

CAMP CASCADES

JULY 25 – AUGUST 6, 2009

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Camp Cascades, co-sponsored by the American Birding Association, offers young naturalists between the ages of 14 and 18 the opportunity to explore and discover the unique ecosystems of Puget Sound, the Cascades Mountains, and Great Basin Desert of Washington state.

The primary focus is on the birdlife of this biologically rich state, but we will take time to observe all facets of the region's flora and fauna. The camp is set in a productive learning environment in which campers will be educated on ecology, habitats, and ecosystems, and on increasing observation skills. Daily activities are based on thorough exploration of each of the distinct regions we visit. Hikes, field trips, and discussions will complement free time, during which campers will have the luxury of exploring their natural surroundings in small groups. Campers do not need to be expert birders, but do need to have an interest in nature.

From Seattle, we will travel to Whidbey Island on the shores of majestic Puget Sound. Our base for four nights is the Casey Conference Center, a restored military post now operated for youth groups and students by Seattle Pacific University. Old Fort Casey is a perfect location from which to discover the diversity of habitats and accompanying birds of the Puget Sound region. Morning walks in the nearby forest and hedgerows will turn up many of the characteristic birds of the Pacific Northwest. Nearby Crockett Marsh typically hosts a variety of migrant waterfowl and shorebirds. We will take afternoon excursions to Penn Cove and other coastal locations north of the camp to experience the nearshore marine environment. We will spend most of another day on the Olympic Peninsula at the foot of the magnificent Olympic Mountains, exploring the Sound further out toward the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

For the next six days we will experience the big mountain forests and spectacular alpine habitats of the North Cascades. Our activities will center on North Cascades National Park, one of the country's least known, but most beautiful destinations. Harboring the most expansive stretches of alpine country in the lower 48, the North Cascades are a dream for photographers, nature lovers, and hikers. We will camp for six nights between two locations, immersing ourselves in the sensational beauty of the mountains and hiking some of the best and most scenic trails. Featured activities include hiking in an old growth forest at Rockport State Park; day hikes to Cascade and Rainy passes; a trip to the edge of the Pasayten Wilderness and the summit of Slate Peak; ascending Tiffany Mountain from Freezeout Ridge; and an unforgettable eight mile traipse to Maple Pass and Lake Ann.

The camp will conclude amid the sage flats and water-filled potholes of the Great Basin, in the vicinity of Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River.

Campers should expect to see many of the special birds of the Pacific Northwest, the mountain west, and the boreal forest including Harlequin Duck; Black Oystercatcher; Sooty and Spruce grouse; Northern Goshawk; Rhinoceros Auklet; Tufted Puffin; Black and Vaux's swifts; American Three-toed Woodpecker; Northwestern Crow; Chestnut-backed Chickadee; and Townsend's Warbler.

The Pacific Northwest offers so much more than good birding, however, and our time in nature should produce an interesting assortment of reptiles, butterflies, mammals, and insects. Camp Cascades presents a rare chance for young naturalists to be in the field with their peers and with expert leaders. Together we will all come to learn and appreciate more fully the complex and beautiful ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest.

Camp Cascades starts and ends in Seattle.

July 25, Day 1: Arrival at Sea-Tac; transfer to Whidbey Island. Campers should plan to arrive in Seattle no later than 3:00 p.m. today. Campers flying into Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) should proceed directly to the baggage claim area where you will be met by camp supervisors who will be holding signs displaying the word VENT in large letters. Please wear your VENT identification button (provided with your participant packet) so you will be easily recognized as being part of our group. Any campers arriving in Seattle by other means or who will already be there, should contact our office for further instructions for meeting the group.

Once we are all assembled, we will depart the airport for Whidbey Island, located approximately 25 miles to the northwest. From the town of Edmonds, we will catch a ride to Whidbey Island aboard a state ferry that services this stretch of Puget Sound. The ride will take about 20 minutes and provides an exciting experience, especially for anybody who has never before ridden an automobile ferry. There will be time to visit the outdoor passenger deck and look for our first birds of the trip. The ever-present Glaucous-winged gulls are to be expected along with a smattering of Pelagic Cormorants and Pigeon Guillemots.

We will arrive at Fort Casey in the late afternoon in time to settle in and relax a little after the first day of traveling. After dinner, we will have an official orientation and camp welcome. The staff members will introduce themselves and outline the exciting events of the coming days.

NIGHT: Casey Conference Center, Whidbey Island

July 26, Day 2: Exploring Fort Casey; afternoon at Crockett Marsh. Situated at the top of Puget Sound, facing the Straits of Juan de Fuca, Camp Casey will be our home for the next three days. Camp Casey is an old military post now owned and operated for students and youth groups by Seattle Pacific University. We will stay in one of the buildings on the property that offers full privacy including a kitchen where we will prepare our own meals (everybody is expected to help!).

For the next two mornings we will explore the adjacent woods and fields starting right after breakfast. A trail through an older growth forest of grand fir, Douglas fir, and western hemlock will provide a perfect introduction to the local forest type. West coast specialty birds to look for include California Quail, Pacific-Slope Flycatcher, Hutton's Vireo, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Black-throated Gray Warbler, and Black-headed Grosbeak in the woods, and Bushtits and Bewick's Wrens in the hedgerows. We might also encounter Winter Wrens and Pileated Woodpeckers, or perhaps a roosting Great Horned Owl at old Ft. Casey. Red Crossbills are common some years and occasionally fly overhead.

In the afternoons, we will check brackish, shallow Crockett Marsh on the east side of the camp for early migrant shorebirds and resident marsh birds. Baird's, Pectoral, Western, Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers (the last more uncommon here) can be closely compared, as the first juveniles should be arriving to join the worn, breeding plumaged adults that preceded them south. We should also be able to closely compare both species of yellowlegs and dowitchers in various plumages. Northern Harriers and Bald Eagles nest here and their hunting activities can often be observed. Peregrine Falcons are occasionally seen strafing the shorebird flocks looking for a meal. We will also take time to investigate the densest areas of the marsh, the preferred domain of Virginia Rail and Marsh Wren.

NIGHT: Casey Conference Center, Whidbey Island

July 27, Day 3: Exploring Fort Casey, Penn Cove, Fort Ebbe, and Swantown. We will have another full day to explore the diversity of habitats and ecosystems that make Whidbey Island such a rich place. This morning we will dedicate plenty of time to searching the beautiful rocky shoreline and offshore waters bordering the west side of the camp. It is not uncommon to find Marbled Murrelets and Pigeon Guillemots feeding and floating offshore, while farther out, Common Murres and Common Loons are occasionally visible. Harlequin Ducks and White-winged Scoters are often seen bobbing in the surf beneath the steep cliffs around us.

Nearby are "birdy" hedgerows and mixtures of deciduous and coniferous woods—not to mention the old battlements to explore at adjacent Ft. Casey. Other birds we may encounter are Band-tailed Pigeon, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Black-capped Chickadee, and our first Steller's Jays.

The Fort Casey area can also be good for mammals and we will likely encounter the “Columbian” Mule Deer, which displays an all black tail above and Douglas’s Squirrel, or Chickaree, as it is known locally. Interestingly, the bizarre banana slug, a specialty of the wet forests of the west coast, occurs throughout these damp woods and we will certainly make an effort to locate these distinct creatures.

We will spend the afternoon exploring more of Whidbey Island, visiting some sites between Fort Casey and the town of Oak Harbor in the center of the island. A few miles to the north is Penn Cove, a deep water bay that attracts Common Loons, Red-necked Grebes, and White-winged and Surf Scoters, as well as a variety of terns and gulls. Heermann's gulls are common and there are occasionally even a few Mew and California gulls around. This area is also a good place to study Glaucous-winged/Western Gull hybrids that are common here. On the pebbly shore at the west end of the lagoon we may locate migrating Black Turnstones and possibly even an early Surfbird. Waterfowl are often numerous in the small ponds fringing the cove. Careful searching may turn up Hooded Merganser, Bufflehead, American Wigeon, and Green-winged Teal.

Other likely destinations include: Fort Ebbe State Park, where towering grand and Douglas firs are home to confiding flocks of Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Brown Creepers; and Swantown Marsh and Hastie Lake, which often teem with other eclipse-plumage ducks that will test our identification skills. This evening, we will take time to review our experiences to date and maybe spend the after-dinner hours enjoying a sunset over Crockett Marsh.

NIGHT: Casey Conference Center, Whidbey Island

July 28, Day 4: Olympic Peninsula (Port Townsend to Port Angeles). Today we catch an early ferry across Admiralty Inlet to Port Townsend for a day at the tip of the Olympic Peninsula. The ferry crossing is always birdy with lots of Rhinoceros Auklets, Pigeon Guillemots, and Pelagic Cormorants crossing in front of the bow.

Arriving on the Olympic Peninsula is always an exciting event. The lush, second-growth coniferous forests surrounding us are composed primarily of Douglas fir, western red cedar, and western hemlock. The landscape across the north end of the peninsula is one of thick, dark forests interspersed with grassy pastures, stands of red maples, and quaint country homes. Heading west from Port Townsend, the coastline of outer Puget Sound will open before us. Shallow bays, rocky headlands, steep cliffs, and rugged, forested mountains combine for panoramas of great scenic beauty.

We will start with a visit to Diamond Point, northwest of the town of Sequim (pronounced “skwim”). Diamond Point has historically been one of the best places in the entire state for seeing Tufted Puffins. Lying just offshore from the point, Protection Island hosts between 20-30 pairs of Tufted Puffins, one of the world’s most regal seabirds. They are often seen flying around their burrows as they come and go from their feeding grounds in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. With good fortune, we may spot a few of them casually floating on the water not far from shore. Though seeing a puffin is our primary objective, there are lots of other birds to view here. Protection Island is a key seabird nesting island near the Strait of Juan de Fuca and is a critical site for tens of thousands of birds that live in the Puget Sound region. Thousands of pairs of Rhinoceros Auklets nest in the burrows on the island’s grassy slopes; Black Oystercatchers and Pigeon Guillemots nest along the beach; and Pelagic and

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Double-crested cormorants raise chicks along the island's vertical faces. A Glaucous-winged Gull rookery numbers in the thousands as well, often rising in a single cloud to clamor at a passing Bald Eagle. Many of these birds are often seen from the beaches of Diamond Point.

Scores of harbor seals raise their pups on the beaches surrounding the island and feed near shore; and even a few elephant seals may be basking on the beach. We may also spot several pairs of the endangered Marbled Murrelet amid the larger numbers of Common Murres and Rhinoceros Auklets.

Our next destination is John Wayne Marina on picturesque Sequim Bay. Depending on tidal activity, the rocky tidal basin, when exposed, is a wonderful place to view Black Oystercatcher, White-winged Scoter, and Glaucous-winged Gull. From atop the breakwater we may also view Hooded Mergansers, over-summering loons, and even the endangered Marbled Murrelet.

Ediz Hook, just outside Port Angeles, is an excellent way to experience the thrill of birding on the Olympic Peninsula. Essentially a man-made barrier against the open ocean, Ediz Hook is a reinforced peninsula of rock, sand, and pavement that protects the near shore waters of Port Angeles and serves as a base for the U.S. Coast Guard. The short drive out the length of the peninsula is essential for us as a wide variety of birds are found here at any time of year. By working the pullouts and assortment of microhabitats, we are virtually assured of encountering an array of loons, grebes, cormorants, waterfowl, alcids, shorebirds, gulls, and terns. Perhaps best of all, we can often get within close proximity of the birds.

Some of the species of special interest are birds of both coasts of North America, such as White-winged and Surf scoters, while others, like Pelagic Cormorant, Black Oystercatcher, and Black Turnstone are specialists of the Pacific coast. We will leave no stone unturned, and expect to find Common Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Harlequin Duck, Pigeon Guillemot, Rhinoceros Auklet, Western Gull, and Caspian Tern. Shorebirds and gulls have started migrating by this time. Such less common species as Surfbird, Wandering Tattler, and Black-legged Kittiwake have all been recorded on past Camp Cascades. An added bonus is the presence of Northwestern Crow in the area, a species restricted in the U.S. to the outer limits of the Olympic Peninsula.

Time permitting, we will visit the mouth of the Dungeness River, where the open shoreline may reveal an assortment of shorebirds as well as one of the state's few nesting colonies of Purple Martin.

NIGHT: Casey Conference Center, Whidbey Island

July 29, Day 5: Fort Casey to Rockport: Rockport State Park. After breakfast we may have time for a final check of the nearby woods, or perhaps we'll try to dig out a final shorebird species at Crockett Marsh. At some point we will pack up and depart Camp Casey, head toward the north end of Whidbey Island, and ultimately cross back over to the mainland. En route, we will view a transect of habitats, and the scenery is always compelling at the least. North of Oak Harbor we will make a point of stopping at the mighty bridge over Deception Pass.

Deception Pass, separating Whidbey Island from Fidalgo Island, is a place of breathtaking scenery. Situated hundreds of feet over the roiling ocean, the 976-foot bridge spanning the pass offers stunning views of rugged, forest-clad hills, lonely islands, and panoramic seascapes. The pass takes its name from the mistake made by early navigators who assumed that the waterway leading further inland from Puget Sound merely led to a bay with no outlet, as opposed to the pass actually being a straight between two islands with an outlet.

During low tides, the current in the pass beneath the twin bridges is extremely fast and rough. We will walk out on the bridge's pedestrian walkway where we can look straight down on the turbulent waters. This is also an inspiring place for photography, where postcard-perfect settings are often enhanced by the sight of a Bald Eagle perched imperiously atop a towering conifer.

Reaching the mainland, the highway turns inland, taking us through a robust agricultural floodplain to the base of the North Cascades.

Dividing the western third of the state, the Cascades are among America's mightiest mountain ranges. While the high volcanic peaks of Mounts Adams, St. Helens, Rainier, and Baker attract the most attention, the entire range is a wonderland of forests, rivers, and glacially carved peaks and ridges. So dominant, are these mountains that one needs only travel over the Continental Divide to understand the dramatic differences in climate and precipitation from one side of the mountains to the other. The west side, where most of the rain and snow falls, is super lush, with dense forests forming carpets of greenery from the valley floors to treeline. Underneath the forest canopy exists a magical botanical world of ferns, mosses, fungi, rhododendrons, and a plethora of small plants, grasses, and shrubs. The eastern front is higher, drier, and subject to greater temperature extremes. Rainfall is considerably less, the summers are hotter, and the winters colder.

Our next base is Howard Miller Steelhead Park, a beautiful private campground situated on the shores of the Skagit River. Camping here for the next two nights, this area is strategically located for exploring the deep forests, riparian habitats, and alpine country of this part of the Cascades. We should arrive at the campground around midday with plenty of time to get set up and have lunch.

We feel it is important to experience as many of the major ecosystems of the North Cascades as we have time for. One place of significance is nearby Rockport State Park, a glorious 670-acre park protecting ancient stands of old growth timber. We will spend the remainder of the day exploring the trails through the old-growth forest. Rockport, in fact, will provide the BEST example of old-growth forest we will visit on the camp. This forest is especially remarkable for the fact that the trees here have never been cut. The trees that form this living cathedral are true giants. Timeless Douglas firs, western hemlock, and Western Red Cedar tower over us, their 300 year old trunks and branches blanketed in moss and blotting out the sun.

The birdlife here is similar to that of the coast, but we will be especially vigilant for those specialty birds so well adapted for life in the darkened forest. Pacific-Slope Flycatchers haunt the shaded canopy while Winter Wrens and Varied Thrushes dwell in the shadowed understory. We will listen for the powerful broadcast of the Pileated Woodpecker, whose piercing calls resonate through the deepest recesses of this arboreal kingdom, while a gentle tap-tap-tap announces the presence of the furtive Red-breasted Sapsucker.

NIGHT: Camping Howard Miller Steelhead Park

July 30, Day 6: Day hiking to Cascade Pass. The featured activity today is a magnificent 7.5 mile roundtrip hike to Cascade Pass inside the boundary of North Cascades National Park. The day will be a long one, so we will want to depart the campground after an early breakfast. The ride to the trailhead will take about 45 minutes. The road passes through more areas of lush coniferous forest that define the low elevations of the cascades.

The trail to Cascade Pass is one of the most popular in the North Cascades National Park, and for good reason. The views from the trailhead of the surrounding glaciated peaks, ridges, and avalanche chutes are spectacular. The trail snakes up 1,800 feet on a series of switchbacks en route to the 5,300-foot pass, alternating the whole way between forests of subalpine fir and mountain meadows emblazoned with flourishes of summer wildflowers. At the pass we will witness magnificent alpine scenery of bare, rocky peaks, glaciers, and remnant winter snow. Here, we should also expect to find a range of new birds and mammals for the trip. We may encounter Sooty Grouse; Vaux's Swift; Olive-sided and Hammond's flycatchers; Hermit Thrush; Black-throated Gray, Townsend's, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, MacGillivray's, Wilson's and Yellow-rumped Warblers; and "Slate-colored" Fox Sparrow. The upper elevations near treeline are often the best places to search for such alluring species as Golden Eagle, Northern Goshawk, and Pine Grosbeak.

We will have lunch at the pass. Depending on snow conditions, we have chances to see birds of the upper-most life zone including White-tailed Ptarmigan, Clark's Nutcracker, American Pipit, and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. We should have little trouble locating Hoary Marmots and Cascade golden-mantled ground-squirrels. American Pikas are also possible. We will return to camp late this afternoon.

NIGHT: Camping Howard Miller Steelhead Park

July 31, Day 7: Across the North Cascades; Rainy and Washington passes. We will arise this morning for a leisurely day of exploration of the higher reaches of the North Cascades Highway. Before breaking camp, we will spend time looking around the maples, cottonwoods, and alders that line the Skagit River, as well as the brushy hedgerows and stands of conifers that dominate the property away from the river. Ruffed Grouse; Common Nighthawk; Red-eyed and Warbling vireos; Western and Eastern kingbirds; Willow Flycatcher; Black-throated Gray and Yellow warblers; and Lazuli Bunting are representative of the local breeding birds.

At Newhalem, in the upper Skagit River Valley, we will stop to scan for Black Swifts and to visit the North Cascades National Park visitor center, where campers may learn more about the national park and purchase postcards, books, lists, and other items. Further along, scenic Gorge Reservoir is often home to Barrow's Goldeneyes, where a scan of the lake will hopefully net us a few pair. The road stretches another 30 miles up through impressive mountain scenery until reaching Rainy Pass (4,855 feet). We will make the one-mile walk to beautiful Rainy Lake, a lasting tribute to the immense power of glaciation. The paved path from the parking area takes us through stands of Pacific silver firs and Alaska Cedars to a gorgeous lake set in a glacial cirque and fed by a gushing waterfall. Dusky Grouse, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Tanager, and Pine Grosbeak are all possible along the way.

Back at the parking area, we'll load up and continue on to Washington Pass. At nearly 5,500 feet, Washington Pass represents the altitudinal high point of the North Cascades Highway. A short paved trail from the parking area takes visitors through an old-growth forest of Englemann spruce to a series of observation points that virtually straddle the Continental Divide. Off to the east we will have our first looks at the scenic Methow River Valley ("over on the dry side") while to the north are awesome views of several towering peaks. This is often a good place to look for Williamson's Sapsucker, Gray Jays, and Clark's Nutcrackers, particularly around the picnic tables.

We will then drop down to our campground in the Okanogan National Forest, our base camp for the next four nights.

NIGHT: Camping Klipchuck Campground, Okanogan National Forest

August 1, Day 8: Day hiking from Freezeout Ridge to Tiffany Mountain. Today we will travel further afield for a day trip into the heart of the Okanogan National Forest. Like the areas around Maple and Harts passes, the eastern North Cascades contain amazing scenery. We will leave the highway at Winthrop (modeled on a wild-west town) and climb to the shoulder of Tiffany Mountain for a four mile roundtrip hike up Freezeout Ridge, looking for Three-toed Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Boreal Chickadee (four species of chickadees in this area), Varied Thrush, Pine Grosbeak, both species of crossbills, and maybe even a Spruce Grouse hen with chicks. Near timberline the forest opens up to reveal a world of high altitude meadows, stunted trees, and big vistas. We should be able to locate Mountain Bluebirds, Townsend's Solitaires, and American Pipits. Atop Tiffany Mountain (8,245 feet), the scenery is awesome and provides a perfect place to have lunch. Black Swifts occasionally cruise by, practically at arm's length, while the glacial lake far below, on Tiffany's eastern flank, gleams under the mid-day sun.

We will retrace our steps down Freezeout Ridge and descend back to Winthrop for a much-deserved rest (excellent ice cream here!). We may take a different route back to camp, one that parallels the Skagit River for several miles through riparian and ponderosa pine forest. Careful watching of the river may produce Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Spotted Sandpiper, and perhaps an American Dipper. The pine forests fringing the valley attract Mountain Chickadee; Townsend's Solitaire; Purple and Cassin's Finches; and Evening Grosbeak. Woodpeckers are fairly common throughout the area and we will check for Lewis's and Pileated around Winthrop.

NIGHT: Camping at Klipchuck campground, Okanogan National Forest

August 2, Day 9: Harts Pass, Slate Peak and Mazama. After yesterday's challenging hike, we will take it a little easier today. Following breakfast, we will load up and head toward the community of Mazama at the head of the Methow River Valley for a trip to Slate Peak.

The Methow River is the most significant drainage of the North Cascades east of the Continental Divide. Lined with conifers, cottonwoods, willows, and alders, the river tumbles out of the mountains to form an important waterway for towns to the east.

From Mazama, we will head higher into the mountains until we arrive at 6,000 foot Harts Pass. Getting off to an early start is important as this is the best time of day to find grouse in the road. Dusky, Sooty, Spruce, and Ruffed grouse are possible.

In this alpine environment, stands of subalpine fir and mountain hemlock fill out a landscape of ragged ridges, storm-blasted peaks, sheer cliffs, and permanent snow fields. The area is also regarded as an excellent place to find some of the harder to find boreal bird species. From the pass, we will wind our way to the base of 7,400 foot Slate Peak, where we will spend most of the morning simply birding, studying trees and plants, and watching for other wildlife. From the parking area we will hike the last quarter mile up to the fire tower at the summit of the peak.

The vista from the summit is stupendous. To the north, a vast forested bowl, ringed by windswept crags and lofty promontories, stretches all the way to the Canadian border (about 20 miles). Untarnished by any man-made structures or clear cuts, the forests and mountains around us are part of the federally designated Pasayten Wilderness, an extraordinary 530,000-acre wild area where lynx, wolves, and grizzly bears still roam.

At this season the mountain meadows are studded with wildflowers of many colors. Raptors use the high ridges as a migratory pathway. Golden Eagles, Prairie Falcons, and Northern Goshawks occasionally soar past, among the more common Red-tailed and Sharp-shinned Hawks, and American Kestrels. They are on the prowl for grouse and White-tailed Ptarmigan, both of which have been seen on Slate Peak. We will explore the north and east faces of the peak in a concentrated effort to see White-tailed Ptarmigan and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. While never common, the talus slopes and tundra around Slate Peak are one of the best places in the state to find these species.

On the way down the mountain we will check the bird feeders around the store at Mazama before returning to camp for some relaxation time this afternoon. Campers may catch up on their notes or explore the area in small groups. The riparian woods along the river are home to many species of birds. Red-naped Sapsuckers are common here and in nearby foothill aspen groves. A thorough search of the campground may produce a variety of flycatchers, vireos, warblers, and thrushes. MacGillivray's Warblers may seem abundant, and the song of Cassin's Vireo should alert us to the presence of this hardy species. Hammond's Flycatcher, Black Swift, and American Dipper are all found within the vicinity of the campground.

NIGHT: Camping Klipchuck Campground, Okanogan National Forest

August 3, Day 10: Day hiking to Maple Pass. It has been said by more than one avid hiker that the seven mile loop hike from Rainy Pass to Maple Pass offers the most sensational hiking experience available in the entire North Cascades. From start to finish, the route encompasses crystalline mountain lakes, glaciers, avalanche chutes, flower-spangled mountain meadows, limitless vistas, and breathtaking peaks and ridges.

We have allotted the entire day to making the renowned hike to Maple Pass. It is important we get off to an early start to avoid being rushed so we can enjoy the birds, animals, and plants, in addition to the phenomenal scenery. Spruce Grouse, Gray Jay, Boreal Chickadee, and White-winged Crossbill are among the possibilities of today's high country hike.

We will probably not get back to camp until late in the afternoon.

NIGHT: Camping Klipchuck Campground, Okanogan National Forest

August 4, Day 11: From the Methow River Valley to Grand Coulee. Breaking camp this morning, we will depart the North Cascades area and take our time working our way down the length of the Methow River Valley.

At this point we will take stock of what we've seen and what other possibilities remain. Outside Winthrop we will explore a couple of riparian areas for breeding waterfowl and songbirds. Pearrygin Lake State Park is one such place. Located a short drive northeast of town, the park consists of a picturesque lake surrounded by lush marshes and thick riparian growth. Arriving in the morning hours, we should find the marsh and surrounding woods active with birds and insects. Among the species we will watch for include Lewis's Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Violet-green Swallow, Warbling and Red-eyed vireos; Gray Catbird, American Redstart, Bullock's Oriole, and Brewer's Blackbird. Southwest of Winthrop we may take time to inspect roadside ponds for breeding waterfowl or the nearby pine forest for Pygmy and White-breasted nuthatches.

This afternoon we will leave the forest behind and descend to the sage covered uplands of the northwest corner of the Columbia Plateau. Campers will have little difficulty noting the drastic differences of this semi-arid country with the places we have been. Instead of landscapes dominated by mountains, we are now in "Big Sky" country, with rolling hills and occasional pothole lakes stretching away in broad vistas in all directions. West of Grand Coulee we may encounter a number of species characteristic of the drier region. Lark and Brewer's sparrows occur throughout the sage flats and we will watch carefully for Sage Thrashers perched atop fence posts and exposed rocks. Isolated ponds are critically important for their populations of breeding waterfowl, and a host of duck species are possible, including Lesser Scaup, American Widgeon, Redhead, Ruddy Duck, and Cinnamon Teal. Yellow-headed Blackbirds are common and conspicuous nesters.

We should arrive in Coulee City late this afternoon.

NIGHT: Coulee House Motel, Coulee Dam

August 5, Day 12: Along the Columbia River and the Grand Coulee. We will depart the hotel early for most of a day in the vast Columbia River Basin, a high desert dominated by big sagebrush, sheer basalt cliffs, and dry coulees (a coulee is a steep ravine or gulch originally formed by running water). We will explore stretches of the Columbia River and coulee lakes and marshes, searching out the characteristic birds of marsh, sage, and rimrock, such as Sage Thrasher; Vesper, Lark, Brewer's, and Sage Sparrows; Horned Lark; Loggerhead Shrike; Say's Phoebe, Rock and Canyon Wrens; and maybe even Chukars.

Heading south from Grand Coulee, we will stop at roadside pullouts alongside Banks Lake and scope for Western and Clark's grebes, American White Pelican, and Double-crested Cormorant. Further south, around Sun Lakes, the coulee opens up into a long chain of lakes that serve as critical nesting area for a big variety of waterfowl, Red-necked Grebe, Wilson's Phalarope, Forster's Tern, and many other species. Though unlikely, we could turn up an early Franklin's or Sabine's gull here. We will take a short walk at Sun Lakes State Park to explore a riparian/desert ecosystem where American Kestrel, Bullock's Oriole, and a host of swallow species are typically found. The boulder strewn parking area is often a good place to search for Rock and Canyon wrens. White-throated Swifts occasionally course along the nearby cliffs. We will also explore the surrounding sage flats and agricultural lands for Swainson's Hawk.

In the early afternoon we will say goodbye to the Columbia Plateau and start the drive back to Seattle. Though lengthy, the ride is an interesting one of ever-changing scenery. Time permitting, a final stop north of the town of Vantage will allow us to look for Sage Sparrows. Eventually we will reenter the mountain forests of the Cascades, up and over Snoqualmie Pass, down to our hotel in Sea-Tac.

NIGHT: Clarion Hotel, Sea-Tac Airport

August 6, Day 13: Departing flights home. Campers will be escorted to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport with plenty of time to check in for departing flights home. All campers should plan to depart Sea-Tac no later than noon today.

CAMP SIZE/AGE LIMIT: Camp Cascades is designed for boys and girls ages 14 through 18 who have an interest in birds and natural history. The camp will be limited to 14 participants.

CAMP STAFF: Barry Lyon, Victor Emanuel, and Louise Zemaitis

Barry Lyon's passion for the outdoors and birding has its roots in his childhood where he grew up in southern California. Through his early and teenage years his developing interests were nurtured by summertime camping trips to southern Arizona and road trips throughout the American West. He attended three VENT/ABA youth birding camps, which would ultimately pave the way for his future involvement with VENT. While in college, Barry studied history and political science, with an emphasis on environment and development politics. He holds a B.A. from the University of Arizona at Tucson from which he graduated in 1994. He joined the VENT team in 1995 and hasn't looked back. Barry has guided tours throughout the United States and Canada, as well as to Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and the Caribbean. In the summer of 2004 he relocated to Austin and joined the staff in an administrative position. Barry will continue to lead a limited number of tours, but his increased responsibilities include new tour development and assisting in marketing and advertising efforts.

Victor Emanuel started birding in Texas 60 years ago at the age of eight. His travels have taken him to all the continents, with his areas of concentration being Texas, Arizona, Mexico, Panama, and Peru. He is the founder and compiler for 50 years of the record-breaking Freeport Christmas Bird Count, and served a term as president of the Texas Ornithological Society. Birds and natural history have been a major focus throughout his life. He derives great pleasure from seeing and hearing birds, and sharing with others these avian sights and sounds, both the common ones and the more unusual ones. He initiated the first birding camps for young people, and considers that one of his greatest achievements. Victor holds a B.A. in zoology and botany from the University of Texas and an M.A. in government from Harvard. In 1993, he was the recipient of the Roger Tory Peterson Excellence in Birding Award, given by the Houston Audubon Society in recognition of a lifetime of dedication to careful observation, education, and addition to the body of avian knowledge. In 2004, he received the Roger Tory Peterson Award from the American Birding Association, and the Arthur A. Allen Award from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Victor is a member of the board of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, and the American Bird Conservancy.

Louise Zemaitis is an artist and naturalist living in Cape May, New Jersey. She is a popular field trip leader in Cape May where she leads bird and butterfly walks and teaches birding workshops as an Associate Naturalist with Cape May Bird Observatory. Louise is also coordinator of the Monarch Monitoring Project in Cape May and curator of the Cape May Bird Observatory Art Gallery. An honors graduate at Temple University's Tyler School of Art, she enjoys working as a freelance artist and her illustrations have been widely published.

CAMP POLICIES: Summer youth camps operated by Victor Emanuel Nature Tours are designed to expose camp participants to the treasures of the natural world. The settings for VENT youth camps are selected for their biological richness and natural beauty. The staff of the camps designs programs that camp attendees will find exciting and educational. It is our expectation that campers will have the kinds of experiences that create memories that last for a lifetime. The success of our camps depends on the leadership and organization of the staff, but the level of enjoyment that an individual camper achieves will depend on his ability to demonstrate a willingness to cooperate and share. Over more than 20 years of offering youth nature camps, a camp participant has never been sent home. In order to maintain a perfect record, campers must adhere to the following rules:

- There will be no usage of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products permitted. We take a zero tolerance approach.
- Any disputes that arise between campers will be mediated by staff members. Fighting will not be tolerated.
- Cooperation is essential. Every day brings a host of responsibilities to the staff members, from preparing meals to cleaning camp sites, vehicles, ice chests, and cooking supplies. Campers will be required periodically to help with these endeavors. Non-cooperation is not an option.
- Damage or destruction of the property of others is strictly prohibited and is considered grounds for dismissal.

Please read the separate document, "Guidelines for VENT Camps," for further clarification of what campers can expect and what is expected of them.

Finally, Campers will **NOT** be permitted to attend a VENT Camp unless they, along with their parents or legal guardians read, sign and return the following documents. These documents will be included in materials the Camper will receive after registering:

1) **To the Applicant:** This document, signed by the Camp Cascades participant, certifies that the camper has read and understands the rules and regulations of the camp.

2) **Release and Assumption of Risk:** This document, signed by a parent or legal guardian, acknowledges that participation in birding camp activities involves some degree of risk of injury from, but not limited to, the hazards of traveling, hiking in various types of terrain, accident, illness, and the forces of nature. A parent or guardian's signature holds VENT harmless from any and all liability. VENT is also granted permission to seek medical assistance for an ill or injured camper.

3) **Tetanus Shot Certification Document:** This document, signed by a parent or legal guardian, acknowledges that the prospective birding camp participant is up to date with tetanus vaccination. Campers must provide proof of vaccination.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS: The fee for the camp is **\$1050** per person in double occupancy from Seattle. This includes all meals from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 13, accommodations as stated in the itinerary, ground transportation during the tour, gratuities, and leadership services provided by the camp staff. The fee does not include airfare from your home to Seattle and return, airport departure taxes, special gratuities, phone calls, laundry, or items of a personal nature. Also not included is the camping equipment (tent, sleeping bag and pad, and eating utensils) which must be brought by each camper.

Partial camp scholarships are available through the American Birding Association (ABA) and awarded to campers who couldn't attend otherwise. Contact the ABA for more information.

TOUR REGISTRATION: To register for this tour, please contact the VENT office. The deposit for this tour is **\$300** per person. If you prefer to pay your deposit by check, your tour space will be held for 10 days to allow time for the VENT office to receive your deposit and completed registration form. If you prefer to pay your deposit using a credit card, your deposit must be made with MasterCard or Visa at the time of registration. The VENT registration form should then be completed, signed, and returned to the VENT office. Full payment of the tour fee is due 120 days prior to the tour departure date.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation Penalties and Refunds are based on the following schedule: If cancellation is made 120 days or more before the tour departure date, the deposit less **\$150** per person is refundable. If cancellation is made between 120 and 90 days before departure date, the deposit is not refundable, but any payments covering the balance of the fee will be refunded. If cancellation is made fewer than 90 days before departure date, no refund is available. This policy and fee schedule also applies to pre-trip and post-trip extensions, as well as any transfers from one tour to another. ***We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance for your protection.***

<u>If you cancel:</u>	<u>Your refund will be:</u>
120 days or more before departure date	Your deposit minus \$150.
Between 120 and 90 days before departure	No refund of the deposit, but any payments on the balance will be refunded.
Fewer than 90 days before departure date	No refund available.

TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EVACUATION INSURANCE: A brochure and application form for optional coverage for baggage, illness, and trip cancellation can be obtained through the VENT office. **We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance as soon as possible to protect yourself against losses due to accidents or illness. VENT recommends Travel Insured International as our preferred insurance provider.** Check with your insurance agent regarding coverage you may presently have

via other insurance policies that may cover illness during your trip. **Waiver for pre-existing conditions are available, however, stipulations apply usually requiring the purchase of the insurance soon after registering.** Optional expanded insurance coverage is available and includes items such as work-related cancellation, medical upgrade, and a “Cancel for Any Reason” clause among others. **Contact Travel Insured International prior to registration for details.** Not all insurance providers provide the same levels of coverage. If you purchase insurance through a company other than Travel Insured International, please be advised that rules and stipulations may be different.

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours is not a participant in the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. This business has a bond issued by Travelers in the amount of \$50,000. CST #2014998-50.

AIR INFORMATION: Victor Emanuel Travel is a full-service travel agency and wholly owned subsidiary of Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT). Victor Emanuel Travel will be happy to make any domestic or international air travel arrangements from your home and return. Please feel free to call the VENT office to confirm your air arrangements.

BAGGAGE: As space in the vans is limited, campers should pack as carefully and efficiently as possible. Please avoid bringing any unnecessary items that may take up more room. We recommend that campers pack their clothing and equipment in a pliable, middle to large size duffel bag, and perhaps a smaller bag for camping gear. Campers may wish to bring a carry-on or other small travel bag for toiletries, personal items, or valuables. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING HARD-SIDED SUITCASES OR FRAME BACKPACKS.**

CLIMATE: The lofty ridges of the north-south Cascade Range divide Washington into two very different places. West of the Continental Divide, temperatures are moderated by the marine influence of Puget Sound. Summers are warm, but not hot, while winters can be wet and cold, but not frigid. East of the mountains, where considerably less precipitation falls, conditions are generally dry with cold winters and warm to hot summers.

While Washington is often associated with gloomy, overcast skies and rain, summer is a delightful time to visit in most parts of the state. For the first third of the camp, we will be in the area of Puget Sound and the Olympic Peninsula northwest of Seattle. Beautiful weather is expected, with clear to partly cloudy skies and daytime temperatures into the upper 70s (°F). Nighttime and morning temperatures may drop into the upper 50s. Precipitation is unlikely, but campers should be prepared for the possibility of rain if the summer is an unusually wet one.

Moving into the North Cascades for the middle portion of the trip, we will likely experience plenty of sunshine, with warmer days and cooler nights than on the coast. Daytime temperatures could range into the 80s. Our top elevation will be around 8,200 feet. At this elevation, late summer fronts rolling in off the Pacific can produce steady rain and even mountain snow. Though cold, harsh weather is highly unlikely, campers need to come to camp prepared.

The trip concludes amid the sage-covered flatlands of the Columbia Plateau, far to the east of the Cascades. Campers should expect pleasant mornings, dry days, and temperatures climbing into the 90s.

CLOTHING: Summer is a pleasant time of year for most of Washington state. Rain is certainly possible, but unlikely, and warm and dry conditions are expected throughout the trip. Our lengthier hikes in the North Cascades could be cold if the skies are overcast due to unsettled weather. Campers will want to pack clothes associated with warm weather generally, yet be prepared for night and morning temperatures in the low 40s. Campers should pack several t-shirts, but making sure to avoid white and other bright colors. Long-sleeved t-shirts will come in handy for evenings and the early morning hours. Shorts will be fine, even preferred most days, but you should also pack a couple pair of long pants. Jeans are acceptable, but are not as comfortable as cotton or other lightweight materials. In addition to cotton socks, campers are advised to bring several pairs of socks made of heavier material, like wool, for maximum comfort on extended hikes. The importance of having

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warm clothing should not be overestimated. A hat for protection from the sun is essential. A wide-brimmed hat is best, but campers should bring a baseball cap at the very least. As we will spend the majority of our time based out of a bungalow-type building (on the coast) and camping (inland), laundry service is not likely to be available. Campers should be prepared for nearly two weeks in the field without washing clothes.

Packing a light jacket or parka is a good idea in the event of light rain. All campers should bring a warm fleece or jacket for the cool nights and mornings, and mountain hikes. For sleeping, campers should also bring warm sleep wear, such as flannel pajamas, to ensure warmth is maintained while spending nights in tents. A swimsuit might come in handy for the last night at the hotel.

FOR FOOTWEAR, CAMPERS SHOULD BRING A GOOD FITTING, BROKEN IN PAIR OF HIKING BOOTS OR TRAIL SHOE. There are several lengthy hikes planned and campers will have a much better time if they do not have to cope with sore feet or blisters. Campers should also bring an inexpensive pair of rubber boots for shore birding around the edge of Crockett Marsh. A pair of sandals or other lightweight shoe will provide more comfort for all other times.

CONDITIONS: A typical day will see us out bright and early to take full advantage of the long summer days. We will stay busy and active up to lunch, with most morning activities centering on a feature hike or area exploration. After lunch we'll take a break, during which time campers will have periods of down time to either relax or explore their surroundings in small groups. We will go out again in the mid-afternoon for either short hikes or vehicle trips to nearby areas, such as Fort Ebbe and Swantown on Whidbey Island or around the town of Mazama in the North Cascades. Since darkness does not fully descend until after 9:00 p.m., there will be post-dinner activities some days. Meal times will fall most days within these time frames:

Breakfast:	6:00 – 7:00 a.m.
Lunch:	12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Dinner:	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Accommodations at Fort Casey (July 25-28) will be in a private large house owned and operated by the Casey Conference Center. The building consists of several large bedrooms with enough beds to accommodate 17 people. Meals will be cooked in the on-site kitchen.

We will camp for two nights at a privately owned campground, Howard Miller Steelhead Park (July 29-30), where campers will have access to hot water and showers. We will camp for four nights (July 31-August 3) in the Okanogan National Forest on the east side of the Cascades. Showers may not be available during these four days. The trip will conclude with two motel nights, one in the town of Grand Coulee (August 4) and one in Issaquah (August 5), east of Seattle and a short distance from the airport.

Hiking is an important activity on this trip, and campers should expect to participate in several lengthy hikes, some of which exceed five miles. The most challenging hikes will be moderately difficult on occasionally steep trails. The following hikes and corresponding distances should provide camp participants and their parents with information on what to expect in terms of physical requirements. Campers should expect to log approximately 25 miles on foot.

Hike:	Distance:	Difficulty:
Rockport State Park, Old Growth Trail	3 miles	Easy
Cascade Pass	7.5 miles	Moderate
Rainy Pass	2 miles	Easy
Maple Pass, Lake Ann	8 miles	Moderate
Tiffany Mountain	5 miles	Moderate

All vehicle travel will be in 15 passenger touring vans. We will make a round-trip visit to the Olympic Peninsula aboard the Washington state ferry system.

Campers will be encouraged to call home on a regular basis and keep their families informed of their activities. A cell phone is recommended. Pay phones, hotel room phones, and private phones will be available for coin use, calling card use, or for calling collect.

EQUIPMENT: Campers should pack a pair of binoculars that are in good repair, along with a belt pack or day pack (good for carrying books, sunscreen, two water bottles, notepads, extra clothing, cameras etc.). Your camp supervisors will have spotting scopes, but if you have one and wish to bring it, feel free to do so. One or two one-quart water bottles are essential for lengthier hikes. Bicycle type bottles are not a good choice, as they tend to leak. Bottles manufactured of polycarbonates that might contain Bisphenol-A (BPA), such as the hard-plastic Nalgene bottles, should also be avoided. Other items to bring include a camera, towel and washcloth, insect repellent, flashlight, and or headlamp. Sunscreen is required for a trip to Washington in the summer, as the sun's rays are intense in the mountains and can easily burn exposed skin. A battery-powered travel alarm clock is also recommended. Other items to consider are personal toiletries and medications. Campers should bring a notebook and pens. Some optional items are your favorite snack foods and extra batteries. **Please refer to the packing list which will be included in materials the Camper will receive after registering for a more complete listing of items to bring to camp.**

Note: As we will be involved with the natural world, we prefer that you do not bring radios, portable music devices, electronic games, etc. to camp.

HEALTH: We want your time at Camp Cascades to be as rewarding and memorable as possible. To insure this comes to pass, we offer the following information and suggestions for health-related issues:

- Staff members are certified to perform standard first aid and CPR and carry an assortment of first aid supplies.
- Staff members carry a Sawyer Extractor Kit in the unlikely event of poisonous snake bite.
- Those campers on prescribed medication should remember to pack it, and preferably in carry-on luggage.
- **VENT requires that all campers be up to date with his/her tetanus shot. Campers will not be permitted to attend a VENT Camp unless the tetanus shot certification document has been returned to the VENT office, signed and dated by a parent or legal guardian.**
- Due to the high temperatures of summer, campers will always be provided with plenty of cool drinks in the forms of bottled water and juice.
- Camping is required for 6 nights of this camp. Staff members will do all the cooking. Campers should expect healthy meals that are in low in fat, salt, and sugar, but high in protein, starch and vitamins. Plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables will be available.
- Throughout the trip, fast food restaurants will be avoided, although campers are allowed to buy items of their choosing (with their own money) at rest stops.

CAMPERS WITH SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS SHOULD NOTIFY OUR OFFICE UPON REGISTRATION.

TIME: Washington is on Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) during the summer months.

SUGGESTED READING: Our website, www.ventbird.com offers an affiliated online store that carries a wide variety of items for birding and nature lovers, including over 6,000 books. A portion of the sales from this store benefits the Cornell Lab. of Ornithology. You may also visit other online stores such as www.amazon.com, and for those out-of-print or hard-to-find titles, www.abebooks.com or www.buteobooks.com which specializes in ornithology books. The bookstores of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, www.laaudubon.org and Tucson Audubon Society, www.tucsonaudubon.org also carry a fine inventory of books on birding and natural history. The bookstores can be accessed through their respected websites.

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Bird Identification: Campers may bring any of the following field guides as primary resources for bird identification. All these guides adequately cover the birdlife of the region.

Kaufman, Kenn. ***Kaufman Field Guide to the Birds of North America***. New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2000.

National Geographic Society. ***Field Guide to North American Birds***. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 5th edition, 2006.

Sibley, David Allen. ***The Sibley Guide to Birds***. New York, NY: Alfred Knopf Publishing Company, 2000.

Sibley, David Allen. ***The Sibley Guide to Western Birds***. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000. This is a slimmed down regional version of *The Sibley Guide to Birds*.

Mammals: Any of these three guides adequately covers the mammal life of the region. However, there are some key differences between them. The Princeton guide offers the most concise, easiest to use field guide, with many well-illustrated plates featuring most of the recent taxonomic changes. A major drawback to the guide is a complete lack of accompanying text. The Kaufman guide is perhaps a better guide in that the color plates include good species accounts. Like the birding guide, Kaufman employs the use of digitally enhanced images, rather than true illustrations to display each species. The Reid guide is the newest and probably best field guide of the lot. It includes the most up-to-date taxonomy available to casual observers and easily the best text descriptions. Some might consider the lack of color plates a drawback.

Kays, Roland W. and Wilson, Don E. ***Mammals of North America***. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2002.

Bowers, Nora, Rick Bowers, and Kenn Kaufman. ***Kaufman Focus Guides: Mammals of North America***. New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin, Co., 2004.

Reid, Fiona A. ***Mammals of North America***. Peterson Field Guides. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, Co., 4th edition, 2006.

Butterflies:

Brock, Jim P. and Kenn Kaufman. ***Kaufman Focus Guides: Butterflies of North America***. New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin, Co., 2003. This is the best North American butterfly identification guide currently available.

Glassberg, Jeffrey. ***Butterflies through Binoculars: The West***. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Reptiles:

Stebbins, Robert C. ***Peterson Field Guides: Western Reptiles and Amphibians***. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. 1985.

Trees:

Petrides, George A. and Olivia. ***Peterson Field Guides: Western Trees***. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. 1992.

RESPONSIBILITY: Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, Inc. (VENT) and/or its Agents act only as agents for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, or airplane and assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of defect in any vehicle or for any reason whatsoever, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. VENT and its agents can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger. The right is reserved to substitute leaders on any tour. Where this is necessary, notification will be given to tour members. No refund will be made for any unused

portion of the tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The prices of the tours are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect September 1, 2008 and are subject to adjustment in the event of any change therein. The right is reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned and their agents and affiliates are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their aircraft. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passenger. The services of any I.A.T.A.N. carrier may be used for these tours, and transportation within the United States may be provided by any member carrier of the Airline Reporting Corporation.