black-faced Ibis gave a very nice fly



by. We then returned to the lodge seeing a **Humboldt's (Patagonian) Hog-nosed Skunk** (Photo: Rob Wilson) which Rob spotted from the bus. The second one he had spotted earning him the name of "Skunk Master", maybe not a title to boast about to your friends, but we appreciated it.

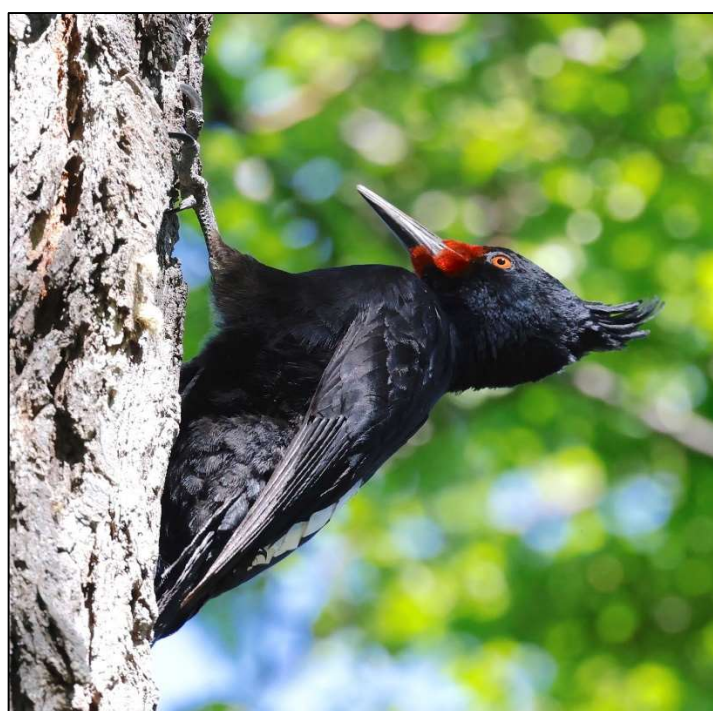
Day 6 - 15th Oct

This morning after breakfast we packed our luggage into the bus and set off into the park. Along the way we saw our second Giant Hairy Armadillo and got better photos of Darwin's Rhea. Our first stop near a camp ground soon found us some nice perched Chilean Swallows and a Rufous-tailed Plantcutter. Thorn-tailed Rayaditos we seen and Patagonian Sierra Finches had replaced the Gray-hooded here. Then an **Austral Pygmy Owl** (Photo: Steve Bird) called so we soon tracked it down and enjoyed views as it was mobbed by all the other birds plus House Wrens and Austral Blackbirds. A group of Austral Parakeets flew over and landed in a dead tree and the views across the lake were simply spectacular.



Moving on we crossed over a river and spotted a Great Grebe. We got out and watched this and another on the lake. Our next stop looked out over a lake where Yellow-billed Pintail and **an adult and young Great Grebe** (Photo: Gina Nichol) were seen. Black-faced Ibis fed along the back of the lake and the usual Upland Geese were present. We had our picnic lunch at this lovely site complete with a geologic specimen garden.

After lunch, we set off to Gray Lake where we took a walk through the ancient woodland. Striped Woodpeckers was seen well and the first of several White-crested Elaenas. In another area of wood, we eventually tracked down a **White-throated Treerunner** (Photo: Steve Bird) and then a superb pair of Magellanic Woodpeckers flew in and perched right in front of us, one of the most wanted of species! On the way back across the river bridge, we found two lovely female Torrent Ducks and photographed them from the bridge. Pleased with our finds, we continued to head for Puerto Natales. We made a stop along the way at the Cueva del Milodón Natural Monument, where in 1895, the remains of a ground sloth called *Mylodon darwini* were discovered.



Magellanic Woodpecker photos by Rob Wilson.



Day 7 - 16th Oct



This morning we set off after breakfast from Puerto Natales heading for Tierra del Fuego. The long journey took us through endless steppe type habitat of open plains and grassland. Black-chested Buzzard Eagle was seen along the way then a quick stop was made as an Aplomado Falcon appeared and then landed on a fence post.

We continued on eventually getting to Pali Aike Road well known for its birding. A stop soon produced some stunning **White-bridled Finches** (Photo: Steve Bird), followed by Tawny-throated Dotterel and a showy pair of

Chocolate-vented Tyrants. Other birds were seen including Common Miner, lots of Austral Negritos, and even a few Baird's Sandpipers. As we moved on, a pool offered both Yellow-billed Pintail and Yellow-billed Teal.

Our next stop was a volcanic crater at Pali Aike National Park. As we started the trail, Janice first spotted and then we found several very localized rare lizards – the **South Patagonian Smooth-throated Lizard** (*Liolaemus sarmientoi*), (not *L. magellanicus* as previously thought). (Photo: Steve Bird)



As we walked around, we some found amazing lichens and a ridiculously confiding **Cordilleran Canastero** (Photo: Gina Nichol). Back out on the road Buff-winged Cinclodes was spotted. We moved on and found a couple of Rufous-chested Dotterel and then further on in a slightly different coastal habitat we found three **Elegant**



Crested Tinamous but they disappeared as quick as they were found. We continued on a Gina spotted another **Tinamou** (Photo: Steve Bird) close to the road. We waited and eventually got good fabulous views as it walked the roadside scrub eventually ending up right beside the road. A car came along just at



that moment and we never saw it again.

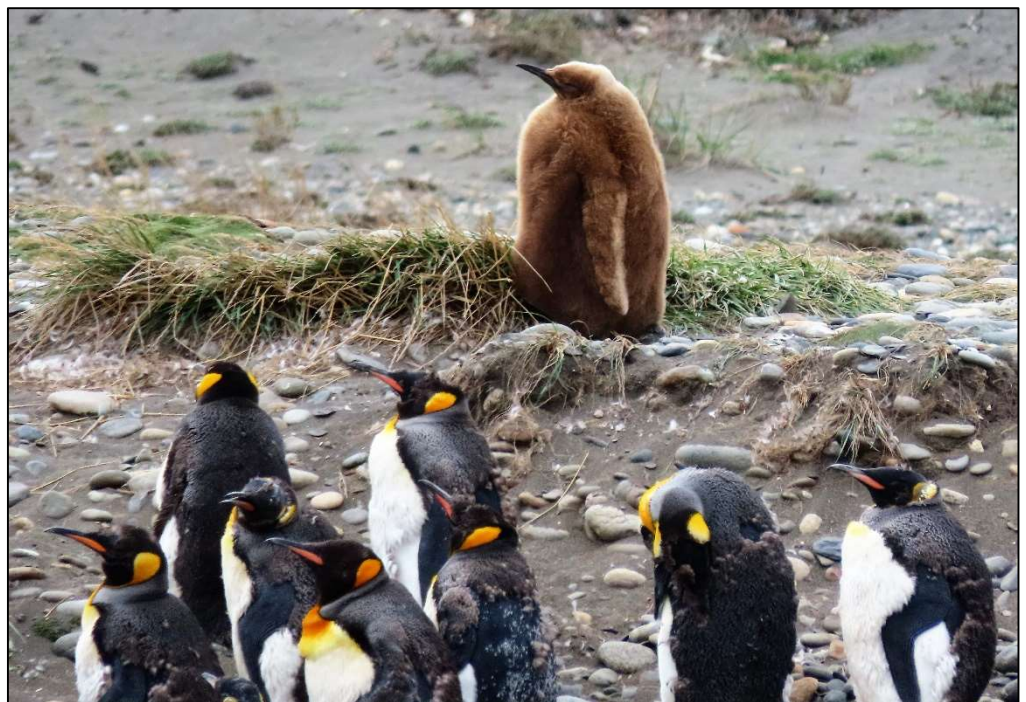
In the same spot we did add both Mourning Sierra Finch and Austral Canastero to our list. Further on in some roadside ponds we saw Chiloe Wigeon, at least ten Greater Yellowlegs, two Lesser Yellowlegs, two White-rumped Sandpipers, and two Wilson's Phalaropes. There were also a couple of Magellanic Snipe hiding away.

We then arrived at the ferry which would take us across to Tierra del Fuego. No messing around we were soon aboard and on our way across this short crossing. Looking ahead of us from the higher deck, we spotted a few distant Magellanic Diving Petrels, a South American Tern, two Magellanic Penguins, Rock Shag, and a Commerson's Dolphin which was only seen by a couple of us. We arrived on Tierra del Fuego and after taking dinner in a nearby restaurant we continued on to Porvenir where we arrive late and tired. It was well worth it though as we had had a wonderful day.

Day 8 - 17th Oct

This morning after breakfast we set off along the coastal road towards our destination of Useless Bay. This huge bay offered no shelter from the Tierra del Fuego winds for the ancient explorers' ships, and so was they named it "Useless". A few stops along the way produced many of the birds we had already seen but now included more White-rumped Sandpipers.

Arriving at our destination – the Pingüino Rey Natural Reserve, we walked to the first blind where we could see a group of **King Penguins** (Photo: Gina Nichol) huddled together. There were also a few big fluffy brown young birds and a number of moulting adult birds. This is the only mainland colony of King Penguins in the world. Apparently, there was a Penguin colony hear a century ago, but the birds had disappeared. Then, miraculously, birds started to return to the beach again in 2010, after which the reserve was declared in 2011, thus protecting these magnificent birds. There are now around 250 birds that breed here, and we saw about 75. Another area had some very smart looking adults both stood up and some laying down, with one noisy individual flapping his little wings and strutting around as if posing for photographs.



Walking over to the next blind we could look out into the bay where White-chinned Petrels were passing by with some frequency and a few actually coming in reasonably close. A Chilean Skua was seen and a few Magellanic Diving Petrels. Nearby, a pair of **Two-banded Plovers** (Photo: Steve Bird) were seen with the female seen to settle on its nest. Long-tailed Meadowlarks and some close Black-faced Ibis also allowed good photo opportunities before we walked back to the bus. It was now time to drive back to town and have a brief break before setting off for the afternoon.



After lunch, we took a coastal dirt track and stopped at several ponds where we found Red Shovelers and Yellow-billed Pintail, Coscoroba Swans, Greater Yellowlegs, and some White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers. On one pool we were able to compare both White-rumped and Baird's beside each other. Another Chilean Skua flew over, while out at sea we spotted a couple of South American Terns and some Great Grebes. Small birds included numerous Austral Negritos, some smart looking Grey-hooded Sierra Finches and the odd Buff-winged Cinclodes. Our final stop was at a sandstone cliff where we watched a **Lesser (Magellanic) Horned Owl** (Photo: Steve Bird) sit in a tiny cave. After this we turned around and headed back to our hotel in Porvenir.

Later in the evening, Rodrigo led us on a forced march to what turned out to be a delicious dinner complete with local crab and other specialties of the area. Our fantastic driver Luis, went back to the hotel to get the van so we didn't have to walk all that way back.



Day 9 - 18th Oct



Today after a relaxed breakfast we took a walk down to the harbor. A group of Black-chinned Siskins fed in the short grass providing excellent views. A little further along, we found a group of Kelp Gulls and with them a group of beautiful **Dolphin Gulls** (Photo: Steve Bird), a bird we had already seen but wanted to see better, and this was certainly our opportunity. With their waxy red bills and legs, they looked superb and we all managed to get some great photos. A few Crested Ducks were also present and a small group of Red Shoveler.

We then returned to the hotel and set off to the nearby Laguna de Los Cisnes (Swan Lagoon). Here a boardwalk took us into the newly designated “Inaugurated Stromatolites Park”. The very interesting stromatolites are mineral structures built by a type of bacteria over millions of years, and are considered living fossils and this park had a very unique landscape. We



scanned the landscape and right below us seemed to be a hatch of caterpillars which we were distracted away from by a nice pair of Cinnamon-bellied Ground Tyrants. Out on the water edge, where the living, reddish stromatolites were, we saw several White-rumped Sandpipers and two **Wilson's Phalarope** (Photo: Steve Bird), while Crested Ducks were plentiful in the open water. As we returned back along the boardwalk a Southern Giant Petrel flew past, amazing!



We then returned to the hotel packed our luggage and drove to the ferry port for our 2hr crossing to Punta Arenas. Being a little early to board the ferry, we took a short walk along the shoreline. More Southern Giant Petrels flew close by, as did many groups of Imperial Cormorants. A couple of Rock Shags were seen as well as a pair of Flying Steamer Ducks. We eventually boarded the ferry and had a quick lunch in the onboard café before it set sail. The sea was a little choppy with whitecaps which made finding birds a bit tricky. We spotted several Magellanic Diving Petrels, plus about 4 Southern Fulmars. Later as we neared Punta Arenas, we saw about four Black-browed Albatross, but the show highlight was up to eleven Southern Giant Petrels that came into the back of the boat and flew within feet of us, simply amazing!! We finally arrived in Punta Arenas exhilarated by the windy boat ride and were soon on our way to our hotel.



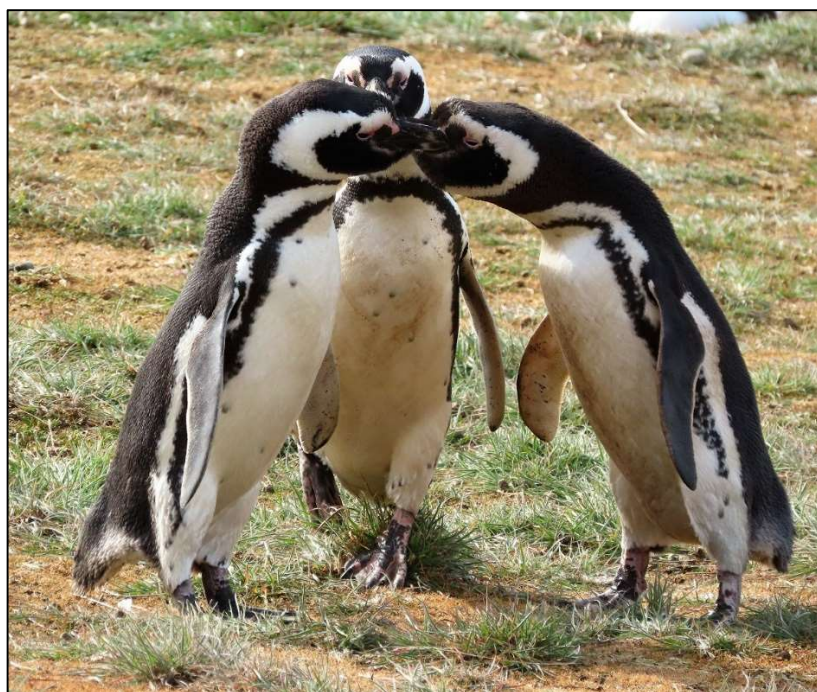
Day 10- 19th Oct

Our last morning and were scheduled to visit Magdalena Island, a trip that got cancelled due to bad weather at the beginning of our trip. This morning, the weather was fine so off we went. Ready to board our boat for the 1hr journey across the straights of Magellan, we met the other Sunrise Birding group who also had to rearrange this trip.

Together headed out across smooth seas to our first stop at a South American Sea Lion colony. Sure enough there were plenty of sea lions to be seen along the shoreline, but a highlight and quite unexpected was a lone Snowy Sheathbill walking among the lazing animals. Snowy Sheathbills can be found in Chile in winter but by now they have usually headed south towards Antarctica to breed. We were lucky that this one remained!



Moving on, the boat headed to the island of Magdalena which is home to almost 150,000 **Magellanic Penguins** (Photo: Gina Nichol) during the high season. It was not the high season now, but there was still around 150 birds present. We stepped ashore and walked the circular trail around the island. It was great to get so close to these penguins and watch their interactions. Other birds were of course present with hundreds of Kelp Gulls, a few Chilean Skuas, Common Miner, and a few Chilean Swallows.



Eventually we returned to dock and set sail back to the mainland. The sea had become a bit choppy now and a lot of amusement was had as waves crashed over the front of the boat. Our boat was completely sealed so there was nothing to worry about. A few South American Terns joined us and after our bumpy ride back we were soon all ashore. It was now time to return to our hotel, pack our bags and head for the airport and the first of our return flights home!



What a great tour this was and we thank Rodrigo for his guiding skills, and all the people, drivers, and trackers etc that made it all work so smoothly.

Gina & Steve



BIRDLIST FOR CHILE – October 2022

A = Number of species recorded on tour B = Number of days out of 10 recorded C = Highest daily count

H = Heard Only N/C = No Count C=Common

This list follows the IOC WORLD BIRD LIST and as such names may be different than some of the field guides and other taxonomy's – Species only seen on the pre-tour day are highlighted in green.

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	Darwin's Rhea	<i>Rhea pennata</i>	5	30+
2	Elegant Crested Tinamou	<i>Eudromia elegans</i>	1	4
3	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	1	30
4	Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	2	150
5	King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	1	75
6	Black-necked Swan	<i>Cygnus melanocorypha</i>	6	50+
7	Coscoroba Swan	<i>Coscoroba coscoroba</i>	7	12
8	Peruvian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	1	25
9	Peruvian Booby	<i>Sula variegata</i>	1	30
10	Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	5	40
11	Upland Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>	10	200
12	Kelp Goose	<i>Chloephaga hybrida</i>	1	2
13	Ashy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga poliocephala</i>	6	10
14	Ruddy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i>	1	8
15	Flightless Steamerduck	<i>Tachyeres pteneres</i>	1	2
16	Flying Steamerduck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>	4	5
17	Torrent Duck	<i>Merganetta armata</i>	2	2
18	Crested Duck	<i>Anas specularioides</i>	10	20
19	Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>	5	10
20	Yellow-billed Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	2	3
21	Silver Teal	<i>Anas versicolor</i>	1	2
22	Red Shoveler	<i>Anas platalea</i>	4	8
23	Chiloe Wigeon	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>	5	8
24	Lake Duck	<i>Oxyura vittata</i>	2	3
25	Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	2	4
26	Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	5	16
27	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	1	20
28	Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	2	4
29	Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>	3	4
30	White-tufted Grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>	5	2
31	Great Grebe	<i>Podiceps major</i>	2	4
32	Silvery Grebe	<i>Podiceps occipitalis</i>	1	8
33	Black-faced Ibis	<i>Theristicus melanopis</i>	7	40
34	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	1	1
35	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	2	2
36	Magellanic (Rock) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	3	6
37	Red-legged Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax gaimardi</i>	1	2
38	Imperial Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	3	4,000
39	Andean Condor	<i>Vultur gryphus</i>	4	25
40	Cinereous Harrier	<i>Circus cinereus</i>	6	2

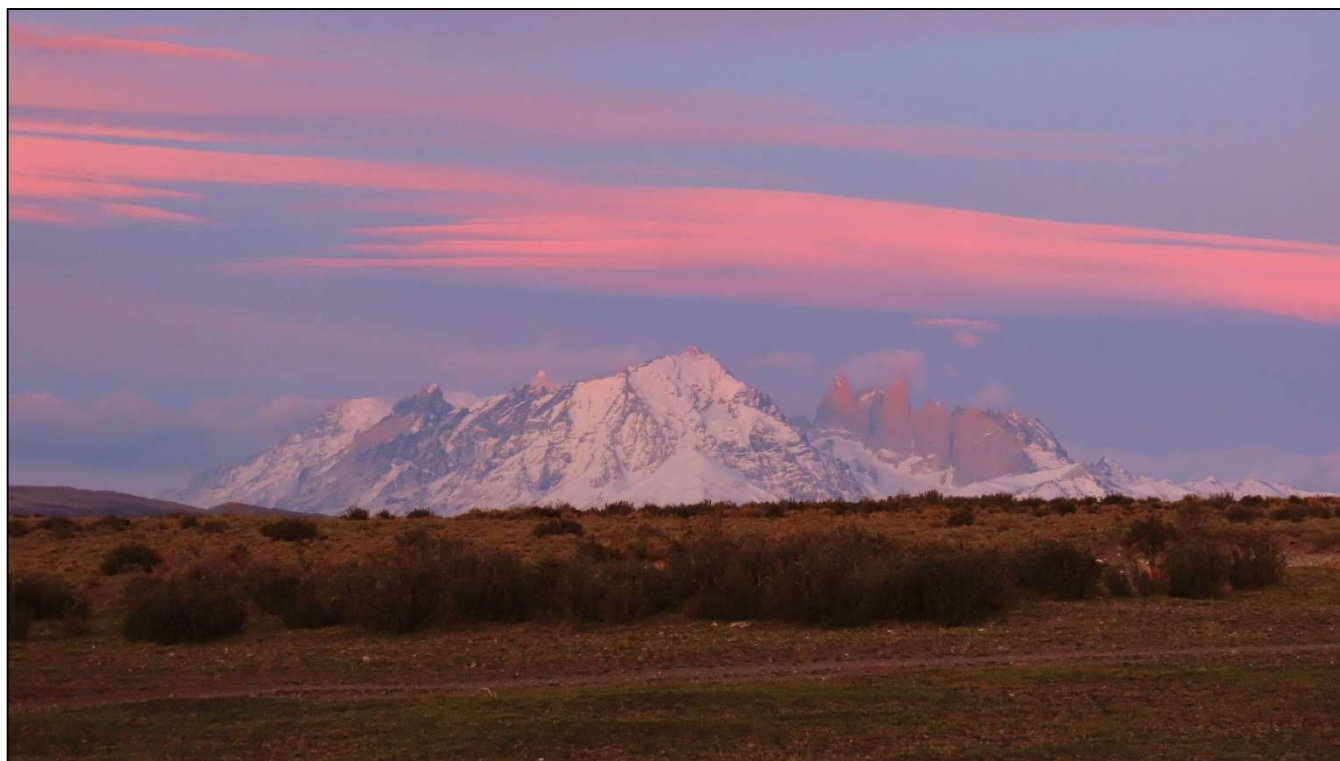
41	Variable Hawk	<i>Geranoaetus polyosoma</i>	2	2
42	Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>	5	2
43	Southern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	7	8
44	Chimango Caracara	<i>Milvago chimango</i>	7	10
45	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	5	2
46	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>	1	1
47	Red-gartered Coot	<i>Fulica armillata</i>	5	10
48	Snowy Sheathbill	<i>Pluvianellus socialis</i>	1	1
49	Magellanic Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus leucopodus</i>	8	4
50	Blackish Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ater</i>	2	4
51	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	1	6
52	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	8	8
53	Two-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	3	4
54	Rufous-chested Plover (Dotterel)	<i>Charadrius modestus</i>	1	2
55	Tawny-throated Dotterel	<i>Oreopholus ruficolis</i>	1	6
56	Least Seedsnipe	<i>Thinocorus rumicivorus</i>	2	6
57	White-backed Stilt	<i>Himantopus melanurus</i>	1	6
58	Grey (Black-bellied) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1	2
59	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius hudsonicus</i>	1	23
60	Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	1	2
61	White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	3	15
62	Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	6	20
63	Magellanic Plover	<i>Pluvianellus socialis</i>	1	2
64	Magellanic Snipe	<i>Gallinago magellanica</i>	2	3
65	Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	2	2
66	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	3	10
67	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	1	2
68	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	1	3
69	Chilean Skua	<i>Stercorarius chilensis</i>	3	6
70	Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	4	20
71	Grey Gull	<i>Larus modestus</i>	1	10
72	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	7	300
73	Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Larus maculipennis</i>	7	100
74	South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	4	20
75	Rock Dove	<i>Columbia livia</i>	4	N/C
76	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	3	8
77	Picui Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina picui</i>	1	2
78	Pacific Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica meloda</i>	1	4
79	Lesser Horned Owl	<i>Bubo magellanicus</i>	1	1
80	Austral Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium nana</i>	1	1
81	Austral Parakeet	<i>Enicognathus ferrugineus</i>	3	15
82	Striped Woodpecker	<i>Picoides lignarius</i>	1	2
83	Chilean Flicker	<i>Colaptes pitius</i>	2	1
84	Magellanic Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus magellanicus</i>	1	2
85	Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>	1	1
86	Common Miner	<i>Geositta cunicularia</i>	2	6
87	Scale-throated Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia dumetaria</i>	3	2
88	Buff-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes fuscus</i>	4	6

89	Grey-flanked Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes oustaleti</i>	2	2
90	Chilean Seaside Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes nigrofumosus</i>	1	2
91	Dark-bellied Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes patagonicus</i>	2	1
92	Thorn-tailed Rayadito	<i>Aphrastura spinicauda</i>	2	6
93	Plain-mantled Tit-spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura aegithaloides</i>	1	1
94	Sharp-billed Canastero	<i>Asthenes pyrrholeuca</i>	1	2
95	Cordilleran Canastero	<i>Asthenes modesta</i>	1	1
96	Austral Canastero	<i>Asthenes anthoides</i>	1	2
97	White-throated Treerunner	<i>Pygarrhichas albogularis</i>	1	1
98	Moustached Turca	<i>Pterotochos megapodius</i>	1	2
99	Rufous-tailed Plantcutter	<i>Phytotoma rara</i>	2	1
100	Chilean Elaenia	<i>Elaenia chilensis</i>	1	4
101	Austral Negrito	<i>Lessonia rufa</i>	9	30
102	Spectacled Tyrant	<i>Hymenops perspicillatus</i>	1	1
103	Fire-eyed Diucon	<i>Xolmis pyrope</i>	5	2
104	Chocolate-vented Tyrant	<i>Neoxolmis rufiventris</i>	1	4
105	Dark-faced Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola macloviana</i>	1	2
106	Cinnamon-bellied Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola capistrata</i>	2	4
107	Great Shrike-Tyrant	<i>Agriornis lividus</i>	1	1
108	Grey-bellied Shrike-Tyrant	<i>Agriornis micropterus</i>	2	1
109	Chilean Swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucopyga</i>	7	10
110	Grass Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	1	1
111	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon chilensis</i>	5	6
112	Correndera Pipit	<i>Anthus correndera</i>	7	4
113	Patagonian Mockingbird	<i>Mimus patagonicus</i>	1	1
114	Austral Thrush	<i>Turdus falcklandii</i>	10	3
115	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	7	40
116	Black-chinned Siskin	<i>Carduelis barbata</i>	2	8
117	Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	10	25
118	Long-tailed Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella loyca</i>	8	4
119	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	1	10
120	Austral Blackbird	<i>Curaeus curaeus</i>	3	4
121	Yellow-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius thilius</i>	1	1
122	Grey-hooded Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus gayi</i>	4	4
123	Patagonian Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus patagonicus</i>	2	8
124	Mourning Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus fruticeti</i>	1	1
125	White-bridled Finch	<i>Melanodera melanodera</i>	1	4
126	Common Diuca-Finch	<i>Diuca diuca</i>	1	4
127	Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola luteiventris</i>	1	2

Other sightings

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	Puma	<i>Puma concolor</i>	2	8
2	Big Hairy Armadillo	<i>Chaetophractus villosus</i>	2	1
3	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	5	5
4	Guanaco	<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	6	100
5	South American Gray Fox	<i>Lycalopex griseus griseus</i>	5	2

6	Humboldt's Hog-nosed Skunk	<i>Conepatus humboldtii</i>	2	1
7	Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	1	1
8	Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>	1	1
9	South American Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	2	80
10	South Patagonian Smooth-throated Lizard	<i>Liolaemus sarmientoi</i>	1	6
11	Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>	3	3
12	Giant (Orange) Bumblebee	<i>Bombus dahlbomii</i>	1	2
13	Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Bombus dahlbomii</i>	1	2
14	Common White Tatochila (White butterfly)	<i>Tatochila mercedis</i>	3	10
15	Magellan Barberry	<i>Berberis microphylla</i>	1	N/C



Photos: Torres del Paine towers by Gina Nichol. Cinereous Harrier by Steve Bird. Torres del Paine, pink sunrise by Gina Nichol.