

ARGENTINA: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY MASTER CLASS

2017: Ability Level: Beginner / Duration: 10 days / 9 nights

Travel VISION
CAPTURE YOUR PASSION™



Argentina: Wildlife Photography Master Class in Ibera

An exclusive wildlife photography master workshop of the Ibera with an extension to the Iguazu waterfalls

Expertly guided and led by renown nature photographer, Ossian Lindholm. Perfect for all levels of photographers with a passion for wildlife and landscape. Daily activities for non-photographers too.

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TRIP CONTACT

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TRIP OUTLINE

Wildlife photographers have their secrets--they must combine the technical knowledge of photography with the photographer's skills as a hunter. We must know our camera in depth and skillfully maximize its capacity to capture animals in all situations. At the same time the photographer's artistry must be present to achieve a wildlife scene with beauty and harmony using reflections, backlighting or the elegance of a bird in flight during sunset.

As wildlife photographers we also spend hours in nature, immersed in unique landscapes, often with fantastic light. That is why it is equally important to also know how to set up your cameras for landscape photography so as to be able to take advantage of these situations.

Do you love taking photographs of animals or birds? Would you love to learn more or to sharpen your skills? During this exclusive and intensive wildlife photography master class with Ossian Lindholm, you will have 10 incredible days to study, practice and review your photos in Ibera, an extraordinary natural oasis we have chosen for its variety and abundance of wildlife and for the many opportunities to experience and photograph it. Often referred to as the "Serengeti of South America Ibera is the second-largest wetland in the world after the Pantanal in Brazil."

Ibera' is also one of Ossian's favorite wildlife destinations; he knows it intimately and has a vast network of local contacts. This wildlife photography master class is a unique opportunity to experience his passion and expertise for this magical place with his expert teachings in wildlife and landscape photography

This exclusive tour is based in the Ibera wetlands, found in the northwestern province of Corrientes. This vast area of some 7,000 square miles was, until quite recently, unexplored. Now it is recognized as one of South America's most important freshwater reservoirs. Its myriad rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands are all fed by natural rainfall, and make Ibera a wonderful refuge for a huge diversity of wildlife.

Ibera, or "brilliant waters" in the Guarani language, was in fact once the riverbed of the Parana river. Like many environmental oases, Ibera has been at serious risk of degradation, mainly as a result of overhunting and over-fishing. These activities were destroying the biodiversity of the region, undermining its crucial ecological role, and ruining the local economy. In 1983 the Ibera Nature Reserve was created to help preserve it, and its innumerable and unique species of fauna and flora, for future generations.

Fifteen years ago the situation changed for the better when gaming, poaching, and commercial fishing were completely forbidden. The environmentalists who have worked so hard to protect it now believe Ibera is one of the most remarkable of Argentina's ecosystems. Today it is open for careful and sensitive exploration, by photographers and nature-lovers from around the world.



TRIP OUTLINE

In fact, educational and conservation-focused tourism, like this wildlife photography tour in Ibera have helped ensure the economic success of the area. This, in turn, has helped to guarantee its environmental future: the people who once hunted wildlife here are now its guides and teachers. And as guests in Ibera, you will be making your own contribution to this inspiring and sustainable conservation model.

With its mild climate and wonderful isolation, Ibera is one of the last natural paradises on earth. Similar to the Galapagos where animals and birds are not afraid of humans, Ibera is an area where wild animals really are the stars of the show! Its marshes offer wildlife-lovers countless close-up encounters. There are caimans, capybaras, and otters to be spotted in its waters. The marshlands are home to swamp deer, pampas deer, and anaconda. You can also find howler monkeys and greater rheas here—in fact there are over 200 species of birds in Ibera.

All of these extraordinary features—stunning landscapes, enormous abundance of wildlife, perfect climate, peaceful isolation, careful and active conservation efforts, Ossian's masterful teachings, and options for non-photographer all at an excellent value—make a journey to the Ibera wetlands a wildlife photographer's dream come true. This wildlife photography master class, with its emphasis on wildlife photography skill building and total sensory immersion, will showcase its beauty for you from every angle. And most importantly, your tourism dollars will contribute towards sustaining this paradise for generations to come.

As a special bonus, we are offering you the Conservation Land Trust Experience, an inside view and hands on experience of the work of the late and great conservationist, Douglas Tompkins who with his wife Kris, co-founded CLT, dedicated to the creation and expansion of national or provincial parks to ensure the perpetuity of their ecological and evolutionary processes with the strongest long-term protection guarantee possible.

The primary goal of the Ibera project is to expand and upgrade conservation protections for land within the Ibera Natural Reserve, a protected area designated by the province in 1983. The reserve is comprised of roughly 40 percent public land and 60 percent private property controlled by some 1,800 landowners. You will witness and photograph their inspiring and important work that supports programs for the protection of wildlife, reintroduction of locally extinct species, land restoration and programs for local development, normally involved in ecotourism, sustainable farming and environmental education. Their programs are sustained by values that are based on an eco-centric view of the world, prioritizing the importance of ecosystems and all forms of life therein, regardless of their use to man.



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TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Here what you will learn during Ossian's nine-day wildlife photography master class:

Class 1: An approach to Conservation Photography. Playing with light in nature. An overview of the dozens of animals and over a hundred species of birds we will see during our workshop.

Class 2: Exposure: Exposure Modes. Light metering modes. Exposure compensation. RAW vs JPG files. Basic photoshop editing for nature photography.

Class 3: Focal distance: autofocus modes, autofocus area modes. Burst modes. The back button focusing mode or rear focusing mode. Photoshop editing using masks.

Class 4: ISO and Noise. Composition: How to photograph birds in flight, Ossian's recommended wildlife and landscape settings. Photoshop editing using adjustment layers.

Class 5: Characteristics of light: How to deal with difficult light conditions. Photography inside the forest, the use of a flash in wildlife photography. Photoshop editing using adjustment layers.

Class 6: Camouflage techniques.

Class 7 to 8: Landscape photography vs. wildlife photography: How to move in both worlds and become a complete nature photographer. The secrets to getting dramatic landscape images. Bracketing. Introduction to the HDR photography. The control of depth of field. Photoshop editing using adjustment layers.

Additional Trip Highlights:

- Daily and abundant close encounters with wildlife
- Exploration of Ibera, one of the most important freshwater reservoirs on the continent and the second-largest wetland in the world
- Tranquil boat rides that glide through pristine wetlands
- Educational talks by local naturalists and conservationists
- Charming accommodation and the savoring of local specialties

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A 12-person van
- Water and dried fruits to snack on board
- Airport shuttles
- Entrance fees to museums and archaeological sights
- Select wine tastings
- All accommodations & meals
- Two expert guides throughout the program

TRIP DETAILS

2017 Trip Dates

- May 12-23 with Iguazu pre-trip*
- May 14-23
- Sep 29 - Oct 10 with Iguazu pre-trip*
- Oct 1-10

Trip Price

- \$3,900
- With Iguazu pre-trip: \$5,200*
- Single Supplement: \$1,065
- Single Supplement with Iguazu pre-trip: \$1,200*

*If you are interested in extending your adventure, request an itinerary for our pre-

DAY 1

Buenos Aires

Highlights

We meet you at the Buenos Aires airport and transfer to your hotel in the Recoleta. After lunch we have an afternoon photo walk of the center of the city, going through different porteño' neighborhoods: La Boca, birthplace of Tango, the blue collar neighborhood of Buenos Aires in which the main street Caminito shows you the history of this beautiful and original rhythm. San Telmo, the oldest "barrio" of Buenos Aires, where the city was founded for the first time in 1536. Emblematic places as Parque Lezama, Defensa Street, and the Flea Market premises, Ezeiza family house and San Lorenzo alley talking about the slave market, the arrival of the great European immigration, literature and last but not least British Invasions to the city during 1806 and 1807. No trip to Argentina would be complete without a Tango Dinner show so have your cameras ready to capture these fantastic dancers.

DAY 2

Posadas, Carlos Pelligrini

Hotel - Aguape Lodge

<http://www.aguapelodge.com/home.html>

Duration: 2 nights

Highlights

Early morning transfer for the flight from Buenos Aires to the Posadas Airport in the Corrientes Province, where we will escort you in our own private van to our boutique hotel the Aguape Lodge. Here we will spend three days immersed in the total peace and serenity that Ibera provides. After a stroll around the Estacia's grounds, we will host our first wildlife master class, which will cover conservation photography, playing with light in nature and an overview of the dozens of creatures you will enjoy in Ibera. After a well-deserved rest you will be invited to enjoy a welcome feast made up of choice.

The Aguape Lodge, located on the Riverside of the Ibera Lagoon will allow you to enjoy a panoramic view of the wetlands where the protagonist is nature... and you will be a privileged witness. At the center of Argentina's largest Nature Reserve you will live alongside more than 60 species of mammals, 50 different reptiles, 35 amphibians, 110 kinds of fish, and more than 350 bird species. You will experience different kinds of adventures: boat rides, canoeing in the lagoon, horseback rides, walks in the jungle, birdwatching and more!



DAY 3

Aguape Lodge, Carlos Pellegrini

Hotel - See Day 2

Highlights

Sunrise photography class. We will rise early on your first morning here to make the most of the breathtaking reds, yellows and golds reflecting on the serene Ibera waters. After breakfast, we will enjoy a water excursion to enjoy sightings of the abundant birds and animals that live here undisturbed. After a picnic lunch we will return to the Aguape Lodge for our Master Class and an opportunity to share and review the photos taken during the day.

The golden hour of sunset offers another opportunity to study and capture the subtle, precious interplay of light across this watery landscape. As evening draws, you can share your day's photography adventures over a delicious dinner. This will be followed by a special night under the stars to practice the magic of night photography.

DAY 4-5

Carlos Pellegrini - Rincon de Socorro

Hotel - Rincon del Socorro, Estero de Ibera'

<http://www.rincondelsocorro.com.ar/>

Duration: 6 Nights

Highlights

The beauty of this special wildlife photography tours is that, with all the rich visual stimulation, one short day can feel like so many more! Pre-dawn, full daylight, sunset, or the night sky—each offers up distinctive and rich wildlife captures and experiences, all waiting to be captured through the lens of your camera. Today, we get up with the sun to witness animals and capture the subtle dawn light from another angle. With each passing day, you'll find yourself slowing down and opening up to the tranquil spirit of this magical place.

We will share our photographic experiences over a delicious breakfast followed by a master class. Before lunch we head to the Estero wetlands in a 4-wheel drive for more unique wildlife opportunities. At lunchtime we will enjoy a picnic of local specialties before heading back to Nande Reta, our beautiful home-away-from-home. In the afternoon, you'll receive valuable one-on-one technical and artistic feedback from Ossian—our veritable treasure trove of photographic knowledge and experience. Non-photographers can enjoy the multitude of activities that are offered by the lodge—birdwatching, motor boat safaris, night walks and horseback riding.

Estancia Rincon del Socorro is a 12,000-hectare former cattle ranch on the edge of the Iberá wetlands in north eastern Argentina that has been made into a nature reserve. It is a small, refined eco-tourist establishment with only six rooms in the main house and three bungalows within 50 metres of the house, all with private bathrooms. The main house has a communal living room, veranda, indoor dining area, and terrace dining area. The guests can also make use of the swimming pool and there is a BBQ area for those famous Argentine "asados". The lodge prides itself on its organic cuisine from its professional chef and offers a full bar service. You can enjoy Argentine wines and beverages to accompany homemade bread, free range meats and grilled organic vegetables.

DAY 6

Rincon de Socorro, Carlos Pellegrini

Hotel - See Day 4

Highlights

Estancia Rincon del Socorro is a small eco-touristic estancia that has been restored and is located inside a incredible nature reserve. The complex ecosystem of estuaries and reservoirs shelters a great variety of fauna. Among this fauna there are many species in danger of extinction. Rincón del Socorro, includes 12,000 hecatares dedicated to the recovery and care of the environment.

Upon arrival we have lunch in the estancia. Meals are prepared with fruits and organic vegetables, mostly from the garden itself. When the weather permits, lunches and dinners are served outdoors.

Once in the Estancia, we will have a tour of the main house and its surroundings in order to understand about the history of the place and Conservation Land Trust's dedicated and ongoing projects to recover the original ecosystem.

In addition to our daily wildlife photography classes, activities included in your stay include:

-Horseback riding or hiking in the estancia: These excursions are aimed at learning more about wildlife and to understand the conservation projects more thoroughly. There will also be visits to the organic gardens and other TLC projects.

-Day and night birdwatching with the possibility of being able to see the Aguara guazú.

-Guided visit of the farmyard of animals that are being released in the marshlands after their reproduction.

DAY 7-9

Rincon de Socorro

Hotel - See Day 4

Highlights

During our stay here we will continue with daily excursions and wildlife photography master classes.



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DAY 10

**Rincon de Socorro,
Estancia Santa Ines -
Posada**

Adios!

Highlights

In the morning transfer to Estancia Santa Ines for lunch before a transfer to Posadas airport to make your international connections. Santa Ines is a place to breathe in history! It was founded more than a hundred years ago by Don Pedro Nuñez, a great pioneer of the area. The estancia covers 2000 hectares, from which 800 have used to grow the yerba mate plant, some of which are over a hundred years old and still in full production. Long walks and horseback riding through the plantations, natural mount, forests of pine trees and eucalyptus, are some of the activities to take on in here. There's also a great variety of birds and a lagoon populated by yacarés.



MEET YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE

Ossian Lindholm is a renowned nature photographer from Tucuman, Argentina. Trained as an Agronomist, many years ago he turned his deep passion for nature to photography. In his work as a photographer, teacher and documentary filmmaker, he is dedicated to capturing, preserving, conserving, sharing and sustaining the landscape, nature and culture of Argentina in its most pristine state.

Ossian has published five books, 14 calendars and he teaches photography courses throughout the year. Since 1998 he has been leading groups of photographers and naturalists on photographic journeys throughout his native Argentina.

For the past four years has been the host of a very popular weekly nature TV documentary called Travesia Fotograficas. In each show He hopes to educate and inspire people to love, protect and keep sacred the places where they live using use images, words and music to touch peoples' emotional core.

Born in Tucuman in northern Argentina, he was raised in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina and attended primary and secondary school there. His father, now deceased, was a construction engineer and his mother is a writer and historian. Both his father and mother were also passionate amateur photographers and travelers. His parents traveled with him throughout Argentina and they were the ones who instilled a love of exploration. As a young 7-year old boy he fell in love the wonderful landscapes of Argentina and began carrying a camera everywhere, which at the time, was not the not normal behavior of a young boy.



As a teenager, he turned his photography hobby into a passion. At the age of 14 years he created a black and white photo lab in his home and with a group of friends, some experienced photographers he began his first serious steps in photography. To finance this hobby, he began taking pictures at family parties and weddings.

During his early years he loved reading National Geographic Magazine; it had a profound impact on him. It was his first inspiration and he became continually was drawn by nature photography. He went to college to pursue a career in agricultural engineering and here he began to develop a strong connection with the biological sciences that continues to be a strong influence in all his work. After obtaining his degree he worked for many years as a scientist but in 1998 he decided to dedicate himself to nature photography.

At this time he began working as a photography and nature guide which allowed him to travel around Argentina and connect with other photographers and biologists in the world.



In 2001 he published his first photography calendar that he does every year. His simple desire has been to share his love and concern for nature. As he evolved as a photographer he clarified his mission in one sentence: Para Conservar, primero hay que Conocer. "To conserve, first you must know."

At that point he had a personal revelation: He discovered that my life's work was not only photography, it was to carefully craft and deliver an important message about conservation and sustainability: He discovered his calling. He needed, through photography, teaching and film making, to show and teach his fellow Argentinians and the world that Nature is sacred and our relationship to Mother Earth is a symbiotic one. This maxim and personal philosophy threads through all his work.

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ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

GETTING TO POSADAS

After arriving and spending the first day in Buenos Aires, we will take a short plane ride to Posadas, where we meet our van transfer to the first hotel.

DEPARTING FROM POSADAS

After lunch on Day 10, we will transfer you to the Posadas airport where you can make your international connections.

OTHER INFORMATION

For Flight Reservations

Jubilee Travel

Call: 1-306-373-9633

Travel Insurance

MH Ross

Call: 1-800-423-3632

http://bit.ly/MHRoss_Insurance

VISA INFORMATION

Holders of normal passports issued to nationals of USA must pay a reciprocity fee online, in advance via: www.migraciones.gov.ar/accesibleingles/. A printed payment receipt containing a bar code must be presented at check-in and upon arrival to immigration authorities.



INSURANCE, TERMS & CONDITIONS

Insurance

Ciclismo Classico will not assume responsibility or liability for any loss or damage of personal effects or for any injury or loss during the duration of the tour. Therefore, we highly recommend that you obtain travel insurance. Information on travel insurance will be sent to you via email once trip deposit is received. We recommend MH Ross, but travelers may choose the insurance carrier of their choice.

Cancellations and Refunds

All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing as soon as possible to Ciclismo Classico. Exceptions to their cancellation policy cannot be made for any reason, including weather or personal emergencies. There is no refund for unexpectedly leaving a trip early or arriving late. The purchase of short-term travel insurance policy is strongly recommended. Cancellation fees are determined as followed:

Days before departure – Cancellation fee

121+ days - 50% of the deposit*

91-120 days - 100% of the deposit*

61-90 days - 30% of the trip price

31-60 days - 60% of the trip price

31-44 days - 100% of the trip price

*You may transfer your trip deposit to another departure in the same tour season up to 90 days before your original departure with payment of a \$100 per person transfer fee. Prices quoted are subject to adjustment without prior notification. OR your deposit (currently \$600) may be carried forward to the following year as a credit toward the final balance of a tour. At the time of booking, we will ask for another \$600 deposit to secure your spot. Carried-forward credits expire at the end of the year to which they are applied.

Alterations to the tour itinerary

Sometimes modifications may be made to the itinerary. We will notify you of any changes that may affect your arrival, departure or lodging. Any changes to the program are made in the best interest and safety of the group.

To review our policies, please visit <http://www.ciclismoclassico.com/plan-your-trip/policies/>

RESERVE YOUR SPACE!

To reserve a space, call Ciclismo Classico at **800-866-7314** or Lauren Hefferon at **617-640-4837**. Or, mail your deposit and contact information to:

Ciclismo Classico

attn: Rosa

30 Marathon St

Arlington, MA 02474

At the time of registration, a deposit of \$600 per person is due, payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express or check, made payable to **Ciclismo Classico**, along with your full name, mailing address, phone number(s) and email address. We cannot confirm reservations without a deposit. Final payment is due 90 days before departure payable by check, credit card, wire transfer or money order. All travelers must review and sign a terms and conditions statement and a waiver form.