



A [Tropical Birding](#) SET DEPARTURE tour

## **ECUADOR: ANDES INTROTOUR** **and HIGH ANDES EXTENSION**

**22-31 January 2017**

**TOUR LEADER: ANDRES VASQUEZ**

*Report and Photos by Andres Vasquez*



*Due to a request from a participant, and unanimous interest among the group, we modified the itinerary a little to visit an **Oilbird** Cave near El Chontal, where we saw a number of these enigmatic, alien-like birds.*

## INTRODUCTION:

It had been almost exactly a year since my last Ecuador Andes Introtour, and so I was only too happy to be guiding the first of 2017. We normally run at least four of these tours each year for good reason: almost 340 bird species recorded in just 6 days, to an extremely reasonably priced destination that gives rise to an almost unmatched bird/dollar ratio. Money aside, the quality of birds we find on this trip is also impressive, as we typically find some of the best birds in South America (as we did on this tour), like **Andean Cock-of-the-rock**, **Sword-billed Hummingbird**, **Toucan Barbet** and **Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan**, (all of which are possible on the first birding day of the tour); plus many of the most colorful Choco endemic bird species like, **Velvet-purple Coronet**, **Violet-tailed Sylph**, **Yellow-collared Chlorophonia**, **Glistening-green** and **Moss-backed Tanagers**, and other highly sought after species, such as **White-capped Dipper**, **Golden-headed Quetzal**, **SEVEN species of Antpittas** (5 of which in a single morning at *Refugio Paz de la Aves*), and around **40 species of hummingbird**. The **High Andes Extension** (just TWO extra days) adds 40-50 birds to the list including several of the regular favorites for the entire tour like, **Andean Condor**, **Torrent Duck**, **Andean Ibis**, **Giant Hummingbird**, and **Masked Mountain-Tanager**.

We saw all that, and many more; at the end we registered 381 species out of which 33 were heard only and just 5 were seen only by the tour leader. We visited renowned birding areas like the Tandayapa Valley, Yanacocha Reserve, Milpe and Silanche Bird Sanctuaries, Mashpi Amagusa Reserve, the unique Refugio Paz de las Aves, the cold but super Papallacta Pass and the Condor Capital of Ecuador, Antisana. Logistically, this tour is easy, since for almost the entirety of the main tour we use the wonderful Tandayapa Bird Lodge as a base to explore the surrounding Choco Region, visiting different elevations every day; so this means unpacking only once.



*Giant Hummingbird* visiting feeders at Tambo Condor Restaurant in Antisana

**TOUR SUMMARY:** *Main Tour (NORTHWEST slope of the Andes)*

**Jan. 23: Yanacocha and the Old Nono-Mindo Road:** The tour started with a pre-dawn departure from our hotel in Quito towards the highland reserve of Yanacocha, located at 3350m/11,000ft elevation. On our way there, we were surprised by one of the most beautiful sceneries of the tour as just at dawn we saw the spectacular landscape with the city of Quito waking up, framed by two of the four highest snow-capped volcanoes in Ecuador, **Cayambe** (5790m/19,000ft) on the left and **Antisana** (5704m/ 18,714ft) on the right. **Cayambe** is the only snow-capped volcano in the world where the equator cuts across the summit.



We did a couple stops before getting to the reserve, birding some open areas, grasslands and farms for **Black-tailed Trainbearer**, **Black Flowerpiercer**, **White-browed Spinetail**, a crazy **Tawny Antpitta** running on the open road in front of the bus, **Yellow-breasted Brushfinch**, **Black-crested Warbler**, and the scarce **Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet**.

Once in **Yanacocha**, we started the longish walk along the *Trocha Inca*, a 3km/1.7mile-long trail that is mainly flat and level, so the altitude did not affect us too much. We soon started to find several of the targets for the area including, **Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager**, **Gray-browed Brush-Finch**, the scarce **Golden-crowned Tanager**, **Superciliaried Hemispingus**, **Blue-backed Conebill**, **White-banded** and **White-throated Tyrannulets**, and a few more songbirds. We were startled by yet another antpitta running in the open, this time a **Rufous Antpitta** for which we had tried previously achieving only unsatisfactory views. The area of the hummingbird feeders at the end of the main trail was quite active and produced **Golden-breasted** and **Sapphire-vented Pufflegs**, **Buff-winged Starfrontlets**, **Tyrian Metaltails**, **Great Sapphirewings**, and a pair of the much-wanted **Sword-billed Hummingbird**.

Andres heard a strange song emanating from the narrower trails behind the feeder area, and so decided to take the group there; a weird song, not because it was something wrong with the sound itself but because it belonged to an owl that is not particularly active by day, especially on a sunny morning close to noon. I initially thought that another person was playing a tape from there, since I saw another guide going with his group in that direction but it made no sense that he was playing that song so I decided to give it a try and play. We then

were very happily surprised when a couple of the normally only nocturnal **White-throated Screech-Owls** came raging towards us and perched relatively close (**photo below by one of the participants, Pat**). This was superb, for sure the bird of the day and one of the best of the trip; of course I did not bring my camera along with me on that walk, typical.



After this spectacular encounter we just headed back towards the trailhead, where we had lunch and afterwards spent some time at the hummingbird feeders where we saw another species, this one was mentioned also as one of the favorites for the trip, the outstanding **Shining Sunbeam** (photo below).



The afternoon was spent traveling from Yanacocha to Tandayapa through a well-known birding area, the **Old Nono-Mindo Road**. We did numerous stops along the way, and managed to find cool things like **Hooded and Blue-winged Mountain-Tanagers**, the always desired **White-capped Dipper**, the riparian **Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant**, and a few other passerines (mainly *tanagers*) traveling in small mixed flocks, out of which the not-always-seen **Black-capped Tyrannulet** was worth mentioning.

We arrived to our final destination for the day, the famous and wonderful **Tandayapa Bird Lodge**; it was late in the afternoon by then, but we still had time to become speechless at the hummingbird feeder patio where in 15 minutes we scored 15 species of these incredible creatures. My personal favorites were **Violet-tailed Sylph**, **Booted Racket-tail**, **Brown Inca**, **Purple-bibbed Whitetip**, **Western Emerald** and the minuscule **Purple-throated Woodstar**. All the participants were a bit overwhelmed by the non-stop frenetic activity on the feeders so several stayed until late trying to photograph them.

**Jan. 24: Tandayapa Bird Lodge and the Lower Tandayapa Valley:** One of the coolest experiences we undertook on this trip was visiting, right at dawn, the forest blind (or hide), just 8 minutes walk from the main lodge building. This wooden hut allowed us to see at very close range several skulking and normally hard-to-see birds that come to feed on the compost and moth trap placed in front of the blind. **Three-striped and Russet-crowned Warblers** were typically the most confiding and even perched on the screens right in front of us at less than 2 feet from our faces. **Chestnut-capped Brushfinch** and **Zeledon's Antbird** on the other hand, hopped on the forest floor just inches away from our feet. This is also one of the best spots to see the subtly ornate **White-throated Quail-Dove** that feeds on the compost every morning, which we did. There were a couple of *funariids* that also came to eat moths, the small and normally difficult **Spotted Barbtail** and the hulking **Steak-capped Treehunter**.



We returned to the lodge for breakfast, and from the table saw a pair of **Rufous Motmots** that visit the lodge feeders daily; they were chased off by a family of **Crimson-rumped Toucanets**. After the meal, we started walking down the Tandayapa Bird Lodge driveway and only moved a hundred feet when a large flock came in. For a solid 90 minutes, we did not move from that single spot where we found, **Metallic-green, Golden-naped, Flame-rumped, Beryl-spangled, Golden, Silver-throated, and Black-capped Tanagers, Black-winged Saltator, Red-headed Barbet, Barred Becard, Tricolored Brushfinch, Ornate Flycatcher, Black-and-white and Canada Warblers, Slate-throated Redstart, White-winged Tanager, Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager, Golden Grosbeak, Orange-bellied and Thick-billed Euphonias, and a beautiful Crimson-mantled Woodpecker.**

Only by mid-morning were we able to move down and walk towards the main access road, road where we found a few other flocks that held a couple of new birds like **Streak-headed Antbird (photo on left), Rufous-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Uniform Antshrike, and Lineated Foliage-gleaner**, among others. It was a bright sunny open day so raptors were out and about; we found a **Short-**

tailed Hawk soaring at close range, a swift passing **Double-toothed Kite**, plus more distant **Broad-winged** and **Barred Hawks**.

During the afternoon we visited the upper valley to pick up some birds special to that area, in the hope that we would see them and then free up time later on the tour for other sites. We managed to find a couple of the targets for the site like the unique **Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan** and the colorful **Toucan Barbet**. We also found **Streaked Tuftedcheek**, **Striped Treehunter**, **Spillman's Tapaculo**, **Strong-billed Woodcreeper**, **Turquoise Jay**, **Speckle-faced Parrot** and more. Close to dusk, we moved down the valley towards a stakeout place for **Lyre-tailed Nightjar**, which we saw when it was getting dark, but before we saw that, a **Ringed Kingfisher** flew low over our heads, and a little more distantly a **Bat Falcon** was seen flying back and forth along the valley.

**Jan. 25: Mashpi and Amagusa Reserve:** We visited the Mashpi area today which is located about 90 minutes from Tandayapa, and which holds some very localized birds, many of which are endemic to the Choco



Bioregion. One of the first birds we saw that day was a vocally active **Barred Forest-Falcon** that we managed to call in from the distance and a couple times it came out and quickly hid again until it finally flew above our heads to disappear inside the dense foliage behind us. Soon after, we started to find some of the birds that make this area famous; a lone **Moss-backed Tanager** was perched atop an exposed tree, and **Orange-breasted Fruiteaters** were calling all around us until we managed to track one down. Only one of the participants managed to see a **White-tipped Sicklebill** that was feeding on *Heliconia* flowers, and afterwards we ran into a flock that was a bit difficult to work on due to the dense foliage of the narrow trail we needed to move in to reach the birds; only quick views were achieved of the scarce **Brown-billed Scythebill**, the same with **Golden-bellied (Choco) Warblers**, **Yellow-collared Chlorophonias**, **Glistening-green Tanagers**, and **Rufous-rumped Antwren**; happily we were going to see a few of these much better later.

Midmorning, we visited the feeders of the locally owned **Amagusa Reserve** where we found **Velvet-purple Coronets** (photo on left), **Empress Brilliants**, **Green**

**Thorntails**, and **White-whiskered Hermits** at the feeders, plus a female and male **Golden-collared Honeycreeper** stealing the sugar water from the same feeders. Near that area one of the participants spotted a pair of perched up **Rose-faced Parrots**; this is a quite localized and scarce species so I was happy that we managed such great scope views.

The rest of the day was spent birding the forested road downhill, where we made many stops and found nice birds like, **Striped Woodhaunter**, **Blue-tailed (Choco)** and **White-tailed Trogons**, **Scarlet-rumped Caciques**, **Golden-winged Manakin**, **Gray-and-gold**, **Rufous-throated**, **Ochre-breasted** and **Flame-faced Tanagers**, **Black-billed Peppershrike**, **Bay and Whiskered Wrens**, **Olive-crowned Yellowthroat**, **Bronze-winged Parrots**, **Maroon-tailed Parakeets** and many more. One of my favorite birds of the area cooperated quite well on a stakeout site, in fact we saw two individuals of the Kookaburra-like **Barred Puffbird** (photo below).



**Jan. 26: Upper Tandayapa Valley and Oilbird Cave near Chontal:** We decided to visit the upper parts of the valley after some of the special birds of that elevation (2200m/7200ft). We did not find many flocks, but we found most of what we were seeking in the few flocks we did find. I was happy particularly with a very responsive **Andean Pygmy-Owl** that we managed to call in from some distance and which posed for some digiscoped pictures, like the one **below**.



Apart from this not too commonly seen bird, we found a flock with **Grass-green and Blue-capped Tanagers**, **Powerful Woodpecker**, **Rusty-winged Barbtail**, short views of the scarce **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Rufous Spinetail**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, **Sharpe's Wren**, and a vocal group of **Spot-fronted Swifts** that flew by a couple times above our heads. This kept us entertained for most of the morning but it was getting late and we needed to start a long ride towards the Oilbird cave, so we decided to call it a morning and start the drive.

Already in lower elevations past the town of **Gualea Cruz** we decided to stop to have our boxed lunches at a nice vantage point, from where we saw **Swallow Tanagers**, **Masked Tityras**, **Choco** and **Southern Beardless Tyrannulets**, **Golden-rumped Euphonias**, **Squirrel Cuckoo**, and a few of the common open country flycatchers of that elevation, like **Snowy-throated Kingbird**, **Boat-billed** and **Rusty-margined Flycatchers**.

With still some miles still to cover in order to get to our final destination, we moved on. Upon arrival to the house of the owner of the terrain where the **oilbirds** were, we found a few new things for the tour like **Yellow-bellied Elaenia**, the dull but vocal **Sooty-headed Tyrannulet**, the only **American Kestrel** and **House Wren** seen on the main tour, and the first of many **Pale-legged (Pacific) Hornero**. We picked up a very nice lady

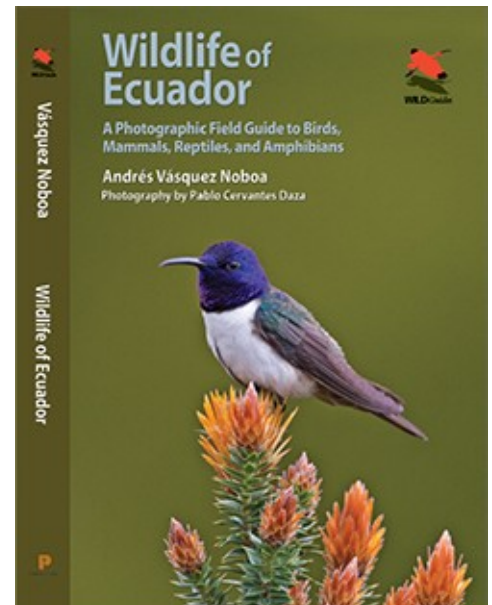
with the keys to the gate to enter the cave trail, and drove a few more minutes down the road with her. Near the trail head, we found a nice **Guayaquil Woodpecker** and heard a *Rufous-tailed Jacamar* that never responded and remained unseen. The access to the narrow grotto is now very easy and the owners have been working on wooden steps and handrails to make it even easier; a local is also adorning the trail with Orchids he finds fallen on the forest.

After ALL the driving, the long and very bumpy road, and the kidney stone shock treatment that comes with the combination of the two previous factors, we found ourselves in front of a few pairs of these wonderful birds, **Oilbirds (photo below)**. There was one lone individual perched on a vine right above our heads, a couple on the far wall, 4 or 5 more on the opposite wall from where we were and at least 3 or 4 more a few feet from overhead on the wall on our side of the grotto. We were surrounded at some point by all these careless birds that patiently observed us.



After absorbing the strange energy that floods this cave, we were able to take a few pictures. This is a great place to photograph these incredible birds since you can take photos with natural light without the need of artificial illumination or flashes. What for sure you need there is a tripod and a remote for the shutter since it is still very, very dark. The problem sometimes is the focusing since in very low light conditions cameras struggle with this but with patience, and trial and error, we got nice pictures. My photos for instance were taken with an exposure of 1 second, at 640 ISO and I needed to brighten a little more afterwards during post-processing. This was afterwards considered the best bird of the trip by some of the participants and was unanimously considered one of the best moments of the trip. Despite all it costs to get there, seeing these “not necessarily beautiful” birds is always wonderful.

I will quote the description to this species from the Princeton Wildguides book “*Wildlife of Ecuador, a photographic field guide to Birds, Mammals, Reptiles, and Amphibians*” that I just finished writing a few months back (on the market from July, 2017), that is illustrated with top quality photographs from Pablo Cervantes (another of our Tropical Birding



guides) and others:

*"This very interesting nocturnal bird roosts and nests communally in caves and dark grottos. Its cryptic plumage is rich cinnamon with white spots. Related to the nightjars, it has a similar shape but is larger and has a much longer wingspan. Unique among birds, it flies long distances by night to feed on fruit found by sense of smell. It has developed echolocation to navigate inside caves and the most photosensitive eyes in the bird world. Nestlings accumulate fat from their diet of (mostly) oily palm nuts. In the past, indigenous groups cooked them to release the oil, which was used for lamps and cooking. Away from well-known caves (one near Nangaritza in the extreme southeast, another in Chontal, about three hours northwest of Quito) sightings are rare (certainly overlooked), but Oilbird has been recorded in unexpected places like Quito; it can show up nearly anywhere, except maybe on the higher Andes."*



It was quite late in the day by then and we had a long ride back to the lodge, so we basically just drove back to Tandayapa without stopping much and arrived right on time for dinner at 7pm.

**Jan. 27: Silanche and Milpe Bird Sanctuaries:** Another early start was needed today to drive to the lowlands, this time mainly via the modern highway that leads to the Esmeraldas coast from Quito. The secondary road that leads to **Silanche** reserve from the main highway is always quite birdy, so we did various stops along the way picking up many new trip birds. The weather was not the best though, and at some point we needed to just bird from the bus and wait for the rain to give us a break to allow us to step out and bird. Happily, regardless of the weather, we managed to find some cool birds like **Olivaceous Piculet**, **Black-**

cheeked, Golden-olive, and Lineated Woodpeckers, Pallid Dove, Guira, Blue-necked, and White-lined Tanagers, Pacific Parrotlets, Brown-capped Tyrannulet, Hook-billed Kites, and a lone male Purple-throated Fruitcrow.

Once inside the reserve, well after midmorning, we walked the easy trails. The trails were not too lively but we did manage to find a few understorey specialties for the area, like the dull **Northern Schiffornis** which has one of my favorite songs for any bird in Ecuador; we also got **White-flanked** and **Checker-throated Antwrens**, **Black-crowned Antshrike**, a very responsive **Band-tailed Barbthroat** (which was singing from a hidden perch but came out to check us out with the use of playback), **White-bearded Manakin**, **Lesser Greenlets**, and a few other species. In more open areas, we found **Streak-headed Woodcreeper**, **Piratic** and **Social Flycatchers**, **Cinnamon Becard**, and had much better views of **White-bearded Manakin**.



It was already close to noon when we decided to start heading back to the foothills and drive towards a local restaurant for lunch. On the way out of the reserve however we were forced to stop a couple times since some good birds decided to show up, now that it was sunny instead following the end of the rainfall. We saw a perched **Laughing Falcon** which forced us to a sudden stop and after enjoying this beautiful raptor, in the same area we got **Pacific Antwren**, a pair of **Masked Water-Tyrants**, a nice **Striped Cuckoo (photo left)** perched on a wire and a couple of **Shiny Cowbirds**. Another stop produced a juvenile **Gray-lined Hawk**.

We had lunch at the well-known **Mirador de Rio Blanco** enjoying some *tanagers* that came to feed on the bananas placed right outside our window. We also got spectacular eye-level flight views of soaring **Swallow-tailed Kites (photo on next page)** over the magnificent viewpoint over the **Blanco River valley**. Rains started again and lasted for a solid hour at least; happily right at that moment we were enjoying the great food served in the restaurant and we had a relaxed meal with no rush to leave, awaiting the rains to stop.

As soon as that happened, we moved towards the bird sanctuary of **Milpe** located just a few minutes from there, and initially remained under the roof watching the hummingbird feeders since it was still lightly raining. We did not have to wait too long until we could go out on the trails after the one special bird of this reserve, the unique **Club-winged Manakin**, which we saw well at the end, although they were skittish at the start. Walking the trails we found other trip birds like **Yellow-throated Toucan**, **Pale-vented Thrush**, **White-shouldered Tanager**, **Plain-brown Woodcreeper**, **Orange-billed Sparrow**, **Slaty Antwren**, and had brief views of a **Spotted Nightingale-Thrush**.



**Jan. 28: Refugio Paz de las Aves and Calacali:** The last day of the main tour required the final very early start; we departed well before dawn to arrive on time to reach the **Andean Cock-of-the-rock (photo next page)** lek inside the World-famous Refugio Paz de las Aves reserve at dawn (the best time to be there). It was already bright enough to walk the trail to the blind without needing a flashlight, so it was easy; and when we got to the lek the activity was in full swing, with 3 or 4 displaying males that kept us entertained for more than an hour (i.e. longer than usual).

Just behind the blind in the same area, the owner of the land, Angel, called in a family of the normally very shy **Dark-backed Wood-Quail**; Angel is famous for whispering these and other shy birds out of the dense foliage inside of which they rarely ever come out. Well, I say “whisper” but in reality what Angel actually does is call in these birds by shouting their designated names name.



This technique is quite amazing and it seems completely opposite to the “normal” birding logic of being quiet and not moving too much to try to bring the birds out; he walks along the narrow trails of his property yelling for instance “Mariaaaa, Mariaa, venga, venga” when he tries to bring out the **Giant Antpitta (photo below)** he named Maria (and it woks a treat!).



This **Giant Antpitta**, for example, was formerly an almost mythical bird before Angel entered the birding world; the very first nest discovered for this species was as recently as late 2007, when he found it on his land. Nowadays, Maria is typically “easy” to see and to photograph at this wonderful reserve thanks to him and his brother Rodrigo who daily track the birds in their normal habitat and bring for them a juicy breakfast of recently washed and sliced earthworms (their natural food source). In this reserve during this one morning, we saw FIVE, yes FIVE, species of antpittas: **Giant** (aka Maria), **Yellow-breasted** (aka Willy the third), **Moustached** (aka Susan), **Chestnut-crowned** (aka Andrea), and the tiny **Ochre-breasted** named Shakira due to its habit of moving its body sideways back and forth when it is perched, as if it was dancing; such an appropriate name. Antpittas are generally shy and difficult to see, and so getting five species in one morning is spectacular!

Other nice species we found on his property included, **Golden-headed Quetzal**, **Mountain Wren**, **Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan**, **Masked Trogon**, **Toucan Barbet**, **Nariño Tapaculo** (a dull Choco endemic), plus **Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, and a few other species we had previously seen when we visited the upper Tandayapa Valley (since the elevation is similar).

As if it was not enough showing us all these outstanding birds that in normal conditions we would see with luck one or two during a regular tour, Angel also provides a very tasty brunch. His wife and Rodrigo’s wife cook rich

Bolones and Empanadas and serve them to us with freshly brewed coffee; yes, all this is included in the entrance fee that we pay, Cock-of-the-rock Lek, guiding to find up to 5 species of antpittas, wood-quails, and brunch. It is an incredible morning and for sure one of the most enjoyable days of the whole tour.

After all this, we headed back to the **Tandayapa Bird Lodge** lodge for lunch (yes, we still were full with brunch but hey....) and for picking up our bags to depart after the meal towards **Quito**. We left at about 2pm and headed back towards the capital, but on the way we stopped to bird for a while in a different ecosystem, at **Calacali** located right off the main highway back to **Quito**.



In this new habitat, dry Interandean scrub, we found a couple of new trip birds like **Eared Dove**, **Common Ground-Dove**, **Blue-and-yellow Tanager**, **Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch**, **Band-tailed Seedeater**, **Cinereous Conebill** and got much better looks at the astonishing male **Black-tailed Trainbearer (photo above)** with which we called it a day and started the still longish drive towards Puembo where our hotel for the night was located. Out of the 7 participants of the tour only 2 did not take the extension so that afternoon and we said goodbye to them; and missed them during the following couple of days.

**TOUR SUMMARY:** *High Andes Extension (Upper side of the eastern slope)*

**Jan. 29: Antisana National Park and Guango Lodge:** We did not need a very early start today given that the birding in Antisana is quite easy, done almost exclusively in open areas along the vast stretches of paramo in the park. Also, being at high altitude, the birds are often active through the day. The first stop we made was at **Tambo Condor**, the restaurant where we were going to have lunch on the way out; on the way in however, it is a great stop to use bathrooms for the early coffee drinkers and to check for the first time the feeders where we quickly saw the hulking **Giant Hummingbird** drinking sugar water, the largest hummingbird in the world.

Over the next few hours, we drove within the highland plains where we found, as highlights, various pairs of **Andean Condors** soaring, a lone **Cinereous Harrier (photo below)** which is now only rarely seen, a pair of **Black-faced Ibis** (which recently has been split into *Andean Ibis* by some taxonomic authorities), dozens of **Carunculated Caracaras**, a couple of **Ecuadorian Hillstars**, **Andean Tit-Spinetail**, both **Canasteros** (**Many-striped** and **Streak-backed**), **Paramo Pipit**, **Andean Lapwings**, **Variable Hawks**, a young **Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle**, **Plumbeous Sierra-Finches** and both **Cinclodes** (**Chestnut-winged** and **Stout-billed**).



The furthest stop of the morning was at the edge of **La Mica Lake** from where we spotted **Slate-colored (Andean) Coots**, **Andean Teal**, **Northern Silvery Grebe**, **Andean Gulls** and some very distant **Yellow-billed Pintails** and **(Andean) Ruddy Ducks**. We started our way back towards **Tambo Condor** for lunch and from the back patio we set our scope on a distant cliff where the owners of the restaurant had been monitoring a

**Andean Condor** nest, and we saw a 37-day old nestling and its massive parents. At the hummer feeders **Giant Hummingbirds** visited often, and various individuals of **Sparkling Violetears** (photo below) were constantly present.



After a delicious lunch of authentic typical Andean food, we started the ride towards **Guango Lodge**. When the weather is fair along the **Papallacta Pass** en route to *Guango*, we tend to stop and try for some of the target birds of that high elevation area. However, that was not the case, and it was very foggy and rainy up there on our way through, and so we blasted on to *Guango* instead of stopping there first. We birded in and around Guango Lodge for the remainder of the day; upon arrival, we spent some time at their legendary hummingbird feeders, where we saw **Chestnut-breasted Cornet**, **Tourmaline Sunangel**, **Collared Inca**, and **Sword-billed Hummingbird**. While this sounds very impressive, and indeed it is, the feeders were in realty quite slow, and missing some other regular species!

When the rains gave us a break, we headed down the trails towards the **Papallacta River** and were rewarded with a family of **Torrent Ducks**, a male, female and two chicks swimming together upstream quite closeby. We also found another **White-capped Dipper** there. Along the narrow forest trails we found a couple of the specialties of the eastern subtropical zone, like **Rufous-breasted Flycatcher**, **Gray-hooded Bush-Tanager**, and **Slaty Brush-Finch**, together with other more widespread birds like, **Cinnamon Flycatcher**, **Black-eared Hemispingus**, **Capped Conebill**, **(Northern) Mountain Cacique**, **Turquoise Jay**, and **Blue-and-black Tanager**. When the rain started pouring, we headed back to the lodge for a hot shower, and a nice meal

afterwards, which was voted for as the top meal of the tour. After the dinner we worked on our daily checklist in front of the fireplace to warm our chilled bones at this high elevation site.

**Jan. 30: Papallacta Pass and Quito Airport:** The very last day of the tour was spent mainly around **Papallacta**. We started the day by birding the dirt road that leads to **Cayambe-Coca National Park** where the habitat is a mixture of Elfin forest and humid montane scrub. There are a couple of special birds here, and the one we put special attention into was the rare and local **Masked Mountain-Tanager** which we saw very well in a flock that also held another avian target, **Black-backed Bush-Tanager**. Two new hummingbirds were also found this morning, a young male **Rainbow-bearded Thornbill** and several **Viridian Metaltails**. Along the same road, a couple kilometers lower down, we found three species of **Mountain-Tanagers**, **Buff-breasted**, **Black-chested** and **Scarlet-breasted**. Just before heading towards a different area, we found this beautiful **Pale-naped Brush-Finch** (photo below) that is typically a reclusive and shy skulker, but on this occasion was but...



We took the bus and drove up the mountain towards the pass, but did a short stop by the **Jamanco Lake** where we got better and closer views of **Yellow-billed Pintails** than before, and found a couple of **Southern Lapwings** too; (a species typically not found here, but had been present in the area for some time). At the pass, we were forced to stop for a bird perched on an electric cable, which at this elevation could only be the rare and local **Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant** (photo on next page), which later flew and perched on a rocky wall. We continued all the way up the side road that leads to the antennas of **Papallacta** on a quest that sadly turned out to be unsuccessful for a *seedsnipe*. We started the descent back towards Quito, but did a couple of

stops along the way but the areas were very quiet so we decided to continue until close to **Quito Airport** to bird the rest of the afternoon there, at a small (though productive) pond.



The pond next to the new international airport of Quito can be surprisingly good or very quiet; that afternoon it was sadly the second scenario what we found when we got there. A dirt road near the area produced a few new birds for the trip though, including a pair of **Hooded Siskins**, a group of wintering **Blue-winged Teals**, a bright male **Vermilion Flycatcher**, and the difficult and inconspicuous **Purple-collared Woodstar** which was the very last lifer for the participants on this tour; a nice finishing bird though for sure!

## FINAL CHECKLIST:

**382** species were recorded on this 8-day trip (including the extension) of which 33 species were heard only (**H**) and 5 were seen only by the tour leader (**L**).

### TINAMOUS

H Little Tinamou

### DUCKS, GEESE, & WATERFOWL

Torrent Duck

### TINAMIDAE

*Crypturellus soui*

### ANATIDAE

*Merganetta armata*

Blue-winged Teal  
 Yellow-billed Pintail  
 Andean Teal  
 (Andean) Ruddy Duck

**CRACIDS**

Sickle-winged Guan

**NEW WORLD QUAIL**

Dark-backed Wood-Quail

**GREBES**

Pied-billed Grebe

Silvery Grebe

**CORMORANTS AND SHAGS**

Neotropic Cormorant

**HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS**

Cattle Egret

**IBIS AND SPOONBILLS**

Black-faced (Andean) Ibis

**NEW WORLD VULTURES**

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Andean Condor

**HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES**

Hook-billed Kite

Swallow-tailed Kite

Double-toothed Kite

Cinereous Harrier

Barred Hawk

Roadside Hawk

Variable Hawk

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle

Gray-lined Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

**RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS**

H White-throated Crake

Slate-colored (Andean) Coot

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS**

Southern Lapwing

Andean Lapwing

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES**

Greater Yellowlegs

Lesser Yellowlegs

**GULLS, TERNS AND SKIMMERS**

Andean Gull

*Anas discors*

*Anas georgica*

*Anas andium andium*

*Oxyura jamaicensis andina*

**CRACIDAE**

*Chamaepetes goudotii*

**ODONTOPHORIDAE**

*Odontophorus melanonotus*

**PODICIPEDIDAE**

*Podilymbus podiceps*

*Podiceps occipitalis*

**PHALACROCORACIDAE**

*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

**ARDEIDAE**

*Bubulcus ibis*

**THRESKIORNITHIDAE**

*Theristicus melanopis branickii*

**CATHARTIDAE**

*Coragyps atratus*

*Cathartes aura jota*

*Vultur gryphus*

**ACCIPITRIDAE**

*Chondrohierax uncinatus*

*Elanoides forficatus*

*Harpagus bidentatus*

*Circus cinereus*

*Morphnarchus princeps*

*Rupornis magnirostris*

*Geranoaetus polyosoma*

*Geranoaetus melanoleucus*

*Buteo nitidus*

*Buteo platypterus*

*Buteo brachyurus*

**RALLIDAE**

*Laterallus albigularis*

*Fulica ardesiaca*

**CHARADRIIDAE**

*Vanellus chilensis*

*Vanellus resplendens*

**SCOLOPACIDAE**

*Tringa melanoleuca*

*Tringa flavipes*

**LARIDAE**

*Chroicocephalus serranus*

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

Rock Pigeon  
 Pale-vented Pigeon  
 Band-tailed Pigeon  
 Plumbeous Pigeon  
 Ruddy Pigeon  
 H Dusky Pigeon  
 Common Ground-Dove  
 Black-winged Ground-Dove  
 White-tipped Dove  
 Pallid Dove  
 White-throated Quail-Dove  
 Eared Dove

**CUCKOOS**

Smooth-billed Ani  
 Striped Cuckoo  
 Squirrel Cuckoo

**OWLS**

White-throated Screech-Owl  
 H Cloud-forest Pygmy-Owl  
 Andean Pygmy-Owl

**NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES**

Lyre-tailed Nightjar

**OILBIRD**

Oilbird

**SWIFTS**

Spot-fronted Swift  
 Chestnut-collared Swift  
 White-collared Swift  
 L Gray-rumped Swift

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

White-necked Jacobin  
 White-tipped Sicklebill  
 Band-tailed Barbthroat  
 White-whiskered Hermit  
 H Tawny-bellied Hermit  
 Wedge-billed Hummingbird  
 Brown Violetear  
 Sparkling Violetear  
 Purple-crowned Fairy  
 Gorgeted Sunangel  
 Tourmaline Sunangel  
 Green Thorntail  
 Speckled Hummingbird

**COLUMBIDAE**

*Columba livia*  
*Patagioenas cayennensis*  
*Patagioenas fasciata*  
*Patagioenas plumbea*  
*Patagioenas subvinacea*  
*Patagioenas goodsoni*  
*Columbina passerina*  
*Metriopelia melanoptera*  
*Leptotila verreauxi*  
*Leptotila pallida*  
*Zentrygon frenata*  
*Zenaida auriculata*

**CUCULIDAE**

*Crotophaga ani*  
*Tapera naevia*  
*Playa cayana*

**STRIGIDAE**

*Megascops albogularis*  
*Glaucidium nubicola*  
*Glaucidium jardinii*

**CAPRIMULGIDAE**

*Uropsalis lyra*

**STEATORNITHIDAE**

*Steatornis caripensis*

**APODIDAE**

*Cypseloides cherriei*  
*Streptoprocne rutila*  
*Streptoprocne zonaris*  
*Chaetura cinereiventris*

**TROCHILIDAE**

*Florisuga mellivora*  
*Eutoxeres aquila*  
*Threnetes ruckeri*  
*Phaethornis yaruqui*  
*Phaethornis syrmatorphorus*  
*Schistes geoffroyi*  
*Colibri delphinae*  
*Colibri coruscans*  
*Heliathryx barroti*  
*Heliangelus strophianus*  
*Heliangelus exortis*  
*Discosura conversii*  
*Adelomyia melanogenys*

Violet-tailed Sylph	<i>Agelaiocercus coelestis</i>
Ecuadorian Hillstar	<i>Oreotrochilus chimborazo</i>
Black-tailed Trainbearer	<i>Lesbia victoriae</i>
Rainbow-bearded Thornbill	<i>Chalcostigma herrani</i>
Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>
Viridian Metaltail	<i>Metallura williami</i>
L Glowing Puffleg	<i>Eriocnemis vestita</i>
Sapphire-vented Puffleg	<i>Eriocnemis luciani</i>
Golden-breasted Puffleg	<i>Eriocnemis mosquera</i>
Shining Sunbeam	<i>Aglaeactis cupripennis</i>
Brown Inca	<i>Coeligena wilsoni</i>
Collared Inca	<i>Coeligena torquata</i>
Buff-winged Starfrontlet	<i>Coeligena lutetiae</i>
L Mountain Velvetbreast	<i>Lafresnaya lafresnayi</i>
Sword-billed Hummingbird	<i>Ensifera ensifera</i>
Great Sapphirewing	<i>Pterophanes cyanopterus</i>
Buff-tailed Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua flavescens</i>
Chestnut-breasted Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua matthewsii</i>
Velvet-purple Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua jardini</i>
Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i>
Purple-bibbed Whitetip	<i>Urosticte benjamini</i>
Fawn-breasted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa rubinoides</i>
Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>
Empress Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa imperatrix</i>
Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>
Purple-collared Woodstar	<i>Myrtis fanny</i>
Purple-throated Woodstar	<i>Calliphlox mitchellii</i>
Western Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus</i>
Crowned (Green-crowned) Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>
Andean Emerald	<i>Amazilia franciae</i>
Purple-chested Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rosenbergi</i>
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>
<b>TROGONS</b>	<b>TROGONIDAE</b>
Golden-headed Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus auriceps</i>
Blue-tailed (Chocó) Trogon	<i>Trogon comptus</i>
(Western) White-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon chionurus</i>
H Gartered (Northern Violaceous) Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>
Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>
<b>MOTMOTS</b>	<b>MOMOTIDAE</b>
Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>
Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>	<b>ALCEDINIDAE</b>
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>

**PUFFBIRDS**

Barred Puffbird

**JACAMARS**

H Rufous-tailed Jacamar

**NEW WORLD BARBETS**

Red-headed Barbet

**TOUCAN-BARBETS**

Toucan Barbet

**TOUCANS**

Crimson-rumped Toucanet

Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan

Collared (Pale-mandibled) Aracari

Yellow-throated (Chestnut-mandibled) Toucan

Choco Toucan

**WOODPECKERS**

Olivaceous Piculet

Black-cheeked Woodpecker

Smoky-brown Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Powerful Woodpecker

Guayaquil Woodpecker

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS**

Barred Forest-Falcon

Carunculated Caracara

Laughing Falcon

American Kestrel

Bat Falcon

**NEW WORLD AND AFRICAN PARROTS**

Rose-faced Parrot

Red-billed Parrot

Speckle-faced (White-capped) Parrot

Bronze-winged Parrot

Pacific Parrotlet

Maroon-tailed Parakeet

**TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS**

Rufous-rumped Antwren

Black-crowned (Western Slaty-) Antshrike

Uniform Antshrike

Checker-throated Antwren

Pacific Antwren

White-flanked Antwren

Slaty Antwren

**BUCCONIDAE**

*Nystalus radiatus*

**GALBULIDAE**

*Galbula ruficauda*

**CAPITONIDAE**

*Eubucco bourcierii*

**SEMNORNITHIDAE**

*Semnornis ramphastinus*

**RAMPHASTIDAE**

*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*

*Andigena laminirostris*

*Pteroglossus torquatus erythropygius*

*Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii*

*Ramphastos brevis*

**PICIDAE**

*Picumnus olivaceus*

*Melanerpes pucherani*

*Picoides fumigatus*

*Colaptes rubiginosus*

*Colaptes rivoli*

*Dryocopus lineatus*

*Campephilus pollens*

*Campephilus guayaquilensis*

**FALCONIDAE**

*Micrastur ruficollis*

*Phalcoboenus carunculatus*

*Herpetotheres cachinnans*

*Falco sparverius*

*Falco ruficularis*

**Psittacidae**

*Pyrilia pulchra*

*Pionus sordidus*

*Pionus tumultuosus seniloides*

*Pionus chalcopterus*

*Forpus coelestis*

*Pyrrhura melanura pacifica*

**THAMNOPHILIDAE**

*Euchrepomis callinota*

*Thamnophilus atrinucha*

*Thamnophilus unicolor*

*Epinecrophylla fulviventr*

*Myrmotherula pacifica*

*Myrmotherula axillaris*

*Myrmotherula schisticolor*

Streak-headed (Long-tailed) Antbird  
 H Chestnut-backed Antbird  
 H Esmeraldas Antbird  
 Zeledon's (Immaculate) Antbird

**ANTPITTAS**

H Undulated Antpitta  
 Giant Antpitta  
 Moustached Antpitta  
 H Scaled Antpitta  
 H Plain-backed Antpitta  
 Chestnut-crowned Antpitta  
 Yellow-breasted Antpitta  
 Rufous Antpitta  
 Tawny Antpitta  
 Ochre-breasted Antpitta

**TAPACULOS**

H Ocellated Tapaculo  
 Ash-colored Tapaculo  
 H Blackish (Unicolored) Tapaculo  
 Nariño Tapaculo  
 Spillmann's Tapaculo

H Paramo Tapaculo

**ANTTHRUSHES**

H Rufous-breasted Antthrush

**OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS**

H Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser  
 Plain-brown Woodcreeper  
 Wedge-billed Woodcreeper  
 Strong-billed Woodcreeper  
 Spotted Woodcreeper  
 Brown-billed Scythebill  
 Streak-headed Woodcreeper  
 Montane Woodcreeper  
 Streaked Tuftedcheek  
 Rusty-winged Barbtail  
 Pale-legged (Pacific) Hornero  
 Chestnut-winged (Bar-winged) Cinclodes  
 Stout-billed Cinclodes  
 Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner  
 Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner  
 Lineated Foliage-gleaner  
 H Uniform Treehunter  
 Striped Treehunter  
 Streak-capped Treehunter

*Drymophila striaticeps*  
*Poliocrania exsul*  
*Sipia nigricauda*  
*Hafferia zeledoni*

**GRALLARIIDAE**

*Grallaria squamigera*  
*Grallaria gigantea*  
*Grallaria alleni*  
*Grallaria guatemalensis*  
*Grallaria haplonota*  
*Grallaria ruficapilla*  
*Grallaria flavotincta*  
*Grallaria rufula*  
*Grallaria quitensis*  
*Grallaricula flavirostris*

**RHINOCRYPTIDAE**

*Acropternis orthonyx*  
*Myornis senilis*  
*Scytalopus latrans*  
*Scytalopus vicinior*  
*Scytalopus spillmanni*  
*Scytalopus opacus*

**FORMICARIIDAE**

*Formicarius rufipectus*

**FURNARIIDAE**

*Sclerurus mexicanus*  
*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*  
*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*  
*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*  
*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*  
*Campylorhamphus pusillus*  
*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*  
*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*  
*Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*  
*Premnornis guttuliger*  
*Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus*  
*Cinclodes albidiventris*  
*Cinclodes excelsior*  
*Philydor rufum*  
*Anabacerthia variegaticeps*  
*Syndactyla subalaris*  
*Thripadectes ignobilis*  
*Thripadectes holostictus*  
*Thripadectes virgaticeps*

Striped (Western) Woodhaunter

Spotted Barbtail

Pearled Treerunner

Andean Tit-Spinetail

White-browed Spinetail

Many-striped Canastero

Streak-backed Canastero

Red-faced Spinetail

Azara's Spinetail

Rufous Spinetail

Slaty Spinetail

### TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Brown-capped Tyrannulet

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet

White-tailed Tyrannulet

White-banded Tyrannulet

White-throated Tyrannulet

Tufted Tit-Tyrant

Yellow-bellied Elaenia

White-crested Elaenia

Sierran Elaenia

Streak-necked Flycatcher

Slaty-capped Flycatcher

Rufous-breasted Flycatcher

Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet

Ashy-headed Tyrannulet

Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet

Choco (Golden-faced) Tyrannulet

Ornate Flycatcher

L Bronze-olive Pygmy-Tyrant

H Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant

Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher

Common Tody-Flycatcher

H Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher

Cinnamon Flycatcher

Bran-colored Flycatcher

Smoke-colored Pewee

Acadian Flycatcher

Vermilion Flycatcher

H Smoky Bush-Tyrant

Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant

Masked Water-Tyrant

*Automolus subulatus assimilis*

*Premnoplex brunnescens*

*Margarornis squamiger*

*Leptasthenura andicola*

*Hellmayrea gularis*

*Asthenes flammulata*

*Asthenes wyatti*

*Cranioleuca erythrops*

*Synallaxis azarae*

*Synallaxis unirufa*

*Synallaxis brachyura*

### TYRANNIDAE

*Ornithion brunneicapillus*

*Camptostoma obsoletum*

*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*

*Mecocerculus stictopterus*

*Mecocerculus leucophrys*

*Anairetes parulus*

*Elaenia flavogaster*

*Elaenia albiceps*

*Elaenia pallatangae*

*Mionectes striaticollis*

*Leptopogon superciliaris*

*Leptopogon rufipectus*

*Phylloscartes ophthalmicus*

*Phyllomyias griseiceps*

*Phyllomyias cinereiceps*

*Phyllomyias uropygialis*

*Zimmerius (chrysops) albigularis*

*Myiobittacus ornatus*

*Pseudobittacus pelzelni*

*Pseudobittacus ruficeps*

*Lophobittacus pileatus*

*Poecilobittacus ruficeps*

*Todirostrum cinereum*

*Todirostrum nigriceps*

*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*

*Myiophobus fasciatus*

*Contopus fumigatus*

*Empidonax virens*

*Pyrocephalus rubinus*

*Myiotheretes fumigatus*

*Cnemarchus erythropygius*

*Fluvicola nengeta*

H Crowned Chat-Tyrant  
 H Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant  
   Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant  
 H Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant  
   Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant  
   Dusky-capped Flycatcher  
   Boat-billed Flycatcher  
   Rusty-margined Flycatcher  
   Social Flycatcher  
   Golden-crowned Flycatcher  
   Piratic Flycatcher  
   Snowy-throated Kingbird  
   Tropical Kingbird  
**COTINGAS**  
   Green-and-black Fruiteater  
 H Barred Fruiteater  
   Orange-breasted Fruiteater  
 H Scaled Fruiteater  
   Andean Cock-of-the-rock  
   Purple-throated Fruitcrow  
**MANAKINS**  
   Golden-winged Manakin  
   White-bearded Manakin  
   Club-winged Manakin  
**TITYRAS AND ALLIES**  
   Masked Tityra  
   Northern (Thrush-like) Schiffornis  
   Barred Becard  
   Cinnamon Becard  
   White-winged Becard  
   One-colored Becard  
**VIREOS AND ALLIES**  
   Black-billed Peppershrike  
 H Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo  
   Lesser Greenlet  
   Brown-capped Vireo  
   Red-eyed Vireo  
**CROWS JAYS AND MAGPIES**  
   Turquoise Jay  
**SWALLOWS**  
   Blue-and-white Swallow  
   Brown-bellied Swallow  
   Southern Rough-winged Swallow

*Ochthoeca frontalis*  
*Ochthoeca diadema*  
*Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris*  
*Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*  
*Ochthoeca fumicolor*  
*Myiarchus tuberculifer*  
*Megarynchus pitangua*  
*Myiozetetes cayanensis*  
*Myiozetetes similis*  
*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*  
*Legatus leucophaeus*  
*Tyrannus niveigularis*  
*Tyrannus melancholicus*  
**COTINGIDAE**  
*Pipreola riefferii*  
*Pipreola arcuata*  
*Pipreola jucunda*  
*Ampelioides tschudii*  
*Rupicola peruvianus*  
*Querula purpurata*  
**PIPRIDAE**  
*Masius chrysopterus*  
*Manacus manacus*  
*Machaeropterus deliciosus*  
**TITYRIDAE**  
*Tityra semifasciata*  
*Schiffornis veraepacis rosenbergi*  
*Pachyramphus versicolor*  
*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*  
*Pachyramphus polychopterus dorsalis*  
*Pachyramphus homochrous*  
**VIREONIDAE**  
*Cyclarhis nigristrois*  
*Vireolanius leucotis*  
*Pachysylvia decurtata*  
*Vireo leucophrys*  
*Vireo olivaceus*  
**CORVIDAE**  
*Cyanolyca turcosa*  
**HIRUNDINIDAE**  
*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*  
*Orochelidon murina*  
*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

**WRENS**

- H Scaly-breasted (Southern Nightingale) Wren  
House Wren  
Mountain Wren  
H Sedge (Grass) Wren  
H Plain-tailed Wren  
Whiskered Wren  
Bay Wren  
Sharpe's (Sepia-brown) Wren  
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren

**GNATCATCHERS**

- H Tawny-faced Gnatwren

**DIPPERS**

- White-capped Dipper

**THRUSHES AND ALLIES**

- Andean Solitaire  
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush  
Spotted Nightingale-Thrush  
Swainson's Thrush  
Pale-vented Thrush  
Ecuadorian Thrush  
Great Thrush

**WAGTAILS AND PIPITS**

- Paramo Pipit

**NEW WORLD WARBLERS**

- Black-and-white Warbler  
Olive-crowned Yellowthroat  
Tropical Parula  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Three-striped Warbler  
Black-crested Warbler  
Golden-bellied (Chocó) Warbler  
Russet-crowned Warbler  
Canada Warbler  
Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)  
Spectacled Redstart (Whitestart)

**TANAGERS AND ALLIES**

- Superciliaried Hemispingus  
Black-eared Hemispingus  
Black-eared (Western) Hemispingus  
Gray-hooded Bush Tanager  
White-shouldered Tanager  
White-lined Tanager  
Flame-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Tanager

**TROGLODYTIDAE**

- Microcerculus marginatus*  
*Troglodytes aedon*  
*Troglodytes solstitialis*  
*Cistothorus platensis aequatorialis*  
*Pheugopedius euophrys*  
*Pheugopedius mystacalis*  
*Cantorchilus nigricapillus*  
*Cinnycerthia olivascens*  
*Henicorhina leucophrys*

**POLIOPTILIDAE**

- Microbates cinereiventris*

**CINCLIDAE**

- Cinclus leucocephalus*

**TURDIDAE**

- Myadestes ralloides*  
*Catharus fuscater*  
*Catharus dryas*  
*Catharus ustulatus*  
*Turdus obsoletus*  
*Turdus maculirostris*  
*Turdus fuscater*

**MOTACILLIDAE**

- Anthus bogotensis*

**PARULIDAE**

- Mniotilta varia*  
*Geothlypis semiflava*  
*Setophaga pitiayumi*  
*Setophaga fusca*  
*Basileuterus tristriatus*  
*Myiothlypis nigrocristata*  
*Myiothlypis chrysogaster chlorophrys*  
*Myiothlypis coronata*  
*Cardellina canadensis*  
*Myioborus miniatus*  
*Myioborus melanocephalus*

**THRAUPIDAE**

- Hemispingus superciliaris*  
*Hemispingus melanotis melanotis*  
*Hemispingus melanotis ochraceus*  
*Cnemoscopus rubrirostris*  
*Tachyphonus luctuosus*  
*Tachyphonus rufus*  
*Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus*

Moss-backed Tanager	<i>Bangsia edwardsi</i>
Hooded Mountain-Tanager	<i>Buthraupis montana</i>
Masked Mountain-Tanager	<i>Buthraupis wetmorei</i>
Black-chested Mountain-Tanager	<i>Cnemathraupis eximia</i>
Grass-green Tanager	<i>Chlorornis riefferii</i>
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus igniventris</i>
Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus somptuosus</i>
Buff-breasted Mountain-Tanager	<i>Dubusia taeniata</i>
Golden-crowned Tanager	<i>Iridosornis rufivertex</i>
L Fawn-breasted Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea melanonota</i>
Blue-and-yellow Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea bonariensis</i>
Glistening-green Tanager	<i>Chlorochrysa phoenicotis</i>
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>
Blue-capped Tanager	<i>Thraupis cyanocephala</i>
Golden-naped Tanager	<i>Tangara ruficervix</i>
Black-capped Tanager	<i>Tangara heinei</i>
Gray-and-gold Tanager	<i>Tangara palmeri</i>
Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanicollis</i>
Rufous-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara rufigula</i>
Blue-and-black Tanager	<i>Tangara vassorii</i>
Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>
Metallic-green Tanager	<i>Tangara labradorides</i>
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>
Flame-faced Tanager	<i>Tangara parzudakii</i>
Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>
Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>
Golden-collared Honeycreeper	<i>Iridophanes pulcherrimus</i>
Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>
Cinereous Conebill	<i>Conirostrum cinereum</i>
Blue-backed Conebill	<i>Conirostrum sitticolor</i>
Capped Conebill	<i>Conirostrum albifrons</i>
Glossy Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa lafresnayii</i>
Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>
White-sided Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa albilatera</i>
H Indigo Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa indigotica</i>
Masked Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa cyanea</i>
Black-backed Bush Tanager	<i>Urothraupis stolzmanni</i>
Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus unicolor</i>
Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus plebejus</i>
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>
Thick-billed (Lesser) Seed-Finch	<i>Sporophila funerea</i>

Variable Seedeater  
 Yellow-bellied Seedeater  
 Band-tailed Seedeater  
 Plain-colored Seedeater  
 Paramo Seedeater  
 Bananaquit  
 Yellow-faced Grassquit

H Dull-colored Grassquit  
 Buff-throated Saltator  
 Black-winged Saltator  
 Slate-colored Grosbeak

**BUNTINGS AND NEW WORLD SPARROWS**

Yellow-throated Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager)  
 Dusky Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager)  
 Gray-browed (Stripe-headed) Brushfinch  
 Orange-billed Sparrow  
 Chestnut-capped Brushfinch  
 Rufous-collared Sparrow  
 Tricolored Brushfinch  
 Slaty Brushfinch  
 Pale-naped Brushfinch  
 Yellow-breasted (Rufous-naped) Brushfinch

**CARDINALS AND ALLIES**

Summer Tanager  
 White-winged Tanager  
 Ochre-breasted Tanager  
 Golden Grosbeak

**TROUPIALS AND ALLIES**

Scrub Blackbird  
 Shiny Cowbird  
 Scarlet-rumped Cacique  
 (Northern) Mountain Cacique

**FINCHES, EUPHONIAS AND ALLIES**

Thick-billed Euphonia  
 Golden-rumped Euphonia  
 Orange-bellied Euphonia  
 Yellow-collared Chlorophonia  
 Hooded Siskin

*Sporophila corvina*  
*Sporophila nigricollis*  
*Catamenia analis*  
*Catamenia inornata*  
*Catamenia homochroa*  
*Coereba flaveola*  
*Tiaris olivaceus*  
*Tiaris obscurus*  
*Saltator maximus*  
*Saltator atripennis*  
*Saltator grossus*

**EMBERIZIDAE**

*Chlorospingus flavigularis*  
*Chlorospingus semifuscus*  
*Arremon assimilis*  
*Arremon aurantirostris*  
*Arremon brunneinucha*  
*Zonotrichia capensis*  
*Atlapetes tricolor*  
*Atlapetes schistaceus*  
*Atlapetes pallidinucha*  
*Atlapetes latinuchus*

**CARDINALIDAE**

*Piranga rubra*  
*Piranga leucoptera*  
*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*  
*Pheucticus chrysogaster*

**ICTERIDAE**

*Dives waczewiczi*  
*Molothrus bonariensis*  
*Cacicus uropygialis pacificus*  
*Cacicus chrysnotus leucoramphus*

**FRINGILLIDAE**

*Euphonia lanirostris*  
*Euphonia cyanocephala*  
*Euphonia xanthogaster*  
*Chlorophonia flavirostris*  
*Spinus magellanicus*