



A Tropical Birding set departure tour

COSTA RICA: The Introtour

15th – 25th February 2020



*This **Sunbittern**, in **Carara National Park**, narrowly beat Resplendent Quetzal to bird of the tour (Bill Compton)*

Tour Leader: Sam Woods

*All of the photographs in this report were taken by some of the participants on this tour.
Thanks to Bill Compton, Peter Rigsbee, and John Wilkinson for making them available!*

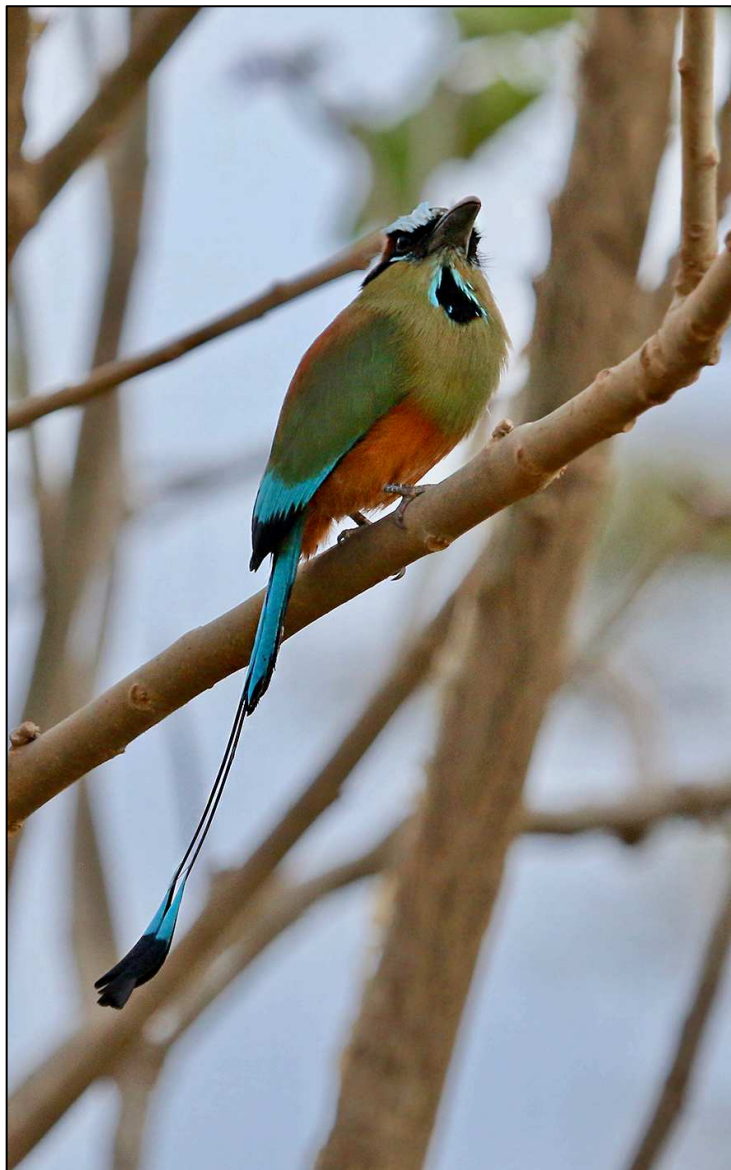
Introduction:

Costa Rica is consistently one of the most popular destinations for overseas birding, the country is small but packed with birds, with distinctive bioregions offering different suites of birds. We covered most of these, including the foothills and lowlands on the Caribbean slope, lower mountains and upper highlands too, plus some time in the lowlands on the Pacific side of the mountains that cut horizontally through the middle of the country. The tour started out with rain causing some problems as we visited several sites in the lower foothills of the Caribbean slope near La Union. However, by the day's end we had seen **three species of owl** (including **Crested and Spectacled**), a roosting **Great Potoo**, and watched feeders packed with **tanagers**, **toucans**, **hummingbirds** and **honeycreepers**, and a **Russet-naped Wood-Rail** stomping around below them as more than ample compensation!



A rainy morning was compensated by feeders bursting with tanagers and toucans, while this **Russet-naped Wood-Rail** stood below (Peter Rigsbee)

Continuing into the lowlands on the same side of the mountains, we visited the legendary La Selva Biological Station, where highlights included **Snowy Cotinga**, **Purple-throated Fruitcrow**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, **three species of trogon**, **two species of motmot**, **five species of woodpecker**, including **Pale-billed**, **Cinnamon** and **Chestnut-colored Woodpeckers**, and absurdly tame **Semiplumbeous Hawk** and **Great Tinamou**, as well as a **sloth** and several **Strawberry Poison Frogs**. From there, we moved uphill to the highlands around Savegre, where feeders were bursting with **Fiery-throated** and **Talamanca Hummingbirds**, and plentiful montane specialties were found, such as **Long-tailed** and **Black-and-yellow Silky-Flycatchers**, **Yellow-thighed Finch**, **Flame-colored** and **Spangle-cheeked Tanagers**, **Collared Redstart**, **Flame-throated Warbler**, the elusive **Wrenthrush**, and a **Volcano Junco** at the upper extremity of the tour, at nearly over 9,800ft (3,000m). However, all of these were arguably overshadowed by the area's star avian attraction, the must see **Resplendent Quetzal**, a gorgeous bird daubed in emerald green and vermilion red. From there, we headed downslope again, but this time into the Pacific lowlands around Carara. On the way there, we spent a quality few hours in open country near Orotina, where local guide Alvaro led us from one great bird to another, starting out with a daytime **Pacific Screech-Owl** (one of 6 owls seen, all during the daytime), the jaw-droppingly beautiful **Turquoise-browed Motmot**, several statuesque **Double-striped Thick-knees**, and a late show from a **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo**, not long after we added **Black-headed Trogon** to the list there too. Once in Carara, we enjoyed **Scarlet Macaws**, **Collared Forest-Falcon**, a cooperative **Black-faced Antthrush**, a long, long time with an extremely popular **Sunbittern**, and **American Pygmy-Kingfisher**, **Bare-throated Tiger-Herons** and **Boat-billed Herons** on a boat trip that also included **Roseate Spoonbill** and **Black Skimmer**. Mammals in that area included **capuchins** and **spider-monkeys**, and a surprise **Green-and-black Poison Frog** was also popular, as was an ivory white **Northern Ghost Bat** hanging from an overhead palm.



Turquoise-browed Motmot, *Orotina* (John Wilkinson)

Our last stop came in the lower mountains, in the area around the world famous cloudforest of Monteverde. As we arrived there, the striking **White-throated Magpie-Jay** blocked our way to the lodge, as did a nearby **White-fronted Parrot** perches at eye level; while our time in the forests featured **Prong-billed Barbet**, **Collared Trogon**, extreme close ups of **Lesson's Motmots** around our lodge, **Long-tailed Manakin**, and a wonderful collection of hummingbirds, like **Magenta-throated Woodstar**, **Purple-throated Mountain-Gem**, **Violet Sabrewing**, and **Coppery-headed Emerald**. We did well for warblers on this trip, with **more than 20 warbler species**, and our final one being added there in the shape of **Costa Rican Warbler**, which was seen nearby a few **Golden-winged Warblers** too. Special mention should also go to our driver, come secret bird guide of the tour, Luis, whose good humor constantly entertained us, navigation around the complex city of San Jose impressed us, and eyes found us more than a few key birds, like a pair of **Black-and-white Owls** roosting in the Tarcoles area, and the rare **Ochraceous Pewee** in the highlands.

At the tour end, we took the usual vote to try and narrow down our bird list to a simple top five birds of the tour, and as is very normal for this tour, there were many contenders put forward by the group. 24 species were highlighted by the group, most already mentioned above, but also others like **Purple Gallinule**, **Gartered Trogon**, **Yellow-throated Toucan**, **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush** and **Orange-billed Sparrow**. After all the votes were in, the premier birds of the tour were decided to be...

TOP FIVE BIRDS OF THE TOUR:

- 1 SUNBITTERN, Carara National Park
- 2 RESPLENDENT QUETZAL, Savegre Valley
- 3 TURQUOISE-BROWED MOTMOT, Orotina
- 4 BLACK-AND-WHITE OWL, Tarcoles
- 5 SLATY-BACKED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH, Monteverde

Tour Summary:

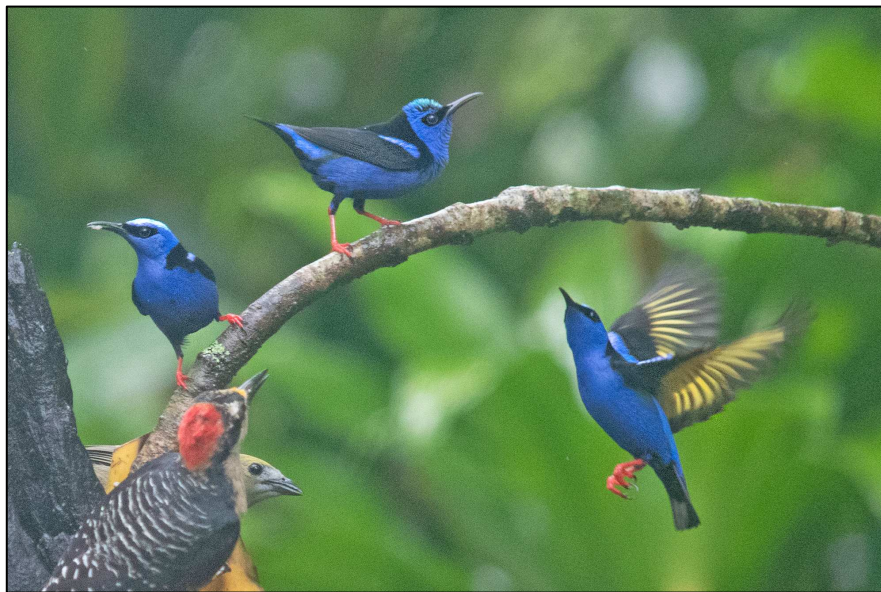
Day 1 (of birding): La Union area to La Selva Biological Station.



The tour started right in the garden of our hotel near *San Jose* airport. While the property may be small, it is still easy to get the tour off to a good start there, with interesting species always present. Star among them was a smashing, bright orange **Spot-breasted Oriole** (left *Bill Compton*), a perched **Crimson-fronted Parakeet**, several **Hoffman's Woodpeckers**, and right near the end, a wonderful **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** glaring at us. Our itinerary then had to undergo some unexpected changes. We had planned to visit *Braulio Carrillo NP* first, and then visit the hummingbird garden of *El Tapir*. Sadly, persistent rain prevented us from making it on to the trail at the

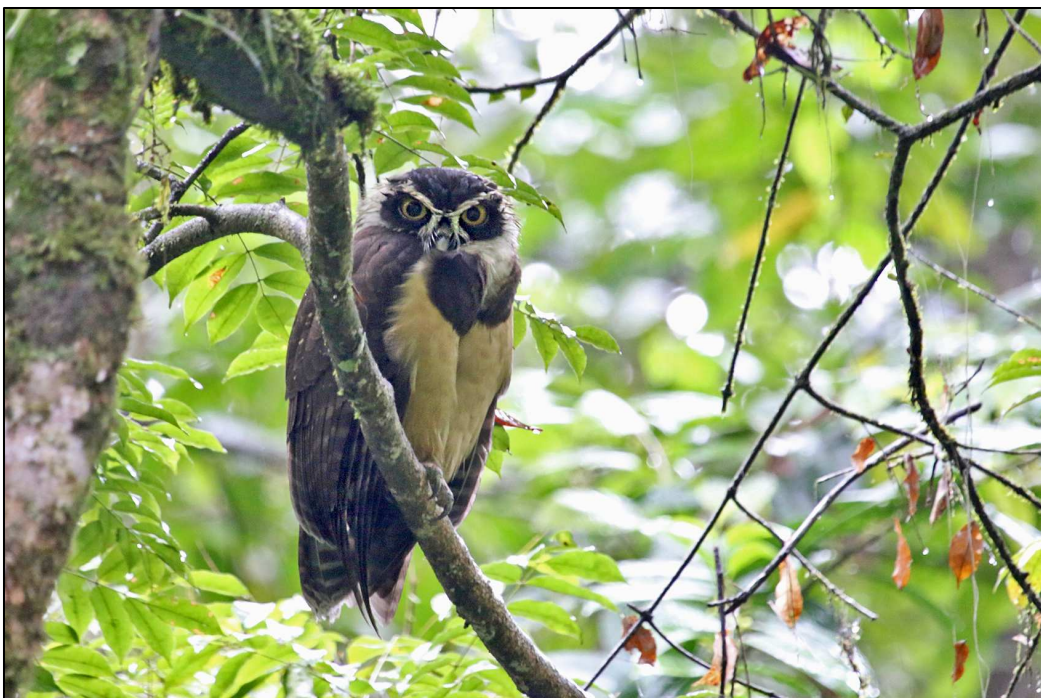
park, and *El Tapir* had very recently been closed with a sale of the property! However, in spite of such obstacles, we had a great day. Our first stop north of *San Jose* was a small new reserve in *La Union*, where our host, "Yuyin" happily led us around his birdy property. As rain continued on and off, we were grateful to a set of feeders with plentiful cover for us, which were underwent a constant procession of birds; **Yellow-throated Toucan**, **Collared Aracari**, **Yellow-crowned** and **Olive-backed Euphonias**, **Orange-chinned Parakeet**, **Red-legged Honeycreepers** (right, *Peter Rigsbee*), both **Chestnut-headed** and **Montezuma Oropendolas**, and **Russet-naped Wood-Rail** were just some of the visitors during our time there! Away from the feeders, a car park side **Blue-black Grosbeak**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, and both **Black-cheeked** and **Lineated Woodpeckers** kept us entertained between continuing bouts of rain.

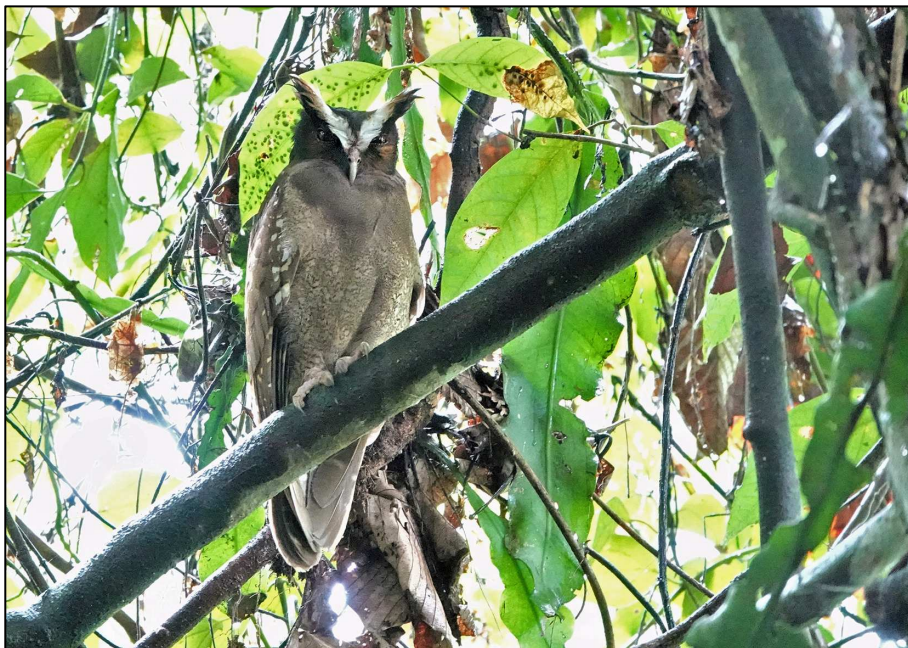
Following lunch nearby, we swapped one private reserve for another, "*Cope's Place*". Once there, we were led around to a steady stream of top quality birds, making the rain and frustrations of the morning all seem like a distant memory!





Three owls were seen on our first day: *Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl* (above) at our hotel and *Spectacled Owl* later (John Wilkinson)





However, one of the first highlights was not avian, but mammalian, with a small group of tiny **White Tent Bats** showed to us within their self-constructed “tent”, which comprised of a large green leaf bitten by them to ensure it hung tightly around them. A couple of walks into the forest were needed to first look at a bold **Spectacled Owl** at a day roost, which was arguably then upstaged by the roosting **Crested Owl** (left *Bill Compton*) found within an hour of that too! In between the owls was a popular **Stripe-throated Hermit** scoped at length as it sang from a forest perch. Then, the last roosting nightbird of the afternoon was a cryptic **Great Potoo** sitting high in the trees. We finished our time in *La Union*, and *Cope’s Place*, at his feeders, watching another veritable parade of birds; the

hummingbird feeders drew in **Crowned Woodnymph**, **White-necked Jacobin**, and **Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer**, while fruit feeders attracted the attentions of more oropendolas, plus **Crimson-collared**, **Silver-throated** and **Scarlet-rumped Tanagers**, while another **Russet-naped Wood-Rail** lurked in the background. At the end of a day that was bursting with tropical color, at two very active feeding stations, we drove on to *La Selva Biological Station*, our base for the next two nights.



Montezuma Oropendolas were feeder birds on our first morning in *La Union* (John Wilkinson)

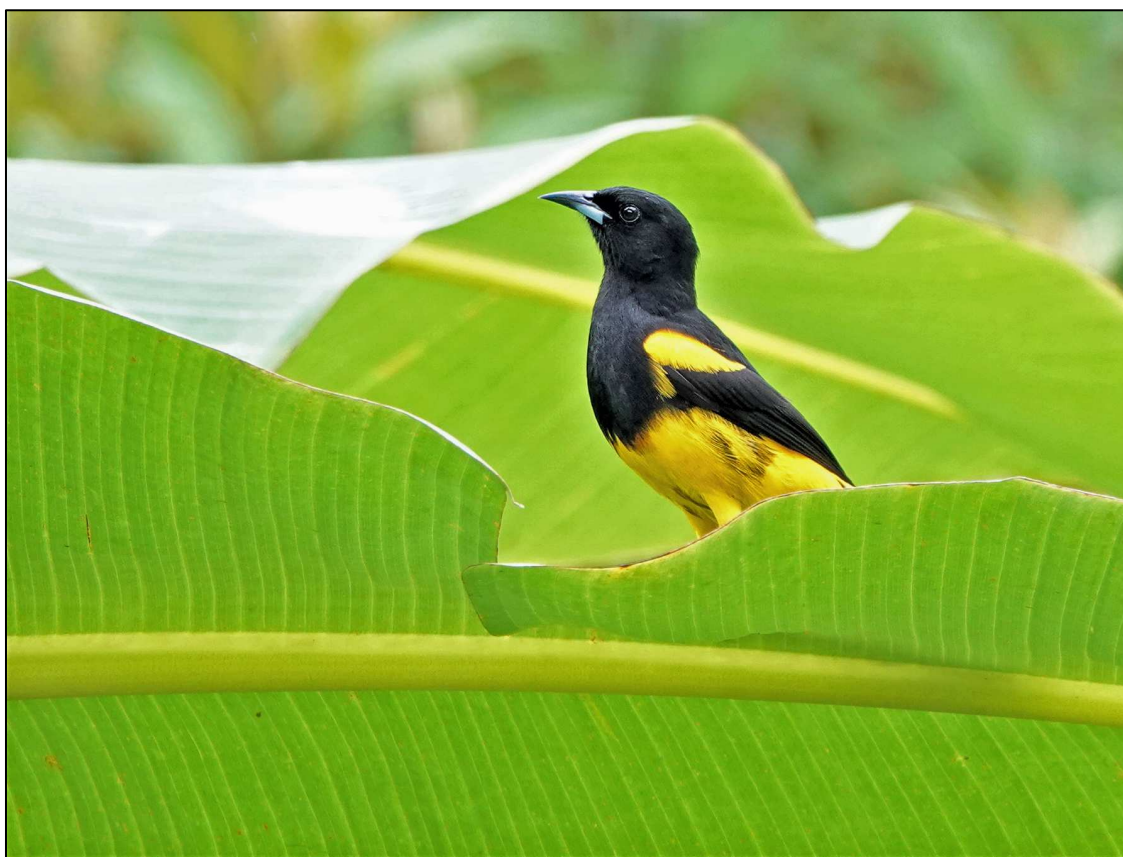


Chestnut-headed Oropendolas (above, Bill Compton) and *Collared Aracaris* (below John Wilkinson) also fed at the feeders in **La Union**



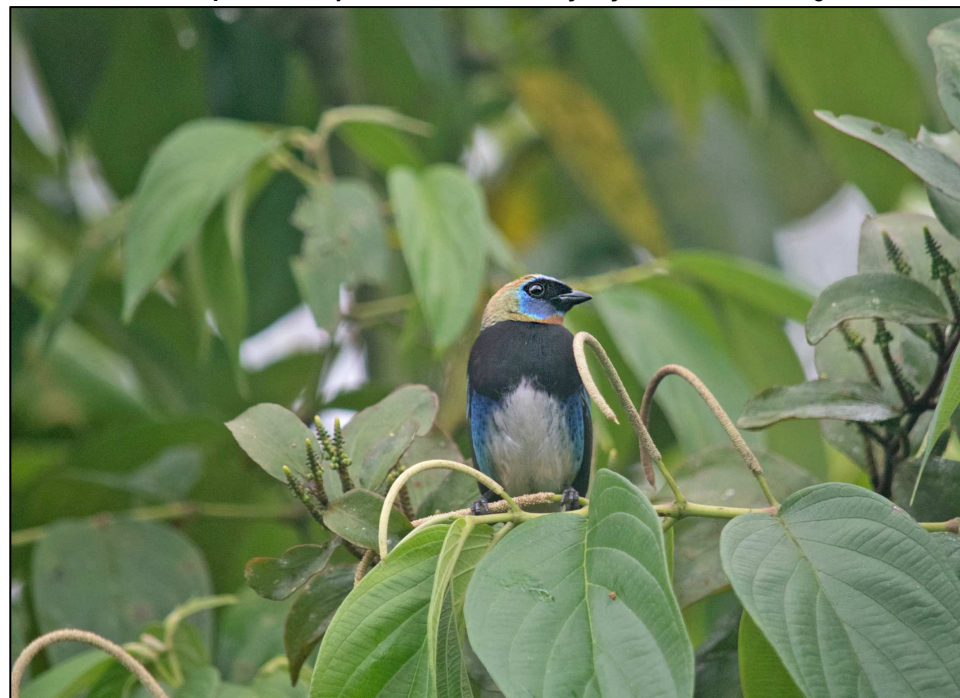


During the rain at **La Union** we watched *Red-legged Honeycreeper* (above, John Wilkinson) and *Black-cowled Oriole* (Bill Compton)



Day 2: La Selva Biological Station.

We awoke with some excitement, with a full day in the legendary forest of *La Selva* awaiting us. I had warned the group that the Caribbean lowlands, where we were, was one of the wettest areas of the country with rain possible at any time. And so it proved prophetic, with a day with rain scattered regularly throughout causing us frustration. However, *La Selva* being what it is, this did not stop us from seeing some great birds all the same, in spite of the challenging conditions. This was due to a great team effort in finding the birds, and persistence in the face of unwelcoming conditions! In the morning, we were joined by one of the station's expert guides, *Joel*. We spent some time in the morning around the famous clearing around the station itself, in the more open forest on the near side of the river and then in the afternoon crossed over to the other side and explored further forest there. This day ended up being quite similar to the one before; in spite of seemingly difficult wet conditions for birding, the birds came up all the same. During the day we were able to find **Chestnut-colored, Rufous-winged and Pale-billed Woodpeckers**, several male **Snowy Cotingas**, **three species of toucan** (including **Keel-billed**), **three species of trogon** (**Slaty-tailed, Gartered, and Black-throated**, latter above *John Wilkinson*), **Broad-billed and Rufous Motmots**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, **Purple-crowned Fairy**, **Northern Barred Woodcreeper**, the tiny **Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher**, a striking **Band-backed Wren**, some no less striking **Long-tailed**



Tyrants, Rufous Mourner, Black-faced Grosbeak and Golden-hooded Tanager (left *Peter Rigsbee*). Not to mention some bold **Crested Guans**, a furtive **Fasciated Antshrike**, and a regular dose of wintering boreal birds in the form of **Baltimore Oriole** and multiple **Chestnut-sided Warblers**. Thanks to Joel, we also had an absurdly close encounter with a **Semiplumbeous Hawk** that chose to land right beside us for no apparent reason! It was a bad weather day, with large spells of inactivity, but at the end of it all we had all these birds, plus a **Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth** curled into a ball, and some **Strawberry Poison Frogs** hopping amongst the wet leaf litter.



Strawberry Poison Frogs were found in the leaf litter at **La Selva Biological Station** (Bill Compton)

Day 3: La Selva Biological Station to Savegre.

We had a final morning in *La Selva*, before we took a long drive east into the highlands of the *Talamanca Mountain Range*. Early success came with a pair of noisy **Great Green Macaws** that overflowed our accommodations first thing. Then a **Cocoa Woodpecker** and **Cinnamon Woodpecker**, all preceded breakfast. After breakfast the rain that had been a near constant companion since arriving on the Caribbean side, hit us again. We birded in bouts between the rain, which allowed us to bring a steady flow of birds to us, as it had been the day before. If you have to be based anywhere, when rain hits, the clearing at *La Selva* is one such place to choose. There is rarely nothing happening. Perhaps our most savored moment that morning was time with an absurdly confiding **Great Tinamou**. Having first twisted and turn to see a “normal” one, we then encountered a much more cooperative individual, which lingered with us for some time. This was the hands down highlight of the morning, but other birds were around too, like **Crested Guan**, the same **Semiplumbeous Hawk** that had featured the day previous, **Rufous-winged Woodpecker**, **Slaty-tailed Trogon**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, **Collared Aracari**, **Yellow-throated and Keel-billed Toucans**, and both **Band-backed** and **Stripe-breasted Wrens**. We also located the same two-toed sloth from the day before, which at times revealed his head to some, though mostly remained in a tight ball! **Mantled Howler Monkeys** were also encountered for the first time that morning.

After the long drive circumnavigating *San Jose*’s overloaded traffic system, we made it into the highlands, where we ventured into *Los Quetzales NP*, and drove down into the *Savegre Valley*. Our birding time there was very quiet in truth, although we did get our first gorgeous **Collared Redstarts** and **Flame-colored Tanager**, the black-headed **Black-capped Flycatcher**, a bold **Large-footed Finch** prowling a local garden, and several **Sooty Thrushes** graced various mountain yards. In the evening, we enjoyed a sprawling buffet at the legendary *Savegre Hotel*, where the walls were decked out with photos of local birds by professional photographers, and the bar comes adorned with a stained-glass window with a *quetzal* design on it!



Crested Guan (above, Bill Compton) and *Great Tinamou* (below Peter Rigsbee) were tame at **La Selva**



Day 4: Savegre and Cerro de la Muerte.



Yellow-thighed Finch clings to the side of a van in **Savegre!** (Bill Compton)

Staying near the base of the *Savegre Valley*, with rich montane oak forest carpeting the valley, gave us plenty to see right near where we stayed. In the morning, we concentrated on areas locally, then took a drive uphill to some higher elevation sites around *Cerro de la Muerte* then. With a **Resplendent Quetzal**, one of the most highly-desired, and spectacular, Costa Rican birds, recently having started nesting close to our hotel, this was our first natural port of call. Having left at dawn, we got there in time to see the male a few times, before he disappeared into his nest cavity. Now being in the highlands, with a totally different avifauna, loaded with regional specialties, this day was our birdlist jump considerably, with a steady stream of new birds through the day. At this first stop, the quetzal was not the only attraction, the ever-popular **Yellow-thighed Finch** also made a roadside appearance, and the much more dowdy, but also much rarer, was a **Streak-breasted Treehunter**, which crept around the mossy branches of a towering tree for long enough that all got to see it. A **Black Guan** stood sentry in a tree there too, and with many people out admiring the quetzal, news quickly spread of these other birds too. After our brief “quetzal run”, we returned to the hotel for a substantial buffet breakfast, and to check the garden. Around the well-manicured flowerbeds were **Lesser Violetear**, **White-throated Mountain-Gem**, and **Stripe-tailed Hummingbird**, as well as the amazing **Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher**. After that, we headed up to some higher old growth forests on the property, finding **Ruddy Pigeon**, **Yellow-winged Vireo** and several **Northern Emerald Toucanets** while up there. Just before lunch, we ventured on to a trail below the lodge that leads to a waterfall. The waterfall was far too far for us to venture to, but we were there knowing that the start of the trail can be a highly productive birding area, especially if a passing flock comes through. And so it proved; **Ruddy Treerunner** appeared early on, as did **Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush**. **Spot-crowned Woodcreeper** crept up a trunk, **Brown-capped** and **Yellow-winged Vireos** passed through with the procession of flock birds, as did **Flame-throated**, **Black-throated Green**, and **Golden-winged Warblers**.

Ochraceous Wren was also present, and helpfully posed completely in the open for some time. After some time sifting through the flock for our main quarry, it suddenly appeared, a pair of stunning **Spangle-cheeked Tanagers**, speckled with glorious electric blue, and washed with orange, it much be one of the country's most beautiful tanagers, and was our cue to return to the lodge for lunch.



Spangle-cheeked Tanager made a welcome appearance near our wonderful hotel at **Savegre** (John Wilkinson)

Following lunch, we drove up to the top of the valley, and then drive higher still to the highest point of the tour, at *Cerro de la Muerte*, situated at around 9840ft (3000m). Here, the forested slopes were replaced by paramo, a combination of stunted shrubs and short stands of bamboo, above the treeline. Our main quarry here was not too difficult to find, **Volcano Junco**, a very local species, with this being the only readily accessible for the species on Earth. Nearby, we upgraded our views of **Timberline Wren**, but also enjoyed a **Flame-throated Warbler** and several **Slaty Flowerpiercers**, and got close ups of a charming **Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush**. One of our final stops of the day was sort of random, we stopped, at a likely spot for *Wrenthrush*, not hearing a peep out of that, but use of a *pygmy-owl* call brought in a veritable siege of birds, which included a pair of **Black-and-yellow Silky-Flycatcher**, as well as another ten or so **Long-tailed Silky-Flycatchers** too. Our final pause was made as we descended the **Savegre Valley** back towards our lodging, making one final try for *Wrenthrush*, at a recent spot. The undergrowth was already shady by this time of day, but this worked in our favor, as the bird hopped on and off several open perches. Just across the road, a sterling performance from a pair of **Black-cheeked Warblers** rounded off a day with many new birds added in the scenic highlands of Costa Rica, where we were in sight of both Pacific and Caribbean slopes from the highest point.



Volcano Junco was found at **Cerro de la Muerte**, the highest point of the tour at over 9000ft (above, John Wilkinson)



Lesser Violetears were abundant at the feeders in the cloudforest (above, John Wilkinson)

Day 5: Savegre and Paraiso Quetzale to Carara via Orotina.

Another varied day lay ahead of us; we started out birding montane forest, first near our lodge in the *Savegre Valley*, then higher up at *Paraiso Quetzal Lodge*, and then drive southwest into the lowlands of the Pacific for the final birding of the day. Most could not resist returning to the **Resplendent Quetzal** (right, *Bill Compton*) nest site, and in spite of greater numbers of people present, we enjoyed several amazing, long looks at the male, with his famous long bright green feathers flailing along below him, occasionally moved by small breaths of wind. Moving upslope after breakfast, we spent some final time birding the forested slopes beside the road within the valley, with tens of **Long-tailed Silky-Flycatchers**, and several **Flame-throated Warblers** and **Sooty-capped Chlorospinguses** being



upstaged by a find from our driver *Luis*, the rare **Ochraceous Pewee**, sitting in full view of the road for some time. A **Barred Becard** in the same area was the only one seen on the tour. We were greeted by hummingbird-packed feeders on arrival at *Paraiso Quetzal*, our main reason for visiting, which held one of the country's most striking hummingbirds, **Fiery-throated**, as well as the local **Talamanca Hummingbird**, **Volcano Hummingbird** and **Lesser Violetear**. In nearby trees a **Golden-browed Chlorophonia** made a brief appearance, but quickly disappeared. After taking lunch en-route, with **Swallow-tailed Kites** soaring around the restaurant, we drove on to *Orotina*, where local guide *Alvaro* worked some magic in just a few hours in his area. Shortly after arriving we were scoping a wonderful **Striped Cuckoo**, which was swiftly forgotten, when he pointed out a **Pacific Screech-Owl** dozing by his house! Brief appearances by a pair of **Scrub Euphonias** were quickly forgotten once we set eyes on **Turquoise-browed Motmots** for the first time, with several outstanding views of this spectacular bird enjoyed over our few hours there. This must surely be one of the country's most stunning birds, ranking even alongside the legendary quetzal?!

Certainly this group seemed to be on my side on this one! Next up was a roosting **Barn Owl**, suitably in a large barn, an area that also held **Eastern Meadowlark**, **Streak-backed Oriole** and **Gray-crowned Yellowthroat**, before nearby birding led to *Alvaro* gesturing again, this time at a sharp **Pearl Kite** sitting over the road. Moments later, he turned our attentions to the fields nearby, where several **Double-striped Thick-knee** stood calmly by. **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** was our third owl of the afternoon there, while an **American Kestrel** sat in the distance. **Black-headed Trogon** was also added, and became *our sixth trogon of the tour*. The roadsides nearby held our first flock of **Stripe-headed Sparrows** foraging in the same area as a few **Blue Grosbeaks**. Then, Sam and *Alvaro* set off for our final hope-**Lesser Ground-Cuckoo**. Having heard one distantly, they both quickly rejoined the rest of the group and drove up the road in the direction of the call. While we waited to see if the ground-cuckoo would respond to *Alvaro's* efforts, a **Cinnamon Hummingbird** buzzed around some nearby shrubs. Not long after *Alvaro* noticed the **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo** had crept quietly up to a low branch, where it remained for everyone to gorge on. After only several hours with *Alvaro*, we bade him farewell, still in disbelief at the long list of excellent birds that had been "given" to us by him, and drove on to our hotel on the edge of *Carara National Park* for the night.



Another 3-owl day, at **Orotina**, with this **Pacific Screech-Owl** (above, John Wilkinson), this **Barn Owl** (Bill Compton), and a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl...





Black-headed Trogon was found on the same afternoon at **Orotina** that featured 3 owls, Pearl Kite, and Lesser Ground-Cuckoo (John Wilkinson)

Day 6: Carara NP and Tarcoles River.

This is always a day of contrasts on this long running, classic itinerary. We started out by birding the extensive grounds of our hotel, before taking the earliest breakfast we could and heading into *Carara National Park*, virtually next door. Returning to the hotel for lunch, this was followed by a boat trip from *Tarcoles*, for a very relaxing close to the day. Starting around the hotel, a **Yellow-olive Flycatcher** was identified correctly after closer inspection, and then a **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron** (next page *Bill Compton*) near our breakfast spread was very popular, a species that also featured heavily on the later boat cruise that would encounter ten species of heron in a few hours! A short drive after breakfast brought us to the main entrance of the national park at *Carara*. Around the ticket booth the group set about finding birds, and quickly latched on to a **Blue-throated Goldentail** plundering the flowers by the parking lot. Then we took a short drive to the beginning of one of the park's most famous trails that leads to *Meandrica Lagoon*. As usual, we did not make it that far though. Near the trailhead, the local guard revealed the location of a hanging **Northern Ghost Bat**, our second, (much larger), white bat of the trip. As with all tropical forest trails, we had some hits and misses, with periods of high activity, punctuated with long spells of quiet within this hot rainforest. Early on, **Black-hooded Antshrike** showed up, as did **White-shouldered Tanager**, and **Rufous-breasted Wren**. Further down the trail, some got decent looks at the notoriously elusive **Black-bellied Wren**, and all got good looks at a striking **Barred Antshrikes**. One of the highlights during early spells on the trail was tracking down a male **Baird's Trogon**, a species we had expected to need much more work to find. We also had super looks at several more **Slaty-tailed Trogons**. Late additions further along the trail included **Slaty-headed Tody-Flycatcher**, **Charming Hummingbird**, and a cooperative **White-whiskered Puffbird**. **White-fronted Capuchins** also gave their best looks of the tour. However, arguably John had the sighting of the morning when he found a gorgeous male **Orange-collared Manakin**, which promptly disappeared from view.

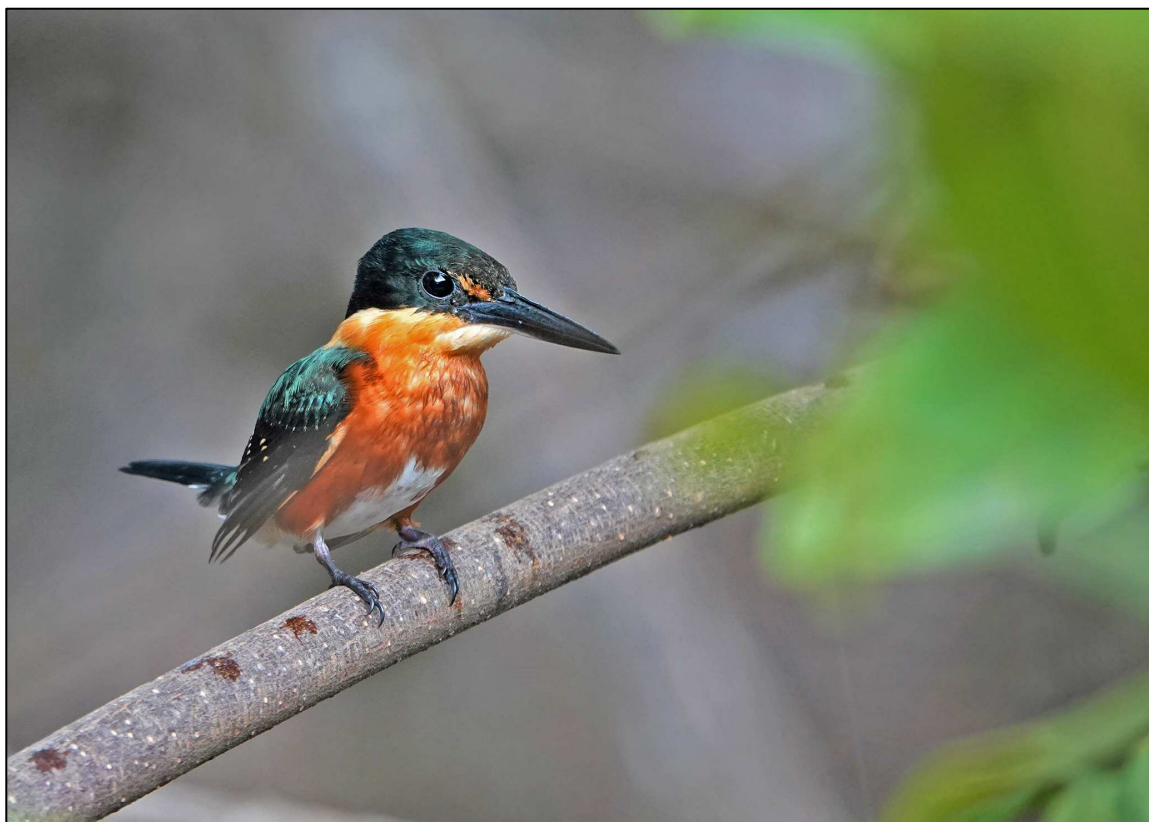
Returning to the our trusty, bird-friendly, local driver, *Luis* he informed us that he had managed to locate a pair of **Black-and-white Owls** (right *Peter Rigsbee*), that morning at a roost site. We could not resist going straight there, where we were most impressed with this pair of striking owls sitting in the shade of a giant roadside tree. After lunch, a short stop in some mangroves produced a **Panama Flycatcher**, and our first **anis**, before we headed to the dock in *Tarcoles* for our boat. Soon after we left the dock, the usual accompaniment of **Mangrove Swallows** appeared, and would be with us throughout. We started out in the mangroves, and quickly picked up **Little Blue and Yellow-crowned Night-Herons**, then once inside the mangrove



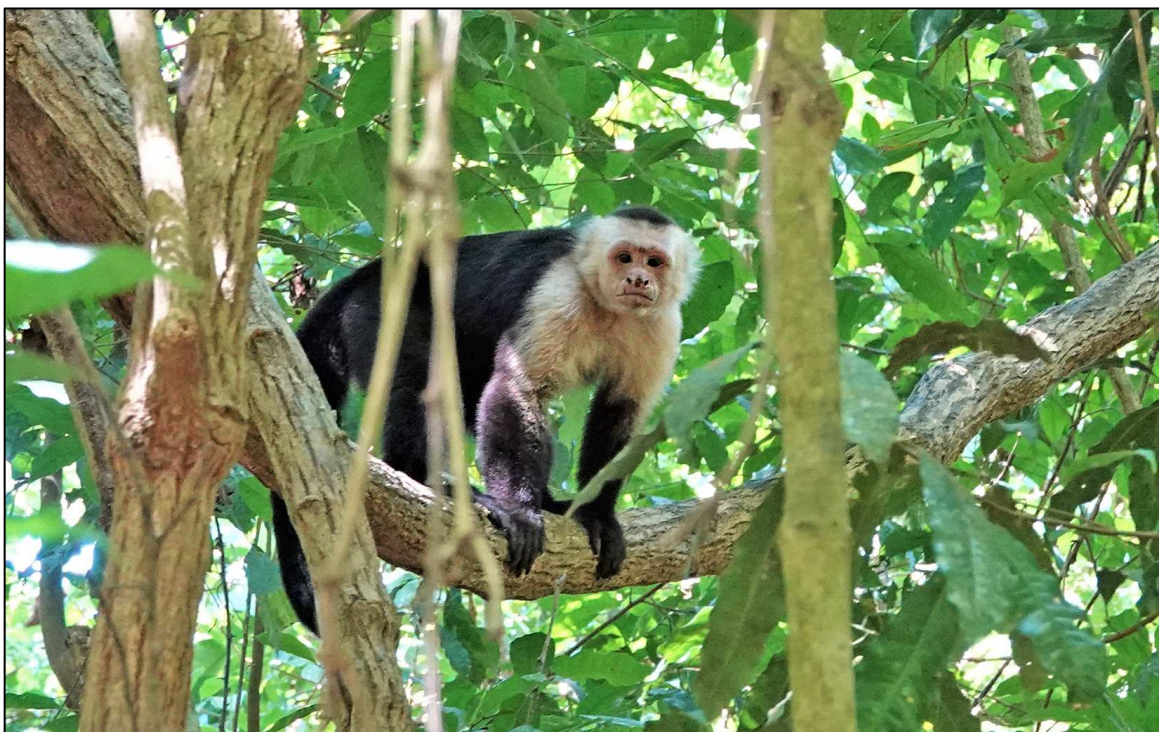
tributary, had several observations of **Boat-billed Herons**, sleeping within the mangroves themselves. Songbirds included residents like **Mangrove Vireo** and the mangrove form of **Yellow Warbler**, as well as migratory visitors, such as **Prothonotary Warbler**. Standing alongside this wide creek several **Common Black-Hawks** were noted too. Other birds included a series of shorebirds, like **Collared and Semipalmated Plovers**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, and **Double-striped Thick-knee**, **Purple Gallinule**, **Black Skimmer** and **Royal Tern**, **Anhinga**, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, and **Wood Stork**. Raptors were also represented by **Yellow-headed and Crested Caracaras**, and **Osprey**. Any boat trip has the group hoping for kingfishers, and while they were few and far between, we managed to find **Ringed Kingfisher** and **Green Kingfisher**, and best of all, due to some quite phenomenal spotting from several group members, a pair of **American Pygmy-Kingfishers** that afforded the best views of them all. Some surprise migrants found in the riverside shrubbery



included **Orchard Oriole** and a party of **Dickcissels**. The birds did not stop when we alighted from the boat back on dry land, our driver, not for the first time, led us to another great bird, with a **Laughing Falcon** that had been keeping him company. As dusk fell dozens of **Lesser Nighthawks** also took to the air and were visible from the extensive gift shop that some thought was an even higher priority!!!



In the morning, we saw *White-fronted Capuchin Monkeys* in the forest, and in the afternoon *American Pygmy-Kingfisher* from a boat (Bill Compton)





Slaty-tailed Trogon was photographed in the lowland forest of **Carara National Park** (John Wilkinson)

Day 7: Carara NP to Monteverde via Punta Morales.

A final session was spent along another set of lowland forest trails within *Carara NP*. We chose to walk in from the far end, making for a longer walk, but a quieter one away from some of the crowds within the main areas of the park on this weekend. This started well, with a **Black-faced Anthrush** pacing around in the open for everyone to enjoy. An antswarm was encountered in a very difficult position for group viewing, meaning that most only got to see a **Gray-headed Tanager** amongst the attendees. What followed was a long, and quiet period of time in the rainforest, with few birds seen until the end of the walk, which made it extremely worthwhile. A chance encounter with a nature lover taking a break, led us to first a stunning **Sunbittern** standing along a tranquil forest stream, and then a **Collared Forest-Falcon** sitting in a large hollow! Other birds seen that morning, included **Dot-winged Antwren**, **Golden-crowned Spadebill**, **Long-billed Gnatwren**, **Plain Xenops**, **Riverside Wren**, and **Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher**. Another highlight was chancing upon a **Green-and-black Poison Frog**, a striking species that we do not encounter frequently on this tour. Mammals also featured during in *Carara*, with **White-faced Capuchin**, **Geoffroy's Spider-Monkeys** and **Central American Agouti**.

After lunch back at our hotel, we checked out and visited a coastal area with tropical dry forest, which led us to our only **White-lored Gnatcatchers** of the trip, along with another **Cinnamon Hummingbird**, and a pair of more confiding **Scrub Euphonias** than the previous brief ones. The salt pans alongside can be teeming with birds on the right tide, but judging by the paucity of birds there, we had come at just the wrong time, a flock of **Whimbrel**, some distant **dowitchers**, and a few **Little Blue Herons** being all we could locate there.

Then we undertook the uphill drive to *Monteverde*, one of the most famous cloudforest locations in the world. However, the journey up took us through tropical dry forest, and just before we arrived at our lodge, we were stopped in our tracks with a small group of **White-throated Magpie-Jays**, mixed in with some local **Brown Jays**, while an absurdly close **White-fronted Parrot** watched alongside, a nice welcome to the lodge. Later in the afternoon, we were toyed with by several **Orange-billed local Nightingale-Thrushes**, which eventually showed to most.



This *White-fronted Parrot* was perched near a *White-throated Magpie-Jay* near our lodge in the mountains at **Monteverde** (John Wilkinson)



Brown Jays (above Bill Compton) and *Lessons Motmots* (John Wilkinson) were seen around the lodge in **Monteverde**





Slate-throated Redstarts gave delightful views around **Monteverde** (Bill Compton)

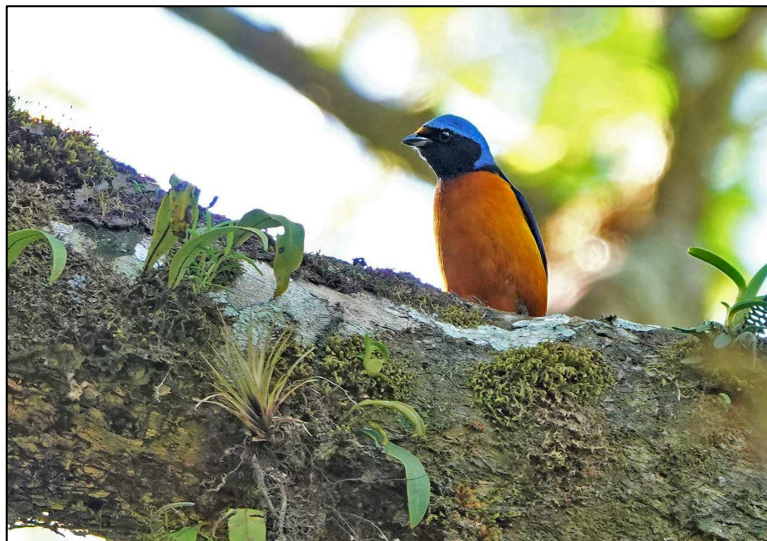
Day 8: Curi-Cancha and Monteverde.

The *Monteverde* area is famed for its cloudforest, but it is a lot more varied than that reputation suggest, with drier forest around town too, meaning that a variety of forest types can be visited in one morning, with all the sites close by. We began our day on the doorstep of our hotel, *Cala Lodge*, taking in birds within the flower laden garden and surrounding forest, like **White-eared Ground-Sparrow**, **Canivet's Emerald** coming to the local verbena blooms, and some spritely **Rufous-capped Warblers**. However, the most conspicuous birds were arguably a collection of gorgeous **Lesson's Motmots** waiting for fruit to be laid out for them! Moving on from there, we visited the nearby *Curi-Cancha Reserve*, an interesting place with a different mix of species on the higher trails that cut through cloudforest from the slightly lower, and drier forest along the lower trails. Along the latter we located a plump **Gray-throated Leaf Tosser**, and within the upper part of the reserve we tracked down a calling **Prong-billed Barbet**, one of our most wanted birds at the site. Other interesting species found in *Curi-Cancha* were **Gray-crowned Yellowthroat**, **Slate-throated Redstart**, and **Yellowish Flycatcher**. An area with abundant mistletoe by the hummingbird feeders brought is a swathe of new hummingbirds, plus **Elegant Euphonia** (next page *Bill Compton*) and **Golden-browed Chlorophonia**. This site and the hummingbird feeders we visited after at the entrance to *Monteverde* reserve, produced **Coppery-headed Emerald** (a country endemic), some spectacular **Purple-throated Mountain-Gems** (right *Bill Compton*), striking **Violet Sabrewings**, tiny



Magenta-throated Woodstars hovering instead of perching on the feeders, plus **Green-crowned Brilliants**, **Lesser Violetears**, and **Stripe-tailed Hummingbirds**. After visiting *Curi-Cancha*, and taking in the hummers at the entrance to *Monteverde*, we took lunch there, and then did some easy trail walking after that.

We saved the main reserve of *Monteverde* until the afternoon, as the reputation of this beautiful park is such that mornings can get overcrowded in this, the most popular, season. This worked well, with only small numbers of people seen during our afternoon saunter. Things started slowly, but eventually, due to a combined group effort, birds showed up as we encountered a few small flocks. In the understory, we found some boisterous **Costa Rican Warblers**, and the bird parties



held **Spangle-cheeked Tanagers**, **Golden-winged Warblers**, and a series of fascinating ovenbird species: **Streak-breasted Treehunter**, **Spotted Barbtail**, **Red-faced Spinetail** and **Ruddy Treerunner**. **Northern Emerald Toucanet** also showed up again, this time way up in the canopy of the beautiful, tall cloudforest, and plenty of **Black-faced Solitaires** had us wondering why we'd worried about missing this species up until recently! Perhaps the performance of the afternoon though was a **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush**, (below *Bill Compton*) which ended up by hopping out right in front of us, bringing much joy to all!



Day 9 (of birding): Monteverde to San Jose.

A final period in the morning was spent around Monteverde, firstly around *Cala Lodge*, and then at the nearby Ecological Sanctuary, before we departed after lunch for *San Jose*. Highlights of this final session included **Northern Emerald Toucanet**, a couple of **Orange-bellied Trogon** (a form that is currently now considered a subspecies of **Collared Trogon**), a few more conspicuous **Lesson's Motmots**, **Olivaceous Woodcreeper**, **Golden-olive** and **Hoffman's Woodpeckers**, some final **Keel-billed Toucans**, and some more **White-eared Ground-Sparrows**. However, the highlight for some was probably the male **Long-tailed Manakin**, which showed following an epic search, where it eluded most of us for some

time. That night, we took final dinner together, and voted for our best birds of the trip. The list of birds in contention was typically extensive, numbering 24 species! However, after final counts were in, the final top five were: **Sunbittern**, **Resplendent Quetzal**, **Turquoise-browed Motmot**, **Black-and-white Owl**, and a very popular **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush**.

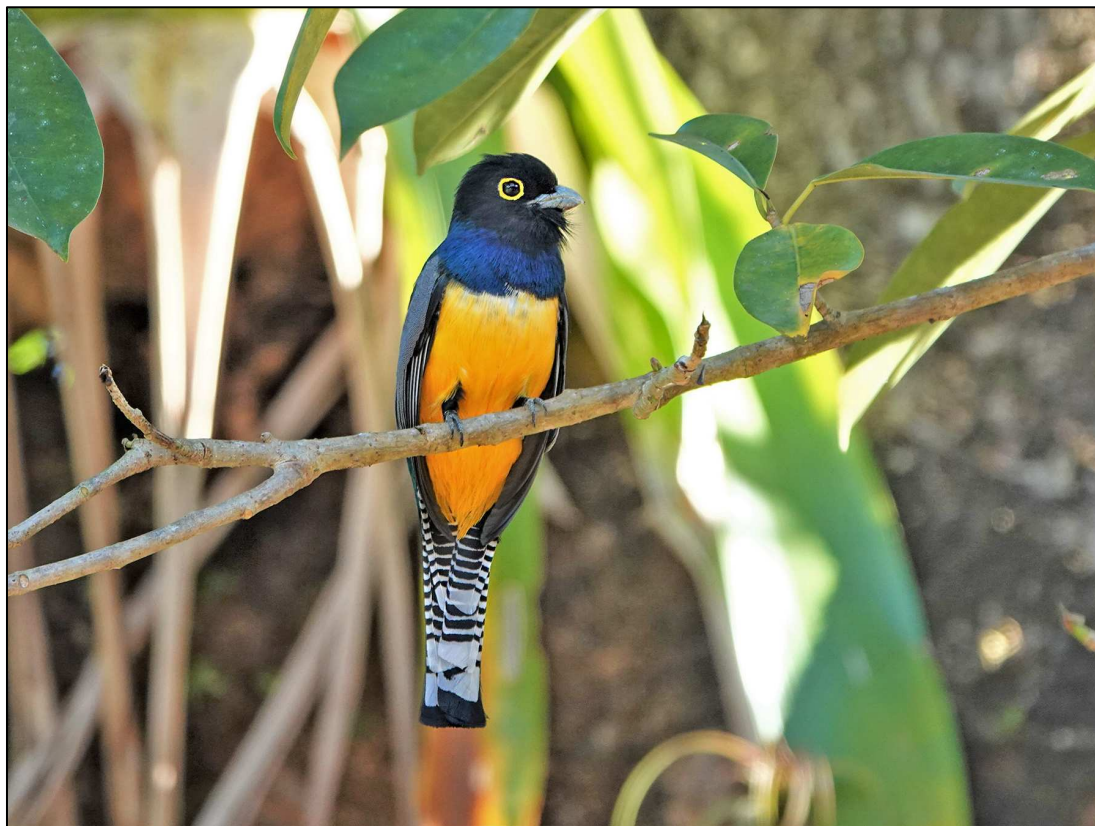


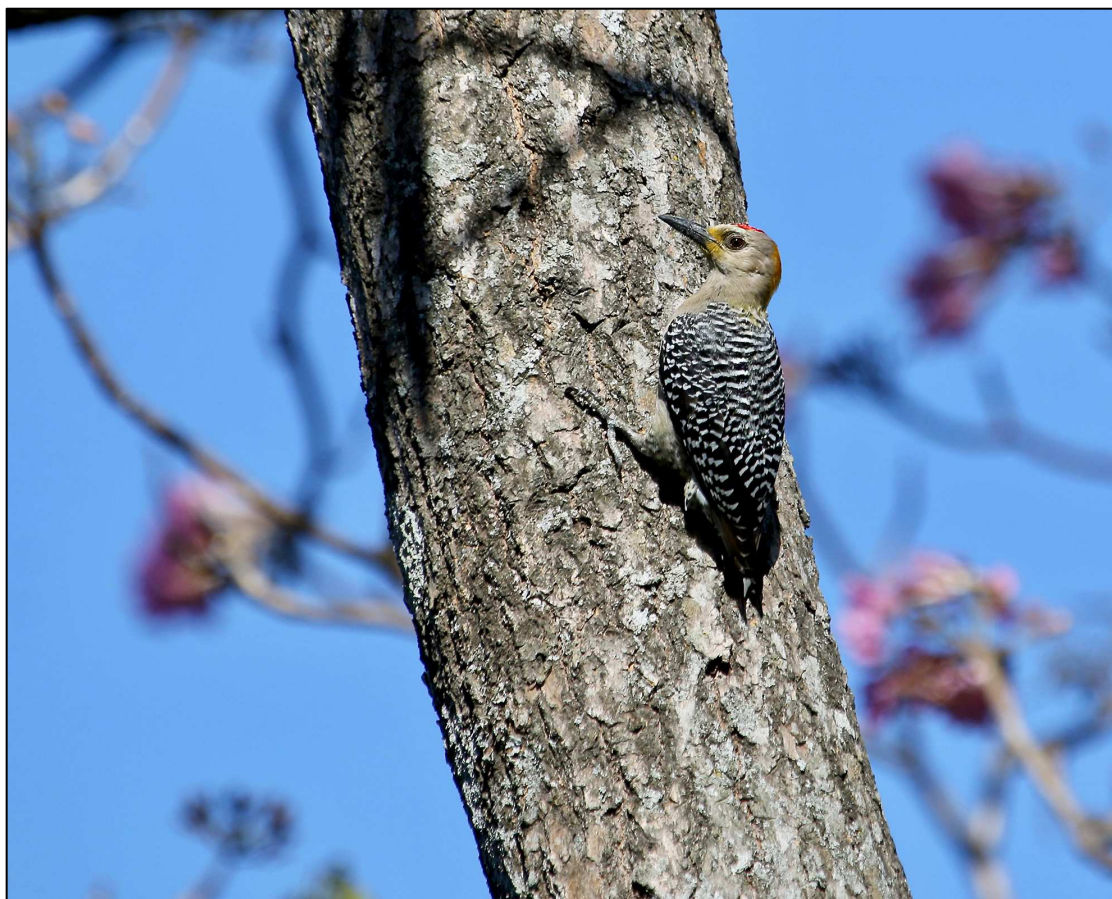
Our first day featured *Orange-chinned Parakeet* (above Bill Compton) and *Black-cheeked Woodpeckers* (John Wilkinson) at some fantastic feeders





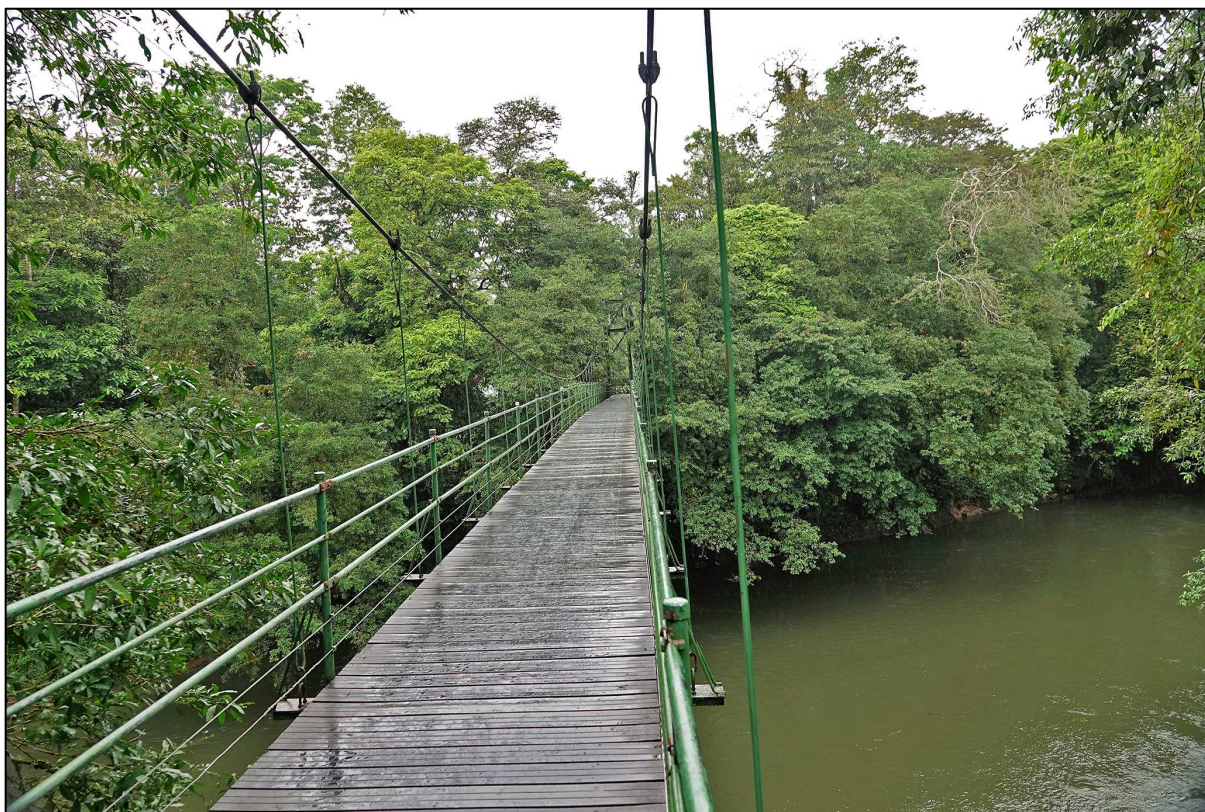
Colorful tropical birds were the name of the game with *Yellow-throated Toucan* and *Gartered Trogon* featuring in lowland rainforest (Bill Compton)



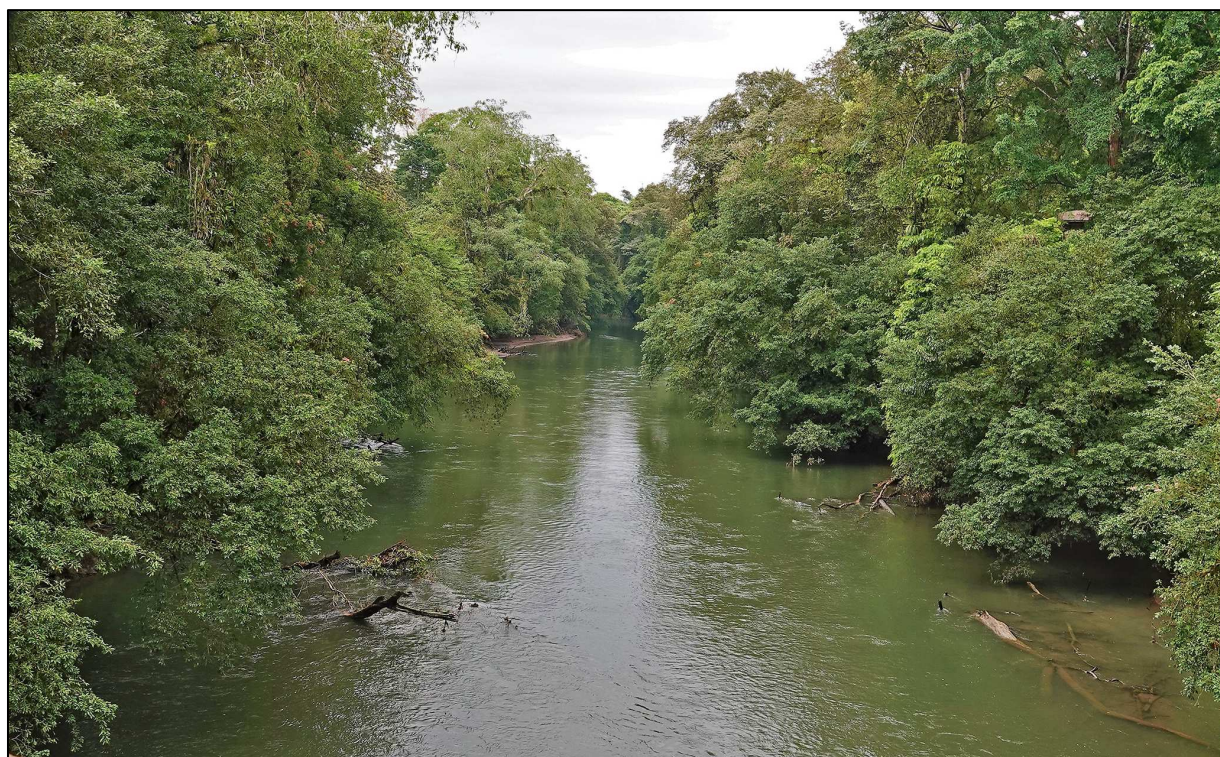


Hoffman's Woodpeckers were around our hotel near **San Jose airport** (John Wilkinson) and the **Talamanca Mountains in Savegre** (Bill Compton)





La Selva Biological Station in the lowlands of the Caribbean brought us many exciting tropical birds, like toucans, trogons, orioles, hummingbirds, cotingas and oropendolas, along with monkeys, sloths and poison dart frogs (Bill Compton)



CHECKLISTS

The taxonomy of the bird list follows: Clements, James F., White, Anthony W., and Fitzpatrick, John W. The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World. Cornell, 2007.

This list is up to date with the major changes published by Cornell up until August 2019.

H indicates a species that was HEARD, but not seen.

BIRDS:

TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Great Tinamou

Tinamus major

H Little Tinamou

Crypturellus soui

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, AND CURASSOWS: CRACIDAE

Gray-headed Chachalaca

Ortalis cinereiceps

Crested Guan

Penelope purpurascens

Black Guan

Chamaepetes unicolor

NEW WORLD QUAIL: ODONTOPHORIDAE

H Black-breasted Wood-Quail

Odontophorus leucolaemus

H Spotted Wood-Quail

Odontophorus guttatus

PIGEONS AND DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Rock Pigeon

Columba livia

Pale-vented Pigeon

Patagioenas cayennensis

Red-billed Pigeon

Patagioenas flavirostris

Band-tailed Pigeon

Patagioenas fasciata

Ruddy Pigeon

Patagioenas subvinacea

Short-billed Pigeon

Patagioenas nigristrostris

Inca Dove

Columbina inca

Common Ground-Dove

Columbina passerina

Ruddy Ground-Dove

Columbina talpacoti

White-tipped Dove

Leptotila verreauxi

Gray-chested Dove

Leptotila cassini

White-winged Dove

Zenaida asiatica

CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo

Piaya cayana

Striped Cuckoo

Tapera naevia

Lesser Ground-Cuckoo

Morococcyx erythropygus

Smooth-billed Ani

Crotophaga ani

Groove-billed Ani

Crotophaga sulcirostris

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES: CAPRIMULGIDAE

Lesser Nighthawk

Chordeiles acutipennis

Common Pauraque

POTOOS: NYCTIBIIDAE

Great Potoo

SWIFTS: APODIDAE

White-collared Swift

Gray-rumped Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS: TROCHILIDAE

White-necked Jacobin

Green Hermit

Long-billed Hermit

Stripe-throated Hermit

Lesser Violetear

Purple-crowned Fairy

Green-crowned Brilliant

Talamanca Hummingbird

Fiery-throated Hummingbird

Purple-throated Mountain-gem

White-throated Mountain-gem

Magenta-throated Woodstar

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Volcano Hummingbird

Canivet's Emerald

Scaly-breasted Hummingbird

Violet Sabrewing

Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer

Crowned Woodnymph

Stripe-tailed Hummingbird

Coppery-headed Emerald

Blue-chested Hummingbird

Charming Hummingbird

Blue-vented Hummingbird

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

Cinnamon Hummingbird

Blue-throated Goldentail

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS: RALLIDAE

Russet-naped Wood-Rail

Purple Gallinule

THICK-KNEES: BURHINIDAE

Double-striped Thick-knee

Nyctidromus albicollis

Nyctibius grandis

Streptoprocne zonaris

Chaetura cinereiventris

Florisuga mellivora

Phaethornis guy

Phaethornis longirostris

Phaethornis striigularis

Colibri cyanotus

Heliothryx barroti

Heliodoxa jacula

Eugenes spectabilis

Panterpe insignis

Lampornis calolaemus

Lampornis castaneoventris

Calliphlox bryantae

Archilochus colubris

Selasphorus flammula

Chlorostilbon canivetii

Phaeochroa cuvierii

Campylopterus hemileucurus

Chalybura urochrysis

Thalurania colombica

Eupherusa eximia

Elvira cupreiceps

Amazilia amabilis

Amazilia decora

Amazilia hoffmanni

Amazilia tzacatl

Amazilia rutila

Hylocharis eliciae

Aramides albiventris

Porphyrio martinicus

Burhinus bistriatus

STILTS AND AVOCETS: RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Black-necked Stilt

*Himantopus mexicanus***PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: CHARADRIIDAE**

Collared Plover

Charadrius collaris

Semipalmated Plover

*Charadrius semipalmatus***SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: SCOLOPACIDAE**

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularius

Willet

Tringa semipalmata

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

Ruddy Turnstone

Arenaria interpres

Sanderling

Calidris alba

Dowitcher species

*Limnodromus sp.***GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS: LARIDAE**

Laughing Gull

Leucophaeus atricilla

Royal Tern

Thalasseus maximus

Black Skimmer

*Rynchops niger***SUNBITTERN: EURYPYGIDAE**

Sunbittern

*Eurypyga helias***STORKS: CICONIIDAE**

Wood Stork

*Mycteria americana***FRIGATEBIRDS: FREGATIDAE**

Magnificent Frigatebird

*Fregata magnificens***ANHINGAS: ANHINGIDAE**

Anhinga

*Anhinga anhinga***CORMORANTS AND SHAGS: PHALACROCORACIDAE**

Neotropic Cormorant

*Phalacrocorax brasilianus***PELICANS: PELECANIDAE**

Brown Pelican

*Pelecanus occidentalis***HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE**

Bare-throated Tiger-Heron

Tigrisoma mexicanum

Great Blue Heron

Ardea herodias

Great Egret

Ardea alba

Snowy Egret

Egretta thula

Little Blue Heron

Egretta caerulea

Tricolored Heron

Egretta tricolor

Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

Green Heron

Butorides virescens

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Nyctanassa violacea

Boat-billed Heron

Cochlearius cochlearius

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS: THRESKIORNITHIDAE

White Ibis

Green Ibis

Roseate Spoonbill

*Eudocimus albus**Mesembrinibis cayennensis**Platalea ajaja***NEW WORLD VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE**

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

*Coragyps atratus**Cathartes aura***OSPREY: PANDIONIDAE**

Osprey

*Pandion haliaetus***HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES: ACCIPITRIDAE**

Pearl Kite

White-tailed Kite

Swallow-tailed Kite

Plumbeous Kite

Common Black-Hawk

Semiplumbeous Hawk

Gray Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

*Gampsonyx swainsonii**Elanus leucurus**Elanoides forficatus**Ictinia plumbea**Buteogallus anthracinus**Leucopternis semiplumbeus**Buteo plagiatus**Buteo platypterus**Buteo brachyurus**Buteo jamaicensis***BARN-OWLS: TYTONIDAE**

Barn Owl

*Tyto alba***OWLS: STRIGIDAE**

Pacific Screech-Owl

Crested Owl

Spectacled Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

Black-and-white Owl

*Megascops cooperi**Lophotrix cristata**Pulsatrix perspicillata**Glaucidium brasilianum**Ciccaba nigrolineata***TROGONS: TROGONIDAE**

Resplendent Quetzal

Slaty-tailed Trogon

Black-headed Trogon

Baird's Trogon

Gartered Trogon

Black-throated Trogon

Collared Trogon

*Pharomachrus mocinno**Trogon massena**Trogon melanocephalus**Trogon bairdii**Trogon caligatus**Trogon rufus**Trogon collaris***MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE**

Lesson's Motmot

Rufous Motmot

Broad-billed Motmot

*Momotus lessonii**Baryphthengus martii**Electron platyrhynchum*

Turquoise-browed Motmot

KINGFISHERS: ALCEDINIDAE

Ringed Kingfisher

Green Kingfisher

American Pygmy Kingfisher

PUFFBIRDS: BUCCONIDAE

White-whiskered Puffbird

JACAMARS: GALBULIDAE

Rufous-tailed Jacamar

TOUCANS-BARBETS: SEMNORNITHIDAE

Prong-billed Barbet

TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Northern Emerald-Toucanet

Collared Aracari

Yellow-throated (Chestnut-mandibled) Toucan

Keel-billed Toucan

WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE

Acorn Woodpecker

Black-cheeked Woodpecker

Red-crowned x Hoffman's Woodpecker hybrid

Hoffmann's Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Hairy Woodpecker

Rufous-winged Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Cinnamon Woodpecker

Chestnut-colored Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Pale-billed Woodpecker

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

Collared Forest-Falcon

Crested Caracara

Yellow-headed Caracara

Laughing Falcon

American Kestrel

Peregrine Falcon

NEW WORLD & AFRICAN PARROTS: PSITTACIDAE

Orange-chinned Parakeet

White-crowned Parrot

Red-lored Parrot

Eumomota superciliosa

Megaceryle torquata

Chloroceryle americana

Chloroceryle aenea

Malacoptila panamensis

Galbula ruficauda

Semnornis frantzii

Aulacorhynchus prasinus maxillaris

Pteroglossus torquatus torquatus

Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii

Ramphastos sulfuratus

Melanerpes formicivorus

Melanerpes pucherani

Melanerpes rubricapillus x hoffmannii

Melanerpes hoffmannii

Sphyrapicus varius

Dryobates villosus

Piculus simplex

Colaptes rubiginosus

Celeus loricatus

Celeus castaneus

Dryocopus lineatus

Campephilus guatemalensis

Micrastur semitorquatus

Caracara cheriway

Milvago chimachima

Herpetotheres cachinnans

Falco sparverius

Falco peregrinus

Brotogeris jugularis

Pionus senilis

Amazona autumnalis

Yellow-naped Parrot
White-fronted Parrot
Mealy Parrot
Sulphur-winged Parakeet
Olive-throated Parakeet
Great Green Macaw
Scarlet Macaw
Crimson-fronted Parakeet

TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Fasciated Antshrike
Barred Antshrike
Black-hooded Antshrike
Dot-winged Antwren
Dusky Antbird
Chestnut-backed Antbird
Bicolored Antbird

ANTTHRUSHES: FORMICARIIDAE

Black-faced Antthrush

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: FURNARIIDAE

Gray-throated Leaf-tosser
Olivaceous Woodcreeper
Plain-brown Woodcreeper
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper
Northern Barred-Woodcreeper
Cocoa Woodcreeper
Streak-headed Woodcreeper
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper
Plain Xenops
Streaked Xenops
Buffy Tuftedcheek
Streak-breasted Treehunter
Spotted Barbtail
Ruddy Treerunner
Red-faced Spinetail

MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

Long-tailed Manakin
White-collared Manakin
Orange-collared Manakin

COTINGAS: COTINGIDAE

Purple-throated Fruitcrow

Amazona auropalliata
Amazona albifrons
Amazona farinosa
Pyrrhura hoffmanni
Eupsittula nana
Ara ambiguus
Ara macao
Psittacara finschi

Cymbilaimus lineatus
Thamnophilus doliatus
Thamnophilus bridgesi
Microrhophias quixensis
Cercomacra tyrannina
Myrmeciza exsul
Gymnopithys bicolor

Formicarius analis

Sclerurus albigularis
Sittasomus griseicapillus
Dendrocincla fuliginosa
Glyphorhynchus spirurus
Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae
Xiphorhynchus susurrans
Lepidocolaptes souleyetii
Lepidocolaptes affinis
Xenops minutus
Xenops rutilans
Pseudocolaptes lawrencii lawrencii
Thripadectes rufobrunneus
Premnoplex brunnescens
Margarornis rubiginosus
Cranioleuca erythropus

Chiroxiphia linearis
Manacus candei
Manacus aurantiacus

Querula purpurata

Snowy Cotinga

TITYRAS AND ALLIES: TITYRIDAE

Black-crowned Tityra

Masked Tityra

Barred Becard

Cinnamon Becard

H White-winged Becard

Rose-throated Becard

SHARPBILL, ROYAL FLYCATCHER AND ALLIES: OXYRUNCIDAE

Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet

Greenish Elaenia

Yellow-bellied Elaenia

Mountain Elaenia

Olive-striped Flycatcher

Mistletoe (Paltry) Tyrannulet

Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher

Common Tody-Flycatcher

Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher

Yellow-olive Flycatcher

Yellow-margined Flycatcher

Golden-crowned Spadebill

Tufted Flycatcher

Ochraceous Pewee

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Yellowish Flycatcher

Black-capped Flycatcher

Black Phoebe

Long-tailed Tyrant

H Bright-rumped Attila

Rufous Mourner

Dusky-capped Flycatcher

Panama Flycatcher

Great Crested Flycatcher

Brown-crested Flycatcher

Great Kiskadee

Boat-billed Flycatcher

Social Flycatcher

Gray-capped Flycatcher

Carpodectes nitidus

Tityra inquisitor

Tityra semifasciata

Pachyramphus versicolor

Pachyramphus cinnamomeus

Pachyramphus polychopterus

Pachyramphus aglaiae

Myiobius sulphureipygius

Camptostoma obsoletum

Myiopagis viridicata

Elaenia flavogaster

Elaenia frantzii

Mionectes olivaceus

Zimmerius parvus

Poecilatriccus sylvia

Todirostrum cinereum

Todirostrum nigriceps

Tolmomyias sulphurescens cinereiceps

Tolmomyias assimilis flavotectus

Platyrinchus coronatus

Mitrephanes phaeocercus

Contopus ochraceus

Empidonax flaviventris

Empidonax flavescens

Empidonax atriceps

Sayornis nigricans

Colonia colonus

Attila spadiceus

Rhytipterna holerythra

Myiarchus tuberculifer

Myiarchus panamensis

Myiarchus crinitus

Myiarchus tyrannulus

Pitangus sulphuratus

Megarynchus pitangua

Myiozetetes similis

Myiozetetes granadensis

White-ringed Flycatcher

Streaked Flycatcher

Piratic Flycatcher

Tropical Kingbird

*Conopias albobittatus**Myiodynastes maculatus**Legatus leucophaeus**Tyrannus melancholicus***VIREOS, SHRIKE-BABBLERS & ERPORNIS: VIREONIDAE**

Mangrove Vireo

Yellow-throated Vireo

Yellow-winged Vireo

Brown-capped Vireo

Tawny-crowned Greenlet

Lesser Greenlet

*Vireo pallens**Vireo flavifrons**Vireo carmioli**Vireo leucophrys**Hylophilus ochraceiceps**Hylophilus decurtatus**Cyclarhis gujanensis*

H Rufous-browed Peppershrike

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES: CORVIDAE

White-throated Magpie-Jay

Brown Jay

*Calocitta formosa**Psilorhinus morio***SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE**

Blue-and-white Swallow

Southern Rough-winged Swallow

Gray-breasted Martin

Mangrove Swallow

*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca**Stelgidopteryx ruficollis**Progne chalybea**Tachycineta albilinea***GNATCATCHERS: POLIOPTILIDAE**

Long-billed Gnatwren

White-lored Gnatcatcher

Tropical Gnatcatcher

*Ramphocaenus melanurus**Poliophtila albiloris**Poliophtila plumbea***WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE**

H Scaly-breasted Wren

House Wren

Ochraceous Wren

Timberline Wren

Band-backed Wren

Rufous-naped Wren

Black-bellied Wren

Rufous-breasted Wren

Black-throated Wren

*Microcerculus marginatus**Troglodytes aedon**Troglodytes ochraceus**Thryorchilus browni**Campylorhynchus zonatus**Campylorhynchus rufinucha**Pheugopedius fasciatoventris**Pheugopedius rutilus**Pheugopedius atrogularis**Thryophilus rufalbus*

H Rufous-and-white Wren

Stripe-breasted Wren

Cabanis's Wren

Riverside Wren

*Cantorchilus thoracicus**Cantorchilus modestus**Cantorchilus semibadius*

H Bay Wren

White-breasted Wood-Wren

*Cantorchilus nigricapillus**Henicorhina leucosticta*

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: MIMIDAE

Tropical Mockingbird

THRUSHES AND ALLIES: TURDIDAE

Black-faced Solitaire

Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush

Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush

Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Swainson's Thrush

Wood Thrush

Sooty Thrush (Robin)

Mountain Thrush (Robin)

H Pale-vented Thrush

Clay-colored Thrush (Robin)

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: PTILOGONATIDAE

Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher

Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher

FINCHES, EUPHONIAS & ALLIES: FRINGILLIDAE

Scrub Euphonia

Yellow-crowned Euphonia

Yellow-throated Euphonia

Elegant Euphonia

Olive-backed Euphonia

Golden-browed Chlorophonia

Yellow-bellied Siskin

BUNTINGS AND NEW WORLD SPARROWS: EMBERIZIDAE

Sooty-capped Chlorospingus

Common Chlorospingus

Stripe-headed Sparrow

Black-striped Sparrow

Orange-billed Sparrow

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch

Volcano Junco

Rufous-collared Sparrow

Large-footed Finch

White-eared Ground-Sparrow

Yellow-thighed Finch

Henicorhina leucophrys

Mimus gilvus

Myadestes melanops

Catharus gracilirostris

Catharus aurantirostris

Catharus fuscater

Catharus frantzii

Catharus minimus

Catharus ustulatus

Hylocichla mustelina

Turdus nigrescens

Turdus plebejus

Turdus obsoletus

Turdus grayi

Phainoptila melanoxantha

Ptilogonys caudatus

Euphonia affinis

Euphonia luteicapilla

Euphonia hirundinacea

Euphonia elegantissima

Euphonia gouldi

Chlorophonia callophrys

Spinus xanthogastrus

Chlorospingus pileatus

Chlorospingus flavopectus

Peucaea ruficauda

Arremonops conirostris

Arremon aurantirostris

Arremon brunneinucha

Junco vulcani

Zonotrichia capensis

Pezopetes capitalis

Melospiza leucotis

Pselliophorus tibialis

ZELEDONIIDAE: WRENTHRUSH

Wrenthrush (Zeledonia)

*Zeledonia coronata***TROUPIALS AND ALLIES: ICTERIDAE**

Red-winged Blackbird

Agelaius phoeniceus

Eastern Meadowlark

Sturnella magna

Melodious Blackbird

Dives dives

Great-tailed Grackle

Quiscalus mexicanus

Shiny Cowbird

Molothrus bonariensis

Black-cowled Oriole

Icterus prothemelas

Orchard Oriole

Icterus spurius

Streak-backed Oriole

Icterus pustulatus

Spot-breasted Oriole

Icterus pectoralis

Baltimore Oriole

Icterus galbula

Chestnut-headed Oropendola

Psarocolius wagleri

Montezuma Oropendola

*Psarocolius montezuma***NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE**

Ovenbird

Seiurus aurocapilla

Worm-eating Warbler

Helmitheros vermivorum

Louisiana Waterthrush

Parkesia motacilla

Northern Waterthrush

Parkesia noveboracensis

Golden-winged Warbler

Vermivora chrysoptera

Black-and-white Warbler

Mniotilta varia

Prothonotary Warbler

Protonotaria citrea

Flame-throated Warbler

Oreothlypis gutturalis

Tennessee Warbler

Oreothlypis peregrina

Gray-crowned Yellowthroat

Geothlypis poliocephala

Bay-breasted Warbler

Setophaga castanea

Yellow Warbler

Setophaga petechia

Yellow (Mangrove) Warbler

Setophaga petechia bryanti

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Setophaga pensylvanica

Black-throated Green Warbler

Setophaga virens

Rufous-capped Warbler

Basileuterus rufifrons

Black-cheeked Warbler

Basileuterus melanogenys

Golden-crowned Warbler

Basileuterus culicivorus

Costa Rican Warbler

Basileuterus melanotis

Buff-rumped Warbler

Myiothlypis fulvicauda

Wilson's Warbler

Cardellina pusilla

Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)

Myioborus miniatus

Collared Redstart (Whitestart)

Myioborus torquatus

CARDINALS AND ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE

Hepatic Tanager
Summer Tanager
Flame-colored Tanager
Red-throated Ant-Tanager
Black-faced Grosbeak
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Blue-black Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Painted Bunting
Dickcissel

Piranga flava
Piranga rubra
Piranga bidentata
Habia fuscicauda
Caryothraustes polioaster
Pheucticus ludovicianus
Cyanocompsa cyanooides
Passerina caerulea
Passerina ciris
Spiza americana

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE

Gray-headed Tanager
White-shouldered Tanager
Crimson-collared Tanager
Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Blue-gray Tanager
Palm Tanager
Golden-hooded Tanager
Spangle-cheeked Tanager
Plain-colored Tanager
Silver-throated Tanager
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis
Blue Dacnis
Shining Honeycreeper
Red-legged Honeycreeper
Green Honeycreeper
Slaty Flowerpiercer
Blue-black Grassquit
Variable Seedeater (Caribbean)
Morelet's (White-collared) Seedeater
Bananaquit
Yellow-faced Grassquit
Buff-throated Saltator

Eucometis penicillata
Tachyphonus luctuosus
Ramphocelus sanguinolentus
Ramphocelus passerinii
Thraupis episcopus
Thraupis palmarum
Tangara larvata
Tangara dowii
Tangara inornata
Tangara icterocephala
Dacnis venusta
Dacnis cayana
Cyanerpes lucidus
Cyanerpes cyaneus
Chlorophanes spiza
Diglossa plumbea
Volatinia jacarina
Sporophila corvina
Sporophila morelleti
Coereba flaveola
Tiaris olivaceus
Saltator maximus

MAMMALS:

Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>
Brazilian Long-nosed (Proboscis) Bat	<i>Rhynchonycteris naso</i>
Northern Ghost Bat	<i>Diclidurus albus</i>
White Tent Bat	<i>Ectophylla alba</i>
White-throated Capuchin Monkey	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>
Mantled Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>
Central American (Geoffroy's) Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>
Variegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides</i>
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>
Tapiti (Brazilian Rabbit)	<i>Sylvilagus brasiliensis</i>
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>
Collared Peccary	<i>Tayassu tajacu</i>

AMPHIBIANS:

Marine Toad	<i>Rhinella (Bufo) marina</i>
Green and Black Poison Frog	<i>Dendrobates auratus</i>
Strawberry Poison Frog	<i>Oophaga (Dendrobates) pumilio</i>

REPTILES:

Black River Turtle	<i>Rhinoclemmys funerea</i>
Brown Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>
Slender Anole	<i>Anolis limifrons</i>
Spinytail Iguana (Ctenosaur)	<i>Ctenosaura similis</i>
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>
Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>

INSECTS:

Common/Peleides (Blue) Morpho	<i>Morpho peleides</i>
Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>
Owl Butterfly sp.	<i>Caligo sp.</i>
Leafcutter Ant	<i>Atta cephalotes</i>
Army Ant	<i>Eciton burchelli</i>