



**OUR SIDE
OF THE
DIVIDE**

DELTA COUNTY ~ COLORADO

Cedaredge
Crawford
Delta
Eckert
Hotchkiss
Orchard City
Paonia

Wings Over Valleys & Canyons —A Springtime Birding Itinerary—

3 days/ 2 nights Double occupancy 2 to 10 person itinerary

Day 1

- 1:00 pm Arrive Rivendell Retreat for lodging check-in.
- 1:30 pm Hike around Rivendell for orientation to bird habitats: open fields and agriculture, and piñon-juniper woodlands. Guided by Joe Colwell. *Rivendell Retreat's 40 acres have four miles of trails winding through diverse ecological niches. Bring sturdy walking shoes, a walking stick and hat. Joe is a certified environmental education specialist, retired from a nearly three decade career in resource management.*
- 3:00 pm Travel to Eckert. Meet Jim Durr for orientation to Sandhill cranes. *Jim is host and organizer of Crane Days activities at Surface Creek Winery & Gallery in Eckert. His gallery features the work of wildlife and landscape artists.*
- 4:30 pm Fruitgrowers Reservoir. *Watch Sandhill cranes land, &/or enjoy viewing other waterfowl, the nearby Great Blue Heron nesting area, shore birds, raptors, and songbirds.*
- 6:00 pm Dinner on own in Cedaredge.
- 8:00 pm Drive back to Rivendell Retreat via Fruitgrowers or over Cedar Mesa. Campfire circle, to share bird lists and experiences, and enjoy s'mores. *Rivendell's large campfire circle of local stone is perfect for a relaxing evening.*

Day 2

- 7:30 am Continental breakfast at Rivendell Retreat.
- 8:00 am Travel to Fruitgrowers for Sandhill crane take off. *Optional presentation by local professional birder while awaiting liftoff.*
- 10:30 am Travel to Delta Confluence Park. *Walk trails to see waterfowl and other birds. This conjunction of the Gunnison & Uncompahgre Rivers is a Delta City Park, a year-round favorite for great-tailed grackle, geese, ducks & other water birds, plus migrating passerines.*
- 12 noon Lunch on own in Delta.
- 1:00 pm Travel to Escalante Canyon to view birds and scenery. (Road conditions permitting.) *The canyon competes in beauty with Utah slick rock country. A variety of habitats provides opportunities to view seasonal and year-round birds, such as chukar, canyon wren, black phoebe, pinyon jay, western bluebird, bushtit.*
- 4:00 pm Return to Rivendell—via Fruitgrowers Reservoir if desired, for another opportunity to see the Sandhill cranes landing.
- 6:30 pm Dinner at Rivendell Retreat catered by chef Eleni Stelter. *Mouth-watering dishes, with local ingredients whenever possible.*

Day 3

- 7:30 am Continental breakfast at Rivendell Retreat.
- 8:30 am Crane mobile workshop lead by Katherine Colwell. *Make an origami paper crane mobile as a remembrance for your Wings Itinerary. Katherine has been making origami cranes throughout her life, for enjoyment and as part of her artistic processes. This fun mini-workshop is for all ages, including those who "are all thumbs."*
- 11:00 am Hike Rivendell trails. *More opportunities to add to your life list. The Rivendell Retreat bird life list is over 70 as of 2010.*
- 12 noon. Box lunch. *Enjoy the views while savoring a box lunch by Hardins; with GFand other options available.*

Head for home.



Rivendell Retreat

merging awareness, creativity, & nature

30048 North Road
Hotchkiss CO 81419
970-872-4505
imagine Rivendell@tds.net
www.ImagineRivendell.com