



Passerini's Tanager

G. Homel



Rufous-tailed Jacamar

G. Homel



Red-lored Parrot

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Lancetilla Botanical Gardens

\$85 per person including lunch (2 person minimum)

In 1925, the famous American explorer and pioneer tropical botanist Wilson Popenoe established the Lancetilla Botanical Gardens. The United Fruit Company (Chiquita Brands) started it as an experimental station where bananas and tropical fruit wood trees were to be tested for commercial viability. Named after a small spiny palm native to Honduras's North Coast, Lancetilla quickly grew in size and importance. Lancetilla today includes significant orchid and ornamental collections as well as an area of protected tropical broadleaf rain forest.

Lancetilla has also become a veritable mecca for birders due to the diversity of its rich, tropical ecosystems which host an impressive mix of bird species. The bird list boasts over 350 species to date. Each year, professional ornithologists, avid birdwatchers, and beginners alike, gather at Lancetilla to participate in Honduras' annual "Christmas Bird Count".

Guests begin by birding their our way along Lancetilla's productive entrance road, ultimately arriving at the arboretum and garden area with its dizzying array of tropical plant and tree species. From here we move to the surrounding foothills in hopes of encountering some of the forest interior species that inhabit this preserve. A typical day of birding here could yield:

Little Tinamou, Common Black Hawk, Laughing Falcon, Bat Falcon, Ornate Hawk-eagle, Ruddy Crake, Olive-throated Parakeet, White-crowned Parrot, White-fronted Parrot, Red-lored Parrot, Squirrel Cuckoo, Scaly-breasted Hummingbird, Violet Sabrewing, White-bellied Emerald, Black-headed Trogon, Violaceous Trogon, Collared Trogon, Turquoise-browed Motmot, Blue-crowned Motmot, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Collared Aracari, Keel-billed Toucan, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Smoky-brown Woodpecker, Lineated Woodpecker, Tawny-winged Woodcreeper, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Great Antshrike, Barred Antshrike, Black-faced Ant Thrush, Ochre-bellied Flycatcher, Northern Bentbill, Common Tody Flycatcher, Bright-rumped Atilla, Masked Tityra, White-collared Manakin, Green-shrike Vireo, Long-billed Gnatwren, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Blue and White Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Red-throated Ant Tanager, Crimson Collared Tanager, Passerini's Tanager, Blue-grey Tanager, Yellow-winged Tanager, Buff-throated Saltator, Yellow-billed Cacique, Scrub Euphonia, Yellow-throated Euphonia, Olive-backed Euphonia, and more.

Guests finish with lunch in the beach-side town of Tela, and return to The Lodge by late afternoon.