In what are now the countries of Belize and Guatemala, the ancient Maya civilization once flourished, leaving behind cities, temples, pyramids, and observatories still standing, enshrouded in tree cover. Amid rainforests and valleys, archaeological sites tell the story of this culturally rich region while also providing habitat for a diversity of flora and fauna, including hundreds of bird species. As you seek out resident and migratory avifauna across a variety of ecosystems, you’ll also gain a behind-the-scenes look at Audubon’s current bird-based tourism initiatives and flyway conservation efforts in partnership with local community-based organizations.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Discover both concentrated flocks and rare sightings of avifauna, such as the Jabiru, Yellow-headed Parrot, Yucatan Jay, and Yucatan Woodpecker, in the wetlands and pine savannas of Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Examine Maya history at the Tikal, Yaxha, and Cahal Pech archaeological sites, and go birding amid the ancient structures and surrounding forests.
- Meet with members of the Petén Birding Association, a local group dedicated to birding, environmental education, and conservation through ecotourism.
- Hike the trails at Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Refuge, a tropical moist forest sheltering some 300 avian species, including trogons, tanagers, flycatchers, and the Yellow-billed Cacique.
- Learn about a community-based conservation project in the village of Red Bank aimed at saving and creating habitat for the Scarlet Macaw.

**WHAT’S INCLUDED?**

- Bilingual local birding expert
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL**

Visit [http://holbrook.travel/bvas-bg25](http://holbrook.travel/bvas-bg25) or contact Stan Walens at stanwalens@gmail.com or Jill Hays at jill@holbrooktravel.com