

Wild and Wonderful West Virginia

May 21 - 25, 2021

Provisional Itinerary

Day 1: May 21 **Asheville to Lewisburg, WV**

We will leave Asheville this morning and drive towards West Virginia, probably using the interstate system to get us there as fast as possible. Once we cross into Mercer County around Princeton, we will slow down and explore some local birding spots. These could include Brush Creek Falls State Park looking for bird migration through the forest and maybe a stop along the New river at the Hinton dam; one of the very few spots for shorebirds in the state. We will then drive to Lewisburg where we will spend the next few days. *Night in Lewisburg*

Day 2: May 22 **Cranberry Glades**

Cranberry Glades Botanical Area is a beautiful spot and the feeling one gets while birding there is of a northern bog. Northern Waterthrush and Mourning Warblers breed in the area and warblers abound in the nearby woodlands and there should be good numbers already on territory. Red Crossbills are frequently found in this area and overall Pocahontas County is a great birding location. We will explore many of the local hotspots including the nearby Greenbrier River Trail access, Hills Creek Falls and Watoga State Park. *Night in Lewisburg*

Day 3: May 23 **Greenbrier County**

Greenbrier County also has some great birding locations and we will enjoy some lower elevation walking along the Greenbrier River Trail where Eastern Kingbird, Yellow Warbler and Yellow-billed Cuckoo nest. We will then head to higher elevations to enjoy the breeding warblers, such as Black-and-white, Ovenbird, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Northern Parula and many more. *Night in Lewisburg*

Day 4: May 24 **Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties**

Today we will explore the beautiful countryside in this part of West Virginia. We will look for Red-headed Woodpeckers in the farm country, along with other open-country species. We will also enjoy an easy walk along part of the Greenbrier River Trail which can be beautiful, as well as very bird-rich. Warbling Vireo, Green Heron, Wood Duck and Bald Eagle can be seen along the river. *Night in Lewisburg*

Day 5: May 25 **Heading home**

After breakfast we will begin our drive back to Asheville, NC with some last-minute birding along the way.

This Itinerary is just a guide and is subject to change depending on the birds, weather and whims of the leader!