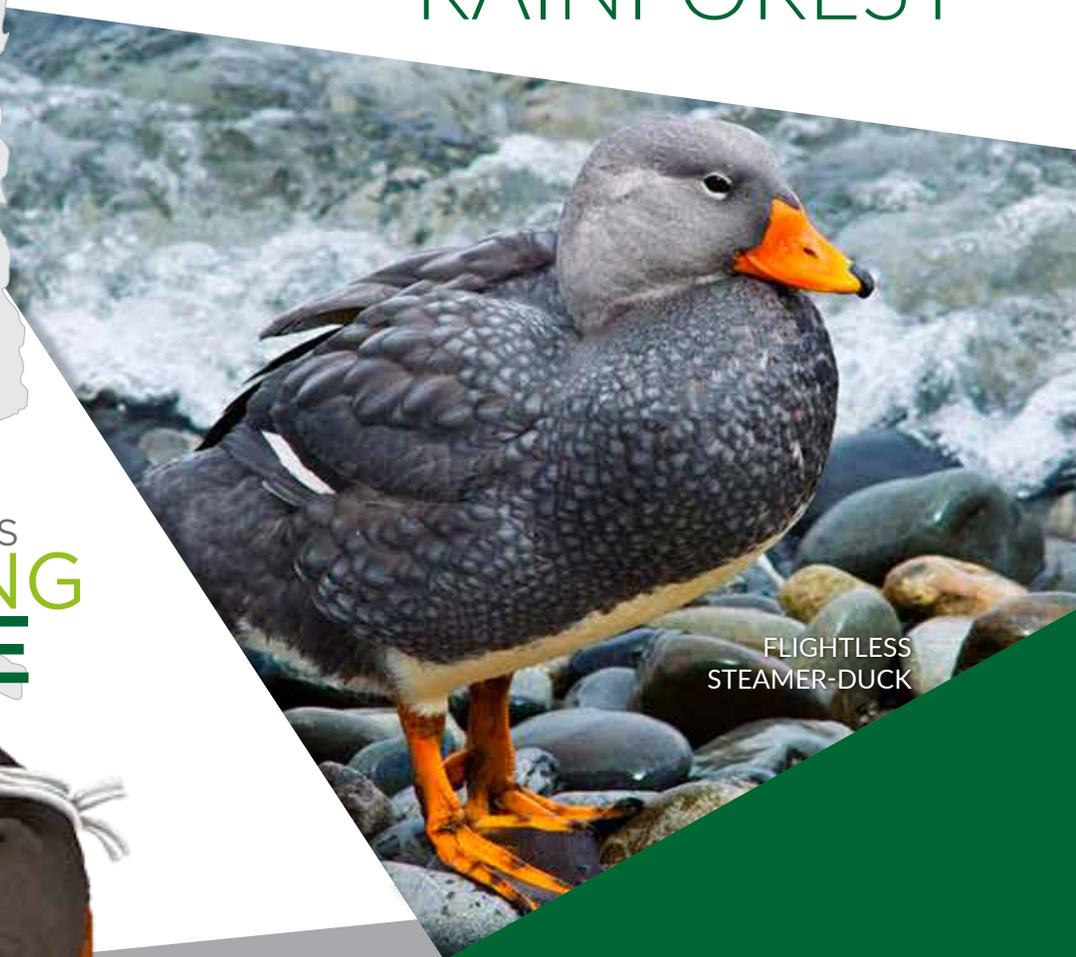




BIRDING AT THE VALDIVIAN TEMPERATE RAINFOREST



FLIGHTLESS
STEAMER-DUCK



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The Valdivian temperate forests is an ecoregion on the west coast of southern South America, in Chile and extending into Argentina. It is part of the Neotropic. The Valdivian temperate rainforests are characterized by their dense understories of bamboos, ferns, and for being mostly dominated by evergreen angiosperm trees (mostly *Nothofagus* sp. or Southern Beech) with some deciduous specimens, though conifer trees are also common.

The main characteristics of the south of Chile are its evergreen, cold and rainy forests. The effects of volcanic eruptions, which have formed its geography, are still evident. This



RINGED KINGFISHER

region is also defined by the eternal presence of the Pacific Ocean, supplier of vast amounts of rain during almost the whole year. Rain is the main climatic feature of this region, but fortunately it falls only sporadically in spring and summer.

The influence of the Pacific Ocean and the Humboldt Current are evident on Chiloé Island, both in terms of landscape and human activities. The rain and the impact of the sea and its tides are always present there, since they create specific environments populated by wildlife associated from the moderate rain forest to the coastline. In this mixed region, where forest and sea merge and in some places almost melt into each other, we will look for a variety of birds that include Andean, coastal and sea varieties.



GREEN-BACKED FIRECROWN

PROGRAM

DAY 1

PUERTO MONTT AND AROUND

Early morning we leave the city, going to a temperated forest. In this area we will try to find typical birds from this environment, like the Black-throated Huet-huet, Chucao Tapaculo, Magellanic Tapaculo and Ochre -Flanked Tapaculo. Also we hope Southern Caracara, Chilean Pigeon, Patagonian Tyrant, Des Murs's Wiretail, White-crested Elaenia and possibly the Slender-billed Parakeet (endemic). Later in the day we will try the Torrent Duck. Overnight stay at Puerto Varas



CHUCAO TAPACULO

DAY 2

CHILOE ISLAND

In the morning we will head to Chiloé Island, taking advantage of the crossing of the Chacao Channel by watching seabirds, such as the Pink-footed Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Magellanic Diving-Petrel, Red-Legged Cormorant, Imperial Cormorant and South American Tern. On this day we also hope to see the Black-necked Swan, Flightless Steamer-Duck, American Oystercatcher, Hudsonian Godwit, Silvery Grebe and Dark-bellied Cinclodes. With a little luck we will get to see the Ringed Kingfisher, perched near a lake. Later we will reach a place where it is possible to find Magellanic Penguin, Flightless Steamer-Duck, Blackish Oystercatcher, Kelp Goose, Rock Shag and Red-legged Cormorant. Overnight stay in Ancud

DAY 3

CHILOÉ AND RETURN TO THE CONTINENT

In the morning we will visit some woodlands and a river, on the lookout for the Snowy-crowned Tern, Slender-billed Parakeet (endemic), Ringed Kingfisher and Austral Parakeet. On the way back to the Continent we will once again be able to enjoy the crossing of the Chacao Channel. After landing, we will continue our trip along the coast and through wetlands, searching for Common Miner, Spectacled Tyrant, Grass Wren and Cinereous Harrier among other species. End of program in Puerto Montt



DES MURS'S WIRETAIL

SUMMARY

Duration: 3 days / 2 nights

Start / End: Puerto Montt / Puerto Montt

Restrictions: No restrictions

Climate: Rainy climate. Chilly at night, possibly rain.

Dates: From September to March

Potential # of species: 160

The program could be modified to include one or more days in Santiago and around.

OUTSTANDING:

1. A journey to the birds that belong to Temperate rainforest and south Chile shorebirds and waterfowls
2. Two endemic birds are possible: Chilean Mockingbird and Slender-billed Parakeet.
3. In spite of above, more than 40 Southern Cone endemic birds are possible. Those are birds living only in central and south Chile and Argentina, including surprising birds like four species of Tapaculo (Rhynocriptidae), the Magellanic Woodpecker—biggest in America-, and the Green-backed Firecrown and Austral Parakeet, the southernmost hummingbird and parakeet of the world.



MAGELLANIC PENGUIN