



**WORLD-CLASS BIRDING**  
SMALL GROUP COMFORT



**Bluethroat**

*Photo: Carl Sheely*

## Alaska 2021: Nome & Seward Peninsula 2

*June 3 to June 7, 2021*

Nome lies on the Seward Peninsula, jutting into the Bering Sea. It's a frontier town in a world where few such curiosities remain. Accessible only by boat and airplane, bordered on the West and South by the Bering Sea, and the North and East by miles of trackless wilderness, Nome is a fascinating and challenging destination. During June, the midnight sun is at its brightest, the tundra is in full bloom, and the birds and mammals are breeding. Our tours will cover the prime birding areas along the seacoast, the tundra and the only boreal forest on the Seward Peninsula. Most of the birds are in their resplendent breeding plumages—rarely if ever seen in the “lower 48”. We'll make an extra effort to locate some of the Asian species that regularly occur at Nome. The road system of Nome provides the best access to the Alaska bush without an airplane, and we will drive it extensively.



# TOUR AT A GLANCE

TOUR PRICE	US \$2875 Single Supplement: US \$500. Deposit: US \$500.00.
TOUR SIZE	Limited to 14 participants, with two leaders.
INCLUDES	From Anchorage. Pickup and drop-off at Anchorage Airport, 4 nights lodging, all meals, transport, guide, taxes, & tips (guide tip optional).

## SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

June 3	Proceed to Anchorage Airport for flight to Nome. Overnight Aurora Inn.
June 4	Kougarok Road. Overnight Aurora Inn.
June 5	Teller Road. Overnight Aurora Inn.
June 6	Council Road. Overnight Aurora Inn.
June 7	Depart for Anchorage and trip's end.

INCLUDES	From Anchorage. Air to Nome, pickup & drop-off at Nome Airport, 4 nights lodging, all meals, transport, guide, taxes, & tips (guide tip optional).
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## DETAILED ITINERARY

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### DAY 1

#### Depart for Nome.

You'll proceed to Anchorage Airport (subject to change every year; flight time available about four to five months prior to trip), get your E-ticket at the kiosk, and fly to Nome where we will meet you at the airport. We'll get settled at the Inn and have lunch. Birding after lunch along Safety Lagoon. We'll spend the rest of the day carefully searching the shorelines, lagoons and ponds along the Bering Sea for rarities



such as Arctic Loon, Yellow-billed Loon, Red-necked Stint, Ross' Gull, Spectacled Eider, as well as the many resident shorebirds, waterfowl and seabirds.

## DAY 2

### Drive Kougarok Road. Overnight at Aurora Inn

We drive the 85 mile length of Kougarok Road into the high tundra and mountains of Seward Peninsula in search of nesting Bristle-thighed Curlew, Bluethroat and Gyrfalcon, among others. Rock & Willow Ptarmigan are abundant at this time of year. Eastern Yellow Wagtails will just be setting up territories. We'll watch (carefully) for Grizzly Bear, Moose, Wolf and other mammals.

## DAY 3

### Drive Teller Road. Overnight Aurora Inn.

We'll slowly drive out Teller Road, stopping at several river crossings looking for Wandering Tattler; Blackpoll, Orange-crowned, Wilson's Warbler; Northern Waterthrush; Gray-cheeked Thrush; stopping at Wooley Lagoon to see a native whale-hunting outpost on the Bering Sea, while observing nesting Black-bellied, Pacific and American Golden-Plovers as well as Semipalmated Sandpipers and Whimbrels. Parasitic Jaegers are always around harassing the shorebirds at their nests. We should get good looks at Northern Wheatears and Snow Buntings as well. At the end of the road, we find Teller itself, an Inupiat village that sits out on a spit in the bay. White Wagtail and many alcids, including Horned and Tufted Puffins, Pigeon and Black Guillemots and Common Murres have been seen here. We should see Spotted Seals close to the shore.

## DAY 4

### Drive Council Road. Overnight Aurora Inn

We drive along Safety Lagoon again, looking for shorebirds, waterfowl, geese, swans, loons. The road to Council can be difficult to traverse at times, but we hope to make it out to the small fishing village in the interior on Fish Creek. This area represents the only Boreal forest on the



Seward Peninsula and should yield Varied Thrush, Boreal Chickadee, Rough-legged Hawk and other alpine species. We have heard Boreal Owl as well in the area.

## DAY 4

### Depart Nome for return to Anchorage where trip ends

Breakfast and prepare to depart at 10:00 AM for the airport for 12:05 PM (subject to change) flight and return to Anchorage where the trip ends about 1:30 PM.

**Note:** Road conditions can affect the access to certain species, such as the Bristle-thighed Curlew. If the road is impassable, we won't be able to see this bird — unless we get lucky and one shows up along the coast or on another road, as happens occasionally. We have not had a problem for several years now. Hopefully, that will continue.

Deposit can be paid securely on our web-site. Remaining balance must be paid 90 days prior to departure **by check** to High Lonesome BirdTours. Please mail to address below.

*The tour price includes:*

- From Anchorage.
- Roundtrip air, Anchorage-Nome
- Pickup and drop-off at Nome Airport
- 4 nights lodging
- All meals
- Ground transportation
- All reserve entrance fees
- Taxes and local tips (guide tip optional)

*The tour price excludes:*

- Airfares except as noted above
- Drinks
- Telephone calls, laundry and other items of a personal nature



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION...

*Contact:*

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