

# ULTIMATE COSTA RICA TOUR REPORT 2024

5 - 28 March 2024

## Leonardo Garrigues

Once again, we managed to surpass our former record of species for this tour, with the impressive amount of 630 species recorded, but even more impressive was that we managed to see 618 species. Also, we added seven species to our cumulative Costa Rican list which included Red Knot, Northern Potoo, Lance-tailed Manakin, MacGillivray's Warbler, Dickcissel, Slate-colored Seedeater and Yellow-winged Tanager.

Regarding highlights of the tour, we got to see the highly wanted Bare-necked Umbrellabird, with very good views of a very cooperative female. The bird of the trip this time was the mythical (maybe not anymore, or at least in Costa Rica) Maroon-chested Ground Dove, at Irazu Volcano area. Another impressive achievement was to see all the manakin species of Costa Rica (first time for myself that I manage to do this on a tour!) which included species like Lance-tailed, Long-tailed, White-crowned, White-collared, Orange-collared, Velvety, Red-capped, and White-ruffed Manakins. Other group of birds that we managed to see all the species of the country were the trogons, including great views of tricky ones Lattice-tailed and Elegant Trogons, near-endemic Baird's Trogon and one of the most wanted species of the tour: the Resplendent Quetzal, which we managed to see on several occasions during the tour. Some of the main rarities seen on this tour included the Highland and Thicket Tinamou, Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge, Spot-bellied Bobwhite, Marbled and Black-eared Wood Quails, White-tipped Sicklebill, Bronzy Hermit, Veraguan Mango, White-crested Coquette, White-tailed Emerald, Mangrove Cuckoo, Purplish-backed and Chiriqui Quail-Doves, Mangrove Rail, Ocellated and Yellow-breasted Crake, Wandering Tattler, Agami Heron, Pinnated and Least Bittern, Mississippi Kite, Savanna and White-tailed Hawk, Costa Rican and Central American Pygmy Owls, Middle American and Choco Screech Owls, Tody Motmot, Keel-billed Motmot, Yellow-eared Toucanet, Red-rumped Woodpecker, Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser, Little Long-tailed Woodcreeper, Ocellated and Bare-crowned Antbird, Black-headed Antthrush, Scaled Antpitta, White-fronted, Yellow-bellied and Rufous-browed Tyrannulets, Bran-colored Flycatcher, Yellow-winged Flatbill, Stub-tailed Spadebill, Tawny-chested Flycatcher, Ochraceous Pewee, Tropical Royal Flycatcher, Azure-hooded Jay, Band-backed and Song Wren, Northern and Southern Nightingale-Wrens, Ashy-throated Chlorospingus, Grasshopper Sparrow, Yellow-tailed Oriole, Slate-colored Grosbeak, White-throated Shrike Tanager, Peg-billed Finch and Blue-and-gold Tanager, just to mention some examples. Regarding of the specialties of the tour we got to see most of them, only very few were missing this time. Some of the most iconic ones like the Three-wattled Bellbird gave us good views, as well as the enigmatic Rosy-thrush Tanager, with a couple that was building a nest. Another major specialty is Wrenthrush, also a species of its own family and endemic to the highlands of Costa Rica and Western Panama. We got good views of the five (technically four) endemic species of Costa Rica that included Gray-tailed Mountaingem, Coppery-headed Emerald, Mangrove Hummingbird, Cabanis's Ground Sparrow and the Black-cheeked Ant Tanager (not any longer a Costa Rican endemic as has been seen in Panama near the border with Costa Rica). Many other goodies were observed, including Black Guan, Great Curassow, Black-breasted and Spotted Wood Quails, Dusky Nightjar, Black-crested Coquette, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, White-bellied and Purple-throated Mountaingem, Magenta-throated Woodstar, Garden Emerald, Snowcap, Lesser Ground Cuckoo, Grey-headed Dove, Buff-fronted Quail-Dove, Uniform Crake, Crested, Spectacled, Mottled and Black-and-white Owls, American Pygmy Kingfisher, Prong-billed Barbet, Blue-throated Toucanet, Fiery-billed Aracari, Golden-naped Woodpecker, Sulphur-winged Parakeet, Great Green Macaw, Chiriqui Foliage-gleaner, Streak-crowned Antvireo, Dull-mantled and Zeledon's Antbird, Scaled, Thicket and Streak-chested Antpittas, Silvery-fronted Tapaculo, Turquoise, Snowy, and Yellow-billed Cotingas, Green-shrike Vireo, Black-and-yellow Phainoptila, Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher, Riverside, Ochraceous and Timberline Wrens, all the species of Nightingale-Thrushes (Black-billed, Ruddy-capped, Orange-billed, Slaty-backed and Black-headed), Spot-crowned and Tawny-capped Euphonias, Costa Rican Brushfinch, Sooty-faced Finch, Volcano Junco, Black-cowled Oriole, Nicaraguan Grackle, Flame-throated, Black-cheeked and Black-eared Warblers, Black-thighed Grosbeak, Nicaraguan Seed Finch, Black-and-yellow, Speckled, Spangled-cheeked, Emerald and Plain-colored Tanagers, just to mention some of them. Regarding mammals we managed to record 19 species, including Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth, Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth, Tayra, Central American Tapir, Honduran

White Bat, Thomson's Shaggy Bat, Panamanian White-faced Capuchin, Central American Squirrel Monkey, Mantled Howler, Central American Spider Monkey, Central American Agouti, Mexican Hairy Porcupine, Central American Dwarf Squirrel and Deppe's Squirrel.

Our tour started at the outskirts of San Jose, where we did a pre-breakfast birding on the gardens of our hotel. Our session was quite productive, where we managed to see our first owl of the tour, a Mottled Owl roosting. Other species seen during the morning included the White-eared Ground Sparrow, Lesson's Motmot, Red-billed Pigeon, Chestnut-capped Warbler, Brown Jay, Finches Parakeet, Rufous-backed Wren and brief views of a Sharp-shinned Hawk (that was the only sight of the tour). Once we left our hotel we did a brief stop at the higher parts of the Braulio Carrillo National Park, where we managed to see few species like White-collared Swift, Prong-billed Barbet, Blue-throated Toucanet, Olive-streaked and Golden-bellied Flycatcher, Golden-browed Chlorophonia, Common Chlorospingus, Chestnut-capped Brushfinch, Black-eared Warbler and Spangled-cheeked Tanager. Our next stop was the trails of Braulio Carrillo National Park, where we saw our first Lattice-tailed Trogon of the tour, as well we saw Green-crowned Brilliant, Crowned Woodnymph, Spotted Woodcreeper, Russet Antshrike, Slaty Antwren, Streak-crowned Antwren, Stripe-breasted Wren, White-breasted Wood Wren, Wood Thrush and Black-faced Grosbeak. The last section of the afternoon was spent at the facilities of the Rain Forest Aerial Tram, where we got really close views (maybe too close) of the Baird's Tapir, and our first Black-and-white Owl. The birds that we saw during an afternoon and the following morning at the Aerial Tram included a great selection of Caribbean foothill specialties, with great views of a female Bare-necked Umbrellabird (one of the most wanted species for this tour), as well we managed to see Crested Guan, White-necked Jacobin, Stripe-throated Hermit, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Grey-headed Kite, Black Hawk-Eagle, Double-toothed Kite, White Hawk, Central American Pygmy Owl, Slaty-tailed Trogon, Broad-billed Motmot, Collared Aracari, Brown-hooded Parrot, Mealy Amazon, Wedge-billed and Spotted Woodcreepers, Fawn-throated Foliage-gleaner, Checker-throated Stipplethroat, White-flanked Antwren, Black-crowned Antshrike, Ocellated, Bicolored and Spotted Antbird, White-ringed Flycatcher, Rufous Mourner, Rufous Piha, White-ruffed and Red-capped Manakins, Tawny-crowned Greenlet, Trilling and Tawny-faced Gnatwren, Olive-backed Euphonia, Chestnut-headed and Montezuma Oropendolas, Scarlet-rumped Cacique, Golden-winged Warbler, Carmiol's Tanager, Green and Shining Honeycreeper, Tawny-crested Tanager and White-throated Shrike Tanager. After an entertained session on the Aerial Tram, we did some birding on the way to La Selva where we looked for Fasciated Tiger Heron on the streams of the area. Other birds of interest where the Keel-billed and Yellow-throated Toucans, Cinnamon Woodpecker, Laughing Falcon, Great Green Macaw, Black Phoebe, Black-crowned Tityra, Bay Wren, Giant Cowbird, Chestnut-sided and Buff-rumped Warbler, Dusky-faced Tanager and the common but colourful Scarlet-rumped (Passerini's) Tanager. Our session ended really well with views of the Middle American (Vermiculated) Screech Owl.

During our staying at La Selva we managed to see good views of the Snowy Cotinga (our most wanted target), first a female, and then a nice adult male. A great diversity of birds and animals at La Selva included the Great Tinamou, Crested Guan, Short-tailed Nighthawk, Great Potoo, Scaly-breasted and Blue-chested Hummingbird, Squirrel Cuckoo, Short-billed Pigeon, Sungrebe, Green Ibis, King Vulture, Crested Owl, Gartered and Northern Black-throated Trogons, Rufous Motmot, White-whiskered Puffbird, Rufous-winged, Chestnut-colored and Pale-billed Woodpeckers, White-crowned Parrot, Red-lored Amazon, Olive-throated Parakeet, Scarlet and Great Green Macaw, Cocoa Woodcreeper, Plain Xenops, Fasciated Antshrike, Dusky Antbird, Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Eye-ringed, Yellow-olive and Yellow-winged Flatbills, Long-tailed Tyrant, Bright-rumped Attila, White-ruffed and White-collared (with a male doing a display) Manakins, Cinnamon Becard, American Cliff Swallow, White-browed Gnatcatcher, Yellow-crowned and Olive-backed Euphonias, Black-cowled Oriole, Shiny Cowbird, Louisiana Waterthrush (unusual for the place), Bay-breasted Warbler, Red-throated Ant-Tanager and Golden-hooded and Plain-colored Tanager. We also saw some mammals at the reserve that included the Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth, Tayra, Mantled Howler Monkey, Variegated Squirrel and the Thomson's Shaggy Bat (that was a lifer for me).

Once we left the area of Sarapiquí, we went to the upper areas of the canyon of Sarapiquí river, covering elevations from 900m to 1100m. Here we got to see very good quality species like the Blue-and-gold Tanager who gave us excellent views, as well as the Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser. We also improved our views of La Selva of the Rufous-winged Woodpecker, and we managed excellent views of Black-headed Nightingale Thrush, a bird that could be tricky to see well most of the time. The American Dipper was another highlight of the morning, and few other species like Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant, Tropical Parula, Black-and-white and Blackburnian Warblers, Black-and-yellow and Bay-headed Tanager and Thick-billed Seed Finch. A visit to the Cinchona feeders was very productive as well, with views of the first Costa Rican endemic of the tour, the Coppery-headed Emerald, coming to visit the hummingbird feeders. Other birds that we managed to see at the place included the Green Hermit, Violet Sabrewing, Green-crowned Brilliant and Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, Red-headed and Prong-billed Barbet, Blue-throated Toucanet, Melodious Blackbird, Tennessee Warbler, Summer Tanager, Green and Red-legged Honeycreepers, Buff-throated Saltator, Crimson-collared Tanager, Silver-throated and Yellow-winged Tanagers. On the way to Fortuna, we visited a location where the Yellow-eared Toucanet was showing up, in a very unusual site, very close to houses and next to the main

road. There were a few Cecropia trees with fruits where some Toucanets had been showing up so we give the try for this rarity. When we arrived at the site it was really hot, and some people who were at the site for about an hour didn't manage to see the birds. At least we knew that we were at the right place. We waited almost another hour at the place, and our patience rewarded us with excellent views of a male Yellow-eared Toucanet. After seeing the Toucanet we did some birding on the way to our hotel in the last part of the afternoon. We didn't see as much as we were trying to see the Keel-billed Motmot, but we just got 7 different individuals of Broad-billed Motmot in our quest. Other birds seen were the Purple-crowned Fairy, Bare-crowned Antbird and Song Wren. Then, we went to our hotel at Arenal Volcano area.

Our full day in the Arenal Volcano area started with a fruit feeder session where we got to see several Montezuma Oropendolas, as well as the highly wanted Great Curassow. Crested Guans, and some tanagers were part of the menu, and a brief look of the Black-crested Coquette female visiting the verbena flowers. The rest of the morning was spent at forest trails and the grounds and gardens of our hotel where we managed to see things like Grey-headed Chachalaca, Violet-headed and Scaly-breasted Hummingbird, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Barred Hawk, Gartered Trogon, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Brown-hooded Parrot, Plain Xenops, Dull-mantled Antbird, Thicket Antpitta, White-throated Spadebill, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Sulphur-rumped Myiobius, Striped-breasted Wren, Tawny-faced Gnatwren, Black-faced Solitaire, Yellow-throated Euphonia, Black-striped Sparrow, Golden-crowned Warbler, Tooth-billed Tanager, Scarlet-thighed Tanager, Slate-colored Grosbeak and Bay-headed, Rufous-winged and Emerald Tanagers. A short break after our lunch, for then visit the Bogarin trails, where we had a very productive session. Not as many birds but we got all our targets that included excellent views of Uniform Crake, Russet-naped Wood Rail, and great views of 3 individuals of White-throated Crake. The Keel-billed Motmot gave us extra work this time and in order to find it we had to leave the trail to finally find an individual of the Keel-billed Motmot. Other birds seen during the afternoon session included the Broad-winged Hawk, a roosting Black-and-white Owl, Smoky-brown Woodpecker, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Barred and Great Antshrike, Tropical Mockingbird, Ovenbird and Northern Waterthrush.

During our last morning at Arenal it rained just before the meeting time, luckily once we started our birding session we didn't get any more rain. The morning was a bit windy and very dark, and the birding activity was rather poor, most of the birds were heard only, and not much was seen, just a White-throated Thrush was the only bird of interest that we managed to see. After breakfast we decided to do roadside birding with our bus, in order to be close to the vehicle in case that rained again. Not many birds were seen but we got to see the Bare-crowned Antbird for the ones who missed on our first afternoon in the area. The birding conditions weren't the best so we decided to continue our journey to Medio Queso wetland, where the weather conditions were much better, and we managed to see several individuals of the Nicaraguan Seed-Finch before we started our boat ride. Javier and Chambita were waiting for the boat ride, and we had a very successful afternoon, definitely this boat ride was one of the main highlights of our tour. During the Medio Queso boat ride we managed to see Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Muscovy Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Pale-vented Pigeon, Common and Purple Gallinule, a single Yellow-breasted Crake, Limpkin, a single individual of a Jabiru who flew over us, Anhinga, Neotropic Cormorants, Roseate Spoonbill, Bare-throated Tiger Heron, Boat-billed Heron, 6 different individuals of Pinnated Bitterns, 2 individuals of Least Bitterns, Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, White-tailed Hawk (a rare bird for the country), Amazon Green and Ringed Kingfishers, Slaty Spinetail, Northern Beardless Tyrannulet, Willow Flycatcher, at least 6 individuals of Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Sand Martin, Mangrove, Barn and American Cliff Swallows, Canebrake Wren, Grey-crowned and Olive-crowned Yellowthroats, Morelet's Seedeater and big groups of Dickcissels that was another write in for the tour. As well we got excellent views of our most wanted target, the very restricted Nicaraguan Grackle that we got excellent views of several males and females. On the way to our accommodations, we looked for owls, but we just managed to see the Black-and-white Owl (the third sight of the tour), and just me and our driver Luis got to see the Striped Owl. After we settle in our accommodations, cold beers and a nice dinner were waiting for us to celebrate our successful afternoon.

The following morning, we did another boat ride, but this time at the Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge. The highlight of this morning was to see the rare Agami Heron, where a juvenile bird was very cooperative for our group. Another highlight was to see a pair of Yellow-tailed Orioles which is a rare and localized species in Costa Rica due to caged bird trade. Some other birds seen during the morning included Grey-rumped and Lesser Swallow-tailed Swifts, Mangrove Cuckoo, Blue Ground Dove, Grey-headed Dove, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Wood Stork, Osprey, American Pygmy Kingfisher, Pied Puffbird, Lineated Woodpecker, Olive-throated Parakeet, Greenish Elaenia, Snowy Cotinga, Philadelphia Vireo, Spot-breasted Wren, Red-winged Blackbird, Prothonotary Warbler and Grey-headed Tanager. Also, during the morning, we got good activity of raptors migration where we managed to see two individuals of Mississippi Kite, and big numbers of Broad-winged and Swainson's Hawks, as well thousands of Turkey Vultures as well. After our session at Caño Negro we continued to Bijagua, where a short stop produced great views of a male Black-crested Coquette and a Blue-throated Sapphire. The weather at Bijagua wasn't as good so we visited the dry forest areas of Hacienda Tenorio. Our dry forest session was very productive

where we managed to see a group of Spot-bellied Bobwhites, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Common Ground Dove, Double-striped Thick-knee, Black-headed and Elegant Trogon, Orange-fronted Parakeet, White-throated Magpie-Jay and White-lored Gnatcatcher, for then continued to our accommodations.

Our morning session at Bijagua was windy, but at least wasn't raining, so we managed to see good birds like the most wanted Tody Motmot, who gave us some complications, but finally everyone got to see it. A pair of Crested Owls roosting was very appreciated, and excellent views of Northern Nightingale Wren in the open was some of the highlights of our morning. We got an encounter with a pair of Black-eared Wood Quail, but the skittish behaviour only just a few persons of the group managed to get brief views. Other birds seen at Bijagua included the Long-billed Hermit, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Northern Black-throated Trogon, Spotted Antbird, Northern Schiffornis, Pale-vented Thrush (brief views) and Yellow-throated Euphonia. Some boreal migrants of interest were the Kentucky Warbler and Scarlet Tanager. Some mammals of interest were the Panamanian White-faced Capuchin and the Deppe's Squirrel. The afternoon session was on the area of Cañas, where we visited a wide variety of habitats, including agricultural areas, pastures, areas of fishponds with lagoons, as well some patches of forest too. Our session produced a good variety of hummingbirds that included Plain-capped Starthroat, Blue-vented and Cinnamon Hummingbird and Blue-throated Sapphire. Other birds during the afternoon session included Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Anhinga, Osprey, Snail Kite, Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, Turquoise-browed Motmot, Hoffman's Woodpecker, White-fronted Amazon, Yellow-naped Amazon, Nutting's and Brown-crested Flycatchers, Banded Wren, Stripe-headed and Grasshopper Sparrows, Eastern Meadowlark, Streak-backed Oriole and Chestnut-capped Warbler.

Our following day we visited some salt pans during the morning at low tide moments, it resulted quite productive for our list padding, where we add several species of shorebirds such as Grey, Semipalmated and Wilson's Plovers, Marbled Godwit, Short-billed Dowitcher, Willet, Ruddy Turnstone, Stilt, Least, Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers and we saw some individuals of Red Knots which another was write in for the tour. We also saw Black Skimmer, Gull-billed, Cabot's and Royal Terns. Regarding Gulls, Laughing Gull was the only one that we saw. A visit to mangroves in the area allowed us to see a pair of Mangrove Rails, as well some other mangrove specialties like Panama Flycatcher, Northern Scrub Flycatcher, Mangrove Vireo and Mangrove Warbler. The drive to Monteverde produced some goodies as the Gray-headed Chachalaca, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Greenish Elaenia, Long-tailed Manakin, Yellow-green Vireo, White-throated Magpie Jay, Rufous-and-white and Cabanis's Wren, Orange-billed Nightingale Thrush, Olive Sparrow, MacGillivray's Warbler (a write in for the tour), Spot-breasted Oriole, and Yellow-faced Grassquit. Once at Monteverde, the first bird that we looked for was the Three-wattled Bellbird. On our first try that we did for it, we were lucky to see good views of a young male as well one adult male. With the Bellbird in the pocket, we had flexibility to try for other birds, and to visit different reserves during our two nights that we stayed in the area. We visited the Santuario Ecologico Monteverde, a transition forest of dry to cloud forest where we managed to see excellent views of the highly wanted Chiriqui Quail Dove. A surprise that we saw at Santuario Ecologico was to see a Thicket Tinamou, a bird that I wasn't expecting to see, but once in a while tends to go as high as this reserve, thanks to the connectivity with dry forest of lower elevations. This connectivity also allows species of higher elevations to show up in the area such as the Black Guan that we saw. Other birds seen at this reserve were the Vaux's Swift, Blue-vented Hummingbird, Keel-billed Toucan, Lesson's Motmot, Hoffman's Woodpecker, Olivaceous Woodcreeper, Long-tailed Manakin, Brown Jay, Ovenbird, White-eared Ground Sparrow and Wilson's Warbler.

Our visit to the Monteverde Reserve was in a misty day, even so we managed to see very good quality of species where the main highlight was to see the Highland Tinamou which everyone managed to see. We also had an exciting encounter with a group of Black-breasted Wood Quails that gave us excellent views. Other birds of our visit included the Lesser Violetear, Green-crowned Brilliant, Purple-throated Mountaingem, Magenta-throated Woodstar, Violet Sabrewing, Striped-tailed Hummingbird, great views of Buff-fronted Quail Dove, our first views of Resplendent Quetzal of the tour, with excellent views of a nice adult male, Collared Trogon (the orange-bellied form), Blue-throated Toucanet, Spotted Woodcreeper, Lineated Foliage-gleaner, Streak-breasted Treehunter, Spotted Barbtail, Ruddy Treerunner, Red-faced Spinetail, Slaty Antwren, Plain Antvireo, Olive-streaked Flycatcher, Ochraceous Wren, Gray-breasted Wood Wren, Black-faced Solitaire, Slaty-backed Nightingale Thrush, White-throated Thrush, Golden-browed Chlorophonia, Common Chlorospingus, Black-eared Warbler, Slate-throated and Collared Whitestarts and Bananaquit. Another major highlight of our visit was to see a group of Azure-hooded Jays almost at the end of our hike, a great way to end our visit to the reserve. Another reserve that we visited in the area was the Santa Elena Reserve who complemented the birds that we saw at Monteverde Reserve, where we saw birds like Black Guan, Silvery-fronted Tapaculo, Northern Tufted Flycatcher, Chestnut-capped Brushfinch and Sooty-faced Finch. Once we left Monteverde area we went back to the heat of the dry lowlands, where we spent some time in dry forest patches and mangrove areas. At the mangrove areas we tried for Rufous-necked Wood Rail that we just managed to hear only. On the dry forest areas, we got to see the highly wanted Lesser Ground Cuckoo, that gave us nice views. Just before to arrive to our accommodations we saw a Pacific Screech Owl at his roosting

site, and a Common Potoo. Our next birding locality was the Carara National Park area, who offers a transition forest of the humid Pacific Forest, with the dry Pacific Forest. The area also adds more diversity thanks to the Tarcoles mangroves and river. The forest birds that we saw in the area included Marbled Wood Quail, Band-tailed Barbthroat, Long-billed Hermit, Grey-chested Dove, Baird's Trogon, Black-throated Trogon, White-whiskered Puffbird, Fiery-billed Aracari, Golden-naped and Pale-billed Woodpecker, Mealy Amazon, Scarlet Macaw, Little Long-tailed and Northern Barred Woodcreeper, Chiriqui Foliage-gleaner, Dot-winged and Slaty Antwren, Black-hooded Antshrike, Dusky and Chestnut-backed Antbird, Black-faced Antthrush, Streak-chested Antpitta, Northern Bentbill, Eye-ringed Flatbill, Stub-tailed and Golden-crowned Spadebill, Velvety and Red-capped Manakins, Tropical Royal Flycatcher, Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher, White-winged and Rose-throated Becard, Rufous-breasted and Riverside Wren, Southern Nightingale-Wren, Trilling Gnatwren, Spot-crowned Euphonia, Orange-billed Sparrow, Buff-rumped Warbler, Blue-black Grosbeak, Painted Bunting, and Grey-headed and White-shouldered Tanagers. We also birded the area of Tarcoles, with a combination of mangroves, river edges, and the Tarcoles beach. Some species that we saw included the Muscovy Duck, Lesser Nighthawk, Magnificent Frigatebird, American White Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Brown Pelican, Plumbeous Kite, Common Black Hawk, Spectacled Owl, Panama Flycatcher, Mangrove Vireo, Streak-backed and Orchard Oriole, American Redstart and Mangrove Warbler.

Our next day we had a long drive to the southern Pacific region of the country at the Osa Peninsula. But different stops along the way produced some additions to our list such as the Wandering Tattler, White-tipped Sicklebill, Ocellated Piculet and Western Woodhaunter. One of the main targets of the Osa Peninsula area was the Yellow-billed Cotinga, where we spent some time looking for it at the famous Rincon River Bridge. We saw several individuals of Yellow-billed Cotingas including males and females. Other good birds included Costa Rican Swift, Charming Hummingbird, Grey-cowled Wood Rail, Bare-throated Tiger Heron, Grey-lined Hawk, American Barn Owl, Fiery-billed Aracari, Red-crowned and Red-rumped Woodpeckers, Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet, Piratic Flycatcher, Scrub Greenlet, Yellow-billed and Scarlet-rumped Cacique, Blue Dacnis and the nomadic Slate-colored Seedeater who was another write in for the tour. The forest birding at the Osa Peninsula was very productive as well, where we got to see the former Costa Rican endemic, the Black-cheeked Ant-Tanager. Other birds of interest included the Little Tinamou (that was seen by every member of our group), Violet-headed Hummingbird, Charming Hummingbird, Blue-throated Sapphire, Short-billed Pigeon, King Vulture, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, White-necked Puffbird, good views of a pair of Little Long-tailed Woodcreeper, Tawny-winged, Cocoa, Black-striped and Streak-headed Woodcreepers, Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet, Bright-rumped Attila, Rufous Piha, Velvety and Orange-collared Manakin, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-bellied and Riverside Wren, Thick-billed Euphonia, Scarlet Tanager and Shining Honeycreeper. Before we left the Osa Peninsula we visited another section of mangroves to look for the Costa Rican endemic Mangrove Hummingbird who gave us excellent views. Our afternoon session we spent at Ciudad Neilly area, an area where we had chances to see certain species that has their northern limit of distribution in these areas of Costa Rica. One of the main targets was the Veraguan Mango, that we managed to get good views of one female. Other birds that we saw were the Bronzy Hermit, Sapphire-throated Hummingbird, Smooth-billed Ani, Savanna Hawk, Blue-headed Parrot, Brown-throated Parakeet, Pale-breasted Spinetail, Yellow Tyrannulet, Rusty-margined, Streaked Flycatcher and Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Isthmian Wren and Red-breasted Meadowlark.

The following day we birded Las Cruces Biological Station (Wilson's Botanical Gardens), and the surrounding areas. This day we had the local help of Jason who joined us during the day and helped us to located most of our targets and even more. During the first part of the morning, we got several new birds for the tour as the Scaled Pigeon, Lesser Elaenia, Bran-colored Flycatcher, the secretive Costa Rican Brushfinch and the Speckled Tanager. Later on, we spent time at the gardens, where we managed to see a nice male of White-crested Coquette, as well the Garden Emerald and Snowy-bellied Hummingbird. On the surrounding areas we add other birds like the White-tailed Emerald, Crested Oropendolas, and Streaked Saltator. During the afternoon we visited the area of La Union of Sabalito, where we got to see the shy Lance-tailed Manakin, a bird that just occur in this corner of the country and has never been seen before on this tour. We also tried for the Northern Mouse-colored Tyrannulet but this one didn't show up. Same case with the Chiriqui Yellowthroat that we tried during the early morning and late afternoon, and don't even answer at all.

We left our accommodations before dawn the following day to visit the region of Buenos Aires and the Salitre Savanas, were we had the local expertise of Leandro who help us to get our last targets of the south Pacific slope. The main start of the day was the Rosy-thrush Tanager, which on this occasion we saw a couple building a nest. Some other birds of interest included the Bare-crowned Antbird who gave us much better views than the area of Arenal, the Green-Shrike Vireo who gave us excellent eye level views, or the Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher. We also saw other birds like White-crowned Parrot, Tawny-winged Woodcreeper, Dot-winged Antwren, Great Antshrike, Northern Bentbill, Orange-collared Manakin and Blue-black Grosbeak. A brief stop at the Salitre Savanas gave us views of the secretive Ocellated Crake, where most of the group got to see it. We continued to San Isidro area where we had another important target to see,

the localized and restricted range Turquoise Cotinga. This time wasn't easy, and we had to be patient, but finally we got excellent views of two adult males. After seen the Cotinga we continued our journey to the Talamanca Highlands, where we stopped at the highest areas to look for the paramo specialties. Here we got to see the Volcano Junco, Timberline Wren, Sooty Thrush and Black-billed Nightingale Thrush. We add other species before arriving to our accommodations like the highly wanted Wrenthrush, Black-and-yellow Phainoptila, Sooty-capped Chlorospingus, Large-footed and Yellow-thighed Finch. At dusk we got our first Dusky Nightjar for then enjoy our dinner.

Our full day at the Talamanca Highlands we visited elevations from 2800 meters all the way down to 2000 meters at the lower areas of the Savegre Valley where we saw some different species. The list of the birds that we saw during our day included Black Guan, Spotted Wood Quail, Lesser Violetear, Talamanca, Fiery-throated, Stripe-tailed, Volcano [*torridus*] and Scintillant Hummingbird, the Costa Rican endemic Grey-tailed Mountaingem, Band-tailed Pigeon, Red-tailed Hawk, Costa Rican Pygmy Owl, Resplendent Quetzal, Acorn and Hairy Woodpecker, Sulphur-winged Parakeet, Spot-crowned Woodcreeper, White-fronted and Torrent Tyrannulet, Dark Pewee, Yellowish and Black-capped Flycatcher, Barred Becard, Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher, Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush, Mountain Thrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Flame-throated, Black-throated Green and Black-cheeked Warbler, Collared Whitestart, Flame-colored Tanager, Black-thighed Grosbeak, the rare and erratic Peg-billed Finch, Slaty Flowerpiercer and Spangled-cheeked Tanager. We did an owling session where we got to see better views of Dusky Nightjar, as well we got great views of Bare-shanked Screech Owl.

Our last morning at the Talamanca Highlands we focused to see some of our last specialties that we missed our previous day. We managed to hear the Silver-throated Jay on the previous afternoon, so we went to the same site to see if we had success, but these jays are getting very difficult to see and very few persons have been lucky to see it on this season. What we did manage to see was the Ochraceous Pewee, a major highland specialty which is quite rare and localized. Once we finished in the Talamanca Highlands, we continued to Cartago where we looked for the Grass Wren at the Guarco Valley. With a bit of persistence, we managed to see it, flushing the bird in the grass. After that we continued to Ujarrás, where we got excellent views of the last Costa Rican endemic that we need it for our tour, the Cabanis's Ground Sparrow. After seen the Ground Sparrow we continued to Hotel Quelitales where we had a delightful afternoon. At Quelitales we got to see different birds, just at the feeder station area. Some of the new birds for our tour were the White-bellied Mountaingem, Green-fronted Lancebill, Green Thorntail, the White-naped Brushfinch, and at the last minutes of day light the Scaled Antpitta appear to eat worms.

The following morning, we hiked part of the trails of Quelitales as well the grounds of the hotel, where we saw some birds like the Green Hermit, Lesser Violetear, Violet Sabrewing, Smoky-brown Woodpecker, Russet Antshrike, Zeledon's Antbird, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Yellow-olive Flatbill, Sooty-faced Finch, Chestnut-capped Brushfinch, White-eared Ground Sparrow, Chestnut-headed and Montezuma Oropendola, Black-headed Saltator and Speckled, Bay-headed and Silver-throated Tanager. After our delicious breakfast we visited the mountains of Orosi, where we managed to see a good repertory of birds that included Purple-throated Mountaingem, Barred and Grey Hawk, Red-headed Barbet, Streaked Xenops, Red-faced Spinetail, good views of Zeledon's Antbird, Mistletoe Tyrannulet, Black Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewee, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Brown-capped Vireo, Ochraceous Wren, Pale-vented Thrush, Lesser Goldfinch, Elegant Euphonia, Tropical Parula, White-winged Tanager and Scarlet-thighed Dacnis. On the last section of the afternoon, we visited the Angostura Lake, where we had an entertained session with Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Muscovy Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Purple Gallinule, Limpkin, Least Bittern, Great Blue Heron, White-tailed and Snail Kite, Red-winged Blackbird and Grey-crowned Yellowthroat. After that we continued to Rancho Naturalista to arrive just in time for the early dinner.

Our following day we did a very productive daytrip to El Copal Reserve. Despite been a very sunny and hot day we managed to get good species during our visit. The highlights were the Snowcap who gave us excellent views on the flowers around the buildings. An encounter with a pair of Purplish-backed Quail-Doves was another highlight of our morning too. Other species that we saw at El Copal Included the Great Black Hawk, Plain Antvireo, Fasciated Antshrike, Spotted Antbird, Black-headed Antthrush, Rufous-browed Tyrannulet, White-throated Spadebill, Tawny-chested Flycatcher, Rufous Mourner, White-ruffed Manakin, Bay Wren, Song Wren, White-vented and Tawny-capped Euphonia, Ashy-throated Chlorospingus and Carmiol's, Black-and-yellow, Speckled, Bay-headed and Emerald Tanager. During the afternoon we went to see an active nest of Sunbittern at Platanillo, a village located after Rancho Naturalista. We got to see very good views of the adult, as well the 2 chicks on the nest. After seen the Sunbittern we invest our time searching for White-throated Flycatcher, but we didn't manage to find or heard a single one. We got other birds like White-lined Tanager, and another pair of Cabanis's Ground Sparrow instead. Our group was tired so we decided to go back to Rancho for a beer and have some rest.

Our last morning at Rancho Naturalista wasn't much left to see, but always are birds that could be new. Before breakfast we looked for Tawny-chested Flycatcher, for the ones who missed at El Copal, and this time we managed that everyone gets to see this Costa Rica and

Nicaragua endemic. After our delicious breakfast we went to the Rancho upper trails. The main target was the White-crowned Manakin, our last Manakin that we needed to complete all the Manakins of Costa Rica. Once we got in the area of the lek territory we had to invest some time to managed that everyone gets to see it, but at the end everyone got good views of a young male and an adult male. Other birds that we saw during our morning at Rancho included Grey-headed Chachalaca, White-necked Jacobin, Purple-crowned Fairy, Green-breasted Mango, Ruddy Quail Dove, Black-cheeked Woodpecker, Plain-brown Woodcreeper, Fawn-throated Foliage-gleaner, Checker-throated Stipplethroat, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Olive-backed Euphonia and Golden-winged Warbler. We also got another sight of Crested Owl during our hike. We left Rancho after lunch to continue our journey to our final destination, the Irazu Volcano. But on the way we did a brief stop at Turrialba to look for the Band-backed Wren, a species that have become quite hard to see on last years for the selective parasitism of Shiny Cowbirds on their nest. With a bit of persistence, we managed to find a pair of this colourful wren. The last section of the afternoon we went to the upper slopes of the Irazu Volcano. First, we tried for the Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge, but we just managed to hear it. We got better views of Hairy Woodpecker, and we saw 3 male Quetzals chasing a female. Just before dusk we went to a territory of Unspotted Saw Whet Owl, to try our luck this time. Initially we played the song and we didn't get any answer. Once I gave up and started to walk back, one Saw Whet Owl started to call. Sadly, it just did that and didn't show up. It was very skittish as I saw it with the thermal camera, but never came close and instead flew to the upper sections of the oak trees. Meanwhile I scan for the Saw Whet Owl with the thermal camera, I found a Mexican Hairy Porcupine, that was our consolation price for our Saw Whet Owl attempt.

The last day of the tour we went to an area of potatoes fields to look for one of the most enigmatic birds of the highlands of the tropics of America, the Maroon-chested Ground Dove. First time that we saw this bird for a Costa Rica Birdquest tour was on last year tour, and our goal was to see if we can manage to find it again. We hiked all the way up to find suitable habitat, and once we found the right place, we found one male who flew in front of us, so we knew we were at the right place. Few minutes after we located a pair walking in the fields, and we were able to put it in the scope and have great views of them. The other highlight of the morning was to see a pair of Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge. Just when everyone though that we were not going to see it, as we tried all day without success, one pair came silently and luckily everyone got to see them. Other birds that we saw during our day at Irazu included the White-collared Swift, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Volcano Hummingbird (nominat ssp *flammula*), Mourning Dove, Red-tailed Hawk, Acorn Woodpecker, Spot-crowned Woodcreeper, Black-capped Flycatcher, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Tropical Mockingbird, Blue-and-white Swallow, Large-footed Finch, Eastern Meadowlark, Flame-colored Tanager and the near endemic Slaty Flowerpiercer. Our last twitch before we ended the tour was a group of 5 Killdeers at one of the metropolitan Parks of San Jose.

Many thanks to all the members of the group, as well to our local guides and staff of the lodges who helped us to run this tour in the best way, and above all to our driver, Luis, who moved us around safely all over the country.

## **BIRDS & ANIMALS OF THE TOUR**

1st Maroon-chested Ground Dove

2nd Resplendent Quetzal

3rd Yellow-eared Toucanet

4th Rosy Thrush-Tanager

5th Turquoise Cotinga

6th Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher

7th Three-wattled Bellbird

8th Highland Tinamou

9th Wrenthrush

10th Central American Tapir

## 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).

The species names and taxonomy used in the bird list follows Gill, F., Donsker, D., & Rasmussen, P.(Eds). **2024. IOC World Bird List (v14.1).**

Where the subspecies seen is/are known, these are often given in parentheses at the end of the species comment.

### BIRDS

**Great Tinamou** *Tinamus major* Seen at La Selva and one bird roosting at Osa.

**Highland Tinamou** ◊ *Nothocercus bonapartei* Good views at Monteverde.

**Little Tinamou** *Crypturellus soui* Good views at Osa.

**Thicket Tinamou** ◊ *Crypturellus cinnamomeus* Seen at Santuario Ecologico Monteverde.

**Black-bellied Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

**Muscovy Duck** *Cairina moschata*

**Blue-winged Teal (W)** *Spatula discors*

**Lesser Scaup (W)** *Aythya affinis*

**Grey-headed Chachalaca** ◊ *Ortalis cinereiceps*

**Crested Guan** *Penelope purpurascens*

**Black Guan** ◊ *Chamaepetes unicolor* First seen at Santuario Ecologico, also seen at Santa Elena and Talamanca Highlands.

**Great Curassow** ◊ *Crax rubra* Excellent views at Arenal.

**Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge** ◊ *Dendrortyx leucophrys* Seen by the whole group at Irazu.

**Spot-bellied Bobwhite** ◊ *Colinus leucopogon* Great views at Hacienda Tenorio.

**Marbled Wood Quail** *Odontophorus gujanensis*

**Black-eared Wood Quail** ◊ *Odontophorus melanotis* Brief views by some at Bijagua, other just heard it.

**Black-breasted Wood Quail** ◊ *Odontophorus leucolaemus* Excellent and close views at Monteverde.

**Spotted Wood Quail** ◊ *Odontophorus guttatus* Finally everyone saw it at Savegre.

**Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis*

**Short-tailed Nighthawk** *Lurocalis semitorquatus* Seen at dusk at La Selva.

**Pauraque** *Nyctidromus albicollis*

**Dusky Nightjar** ◊ *Antrostomus saturatus*

**Great Potoo** *Nyctibius grandis*

**Northern Potoo** *Nyctibius jamaicensis* Seen at Hacienda Tenorio, a write in for the tour.

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*

Costa Rican Swift ◊ *Chaetura fumosa*

Vaux's Swift *Chaetura [vauxi] richmondi*

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis*

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*

White-tipped Sicklebill ◊ *Eutoxeres aquila* Excellent views at Esquipulas.

Bronzy Hermit *Glaucis aeneus*

Band-tailed Barbthroat *Threnetes ruckeri*

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis*

Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy*

Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*

Green-fronted Lancebill *Doryfera ludovicae* Good views at Quelitales.

Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae* (H) Couple males calling at Virgen del Socorro.

Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus*

Purple-crowned Fairy *Heliothryx barroti*

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothorax prevostii*

Veraguan Mango ◊ *Anthracothorax veraguensis* Good views of a female at Coto 47.

Green Thorntail *Discosura conversii*

Black-crested Coquette ◊ *Lophornis helenae* A female at Arenal, and great views of a male at Bijagua.

White-crested Coquette ◊ *Lophornis adorabilis* Nice views of an adult male at Las Cruces Biological Station.

Green-crowned Brilliant *Heliodoxa jacula*

Talamanca Hummingbird ◊ *Eugenes spectabilis*

Fiery-throated Hummingbird ◊ *Panterpe insignis*

Long-billed Starthroat *Helioaster longirostris* A young bird at the nest at Las Cruces.

Plain-capped Starthroat *Helioaster constantii* Good views at Cañas.

White-bellied Mountaingem ◊ *Lampornis hemileucus*

Purple-throated Mountaingem ◊ *Lampornis calolaemus* Good views at the Monteverde Hummingbird feeders.

Grey-tailed Mountaingem ◊ *Lampornis cinereicauda* Good views at Talamanca highlands.

Magenta-throated Woodstar ◊ (W) *Philodice bryantae* At least 2 individuals coming to feeders at Monteverde.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (W) *Archilochus colubris*

**Volcano Hummingbird** ♦ *Selasphorus flammula* Near endemic. Seen at Irazu Volcano and Talamanca Highlands.

**Scintillant Hummingbird** ♦ *Selasphorus scintilla* Seen at Savegre Valley.

**Canivet's Emerald** ♦ *Cyanthus canivetii*

**Garden Emerald** ♦ *Chlorostilbon assimilis* One bird coming to the verbenas at Las Cruces.

**Violet-headed Hummingbird** *Klais guimeti*

**Violet Sabrewing** ♦ *Campylopterus hemileucurus*

**Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer** ♦ *Chalybura urochrysa*

**Crowned Woodnymph** *Thalurania colombica*

**Snowcap** ♦ *Microchera albocoronata* Excellent views at El Copal.

**Coppery-headed Emerald** ♦ *Microchera cupreiceps* Good views of this endemic at Cinchona.

**White-tailed Emerald** ♦ *Microchera chionura* Seen at San Vito region.

**Stripe-tailed Hummingbird** ♦ *Eupherusa eximia*

**Scaly-breasted Hummingbird** ♦ *Phaeochroa cuvierii*

**Blue-vented Hummingbird** ♦ *Saucerottia hoffmanni*

**Snowy-bellied Hummingbird** ♦ *Saucerottia edward*

**Cinnamon Hummingbird** *Amazilia rutila*

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** *Amazilia tzacatl*

**Mangrove Hummingbird** ♦ *Amazilia boucardi* Excellent views at the mangroves of Golfo Dulce.

**Sapphire-throated Hummingbird** ♦ *Chrysuronia coeruleogularis* Male and female were seen at Coto 47.

**Blue-chested Hummingbird** *Polyerata amabilis*

**Charming Hummingbird** ♦ *Polyerata decora*

**Blue-throated Sapphire** ♦ *Chlorestes eliciae*

**Smooth-billed Ani** *Crotophaga ani*

**Groove-billed Ani** *Crotophaga sulcirostris*

**Striped Cuckoo** *Tapera naevia* (H)

**Lesser Ground Cuckoo** ♦ *Morococcyx erythropygus*

**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana*

**Mangrove Cuckoo (W)** *Coccyzus minor* One bird seen at Caño Negro.

**Rock Dove (introduced)** *Columba livia*

**Scaled Pigeon** *Patagioenas speciosa*

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata* Common at the highlands.

**Pale-vented Pigeon** *Patagioenas cayennensis*

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris*

Ruddy Pigeon *Patagioenas subvinacea*

Short-billed Pigeon ◊ *Patagioenas nigrirostris*

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*

Blue Ground Dove *Claravis pretiosa*

Maroon-chested Ground Dove *Paraclaravis mondetoura* The bird of the trip! Good views at Irazu.

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana*

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

Grey-headed Dove ◊ *Leptotila plumbeiceps* Good views at Caño Negro.

Grey-chested Dove ◊ *Leptotila cassinii*

Buff-fronted Quail-Dove ◊ *Zentrygon costaricensis* Good views at Monteverde Reserve.

Purplish-backed Quail-Dove ◊ *Zentrygon lawrencii* Seen by the whole group at El Copal.

Chiriqui Quail-Dove ◊ *Zentrygon chiriquensis* Seen by the whole group at Santuario Ecologico Monteverde.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica* Seen at Puerto Viejo River, Sarapiquí.

Uniform Crake ◊ *Amaurolimnas concolor* Great views at Bogarin Trails.

Rufous-necked Wood Rail *Aramides axillaris* (H)

Russet-naped Wood Rail ◊ *Aramides albiventris* Excellent views at Bogarin Trails and Caño Negro.

Grey-cowled Wood Rail *Aramides cajaneus*

Mangrove Rail ◊ *Rallus longirostris*

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*

Ocellated Crake *Micropygia schomburgkii*

Yellow-breasted Crake ◊ *Laterallus flaviventer* Good views at Medio Queso.

White-throated Crake *Laterallus albigularis*

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*

Double-striped Thick-knee *Hesperoburhinus bistriatus*

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*

Grey Plover (Black-bellied P) *Pluvialis squatarola*

**Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus***

**Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus***

**Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis***

**Wilson's Plover *Anarhynchus wilsonia***

**Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa***

**Hudsonian Whimbrel *Numenius hudsonicus***

**Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa***

**Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus***

**Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius***

**Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria***

**Wandering Tattler *Tringa incana*** Good views at Quepos.

**Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes***

**Willet (Western W) *Tringa [semipalmata] inornata***

**Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca***

**Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***

**Red Knot *Calidris canutus***

**Stilt Sandpiper *Calidris himantopus***

**Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla***

**Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri***

**Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla***

**Black Skimmer (W) *Rynchops niger***

**Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica***

**Cabot's Tern *Thalasseus acuflavidus***

**Royal Tern (American R T) *Thalasseus maximus***

**Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla***

**Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias*** A nest with two chicks and the adult at Platanillo.

**Wood Stork *Mycteria americana***

**Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria*** One bird flew over us at Medio Queso.

**Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens***

**Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*** A single bird seen at Quepos.

**Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga***

**Neotropic Cormorant *Nannopterum brasilianum***

**Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis***

**American White Ibis *Eudocimus albus***

**Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja***

**Bare-throated Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma mexicanum***

**Fasciated Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum***

**Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius***

**Agami Heron *Agamia agami*** One juvenile gave us superb views at Caño Negro.

**Pinnated Bittern** ♦ *Botaurus pinnatus* Several individuals were seen at Medio Queso.

**Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis*** On this tour we saw it on 3 different localities. Best views at Medio Queso.

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron *Nyctanassa violacea***

**Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***

**Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea***

**Tricolored Heron (Louisiana H) *Egretta tricolor***

**Snowy Egret *Egretta thula***

**Green Heron *Butorides virescens***

**Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis***

**Great Egret (American G E) *Ardea [alba] egretta***

**Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias***

**Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis***

**King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa*** Several sights during the tour.

**Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus***

**Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura***

**Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*** Seen at Medio Queso.

**Osprey *Pandion haliaetus***

**White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus***

**Grey-headed Kite *Leptodon cayanensis*** Great views at the Aerial Tram.

**Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus***

**Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*** One bird soaring at the Aerial Tram.

**Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus***

**Sharp-shinned Hawk (W) *Accipiter striatus*** Seen on the first day of the tour at the gardens of Bougainvillea.

**Mississippi Kite (W) *Ictinia mississippiensis*** At least 2 individuals flew over us at Caño Negro, a day with good activity of raptor migration.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*

Common Black Hawk ◊ *Buteogallus anthracinus*

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis*

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* Seen at El Copal.

Barred Hawk (Black-chested H) *Morphnarchus princeps*

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*

Harris's Hawk (Bay-winged H) *Parabuteo unicinctus*

White-tailed Hawk *Geranoaetus albicaudatus* A rare raptor for Costa Rica, seen at Medio Queso.

White Hawk *Pseudastur albicollis*

Grey Hawk *Buteo plagiatus*

Grey-lined Hawk *Buteo nitidus* Good views at the Osa Peninsula.

Broad-winged Hawk (W) *Buteo platypterus*

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*

Swainson's Hawk (W) *Buteo swainsoni* Seen during a raptor migration at Caño Negro.

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus*

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

American Barn Owl *Tyto furcata* A family was nesting under a bridge.

Unspotted Saw-whet Owl ◊ *Aegolius ridgwayi* (H)

Costa Rican Pygmy Owl ◊ *Glaucidium costaricanum* Great views at the Talamanca Highlands.

Central American Pygmy Owl ◊ *Glaucidium griseiceps*

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*

Striped Owl *Asio clamator* (LO) Just seen by me and our driver when we were driving to Caño Negro.

Bare-shanked Screech Owl ◊ *Megascops clarkii*

Pacific Screech Owl ◊ *Megascops cooperi*

Middle American Screech Owl ◊ (Vermiculated S O) *Megascops [guatemalae] vermiculatus* One bird roosting at La Selva.

Choco Screech Owl ◊ (Puntarenas S O) *Megascops centralis* Good views in the Osa Peninsula.

Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata*

Crested Owl *Lophotrix cristata*

Mottled Owl *Strix virgata*

Black-and-white Owl *Strix nigrolineata*

Resplendent Quetzal ◊ *Pharomachrus mocinno* First seen at Monteverde, also at Talamanca Highlands and the afternoon at Irazu.

Lattice-tailed Trogon ◊ *Trogon clathratus* Seen at Braulio Carrillo and the Aerial Tram.

Slaty-tailed Trogon ◊ *Trogon massena*

Black-headed Trogon ◊ *Trogon melanocephalus*

Baird's Trogon ◊ *Trogon bairdii*

Gartered Trogon (Northern Violaceous T) *Trogon caligatus*

Northern Black-throated Trogon *Trogon tenellus*

Elegant Trogon ◊ *Trogon elegans*

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* Seen at Caño Negro.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*

Tody Motmot ◊ *Hylomanes momotula* Seen at Bijagua.

Lesson's Motmot ◊ (Blue-diademed M) *Momotus lessonii*

Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii*

Keel-billed Motmot ◊ *Electron carinatum*

Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum*

Turquoise-browed Motmot ◊ *Eumomota superciliosa*

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda*

White-necked Puffbird *Notharchus hyperrhynchus* Seen at La Selva.

Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus*

White-whiskered Puffbird *Malacoptila panamensis*

Red-headed Barbet *Eubucco bourcierii*

Prong-billed Barbet ◊ *Semnornis frantzii*

Blue-throated Toucanet ◊ *Aulacorhynchus caeruleogularis*

Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*

Fiery-billed Aracari ◊ *Pteroglossus frantzii*

Yellow-eared Toucanet ◊ *Selenidera spectabilis* Excellent views at Fortuna.

Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*

Yellow-throated Toucan (Chestnut-mandibled T) *Ramphastos [ambiguus] swainsonii*

Olivaceous Piculet *Picumnus olivaceus*

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus*

Golden-naped Woodpecker ◊ *Melanerpes chrysauchen*

Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani*

Red-crowned Woodpecker *Melanerpes rubricapillus*

Hoffmann's Woodpecker ◊ *Melanerpes hoffmannii*

Red-rumped Woodpecker *Veniliornis kirkii* Good views at Rincon River.

Smoky-brown Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus fumigatus*

Hairy Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus villosus*

Rufous-winged Woodpecker ◊ *Piculus simplex*

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus*

Cinnamon Woodpecker *Celeus loricatus*

Chestnut-colored Woodpecker ◊ *Celeus castaneus* Good views at La Selva.

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

Pale-billed Woodpecker ◊ *Campephilus guatemalensis*

Crested Caracara (Northern C C) *Caracara [plancus] cheriway*

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans*

Barred Forest Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* (H)

Collared Forest Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* (H)

Bat Falcon *Falco rufigularis*

Barred Parakeet *Bolborhynchus lineola*

Orange-chinned Parakeet (Tovi P) *Brotogeris jugularis*

Brown-hooded Parrot ◊ *Pyrilia haematotis*

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*

White-crowned Parrot ◊ *Pionus senilis* A common and widespread species.

White-fronted Amazon ◊ (W-f Parrot) *Amazona albifrons*

Red-lored Amazon (R-l Parrot) *Amazona autumnalis*

Yellow-naped Amazon ◊ (Y-n Parrot) *Amazona auropalliata*

Mealy Amazon ◊ (Northern M A) *Amazona [farinosa] farinosa*

Sulphur-winged Parakeet ◊ *Pyrrhura hoffmanni* Seen at the Savegre Valley.

Olive-throated Parakeet ◊ *Eupsittula nana*

Orange-fronted Parakeet *Eupsittula canicularis*

Brown-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula pertinax*

**Great Green Macaw** ◊ *Ara ambiguus* Good views of a bird on three cavity nest, as well seen in fly at La Selva.

**Scarlet Macaw** *Ara macao*

**Finsch's Parakeet** ◊ *Psittacara finschi*

**Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser** ◊ *Sclerurus mexicanus*

**Olivaceous Woodcreeper** *Sittasomus griseicapillus*

**Little Long-tailed Woodcreeper** ◊ *Deconychura typica* Good views at the Osa Peninsula.

**Tawny-winged Woodcreeper** ◊ *Dendrocincla anabatina*

**Plain-brown Woodcreeper** *Dendrocincla fuliginosa*

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus*

**Northern Barred Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*

**Cocoa Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus susurrans*

**Black-striped Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*

**Spotted Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius* Several encounters at the Caribbean Foothills and middle elevations.

**Brown-billed Scythebill** ◊ *Campylorhamphus pusillus* (H)

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*

**Spot-crowned Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes affinis*

**Plain Xenops** *Xenops genibarbis*

**Streaked Xenops** *Xenops rutilans*

**Lineated Foliage-gleaner** *Syndactyla subalaris*

**Ruddy Foliage-gleaner** *Clibanornis rubiginosus* (H)

**Streak-breasted Treehunter** ◊ *Thripadectes rufobrunneus*

**Fawn-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus cervinigularis* Best views at Rancho Naturalista, also seen at the Aerial Tram.

**Chiriqui Foliage-gleaner** ◊ *Automolus exsertus* Seen at Carara.

**Western Woodhaunter** *Automolus virgatus* Good views at Esquipulas.

**Spotted Barbtail** *Premnoplex brunnescens*

**Ruddy Treerunner** ◊ *Margarornis rubiginosus* First seen at Monteverde, as well seen at the Talamanca highlands.

**Red-faced Spinetail** *Cranioleuca erythropis*

**Slaty Spinetail** *Synallaxis brachyura*

**Pale-breasted Spinetail** *Synallaxis albescens*

**Russet Antshrike** *Thamnistes anabatinus*

**Dot-winged Antwren** *Microrhophias quixensis*

**Checker-throated Stipplethroat** *Epinecrophylla fulviventris* Best views at Rancho Naturalista.

**White-flanked Antwren** *Myrmotherula axillaris* Seen at the Aerial Tram.

**Slaty Antwren** *Myrmotherula schisticolor*

**Plain Antwren** *Dysithamnus mentalis*

**Streak-crowned Antwren** ◊ *Dysithamnus striaticeps* Seen at Braulio Carrillo and the Aerial Tram.

**Barred Antshrike** *Thamnophilus doliatus*

**Black-hooded Antshrike** ◊ *Thamnophilus bridgesi*

**Black-crowned Antshrike** *Thamnophilus atrinucha*

**Fasciated Antshrike** *Cymbilaimus lineatus*

**Great Antshrike** *Taraba major*

**Ocellated Antbird** ◊ *Phaenostictus mcleannani* Good views at the Aerial Tram.

**Bicolored Antbird** *Gymnopithys bicolor*

**Dusky Antbird** *Cercomacroides tyrannina*

**Spotted Antbird** *Hylophylax naevioides* Several sights during the tour, army ants.

**Chestnut-backed Antbird** *Poliocrania exsul*

**Dull-mantled Antbird** ◊ *Sipia laemosticta* Seen well at Arenal.

**Bare-crowned Antbird** ◊ *Gymnocichla nudiceps* Best views at Buenos Aires, but also seen at Arenal area.

**Zeledon's Antbird** ◊ *Hafferia zeledoni*

**Black-faced Antthrush** *Formicarius analis* Close and prolonged views at Carara.

**Black-headed Antthrush** *Formicarius nigricapillus* Seen at El Copal.

**Scaled Antpitta** *Grallaria guatemalensis* On the last minutes of light we got to see it coming to eat worms.

**Streak-chested Antpitta** ◊ *Hylopezus perspicillatus*

**Thicket Antpitta** ◊ (Fulvous-bellied A) *Myrmothera dives*

**Silvery-fronted Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus argentifrons* Finally, everyone got to see it at Santa Elena Reserve.

**White-fronted Tyrannulet** ◊ *Phyllomyias zeledoni* Good views at the Talamanca highlands.

**Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet** *Tyrannulus elatus*

**Greenish Elaenia** *Myiopagis viridicata*

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia** *Elaenia flavogaster*

**Lesser Elaenia** *Elaenia chiriquensis*

**Mountain Elaenia** *Elaenia frantzii*

**Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet** ◊ *Ornithion semiflavum*

**Northern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma imberbe*

**Southern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum* (H)

**Torrent Tyrannulet** *Serpophaga cinerea*

**Yellow Tyrannulet** *Capsiempis flaveola*

**Mistletoe Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius parvus* Heard it at many localities, but best views in Osa and Wilson's Botanical Gardens.

**Rufous-browed Tyrannulet** ◊ *Phylloscartes superciliaris* Seen at El Copal.

**Olive-streaked Flycatcher** *Mionectes olivaceus*

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleagineus*

**Slaty-capped Flycatcher** *Leptopogon superciliaris*

**Northern Scrub Flycatcher** *Sublegatus arenarum* One of the mangrove specialties.

**Bran-colored Flycatcher** *Myiophobus fasciatus* Good views at San Vito.

**Black-capped Pygmy Tyrant** *Myiornis atricapillus* Excellent views at La Selva.

**Northern Bentbill** ◊ *Oncostoma cinereigulare*

**Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant** *Lophotriccus pileatus*

**Slaty-headed Tody-Flycatcher** *Poecilotriccus sylvia* Good views at Buenos Aires.

**Common Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum*

**Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum nigriceps*

**Eye-ringed Flatbill** *Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*

**Yellow-olive Flatbill** *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*

**Yellow-winged Flatbill** *Tolmomyias flavotectus* Very close views at La Selva.

**Stub-tailed Spadebill** ◊ *Platyrrhinus cancrinus* Nice views at Carara area.

**White-throated Spadebill** *Platyrrhinus mystaceus* First seen at Arenal, also seen at El Copal.

**Golden-crowned Spadebill** *Platyrrhinus coronatus* Nice views at Carara area.

**Tawny-chested Flycatcher** ◊ *Aphanotriccus capitalis* Seen at El Copal and Rancho Naturalista.

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans*

**Northern Tufted Flycatcher** *Mitrephanes phaeocercus*

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus cooperi*

**Dark Pewee** ◊ *Contopus lugubris* A territorial couple at Savegre Valley.

**Ochraceous Pewee** ◊ *Contopus ochraceus* One of the tricky specialties of the Talamanca Highlands.

**Eastern Wood Pewee (W)** *Contopus virens*

**Northern Tropical Pewee** *Contopus bogotensis*

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** *Empidonax flaviventris*

**Willow Flycatcher** *Empidonax traillii*

**Yellowish Flycatcher** ◊ *Empidonax flavescens*

**Black-capped Flycatcher** ◊ *Empidonax atriceps* A cute near-endemic *Empidonax* of the highlands of Costa Rica and western Panama.

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus*

**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus*

**Rusty-margined Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes cayanensis* Good views at Coto 47.

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis*

**Grey-capped Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes granadensis*

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus*

**White-ringed Flycatcher** *Conopias albobittatus*

**Golden-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes hemichrysus* Seen at the upper Braulio Carrillo areas and Monteverde.

**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes luteiventris*

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus*

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua*

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus*

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (W)** *Tyrannus forficatus*

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savana*

**Rufous Mourner** *Rhytipterna holerythra*

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer*

**Panama Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiarchus panamensis* A mangrove specialty in Costa Rica.

**Nutting's Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiarchus nuttingi* Seen at different dry forest localities of the tour.

**Great Crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus crinitus*

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus*

**Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus*

**Bare-necked Umbrellabird** ◊ *Cephalopterus glabricollis* Great views of a female at the Aerial Tram.

**Rufous Piha** *Lipaigus unirufus* Seen at the Aerial Tram, and the Osa Peninsula.

**Three-wattled Bellbird** ◊ *Procnias tricarunculatus* We managed to see two different individuals at Monteverde area, first a young male and then an adult male.

**Turquoise Cotinga** ◊ *Cotinga ridgwayi* We managed to see two full adult males together at San Isidro.

**Yellow-billed Cotinga** ◊ *Carpodectes antoniae* Several sights of females and males at Rincon.

**Snowy Cotinga** ◊ *Carpodectes nitidus* Good scope views of a female and a male at La Selva.

**Long-tailed Manakin** ◊ *Chiroxiphia linearis*

**Lance-tailed Manakin** ◊ *Chiroxiphia lanceolata* A tricky one, seen at Sabalito area.

**White-ruffed Manakin** ◊ *Corapipo altera*

**Velvety Manakin** ♦ *Lepidothrix velutina* Several sights of females on the south Pacific slope, and nice views of a male at Osa Peninsula.

**White-collared Manakin** ♦ *Manacus candei* It was nice to see an adult male displaying at La Selva.

**Orange-collared Manakin** ♦ *Manacus aurantiacus*

**White-crowned Manakin** *Pseudopipra pipra*

**Red-capped Manakin** *Ceratopipra mentalis*

**Tropical Royal Flycatcher** ♦ (Northern R F) *Onychorhynchus [coronatus] mexicanus* Good views at Carara area.

**Sulphur-rumped Myiobius (S-r Flycatcher)** *Myiobius sulphureipygius*

**Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher** *Terenotriccus erythrurus*

**Black-crowned Tityra** *Tityra inquisitor*

**Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata*

**Northern Schiffornis** *Schiffornis veraepacis*

**Barred Becard** *Pachyramphus versicolor* Finally seen at the Talamanca highlands.

**Cinnamon Becard** *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*

**White-winged Becard** *Pachyramphus polychopterus*

**Rose-throated Becard** *Pachyramphus aglaiae*

**Rufous-browed Peppershrike** *Cyclarhis gujanensis*

**Green Shrike-Vireo** ♦ *Vireolanius pulchellus* Excellent views at close distance at Buenos Aires.

**Scrub Greenlet** *Hylophilus flavipes*

**Tawny-crowned Greenlet** *Tunchiornis ochraceiceps*

**Lesser Greenlet** *Pachysylvia decurtata*

**Yellow-green Vireo** *Vireo flavoviridis* Several sights during the tour.

**Red-eyed Vireo (W)** *Vireo olivaceus* Seen at the Osa Peninsula.

**Philadelphia Vireo (W)** *Vireo philadelphicus*

**Brown-capped Vireo** *Vireo leucophrys* Good looks at Orosi.

**Yellow-throated Vireo (W)** *Vireo flavifrons*

**Yellow-winged Vireo** ♦ *Vireo carmioli* Regular on the Talamanca highlands.

**Mangrove Vireo** ♦ *Vireo pallens* Good views of this mangrove specialty on different localities.

**Azure-hooded Jay** ♦ *Cyanolyca cucullata* Seen a family group of 5 individuals was one of the main highlights during our days at Monteverde.

**Silvery-throated Jay** ♦ *Cyanolyca argentigula* (H)

**Brown Jay** *Psilorhinus morio*

**White-throated Magpie-Jay** ♦ *Calocitta Formosa* Several sights during the tour on the northwest of the country.

**Black-and-yellow Phainoptila** ♦ (B-and-Y Silky-flycatcher) *Phainoptila melanoxantha* A pair building a nest at the Talamanca highlands.

**Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher** ♦ *Ptiliogonys caudatus* One of the group favourite birds which gave us great views at the Talamanca Highlands.

**Sand Martin (Bank Swallow)** *Riparia riparia* Some individuals were seen at Medio Queso.

**Mangrove Swallow** *Tachycineta albilinea*

**Grey-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea*

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

**Blue-and-white Swallow** *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

**American Cliff Swallow (W)** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*

**Band-backed Wren** *Campylorhynchus zonatus* The last wren that we saw in the tour at Turrialba area.

**Rufous-backed Wren** ♦ *Campylorhynchus capistratus*

**Grass Wren** *Cistothorus platensis*

**Black-throated Wren** ♦ *Pheugopedius atrogularis* Really good views at La Selva.

**Black-bellied Wren** *Pheugopedius fasciatoventris* Seen by some, heard only for others at Osa Peninsula.

**Spot-breasted Wren** ♦ *Pheugopedius maculipectus* Good views at Caño Negro.

**Rufous-breasted Wren** *Pheugopedius rutilus*

**Banded Wren** *Thryophilus pleurostictus*

**Rufous-and-white Wren** *Thryophilus rufalbus*

**Cabanis's Wren** ♦ *Cantorchilus modestus* Seen at the grounds of our hotel in San Jose.

**Canebrake Wren** ♦ *Cantorchilus zeledoni*

**Isthmian Wren** ♦ *Cantorchilus elutus*

**Riverside Wren** ♦ *Cantorchilus semibadius* Good views at Carara and Osa Peninsula.

**Bay Wren** *Cantorchilus nigricapillus* Really close views in the open at Arenal, also seen at La Selva and other localities.

**Stripe-breasted Wren** ♦ *Cantorchilus thoracicus*

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon*

**Ochraceous Wren** ♦ *Troglodytes ochraceus*

**Timberline Wren** ♦ *Thryorchilus browni* We got really good views of this skulker at the paramo habitat of the Talamanca Highlands.

**White-breasted Wood Wren** *Henicorhina leucosticta*

**Grey-breasted Wood Wren** *Henicorhina leucophrys*

**Northern Nightingale-Wren** ◊ *Microcerculus philomela* Really good views in the open at Bijagua.

**Southern Nightingale-Wren** *Microcerculus marginatus* Seen it well twice, first at Carara area, and then at Rancho Naturalista.

**Song Wren** *Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus* Seen attending an army ant swarm at El Copal, also seen at Arenal area.

**Trilling Gnatwren** *Ramphocaenus melanurus*

**Tawny-faced Gnatwren** *Microbates cinereiventris*

**White-browed Gnatcatcher** *Polioptila bilineata*

**White-lored Gnatcatcher** ◊ *Polioptila albiloris*

**Tropical Mockingbird** *Mimus gilvus* Several sights during the tour.

**Black-faced Solitaire** ◊ *Myadestes melanops*

**Wood Thrush (W)** *Hylocichla mustelina*

**Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus aurantiirostris*

**Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush** ◊ *Catharus mexicanus*

**Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus fuscater*

**Swainson's Thrush (W)** *Catharus ustulatus*

**Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush** ◊ *Catharus gracilirostris* Good views at the highest localities of the Talamanca highlands.

**Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush** ◊ *Catharus frantzii*

**Sooty Thrush** ◊ *Turdus nigrescens* Common in the Talamanca Highlands as well at the higher areas of Irazu.

**Mountain Thrush** ◊ *Turdus plebejus*

**White-throated Thrush** *Turdus assimilis* Nice views in the open hopping in the middle of the trail at Monteverde.

**Pale-vented Thrush** ◊ *Turdus obsoletus*

**Clay-colored Thrush** *Turdus grayi* The Costa Rican national bird.

**American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus*

**House Sparrow (introduced)** *Passer domesticus*

**Lesser Goldfinch** *Spinus psaltria*

**Yellow-bellied Siskin** *Spinus xanthogastrus* (LO) Seen by leader at Irazu.

**Elegant Euphonia** *Chlorophonia elegantissima*

**Golden-browed Chlorophonia** ◊ *Chlorophonia callophrys*

**Scrub Euphonia** *Euphonia affinis*

**Yellow-crowned Euphonia** ◊ *Euphonia luteicapilla*

**White-vented Euphonia** *Euphonia minuta* Several individuals were seen at El Copal.

**Yellow-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia hirundinacea*

**Thick-billed Euphonia** *Euphonia laniirostris*

**Spot-crowned Euphonia** ♦ *Euphonia imitans*

**Olive-backed Euphonia** ♦ *Euphonia gouldi* Common at the Caribbean lowlands.

**Tawny-capped Euphonia** ♦ *Euphonia annea* Our last euphonia of the tour, seen at El Copal.

**Rosy Thrush-tanager** *Rhodinocichla rosea* Thanks to our local guide Leandro, we got excellent views of a couple building a nest, at Buenos Aires.

**Ashy-throated Chlorospingus** *Chlorospingus canigularis*

**Sooty-capped Chlorospingus** ♦ *Chlorospingus pileatus*

**Common Chlorospingus** *Chlorospingus flavopectus* One of the most common species in the middle elevations.

**Stripe-headed Sparrow** *Peucaea ruficauda*

**Grasshopper Sparrow** *Ammodramus savannarum*

**Olive Sparrow** *Arremonops rufivirgatus*

**Black-striped Sparrow** *Arremonops conirostris*

**Costa Rican Brushfinch** ♦ *Arremon costaricensis*

**Orange-billed Sparrow** *Arremon aurantirostris* Two different subspecies were seen well on the tour, *A. aurantirostris rufidorsalis* was seen at the Caribbean side, and at the south Pacific slope was the nominate subspecies.

**Chestnut-capped Brushfinch** *Arremon brunneinucha*

**Sooty-faced Finch** ♦ *Arremon crassirostris* Excellent views of this near endemic at Santa Elena Reserve and Quelitales.

**Volcano Junco** ♦ *Junco vulcani* Close views at the Paramo in the Talamanca highlands.

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis*

**Large-footed Finch** ♦ *Pezopetes capitalis* Common at the Talamanca highlands and Irazu.

**White-eared Ground Sparrow** ♦ *Melospiza leucotis* Seen on different opportunities at Monteverde area, Quelitales, and our hotel in San Jose.

**Cabanis's Ground Sparrow** ♦ *Melospiza cabanisi* Good views at Ujarras, as well at Platanillo.

**White-naped Brushfinch** *Atlapetes albinucha* Coming to feeders at Quelitales.

**Yellow-thighed Brushfinch** ♦ (Y-t Finch) *Atlapetes tibialis* Another of the group favourite birds who was seen on the highlands.

**Wrenthrush** ♦ (Zeledonia) *Zeledonia coronata* A secretive skulker of the cloud forest highlands of Costa Rica and Western Panama, who belongs to the monotypic family Zeledoniidae. It gave us good views at the Talamanca highlands.

**Eastern Meadowlark** *Sturnella magna*

**Red-breasted Meadowlark** *Leistes militaris*

**Yellow-billed Cacique** *Amblycercus holosericeus* Heard on different occasions but finally was seen at Rincon.

**Chestnut-headed Oropendola** *Psarocolius wagleri*

**Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus*

**Montezuma Oropendola** ♦ *Psarocolius montezuma*

Scarlet-rumped Cacique *Cacicus microrhynchus*

Streak-backed Oriole *Icterus pustulatus*

Baltimore Oriole (W) *Icterus galbula*

Yellow-tailed Oriole *Icterus mesomelas* Excellent views at Caño Negro. A very localized species in Costa Rica.

Spot-breasted Oriole ◊ *Icterus pectoralis*

Black-cowled Oriole ◊ *Icterus prothemelas*

Orchard Oriole (W) *Icterus spurius*

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus*

Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives*

Nicaraguan Grackle ◊ *Quiscalus nicaraguensis* A very restricted species of Grackle, it gave us great looks at Medio Queso.

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*

Ovenbird (W) *Seiurus aurocapilla*

Louisiana Waterthrush (W) *Parkesia motacilla* Seen foraging at the Savegre River, also at La Selva where it is not a regular species.

Northern Waterthrush (W) *Parkesia noveboracensis* Best views at the Carara Area.

Golden-winged Warbler (W) *Vermivora chrysoptera*

Black-and-white Warbler (W) *Mniotilta varia*

Prothonotary Warbler (W) *Protonotaria citrea*

Flame-throated Warbler ◊ *Oreothlypis gutturalis* Good views at the Talamanca highlands and Irazu.

Tennessee Warbler (W) *Leiothlypis peregrina*

Grey-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis poliocephala*

MacGillivray's Warbler *Geothlypis philadelphia* An adult male was seen near Monteverde.

Mourning Warbler (W) *Geothlypis philadelphia* Seen at San Vito and Platanillo.

Kentucky Warbler (W) *Geothlypis formosa*

Olive-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis semiflava* Good views at Medio Queso.

American Redstart (W) *Setophaga ruticilla*

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitiayumi*

Bay-breasted Warbler (W) *Setophaga castanea* Joining a mixed species flock at La Selva.

Blackburnian Warbler (W) *Setophaga fusca*

American Yellow Warbler (W) *Setophaga aestiva* A common warbler in the lowlands.

**Mangrove Warbler *Setophaga petechia***

**Chestnut-sided Warbler (W) *Setophaga pensylvanica*** The most common warbler of the tour, especially on the Caribbean slope.

**Black-throated Green Warbler (W) *Setophaga virens***

**Buff-rumped Warbler *Myiothlypis fulvicauda***

**Chestnut-capped Warbler *Basileuterus delatarii***

**Black-cheeked Warbler ◊ *Basileuterus melanogenys*** Good views at the Talamanca highlands.

**Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus***

**Black-eared Warbler ◊ *Basileuterus melanotis*** Excellent views at the higher sections of Braulio Carrillo and Monteverde area.

**Wilson's Warbler (W) *Cardellina pusilla*** Common in the highlands.

**Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus***

**Collared Whitestart ◊ *Myioborus torquatus*** Nice views of this near endemic at the highlands.

**Dusky-faced Tanager *Mitrospingus cassinii***

**Flame-colored Tanager *Piranga bidentata***

**Tooth-billed Tanager (Highland Hepatic T) *Piranga lutea*** Good views at Arenal.

**Summer Tanager (W) *Piranga rubra*** Common bird during the tour.

**Scarlet Tanager (W) *Piranga olivacea***

**White-winged Tanager *Piranga leucoptera*** Seen at Orosi.

**Red-crowned Ant Tanager *Habia rubica***

**Red-throated Ant Tanager *Habia fuscicauda***

**Black-cheeked Ant Tanager ◊ *Habia atrimaxillaris*** Excellent views of this former Costa Rican endemic (now is known its presence at the Panama border with Costa Rica).

**Carmioli's Tanager ◊ *Chlorothraupis carmioli***

**Black-thighed Grosbeak ◊ *Pheucticus tibialis*** Good views at the Talamanca highlands.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus***

**Black-faced Grosbeak ◊ *Caryothraustes poliogaster***

**Dickcissel *Spiza americana*** Big groups were seen flying next to us at Medio Queso.

**Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanoloxia cyanooides***

**Painted Bunting (W) *Passerina ciris*** Male was seeing at the Carara area.

**Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza***

**Black-and-yellow Tanager ◊ *Chrysothlypis chrysomelas*** Seen at different localities along the Caribbean foothills.

**Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus***

**Shining Honeycreeper ◊ *Cyanerpes lucidus***

Scarlet-thighed Dacnis *Dacnis venusta*

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

Cinnamon-bellied Saltator *Saltator grandis*

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus*

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*

Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps*

Slate-colored Grosbeak *Saltator grossus* Seen at Arenal.

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus*

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

Grey-headed Tanager *Eucometis penicillata* First seen at Caño Negro, also seen at Carara area.

White-shouldered Tanager *Loriotus luctuosus*

Tawny-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus delatrii*

White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus*

White-throated Shrike-Tanager ◊ *Lanio leucothorax* Good views at the Aerial Tram.

Crimson-collared Tanager ◊ *Ramphocelus sanguinolentus*

Scarlet-rumped Tanager ◊ (Passerini's T) *Ramphocelus [passerinii] passerinii*

Scarlet-rumped Tanager ◊ (Cherrie's T) *Ramphocelus [passerinii] costaricensis*

Morelet's Seedeater ◊ *Sporophila moreletii*

Variable Seedeater (Black-breasted S) *Sporophila corvina*

Variable Seedeater (Black S) *Sporophila [corvina] corvina*

Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila nigricollis*

Thick-billed Seed Finch *Sporophila funerea*

Nicaraguan Seed Finch ◊ *Sporophila nuttingi*

Slate-colored Seedeater ◊ *Sporophila schistacea* Great views of an adult male at Rincon.

Peg-billed Finch ◊ *Acanthidops bairdi* Seen by most of the group at the Talamanca highlands.

Slaty Flowerpiercer ◊ *Diglossa plumbea*

Blue-and-gold Tanager ◊ *Bangsia arcaei* Excellent views at Virgen del Socorro Road.

Speckled Tanager *Ixothraupis guttata* Good views at San Vito and El Copal.

Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

Yellow-winged Tanager ◊ *Thraupis abbas* One bird who came to Cinchona feeders.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

**Golden-hooded Tanager** *Stilpnia larvata*

**Spangle-cheeked Tanager** ♦ *Tangara dowii* Good views at the higher areas of Braulio Carrillo and Savegre Valley.

**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola*

**Rufous-winged Tanager** *Tangara lavinia* One male seen at Arenal.

**Emerald Tanager** *Tangara florida* Good views at Arenal and El Copal.

**Silver-throated Tanager** *Tangara icterocephala*

**Plain-colored Tanager** *Tangara inornate* Nice views at La Selva.

## MAMMALS

**Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth** *Choloepus hoffmanni*

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth (B-t Sloth)** *Bradypus variegatus*

**Coyote** *Canis latrans* (H) Heard only at Irazu.

**Northern Olingo** *Bassaricyon gabbii* (LO) Seen by leader at La Selva.

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*

**Tayra** *Eira barbara*

**Central American Tapir (Baird's T)** *Tapirus bairdii* Great views at the Aerial Tram.

**Honduran White Bat** *Ectophylla alba*

**Thomas's Shaggy Bat** *Centronycteris centralis* Good views at daytime at La Selva.

**Proboscis Bat (Long-nosed B)** *Rhynchonycteris naso*

**Panamanian White-faced Capuchin** *Cebus imitator*

**Central American Squirrel Monkey** *Saimiri oerstedii*

**Mantled Howler** *Alouatta palliata*

**Central American Spider Monkey** *Ateles geoffroyi*

**Eastern Cottontail** *Sylvilagus floridanus*

**Central American Tapeti** *Sylvilagus gabbi* Seen at La Selva.

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*

**Mexican Hairy Porcupine** *Coendou mexicanus*

**Central American Dwarf Squirrel** *Microsciurus alfari*

**Deppe's Squirrel** *Sciurus deppei* Seen at Bijagua.

**Red-tailed Squirrel (Tropical Red S)** *Sciurus granatensis*

**Variegated Squirrel** *Sciurus variegatoides*

## REPTILES

Black River Turtle *Rhinoclemmys funereal* Seen at La Selva.

Common Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*

Green Basilisk *Basiliscus plumifrons*

Black Iguana *Ctenosaura similis*

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Berthold's Bush Anole *Polychrus gutturosus* Seen at the Aerial Tram.

Common House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus*

Middle American Ameiva *Holcosus festivus*

Common Caiman *Caiman crocodilus*

## AMPHIBIANS

Wet Forest Toad *Incilius melanochlorus* Seen at Rancho Naturalista.

Mesoamerican Cane Toad *Rhinella horribilis*

Strawberry Poison Dart Frog *Oophaga pumilio*