

RANCHO CARACOL™

Wild Quail & Dove — *Ultimate Ambiente!*

OFFICIAL
PASSPORT



MEXICO



MEMBERS



RANCHO CARACOL™

Wild Quail & Dove — *Ultimate Ambiente!*

WELCOME FELLOW SPORTSMAN:



Thank you for your interest in Rancho Caracol – the finest wingshooting lodge in all of North America, bar none.

Nestled in the rugged, rolling foothills overlooking Northern Mexico's Lake Las Alazanas, our 100% American-owned and operated ranch is easy to reach, yet impossible to beat when it comes to robust wingshooting, natural beauty, and our distinctive hospitality *Ultimate Ambiente*. Whether it's whitewing dove, wild bobwhite quail or mourning dove, my staff & I take great pride and care in ensuring that each and every one of our guests experience the wingshooting adventure of a lifetime – and our high percentage of repeat guests tells us that we're doing a good job of it. Currently, we are the only Orvis-endorsed wingshooting lodge in Mexico (2005/2006 Orvis Lodge of Year), and one of just 26 in the entire world.

As my father, Barry, defined our mission on the day we opened in 1999: "Our guests may arrive at Rancho Caracol as visitors, but they'll leave as members of our family."

The following pages should provide you with most of what you'll need to know in order to plan your wingshooting adventure. Our website www.RanchoCaracol.com drills down to the details complete with travel checklists. If you should have any additional questions or require more information, please don't hesitate to call me directly at (888)246-3164.

We look forward to meeting you here at Rancho Caracol!

Mi Casa Es Su Casa,

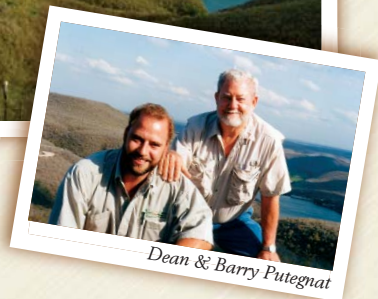
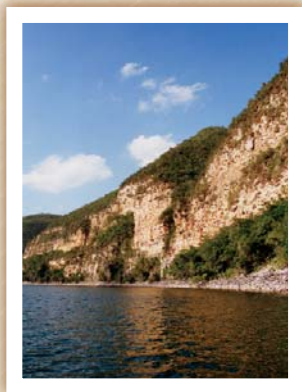
Dean Putegnath

ORVIS®
2005-2006
WINGSHOOTING
LODGE OF THE YEAR

"An unforgettable father-son experience..."

Eric Badofsky, United Sportsmen's Marketing





Dean & Barry Putegnat



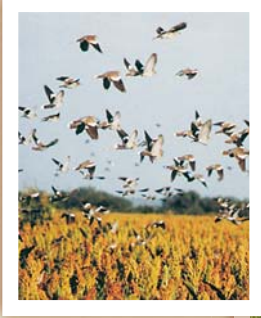
In English, Rancho Caracol translates to “Snail Ranch,” so named because of the slow, winding road that leads down from the lodge to our picturesque, cliff-lined lake. The lodge itself is perched atop the breathtaking Mesa Las Alazanas, the original staging site for the construction of the Las Alazanas Dam.

Having hunted the Tamaulipas region for more than 50 years, our family has long known how special this area really is, and when the opportunity presented itself in 1998, we purchased an 11,000-acre expanse. Since then, we have spent countless hours clearing, planting and enhancing the natural habitat for our native population of whitewing dove, bobwhite quail, mourning dove, turkey, deer and javelina. In 2008, we established Whitewing Unlimited™ to encourage a regional effort to responsibly preserve and protect the future of this thriving wildlife area.

Our traditionally styled hacienda today stands as a luxurious oasis in the middle of this vast, wild territory. We work constantly to maintain and improve the ranch including construction of: private villas overlooking the lake; our pool with swim-up bar; a new game room with domed ceilings; a tranquil massage complex; an impressive gun gallery; and modern kennels for our 100 hunting dogs. No detail is overlooked in making Rancho Caracol the friendliest, most enjoyable hunting lodge in Mexico.

“I’ve hunted...the world over, including Russia, Scotland, Argentina and more. Rancho Caracol offered the best hunt I’ve ever been on...”

James Hulbert, Longview, Washington



The ranch property is adjacent to the largest whitewing nesting area in the world, and plays host to legendary flocks of these birds as they stage for their fall migration southward. From our experience, there is no better dove hunting anywhere in North America than right here in Tamaulipas.

There are three types of dove hunts at Rancho Caracol: field hunts, brush hunts, and waterhole hunts. Hunting areas are selected on a daily basis, according to reports from our sixteen expert scouts along with a scout in an airplane, who survey the region to locate the biggest concentrations of birds hours before the hunt even begins. Each of our hunters is assisted by two experienced “palomeros” (known locally as bird boys) to locate/retrieve birds, help reload shell bags and see to our guests’ every need.

With access to over 500,000 acres of prime dove habitat, fast action is virtually guaranteed. Our guests shoot an average of 3-8 boxes of shells per hunt, so expect to give yourself – and your gun – a real workout!

“Far and away the best whitewing shoot I’ve ever had!”

Fred Pauling, MD, Houston, Texas

"The ranch lies in the heart of the best wild quail country in Mexico."

Dr. Ron Haaland, in Quail Unlimited Magazine

When it comes to quail hunting, Rancho Caracol offers the classic hunting experience that has been rapidly disappearing in the US. Our rich population of Southern bobwhites is all wild... no pen-raised or released quail here!



Quail hunts take place in nearby immense, irrigated valleys, or on vast neighboring cattle ranches. Our modern, Texas-style quail rigs carry 2-4 hunters each. Seasoned guides handle the dogs, and two experienced assistants look after every detail. You can expect to raise 10-25 coveys per day, so be ready for lots of fast action and excitement!

Our kennel of more than 100 professionally-trained English pointers are steady to wing and shot. We include 6-8 pointers and 1 lab on our hunts, so you're always assured of fresh, reliable and eager companionship in the field.

Consider one of our quail & dove combination hunts! The Tamaulipas region hosts large populations of mourning dove at this time of year, which are hunted in the same fashion as our famed whitewings.





Would you like to test your shooting skills with the high-flying acrobatics of Mexico's legendary mourning dove? If your fall schedule does not allow you to visit us during whitewing season, our mourning dove season offers you the opportunity to experience phenomenal dove hunting at a great price.

Enjoy mourning dove packages are available November through February, with the same luxurious accommodations, gourmet cuisine and world-class service that earned us the title of Orvis's 2006 Lodge of the Year.

Mourning dove hunting occurs in two intense phases: you arrive early at the hunting fields, with your "palomeros" waiting with guns and supplies and hunt until about 9:00 AM when the birds settle down. You then have a relaxing break until early afternoon when you return for a second go at this challenging bird. Our hunts average 2 to 5 boxes each. On normal days, you won't be sitting idle for too long, so expect to do a lot of shooting.

"During my stay at Rancho Caracol, I missed more dove than most hunters see in a full season."

Mark McDonald, Texas Sporting Journal

I've hunted in Mexico for more than 30 years and I've never seen an operation as good. Nobody does it with the style and attention to detail as Rancho Caracol.

Ray Sasser, Dallas Morning News



Rancho Caracol's renowned "*Ultimate Ambiente*" is a unique blend of American know-how; the gentle magic of the Mexican culture; and the refined service of the most attentive people in this region. The ranch was designed by business people for business people and you will find the level of service and accommodations at our resort-style hunting lodge are strictly world class.

At Rancho Caracol you are a rugged hunter by day and a pampered world traveler by night. Luxuriate in our signature "*ultimate ambiente*" and you will leave with a sense of the best in Mexican country life – graceful hospitality, a proud heritage and an appreciation for the culinary arts – altogether a once in a lifetime experience found nowhere else on the planet.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The beautiful stone patios, intricate tile designs and the traditional thatched roofs of our hacienda will give you the warm ambience of a village in Old Mexico without sacrificing the modern-day luxuries you'd expect from a world-class lodge. The gorgeous pool with swim-up bar, patios and rooftop cantina offer welcome areas of retreat after a long day's hunt. Our hot tub will work wonders on the sore shoulders and legs that come with a successful day in the field.





Even non-hunting companions find Rancho Caracol to be a sumptuous resort for recreation and quiet relaxation. Added amenities include satellite TV; video clays and billiards in our game room; a professionally-staffed massage complex; gun gallery; telephone/fax/internet service and a fully-stocked hunting accessory and gift shop. Spacious, air-conditioned guest rooms feature high quality linens, private bathrooms, full-sized beds, fresh drinking water, twice daily maid service all enhanced with Rancho Caracol's distinctive "*ultimate ambiente*" catering to your every need.

*Rancho Caracol
is, without a
doubt, the best
lodge I've every
stayed in.*

Larry Brunson, DDS,
Woodland, Texas





Rancho Caracol offers several Premium Upgrades to make your trip more luxurious, convenient and enjoyable:

I. Single Occupancy Accommodations *(Quail & Mourning Dove Season Only)*

For guests preferring total privacy during their stay, we have a limited number of single occupancy spots available in our spacious, well-appointed guest rooms.

II. Private Owner's Cabanas

For parties of two, four or more, our beautifully appointed selection of Owner's Cabanas offer a touch of added elegance and plenty of extra room to spread out and relax. Each luxurious cabana features private bedrooms with separate bathrooms, spacious living and dining area, mini-bar, satellite television and private patios with breathtaking views of Lake Alazanas.



III. Private Air Charters



For parties of four or more, Amigo Aviation offers fast, friendly, and safe air transportation from Harlingen/Valley International Airport to our private airstrip at the lodge or one near Lake Guerrero (30 minutes from the ranch).

IV. Corporate Groups & Special Requests

The staff at Rancho Caracol is always happy to fulfill special event, scheduling and meeting requests. Just call and tell us what you need, and we'll customize a wingshooting adventure specifically for you!

*"You can expect
all world-class
treatment from
this world-class
location..."*

Safari Times

**Please see enclosed rate sheet or visit our website for our current prices.*

"Every year I put together a special Rancho Caracol retreat for my firm. Arranging special meetings and customized touches is easy — the attentive staff makes sure that everyone feels like the retreat is an adventure designed just for them."

Mark Knight, Knight Oil Tools



Rancho Caracol also makes an ideal setting for many types of corporate retreats, from annual sales meetings and team-building events to a special show of appreciation for clients and employees. Rancho Caracol is designed to accommodate up to 60 hunters with optimum service. For a very reasonable per-person fee, your group will enjoy every part of the Rancho Caracol experience, yet enjoy the unity and special attention that is needed to develop business rapport.

Our ownership consists of American business executives who understand the special context required to conduct an enjoyable yet productive corporate event. Please have your group representative talk with us in advance as to what we can provide to make your hunting adventure complete.



The ranch is located approximately 150 miles south of Harlingen, Texas with convenient pick up at Harlingen/Valley International Airport (HRL).

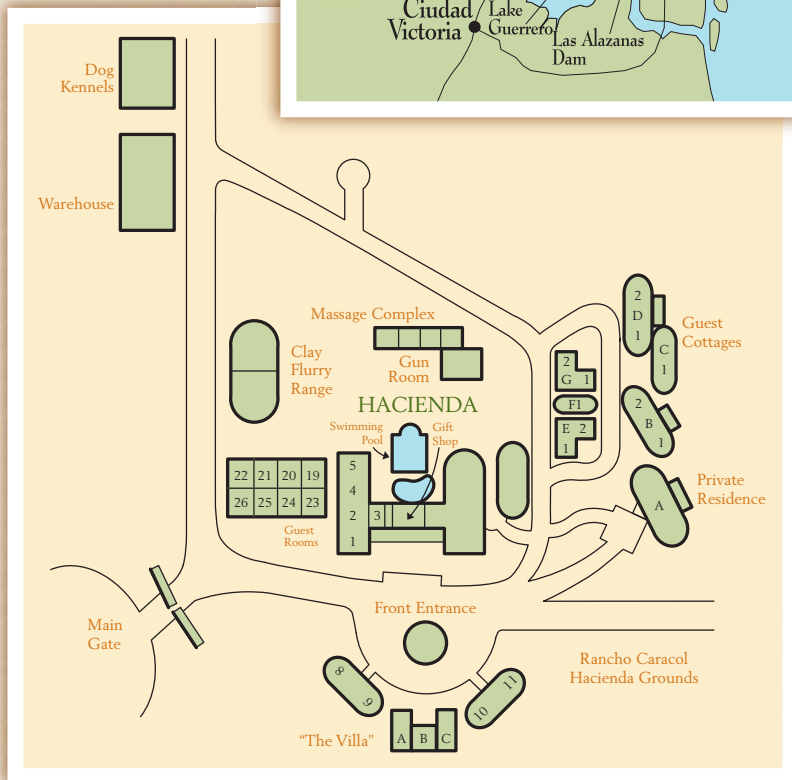


Upon arrival at the airport, our uniformed guides will meet you at the Rancho Caracol counter adjacent to the luggage carousel; load your gear into our roomy custom passenger vans with captain's chairs and take you directly to the ranch. The safe, leisurely journey takes about 3 ½ hours, and the roads along the way are scenic and very well-paved. If you prefer, you may also fly your own aircraft or charter a private plane from Harlingen to an airstrip located just minutes from the ranch, or Ciudad Victoria International Airport just over an hour away where we'll be happy to pick you up.

Crossing into Mexico by van is fast, safe and virtually effortless. All you need is a passport, and we will take care of your visa before you arrive. Typically, the border crossing process takes only a few minutes.

Rancho Caracol's fine Beretta shotgun collection is available at no charge for your use at the ranch. If you wish to bring your own favorite gun or hunting dog, please call in advance and let us help you with the necessary arrangements.





www.RanchoCaracol.com

Please refer to our website www.RanchoCaracol.com or call 888 246-3164 for details and convenient checklists.

ON OUR WEB:

- 🌞 What to Bring – Travel Checklist
- 🌞 Clothing for Whitewing Dove Season
- 🌞 Clothing for Quail/Mourning Dove Season
- 🌞 Endorsements, Reviews
- 🌞 References
- 🌞 The Rancho Caracol Guarantee
- 🌞 FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions about Rancho Caracol



Imagine the hunt of a lifetime...



Don't miss the world's ultimate wingshooting adventure...

RESERVE YOUR WINGSHOOTING DATES TODAY!

Because of the high repeat guest rate and the limited space available for both dove and quail seasons, we recommend that you make your reservations as soon as possible to secure your most preferred dates.

www.RanchoCaracol.com

Phone: **(888) 246-3164**

Current rates are included in the back pocket of this brochure.



Terms & Conditions

- 50% deposit is due when making initial reservation.
- Remaining balance is required by the set dates, according to species/season. Please see enclosed rate sheet for the current schedule.

Please note that all deposits and balances are non-refundable. If you cancel 45 days prior to your hunt, rescheduling within the current season is offered (subject to availability).



CD slit



business card slit



RANCHO CARACOL™

Wild Quail & Dove — *Ultimate Ambiente!*

www.RANCHOCARACOL.COM

(888) 246-3164