



*The fabulous Ashy-faced Owl, our top bird in the Dominican Republic, and perhaps of the whole trip?! (all photos in this report taken on this tour by Pete Morris)*

# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PUERTO RICO & JAMAICA

**3/9 – 22 APRIL 2022**

**LEADER: PETE MORRIS**

Well this wasn't a tour that I was expecting to lead up until a few months before the tour, but it's one that I am certainly glad that I did, and thoroughly enjoyed. The Greater Antilles are a true endemic hotbed, and the three islands that we visited provided a real feast of endemics, including those sought-after families that are unique to the area. We found all of the endemic families and indeed once again we managed to see all the extant endemics of Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico! An amazingly successful adventure around three fabulous and rather different islands!

On the Jamaica pre trip the brilliant Crested Quail-Dove was our stand out bird, though it received tough competition from a number of other fabulous endemics including Jamaican Owl and the amazing Red-billed Streamertail. On the larger and more rugged island of Hispaniola (of course we only visited the Dominican



*The brilliant Jamaican Tody. The four species of today were another of the tour highlights.*

Republic side) a new set of endemics thrilled us. Here the stunning Ashy-faced Owl was our stand out bird, though the tough-to-see White-fronted Quail-Dove and the somewhat out-of-place Hispaniolan Crossbill were also close contenders. On the much more developed Puerto Rico, it was again the endemic owl that won our hearts as we enjoyed fabulous views of the endemic Puerto Rican Screech Owl. The gorgeous Adelaide's Warbler was also much appreciated, as was the endemic Puerto Rican Tanager, the last of the unique families on the tour. Indeed our Caribbean adventure gave bird family collectors four families that can only be seen on this particular tour: the unique Palm Chat (the only member of the Dulidae), the subtle Puerto Rican Tanager (the only member of the Nesospingidae), the Chat Tanagers (family Calyptophilidae – two species) and the Hispaniolan Tanagers (Phaenicophilidae - four species, three of which we saw). We also observed four out of the five existing members of the alluring Tody family (*Todidae*). All in all a great endemic birding mission!

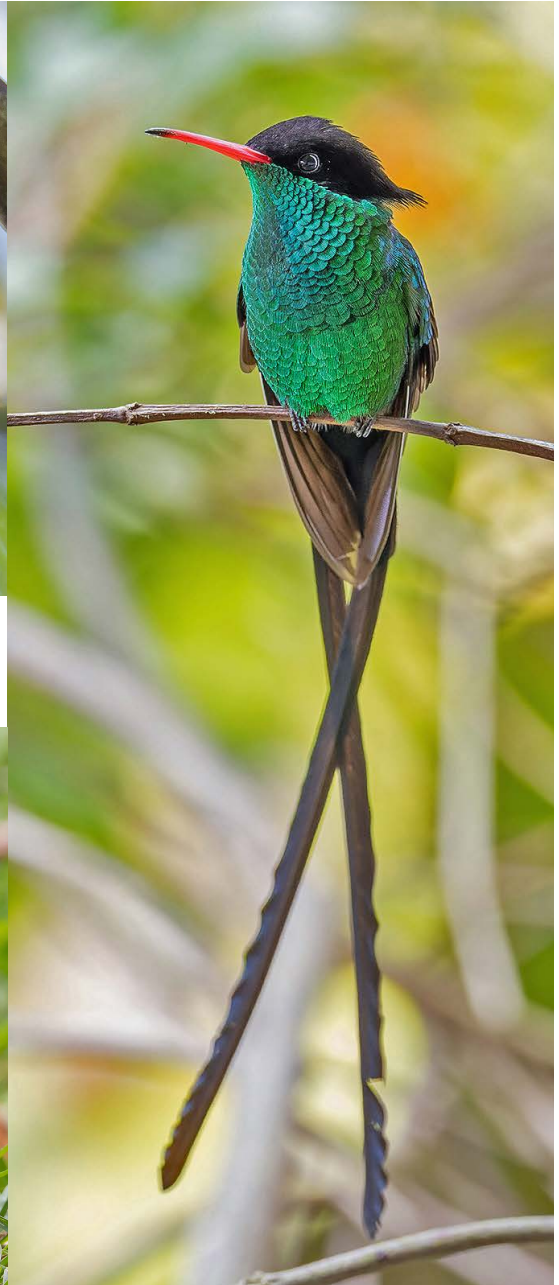
We began the pre-tour Jamaican adventure at Kingston Airport, and, having collected the vehicle, made our way to Mandeville in the west of the island. Although the covid pandemic thankfully didn't disrupt our birding, it did mean that we had a few extra logistical concerns, had less time on the island, and had to change some of our accommodations to 'covid secure' locations. This meant that we stayed in Mandeville rather than down the road at Marshall's Pen, but it was only a very short commute!

Our time around Mandeville was focussed on our visits to the 'Great White House' where my lovely friend Ann Sutton hosted us and showed us her local birdlife. Here we bagged a majority of the Jamaican endemics and specialities in short order! Stunning Red-billed Streamertails buzzed around the veranda, gorgeous Jamaican Todies buzzed through the undergrowth and fabulous Jamaican Woodpeckers hammered at the trunks. Our first morning was extremely busy as we kept on adding new species!! Lovely White-eyed and White-chinned Thrushes were early favourites, the scarce Arrowhead Warbler and Jamaican Elaenia were admired, hulking Loggerhead Kingbirds bashed insects, and Sad and Rufous-tailed Flycatchers obliged. Fruit attracted the subtle Jamaican Euphonia and colourful Jamaican Spindalis, as well as the unusual Orangequit, Greater Antillean Bullfinch, and the smart endemic Yellow-shouldered Grassquit. Raucous calls in the canopy led us to two more much-wanted species: the huge Chestnut-bellied Cuckoo and the attractive Jamaican Lizard Cuckoo, both of which showed very well. We admired the colony of Cave Swallows in the barn, and also got to see our first Vervain Hummingbirds, raucous Jamaican Crows, smart Jamaican Vireos, Jamaican Becard, the colourful Jamaican Oriole (not strictly an endemic as it also occurs on the Colombian island of San Andres)





*Some of the first Jamaican endemics that we saw included the smart White-eyed Thrush, White-chinned Thrush and the absolutely amazing Red-billed Streamertail.*



and Olive-throated (Jamaican) Parakeets, as well as wintering warblers which included brightly coloured male American Redstarts, Cape May and Black-throated Blue Warblers, and Northern Parula. Zenaida Doves were plentiful, and with a little effort we tracked down the smart Caribbean Dove, which also showed well.

We then decided to head for the Portland Peninsula in the extreme south of Jamaica, picking up a traditional lunch en route! Once there, in the dry scrubby woodland, we soon connected with extremely well-behaved Bahama Mockingbirds and the rather bland Stolid Flycatchers as well as introduced Green-rumped Parrotlets and more Caribbean Doves. Prairie Warbler was added, whilst in the nearby wetlands we found smart Clapper Rails, Eastern Willet, Tricolored Herons and a prancing white morph Reddish Egret. Our first Red-tailed Hawk was a distraction on our drive back to Marshall's Pen. Once back, we added our first Jamaican Pewee, and, as dusk fell, a magnificent pair of Jamaican Owls and an amazing Northern Potoo. All in all a decent first day!

The following morning we headed for the unusual Cockpit country, situated in northern central Jamaica. It has the appearance of a giant eggbox with its many small forested hills and valleys, and the nature of the terrain means that it is the last real wilderness of Jamaica. The area is home to hundreds of endemic plants, many other endemic creatures (landsnails amongst others!) and is a haven for several endemic birds. Our focus was on a few specials, and with a bit of effort we managed some great views of the endemic Ring-tailed Pigeon and both Black-billed and Yellow-billed Amazons (regularly flying over, and both species seen perched). We





*A fabulous pair of Jamaican Owls, the wonderful Jamaican Woodpecker and the odd-looking Northern Potoo - all from Marshall's Pen.*







*The delightful Caribbean Dove was seen well a number of times, whilst it was great to get good perched views of the endemic Black-billed and Yellow-billed Amazons.*



also found a confiding Merlin, and enjoyed more great views of endemics such as a well-groomed Jamaican Lizard Cuckoo and a confiding Jamaican Vireo. We then headed back towards Mandeville, pausing to look at some fine Grasshopper Sparrows on the way! We enjoyed a fine lunch back at Marshall's Pen, with Red-billed Streamertails as entertainment, but by now we were running short of likely targets! Sadly, the afternoon mission to find Jamaican Mango was ultimately unsuccessful, but we had more time!

The following morning we headed to the highlands of the Blue Mountains early, noting an American Barn Owl as we drove. It was a clear and sunny day, and we disturbed dozens of White-chinned Thrushes as we went.





*The two stars of the Blue Mountains, the rare bromeliad-loving Jamaican Blackbird and the sluggish Blue Mountain Vireo. Below, the Jamaican Mango kept us sweating for a while, but eventually showed brilliantly*



We spent much of the morning looking for the elusive Crested Quail-Dove, but sadly the only one we saw flew just a few seconds after we clapped eyes on it. A group of Ruddy Quail-Doves were somewhat more co-operative. We then focused on two special endemics, the scarce Blue Mountain Vireo and the bromeliad-loving Jamaican Blackbird, securing great views of both. Many Ring-tailed Pigeons were in evidence, and we got to see several of the endemics well again.



After a fine lunch, we headed for the north coast of the island, with two more endemics in mind! A Pied Crow on the way was somewhat unexpected, presumably a ship-assisted vagrant. A little research saw us visiting a private garden, and very soon we were watching some stunning Jamaican Mangos and Black-billed Streamertails at some feeders. A sigh of relief was collectively breathed, and we continued to another area where numerous Ring-tailed and White-crowned Pigeons, Jamaican Woodpeckers and other endemics obliged, and we rounded off the afternoon watching another fantastic Jamaican Mango feeding in a flowering tree. That evening, another Jamaican Owl peered down on us while we were eating dinner, and two more were around the hotel!

A morning on the Ecclesdown Road failed to produce the hoped-for Crested Quail-Dove. It did produce a number of the endemics again, with great views of both cuckoos, another Blue Mountain Vireo and many of the other now familiar friends. So there was nothing for it other than to head back to the Blue Mountains on our way to Kingston. And this time we were in luck! After flushing two Crested Quail-Doves, I managed to find them in a tree, allowing for great views for everyone, and then, just as we were leaving, another appeared by the road, frantically wagging its tail as it wandered away from us. A truly fitting end to our Jamaican endemic hunting. We headed back down to Kingston, and the joys of huge international hotels in covid times!



*A couple more neat endemics: Jamaican Vireo and Jamaican Elaenia. Below, the smart Rufous-throated Solitaire, and the star of the show, the brilliant Crested Quail-Dove.*





Our last morning in Jamaica would usually have been our time in the Blue Mountains, but this year it was a covid test prior to our flight, hence the rush to find the endemics. All tested and certificated we headed for the airport, but always with an eye on adding a few birds. A stop at a beach yielded a big surprise when an adult light-morph Pomarine Skua flew by, not very far out, and some list padding on the nearby coast yielded a good selection of waders, gulls and terns, and nearby we also watched some fine Mangrove Warblers. We then headed for the airport and on for a night in Miami!

Our flight to Santo Domingo the following morning gave us enough time to get organized, but by the time we had assembled the group, we were quite late leaving, and we had a long drive. Indeed it was around 2130 when we finally pulled in to Villa Barrancoli. A long day of travel, with little birding, but plenty to look forward to.

We started very early the next morning and drove along an atrocious track high up into the Sierra. Burrowing Owls were noted on the road by the first vehicle, and as we reached the pine zone, we stopped and listened out for the endemic Hispaniolan Nightjar. Several were calling and we managed a couple of flight views before the sun began to rise. At dawn we found ourselves in the cloud forest where the rare La Selle Thrush duly performed on the road, and we also obtained cracking looks at the sometimes hard to see Western Chat-Tanager. We birded this exciting habitat for most of the morning and added a superb list of fascinating endemics to the list including the rare Bay-breasted Cuckoo (an elusive pair), Hispaniolan Emerald, the colourful Hispaniolan Trogon, smart Hispaniolan Amazons, the enchanting Narrow-billed Tody, Antillean Piculet, the cracking Hispaniolan Woodpecker, Hispaniolan Pewee, stunning Golden Swallows, Black-crowned Palm Tanager, Green-tailed and splendidly attractive White-winged Warblers, and the gaudy Hispaniolan Spindalis. We also found Scaly-naped Pigeon, Greater Antillean Elaenia, Loggerhead Kingbird (of the distinctive Hispaniolan race), Rufous-throated Solitaire, (Eastern) Red-legged Thrush, Stolid Flycatcher, Antillean Euphonia and Greater Antillean Bullfinch. In the afternoon we attempted to walk into Haiti (for fun!), saw our first Palmchats, and then birded the lower reaches, though a flat tyre stalled our progress somewhat! We eventually got fixed up and found some more goodies including a brilliantly obliging Bay-breasted Cuckoo, our first Hispaniolan Lizard Cuckoo, superb Broad-billed Todies and, back at the lodge, an Hispaniolan Mango and our first raucous White-necked Crows. At dusk we slipped in to the nearby forest, and soon had a fantastic Least Porrrwill in the spotlight. A real stunner and a great moment.



*The sometimes tricky Least Poorwill showed brilliantly!*





*The wonderful but rare Bay-breasted Cuckoo and the two endemic todies from the Dominican Republic: Narrow-billed (left) and Broad-billed Tody.*







More goodies from the highlands of the Dominican Republic, clockwise from top right: the lovely Hispaniolan Trogon; the stunning Golden Swallow; the rare La Selle Thrush; Western Chat-Tanager; the smart White-winged Warbler and the closely related Green-tailed Warbler.







*A smart Hispaniolan Amazon showing off his best bits!*

Just after dawn the following day, we were walking through a very nice stretch of habitat at the edge of ever-green and dry woodland, concentrating on the few remaining endemics in this area. Sadly, our main target, the elusive White-fronted Quail-Dove, was nowhere to be seen, though we did get some great views of Ruddy and Key West Quail-Doves. Also here were our first Flat-billed Vireos and Hispaniolan Orioles and more Hispaniolan Lizard Cuckoos, and fantastic displaying Hispaniolan Amazons. Out in the more open country, we found some decent flocks of Antillean Siskins, groups of Palmchats, more White-necked Crows and some Plain Pigeons which allowed scope views.



*Male Antillean Siskins and the endemic Flat-billed Vireo.*





After a productive morning and lunch, we drove to our hotel near to Barahona. We then had an afternoon to organize and get the tyre fixed, though the more restless in the group headed to the coast and bagged a Black-capped Petrel. We still had more work though, and just after dusk we had a fantastic Ashy-faced Owl fixed in the spotlight. A truly superb *Tyto* and certainly one of the highlights of the entire tour.

Next morning, we drove early to the Cabo Rojo area in the extreme south of the country. Here we found elegant White-tailed Tropicbirds, a couple of Brown Boobies and some distant Black-capped Petrels, as well as numerous Caribbean Martins. Breakfast nearby added some incredible Rhinoceros Iguana, Hispaniolan Mangos, Vervain Hummingbirds and the local form of Mangrove Warbler.





Later, we drove up into the pine zone of the southern slopes of the Sierra de Bahoruco, where we soon found a party of very vocal, and very friendly, endemic Hispaniolan Palm Crows. It was quiet and little was coming to drink, but Miguel told us to have faith! We wandered and managed some excellent views of Hispaniolan Parakeets and then, eventually, the “chip-chip” call was heard and two Hispaniolan Crossbills arrived and gave great views. Strangely, one had an elongated upper mandible. A little later, another flock arrived, and we feasted on this most unusual and robust endemic. We then headed back down, birding the lower slopes in the late afternoon, but alas none of the desired quail-doves materialised, though we did finally see Mangrove Cuckoo well. Some of us did however stay a little later, and get some improved views of Hispaniolan Nightjars, both flying and perched. That evening, after a fine dinner, those that weren’t involved in the local karaoke (!!), attempted to see the strange Hispaniolan Solenodon. This proved to be a long and rather tiring exercise, with just brief views for some.



*A somewhat tatty looking male, and smart juvenile, Hispaniolan Crossbill.*





The following morning, we began with another seawatch, though this time Roseate Tern was the highlight. We then drove to the Laguna de Oviedo where we found a few shorebirds such as Snowy and Wilson's Plovers, Least Sandpipers and smart breeding Least Terns. We then turned our attention to the last remaining montane endemics, and headed on a tortuously long drive back into the mountains. The weather was not great and the birds fairly quiet, but we did at least hear a White-fronted Quail-Dove and an Eastern Chat-Tanager. Thankfully, at this point, Miguel pulled a bit of magic out of the bag, and we all got some fantastic looks at the cracking endemic White-fronted Quail-Dove. It was both a stunner and a relief!

With the weather closing in, and a long drive ahead, we headed back to the hotel for dinner. The following morning, there was no better plan than to head back up the same mountain, on the same, long, and tortuous track! It didn't seem quite so bad second time around, especially as we soon got some excellent views of the Eastern Chat-Tanager! And, as an added bonus, we managed some excellent studies of the localized wintering Bicknell's Thrush, several of which were present, and saw the local and distinctive form of Sharp-shinned Hawk. It had been a really worthwhile morning, and we headed back down to Barahona for a well-earned rest, and a seawatch, which yielded some decent scope views of several Black-capped Petrels.



*Three rarities from the mountains: the smart White-fronted Quail-Dove; the localized Eastern Chat Tanager and the poorly-known Bicknell's Thrush*





The following morning we headed for the Laguna Cabral O Rincon, and took a boat trip out on to the lake. We were greeted by Northern Yellowthroats and 'Caribbean' American Coots. The trip was fairly quiet, but did add a fine male Least Bittern as well as White-cheeked Pintails, the local Greater Antillean Grackles and a few other bits and bobs. We then made our way right across the island to our new accommodation at Rancho Don Rey, our base for our visit to Los Haitises National Park. A quick exploration that evening found us watching some obliging Hispaniolan Orioles as well as more Hispaniolan Woodpeckers and Palmchats.



*The smart Hispaniolan Oriole, the lovely Hispaniolan Woodpecker and Palmchat, the latter much wanted by the family listers!*

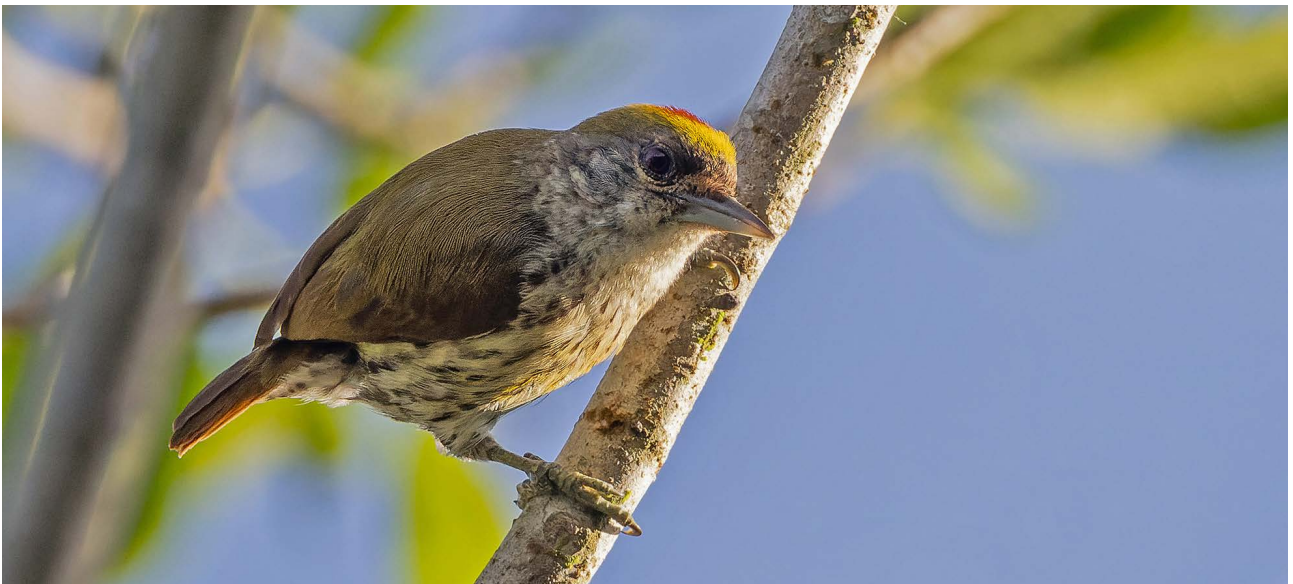




The next morning we were on a mission, and early morning we were stood in a clearing waiting. Numerous Antillean Piculets and Hispaniolan Woodpeckers kept us amused, until eventually a Ridgway's Hawk drifted into view. We then spent the next hour or two getting progressively better views of this rare raptor, which at one point was seen eating an Hispaniolan Woodpecker! We then returned to town and took the next of our covid tests, before the heavens opened! Much of the rest of the day was spent (unnecessarily as it proved) filling out forms, though we did make our way out in the evening and saw another amazing pair of Ashy-faced Owls.



*The rare Ridgway's Hawk showed well at Los Haitises, as did the smart Antillean Piculet.*







*Another stunning pair of Ashy-faced Owls.*

After an extremely successful visit to the Dominican Republic, all that remained was to make the drive back to Santo Domingo Airport and catch our flight on to San Juan in Puerto Rico. We entered without the need for any of the aforementioned forms, and, having eventually got our vehicle, headed to Luquillo in the northeast of the island. Our initial explorations that afternoon were with limited success, though we did see our first stunning Puerto Rican Woodpeckers and some smart Pearly-eyed Thrashers.



*The delightful Puerto Rican Woodpecker.*





*Top bird from Puerto Rico, the fabulous Puerto Rican Owl.*

We headed out early the following morning, and just before dawn we were in the forested hills of the El Yunque State Forest. Here, we soon heard the calls of several Puerto Rican (Screech) Owls and it didn't take too long to get two or three of these stunners fixed in our spotlight beam. What a gorgeous owl! As it was getting light, we heard Black-whiskered Vireos singing everywhere and soon we were getting stuck in to a new set of endemics. Puerto Rican Todies showed well (our fourth today of the tour), and we were delighted to find several Puerto Rican Tanagers foraging on Cecropia catkins, the last family in the world for some of the group! Other new goodies found included Puerto Rican Emeralds, Puerto Rican Lizard Cuckoo and the scarce Puerto Rican Flycatcher, whilst colour was added by the colourful Puerto Rican Spindalis, Puerto Rican Bullfinch and Puerto Rican Oriole, as well as an unexpected Scarlet Tanager. We also found another Mangrove Cuckoo and the local form of Loggerhead Kingbird. After lunch and a break, we headed to the northeast of the island to look for hummingbirds. Sadly, this was not too successful, though we did find some fantastic Adelaide's Warblers and our first Caribbean Elaenias



*The unique Puerto Rican Tanager - a family-collector's must!*





More goodies from Puerto Rico, clockwise from top left: Puerto Rican Bullfinch; a surprise Scarlet Tanager; the awesome Adelaide's Warbler; Zenaida Dove; and the local form of Caribbean Elaenia.







Some special hummingbirds from Puerto Rico, clockwise from top left: Antillean Crested Hummingbird; Puerto Rican Mango; Green Mango and Puerto Rican Emerald.



The following morning we were off early, crossing the island on motorways to Bahía de Jobos. Here we located some excellent flowering trees which held the much-wanted Green-throated Carib and Puerto Rican Mango, and nearby another tree held a cracking male Antillean Crested Hummingbird which allowed superb views at close range, showing off its exquisite glittering green crest. A splendid little fellow full of character! Plenty of introduced parrots were around too, including the scarce Red-crowned Amazon. We then made our way further west to Parguera. A stop on the way added more Adelaide's Warblers, Caribbean Elaenias, Puerto Rican Flycatchers and a few wetland species such as American Oystercatchers and Cabot's Terns. Another roadside stop yielded more Puerto Rican Mangos and our best views of Puerto Rican Emeralds, though this tree proved difficult to view! We then made our way into Parguera where, after an accommodation hitch, we enjoyed the



local endemic Yellow-shouldered Blackbirds. Late in the day we headed out once more. As the day drew to a close we were entertained first by Puerto Rican Bullfinches and then by a Peregrine and a couple of Antillean Nighthawks. Then, as darkness fell, we got some fabulous perched views of Puerto Rican Nightjars, justifying our experimentation with the craft beers that evening!



*A super-obliging Puerto Rican Nightjar, and a couple of Antillean Nighthawks passing over.*



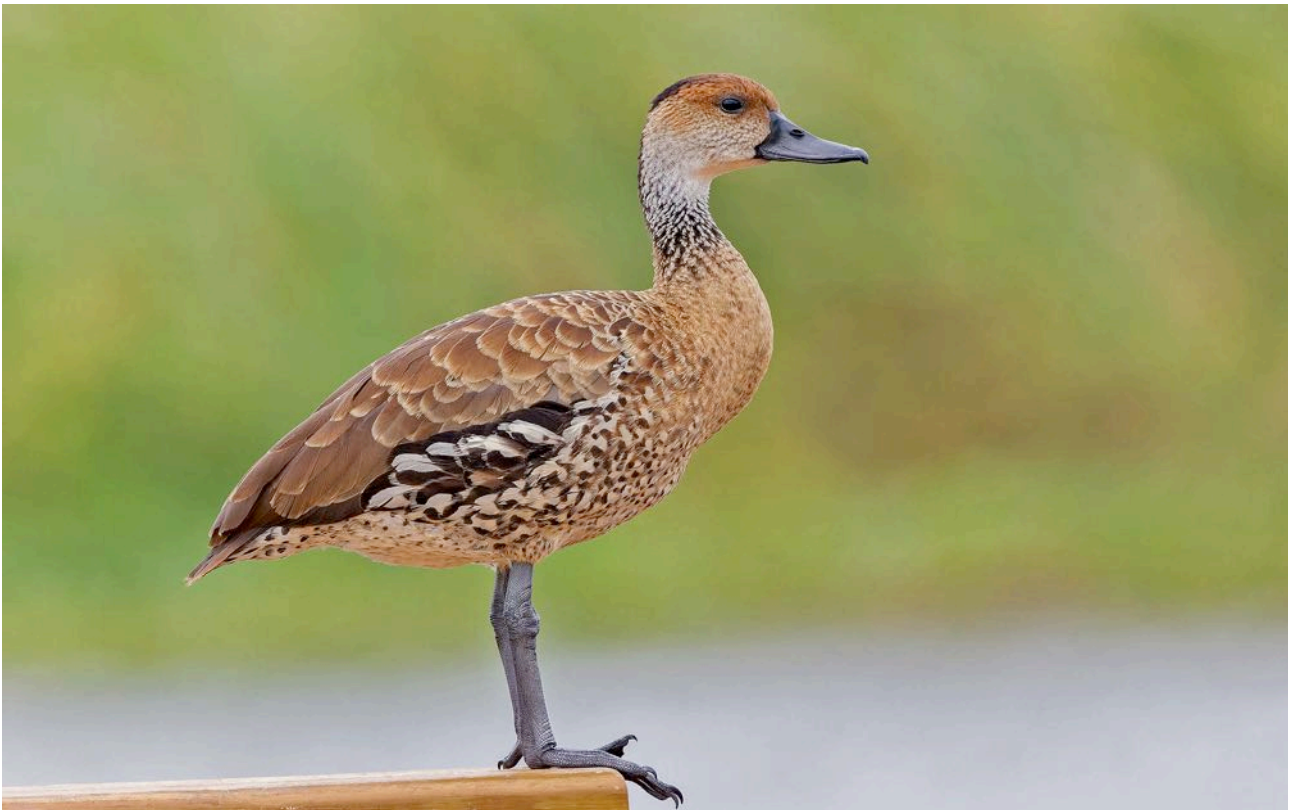




*In the highlands we found Elfin Woods Warbler and the smart Puerto Rican Vireo.*

The following day we headed up into the highlands and to the attractive Maricao State Forest. With the help of Google Maps, we got there in twice as long as we should have done, after some interesting detours!! Once there though, all was good. We soon found the smart Puerto Rican Vireo and the excellent Elfin Woods Warbler, and enjoyed several fine Puerto Rican Spindalis. We then spent a long time looking for the elusive Green Mango, eventually finding one which returned a couple of times to a prominent perch. A Broad-winged Hawk and lovely Puerto Rican Todies kept us busy while we were waiting!

We then headed out to the west of the island where we began in some (wet) dry woodland where, as well as finding more Adelaide's Warblers, we finally found the smart Puerto Rican form of Lesser Antillean Pewee, a sure split! Pleased with our success, we headed for Laguna Cartagena, where we were greeted by a Merlin.



*West Indian Whistling Ducks were waiting for us on the boardwalk!*





*The lovely Puerto Rican form of Lesser Antillean Pewee and our final endemic of the tour, and the rarest: Puerto Rican Amazon.*

We headed out to the boardwalk and were delighted to find the boardwalk was populated not by other people but by a group of our hoped-for West Indian Whistling-Ducks. Also here were displaying Ruddy Ducks, a Sora and, most pleasingly a duck, and then an obliging drake, Masked Duck. We again explored the craft beers that evening!

The following day we headed north, stopping in Utuada on the way. Here, we got some brilliant views of more Green Mangos as well as Puerto Rican Mango and Puerto Rican Emeralds. We then continued to the reserve at Rio Abajo. Here, we walked in along the track, seeing more vireos and lizard cuckoos as we went. Another couple of Puerto Rican Pewees also showed well, and as the afternoon progressed, we started to hear squawking and more squawking. It wasn't too long before we were watching the endangered Puerto Rican Amazon, our last endemic, and it showed well too. Success, and time to celebrate!

The final morning, there was no need to head back to Rio Abajo. Those that did not prefer a lie-in, explored the coast between Areceibo and Barcelona. This proved to be reasonably birdy with introductions such as Yellow-crowned Bishop and Venezuelan Troupial, wetland species and waders including a confiding Least Bittern, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, terns and a few waders, and a few other species such as Caribbean Martins and Puerto Rican Oriole. It was then just time to pack and shower and head for the airport. It had been an excellent trip, with a great group and a full suite of endemics! What more could we have asked for??!!



*A fine Least Bittern from the last morning of the tour.*





*The fabulous Puerto Rican Tody - one of four (out of five) species of this amazing family seen on this tour!*

## SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

Abbreviations used in the species comments: J = Jamaica; DR = Dominican Republic; PR = Puerto Rico

For polytypic species, the subspecies seen on the tour, where known, is placed in parentheses at the end of the species comment. Generally, species listed with trinomials are not currently split by the IOC.

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F., Donsker, D., & Rasmussen, P.(Eds). **2022. IOC World Bird List (v12.2)**. This list is updated twice annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>. Please note, this was the current version when the report checklist was created. Some alternative names are given in parentheses.





*A different view of a West Indian Whistling Duck from Puerto Rico*

**West Indian Whistling Duck** ♦ *Dendrocygna arborea* Heard in the DR, seen brilliantly at Laguna Cartagena, PR.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Spatula discors* Seen whilst seawatching in the DR, and at Laguna Cartagena, PR.

**White-cheeked Pintail (Bahama Pintail)** *Anas bahamensis* Seen well on the DR and PR [nominate].

**Lesser Scaup** *Athya affinis* (NL) A flock of 50 for some while seawatching near Barahona.

**Masked Duck** *Nomonyx dominicus* Great scope views of a male, and a female seen briefly at Laguna Cartagena, PR.

**Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis* Small numbers seen on the DR and PR.

**Helmeted Guineafowl (introduced)** *Numida meleagris* A few seen on the DR and PR.

**Antillean Nighthawk** ♦ *Chordeiles gundlachii* Seen at Mandeville, J, heard on DR, and seen very well on PR.

**Least Poorwill** ♦ *Siphonorhis brewsteri* Brilliant views of a perched male at Villa Barrancoli, DR [nominate].

**Hispaniolan Nightjar** ♦ *Antrostomus ekmani* A male spotlighted at Zapoten and better views of 3 in Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.

**Puerto Rican Nightjar** ♦ *Antrostomus noctitherus* Brilliant views of a couple in the dry forest near Parguera, PR.

**Northern Potoo** *Nyctibius jamaicensis* Great views of one at Marshall's Pen, J [nominate].

**American Black Swift** *Cypseloides niger* Good views of several overhead, south of Utuado, PR [nominate].

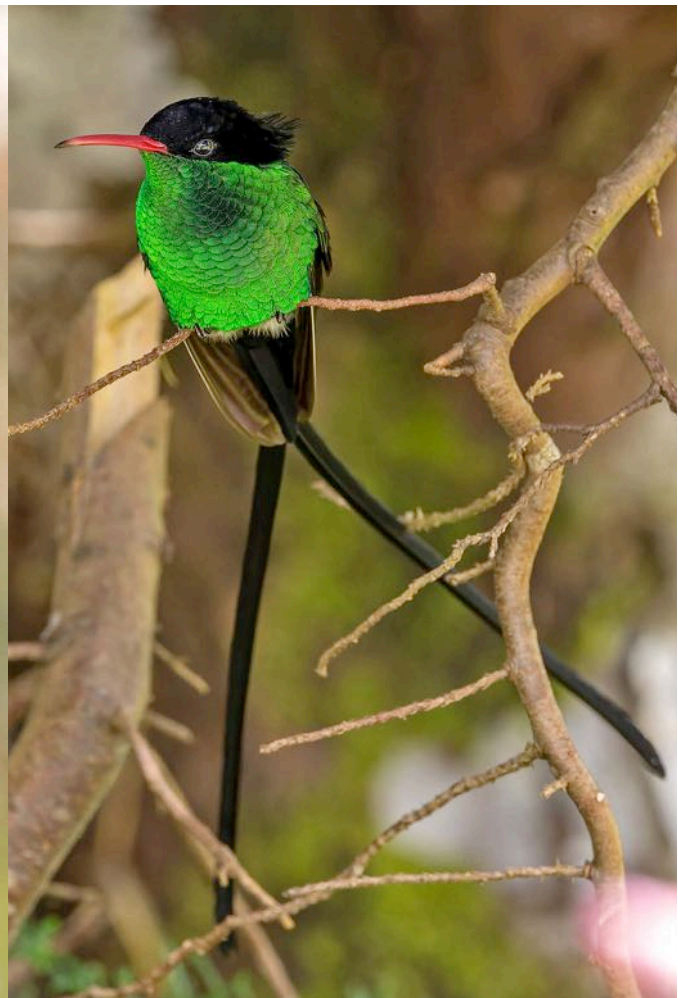


*Antillean Palm Swift and Black Swift.*





A tiny Vervain Hummingbird, and more incredible Red-billed Streamertails.



- White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris* A few seen over the Blue Mountains, J. Most were distant [*pallidifrons*].
- Antillean Palm Swift** ♦ *Tachornis phoenicobia* First seen well at Marshall's Pen, J. Also widespread on the DR. [nominate].
- Jamaican Mango** ♦ *Anthracothorax mango* A Brilliant views at a couple of sites around around San San, J.
- Hispaniolan Mango** ♦ *Anthracothorax dominicus* Now split. First seen at Villa Barrancoli. Several others, inc. males, later (DR).
- Puerto Rican Mango** ♦ *Anthracothorax aurulentus* Now split. A few seen well, the best in a flowering tree at El Batey (PR).
- Green Mango** ♦ *Anthracothorax viridis* First at Maricao State Forest, best at the feeders near to Utuado, PR.
- Green-throated Carib** ♦ *Eulampis holosericeus* A few seen well in flowering trees at Bahia de Jobos, PR [nominate].
- Vervain Hummingbird** ♦ *Mellisuga minima* First seen well at Marshall's Pen, J [nominate]. Also seen well on DR [*vielloti*].



Hispaniolan Emerald ◇ *Riccordia swainsonii* First seen well at Zapoten, DR, with others during our time on the island.

Puerto Rican Emerald ◇ *Riccordia maugaeus* First seen well at El Yunque National Forest, PR. Many others seen well.

Antillean Crested Hummingbird ◇ *Orthorhyncus cristatus* A few seen well in flowering trees at Bahia de Jobos [exilis].

Red-billed Streamertail ◇ *Trochilus polytmus* Many seen brilliantly, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

Black-billed Streamertail ◇ *Trochilus scitulus* A few seen, the first at feeders near San San, J.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* Seen at Cockpit country, J, and widespread on Dr and PR.

Mangrove Cuckoo *Coccyzus minor* First seen in dry country on DR, also seen on Pr where first seen at El Yunque.

Chestnut-bellied Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzus pluvialis* Seen very well at Marshall's Pen and the Ecclesdown Road, J.

Bay-breasted Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzus ruficularis* A pair at Zapoten and one lower down later that day (DR). A rare stunner!

Jamaican Lizard Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzus vetula* Several seen very well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

Puerto Rican Lizard Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzus vieilloti* A few seen well, the first at El Yunque National Forest, PR.

Hispaniolan Lizard Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzus longirostris* First seen below Zapoten and several more seen well later (PR).



Each of the islands has a Lizard Cuckoo! Jamaican above, and below, Hispaniolan (left) and Puerto Rican.







*More cuckoos... Mangrove Cuckoo left, and the Jamaican endemic Chestnut-bellied Cuckoo. Below, the usually retiring Ruddy Quail-Dove.*







*Scaly-naped (left) and Ring-tailed Pigeons.*

**Rock Dove (introduced) *Columba livia*** Introduced dross, seen on all three islands.

**White-crowned Pigeon *Patagioenas leucocephala*** Small numbers seen on all three islands, with many good looks.

**Scaly-naped Pigeon ♦ (Red-necked P) *Patagioenas squamosa*** Seen in the DR, and particularly well at El Yunque, PR.

**Ring-tailed Pigeon ♦ *Patagioenas caribaea*** First seen in the Cockpit Country and many seen well in the Blue Mountains (J).

**Plain Pigeon ♦ *Patagioenas inornata*** A few seen well including perched birds near Puerto Escondido DR.

**Eurasian Collared Dove (introduced) *Streptopelia decaocto*** Introduced on PR where common.

**Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*** Seen on all 3 islands: J - *jamaicensis*; DR - *insularis*; PR - *portoricensis*.

**Crested Quail-Dove ♦ *Geotrygon versicolor*** Brilliant views of a few in the Blue Mountains, J. Stunner.

**Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana*** A few seen well on J and DR, and seen briefly on the PR [nominate].

**White-fronted Quail-Dove ♦ *Geotrygon leucometopia*** Brilliant views of a singing perched bird in the Sierra de Baboruco, DR.

**Key West Quail-Dove ♦ *Geotrygon chrysia*** A Good views of a couple at Rabo de Gato, near Puerto Escondido, DR.

**Caribbean Dove ♦ *Leptotila jamaicensis*** A cracker, several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*** A few on Jamaica and common on DR and PR [nominate].

**Zenaida Dove *Zenaida aurita*** Common on J, a few on DR and common on PR [*zenaida*].

**White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*** Seen on all 3 islands, but most common on PR [nominate].

**Clapper Rail *Rallus crepitans*** Brilliant views of 3 at Portland Cottage in the south of J [*caribaeus*].



*A smart Clapper Rail from Jamaica.*





A few widespread species: Snowy (left) and Wilson's Plover (above), (Caribbean) American Coot and a fine Least Tern (below).



**Sora** *Porzana carolina* One scoped at Laguna Cartagena, PR.

**Common Gallinule (Laughing G)** *Gallinula galeata* Plenty seen at wetlands on PR and DR [cerceris].

**American Coot** *Fulica americana* Plenty at wetlands on PR and DR. Most were 'Caribbean Coot' types [nominate].

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio martinica* Just one seen at Laguna Cabral O Rincon, DR.

**Yellow-breasted Crake** *Laterallus flaviventer* A

**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna* A couple seen at Laguna Cabral O Rincon, and 2 more at Rancho Don Rey, DR [elucus].

**Least Grebe** *Tachybaptus dominicus* One at Marshall's Pen, J and 2 or 3 at Laguna Cartagena, DR [nominate].

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* Small numbers seen at wetlands on PR and DR [nominate].

**American Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus ruber* Quite a few seen at Laguna de Oviedo, DR.

**American Oystercatcher** *Haematopus palliatus* Seen on the coast at Guanica State Forest, and near Arecibo, PR [nominate].

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus* Small numbers seen on all three islands [nominate].

**Grey Plover (Black-bellied P)** *Pluvialis squatarola* One near Kingston Airport, J, and a few on DR and PR [cyanosurae].

**Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* 20+ along the coast between Arecibo and Barceloneta, PR.

**Wilson's Plover** *Charadrius wilsonia* Great views of a pair at Laguna de Oviedo, DR.

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* A handful on each of the three islands [ternominatus].

**Snowy Plover** *Charadrius nivosus* Great views of a male at Laguna de Oviedo, DR [nominate].

**Hudsonian Whimbrel** *Numenius hudsonicus* A flock of c35 seen passing Barahona, DR, on our seawatch [nominate].

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* A few seen on J and PR [morinella].



**Sanderling** *Calidris alba* A few seen along the coast between Arecibo and Barceloneta, PR [*rubida*].

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* Small numbers seen on all three islands with some good views.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* One seen on the settling pool near to Kingston Airport, J.

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* A few seen on all three of the islands.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes* Small numbers seen on all three of the islands.

**Willet (Eastern W)** *Tringa [semipalmata] semipalmata* One seen at Portland Cottage in the south of the island (J).

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* One near Kingston Airport, J, and a few on the DR.

**Laughing Gull** *Leucophaeus atricilla* Seen along the coasts of all three islands [nominate].

**Royal Tern** *Thalasseus maximus* Small numbers around the coasts of all three islands.

**Cabot's Tern** *Thalasseus acutirostris* A few near Kingston Airport, J and on PR [nominate].

**Least Tern** *Sternula antillarum* Seen very well at Laguna de Oviedo on DR, and on PR [nominate]

**Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii* Up to 30+ seen off Pedernales, DR [nominate].

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* A couple seen off Pedernales, and one at Laguna de Oviedo [nominate].

**Pomarine Jaeger (P Skua)** *Stercorarius pomarinus* Pale phase adults off Kingston Airport, J, and Pedernales, PR.

**White-tailed Tropicbird** *Phaethon lepturus* Brilliant views of 10+ at Cabo Rojo, near to Pedernales, PR [*catesbyi*].

**Black-capped Petrel** ♦ *Pterodroma hasitata* A few distantly off Cabo Rojo, and a few closer off Barahona, DR.

**Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens* Small numbers seen around the coasts of all three islands [*rothschildi*].

**Brown Booby** *Sula leucogaster* A couple seen off Cabo Rojo, near to Pedernales, DR [*leucogaster*].

**American White Ibis** *Eudocimus albus* Small numbers seen on all three islands [nominate].

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* Reasonable numbers seen on both DR and PR.

**Least Bittern** *Ixobrychus exilis* Great views of a male at Laguna Cabral O Rincon, DR, and near Arecibo, PR [nominate].

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* Seen at Laguna Cabral O Rincon, DR, and Laguna Cartagena, PR [*hoactli*].

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea* A few seen well on both the DR and PR [*bancrofti*].

**Green Heron** *Butorides virescens* A few seen well on both DR and PR [nominate].

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* Common and widespread on all three islands.

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias* Just one on Jamaica and a few on the DR [nominate].

**Great Egret (American G E)** *Ardea [alba] egretta* Seen on all three islands, most common on PR.

**Reddish Egret** *Egretta rufescens* A white morph adult at Portland Cottage in the south of the island (J) [nominate].

**Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor* Small numbers seen on all three islands [*ruficollis*].

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* Small numbers seen on all three islands [nominate].



*Little Blue Heron, Least Bittern and a smart Yellow-crowned Night Heron.*



**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* Fairly common on all three islands [nominate].

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis* Several seen around the coasts of all three islands [nominate].

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* Plenty seen on all three of the islands [nominate].

**Osprey (American O)** *Pandion [haliaetus] carolinensis* One seen on the DR and a few on PR.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus* Great views of a perched male in Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco, DR, [nominate].

**Ridgway's Hawk** ♦ *Buteo ridgwayi* Brilliant views of 1 in Las Haitises NP, DR. It even caught an Hispaniolan Woodpecker!

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus* A juvenile over Maricao SF, and an adult briefly at Rio Abajo, PR. [brunnescens].

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis* Some excellent views over all three of the islands [jamaicensis].



*A fine Red-tailed Hawk from Jamaica.*

**American Barn Owl** *Tyto furcata* Two seen on early morning drives east of Mandeville, J [nominate].

**Ashy-faced Owl** ♦ *Tyto glaucops* Stunning views of one near to La Cienaga, and a pair in Las Haitises NP, DR.

**Burrowing Owl** *Athene cunicularia* Seen by the front car a couple of times on the DR.

**Jamaican Owl** ♦ *Asio grammicus* Brilliant views of a pair at Marshall's Pen. Also seen well in the NE of the island (J).

**Puerto Rican Owl** ♦ *Gymnasio nudipes* Stunning views of 3 at El Yunque National Forest, PR. Mega! [nominate].

**Hispaniolan Trogon** ♦ *Priotelus roseigaster* Great views at Zapoten in Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco, PR.

**Belted Kingfisher** *Megasceryle alcyon* Just one on Jamaica and a few on the DR.

**Broad-billed Tody** ♦ *Todus subulatus* Many seen well, first in the lower areas of PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.

**Narrow-billed Tody** ♦ *Todus angustirostris* Great views at Zapoten in PN Sierra de Bahoruco. A few elsewhere (DR).

**Jamaican Tody** ♦ *Todus todus* Many seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**Puerto Rican Tody** ♦ *Todus mexicanus* Fairly common with many stunning views, the first at El Yunque forest, PR.

**Antillean Piculet** ♦ *Nesocittes micromegas* First seen well at Zapoten, but best views in Las Haitises NP, DR.

**Puerto Rican Woodpecker** ♦ *Melanerpes portoricensis* The first and best views were in Fajardo. A few elsewhere (PR).

**Hispaniolan Woodpecker** ♦ *Melanerpes striatus* Very common and widespread, with many great views (DR).

**Jamaican Woodpecker** ♦ *Melanerpes radiolatus* Many seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius* Seen on all 3 islands: J - *sparverius*; DR - *dominicensis*; PR - *caribaeorum*.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius* Great views of a couple on Jamaica and one seen well on PR [nominate = Taiga Merlin].

**Peregrine Falcon (Peregrine)** *Falco peregrinus* Just one seen over Parguera [tundrius].

**Monk Parakeet (introduced)** *Myiopsitta monachus* Fairly common on Puerto Rico.





Hispaniolan Parakeet and the smart Hispaniolan Amazon.

- White-winged Parakeet (introduced) *Brotogeris versicolurus*** Several flocks seen on Puerto Rico.
- Black-billed Amazon** ♦ *Amazona agilis* Great views at Burnt Hill, Cockpit Country, and the Ecclesdown Road (J).
- Yellow-billed Amazon** ♦ *Amazona collaria* Great views at Burnt Hill, Cockpit Country, and the Ecclesdown Road (J).
- Hispaniolan Amazon** ♦ *Amazona ventralis* First seen perched, at Zapoten and especially well at Rabo de Gato, DR.
- Puerto Rican Amazon** ♦ *Amazona vittata* Up to 20 seen at Rio Abajo, PR. Most birds here derive from reintroduced birds.
- Red-crowned Amazon (introduced) *Amazona viridigenalis*** At least 6 seen at Bahia de Jobos, DR.
- Green-rumped Parrotlet (introduced) *Forpus passerinus*** A few seen on Jamaica the first at Portland Cottage.
- Olive-throated Parakeet (Jamaican P) *Eupsittula nana*** Best views at Marshall's Pen, J. Also on the DR, where introduced.
- Hispaniolan Parakeet** ♦ *Psittacara chloropterus* A few including great views of perched birds at Hoyo de Pelempito, DR.
- Jamaican Elaenia** ♦ (Small J E) *Myiopagis cotta* Great views of singles at Marshall's Pen, in the Blue Mountains (J).
- Caribbean Elaenia** ♦ *Elaenia martinica* Excellent views in dry forest in the northeast and south of Puerto Rico [riisii].
- Greater Antillean Elaenia** ♦ (Large Jamaican E) *Elaenia [fallax] fallax* (H) Heard in the Blue Mountains, J.
- Greater Antillean Elaenia** ♦ (Hispaniolan E) *Elaenia [fallax] cherriei* Common at Zapoten in PN Sierra de Batoruco, DR.
- Hispaniolan Pewee** ♦ *Contopus hispaniolensis* A few seen well, the first at Zapoten in PN Sierra de Batoruco, DR.
- Jamaican Pewee** ♦ *Contopus pallidus* A couple seen well at Marshall's Pen, J.
- Lesser Antillean Pewee** ♦ (Puerto Rican P) *Contopus [latirostris] blancoi* Great views after some searching (PR).
- Grey Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis*** Common on all three islands [dominicensis].
- Loggerhead Kingbird** ♦ (Jamaican K) *Tyrannus [caudifasciatus] jamaicensis* Many seen well, first at Marshall's Pen (J).
- Loggerhead Kingbird** ♦ (Puerto Rican K) *Tyrannus [caudifasciatus] taylori* Several, the first at El Yunque, PR.
- Loggerhead Kingbird** ♦ (Hispaniolan K) *Tyrannus [caudifasciatus] gabbii* Excellent views of a pair at Zapoten, DR.
- Sad Flycatcher** ♦ *Myiarchus barbirostris* Many seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.
- Rufous-tailed Flycatcher** ♦ (J) *Myiarchus validus* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.
- Stolid Flycatcher** ♦ (Hispaniolan S F) *Myiarchus [stolidus] dominicensis* First seen on the way down from Zapoten, DR.





*Flycatcher fun, clockwise from above: Loggerhead Kingbird; Puerto Rican Flycatcher; Stolid Flycatcher; Sad Flycatcher and Rufous-tailed Flycatcher*

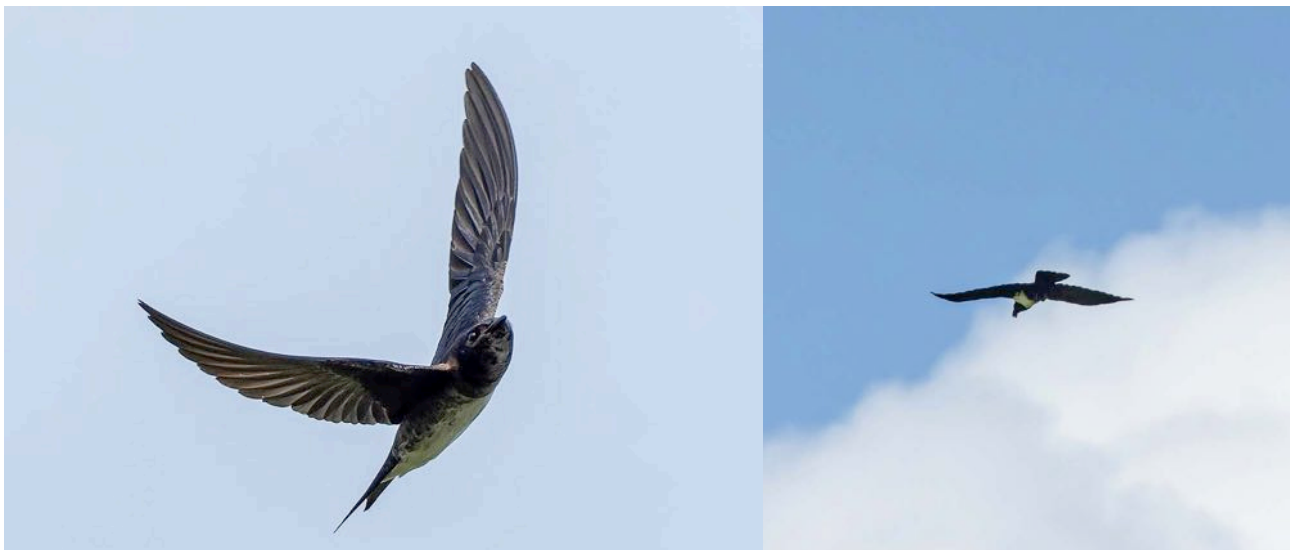




**Stolid Flycatcher** ♦ (Jamaican S F) *Myiarchus [stolidus] stolidus* A few seen very well at Portland Cottage, J.  
**Puerto Rican Flycatcher** ♦ *Myiarchus antillarum* A few seen well, the first at El Yunque National Forest, PR.  
**Jamaican Becard** ♦ *Pachyramphus niger* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.  
**Black-whiskered Vireo** *Vireo altiloquus* Quite common on all three islands [nominate].  
**Blue Mountain Vireo** ♦ *Vireo osburni* Great views in the Blue Mountains and along the Ecclesdown Road, J.  
**Flat-billed Vireo** ♦ *Vireo nanus* Great views of a few, the first at Rabo de Gato, near Puerto Escondido, DR.  
**Jamaican Vireo** ♦ *Vireo modestus* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.  
**Puerto Rican Vireo** ♦ *Vireo latimeri* Excellent views at Maricao State Forest and at Rio Abajo, PR.  
**Hispaniolan Palm Crow** ♦ *Corvus palmarum* Brilliant views at Hoyo de Pelempito in PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.  
**Jamaican Crow** ♦ *Corvus jamaicensis* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.  
**White-necked Crow** ♦ *Corvus leucognaphalus* Several seen well, the first just by Villa Barrancoli, DR.  
**Pied Crow (introduced)** *Corvus albus* A single on the north coast of Jamaica was presumably ship assisted.



Endemic White-necked and Hispaniolan Palm Crows from the Dominican Republic. A male Caribbean Martin and a very lost (African) Pied Crow on Jamaica!!



**Palmchat** ♦ *Dulus dominicus* Common and widespread in lower areas of the Dominican Republic. Endemic family!  
**Golden Swallow** ♦ *Tachycineta euchrysea* Brilliant views of a couple of stunning pairs at Zapoten, DR [sclateri].  
**Caribbean Martin** ♦ *Progne dominicensis* Several good sightings on DR and PR.  
**Barn Swallow (American B S)** *Hirundo [rustica] erythrogaster* A few seen on Jamaica, more at Laguna Cartagena, PR.  
**Cave Swallow** *Petrochelidon fulva* Seen on all 3 islands: J - *poeciloma*; DR - nominate; PR - *puertoricensis*.  
**Northern Mockingbird** *Mimus polyglottos* Common and widespread on all three islands [orpheus].





A gorgeous (Eastern) Red-legged Thrush, Bahama Mockingbird (left) and Pearly-eyed Thrasher.



**Bahama Mockingbird** ♦ *Mimus gundlachii* Great views of two or three at Portland Cottage, J.

**Pearly-eyed Thrasher** ♦ *Margarops fuscatus* Surprisingly common and confiding on PR. First noted in Fajardo.

**Common Starling (introduced)** *Sturnus vulgaris* Common on Jamaica.

**Rufous-throated Solitaire** ♦ *Myadestes genibarbis* Seen well on Jamaica - *solitarius* and the DR - *montanus*.

**Bicknell's Thrush** ♦ *Catharus bicknelli* Great views of 4+ vocal birds at Cachote in PN Sierra de Batoruco, DR.

**Red-legged Thrush** ♦ (Eastern R-l T) *Turdus [plumbeus] ardosiaceus* Good views of plenty on DR and PR.

**White-chinned Thrush** ♦ *Turdus aurantius* Many seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**White-eyed Thrush** ♦ *Turdus jamaicensis* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**La Selle Thrush** ♦ *Turdus swalesi* Brilliant views of at least 3 on the road at Zapoten in PN Sierra de Batoruco, DR.

**House Sparrow (introduced)** *Passer domesticus* Seen on all three islands [nominate].

**Village Weaver (introduced)** *Ploceus cucullatus* Only seen at Cano Hondo, Los Haiteses NP, DR.



**Yellow-crowned Bishop (introduced) *Euplectes afer*** Several non-breeding plumaged birds seen near Arecibo, PR.

**Bronze Mannikin (introduced) *Spermestes cucullata*** Several, the first in Fajardo, PR.

**Scaly-breasted Munia (introduced) *Lonchura punctulata*** A small flock seen near to Los Haitises NP, DR.

**Tricolored Munia (introduced) *Lonchura malacca*** A few smart birds along the coast between Arecibo and Barceloneta, PR.

**Orange-cheeked Waxbill (introduced) *Estrilda melpoda*** Quite common, first seen in the Boqueron area, PR.

**Hispaniolan Crossbill ♦ *Loxia megaplaga*** Brilliant views at Hoyo de Pelempito in PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.

**Antillean Siskin ♦ *Spinus dominicensis*** Plenty seen well, especially around Puerto Escondido, DR.

**Antillean Euphonia ♦ (Hispaniolan E) *Chlorophonia [musica] musica*** Seen well, the first at Zapoten, DR.

**Antillean Euphonia ♦ (Puerto Rican E) *Chlorophonia [musica] sclateri*** A male seen well at Maricao State Forest, PR.

**Jamaican Euphonia ♦ *Euphonia jamaica*** A Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus savannarum*** Stunning views of a pair a few kms NNE of Mandeville, J [nominate].



*Antillean Euphonia and the subtle Jamaican Euphonia (above), and Grasshopper Sparrow and Orangequit from Jamaica.*





**Western Chat-Tanager** ◇ *Calyptophilus tertius* Several seen very well at Zapoten, PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.

**Eastern Chat-Tanager** ◇ *Calyptophilus frugivorus* Great views at Cachote in PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR [*neibae*].

**Black-crowned Tanager** ◇ *Phaenicophilus palmarum* Good views on a few occasions, the first at Zapoten, DR.

**Green-tailed Warbler** ◇ *Microligea palustris* Good views on a few occasions, the first at Zapoten, DR, [*vasta*].

**White-winged Warbler** ◇ *Xenoligea montana* Great views of a couple of groups at Zapoten, DR.

**Puerto Rican Tanager** ◇ *Nesospingus speculiferus* Great views of at El Yunque and Maricao State Forests, PR.

**Hispaniolan Spindalis** ◇ *Spindalis dominicensis* Several seen well, the first at Zapoten, PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR.

**Puerto Rican Spindalis** ◇ *Spindalis portoricensis* Plenty, the first at El Yunque National Forest, PR. Great bird!

**Jamaican Spindalis** ◇ *Spindalis nigricephala* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.



*The endemic Spindalises... Hispaniolan Spindalis (left), Jamaican Spindalis (above) and the gorgeous Puerto Rican Spindalis.*

**Jamaican Oriole** ◇ *Icterus leucopteryx* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J [nominate].

**Venezuelan Troupial (introduced)** *Icterus icterus* A common, colourful introduction in PR, first seen in Fajardo [*ridgwayi*].

**Puerto Rican Oriole** ◇ *Icterus portoricensis* A few, the first seen well at El Yunque National Forest, PR.

**Hispaniolan Oriole** ◇ *Icterus dominicensis* Best views were at Rancho Del Rey, near to Los Haitises NP, DR.

**Jamaican Blackbird** ◇ *Nesopsar nigerrimus* Great views of a pair in the Blue Mountains, J.

**Yellow-shouldered Blackbird** ◇ *Agelaius xanthomus* Great views of perhaps as many as 100 in Parguera, PR.

**Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis* Small numbers seen on all three islands [*minimus*].

**Greater Antillean Grackle** ◇ *Quiscalus niger* Seen on all 3 islands: J - *crassirostris*; DR - nominate; PR - *brachypterus*.

**Great-tailed Grackle (introduced)** *Quiscalus mexicanus* A recent colonist seen at Kingston Airport, J.

**Ovenbird** *Seiurus aurocapilla* A few seen along tracks in Jamaica and the Dominican Republic.

**Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis* A few on the Ecclesdown Road, J, and Parguera, PR.

**Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia* First at Marshall's Pen, J. Also a few seen on PR.

**Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas* Good views of several at Laguna Cabral O Rincon, DR [nominate].

**Elfin Woods Warbler** ◇ *Setophaga angelae* A Brilliant views of a few at Maricao State Forest, PR. Smart birds.





Jamaican Oriole and the Puerto Rican endemic Yellow-shouldered Blackbird, and two gorgeous migrants: Black-throated Blue Warbler and American Redstart



**Arrowhead Warbler** ◇ *Setophaga pharetra* A pair seen well at Marshall's Pen, J. Surprisingly, the only ones!

**American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla* Several on Jamaica and a few on the DR.

**Cape May Warbler** *Setophaga tigrina* A few seen on Jamaica and a few on the DR

**Northern Parula** *Setophaga americana* Small numbers seen on all three islands.

**Magnolia Warbler** *Setophaga magnolia* A fine male seen at Rabo de Gato, near Puerto Escondido, DR.

**Mangrove Warbler (Golden W)** *Setophaga petechia* Seen on all 3 islands: J - *eoæ*; DR - *albicollis*; PR - *bartholemica*.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** *Setophaga caerulescens* Plenty seen well on Jamaica.

**Palm Warbler** *Setophaga palmarum* A few near Kingston Airport, J, and also seen on DR [nominatæ].





*Arrowhead Warbler, endemic to Jamaica and the widespread Mangrove (or Golden) Warbler.*

**Pine Warbler** *Setophaga pinus* Great views of a couple around Zapoten in PN Sierra de Bahoruco, DR [*chrysoleuca*].

**Yellow-throated Warbler** *Setophaga dominica* (NL) A single for some at Los Haitises NP, DR.

**Prairie Warbler** *Setophaga discolor* A few seen well, the first at Portland Cottage, J [nominate].

**Adelaide's Warbler** ♦ *Setophaga adelaidae* A cracking little bird seen at several sites on PR.

**Scarlet Tanager** *Piranga olivacea* A fine male seen well at El Yunque National Forest, PR.

**Indigo Bunting** *Passerina cyanea* (NL) One for some at Maricao State Forest, PR.

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola* Common: J - nominate; DR - the distinct *bananivora*; PR - *portoricensis*.

**Yellow-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris olivaceus* Seen on all 3 islands: J and DR - nominate; PR - *bryanti*.

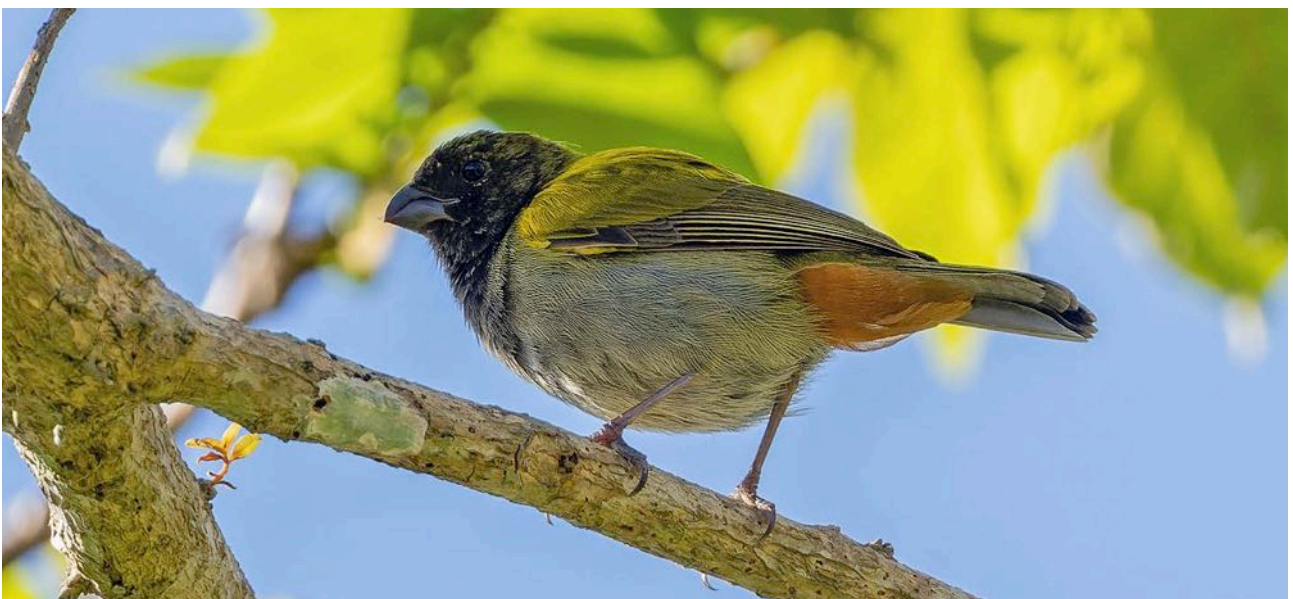
**Orangequit** ♦ *Euneornis campestris* Several seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**Puerto Rican Bullfinch** ♦ *Melopyrrha portoricensis* Several seen well, present at most sites (PR).

**Greater Antillean Bullfinch** ♦ *Melopyrrha violacea* Seen on Jamaica - *ruficollis*; DR - *affinis*.

**Yellow-shouldered Grassquit** ♦ (J) *Loxipasser anoxanthus* A few seen well, the first at Marshall's Pen, J.

**Black-faced Grassquit** *Melanospiza bicolor* Seen well on Jamaica [*marchii*], and on Puerto Rico [*omissa*].



*The scarce endemic Yellow-shouldered Grassquit from Jamaica.*



## MAMMALS

Haitian Solenodon *Solenodon paradoxus* (NL) A couple seen briefly, despite the rather long vigil!

Small Indian Mongoose (introduced) *Urva auropunctata* Several seen.

Brown Rat (introduced) *Rattus norvegicus* A few seen.



*The wonderful Jamaican Owl.*



## APPENDIX 1

### TOP BIRDS OF THE TOUR

#### 1 – TOP 5 BIRDS IN JAMAICA

- 1<sup>st</sup> CRESTED QUAIL-DOVE (right)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> JAMAICAN OWL
- 3<sup>rd</sup> RED-BILLED STREAMERTAIL
- 4<sup>th</sup> Jamaican Tody
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jamaican Mango

#### 2 – TOP 5 BIRDS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- 1<sup>st</sup> ASHY-FACED OWL (right)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> WHITE-FRONTED QUAIL-DOVE
- 3<sup>rd</sup> HISPANIOLAN CROSSBILL
- 4<sup>th</sup> Ridgway's Hawk
- 5<sup>th</sup> Golden Swallow

#### 3 – TOP 5 BIRDS IN THE PUERTO RICO

- 1<sup>st</sup> PUERTO RICAN OWL (below)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> ADELAIDE'S WARBLER
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PUERTO RICAN TANAGER
- 4<sup>th</sup> Puerto Rican Spindalis
- 5<sup>th</sup> Elfin Woods Warbler

