

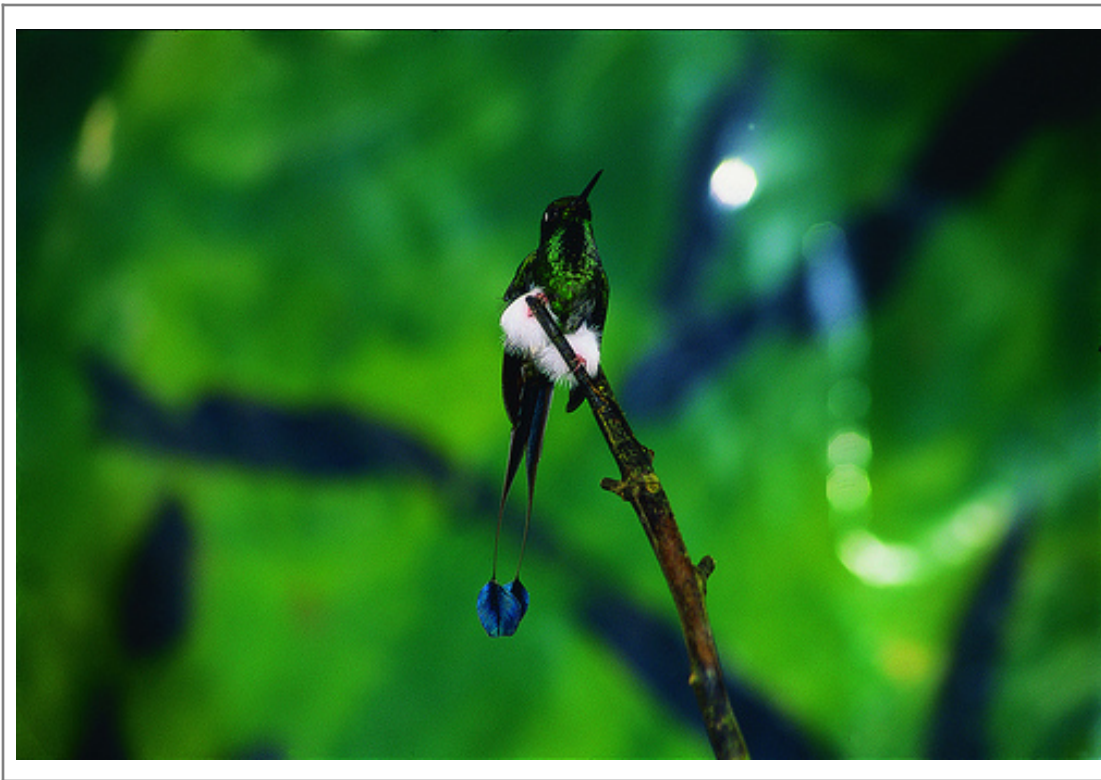
## Birds of the Chocó Bioregion

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The lush, humid forest of the Chocó bioregion is a bird lover's paradise that extends across western Colombia and into northwestern Ecuador. It is one of the most biologically rich areas of the world, particularly in terms of bird life, with more than 500 bird species in total, including over 60 endemic species that exist nowhere else in the world. In fact, the Chocó is classified by Birdlife International as an **Endemic Bird Area (EBA)**, as it is one of the most critical regions for the conservation of birds in the world.

For everyone except the most expert birders, your chances of seeing wildlife are hugely increased by enlisting the services of a local guide who has intimate knowledge of the forest and its inhabitants' favorite spots to feed and congregate. Here are some of the bird beauties you might see during a visit to the famous Chocó bioregion:



### Booted racket-tail

These emerald green hummingbirds with their fluffy white "boots" are hard to miss! They are common visitors to lodge bird feeders, so you should have a good chance of getting to see one fairly up close.



### **Cock of the rock**

The males of this species look like something out of a surrealist painting! The truly lucky birder might witness an impressive "lek" display, during which a group of males will gather to compete for mates by performing complex courting rituals.



### **Velvet-purple coronet**

This stunning, amethyst hummingbird is endemic to the Chocó region. They seem dull and drab until their feathers catch the light, treating spectators to a magical, iridescent sight.





### **Plate-billed mountain toucan**

Listen for the mating duet of this species, which consists of females and males calling to each other with loud rattles and clicks.



### **Turquoise jay**

The turquoise jay is a vibrant blue color with a distinct black face mask. They often travel in big, noisy mixed flocks.



### **Red-headed barbet**

The red-headed barbet is a strikingly-colored bird that loves to feast on bananas and other large fruit.

Learn more about [sustainable birding tourism](#) and how it supports the conservation of endangered bird species.