



Appalachian Adventure

Warbler Specialties of Southern Ohio

Tour Leader: Jamie Cunningham
April 27 - May 2, 2021

Southern Ohio's lush rolling hills host a great number of breeding songbirds and there is no better time to visit than when the valleys are in bloom and warblers are singing in their stunning breeding plumage. This trip will focus on capturing stunning images of up to a dozen warbler species that reside here. We will target such gems as Cerulean, Blue-winged, Prairie, Black-and-white, Hooded, Kentucky, and Worm-eating Warblers. Along with the great variation on warblers we will have a chance to photograph several types of vireos and a variety of other songbirds. In the afternoons we will go over some post processing tips and tricks as we sort through the morning's images. Our lodging will be simple but comfortable and put us right near the action, so we spend our time shooting, not driving. Expect top notch photo ops on this fun and all-inclusive itinerary!

General Overview

The leader will work extremely hard to get you into the right position to make the best images possible. We will photograph a variety of species each day and work in the best light to take your images to the next level. Prior to the trip you will be sent a packing checklist, so you are able to anticipate how to dress for the sometimes-unpredictable spring weather. During the tour you will learn how to get the correct exposure and be mindful of your backgrounds, perches, and how to capture the best body angle of the bird. We will also spend some time learning about post-processing and the techniques used to enhance your images.

We could encounter more than a dozen warbler species on this trip! Likely warbler species include Kentucky, Cerulean, Prairie, Pine, Black-throated Green, Blue-winged, Prothonotary, Worm-eating, and Hooded Warblers, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Ovenbird. There are many species that call Southern Ohio their home and along with warblers will be see several species of vireos, orioles, sparrows, tanagers and more!

Do communicate any specific techniques you would like to learn. No species can be guaranteed but we will do our best to locate the target species through extensive exploration of the area and knowledge of appropriate habitat. Every effort will be made to ensure each participant comes away with many memorable images.

Equipment

Bring your longest telephoto lens and matching teleconverters as well as a tripod for this tour. A flash kit including speed light, bracket, off-shoe cord, Better Beamer, and external battery pack will help you get the most from this trip as we will be learning to use fill flash to enhance our images. Bring a macro lens (or extension tubes) for the flowers and a shorter lens will come in handy for documenting our trip.

Environment

While the calendar says May, participants will still want to plan for some chilly weather. Early mornings can be quite cool while afternoons can warm dramatically. A misty all-day rain can be wonderful for photography but will quickly chill you to the bone without a waterproof outer layer (consider a rain cover for your lens as well). Light hiking boots will suffice for footwear. This is tick and mosquito country. You may wish to wear long sleeves, gloves, and a head net to protect exposed skin from biting mosquitoes. Deet is a well-known mosquito repellent but the chemical contents can melt the plastic parts of your gear. Products with the active ingredient Picardin work just as well without destroying your expensive gear. We recommend tucking pant legs and shirt tails while treating clothing with permethrin as your best defense against ticks.

Physical Activity

Activity levels for this trip are not strenuous but some light off trail hiking for short distances can be expected. The majority of our photography will be done from along lightly traveled roads or adjacent pull offs and parking areas.

Daily Schedule

Each morning we will leave the hotel quite early and grab a quick bite of breakfast arriving at our photo locations at or near sunrise. This will allow us to take advantage of the birds' most active time of day and the best light. A leisurely lunch will provide a needed break to refuel and recharge. On full sun days lunch will be a little earlier while on overcast days we will extend our morning session longer. In the afternoons we will head back out to new locations and work on making more images. Dinner may not be until late but snacks and water in the vehicle will keep us going. Over dinner we will discuss the day's events and plan for the following morning. If the forecast is for heavy overcast or hard rain we may decide on a later start and have a more leisurely breakfast. In the event of an all day downpour we will discuss and demonstrate image editing or share a slide program.

Likely Species on this trip:



- American Redstart
- Black-and-White Warbler
- Black-throated Green
- Blue-winged Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Hooded Warbler
- Kentucky Warbler
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Northern Parula
- Ovenbird
- Pine warbler
- Prairie Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Worm-eating Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Yellow-breasted Chat
- Blue-headed Vireo
- White-eyed Vireo
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Summer Tanager
- Scarlet Tanager

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Cincinnati, Ohio: \$1,999

Single Supplement: \$350

Minimum Participants: 2

Maximum Participants: 5

Price Includes:

Expert Guides

Ground Transportation in Ohio

All Lodging

All Meals

Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Cincinnati, Ohio

Airport Taxes

Passport and Visa Fees (if applicable)

Alcoholic Beverages

Personal Items

Travel Insurance

Tips

Deposit:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to hold your spot on this tour. The remaining balance is due no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled start date of the tour (January 27, 2021).

If you have any questions about this tour or would like to sign up for it, please contact Rob at info@sabrewingnaturetours.com, by phone at 317-324-8505, or register through our website at sabrewingnaturetours.com.

Responsibility/Disclaimer Statement:

Sabrewing Nature Tours acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Sabrewing Nature Tours and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours/trips arranged by Sabrewing Nature Tours. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.



Registration: Appalachian Adventure 2021

Participant 1:

Name (as it appears on your passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number (if applicable)

Passport Expiration (if applicable)

Passport Country of Origin (if applicable)

List current health and physical limitations:

List any allergies:

List any medications:

List any dietary restrictions or preferences:

In case of emergency please notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Participant 2:

Name (as it appears on your passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number (if applicable)

Passport Expiration (if applicable)

Passport Country of Origin (if applicable)

List current health and physical limitations:

List any allergies:

List any medications:

List any dietary restrictions or preferences:

In case of emergency please notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Sabrewing Nature Tours

Terms, Conditions, and Waiver

TERMS: To register for a tour or workshop please complete the above registration form and sign below to acknowledge the terms. Send this form along with you Tour/Workshop Registration Form and your deposit or full tour amount to Sabrewing Nature Tours (SNT) at the below address. Registrations will be processed on a first come first served basis. We will place your name on the waiting list if your tour is full.

The deposit for this trip is \$1,000 per participant. Deposits and all signed forms are required to secure registration of your spot on the tour. Deposits are refundable less a 20% processing fee ONLY if the spot can be filled with another participant at the full tour price. Deposits received after a tour has filled will be returned and your name will be placed on a waiting list. Payment in full is due at least 90 days prior to the start of the tour. Registrants who have not paid their remaining balance will forfeit their deposit and their place on the tour. Payment by personal check is strongly preferred. If you would like to pay with a credit card, additional fees will apply. We strongly suggest you consider trip insurance to cover you in the event of a medical or other emergency that would prohibit you from joining the tour.

The activity level required for each tour will be described on the tour page. If in doubt, please contact SNT to determine if a tour is right for you. Any physical or medical concerns including allergies and/or dietary restrictions should be communicated to SNT. All tours will be non-smoking during group activities including but not limited to meals, slide programs, vehicle travel, and when birding/photographing in close proximity to other participants. Tour groups will be kept small for the enjoyment of all participants. Target group sizes are listed in each tour description on our web site. SNT reserves the right to exceed the target group size by no more than one participant.

Tours will be held regardless of weather conditions. Severe weather may dictate informal discussion and/or a slide program while we wait for the weather to break. Tours will begin at the scheduled time. Tardiness may result in missing the boat, or van so to speak. There are no guarantees in nature. Tours are designed to coincide with excellent nature viewing opportunities. Decisions will be made daily to determine where the group should be to maximize opportunities. Deviation from the scheduled itinerary may be necessary.

It is imperative that all participants follow rules and suggestions set forth by the leaders and/or local guides. Failure to comply could pose a safety risk to you or other tour participants. For the safety of all clients we reserve the right to restrict access to tour functions at any time.

Airfare is NOT included in the price of the tour unless otherwise noted on the tour page. Registered participants will receive more specific details of what to bring as well as a more detailed outline of what can be expected on the tour upon payment in full and no later than 60 days prior to the start of the tour.

Photo tour participants wishing to get the most from their tour will have a working knowledge of their camera equipment prior to the tour. Suggestions on exposure modes, camera settings and a variety of techniques will be verbalized throughout the tour. Do bring your camera's manual. Every camera is unique in its operation thus it is impossible to know every feature of every camera model. Participants will be put in the best locations to take advantage of the light, wind, and habitat. We will work to improve compositions and make suggestions to vary your perspective that will improve your resulting images. Participants will also learn techniques to successfully capture action and behavior images.

Waiver: I am aware that certain risks and dangers are inherent to nature travel and photography and may occur during a Sabrewing Nature Tours event and that such risk and dangers cannot be eliminated without diminishing the quality of the workshop/tour for which I have registered. Risks include but are not limited to theft or other loss of equipment or personal belongings; illness, injury, accident or death; travel hazards by air, boat, automobile or other vehicle; exposure to elements and other forces of nature and acts of God; both native and non-native wildlife, insects and flora as well as political, civil or military disturbance, strike, quarantine, government restriction and terrorist threat. I understand on or off trail hiking can present risk of falls that may result in damage to camera equipment, or significant personal injury or death. I understand Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for inclement weather and cannot and does not guarantee subject matter will be available for photography on any given date or location. I further understand I am solely responsible for additional expenses incurred by me due to medical emergency or other travel delays, including but not limited to the expense of extra nights lodging or flight itinerary changes. I voluntarily assume all risks and will hold Sabrewing Nature Tours, its partners and cooperating agents, the workshop leader(s), any and all co-leaders, assistants and other participants harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, claims, debts, and demands which arise in connection with the tour. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for my heirs, administrators, and executors, and for all members of my family, including any minors accompanying me. In the event a lawsuit is filed, the enrolling participant agrees to do so solely in Hamilton County in the State of Indiana.

I have read and agree with the above terms and conditions.

Participant 1: Signature

Date

Participant 2: Signature

Date

Please complete forms, sign the second form, and send them with your deposit or full tour amount.