

Birdwatching



Ministerio de
Turismo y Deportes



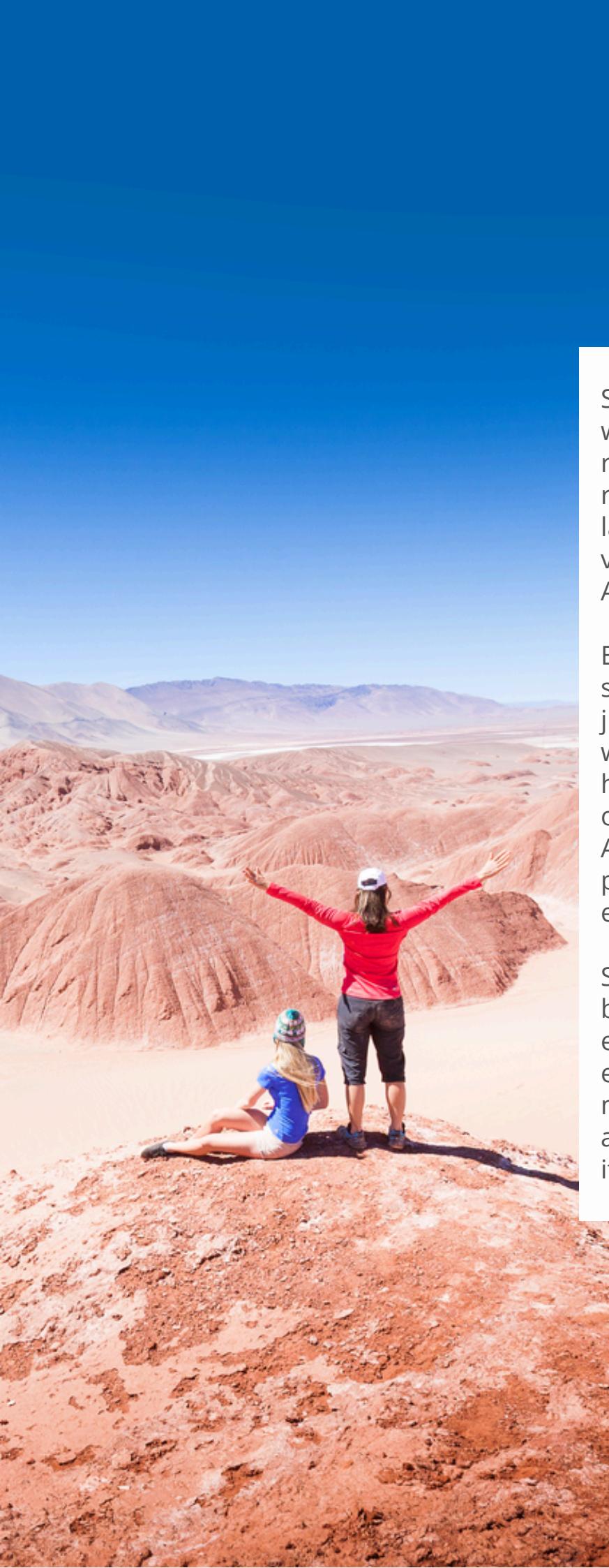
SALTA
GOBIERNO

Salta
ARGENTINA

Table of contents

- 03. *Why choose Salta for birdwatching?***
- 05. *Geographical location***
- 06. *Air connectivity***
- 07. *The birdwatching paradise***
- 10. *IBAs (Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas)***
- 12. *Birdwatching regions***
- 22. *Tour operators***
- 23. *Protected Natural Areas***





Salta is a natural sanctuary, blessed with a rich diversity of ecosystems, ranging from lush tropical rainforests to arid mountainous landscapes. This extraordinary variety hosts more than 60% of Argentina's bird species.

Each region offers a unique spectacle, from colorful species in jungle areas to aquatic birds in wetlands. Additionally, the region is home to argentine endemics and other species unique to the extreme Andean landscapes, making the province a paradise for bird enthusiasts.

Salta is an ideal destination for birdwatchers of all levels, from enthusiastic beginners to experienced specialists. Explore its marvelous ecosystems and be amazed by the captivating beauty of its birds.



At every step and along every route, birdwatchers find opportunities to pause and, for a moment, immerse themselves in this natural setting.

Amazonian Motmot - *Momotus momota*
(Photo: Alejandro Espedé)



Geographical location

The Province of Salta occupies a strategic geographical location. In the heart of South America, it borders three countries—Chile, Bolivia, and Paraguay—and six Argentine provinces — Jujuy, Formosa, Chaco, Santiago del Estero, Tucumán, and Catamarca. Its territory encompasses a wide range of landscapes from 180 to 6700 meters above sea level, featuring a diverse array that spans from the arid Puna desert in the west to the lush green Yungas, including valleys and steep ravines in the center of the province.

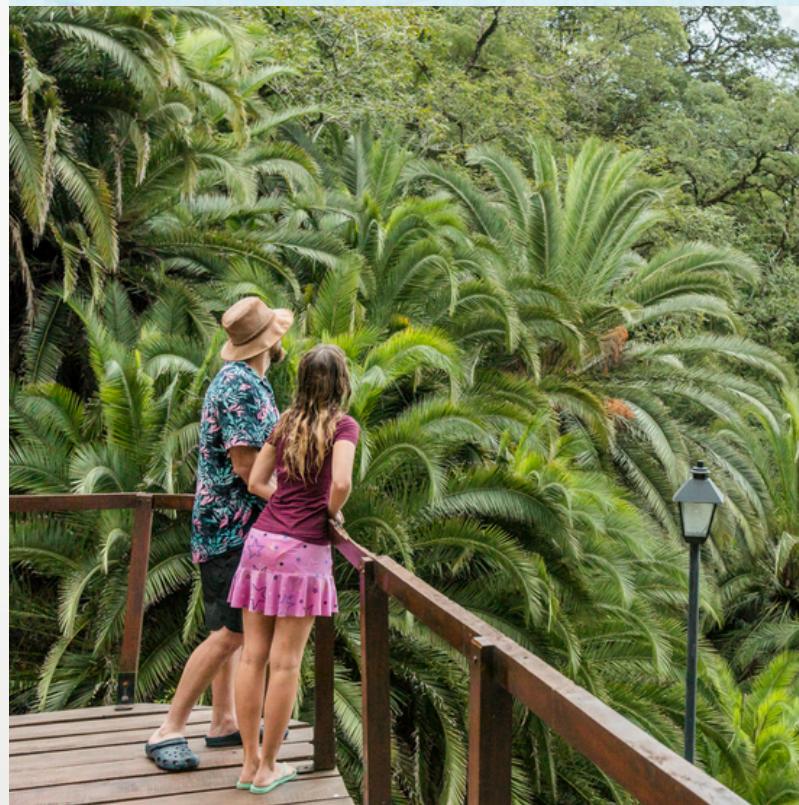
155.488 KM²
AREA

Air Connectivity

With over 100 weekly flights, Salta offers excellent connectivity for visitors. Domestically, the province is linked to several regions of the country. The national destinations that Salta connects with directly include **Buenos Aires, Rosario, Córdoba, Mendoza, Iguazú and Neuquén**.

Internationally, Salta is connected to **Lima, Perú; Asunción, Paraguay; and Panamá** these airports are key points for tourist arrivals. Lima and Panamá Airports, serve as a central connection point for Salta, offering links to Colombia, Mexico, Ecuador, the United States, the Caribbean, and Europe.

With its robust connectivity network, Salta becomes a gateway to the country and the southern part of the continent.



A wide-angle photograph capturing a vast landscape of a salt flat under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, two young women are walking along the edge of a body of water, both wearing bright-colored outdoor gear and backpacks. The woman on the left wears a lime-green jacket and a grey backpack, while the woman on the right wears a pink jacket, a blue backpack, and a bright orange bucket hat. Above them, a massive flock of flamingos is captured in flight, their white bodies and pink wings silhouetted against the sky. The salt flat extends to the horizon, meeting a line of white, low-lying hills or mountains in the distance.

The birdwatching paradise



Due to its geographical location and diverse environments, Salta is home to **672 bird species**, making it **the province with the highest number of bird species in Argentina**.

It boasts a wide variety, including many Argentine endemics.

Blue-crowned Trogon - *Trogon curucui*
(Photo: Pia Minestroni)



Its northern position, reaching the Tropic of Capricorn, and its complex geography of plains, mountains, and wetlands, with a wide altitudinal range, create 9 ecoregions grouped into **4 recognized natural environments: Puna, Monte, Yungas, and Chaco.**

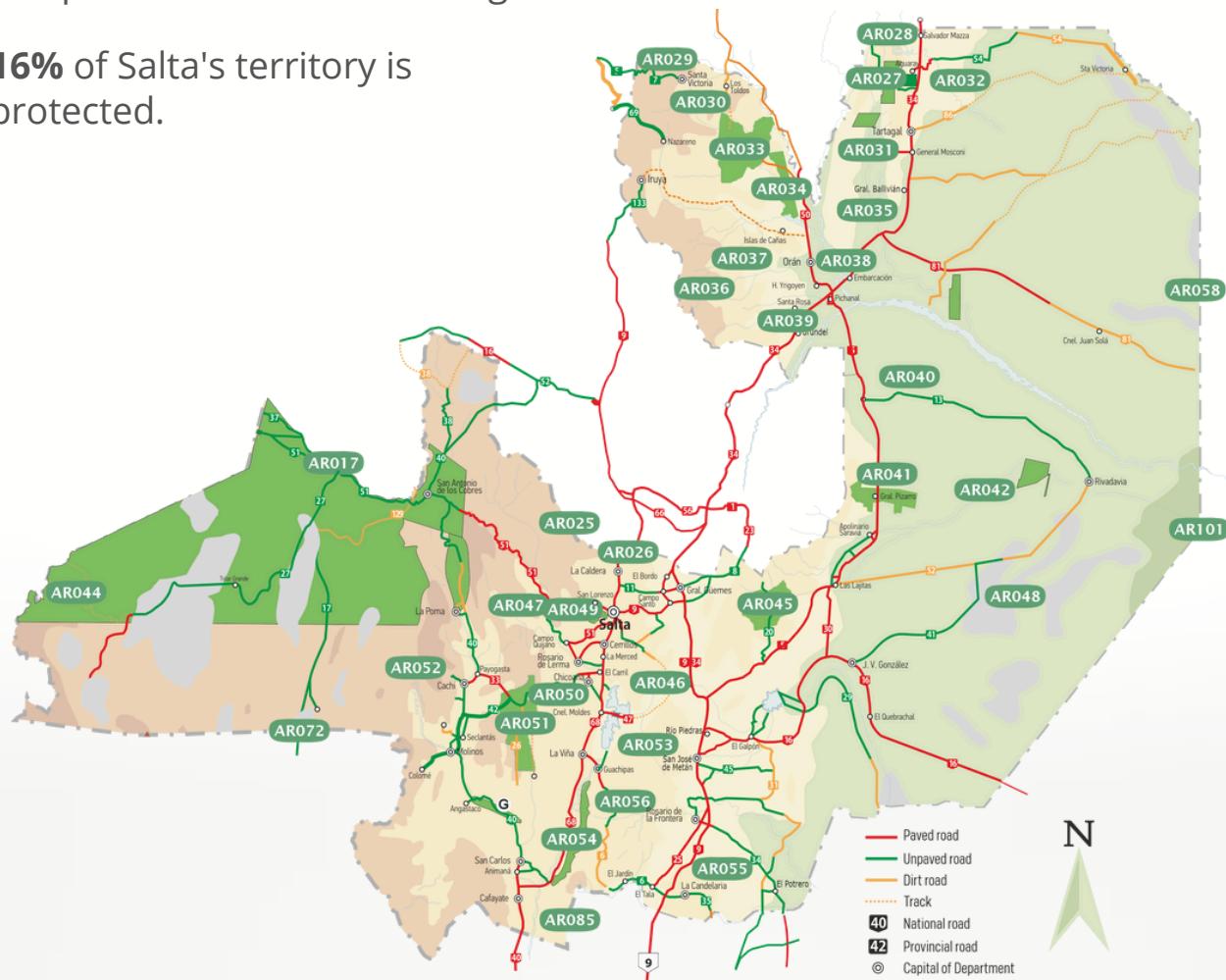
Olive-crowned Crescentchest - *Melanopareia maximiliani*
(Photo: Ale Sandoval)

IBAs

Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas

Salta, with a total of 36, has the highest number of IBAs in the country. These can be enjoyed in over 28 protected natural areas and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in the Yungas.

16% of Salta's territory is protected.



- AR017 Olaroz-Cauchari (shared with Jujuy)
- AR025 Cerro Negro de San Antonio (shared with Jujuy)
- AR026 La Cornisa (shared with Jujuy)
- AR027 Reserva Provincial Acambuco
- AR028 Itiyuro-Tuyunti
- AR029 Sierra de Santa Victoria
- AR030 Santa Victoria, Cañani and Cayatal
- AR031 Río Seco
- AR032 Chaco de Tartagal
- AR033 Baritú National Park and Nogalar de Los Toldos National Reserve
- AR034 Laguna Pintascayo Provincial Park
- AR035 La Porcelana
- AR036 Sierra de Zenta
- AR037 Fincas Santiago and San Andrés
- AR038 Abra Grande
- AR039 Río Santa María
- AR040 Lomas de Olmedo
- AR041 Chaguaral (assimilates AR043, Pizarro N.R.)

- AR042 Bañados del Quirquincho (Los Palmares P.R.)
- AR044 Socompa-Llullaillaco (Los Andes P.R.)
- AR045 El Rey National Park
- AR046 Cañón del Juramento (ex Palomitas and Ebro)
- AR047 Quebrada del Toro
- AR048 Salta Forestal
- AR049 Finca Las Costas / Cordón Lesser
- AR050 Cuesta del Obispo
- AR051 Los Cardones National Park
- AR052 Luracatao and Valles Calchaquíes
- AR053 Sierra de Metán
- AR054 Quebrada de Las Conchas Provincial Reserve
- AR055 Sierra La Candelaria (Rosario de La Frontera)
- AR056 Sierras de Carahuasi
- AR058 El Cantor - Los Leones (shared with Formosa)
- AR072 Salar del Hombre Muerto (shared with Catamarca)
- AR085 Cumbres Calchaquíes (shared with Tucumán)
- AR101 Río Bermejito (shared with Chaco)



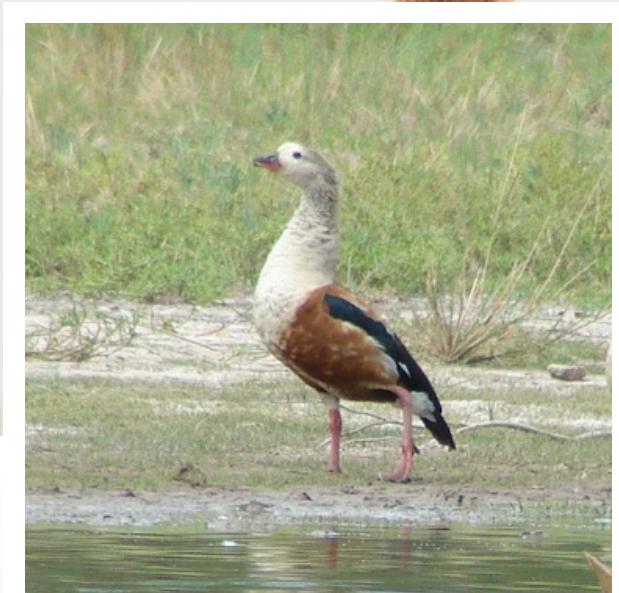
Andean Avocet - *Recurvirostra andina*
(Photo: Gabriel Núñez)



Fulvous-headed Brushfinch - *Atlapetes fulviceps*
(Photo : Jorge Quiroga)

A photograph of three birdwatchers standing in a dense field of tall, dry, golden-brown reeds. They are all wearing light-colored long-sleeved shirts and hats, and are looking through binoculars. The background shows a mix of bare trees and some green foliage. The overall atmosphere is one of a natural, outdoor setting.

Birdwatching regions



Orinoco Goose - *Oressochen jubatus*



Chaco

Dry Chaco and Chaco Serrano.

A subtropical forested plain, known as Chaco Salteño spreads across the east of the province. It houses 'Los Palmares Natural Reserve' with vegetation consisting of original quebracho and algarrobo forests, transitioning to extensive wet grasslands, which are crucial for ornithological activities.

The area features large congregations of waterfowl and, in winter, significant amount of species in 'Chaco Seco' (vast arid and semi-arid sedimentary plain).

Representative birds

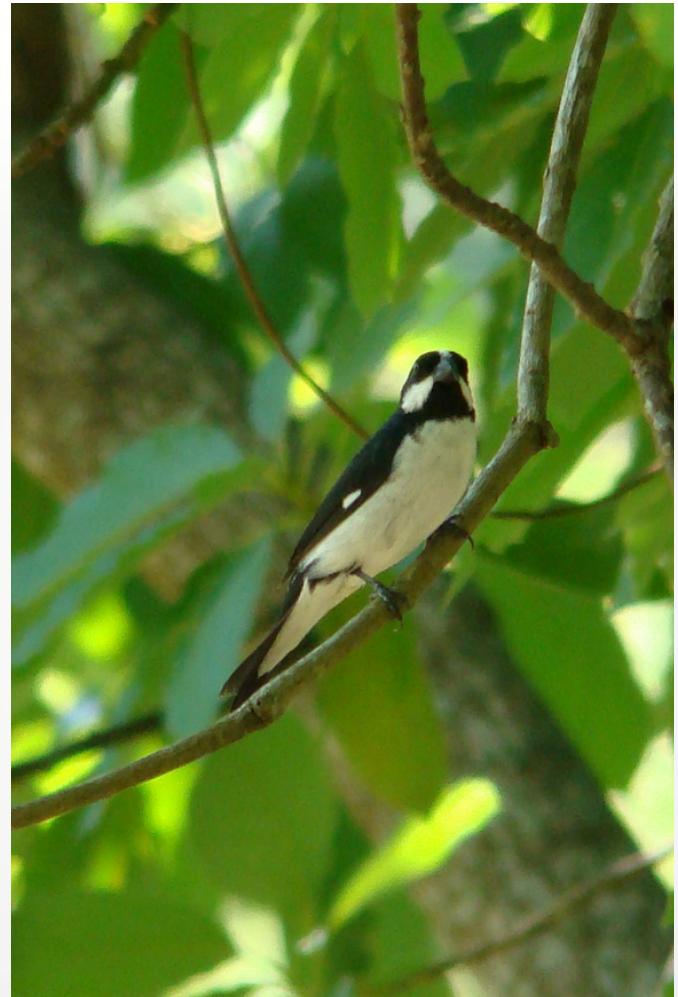
Cordoba Cinclodes (*Cinclodes comechingonus*); **Salinas Monjita** (*Neoxolmis salinarum*); **Carbonated Sierra Finch** (*Rhopospina carbonaria*); **Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*); **Green-checked Parakeet** (*Pyrrhura molinae*).

Other interesting species

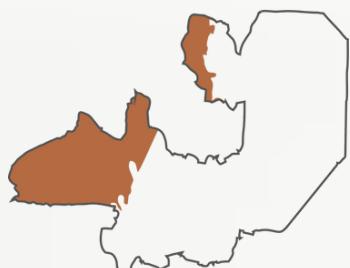
Greater Rhea (*Rhea Americana*); **Chaco Eagle** (*Buteogallus coronatus*); **Orinoco Goose** (*Oressochen jubatus*); **Crested Gallito** (*Rhinocrypta lanceolata*).



Crested Gallito - *Rhinocrypta lanceolata*
(Photo: Ale Sandoval)



Lined Seedeater - *Sporophila lineola*
(Photo: Sebastián D'Ingianti)



Alto Andino y Puna

In the plateaus and mountain ranges of the western province, between 3500 and 6700 meters above sea level, lie extremely harsh ecosystems characterized by wide temperature fluctuations and regular minimum temperatures below freezing. Precipitation is scarce, so xerophytic steppe vegetation predominates, interspersed with large salt flats and some lagoons. The landscape is dominated by mineral elements. 'Puna salteña' is much drier than the Bolivian one. However, it hosts a unique avifauna, including aquatic, vermicorous, and filter-feeding species.

Among them are resident and altitudinal migratory species, as well as several Nearctic migrants.



Jame's Flamingo - *Phoenicoparrus jamesi*
(Photo: Ricardo Cenzano)



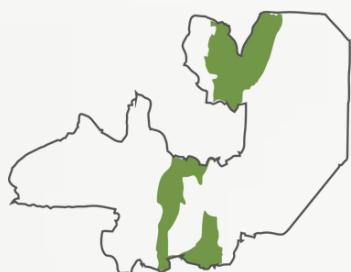
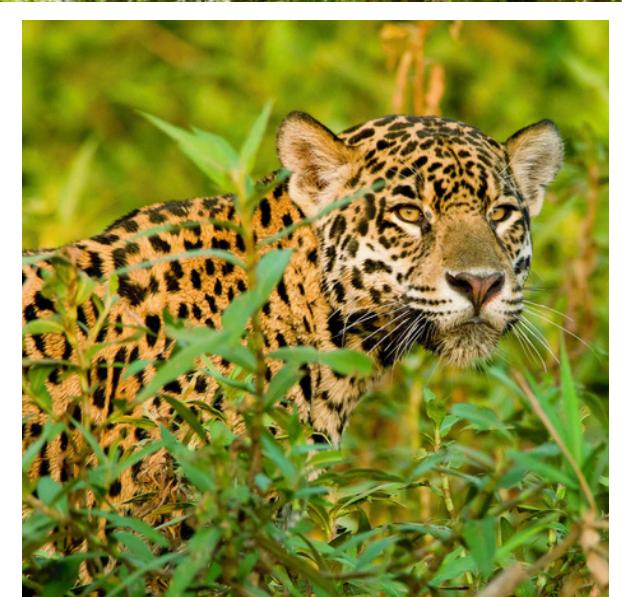
Horned Coot - *Fulica cornuta*
(Photo: Flavio Moschione)

Representative birds

| **Monte Yellow-Finch** (*Sicalis mendozae*).

Other interesting species

| **Lesser Rhea** (*Rhea pennata*); **Chilean Flamingo** (*Phoenicopterus chilensis*); **Andino Flamingo** (*Phoenicopterus andinus*); **Horned Coot** (*Fulica cornuta*).



Yungas

Tropical rainforest ecoregions (Pedemonte), Yungas (Mountain Forests) and Paramo (Wastelands).

It represents the northern area of the Yungas in Argentina, with the potential for connectivity to similar environments in Bolivia.

It is an area with high diversity, rich in birdlife, among which large eagles stand out.

Representative birds

White-browed Tapaculo (*Scytalopus superciliaris*); **Yellow-striped Brushfinch** (*Atlapetes citrinellus*); **Tucuman Mountain-Finch** (*Poospiza baeri*); **Andean Guan** (*Penelope montagnii*); **Groove-billed Ani** (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*); **Many-spotted Hummingbird** (*Taphrospilus hypostictus*); **White-chinned Sapphirus** (*Chlorestes cyanus*); **Military Macaw** (*Ara militaris*); **Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet** (*Phyllomyias uropygialis*); **Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*); **Yungas Manakin** (*Chiroxiphia boliviana*); **Slaty Finch** (*Haplospiza rustica*); **Yellow-browed Sparrow** (*Ammodramus aurifrons*).

Other interesting species

Solitary Eagle (*Buteogallus solitarius*); **Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle** (*Spizaetus melanoleucus*).



Military Macaw - *Ara militaris*
(Photo: Ale Sandoval)



Yellow-striped Brushfinch - *Atlapetes citrinellus*
(Photo: Diego Rodríguez)



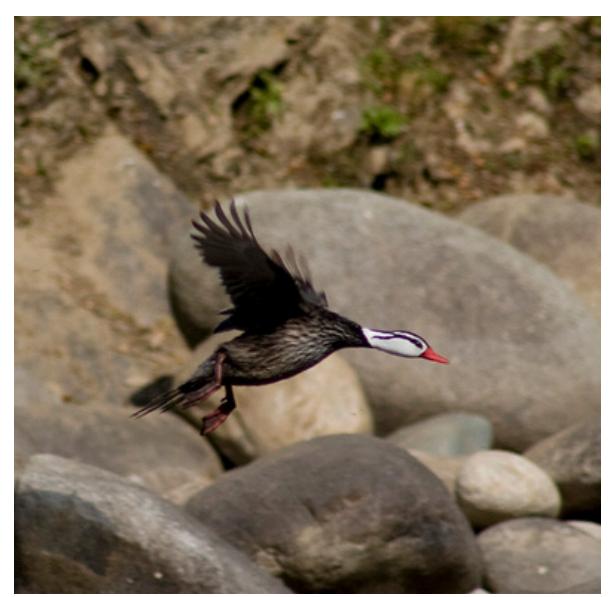
Fawn-breasted Tanager - *Pipraeidea melanonota*
(Photo: Carlos Pauro)



Giant Antshrike - *Batara cinerea*
(Photo: Jorge Quiroga)



Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant - *Anairetes flavirostris*
(Photo: Cristian Domínguez)



Torrent Duck - *Merganetta armata*
(Photo: Ricardo Cenzano)



Monte

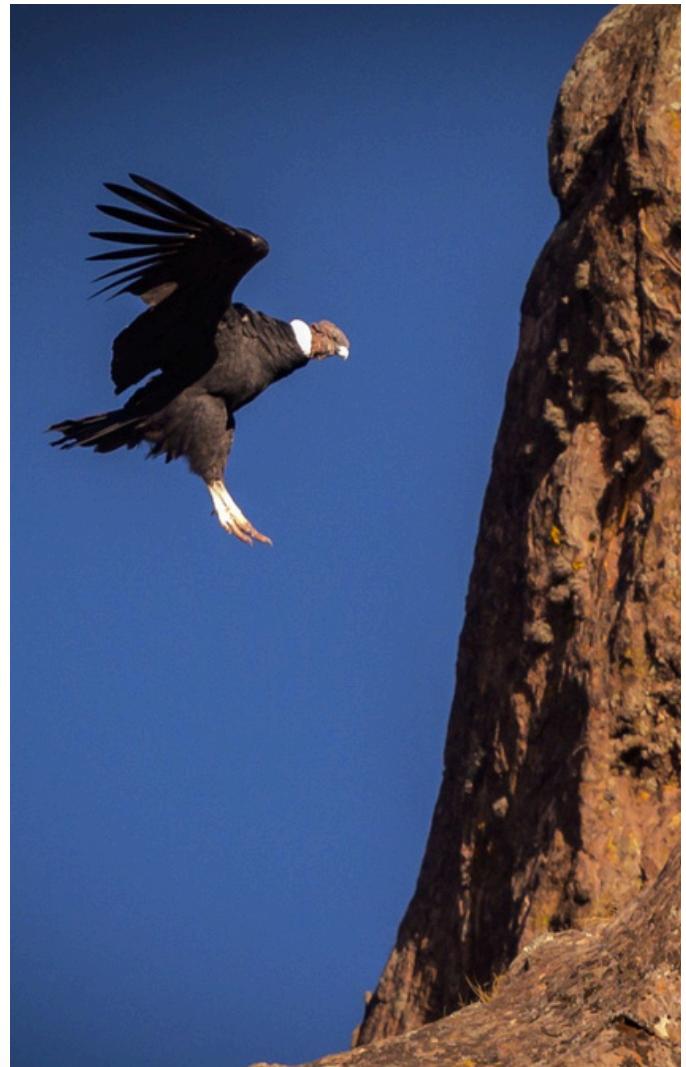
Valles Calchaquíes and Puna.

This area includes the intermountain valleys of Salta, located between 1600 and 3000 meters above sea level.

With steppe vegetation and algarrobo forests in the lowlands and impressive cardon cacti on the hillsides, this land harbors endemic species of the central Andean biome and serves as a winter refuge for altitudinal migratory species from the Puna.



Bare-eyed Ground Dove - *Metriopelia morenoi*
(Photo: Gabriel Núñez)



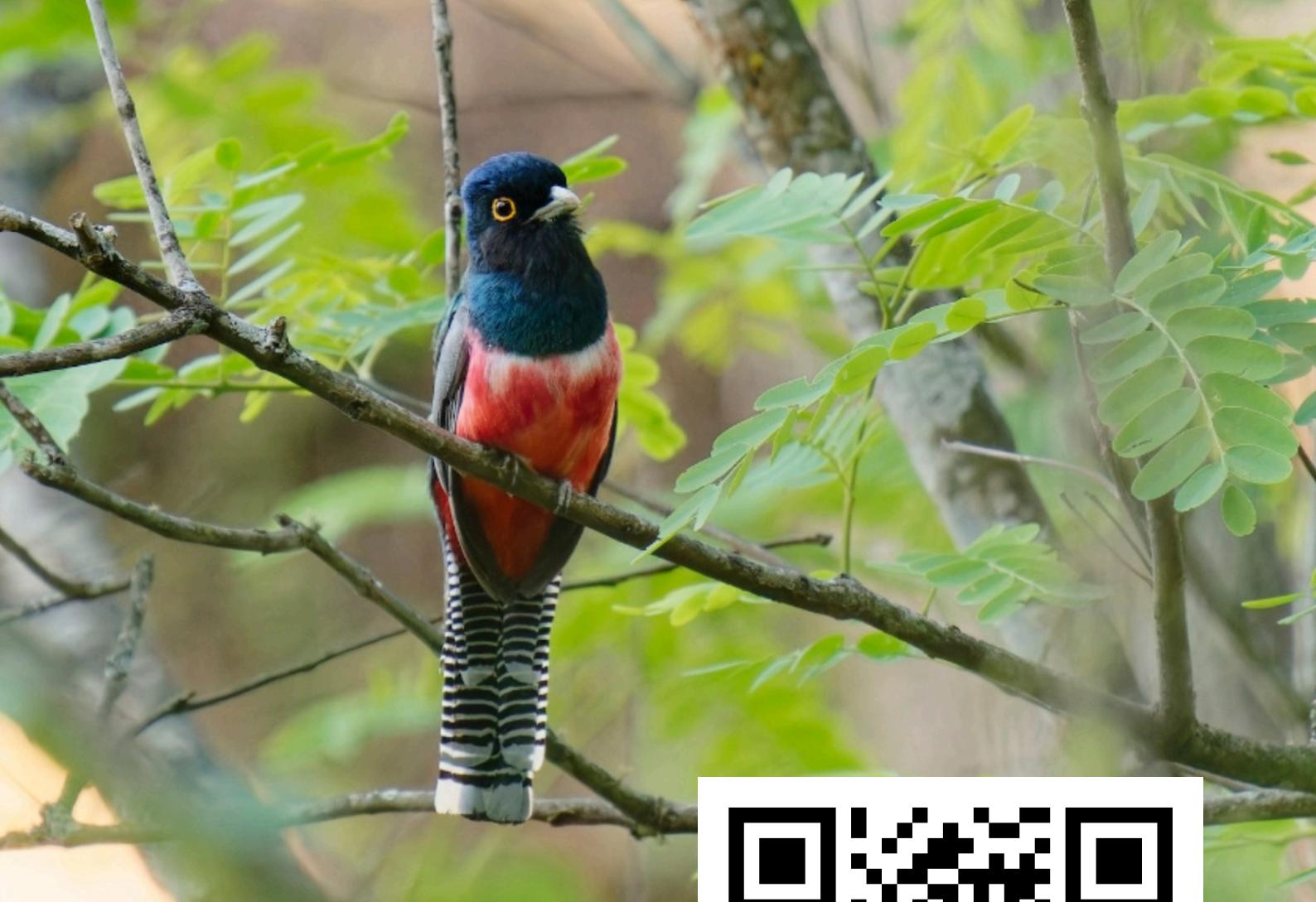
Andean Condor - *Vultur gryphus*
(Photo: Ale Sandoval)

Representative birds

Bare-eyed Ground Dove (*Metriopelia morenoi*); **Sandy Gallito** (*Teledroma fuscus*); **Steinbach's Canastero** (*Pseudasthenes steinbachi*); **White-throated Cacholote** (*Pseudoseisura gutturalis*); **Rusty-backed Monjita** (*Neoxolmis rubetra*); **Cinnamon Warbling Finch** (*Poospiza ornata*).

Other interesting species

Andean Condor (*Vultur Gryphus*); **Lesser Violetear** (*Colibri cyanotus*); **Bolivian Earthcreeper** (*Tarphonomus harterti*); **Bolivian Warbling Finch** (*Poospiza boliviana*).



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**Salta is nature, inviting you to
connect with all your senses.**

White-bellied Hummingbird - *Elliotomyia chionogaster*
(Photo: Carlos Pauro)

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