Tour Special Features

Great Birds
Pristine Habitat
Midwest Hospitality
Untouched Wilderness
Small Group Experience

Small Groups! Great Leaders! Interesting People!

February 1-6, 2021

ctaudubon.org/ecotravel
For many people, the first images that come to mind when thinking of Minnesota winters are of cold, snow, ice, and frozen lakes. To knowledgeable birders, that image exists only as a glittering backdrop for Great Gray and Northern Hawk owls hunting from spruce-top perches; Sharp-tailed and Ruffed grouse stripping the buds from birches by morning’s glowing light; legions of Snow Buntings wheeling in tight formation; flocks of colorful Pine and Evening grosbeaks filling up at bird feeders; frenzied Common and Hoary redpolls darting about an alder thicket; and tamarack bogs occupied by industrious Black-backed and American Three-toed woodpeckers.

Add in boreal residents like Spruce Grouse, Northern Goshawk, Canada Jay, and Boreal Chickadee; nomadic winter visitors such as Glaucous and Iceland gulls, Snowy Owl, Northern Shrike, Bohemian Waxwing, and Red and White-winged crossbills, and you begin to see the attractiveness of a midwinter visit to these northern climes.

Still not convinced? Well, the chance for rare species including Boreal Owl and Gyrfalcon is not to be overlooked!

As we travel through many remote areas of northeastern Minnesota, our chances of turning up a few interesting mammals are quite good. Past winter tours have recorded Snowshoe Hare, Beaver, Porcupine, Long-tailed Weasel, Mink, Fisher, Moose, and Gray Wolf. Spectacular species like Pine Marten and Lynx are possible.

Join us as we venture into the North, searching for the rare and breathtaking species that call the boreal forests home. The birds may be different each year, but the camaraderie remains the same!