



West along the Lower Rio Grande Valley Salineno and Brown Jays at Santa Margarita Ranch November 14-16, 2023



Salineno is a little piece of birding heaven, located about a mile south of Falcon Dam and just 150 yards from the Rio Grande River and Mexico. Birders from all over the world come here to sit in the lawn chairs and watch the incredible birds. Volunteers maintain the feeders and Altamira Orioles are usually common here. We will also likely visit the now famous Santa Margarita Ranch to look for Brown Jays.

A Few Key Bird Species: Morelet's Seedeater, Altamira Oriole, Audubon's Oriole, Green Jay, Brown Jay, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Red-billed Pigeon, Ringed Kingfisher, Green Kingfisher, Gray Hawk, Olive Sparrow, Great Kiskadee, Pyrrhuloxia, and more!

Nov 14: Drive down and meet at Salineno feeders around 2PM

Nov 15: Breakfast at the hotel, then off to Santa Margarita Ranch. The ~1 mile hike to the Brown Jays is somewhat difficult and steep, so you may opt to bird at Salineno instead. Afternoon birding at Falcon SP and surrounding area.

Nov 16: Breakfast at hotel, then we will bird the morning at Salineno. Optional birding towards Laredo before departing for home.

Pricing: \$100/person guide fee, plus \$40/person Santa Margarita Ranch fee if you go. Hotels, food, gas, and other expenses are not covered. Plan to stay at SureStay Best Western in Zapata, though there are other options nearby. Trip limited to 10 participants.

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