

# The Lost City

“Thankful, the birds of the spirit seek only to fly in the high heavens and to sing out their songs with wondrous art.” —‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Deep in the jungles of the Santa Marta Mountains in Colombia is a treasure for archaeologists and bird lovers. It’s the *Ciudad Perdida*, or Lost City—the ancient home of the Tayrona people. The site has over 200 stone structures, and it’s now part of a large nature reserve, where you can find over 600 bird species.

Though birds are famous for their songs, only about half of the birds in the world are true songbirds—and most singers are male. They sing to mark their

territory and attract mates. Their amazing vocal organ, the syrinx, has two breathing passages. The birds can breathe in and out at the same time, and sing continuously—even two different notes at once!

Like many ancient wonders, the Lost City and its creatures are in danger due to problems such as erosion and tourism. Conservation groups and local residents are working together to preserve them—so the historic area won’t be lost again.



HELP THE EXPLORERS FIND THESE NINE BIRDS IN THE LOST CITY!

