



## High Lonesome BirdTours Barrow, Alaska: Ross's Gull Quest



Ross's Gull Photo Stephan Lorenz

Barrow is the northernmost city in the United States, perched at the meeting point of the Chukchi and Beaufort seas. The city offers some of the most productive access to high arctic tundra and the Arctic Ocean, while providing comfortable hotels, a variety of restaurants, and a thriving Iñupiaq community. This short trip is timed to witness one of the most special migrations in all of North America, that of the Ross's Gull. Every fall thousands of Ross's Gulls migrate along the coast near Barrow, offering an unrivalled spectacle of the rare and beautiful. The number of gulls varies per day and is usually higher during inclement weather, but we can expect to see singles to dozens.

Other species we hope for include Ivory Gull (rare), Spectacled, King, and Common eiders, plus a variety of other gulls and seabirds. We will spend most of our time at the base of the point and along various sea watching spots in town. If time permits we will explore the tundra along two roads. With great luck we may see Polar Bears and other marine mammals. The sun does not come up until 09:00 am and sets by 6:30 pm during



October in Barrow, so we will have quite a bit of time relaxing in the hotel and warming back up after sea watching vigils. We will also add a bit of bird watching in the Anchorage area before and after our Barrow adventure. Here we can add a number of sought after boreal specialties like White-winged Crossbills, Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpolls, Bohemian Waxwing, Black-backed and American Three-toed Woodpeckers, and Spruce Grouse to round out an amazing adventure.

#### TOUR AT A GLANCE

Day	Birding	Night
1	Arrival in Anchorage optional pre-dinner birding if arriving early	<a href="#">Coast International Inn</a>
2	Morning flight to Barrow and birding Barrow area	Top of the World
3	Birding Barrow area	Top of the World
4	Birding Barrow area	Top of the World
5	Flight to Anchorage and afternoon birding Anchorage area	<a href="#">Coast International Inn</a>
6	Departures home	

