

Costa Rica trip report, 12th to 20th March 2020

WILDLIFE TRAVEL

Costa Rica 2020



Costa Rica trip report, 12th to 20th March 2020

#	DATE	LOCATIONS AND NOTES
1	12 th March	Fly from the UK to San Jose, and transfer to Hotel Bougainvillea on the outskirts of the city.
2	13 th March	Pre-breakfast birding around the hotel grounds, then visit to Poas Volcano before heading on to La Paz Waterfall Gardens. Continue to Selva Verde Lodge for the evening.
3	14 th March	Full day spent exploring La Selva Biological Station.
4	15 th March	Drive to Cano Blanco to board the boat for trip to Tortuguero National Park. Afternoon visit to Tortuguero village, and walk back to Mawamba Lodge.
5	16 th March	Early morning boat trip exploring the waterways of Tortuguero NP, then short walk around lodge area before lunch. Afternoon boat trip to another area of the park.
6	17 th March	Return to Cano Blanco to re-join the bus and climb up to the middle elevations of the Caribbean slope, to Rancho Naturalista.
7	18 th March	Morning spent exploring the grounds and surroundings of Rancho Naturalista, before returning to San Jose after lunch.
8	19 th March	Return flight from San Jose to the UK, via Mexico City and Madrid, arriving on 20 th .



Cover: Snowcap. **Above:** Poas Volcano

A gallery of photos is available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/albums/72157713888689658>

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Day One: 12th March. Fly from the UK to San Jose, and transfer to Hotel Bougainvillea.

After a long but smooth flight from London Gatwick we met up with local agent Walter and also with Anthony, who would be our guide for the duration of the holiday. We drove the short distance to the Hotel Bougainvillea, situated on the outskirts of San Jose, where we introduced ourselves and enjoyed our first meal together, before retiring to bed in preparation for the excitement to come...

Day Two: 13th March. Poas Volcano. La Paz Waterfall Gardens.

We started the day by spending a wonderful hour or so before breakfast slowly exploring the picturesque gardens of the hotel. The diversity of birdlife was quite remarkable, allowing us to appreciate some of the more common birds with which we would become well-acquainted over the coming days. Great-tailed Grackle, Blue-grey Tanager, Great Kiskadee, Social Flycatcher and Clay-coloured Thrush, the rather soberly plumaged national bird of Costa Rica, were all seen, alongside colourful Baltimore Orioles, Crimson-fronted Parakeets and Summer Tanager. We noted our first hummingbird of the trip, a feisty Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, and also spent time watching a couple of Monarch butterflies as they drifted lazily from flower to flower; unlike their famous North American cousins, these Monarchs are not a migratory species.

After a breakfast of coffee, plantain and pancakes, we met our driver Jaime and made our way out through the capital city of San Jose, where Anthony told us a little about the history and culture of the country, before starting to climb up into the mountains of the Central Cordillera. As we gained height there were great views to be had looking back over the Central Valley, framed by the fiery red Poro trees *Erythrina poeppigiana*.

We continued climbing until we reached our destination, the spectacular Poas Volcano, at 2,708m. Poas is one of Costa Rica's largest and most active volcanoes, and as we approached the rim of the crater the mist cleared and we enjoyed fantastic views right down into the volcano. The smell of sulphur was in the air, and we really got a sense of nature's power here - the hard hats and safety shelter didn't particularly inspire confidence in the event of an eruption!

Thankfully, our hard hats were not put to the test as we safely retraced our steps back towards the bus, but not before pausing to enjoy some of the area's high altitude birds: Slaty Flowerpiercer, Black-cheeked Warbler, Yellow-thighed Finch and Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager were all seen, alongside Talamanca and Fiery-throated Hummingbirds. The huge leaves of *Gunnera insignis* and the pink-flowered shrubby *Monochaetum vulcanicum* were common in the understorey, together with *Centropogon gutterezii*, *Werauhia ororiensis* and a variety of ferns and other bromeliads.

A short distance away from the volcano, a roadside stop by an extensive patch of Blue Porterweed *Stachytarpheta* sp. proved to be very productive for hummingbirds, and we managed to add Volcano, Scintillant, Magenta-throated Woodstar and a beautiful Lesser Violetear to our growing list. An Eastern Meadowlark skulked in an adjacent damp field, before eventually showing itself to an appreciative audience.

It was then time to cross the mountainous ridge and begin our descent on to the Caribbean slope, and to our next destination at La Paz Waterfall Gardens. After a buffet lunch we spent the afternoon investigating the native animal enclosures (including butterflies, frogs, monkeys, sloths and big cats) and exploring the forested trails and dramatic waterfalls of this interesting site.

A hummingbird feeding station close to the restaurant was very popular with the visiting tourists, and with good reason, as it afforded lovely views of these avian jewels. Green Hermit, Violet Sabrewing and Green-crowned Brilliant jostled for position at the feeders alongside smaller species such as Black-bellied Hummingbird, Coppery-headed Emerald, Purple-throated Mountain-gem and Green Thorntail.

Reluctantly we dragged ourselves away from the hummingbirds, and whilst walking the trails we saw a number of new species including Black Guan, Ochraceous Wren, Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush, Black-faced Solitaire, Blackburnian Warbler, Sooty-faced Finch, Silver-throated Tanager, Costa Rican Warbler and an elusive Tufted Flycatcher, which tried our patience as it kept returning to perch frustratingly just out of

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sight. Perhaps the highlight though was a cracking male Red-headed Barbet, a fantastic bird feeding unobtrusively beside one of the footpaths.

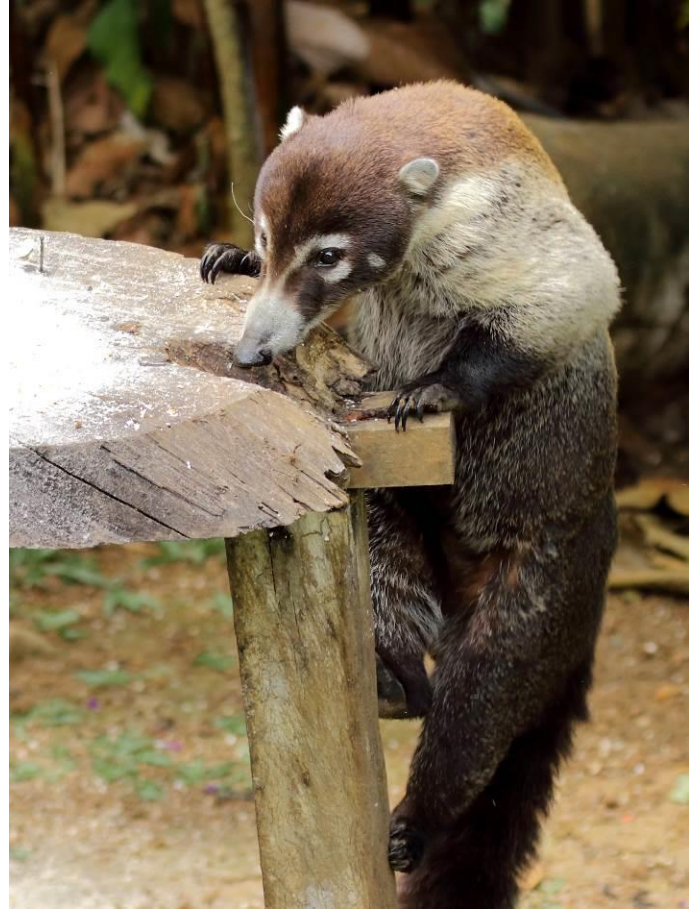
The waterfalls themselves were very attractive, complete with an American Dipper on the boulders below the cascade, and we also experienced a stand-off with a persistent White-nosed Coati, who was determined to cross that bridge one way or another! Notable plants comprised the orange Crucifix Orchid *Epidendrum radicans* growing on the roof of one of the buildings, and the overlapping pale yellow bracts of *Calathea* sp. in the shady understorey.

After meeting up with Jaime and the bus again, we set off for the humid Caribbean lowlands, pausing *en route* for a smart Bat Falcon. The stop also produced a flock of White-collared Swifts circling at great height, and a group of White-nosed Coati by the roadside. We continued onwards and reached our lodge with time to freshen up before dinner, and to reflect on a great first day!



Above: Monarch

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Top: La Paz waterfall and White-nosed Coati. **Bottom:** Red-headed Barbet

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Day Three: 14th March. La Selva Biological Station.

This morning's pre-breakfast birdwatching session around the grounds of Selva Verde Lodge produced views of Black-cheeked Woodpecker, Cinnamon Becard, Scarlet-rumped Tanager and both White-crowned and Red-ored Parrots. The highlight was probably our first sighting in the wild of those quintessential neotropical birds, the toucans - both Keel-billed and Chestnut-mandibled species were seen in the trees close to the restaurant. Other interest came in the form of Variegated Squirrel and a large Green Iguana sunbathing on an upper tree branch, whilst at ground level we were distracted by Slender Brown Anole lizards and tiny Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs, with their distinctive 'blue jeans' colour pattern.

Our destination today was the famous La Selva Biological Station, established in 1968 by the Organisation for Tropical Studies (OTS). This site has been hugely influential in the advancement of tropical ecology, with many prominent scientists having studied here over the years. The species diversity of La Selva is incredibly rich, with over 2,000 plants, 125 mammals and almost 500 species of birds recorded within the reserve's 1,600 hectares of old-growth and recovering wet lowland tropical forest.

After marvelling at a Scarlet-rumped Cacique's precarious nest-building attempt on a roadside wire on our approach to the site, we met up with our guide Octavio and began by scanning the forest edge for birds from the reserve entrance. Almost immediately we saw an Osprey fly past, and a little later a Broad-winged Hawk, alongside the now familiar Black and Turkey Vultures. Boat-billed Flycatcher, Tropical Kingbird and Long-tailed Tyrant joined the Great Kiskadees and Social Flycatchers on the overhead wires, White-tipped Dove and Black Seedeater foraged on the ground, and in the bushes we found Buff-throated Saltator, Palm Tanager, Bananaquit and a beautiful Golden-hooded Tanager. A flash of bright white in the treetops signalled the arrival of a gorgeous male Snowy Cotinga, quite a rare species in Costa Rica, with a global distribution ranging from northern Honduras to western Panama.

We began to walk along one of the well-maintained trails through the forest, and our bird list continued to grow with sightings of Rufous Motmot, Semiplumbeous Hawk, Slaty-tailed Trogon, White-whiskered Puffbird, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Chestnut-sided Warbler and a soaring King Vulture. A White-collared Manakin proved frustratingly elusive, offering the briefest of views; we could certainly hear it well enough though, as the male engaged in his wing-snapping courtship display.

Dainty Small Postman butterflies glided past us, and on the forest floor we appreciated the clear trails created by Leafcutter Ants, which led us to the entrance of one of their underground nests. Amongst the leaf litter we disturbed a well-camouflaged Litter Toad, as well as several Large Forest-floor Millipedes, which were seemingly abundant alongside the trail; colour was provided by showy *Heliconia rostrata* and *Heliconia wagneriana* plants in the understorey.

A quick search of a covered outdoor seating area revealed a small colony of Lesser White-lined Bats roosting in the rafters. It was great to see these little bats at close quarters, as they patiently waited for night-time to return to start hunting for insects in the surrounding forest.

After a refreshing lunch we explored a different area of the reserve, which again resulted in plenty of excellent wildlife sightings. New birds included Gartered Trogon, Double-toothed Kite, Collared Aracari, Broad-billed Motmot, Masked Tityra, Pale-billed and Rufous-winged Woodpeckers, Great Tinamou, Prothonotary Warbler and a fleeting Long-billed Hermit, whilst mammal interest came in the form of Central American Agouti, Mantled Howler Monkey, a colony of Proboscis Bats on a building and some very confiding Collared Peccaries.

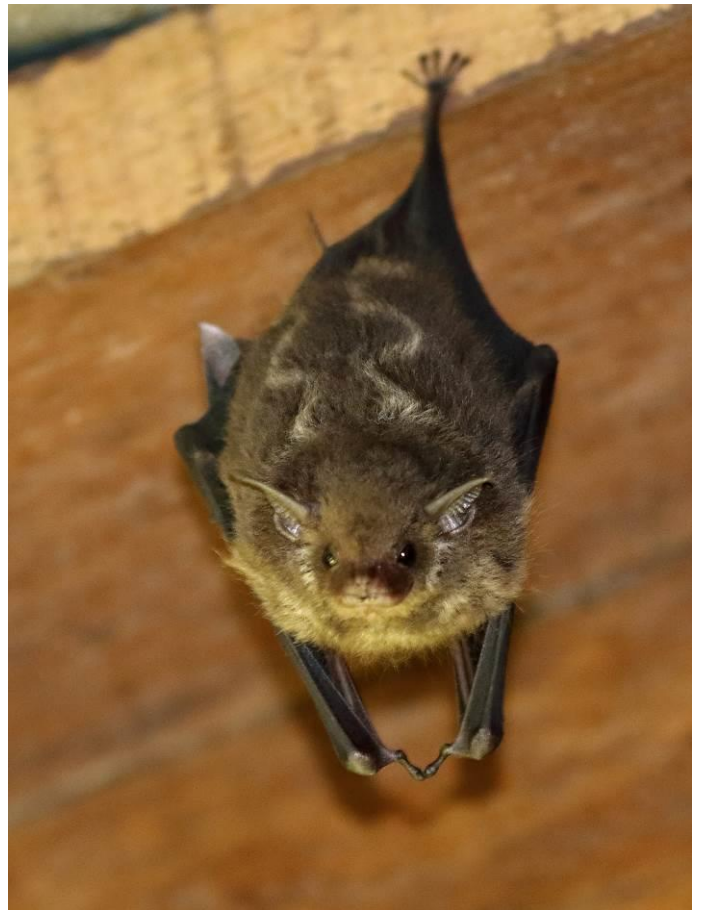
During the walk through the forest we found a handsome Green and Black Poison Dart Frog, and Octavio showed us a fearsome Bullet Ant, the largest ant in Central America, and one with an extremely painful sting. Octavio clearly enjoyed showing us some of the more dangerous animals of the forest, as he also spotted a tiny bright yellow Eyelash Pit Viper - beautiful but highly poisonous, we all appreciated it from a safe distance...

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Other notable invertebrates comprised a huge Owl Butterfly and the largest damselfly species in the world, the Helicopter Damselfly, which perched on a leaf before slowly floating across a sunlit glade. This fascinating damselfly is four inches long with a wingspan in excess of six inches, and it feeds on spiders, which it plucks from their webs as it hovers in front of them.

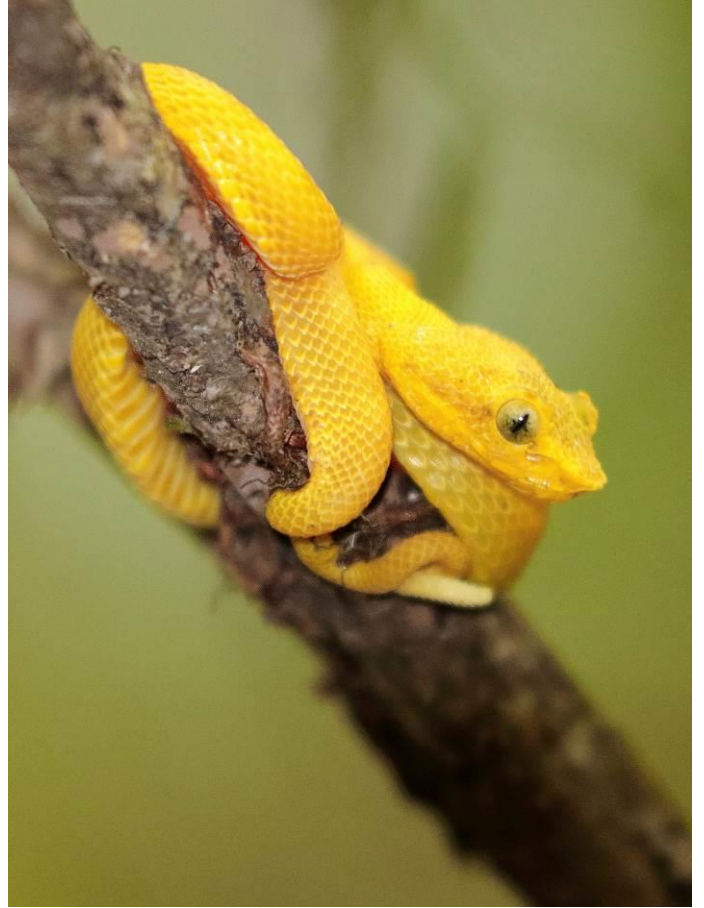
Amongst the *Heliconias* we noted the red flowers of *Odontonema tubaeformae* by a stream and the intriguing *Psychotria poeppigiana*, sometimes known as 'Hot Lips' for obvious reasons. The enormous, buttressed Sura trees *Terminalia oblonga* were particularly impressive, many of them supporting the young leaves of herbaceous vines *Monstera* spp. closely pressed to the trunk, as were the range of palms which included the fresh reddish leaves of *Welfia regia*.

All too soon it was time to leave La Selva, so we thanked Octavio for his time and expertise and made a last short stop just outside the reserve to look for Great Green Macaw. Eventually we found a couple of birds, silhouetted against the sun some distance away, but it was still great to see them. Then after brief views of a Northern Crested Caracara we drove the short distance back to the lodge to relax before meeting up to discuss the day's many and varied sightings over a beer or two. Wildlife is all around you at Selva Verde Lodge, and after dinner a mating pair of Red-eyed Leaf Frogs and a stocky Cane Toad were seen outside the restaurant area before we returned to our rooms.



Above: *Heliconia rostrata* and Lesser White-lined Bat

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Top: Helicopter Damselfly and Eyelash Pit-viper. **Bottom:** Collared Aracari

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Day Four: 15th March. Transfer to Tortuguero National Park.

Before breakfast we took a short stroll down to the banks of the Sarapiquí River, where we found both Snowy Egret and Little Blue Heron wading in the shallows, Spotted Sandpiper and Black Phoebe amongst the rocks and three species of kingfishers flew past us (Green, Amazon and Ringed in ascending order of size). We also took time to appreciate a Scaly-breasted Hummingbird as it sat on its nest, a very brief White-necked Jacobin and a Streak-headed Woodcreeper working its way up a large Almendro tree *Dipteryx panamensis*.

After some nourishment and a welcome caffeine hit, we boarded the bus and set off eastwards towards the Caribbean coast. Along the way we spotted Bronzed Cowbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Groove-billed Ani and Red-breasted Blackbird, and we also came across a stream of northbound migrating raptors: mostly Turkey Vultures, but also including a few Broad-winged Hawks soaring with them.

A little further on Jaime stopped the bus, jumped out to pick something up and returned with a ridiculously huge Rhinoceros Beetle! Unfortunately this amazing insect had gone to meet its maker, but the specimen was still in excellent condition and we all enjoyed taking a close look as we passed it around the bus - incredible to think that beetles could grow to such a size!

The condition of the road deteriorated as we passed through extensive banana plantations on our way towards Cano Blanco, the gateway to Tortuguero National Park. We paused briefly to look at a sleepy Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth lounging in a roadside tree, before joining the throng of tourists to find our boat which would take us into the heart of the park.

We journeyed down the Parismina river and on to the main channel before arriving at Mawamba Lodge, our base for the next two nights, in time for lunch. Birds seen from the boat included Tricoloured Heron, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Northern Jacana, Anhinga, American Royal Tern, Common Black Hawk and Mangrove Swallow.

After lunch we took a short boat trip to the village of Tortuguero, and then walked back through the village and along the beach to our lodge. This small village is almost entirely dependent on eco-tourism, and we noted the many souvenir shops and various eateries as we progressed along the narrow main street. Pale-vented Pigeon, Tropical Kingbird, Common Tody-Flycatcher and noisy Great-tailed Grackles tried their best to distract us from an opportunity for some retail therapy, before we headed to the beach for our first views of the Caribbean Sea. Whilst walking the windswept black sand beach we encountered Magnificent Frigatebird, Brown Pelicans flying in close formation, and best of all, a rare Brown Noddy.

Back near the lodge we stopped to cheer on the Leafcutter Ants as they took their lives in their hands trying to avoid the procession of feet and bicycle wheels on the footpath, and we also found a bizarre-looking Spiny Oak Slug caterpillar, which is covered in an intricate arrangement of poisonous spines, so best to look but don't touch! A large Golden Orb-weaver spider hung in its web above our heads as we returned to our rooms for a break before meeting again in the evening for dinner and drinks...

Day Five: 16th March. Tortuguero National Park.

This morning we awoke early for a pre-breakfast boat trip around the waterways of Tortuguero National Park, where we enjoyed a memorable couple of hours cruising slowly along the tree-lined channels of this important nature reserve. In beautiful morning light we had good views of a wide range of bird species including Bare-throated Tiger-Heron, Eastern Kingbird, Summer Tanager, Osprey, Pale-billed Woodpecker, Squirrel Cuckoo, Northern Waterthrush, Swallow-tailed Kite, Great Egret and a lovely male Purple-throated Fruitcrow. We also took time to study the pendulous nests of the Montezuma Oropendola, a charismatic bird of the Caribbean lowlands with colourful markings and an amazing vocal repertoire of distinctive, gurgling calls.

Spectacled Caiman lurked in the shallows, whilst higher up Green Iguanas and Mantled Howler Monkeys lounged in the treetops. A troop of rather more active Panamanian White-faced Capuchins made its ways through the lower branches of the forest, looking for fruit or trying to flush out any large insects from their

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hiding places. The wildlife highlight of the morning though came just before we were due to return to the lodge, when we spent a fantastic few minutes in the company of a hunting Neotropical River Otter. We watched quietly as it worked its way along the side of the channel, looking for any crustaceans, aquatic invertebrates or fish to snack on, and for a moment it briefly emerged on to a log to show itself more clearly. A brilliant way to finish the boat trip!

Speaking of snacking, by now it was time for breakfast - coffee and omelettes were most welcome when we arrived back at the hotel restaurant. After a short break, and to give the rain a chance to stop, we took a gentle walk along one of the trails adjacent to the lodge. Unfortunately, the confidently named 'Manakin trail' did not live up to the hype, leaving us with only very brief views of a female White-collared Manakin hiding in the undergrowth. We did however see our first Melodious Blackbird singing from a prominent perch, and had great views of Collared Aracari, Keel-billed Toucan, Black-cowled Oriole and Hoffmann's Woodpecker, a rare bird in this part of Costa Rica.

Butterflies comprised a stunning Blue Morpho, Small Postman, an elegant Thoas Swallowtail laying its eggs on the leaves of a pepper plant *Piper* sp., and an intriguing Side-striped Hairstreak, which demonstrated some remarkable deceptive behaviour. The butterfly's hindwings have two tails which are shaped like antennae, and as we watched it constantly moved its hindwings up and down so that the false antennae looked like they were twitching. This deceit, intended to trick predators into attacking the false head, was further enhanced by the fact that the butterfly also tended to walk backwards after landing!

Some more impressively large Golden Orb-weavers slung their webs between the bushes, baby Wet Forest Toads crawled through the grass, and we found an interesting Stinkhorn fungus *Phallus indusiatus*; this species, with its lacy 'skirt' beneath the cap (the indusium), is an edible fungus which is commonly used in Chinese cuisine. The most noteworthy flower species of the walk was the ornamental *Etlingera elatior*, with its bright pink-red flowers on long, sturdy stalks.

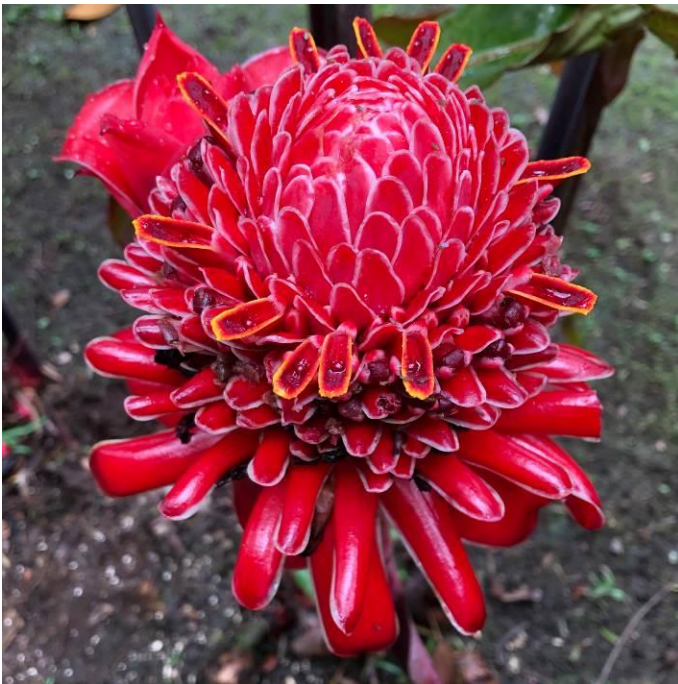
After yet another delicious meal, we took our second boat trip of the day, this time to explore a different area of the park. Russet-naped Wood-Rail, American Purple Gallinule, Little Blue Heron, Northern Jacana and a large Green Iguana were seen at the side of the channel, before the boat captain somehow spotted a wonderful male Emerald Basilisk, which posed on low vegetation and was very accommodating for the photographers in the group. Nearby, a pair of Anhinga allowed a close approach, the male looking quite striking with his bright blue skin around the eye and spiky head feathers.

Mantled Howler Monkeys, Panamanian White-faced Capuchins and our first Geoffroy's Spider Monkey of the trip were all noted in the waterside trees before we found one of our key targets for the day, a pair of Sungrebe. These delightful birds are one of only three species globally in the Finfoot family, and we enjoyed watching them going about their business amongst the picturesque backdrop of lush rainforest.

As we stopped to view Green Heron and Ringed Kingfisher in the same tree, we also noticed that on the trunk of the tree there were two Proboscis Bats. Like the Lesser White-lined Bats we had seen closely at La Selva, this species also has wavy pale lines on its back, however it can be distinguished when seen well by the tufts of pale fur on the forearms (and if seen *very* well, by its longer nose). Proboscis Bats also have a tendency to roost on large tree trunks overhanging watercourses, where they can be well-camouflaged and difficult to spot - but they didn't elude us!

A rapid fly-past from a scarce Green-and-rufous Kingfisher and it was time to head back to base, with a chance to try out the swimming pool before our evening meal and customary round up of the day's key sightings.

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Top: Spectacled Caiman. **Middle:** *Etlingera elatior* and Neotropical River Otter. **Bottom:** Panamanian White-faced Capuchins.

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Day Six: 17th March. Transfer to Rancho Naturalista.

After breakfast we bade farewell to Mawamba Lodge and loaded the luggage on to the boat for our return trip to Cano Blanco. As we were leaving the park there was still time for Tortuguero to deliver another new mammal for the trip, and a very special one indeed! Our boat, which was cruising steadily down the main channel suddenly slowed and veered to the right, and as we all craned our necks to see what was happening, a large shape appeared at the surface of the water, with a rounded snout pointed upwards to take a breath of air. This was a mega-rare West Indian Manatee!

The population of manatees in Costa Rica is thought to be as low as only 20-100 individuals, so we were certainly extremely privileged to have this wonderful encounter. As one of the boat guides put it: *"seeing a manatee in Costa Rica is as rare as drinking tequila with the Pope!"*.

Once back on dry land we met up with Jaime and re-familiarised ourselves with the unforgiving dirt road as we passed back through the banana plantations, pausing briefly to watch the activity at one of the processing plants. Southern Lapwing, Roadside Hawk and great views of a Laughing Falcon provided the bird interest along the way. After stopping to buy snacks in the town of Siquirres, we continued southwards, climbing into the middle elevations of the Caribbean slope to our destination at Rancho Naturalista, a scenic lodge situated at an altitude of 900 metres.

It was refreshing to escape the humidity of the lowlands as we settled in for a delicious lunch overlooking the garden, where we enjoyed some great birding whilst we ate! The hummingbird feeders attracted Green-breasted Mango, Violet Sabrewing, White-necked Jacobin, Green Hermit and the dazzling Crowned Woodnymph, whilst elsewhere in the garden we spotted Summer, Blue-grey and Golden-hooded Tanagers, Crested Guan, Grey-headed Chachalaca, Olive-backed and White-vented Euphonias, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, Green Honeycreeper, Orange-billed Sparrow and the striking Lesson's Motmot.

Variegated and smaller Red-tailed Squirrels came to investigate the fresh fruit which had been put out, though these mammals were rather overshadowed by the appearance of a beautiful Tayra, a member of the weasel family found here in its all-dark colour form; in other parts of its range in South America these animals have much paler fur, however in Costa Rica and Panama this sleek dark colouration predominates. As we watched, a second, smaller animal emerged from the forest, joining the first Tayra in finding the promise of fruit too much to resist!

Next we checked into our rooms and enjoyed some free time relaxing in the grounds of the lodge, with some of us deciding to return to the balcony for more point-blank views of the hummingbirds. We met up again as a group before dinner, to reflect on yet another successful day, before tucking into a veritable feast of steak, potatoes and salad, washed down with a glass of wine or beer.

Fully sated, we ambled a short distance into the forest to where a moth trap had been set up, and in the glare of the bright light we could appreciate the wonderful diversity of species, with moths of all shapes and sizes attracted to the light, together with beetles, Praying Mantis, wasps and countless small flies.

A Central American Agouti was seen by a few of the group in the garden, and a Central American Woolly Opossum bounded across the track in front of other group members on their return to their rooms.

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Top: Violet Sabrewing and Lesson's Motmot. **Middle:** Green Hermit. **Bottom:** White-necked Jacobins.

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Day Seven: 18th March. Rancho Naturalista.

We were joined before breakfast by one of the lodge's highly knowledgeable birdwatching guides, who led us on a short walk along the access track to a spot overlooking some fruiting trees. There were wonderful views across the landscape, past the *Cecropia* trees to the distant peaks of Turrialba and Irazu volcanoes.

The birds came thick and fast, and before long we had recorded a sizeable list of species. The incessant croaking call of a Keel-billed Toucan could be heard in the trees behind us, whilst from our viewpoint we noted Golden-olive Woodpecker, Masked and Black-crowned Tityras, Gartered Trogon, Wilson's Warbler, Crimson-collared, White-lined and Bay-headed Tanagers, White-winged Becard, Baltimore Oriole and Yellow-throated Euphonia amongst a range of other species. As we walked back up the hill towards the lodge, we passed *Heliconia psittacorum*, the hairy *Heliconia vellerigera* and another red-flowered species, the shrubby *Erythrina gibbosa*.

After our energy levels had been bolstered by caffeine, eggs and rice we returned to the access track area for some more birding, and this time ventured a bit further down the hill in an attempt to locate new species. Flitting through the trees we found several warblers: Golden-winged, Stripe-crowned, Rufous-capped and Myrtle were all new for the trip, alongside Blackburnian and the boldly striped Black-and-White Warbler. Overhead a soaring kettle of Broad-winged and Swainson's Hawks indicated that the thermals were rising, and that spring migration was in full swing.

A small, straight tube emerging from a trackside telegraph pole revealed the presence of a nesting colony of Stingless Bees, a fascinating insect that can number up to ten thousand individuals in a single colony, safely located within tree cavities or other hollow wood.

At the end of our walk we reached a patch of Blue Porterweed where we focused our attention on the hummingbirds. Here we found five new species, bringing our trip total to twenty-five, which represents half of all species that occur in Costa Rica. Garden Emerald, Black-crested Coquette, Stripe-throated Hermit, Ruby-throated Hummingbird and the highly sought-after local speciality, the charming Snowcap, were all busily buzzing between the flowers, occasionally chasing each other to stake a claim on their favourite nectar source. Violet Sabrewing, Green Thorntail, Crowned Woodnymph and Rufous-tailed Hummingbird joined in on the act, leading to a vibrant display of colour and iridescence, as a couple of bright orange Julia Butterflies floated past low overhead.

As we began to retrace our steps we saw Black-striped Sparrow, Yellow-faced Grassquit, Western Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner, Smoky-brown Woodpecker, Lesser Greenlet, Slaty-capped Flycatcher and a nesting Collared Aracari before arriving back at the lodge to enjoy the garden one last time. A Tayra was seen again by some, and a White-nosed Coati put in an appearance during a carefully executed raid of the bananas. An Emerald Basilisk basked on an exposed branch, and we were also treated to our best views yet of Montezuma Oropendola, as it entered the garden to look for food.

After lunch we said goodbye to our friendly hosts at Rancho Naturalista, and reluctantly tore ourselves away from this idyllic setting to start our journey back towards San Jose. However we had not gone far before we reached a small river, where a quick scan with the binoculars revealed Green and Amazon Kingfishers, Black Phoebe, Green Heron, Green Ibis and Southern Rough-winged Swallow. It did not take long for eagle-eyed Anthony to find the star bird, a wonderfully cryptic Sunbittern, lurking amongst the boulders.

Then we made our way westwards, passing through Turrialba and Cartago before reaching the busy outskirts of the capital. An amusing incident involving an elusive green wallet helped to pass the time on the bus until we found ourselves once again at the Hotel Bougainvillea, where we enjoyed a last dinner together and discussed some of our plentiful trip highlights. We also took the opportunity to thank Anthony for all of his hard work, wildlife-spotting skills and good humour that contributed so greatly to making the holiday special. Pura Vida!

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Day Eight/nine: 19th/20th March. Return to UK.

Due to the unprecedented travel restrictions created by the Coronavirus outbreak, unfortunately our itinerary had to be curtailed, and so following a long and somewhat stressful journey home via Mexico City and Madrid, we arrived back in the UK on 20th March to reflect on the many fantastic wildlife sightings we had been lucky enough to experience during our time in Costa Rica, a true naturalist's paradise!

Mike Symes, Wildlife Travel. April 2020.



Top: *Heliconia vellerigera* and Sungrebe. **Bottom:** Emerald Basalisk.

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Costa Rica 2020: some highlights

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
MAMMALS										
Marsupials										
Central American Woolly Opossum	<i>Caluromys derbianus</i>					X				
Sloths, Anteaters & Armadillos										
Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>				X					
Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>		X							
Bats										
Proboscis Bat	<i>Rhynchonycteris naso</i>			X		X				
Lesser White-lined Bat	<i>Saccopteryx leptura</i>			X						
Primates										
Panamanian White-faced Capuchin	<i>Cebus (capucinus) imitator</i>					X				
Mantled Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>			X	X	X				
Geoffroy's Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>					X				
Rodents and Rabbits										
Variegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides</i>		X	X	X		X	X		
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>						X	X		
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>			X			X			
Carnivores										
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>		X					X		
Tayra	<i>Eira Barbara</i>						X	X		
Neotropical River Otter	<i>Lontra longicaudis</i>					X				
Manatees										
West Indian Manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>						X			
Ungulates										
Collared Peccary	<i>Pecari tajacu</i>			X						

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REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS										
Wet Forest Toad	<i>Incilius melanochlorus</i>					X				
Litter Toad	<i>Rhaebo haematiticus</i>			X						
Cane Toad	<i>Rhinella marina</i>			X						
Red-eyed Leaf Frog	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>			X						
Strawberry Poison Dart Frog	<i>Oophaga pumilio</i>			X						
Green and Black Poison Dart Frog	<i>Rana venenosa verdinegra</i>			X						
Black River Turtle	<i>Rhinoclemmys funerea</i>			X	X					
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodylus</i>					X				
Tropical House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>		X	X	X	X				
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>			X	X	X	X			
Central American Junglerunner	<i>Ameiva festiva</i>			X						
Slender Brown Anole	<i>Anolis (Norops) limifrons</i>			X	X	X	X			
Brown Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>			X						
Emerald Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>				X	X		X		
Eyelash Pit Viper	<i>Bothriechis schlegelii</i>			X						

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SELECTED INVERTEBRATES											
	Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho helenor</i>					X	X			
	Owl Butterfly	<i>Caligo atreus dionysos</i>			X						
	Thoas Swallowtail	<i>Heraclides thoas autocles</i>					X				
	Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>		X							
	Banded Peacock	<i>Anartia fatima</i>				X			X		
	Small Postman	<i>Heliconius erato petiverana</i>			X		X				
	Side-striped Hairstreak	<i>Arawacus lincoides</i>					X				
	Julia Butterfly (Orange Longwing)	<i>Dryas iulia</i>							X		
	Helicopter Damselfly	<i>Megaloprepus caerulatus</i>			X						
	Termite	<i>Nasutitermes</i> spp.			N						
	Rhinoceros Beetle	<i>Megasoma occidentalis</i>				D					
	Stingless Bee	<i>Trigona</i> spp.							X		
	Leafcutter Ant	<i>Atta cephalotes</i>			X	X					
	Bullet Ant	<i>Paraponera clavata</i>			X						
	Large Forest-floor Millipede	<i>Nyssodesmus python</i>			X						
	Golden Orb-weaver	<i>Nephila clavipes</i>				X	X	X			
	Spiny-backed Orb-weaver	<i>Gasteracantha cancriformis</i>				X	X				
	Spiny-bodied Spider	<i>Micrathena breviceps</i>							X		

N = Nest

D = Dead



Above: Mantled Howler Monkey.

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	ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
BIRDS											
ORDER STRUTHIONIFORMES											
Family Tinamidae (Tinamous)											
	Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major</i>			X						
ORDER GALLIFORMES											
Family Cracidae (Guans, Curassows and Chachalacas)											
	Black Guan	<i>Chamaepetes unicolor</i>		X							
	Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>						X			
	Grey-headed Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis cinereiceps</i>						X	X		
ORDER EURYPYGIFORMES											
Family Eurypygidae (Sunbittern)											
	Sunbittern	<i>Eurypyga helias</i>							X		
ORDER COLUMBIFORMES											
Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)											
	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		X	X	X		X	X		
	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>				X					
	Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris</i>		X				X	X		
	Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas nigrirostris</i>					X				
	White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>		X							
	Ruddy Ground-dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>						X			
	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>			X			X	X		
ORDER CAPRIMULGIFORMES											
Family Apodidae (Swifts)											
	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>		X					X		
	Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>			X	X	X	X			
	Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>		X							
Family Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)											
	Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>		X				X	X		
	Stripe-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>							X		
	Long-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longirostris</i>			X						
	Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus</i>		X				X	X		
	Fiery-throated Hummingbird	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>		X							
	Talamanca Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes spectabilis</i>		X							
	Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>		X					X		
	Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeochroa cuvieri</i>				X					
	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>				X		X	X		
	Garden Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon assimilis</i>							X		
	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>						X	X		
	Green-breasted Mango	<i>Anthracothorax prevostii</i>						X	X		
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>							X		
	Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>		X							
	Lesser Violetear	<i>Colibria (thalassinus) cyanotus</i>		X							
	Black-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa nigriventris</i>		X							
	Coppery-headed Emerald	<i>Elvira cupreiceps</i>		X							
	Purple-throated Mountain-gem	<i>Lampornis calolaemus</i>		X							
	Black-crested Coquette	<i>Lophornis helenae</i>							X		
	Green Thorntail	<i>Discosura conversii</i>		X					X		
	Snowcap	<i>Microchera albocoronata</i>							X		
	Magenta-throated Woodstar	<i>Calliphlox bryantae</i>		X							
	Scintillant Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>		X							
	Volcano Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>		X							
ORDER CUCULIFORMES											

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Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)											
	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>					X		X		
	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>				X	X	X			
ORDER GRUIFORMES											
Family Heliornithidae (Finfoots)											
	Sungrebe	<i>Heliornis fulica</i>					X				
Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)											
	Russet-naped Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides albiventris</i>					X				
	American Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryula martinica</i>					X				
ORDER PELECANIFORMES											
Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)											
	Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayanensis</i>			X				X		
Family Ardeidae (Herons)											
	Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>					X	X			
	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>				X	X				
	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>				X	X		X		
	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>				X	X	X			
	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>				X	X	X			
	Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>				X	X	X			
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				X	X	X			
	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>				X					
Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)											
	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>				X	X				
ORDER SULIFORMES											
Family Frigatidae (Frigatebirds)											
	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>				X	X				
Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)											
	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>				X					
Family Anhingidae (Darters)											
	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>				X	X	X			
ORDER CHARADRIIFORMES											
Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)											
	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>				X					
Family Charadriidae (Plovers)											
	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>						X			
Family Jacanidae (Jacanas)											
	Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>				X	X	X			
Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers, Snipes and Phalaropes)											
	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius hudsonicus</i>						X			
	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>			X	X		X			
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						X			
Family Laridae (Gulls)											
	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>				X		X			
	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>				X					
Family Sternidae (Terns)											
	American Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>				X	X	X			
	Cabot's Tern	<i>Thalasseus acuflavidus</i>				X					
	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>				X					
ORDER STRIGIFORMES											
Family Strigidae (Owls)											
	Central American Pygmy-owl	<i>Glaucidium griseiceps</i>			H						
ORDER CATHARTIFORMES											
Family Cathartidae (New World Vultures)											

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	King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>			X						
	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
ORDER ACCIPITRIFORMES											
Family Pandionidae (Ospreys)											
	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			X		X				
Family Accipitridae (Hawks and Eagles)											
	Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>					X				
	Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>			X		X				
	Semiplumbeous Hawk	<i>Leucopternis semiplumbeus</i>			X						
	Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>				X	X				
	Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>				X		X			
	Grey Hawk	<i>Buteo plagiatus</i>							X		
	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>		X	X	X			X		
	Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>							X		
ORDER TROGONIFORMES											
Family Trogonidae (Trogons and Quetzals)											
	Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>			X						
	Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>			X				X		
ORDER CORACIIFORMES											
Family Momotidae (Motmots)											
	Lesson's Motmot	<i>Momotus lessonii</i>						X	X		
	Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>			X						
	Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>			X						
Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)											
	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>				X	X	X			
	Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>				X	X		X		
	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>				X	X		X		
	Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle inda</i>					X				
Family Galbulidae (Jacamars)											
	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>			X						
Family Bucconidae (Puffbirds)											
	White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Macaloptila panamensis</i>			X						
Family Ramphastidae (Toucans)											
	Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	<i>Ramphastos swainsonii</i>			X		X	X			
	Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>			X		X	X	X		
	Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>			X		X		X		
Family Capitonidae (American Barbets)											
	Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>		X							
Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)											
	Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>			X				X		
	Hoffmann's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>		X			X				
	Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>							X		
	Smoky-brown Woodpecker	<i>Picoides fumigatus</i>							X		
	Rufous-winged Woodpecker	<i>Piculus simplex</i>			X						
	Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>			X		X				
ORDER FALCONIFORMES											
Family Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)											
	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>						X			
	Northern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>			X						
	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>		X							
ORDER PSITTACIFORMES											
Family Psittacidae (Parrots)											
	Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambiguus</i>			X						

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	Crimson-fronted Parakeet	<i>Aratinga finschi</i>		X	X	X			X		
	Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga nana</i>						X			
	White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>			X			X	X		
	Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>			X		X				
	Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>			X		X				
ORDER PASSERIFORMES											
Family Furnariidae (Ovenbirds)											
Sub-family Furnariinae (Ovenbirds)											
	Western Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner	<i>Automolus (ochrolaemus) cervinigularis</i>							X		
	(Western) Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops (genibarbis) mexicanus</i>			X						
Sub-family Dendrocolaptinae (Woodcreepers)											
	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>			X						
	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>				X		X	X		
	Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>			X						
Family Pipridae (Manakins)											
	White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>			X		X	X	X		
Family Cotingidae (Cotingas)											
	Snowy Cotinga	<i>Carpodectes nitidus</i>			X						
	Purple-throated Fruitcrow	<i>Querula purpurata</i>					X				
Family Tityridae (Tityras, Becards and allies)											
Sub-family Tityrinae											
	Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>							X		
	Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>			X				X		
	White-winged Becard	<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus</i>							X		
	Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>			X	X					
Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)											
Sub-family Pipromorphinae (Myionectine Flycatchers)											
	Slaty-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon superciljaris</i>							X		
	Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>			X	X	X	X	X		
	Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum nigriceps</i>			X						
Sub-family Elaeninae (Tyrannulets and Elaenias)											
	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>						X			
	Greenish Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis viridicata</i>							X		
Sub-family Tyranninae (Tyrant Flycatchers)											
	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>			X				X		
	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	(Northern) Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarhynchus (pitangua) mexicanus</i>			X				X		
	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes luteiventris</i>			X				X		
	Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Grey-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>			X				X		
	White-ringed Flycatcher	<i>Conopias albobittatus</i>			X						
	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus niveigularis</i>			X	X		X	X		
	Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>					X				
	Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>					X				
	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>			X						
Sub-family Fluvicolinae (Fluvicoline Flycatchers)											
	Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>			X						
	Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>		X							
	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>				X			X		
	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>						X			
Family Vireonidae (Vireos)											
	Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtata</i>							X		

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Family Corvidae (Crows)										
Brown Jay	<i>Cyanocorax morio</i>		X				X	X		
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows)										
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>		X					X		
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>				X	X	X			
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>			X				X		
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>							X		
Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)										
Southern House Wren	<i>Troglodytes (aedon) musculus</i>		X							
Ochraceous Wren	<i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i>		X							
Band-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus zonatus</i>			X						
Rufous-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus capistratus</i>		X							
Black-throated Wren	<i>Pheugopedius atrogularis</i>			X						
Stripe-breasted Wren	<i>Cantorhchilus thoracicus</i>			X						
Family Cinclidae (Dippers)										
American Dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>		X							
Family Turdidae (Thrushes)										
Black-faced Solitaire	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>		X							
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>		X							
Clay-coloured Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Family Fringillidae (Finches)										
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia gouldi</i>						X	X		
Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirudinacea</i>							X		
White-vented Euphonia	<i>Euphonia minuta</i>						X			
Family Passerellidae (New World Sparrows)										
Black-striped Sparrow	<i>Arremonops conirostris</i>							X		
Dotted (Common) Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus (ophthalmicus) punctulatus</i>		X							
Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>		X							
Sooty-faced Finch	<i>Arremon crassirostris</i>		X							
Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>			X			X	X		
Yellow-thighed Finch	<i>Pselliophorus tibialis</i>		X							
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>		X							
Family Icteridae (New World Blackbirds)										
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>				X					
Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>				X		X			
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>		X							
Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>					X		X		
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Bronzed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus aeneus</i>			X	X					
Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>							X		
Black-cowled Oriole	<i>Icterus prosthemelas</i>			X	X	X				
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>		X							
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>		X	X	X		X	X		
Scarlet-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus microrhynchus</i>			X						
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>			X		X	X	X		
Montezuma Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>			X	X	X	X	X		
Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)										
Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>				X					
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>					X				
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>							X		
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>			X				X		
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>			X		X	X			
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>		X				X			

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	ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
	Kentucky Warbler	<i>Geothlypis formosa</i>			X						
	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>						X	X		
	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>		X					X		
	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga (petechial) aestiva</i>		X							
	Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>			X		X	X	X		
	Myrtle Warbler	<i>Setophaga (c.) coronata</i>							X		
	Rufous-capped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus rufifrons</i>							X		
	Black-cheeked Warbler	<i>Basileuterus melanogenys</i>		X							
	Stripe-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>							X		
	Costa Rican Warbler	<i>Basileuterus melanotis</i>		X							
	Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>							X		
Family Cardinalidae (Cardinals)											
	Red-throated Ant-tanager	<i>Habia fuscicauda</i>			X	X					
	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>		X	X		X	X	X		
Family Thraupidae (Tanagers)											
Sub-family Porphyrospizinae (Yellow-billed Tanagers)											
	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>						X	X		
Sub-family Dacninae (Blue Tanagers)											
	Scarlet-thighed Dacnis	<i>Dacnis venusta</i>						X	X		
Sub-family Saltatorinae (Saltators)											
	Northern Grey Saltator	<i>Saltator (coerulescens) grandis</i>		X							
	Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>			X			X	X		
Sub-family Coerebinae (Dome-nesting Tanagers)											
	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>		X	X						
	Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>						X	X		
Sub-family Tachyphoniinae (Ornamented Tanagers)											
	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>						X	X		
	Crimson-collared Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus sanguinolentus</i>							X		
	Scarlet-rumped Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>			X	X		X	X		
Sub-family Sporophilinae (Seed eaters)											
	Black Seed eater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>			X	X	X		X		
Sub-family Diglossinae (Highland Tanagers)											
	Slaty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>		X							
Sub-family Thraupinae (Typical Tanagers)											
	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Tangara episcopus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Palm Tanager	<i>Tangara palmarum</i>			X				X		
	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>							X		
	Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Tangara larvata</i>			X			X			
	Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>		X							
	Plain-coloured Tanager	<i>Tangara inornata</i>			X						

H = Heard only

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Top: Anhinga. **Bottom:** Montezuma Oropendula.