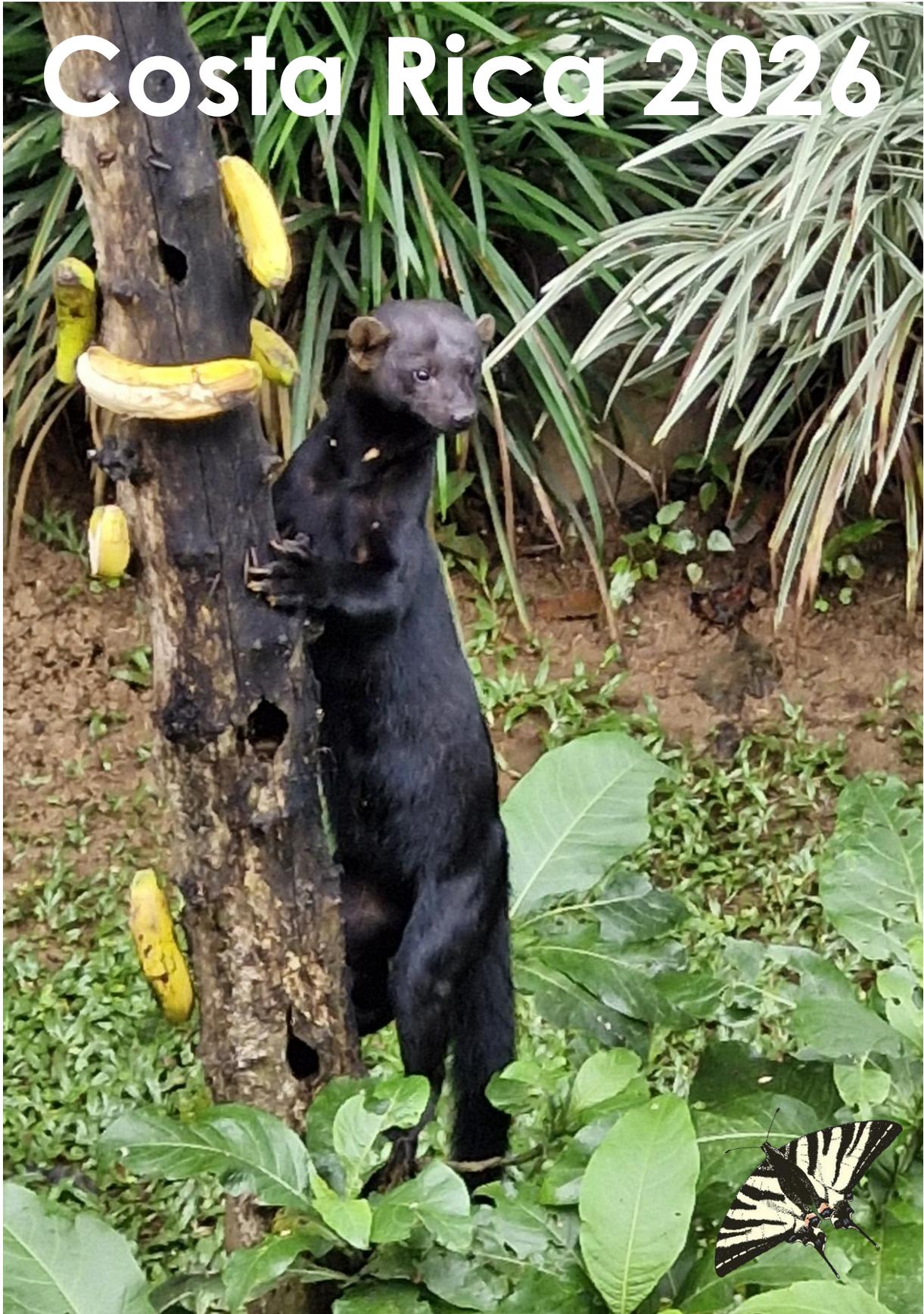


# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

## Costa Rica 2026





## Costa Rica 2026: trip report and species lists

#	DATE	LOCATIONS AND NOTES
1	15 <sup>th</sup> January	Travel to San José.
2	16 <sup>th</sup> January	Tortuguero National Park via Caño Blanco.
3	17 <sup>th</sup> January	Tortuguero National Park.
4	18 <sup>th</sup> January	Travel to Rancho Naturalista.
5	19 <sup>th</sup> January	Rancho Naturalista.
6	20 <sup>th</sup> January	Angostura Reservoir, Turrialba, Rancho Naturalista.
7	21 <sup>st</sup> January	Travel to Savegre.
8	22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Savegre.
9	23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Savegre, Cerro de la Muerte, travel to San Isidro de El General.
10	24 <sup>th</sup> January	Uvita.
11	25 <sup>th</sup> January	Dominical, Baru National Wildlife Refuge travel to Punta Leona.
12	26 <sup>th</sup> January	Carara National Park, Punta Leona.
13	27 <sup>th</sup> January	Tárcoles, San José.
14	28 <sup>th</sup> January	San José, La Paz waterfall, Virgen el Socorro, San Fernando.
15	29 <sup>th</sup> January	San José, travel to UK.

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### Leader

Phil Saunders

Dorset

### Local Guide

Sergio Padilla

Costa Rica

Front: Tayra (Tina Fofana).

Photos Phil Saunders, except where shown.

### Day One: 15<sup>th</sup> January. Travel to San José.

After a long but straightforward journey, we arrived in Costa Rica where Sergio met us at the lively and chaotic San José airport. From there Carlos navigated the backstreets of the capital to reach Hotel Bougainvillea, our base for the night. After dinner together, we turned in early ahead of the first full day of the trip - with some of us entertained by the distinctive night-time calls of a Pauraque outside the hotel!

### Day Two: 16<sup>th</sup> January. Tortuguero National Park via Caño Blanco.

After an early start at Hotel Bougainvillea, we left the Central Valley and travelled east across the high mountain ridge towards the Caribbean lowlands. Leaving San Jose (elevation 1,161m), we were soon driving through wet mountain forest, with a roadside breakfast stop allowing us to take in the huge size of many of the forest trees. Tropical Kingbirds and Social Flycatchers dotted the roadside wires, and a few of our group managed to spot their first Yellow-throated Toucans as they flashed by. Numerous Black and Turkey Vultures were seen from the bus, and we were able to pick out the key differences between these two common raptors in terms of tail and wing shape, and colouration. Approaching Caño Blanco (the riverside stepping stone for Tortuguero National Park), we passed through extensive banana plantations interspersed with pasture, the latter accommodating several huge Longhorn Cattle.

From Caño Blanco we boarded boats for the 1.5 hour journey into the National Park. Herons and waterbirds accompanied us throughout, including several species of heron and a variety of waders. A mass of Black-necked Stilts, Semipalmated Plovers, and Royal Terns loitered on one low lying island, whilst Northern Jacanas fretted along the riverbanks and beautiful Mangrove Swallows skimmed the water's surface. The huge trees and dense riverside vegetation of the riparian forest became increasingly apparent as we neared our destination of Pachira Lodge (our base for the next two nights), with a treetop Keel-billed Toucan greeting us upon arrival at the dock.

After checking into our rooms and a spot of lunch we again boarded the boat and crossed the river to Tortuguero village and the Sea Turtle Conservancy. The area immediately surrounding the latter produced a range of interesting species, including our first (Rufous-tailed) Hummingbird of the trip, Collared Aracari, Black-cheeked and Lineated Woodpeckers, and a (locally notable) Yellow-throated Warbler, whilst a showy Common Black Hawk sat atop a palm tree. At our feet, a procession of industrious Leaf-cutter Ants was seen snaking its way across the path, collecting leaf fragments to take back to their nest to feed the fungus that they 'farm'. The Conservancy housed an engaging exhibition on the area's wildlife, highlighting its importance for breeding sea turtles, and we spent some time here before heading towards the nearby beach and Caribbean Sea.

Our meanderings produced sightings of Pale-vented Pigeon and Keel-billed Toucan en route, as chattering Grey-rumped Swifts and (larger) Grey-breasted Martins scythed overhead. The beach was patrolled by several menacing looking Magnificent Frigatebirds, and a couple of attractive *Convolvulus* species were noted spreading their stems across the sand. Leaving the beach, some of our party partook of fresh coconut milk courtesy of a machete-wielding beachside vendor as the clouds built up overhead. A dazzling male Purple Martin, perched on overhead wires, provided a nice comparison with the Grey-breasted Martins seen earlier, as we explored the main drag of Tortuguero town.

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The heavens eventually opened though, causing several of us to seek shelter alongside a funky Spiny-backed Orb-weaver spider and a cacophony of Great-tailed Grackles. Braving the rain, we boarded our boat back across the river and ended the day with an enjoyable evening meal and our first “log” session of the trip.

### **Day Three: 17<sup>th</sup> January. Tortuguero National Park.**

A pre-breakfast boat excursion allowed us to further explore the watery byways of the National Park and produced a wealth of memorable wildlife encounters. A sluggish troop of Mantled Howler Monkeys sat calling in the treetops as we left the dock, and it wasn't long before our eagle-eyed boatman spotted one of the most sought-after Costa Rican animals: our first sloth! The surprisingly active Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth was watched slowly clambering amongst the overhanging branches of a riverside tree, showcasing its pig-like snout and the two obvious claws on its forefeet.

A Collared Aracari called from the top of a nearby tree, and we were treated to a distant, but raucous, flypast by a flock of Great Green Macaws - one of the special birds of the Caribbean coast. Massive slaty-blue Ringed Kingfishers showed superbly alongside their more diminutive Green Kingfisher cousins, and vibrantly coloured Purple Gallinules clambered amongst the floating vegetation alongside the less timid jacanas. Several large Green Iguanas were spotted lounging amongst the riverside branches, and the showy blooms of Pachira (our lodge's namesake) stood out against the greenery. Our boatman spotted both sexes of Emerald Basilisk in amongst the low branches, with the amazing crest and coloration of the male being particularly admired. Not to be outdone, Sergio pointed out the insect-like piping of (sadly unseen) Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs coming from the riverside undergrowth, and we all enjoyed the odd sight of a single male Proboscis Bat and his harem of females roosting single-file beneath a boatshed roof. Well-pleased with our morning's trove, if nevertheless somewhat damper than when we started, we headed back to the lodge for a much-needed caffeine injection.

Following breakfast some of us walked one of the lodge trails, where we were treated to views of a mother and infant Mantled Howler Monkey above our heads and another (much sleepier) Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth. Iridescent blue Morpho butterflies flitted amongst the canopy, whilst both Slender Brown and Stream Anoles loitered below knee height, and a Central American Agouti vanished like a will-o'-the-wisp almost as soon as it was spotted. Sergio pointed out Black-crowned Antshrike, Pale-billed Woodpecker, and Stripe-breasted Wren, and Vanessa spotted a stick-insect, before we headed back to the lodge to relax prior to lunch (with some of us spotting Russet-naped Wood-rail, White-collared Manakin, and a stately Green Tree Anole around our rooms).

In the afternoon we took another boat trip to explore some of the quieter waterways of the National Park, but not before we enjoyed wonderful views of a family of Central American Spider Monkeys acrobatically exploring the trees around the lodge. Upon rejoining the water, we encountered stately Aningas spread their wings from exposed snags, with several Green Iguanas again watched basking amongst the higher boughs. A chunky White-necked Puffbird was much-admired as it perched alongside our vessel, eventually providing excellent views of this uncommon lowland species, with further sightings of Green Kingfisher and Northern Jacana also enjoyed by the group. Our first Spectacled Caiman was a small individual, but we eventually found several larger examples of these attractive crocodilians basking on the banksides. This included a trio we watched chasing small fish, alongside several prehistoric-looking Tropical Gar and Tarpon, causing their prey

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to periodically leap en masse above the water's surface. An inquisitive troop of Panamanian White-faced Capuchins completed the monkey list for the trip and, turning a corner, we encountered our first Boat-billed Heron - bizarre-looking nocturnal feeders with a bill that certainly lives up to the name.

Suddenly a cry of "Agami!" went up from Sergio at the front of the boat, and all eyes span in the direction he was pointing. There alongside us, partially hidden in the bankside trees, was a stunning Agami Heron - one of the most rarely seen herons in the Americas and totally unexpected! Clambering amongst the branches, the bird eventually showed all its gorgeous indigo and maroon plumage, offset by densely clustered, fine, white neck quills, and an incredibly long and narrow bill, producing a stream of superlatives from those on board. Amazed and satiated, we left the herons in peace and jubilantly returned to the lodge for a celebratory dinner and drinks.

Following dinner, the evening rain encouraged us to briefly explore the complex surrounds for amphibians, alongside an accompaniment of incessantly calling (yet unseen) Common Dink Frogs. Walking between the lodges, an errant flash of torchlight from Tina illuminated the unmistakable form of a Nine-banded Armadillo ambling towards a nearby hole, and most of the group managed to snatch a glimpse as it disappeared beneath one of the lodges. Better yet, Sergio then located a brace of Red-eyed Leaf Frogs loitering in the vegetation surrounding a small waterbody. The entire group was able to enjoy wonderful views of these absolutely stunning animals, prior to heading to bed and ruminating on an amazing day in Tortuguero National Park.

### **Day Four: 18<sup>th</sup> January. Travel to Rancho Naturalista.**

The day started for some of the group with an industrious Raccoon watched consuming one of the many Blue Land Crabs inhabiting the lodge complex, followed by an early wander along one of the lodge's board-walked trails, often accompanied by a friendly feline. We enjoyed views of our first Olive-backed Euphonia and tried in vain to encourage some of the shyer wren species to show themselves. Then, following another hearty breakfast, it was time to leave Pachira Lodge and we all again boarded one of the trusty motorboats for our somewhat drizzly journey back to Caño Blanco.

We were again treated to excellent views of an array of herons and waterbirds, including several attractive Tricoloured Herons alongside the usual egrets and Little Blue Herons. Sarah spotted our only Collared Plover of the trip, and a loitering juvenile Wood Stork was also appreciated on a muddy bankside, although these were easily trumped by our first huge American Crocodile. Sunning itself on a vegetated bank, it invited much more caution than the friendlier-looking Spectacled Caiman of the previous day.

Meeting Carlos and the trusty minibus at the riverside, we then began our journey back to "civilisation" and the climb up the Caribbean slope to the hallowed Ranch Naturalista (900m elevation). A brief roadside stop alongside one of the many cattle fields produced sightings of Red-breasted Meadowlark, White-crowned Parrot, and Grey-crowned Yellowthroat, and several Bare-throated Tiger Herons were noted as they scoured the wet fields for prey. Leaving the humidity of the lowlands behind, we continued onwards, making a brief stop at a supermarket and ATM, before arriving at Rancho Naturalista for the first of several wonderful lunches. Barely had we sat down for our meal on the lodge veranda when a fabulously inquisitive White-nosed Coati appeared at the garden feeders a few metres away, joining the already present Variegated and Red-tailed Squirrels -

the perfect greeting. Following lunch, we took some time to check into our rooms and to appreciate the fantastic show put on by the hummingbirds at the lodge's balcony feeders, with our first White-necked Jacobin's and Crowned Woodnymphs hovering just a few feet from our faces.

Later on we took a wander down the lodge's entrance track, noting several species of attractively flowering Heliconia and the impressive Shampoo Ginger growing alongside it, before arriving at another viewpoint alongside an impressive house. The flowering shrubs here were alive with hummingbirds, with two gorgeous male Snowcap (the vinous-hued Rancho speciality that everyone hopes to see) hovering alongside a similarly tiny and attractive Green Thorntail. As if this was enough, a lovely male Violet-headed Hummingbird then joined the fray - absolute hummingbird heaven! The trees and shrubs below the viewpoint were alive with a variety of tanagers and warblers too, and it was hard to drag ourselves away from this wonderful spot to head back to the lodge for our evening meal. Here we were greeted by an Agouti beneath the garden feeders and another new hummingbird - the lustrously emerald-tinted, Green-breasted Mango - feeding on the balcony. We finished the day with a delicious dinner and an interesting history lesson from Sergio before heading to bed and looking forward to the morrow.

### **Day Five: 19<sup>th</sup> January. Rancho Naturalista.**

Our first full day at Rancho Naturalista saw us up on the balcony at dawn to watch birds coming into the freshly stocked feeders. We were duly treated to a panoply of species, including our first stunning Lesson's Motmot, furtive Bay-headed Tanagers, boldly black and white Tityras, and Collared Aracari. Vibrantly scarlet male Summer Tanagers joined the fray, alongside both Montezuma and Chestnut-headed Oropendolas, whilst Agoutis foraged beneath them and an array of hummingbirds flitted amongst the neighbouring Blue Porterweed. The latter included another male Snowcap, plus the more subtly plumaged Stripe-throated Hermit, alongside the ever-present Rufous-tailed Hummers.

After breakfast we again walked downhill, stopping once more at yesterday's favoured viewpoint, and ending up at the lower elevation Rancho Bajo. En route we were treated to fabulous views of Gartered Trogon and heard both Laughing Falcon and Thicket Antpitta. The viewpoint garden produced a riot of yellow-bellied and stripe-headed flycatchers, including our first Grey-capped Flycatchers amongst the more frequent Social Flycatchers and Tropical Kingbirds. Leaving the viewpoint, we were graced by an even showier trogon on the overhead wires, and Tina pointed out a beautiful carpet of Common Goldstar on one of the pathside banks. As we approached Rancho Bajo a trio of extremely vocal Bay Wren briefly showed themselves alongside the track before disappearing back into cover, and we were soon enjoying fresh coffee on the lower lodge's balcony overlooking its own feeders and bank of Blue Porterweed.

The lodge's garden was alive with butterflies in the morning sunshine, including several stately Monarchs, and the balcony hummingbird feeders attracted a spectacular, yet shy, Violet Sabrewing which was constantly harassed by the more abundant White-necked Jacobins. The neighbouring Blue Porterweed proved equally attractive, with at least four Snowcap (including one male), a male Green Thorntail, and our first vibrant Garden Emerald all enjoying the bounty of nectar. Collared Aracari, Melodious Blackbird, and our first beautiful Scarlet-rumped and Crimson-collared Tanagers showed very well on the garden feeders, as a juvenile Broad-winged Hawk circled low overhead.

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Soon enough it was time for us to head back to Rancho Naturalista for lunch, with several of us making use of Carlos and the trusty minibus to climb back up the hill.

Some free time after lunch saw several of the group spend some time on the balcony, watching the comings and goings of the many hummingbirds. We also appreciated the return of yesterday's Coati, as several large Central American Junglerunner lizards loitered in the sunshine beneath the feeders. We then set out to explore some of the other forested trails surrounding the lodge, walking single file along densely vegetated routes before arriving in an open area overlooking distant mountains. A Little Tinamou called in the distance as we walked through the silvan gloom, and we were encouraged by Sergio to taste the fruiting (if somewhat unripe) Water Apple from a nearby tree. Unfortunately, the rain then set in and we decided to head back to the drier environs of the lodge, where we enjoyed several new bird species in the garden (including Orange-billed Sparrow and Red-throated Ant-tanager) before dinner - the latter accompanied by a glass of white rum and ginger ale, courtesy of Sergio.

### **Day Six: 20<sup>th</sup> January. Angostura Reservoir, Turrialba, Rancho Naturalista.**

Our pre-breakfast vigil on the balcony produced a similarly riotous mix of tanagers, orioles, chachalacas, and pigeons, plus Olive-green Woodpecker and loudly calling Bay Wren. Following breakfast, we boarded the minibus and set off for the nearby Angostura Reservoir via the busy town of Turrialba. We noted several oropendola colonies from the road, their bizarre woven pendant nests waving in the breeze, and a brief stop at a river crossing provided close views of perched Roadside Hawk and Crested Caracara, whilst two Muscovy Duck fed in the shallows.

Arriving at the reservoir, we enjoyed a pleasant walk around a section of its perimeter, scanning through the abundant bird life amongst the dense marginal and emergent vegetation. Two Wood Stork and a flock of Black-bellied Whistling Duck perched incongruously in tall waterside trees, and showy Purple Gallinules clambered amongst the Water Hyacinth, as a solitary Osprey distantly quartered the reservoir margin. Blue-winged Teal and Lesser Scaup added to the duck interest, and a wonderfully rufescent juvenile Bare-throated Tiger Heron showcased why the species received its name. A Great Kiskadee perched obligingly atop a pathside tangle, and the bizarre Limpkin called plaintively from the reeds. Several butterflies were active in the morning sunshine, alongside several day-flying clearwing and White-tipped Black moths. Numerous pink and yellow flat-backed millipedes were watched along the open track and Rhea happened upon a fascinating termite tunnel crossing the main path.

Upon leaving the reservoir we headed up into the hills surrounding Turrialba on a hunt for sloths... The Cecropia trees in the area comprise a well-known locality and Sergio had an idea as to where we might get lucky. Climbing up through tortuous chicanes, we were delighted when Sergio eventually spotted a single Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth sheltering from the increasingly heavy rain in the crown of a roadside Cecropia. We all enjoyed brief views of the increasingly active individual, as the rain really began to set in, and were then heading back towards a welcome lunchtime meal at Ranch Naturalista.

The rain continued post-lunch, so we again spent some time enjoying the birds from the balcony before again heading down the track to Rancho Bajo. We had barely left the lodge before we encountered a busy mixed flock though, including several vibrantly coloured New World Warbler

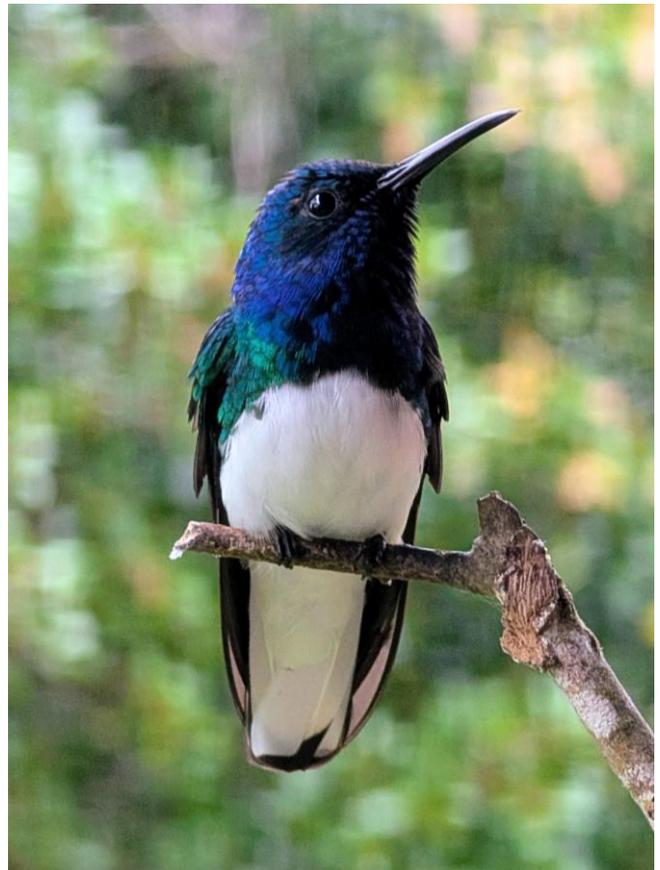
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species (Golden-winged, Blue-winged, and Blackburnian). Golden-hooded Tanagers flicked amongst the lower branches, and a single Keel-billed Toucan flew across overhead. We encountered Violet-headed Hummingbird, Ruddy Pigeon, and White-shouldered Tanager during the remainder of our walk down to the lower lodge, as well as several showy Chestnut-sided Warblers to add to the warbler score.

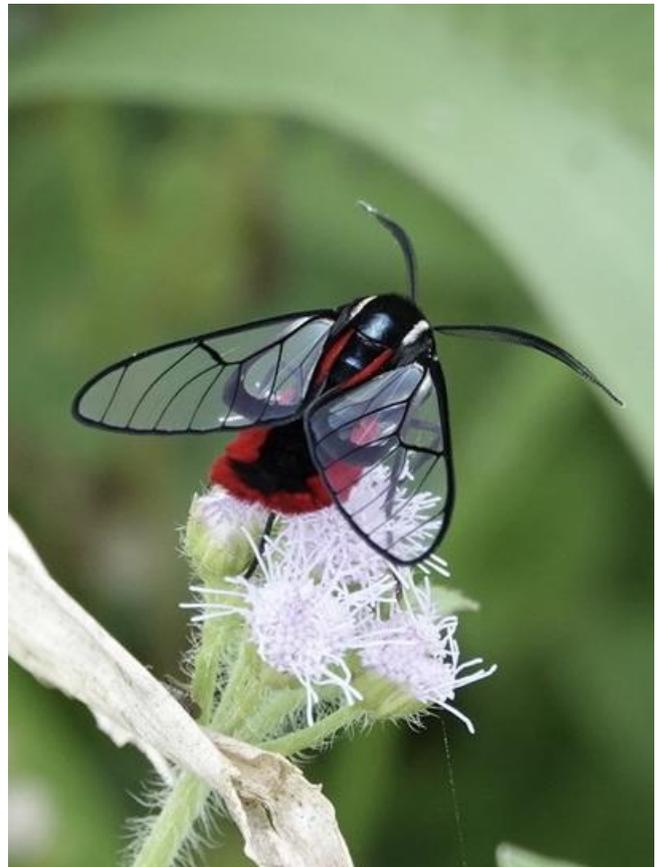
Rancho Bajo was again alive with birds, including a distant pair of Gartered Trogon, three fantastically spotty Crested Guan that flew into one of the garden trees, and a much-discussed Mistletoe Tyrannulet - one of several very similar Little Green Jobs. The hummingbirds also proved as engaging as ever, with Violet Sabrewing and Green-breasted Mango coming to the balcony feeders, and a female Snowcap on Blue Porterweed below. It was soon time to head back for our last lovely dinner and final night at the wonderful Rancho Naturalista, before heading higher into the mountains on the morrow.



Above: Cydno Longwing (Katherine King); Assassin Bug (Katherine King); Spectacled Caiman.



Top to bottom: Slender Brown Anole; Russet-naped Wood-Rail; Red-eyed Leaf Frog (Susan Kemp-Wheeler); White-necked Jacobin.



Top to bottom: *Heliconia latispatha*; White-tipped Black; Purple Gallinule; *Dinia* sp. (Kathering King).

### Day Seven: 21<sup>st</sup> January. Travel to Savegre.

Our final morning on the lodge balcony proved most memorable, when another visit by the errant Coati was eclipsed by the arrival of two swarthy Tayra - an absolutely thrilling mammal encounter. These muscular mustelids showed their climbing prowess as they sought out bananas stationed on the taller garden posts, before slipping back into the surrounding greenery. The daily compliment of gaudy tanagers, euphonias, and orioles was also enjoyed, alongside another appearance by the Lesson's Motmot and a showy Black-cheeked Woodpecker. Sadly, after a final hearty breakfast, it was then time to say goodbye to the friendly and accommodating staff at Rancho Naturalista, as we boarded the minibus and began our long climb up to the Savegre Valley.

After an hour or so on the bus we made our first stop for coffee at a cosy roadside café surrounded by a bank of feeders, which the proprietor kindly restocked with fruit upon our arrival. Here we enjoyed wonderful close views of Black-lined, Blue-grey, Palm, and Scarlet-rumped Tanagers, alongside several confiding Collared Aracari, Black-throated Saltator, Clay-coloured Thrush, and House Wren whilst supping on sweet sugar cane "tea". We also noted a stingless bee nest, complete with emergent engineered funnel, sprouting from beneath the café walls. Reinvigorated, we climbed back into the bus and continued our upwards journey. Another brief stop an hour or so later allowed us to stretch our legs and encouraged Tina to do a quick spot of roadside botanising, taking in our first Rufous-collared Sparrows and Acorn Woodpecker in the process. Back on the bus, and a short while later we crested the summit (3,000m elevation) and then began our descent into the beautiful upland oak woodlands of the Savegre Valley, with wonderful moss-laden trees cloaking much of the hillsides.

Our lunch stop was a small restaurant with the typical compliment of fruit and hummingbird feeders, and the higher altitude brought with it a different range of species. Boldly marked Flame-coloured Tanagers, Mountain and Sooty Thrushes, Yellow-thighed Brushfinch, Large-footed Finch, and Sooty-capped Chlorospingus were all new for the trip, whilst Acorn Woodpeckers also provided excellent close-range views. The hummingbird feeders were truly exceptional also, riotous with the larger Talamanca and Fiery-throated Hummingbirds flying alongside the more petit Volcano Hummingbirds, Lesser Violetears, and White-throated Mountain-gems. A trio of gorgeous Swallow-tailed Kites were watched soaring down valley before we dragged ourselves away to drive the short distance to our accommodation at the Savegre Hotel (2,200m elevation).

After arriving at our hotel and checking into our rooms, we took a short walk around the grounds. The incessant calls of a territorial Lesser Violetear filled the air, along with the fluting notes of a Tropical Mockingbird. Blue-and-White Swallows hawked overhead, as we enjoyed excellent views of the bizarrely billed Slaty Flowerpiercer doing what it does best, followed by a diminutive female Scintillant Hummingbird watched feeding alongside similarly sized Volcano Hummingbird cousins. A flock of stunning Long-tailed Silky Flycatchers showed intermittently as they flew between the complex's taller trees, whilst a solitary Red-tailed Hawk and a flock of, high-flying, White-collared Swift circled above us.

Following an enjoyable, predominantly Trout-based, dinner we headed for bed, with some serenaded by the mournful howl of Coyotes...

### **Day Eight: 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Savegre.**

A pre-dawn start saw the minibus driving up the valley road to join several other patiently waiting groups on the cold roadside, all seeking one of the avian stars of Costa Rica - the Resplendent Quetzal. We enjoyed excellent views of Tufted Flycatcher, Sooty-capped Chlorospingus, and Black-cheeked Warbler before, after some to-ing and fro-ing between viewing points along the valley side, we all had brief views of a stunning male Quetzal perched below us. Jubilant in our success, we headed back to the hotel for some much-needed coffee and breakfast.

After breakfast we clambered into the back of a brace of 4x4 vehicles and were shepherded up to the top of the hotel's trail network, amongst statuesque trees laden with epiphytes. We spent the next few hours exploring the woodland trails, taking in the abundant bromeliads, palms, and bryophytes, and encountering a range of high elevation forest birds, as well as enjoying the view across the valley from a well-appointed mirador, before descending the road back down to the hotel. Tufted Flycatchers flitted from the lower branches, whilst fiery-hued Flame-throated Warblers foraged exclusively in the lower crowns, and a warmly tinted Ochraceous Wren foraged across the upper trunks. Spot-crowned Woodcreeper and Rufous Treerunner lived up to their names, and some of the group enjoyed fabulous views of the decidedly range-restricted Ochraceous Pewee flycatching from an exposed branch. The botanists in the group also spotted several attractive patches of violets, as well as the bizarrely named English Baby Tears!

Following a pathside stream down through the forest towards the road, accompanied by the liquid calls of Black-faced Solitaire, we encountered Yellowish Flycatcher and several beautiful Collared Redstarts, whilst a furtive Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush showed itself only fleetingly. Rejoining the road, we were soon back at the threshold of the hotel complex, but not before a sun-coloured Lesser Goldfinch perched up along the roadside.

After a brief sojourn we reconvened at the minibus prior to driving up the valley for lunch at a lovely restaurant overlooking the river (but not before we had added another hummingbird species to the list in the form of a male Stripe-tailed Hummingbird on the hotel feeders). Volcano Hummingbirds skimmed amongst the flowering shrubs across from our table, and eagle-eyed Katherine spotted several female Green Spiny Lizards in the borders, each amazingly well camouflaged as it basked on the lichen-encrusted rocks. The group then enjoyed a free afternoon after our early start, spent relaxing or exploring the hotel grounds, prior to cocktails and another enjoyable meal.

### **Day Nine: 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Savegre, Cerro de la Muerte, travel to San Isidro de El General.**

Another early start for some of the group as we again chanced our arm at more prolonged views of Resplendent Quetzal at a different local site prior to breakfast. We sadly drew a blank on the longicaudate trogon but did enjoy brief views of a party of three Coyote traversing the treeline on the opposite hillside and a friendly Black Phoebe flycatching around the nearby lodge and river. After meeting with the rest of the group for our final breakfast, we reconvened at the minibus to recommence our journey, but not before adding a pair of curious Plain-coloured Tanagers (investigating the beams of the reception building) to the growing roster of that diverse bird family.

Climbing upwards, back out of the Savegre Valley, we reconnected with the main ridge road and drove further uphill for an hour or so before arriving at the (surprisingly sunny) páramo of Cerro de la Muerte (3,450m elevation). The habitat here was very different from the lower elevation forests,

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largely comprising a band of shrubland vegetation sandwiched between the treeline and the snowline of the high mountains. Scrambling up the rocks to the edge of a dramatic drop-off, we took in an amazing panorama encompassing the Talamanca mountain range (including Costa Rica's tallest mountain - Cerro Chirripó) and the distant Pacific coast. Birds were scarce at this high elevation, but we did notice several tiny Volcano Hummingbirds and more Slaty Flowerpiercers flitting amongst the bushes.

Wandering back towards the minibus, a shout went up as a flock of three extremely tame Volcano Junco appeared, fossicking in the thin leaf layer, with one even running between Susan's legs! These charming, if somewhat evil-eyed, New World sparrows are globally restricted to a few high peaks in Costa Rica and a tiny sliver of neighbouring Panama, and we were overjoyed by their amazingly confiding nature. This species can be tricky to connect with, so extended close sightings of at least another three individuals, as we walked down an open track towards the main road, were not to be sniffed at. We also encountered a couple of bright green and blue Green Spiny Lizards, these extravagantly coloured male animals proving quite a contrast to the cryptically coloured females seen previously.

Rejoining Carlos and the minibus we noted a soaring Red-tailed Hawk above us before setting off towards our lunch, located just outside San Isidro de El General. The journey passed quickly, as we commenced our descent down the switchbacks of the Pacific slope, taking in the changing landscape and appreciating views of another flock of four beautiful Swallow-tailed Kites from the coach. The balcony of our lunch stop restaurant had amazing views across the riparian landscape below, and our lunch was overlooked by a large Green Iguana and an inquisitive Black Vulture in balcony-side trees. It was then onwards to the Pacific coast, and our base for the next two nights at the Rio Mar hotel near Dominical, where the group spent the afternoon relaxing around the complex or exploring the local area and beach.

Reconvening for dinner, we were treated to the magical sight of glowing Fireflies carpeting the pitch-black paddocks neighbouring the entrance road, as we drove the short distance to a nearby restaurant. Here we were greeted by the unexpected sight of a decommissioned passenger plane forming part of the decor! As we enjoyed another lovely meal here, a huge grasshopper (enticed by the overhead lighting) took an apparent shine to Sarah, providing quite some entertainment (for everyone else anyway) as it repeatedly landed on her, before being caught by one of the staff and released outside. Satiated and happy with another fascinating day in Costa Rica, we then headed back to the hotel and bed.

### **Day Ten: 24<sup>th</sup> January. Uvita.**

Dawn broke with rain but soon tailed off to leave a lovely sunny day. Post breakfast we headed down the coast to Uvita to join a dedicated boat trip out into the adjacent marine reserve. After a brief orientation and walk down through town to the beach, we braved the surf and climbed aboard our comfortable launch, excited for what the next few hours might bring. Parties of Brown Pelicans and Cocos Boobies flew across the bow, whilst flocks of Magnificent Frigatebirds wheeled high in the azure sky. Before very long we were treated to the wonderful sight of a mother and calf Humpback Whale repeatedly surfacing, showcasing their distinctive profiles and blow, whilst the adoring boatloads kept a respectable distance. Our guide explained that the female could not feed in these tropical waters and remained largely silent when visiting the reserve to avoid attracting the

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attention of (potentially) belligerent male whales. Having had our fill of these amazing cetaceans, our boatman left them in peace, and we set out to see what other marine wildlife we could discover.

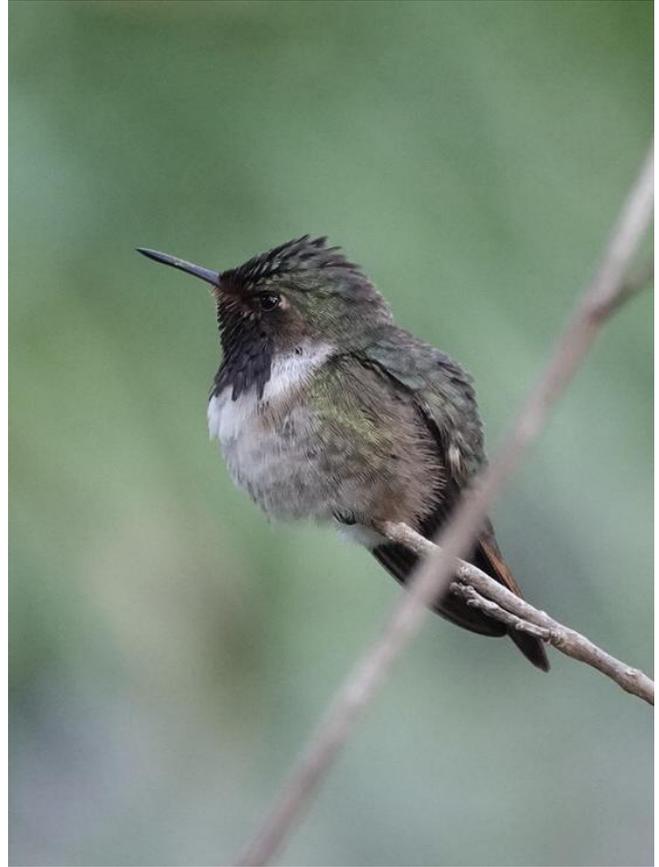
After a short while we stumbled across a small group of Pantropical Spotted Dolphins, with the unspotted juveniles acrobatically leaping from the water, whilst the spottier adults surfaced more fleetingly. A flying fish was spotted by some of the group, gliding across the wave tops, and we had a near-constant accompaniment of Cocos Boobies, frigatebirds, and pelicans. Heading down the coast, our boatman pointed out the distant mangroves of the Corcovada National Park to the south, and we appreciated the impressive coastal scenery. Rock arches reached out from the shoreline, and tiered levels of forest rose up into the distant highlands. Circling an offshore island alive with seabirds, we spied a Peregrine Falcon overhead and a Brown Pelican amicably perched on a low-lying rock. Then it was time to head back to shore, briefly paying our respects to the Humpbacks en route, before we made landfall on the sunny beach.

Walking back towards town we passed a small group of confiding White Ibis in the shallows behind the beach and then headed into Uvita for lunch at a roadside restaurant. Returning to the Rio Mar, some of the group enjoyed a free afternoon, whilst others joined Phil and Sergio for a walk around the hotel grounds. Here we were afforded extended views of the huge, turkey-like, Great Curassow; the largely black males contrasting with the extensively banded black, white, and rufous-coloured females. Continuing the cracid theme, a flock of Crested Guan were watched feeding in the lower canopy, whilst Black-hooded Antshrikes, Chestnut-backed Antbirds, and Riverine Wrens fossicked below them. Two species of iguana were also appreciated, with one particularly large and confiding Black Ctenosaur (or Black Spiny-tailed Iguana, if you prefer) watched sunning itself on the hotel lawns.

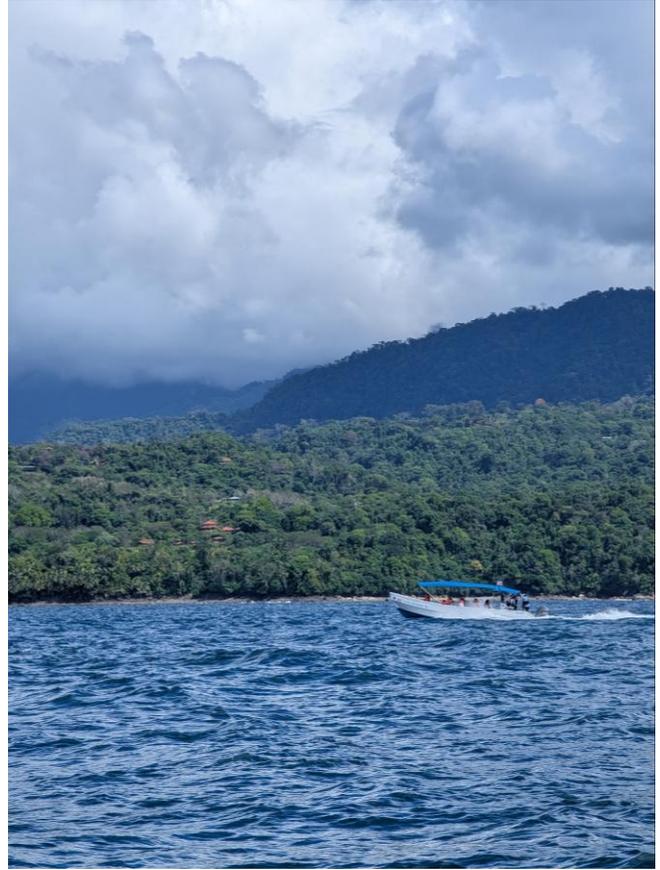
We later headed down the coast to a lovely cliffside restaurant overlooking the ocean, where we enjoyed some excellent local seafood, before heading back to the hotel for the night. Having said our goodnights, Phil took a chance to stretch his legs before bedtime and unexpectedly chanced upon a wonderful pair of calling Spectacled Owls in the trees by the hotel entrance. Luckily a few of the group were still awake, and Tina and Helen soon joined him in enjoying torchlit views of these most spectacular of the Neotropical owls. A fitting end to a wonderful day.



Top to bottom: White-nosed Coati (Tina Fofana); Talamanca Hummingbird; Flame-coloured Tanager (Susan Kemp-Wheeler).



Top to bottom: Pure-banded Dartwhite (Katherine King); Volcano Hummingbird (Katherine King); Lesser Violetear (Katherine King); Green Spiny Lizard.



Top to bottom: Savegre; Uvita; Black Ctenosaur.

**Day Eleven: 25<sup>th</sup> January. Dominical, Baru National Wildlife Refuge travel to Punta Leona.**

Our final morning in Dominical saw us taking a pre-breakfast walk along the road and river outside the hotel producing nice views of Crimson Crowned Woodpecker, a high-flying Ringed Kingfisher, Yellow Warbler, and Streaked Flycatcher. A huge flock of White-collared Swift looked like mosquitos as they wheeled high against the clouds, as a stately Black Hawk Eagle unexpectedly flew across the river towards us and into cover. Several Spotted Sandpipers (decidedly unspotty in their winter plumage) foraged amongst the riverside pebbles, whilst egrets fished in the shallows, and flocks of Neotropical Cormorant commuted downriver. A duo of amorous male Southern Lapwing, displaying to an obviously unimpressed female in a roadside paddock, provided much merriment and a smart Rufous-backed Wren flew in and investigated the wrought iron hotel sign as we returned for breakfast.

It was then time to wave goodbye to the Rio Mar, but not before we had spotted a King Vulture circling above the hotel. We then drove a short distance to Baru National Wildlife Refuge, where we were greeted by a Charming Hummingbird on the lodge Porterweed another King Vulture circling overhead amongst the usual Black and Turkey Vultures. A large Black Ctenosaur soaked up the sun's rays by the reception porch and, best of all, a sleepy Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth showed superbly as it lounged above the entrance track.

Heading out onto an open woodland trail we encountered Bright-rumped Attila, Black-and-white Warbler, and Tawny-winged Woodcreeper in quick succession, and marvelled at the huge nest and fastidiously cleaned pathways made by the local Leafcutter Ants. Turning a corner, a young Coati crossed our path, and then a White-necked Puffbird flew into a low branch and showed superbly for the photographers in the party. Not to be outdone, an Ochraceous Piculet picked amongst the dry bark whilst a Crimson-crowned Woodpecker investigated a potential nest hole. New Hummingbirds also came thick and fast, with a female Ruby-throated Hummingbird and a fabulous male Blue-fronted Goldentail both added to the trip list.

Heading through the thicker forest and down to the beach, birds became harder to find, although we still had excellent views of a perched Gray-hooded Kite and a brace of Double-toothed Kite, whilst a vocal White-breasted Wren remained unseen. Leafcutter Ants were a constant companion among the amazing trees, including several impressive *Ficus*, and a variety of beautiful butterflies were found puddling on the muddy road at the end of the trail. Arriving at the beach we were treated to a flypast from a flock of Brown Pelicans, and we noted an Osprey perched atop a nearby tree. Heading back down the increasingly humid track we spotted another Charming Hummingbird and arriving at reception we noted that the sloth from earlier had awoken. Sergio quickly spotted that she had an infant with her(!), and we all enjoyed fantastic views of this extremely cute couple as the adult groomed herself with an impressive set of claws and the youngster slowly clambered amongst the nearby branches. Two Fiery-billed Aracari (the Pacific slope equivalent of the Collared Aracari seen on the Caribbean slope) flew in as we watched the sloths but proved tricky to pick out amongst the densely packed boughs.

It was then back on the bus and a northbound journey towards our next destination. Stopping for lunch at a roadside restaurant, no sooner had we sat down than the raucous calls of Scarlet Macaws echoed across the road, as several of these fabulously gaudy parrots flew amongst the neighbouring trees. We saw several more macaws from the minibus as we subsequently continued

north, passing extensive Oil Palm plantations and unfortunately hitting a heavy traffic jam as we passed the tourist hub of Jacó. We eventually arrived at the Punta Leona Beach Club and Nature Resort in the gathering gloom, enjoying a late dinner in the busy hotel restaurant before heading to bed, excited for the morrow.

### **Day Twelve: 26<sup>th</sup> January. Carara National Park, Punta Leona.**

Following a lazy breakfast and talk of monkey rooftop madness overnight, we headed to Carara National Park where we explored some of the trails winding amongst the seasonal forest. On arrival a large Black Ctenosaur loitered by the toilet block, whilst a pair of Wood Stork Cirled overhead with another King Vulture. A showy pair of Black-hooded Antshrike greeted us as we entered the trail, with Sergio then pointing out a female Slaty-tailed Trogon perched above our heads, soon followed by a showy Scarlet Macaw. Entering the towering trees, we marvelled at their huge buttress roots and massive height, marvelling at venerable examples of Kapok and Cashew.

Bird activity decreased in the increasingly hot and humid conditions, but we managed to find Wedge-Billed Woodcreeper, Rufous-backed Antbird, and a furtive Eye-ringed Flatbill. The botanists spotted a fascinating Birthwort *Aristolochia leuconeura* alongside the path, and we seemed to be constantly hopping across Leafcutter Ant highways. Several attractive damselflies perched by the track and, returning towards reception, we encountered a mobile flock of feeding birds, which included Mangrove Vireo, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, and White-shouldered Tanager. Back at the entrance, a furtive Yellow-headed Gecko quickly disappeared behind some piping, and we were soon again enjoying the effects of the minibus AC.

Following lunch at a nearby restaurant, some of the group relaxed at the hotel or beach, whilst others joined Sergio and Phil for a late afternoon exploration of the complex's habitats, before arriving at the beach to enjoy the sunset with the rest of our party. Outside our rooms Phil spotted a tiny Ferruginous Pygmy-owl perched in the treetops, and walking the resort byways we found several showy Rufous-backed Wrens, Lesson's Motmot, and a lovely pair of Scarlet Macaw. An abundantly fruiting tree by reception hosted numerous Clay-coloured Thrushes and both Crimson-crowned and Hoffman's Woodpeckers, allowing comparison of these closely related species. Following a beautiful Pacific sunset, we then headed out to a local restaurant where we congratulated Linda on her birthday, complete with cake courtesy of Sergio!

Back at the hotel, a few of the group undertook a short (but productive!) night walk around the grounds, taking in fantastic views of another (most unexpected) Spectacled Owl, a young Cane Toad, and weirdly barking Bare-throated Tiger Heron up in the treetops. Chittering from overhead branches greeted us as we returned towards our rooms, which was soon identified as two playful young Northern Racoons playing hide and seek with our torchlight, with another seen crossing our path a little further on. A lovely end to another great day.

### **Day Thirteen: 27<sup>th</sup> January. Tárcoles, San José.**

Pre-breakfast birding around our accommodation produced excellent views of Turquoise-browed Motmot, a pair of Slaty-tailed Trogon, Yellow-throated Toucan, and Crane Hawk. We watched the latter investigating various nooks and crannies in the surrounding trees, exploring them with its long pink legs that boldly contrasted with its largely slaty-black plumage. Following breakfast, we set off for our final journey towards San José, enjoying a last encounter with three Scarlet Macaws perched

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overhead as we waited to access the narrow hotel exit road. We then drove a short distance north to the Tárcoles River, where another boat trip awaited us.

The lower Tárcoles River is famous for its high concentration of American Crocodiles, and it didn't take long for us to find our first huge specimen on the riverbank. Over the course of the boat trip, we saw several more and heard stories of the large resident male affectionately known as Tyson. The area was also rich in birdlife, and we were greeted by a young Zone-tailed Hawk quartering the neighbouring marshes, looking amazingly similar to a Turkey Vulture in flight. Several Ospreys flew above the river, our first Amazon Kingfisher perched on a snag, and Mangrove Swallows zipped alongside us. Herons were well represented, with Little Blue, Great Blue, and Tricoloured Herons all noted, alongside Snowy, Cattle and Great White Egrets. An energetically fishing Reddish Egret was a good local sighting, alongside numerous White Ibis, and a handful of fantastically pink Roseate Spoonbill roosting in the riverside Mangroves. Several subtly patterned Brown Basilisks basked along the water's edge and waders proved particularly numerous, with Spotted Sandpiper, Black-necked Stilt, Whimbrel, Semipalmated Plover, Willet, Grey Plover, and Semipalmated Sandpiper all noted.

Moving downriver, we passed a mixed colony of Magnificent Frigatebirds and Brown Pelicans in the adjacent trees, before moving out amongst the sandy islands at the river's mouth. Here we were privy to an amazing wildlife spectacle, as a trio of local fishermen emptied their nets encouraging a swirling flock of several hundred Frigatebirds, Pelicans, Terns, and Gulls to envelope them and our boat. Stepping out onto the sand and standing amongst this tumbling mass of often massive birds was an experience that few of us will forget. We then headed back upriver to the quayside and rejoined the minibus to continue our journey back up into the Central Highlands.

We stopped for lunch at a large restaurant and souvenir complex off the main road, allowing time to purchase keepsakes and coffee and wander amongst the bizarrely sited butterfly house, before continuing to San José. Carlos proved as skilled as ever in manoeuvring us through the city's apparently permanent traffic jams, and we soon arrived back at the welcoming Hotel Bougainvillea. A pre-dinner wander around the extensive hotel grounds produced a roosting Mottled Owl, a confiding Lesson's Motmot, and a pair of Crested Caracara, with an enjoyable meal then following, prior to a well-earned rest after a long day of travelling.

### **Day Fourteen: 28<sup>th</sup> January. San José, La Paz waterfall, Virgen el Socorro, San Fernando.**

We began our last full day with a short exploration of the extensive hotel gardens, which contained a wide variety of exotic and native plants. New birds here included the perky Chestnut-capped Warbler and the dour Cabanis's Wren, whilst flocks of noisy Crimson-fronted Parakeets commuted overhead. There was no sign of yesterday's roosting Mottled Owl in the windier conditions, but we enjoyed excellent views of Lesson's Motmot and Rufous-tailed Hummingbird.

After breakfast we boarded the minibus and headed out of the city and climbed up towards the Poás Volcano, sadly closed at this time due to safety concerns. Stopping at a roadside vantage point, Sergio pointed out the volcano and some of the points that we had previously visited in the distant mountains, including Cerro de la Muerte, and he explained the history and importance of cattle grazing, coffee and strawberry production at this elevation. We then descended onto the Caribbean slope, briefly stopping at the beautiful La Paz waterfall for photographs and we were

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entertained by a fun optical illusion described by Sergio. Stopping then at an interesting local produce store, Sergio treated us to the local “heart of palm” cheese and locally grown strawberries, complete with dipping chocolate (yum).

By now it was midmorning, and we enjoyed a quiet walk downhill at Virgen del Socorro, with fleeting views of Green Honeycreeper, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, and American Redstart. Driving back up hill, we chanced upon a lovely pale morph Swainson's Hawk conveniently perched at eye level in a roadside tree, and we all enjoyed fabulous views of this stately raptor. From here it was just a short ride to a coffee spot at Cinchona, with views across the valley to the San Fernando waterfall, where we enjoyed some excellent birdwatching around the restaurant's feeders. Beautiful Red-headed and comical Prong-billed Barbets, Common Chlorospingus, and Green-crowned Brilliant were all new for the trip, and we also saw Silver-throated, Palm, Blue-grey, Scarlet-rumped, and Crimson-collared Tanagers, Buff-throated Saltator, Bananaquit, and Violet Sabrewing.

Lunch was taken at a nearby restaurant whose walls were replete with amazing bird photography. We then headed back to the hotel, with some free time prior to a pre-dinner exploration of the hotel grounds in search of amphibians. This proved surprisingly productive, with multiple Montane Leopard Frogs found nestled around one of the garden's ornamental ponds, and three fabulous juvenile Golden-eyed Leaf Frogs (a speciality of the Central Highlands) found resting on foliage surrounding another. A Pauraque called from the darkness as we headed in for dinner, but resolutely refused to show itself, and following another delicious meal the group gave thanks (and much appreciated gifts) to Sergio and Phil for leading a wonderful trip.

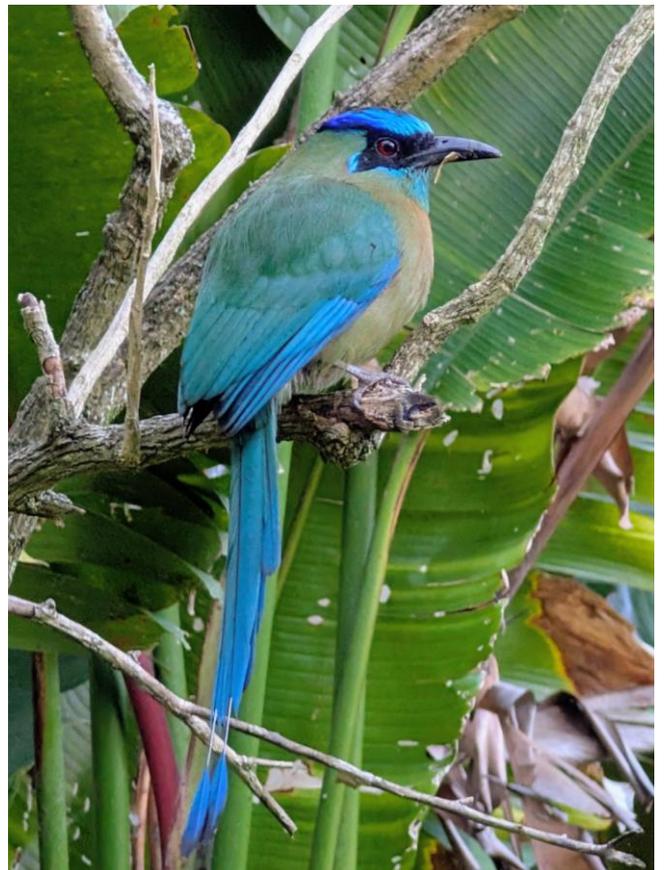
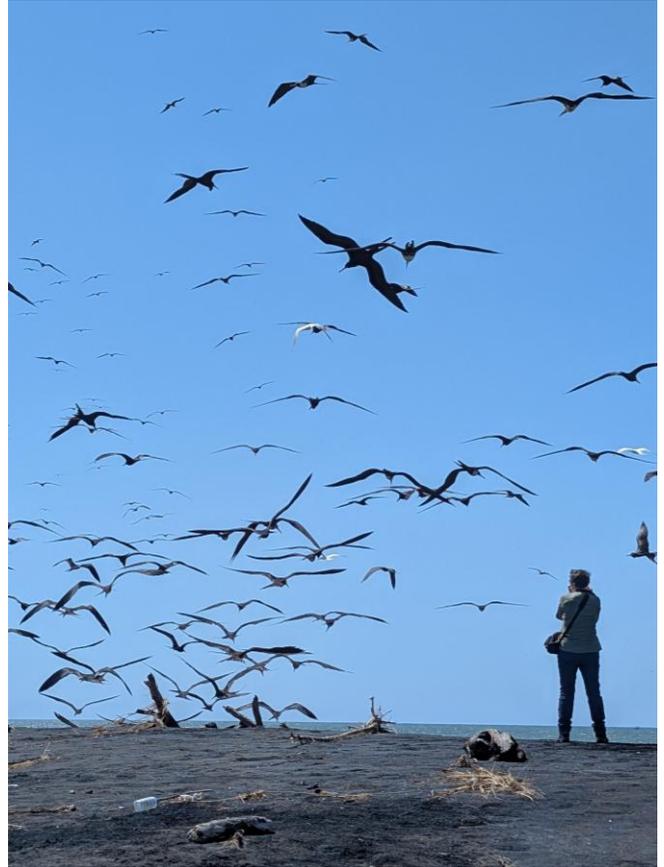
### **Day Fifteen: 29<sup>th</sup> January. San José, travel to UK.**

Our last pre-breakfast walk in the hotel garden continued to produce new birds, with a subtly attractive Wood Thrush spotted foraging in the borders. The Mottled Owl was again present, roosting amongst its favoured stand of bamboo, and we had great views of Hoffman's Woodpecker, Crested Caracara and Orange-Chinned Parakeet. The huge flowers of the bizarre Pelican Plant were much admired and, as most of us headed back into the hotel for breakfast, Sarah and Steve enjoyed views of a Yellow-naped Amazon perched in the treetops.

Following our morning meal, a few of the group decided to relax at the hotel, whilst the rest were treated by Sergio to an interesting city tour of central San José. We took in the facades of various government buildings and museums and had a peek inside the foyer of the ornately decorated National Theatre, followed by a wander through a bustling covered market. The latter supported two of the longest running sodas in the city and a few of us sampled their delicious cinnamon and clove ice cream. It was then time to head back to the Hotel Bougainvillea for a quick checkout, prior to arrival at our chosen lunch spot near the airport, complete with farm animals, a herd of roaming peafowl, and some very tame Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, Great White Egret, and Northern Jacanas.

Then it was off to the airport, where we gave a gracious farewell to Sergio and Carlos, prior to checking in for our flight home, reflecting on an extraordinary wildlife experience in Costa Rica. Pura Vida indeed.

**Phil Saunders, Wildlife Travel. February 2026.**



Top to bottom: *Heliconia rostrata*; Magnificent Frigatebird; Prong-billed Barbet; Lesson's Motmot.



Top to bottom: American Crocodile; Golden-eyed Leaf Frog.

## COSTA RICA 2026: some highlights

## BIRDS

This checklist follows the taxonomy published in the **HBW and BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World**, as updated by [www.birdsoftheworld.org](http://www.birdsoftheworld.org).

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<b>Family Tinamidae (Tinamous)</b>																
Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>					H										
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese and Swans)</b>																
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>						◆									◆
Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina Moschata</i>						◆							◆		
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>				◆		◆									
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>						◆									
<b>Family Cracidae (Guans, Curassows and Chachalacas)</b>																
Grey-headed Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis cinereiceps</i>			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆							◆	◆
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>						◆				◆					
Great Curassow	<i>Crax rubra</i>			◆							◆					
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>																
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>							◆								
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>																
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>				◆											◆
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>		◆		◆							◆				
Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris</i>	◆				◆	◆	◆						◆	◆	◆
Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvincea</i>						◆		◆							
Inca Dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>											◆				◆
Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>		◆													
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>				◆						◆					
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	◆
<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>																
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>			◆	◆		◆									
<b>Family Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and allies)</b>																
Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>		H													H
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>																
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>							◆				◆				
Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>		◆	◆												
<b>Family Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)</b>																
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Bronzy Hermit	<i>Glaucis aeneus</i>			◆												
Stripe-throated	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>			◆		◆	◆									

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Hermit																
Lesser Violet-ear	<i>Colibri cyanotus</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Green-breasted Mango	<i>Anthracothorax prevostii</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Green Thorntail	<i>Discosura conversii</i>				◆	◆										
Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>														◆	
Talamanca Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes spectabilis</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Fiery-throated Hummingbird	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>							◆								
White-throated Mountain-gem	<i>Lampornis castaneoventris</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>											◆				
Volcano Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Scintillant Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>							◆								
Garden Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon assimilis</i>					◆										
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>				◆		◆									
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus</i>					◆	◆								◆	
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura urochrysis</i>					◆	◆									
Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Snowcap	<i>Microchera albocoronata</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa eximia</i>								◆	◆						
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆				◆			◆	◆
Charming Hummingbird	<i>Polyerata decora</i>											◆				
Blue-throated Goldentail	<i>Chlorestes eliciae</i>											◆	◆	◆		
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules and Coots)</b>																
Russet-naped Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides albiventris</i>			◆												
Grey-cowled Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajaneus</i>												◆			
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>			◆	◆											

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<b>Family Aramididae (Limpkin)</b>																
Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>					◆										
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)</b>																
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>		◆		◆										◆	
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)</b>																
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>														◆	
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>		◆												◆	
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>							◆				◆		◆		
Collared Plover	<i>Anarhynchus collaris</i>				◆											
<b>Family Jacanidae (Jacanas)</b>																
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆								◆	◆
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and allies)</b>																
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>														◆	
Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>				◆											
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>		◆		◆							◆		◆		
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>		◆		◆											
Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>		◆		◆										◆	
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>											◆				
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>												◆	◆		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>														◆	
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls, Terns and Skimmers)</b>																
Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>		◆	◆	◆										◆	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>														◆	
Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>														◆	
Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>		◆	◆	◆						◆				◆	
<b>Family Ciconiidae (Storks)</b>																
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>				◆		◆						◆	◆		
<b>Family Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)</b>																
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>		◆	◆	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆		
<b>Family Sulidae (Boobies)</b>																
Cocos Booby	<i>Sula brewsteri</i>										◆					
<b>Family Anhingidae (Darters)</b>																
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆								◆	
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)</b>																
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>		◆		◆		◆	◆				◆		◆		
<b>Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)</b>																
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>				◆						◆	◆	◆	◆		

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<b>Family Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets and Bitterns)</b>																
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆					◆	◆	◆		
Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>			◆												
Agami Heron	<i>Agamia agami</i>			◆												
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>		◆	◆			◆							◆		
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆					◆		◆		
Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>		◆		◆									◆		
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>													◆		
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆				◆		◆		
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>			◆	◆		◆									
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		◆		◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	◆
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>		◆	◆			◆							◆		
<b>Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)</b>																
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>										◆			◆		
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayannensis</i>			◆	◆											
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>													◆		
<b>Family Cathartidae (New World Vultures)</b>																
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoamphus papa</i>											◆	◆			
American Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
<b>Family Pandionidae (Ospreys)</b>																
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			◆			◆					◆		◆		
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Kites)</b>																
Gray-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>											◆				
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>							◆		◆						
Black Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i>											◆				
Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>											◆				
Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>													◆		
Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>		◆	◆	◆									◆		
Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>		◆	H	◆		◆	◆				◆				
Grey Hawk	<i>Buteo plagiatus</i>		◆									◆	◆			
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>					◆										
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>														◆	
Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>													◆		
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>							◆	◆	◆						
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>																
Spectacled Owl	<i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>										◆		◆			

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Ferruginous Pygmy-owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>												◆			
Mottled Owl	<i>Strix virgata</i>													◆		◆
Family Trogonidae (Trogons and Quetzals)																
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus mocinno</i>								◆							
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>			◆									◆	◆		
Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>					◆	◆									
Family Momotidae (Motmots)																
Lesson's Motmot	<i>Momotus lessonii</i>					◆	◆	◆					◆	◆	◆	◆
Turquoise-browed Motmot	<i>Eumomota superciliosa</i>													◆		
Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)																
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>			◆	◆		◆					◆				
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>													◆		
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>			◆	◆							◆				
Family Bucconidae (Puffbirds)																
White-necked Puffbird	<i>Notharchus hyperrhynchus</i>			◆								◆				
Family Capitonidae (American Barbets)																
Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>															◆
Family Semnornithidae (Prong-billed Barbets)																
Prong-billed Barbet	<i>Semnornis frantzii</i>															◆
Family Ramphastidae (Toucans)																
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆								
Fiery-billed Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus frantzii</i>											◆				
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	H								
Yellow-throated Toucan	<i>Ramphastos ambiguus</i>		◆	◆	◆						◆	◆		◆		
Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)																
Olivaceous Piculet	<i>Picumnus olivaceus</i>											◆				
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>		◆		◆		◆	◆								
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>											◆	◆			
Hoffmann's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>												◆			◆
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates villosus</i>								◆							
Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>			◆												
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>		◆									◆				

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Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker	<i>Celeus castaneus</i>			◆												
Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>				◆		◆									
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)</b>																
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>					H						H				
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>		◆				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimchima</i>										◆	◆				
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>				◆											
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>										◆					
<b>Family Psittacidae (Parrots)</b>																
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>			◆								◆				◆
White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆				◆				
Yellow-naped Parrot	<i>Amazona auropalliata</i>															◆
Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>			◆	◆											
Sulphur-winged Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura hoffmanni</i>							◆	◆							
Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula nana</i>			◆												
Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambiguus</i>			◆												
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>											◆	◆	◆		
Crimson-fronted Parakeet	<i>Psittacara finschi</i>		◆												◆	◆
<b>Family Thamnophilidae (Antbirds)</b>																
Black-crowned Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus atrinucha</i>			◆												
Black-hooded Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus bridgesi</i>										◆		◆			
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Poliocrania exsul</i>										◆		◆			
<b>Family Grallariidae (Antpittas)</b>																
Thicket Antpitta	<i>Myrmothera dives</i>					H										
<b>Family Furnariidae (Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers)</b>																
Tawny-winged Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla anabatina</i>											◆				
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>												◆			
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>					◆	◆									
Streak-headed	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>					◆										

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Woodcreeper																
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes affinis</i>								◆							
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>					◆										
Ruddy Treerunner	<i>Margarornis rubiginosus</i>								◆							
<b>Family Pipridae (Manakins)</b>																
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>			◆	◆											
<b>Family Cotingidae (Cotingas)</b>																
Purple-throated Fruitcrow	<i>Querula purpurata</i>			H												
<b>Family Tityridae (Tityras and allies)</b>																
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>					◆	◆	◆								
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>					◆										
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>						◆									
<b>Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)</b>																
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>		◆		◆											
Eye-ringed Flatbill	<i>Rhynchocyclus brevirostris</i>												◆			
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>					◆										
Mistletoe Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius parvus</i>						◆									
Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>								◆							
Ochraceous Pewee	<i>Contopus ochraceus</i>								◆							
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>					◆										
Yellowish Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flavescens</i>								◆							
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>									◆						
Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>						H					◆				
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>											◆	◆			
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>			H				◆								
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆			◆			◆	◆	◆
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>			◆		◆	◆					◆				
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>		◆			◆	◆			◆	◆				◆	◆
Grey-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>					◆	◆					◆				
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>											◆		◆		
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus niveigularis</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
<b>Family Vireonidae (Vireos, Shrike-Babblers and Erpornis)</b>																
Green Shrike-vireo	<i>Vireolanus pulchellus</i>												H			

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Tawny-crowned Greenlet	<i>Tunchiornis ochraceiceps</i>												◆			
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtata</i>			◆									◆			
Mangrove Vireo	<i>Vireo pallens</i>												◆			
Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>					◆	◆	◆							◆	
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>											◆				
Family Corvidae (Crows, Jays and Magpies)																
Brown Jay	<i>Cyanocorax morio</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆								
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows)																
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>		◆	◆	◆										◆	
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>		◆													
Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>		◆	◆	◆							◆	◆			
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>					◆						◆				
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>							◆	◆	◆					◆	◆
Family Polioptilidae (Gnatcatchers)																
White-browed Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila bilineata</i>											◆				
Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)																
Southern House Wren	<i>Troglodytes musculus</i>							◆							◆	
Ochraceous Wren	<i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i>								◆							
Rufous-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus rufinucha</i>											◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Black-bellied Wren	<i>Pheugopedius fasciatoventris</i>											H				
Stripe-breasted Wren	<i>Cantorchilus thoracicus</i>			◆												
Cabanis's Wren	<i>Cantorchilus modestus</i>														◆	◆
Riverside Wren	<i>Cantorchilus semibadius</i>											H	◆			
Bay Wren	<i>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</i>					◆	H	H								
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>			◆												
Family Mimidae (Mockingbirds and Thrashers)																
Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>						◆	◆	◆	◆					◆	◆
Family Turdidae (Thrushes and allies)																
Black-faced Solitaire	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>								H							
Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush	<i>Catharus frantzii</i>								◆							
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>															◆
Mountain Thrush	<i>Turdus plebejus</i>							◆	◆							
Clay-coloured Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi</i>			◆		◆	◆	◆	◆					◆	◆	◆
Sooty Thrush	<i>Turdus nigrescens</i>							◆								

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<b>Family Ptilonotidae (Silky-Flycatchers)</b>																
Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher	<i>Ptilonotus caudatus</i>							◆								
<b>Family Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)</b>																
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		◆								◆				◆	
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias and allies)</b>																
Golden-browed Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia callphrys</i>					◆										
Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirudinacea</i>					◆										
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia gouldi</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Tawny-capped Euphonia	<i>Euphonia anae</i>						◆									
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psatria</i>								◆							
<b>Family Passerellidae (New World Sparrows)</b>																
Sooty-capped Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>							◆	◆							
Common Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus flavopectus</i>														◆	
Black-striped Sparrow	<i>Arremonops conirostris</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>					◆	◆						◆			
Volcano Junco	<i>Junco vulcani</i>									◆						
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>							◆	◆	◆					◆	◆
Large-footed Finch	<i>Pezopetes capitalis</i>							◆								
Yellow-thighed Brushfinch	<i>Atlapetes tibialis</i>							◆								
<b>Family Icteridae (Troupials and allies)</b>																
Red-breasted Meadowlark	<i>Leistes militaris</i>				◆											
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>					◆		◆								
Montezuma Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆						◆	◆	◆
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>		◆		◆			◆	◆			◆	◆		◆	◆
Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>					◆						◆				
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
<b>Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)</b>																
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>										◆					
Golden-winged	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>						◆									

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Warbler																
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>						◆									
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>											◆				
Flame-throated Warbler	<i>Oreothlypis gutturalis</i>								◆							
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		◆	◆
Grey-crowned Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis poliocephala</i>				◆											
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>														◆	
Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Setophaga dominica</i>		◆													
Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitaiayumi</i>					◆										
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>				◆		◆									
Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>											◆	◆	◆		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Setophaga virens</i>								◆							
Black-cheeked Warbler	<i>Basileuterus melanogenys</i>								◆							
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>							◆	◆							
Collared Redstart	<i>Myioborus torquatus</i>								◆							
Family Cardinalidae (Cardinals and allies)																
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>		◆			◆	◆	◆							◆	
Flame-coloured Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Red-throated Ant-Tanager	<i>Habia fuscicauda</i>					◆										
Family Thraupidae (Tanagers and allies)																
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Lariotus luctuosa</i>						◆						◆			
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>							◆								
Crimson-collared Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus sanguinolentus</i>					◆									◆	
Scarlet-rumped Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆			◆	
Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆					◆	◆
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>					◆	◆	◆				◆			◆	
Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Stilpnia larvata</i>				◆		◆	◆			◆	◆				
Plain-coloured	<i>Tangara inornata</i>									◆						

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Tanager																
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>					◆	◆	◆								
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>				◆	◆	◆			◆					◆	
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis	<i>Dacnis venusta</i>														◆	
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>			◆												
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>			◆											◆	
Slaty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>							◆	◆	◆						
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>						◆					◆				
Morelet's Seedeater	<i>Sporophila moreletti</i>			◆							◆					
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>					◆	◆	◆							◆	
Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆								
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>				◆	◆	H	◆							◆	
Black-headed Saltator	<i>Saltator atriceps</i>							◆								
Cinnamon-bellied Saltator	<i>Saltator grandis</i>		◆												◆	◆

H = Heard only

## MAMMALS

This checklist follows the taxonomy published in the Illustrated Checklist of the Mammals of the World (Lynx publications, 2020)

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Sirenians, Sloths, Anteaters &amp; Armadillos</b>																
Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasyus novemcinctus</i>			◆												
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth	<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>						◆					◆				
Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>			◆												
<b>Primates</b>																
Panamanian White-faced Capuchin	<i>Cebus imitator</i>			◆												
Mantled Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>			◆	◆							H				
Central American Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>		◆	◆	◆											
<b>Rabbits and Rodents</b>																
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆		◆			

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Variegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	◆
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆		◆					◆	
<b>Bats</b>																
Proboscis Bat	<i>Rhynchonycteris nasa</i>			◆												
Bat sp.													◆			
<b>Carnivores</b>																
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>							H		◆						
Tayra	<i>Eira barbara</i>							◆								
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>				◆	◆		◆				◆				
Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>				◆								◆			
<b>Cetaceans</b>																
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>											◆				
Pantropical Spotted Dolphin	<i>Stenella attenuata</i>											◆				

**REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>																
Strawberry Poison Dart Frog	<i>Incilius aucoinae</i>			H												
Cane Toad	<i>Rhinella marina</i>												◆			
Red-eyed Leaf Frog	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>			◆												
Golden-eyed Leaf Frog	<i>Agalychnis annae</i>														◆	
Common Dink Frog	<i>Diasporus diastema</i>		H	H												
Montane Leopard Frog	<i>Lithobates taylori</i>														◆	
<b>REPTILES</b>																
Meso-American Slider	<i>Trachemys venusta</i>			◆												
Nicaraguan Slider	<i>Trachemys grayi</i>														◆	
American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>				◆										◆	
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodylus</i>			◆												
Tropical House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>		◆	◆	◆	H	H	H			◆		◆			
Yellow-headed Gecko	<i>Gonatodes albogularis</i>												◆			
Green Spiny Lizard	<i>Sceloporus malachiticus</i>								◆	◆						
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>			◆	◆			◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	
Black Ctenosaur	<i>Ctenosaura similis</i>										◆	◆	◆			

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Central American Junglerunner	<i>Ameiva festiva</i>					◆										
Slender Brown Anole	<i>Anolis (Norops) limifrons</i>			◆		◆										
Green Tree Anole	<i>Anolis (Norops) biporcatus</i>			◆												
Stream Anole	<i>Anolis oxylophus</i>			◆												
Brown Basilisk	<i>Basaliscus vittatus</i>													◆		
Emerald Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>			◆												

SELECTED ARTHROPODS

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
Owl Butterfly	<i>Caligo atreus dionysos</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho helenor</i>	Tortuguero National Park; Rancho Naturalista; Baru
Menelaus Morpho	<i>Morpho menelaus</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Hotel Bougainvillea
Sulphur Butterfly spp.	Family <i>Pieridae</i>	Yellow butterflies at Tortuguero; Angostura Reservoir
Zebra Longwing	<i>Heliconius charithonia</i>	Tortuguero town
Cydney Longwing	<i>Heliconius cydno</i>	Identified from photographs - location unknown
Five-spotted Longwing	<i>Heliconius hecalesia formosus</i>	Identified from photographs - location unknown
Cream-spotted Tigerwing	<i>Tithorea tarricina</i>	Identified from photographs - location unknown
Amber Daggerwing	<i>Marpesia berania</i>	Bright orange butterfly puddling at Baru
Long-tailed Skipper	<i>Urbanus sp.</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Baru
Julia Butterfly	<i>Dryas iulia</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Eastern-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido comyntas</i>	Identified from photographs - location unknown
White-tipped Black	<i>Melanchroia chephise</i>	Rancho Naturalista; café on route to the Savegre Valley
Clearwing moth species	Family <i>Sesiidae</i>	Angostura Reservoir
Large Woodskimmer	<i>Uracis fastigiata</i>	Baru
Red-mantled Dragonlet	<i>Erythrodiplax fervida</i>	Identified from photographs - location unknown
Stick Insect	Family <i>Phasmatodea</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Leaf-cutter Ant	<i>Atta cephalotes</i>	Several sites
Termite	<i>Nasutitermes</i> spp.	Arboreal nests seen at several sites

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ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
Assassin Bug	<i>Pirnonota convexicollis</i>	Identified from photographs – location unknown
Emerald Cuckoo-orchid Bee	<i>Exaerete smaragdina</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Stingless Bee	<i>Trigona</i> sp.	Nests at Pachira Lodge; Café on route to the Savegre Valley
Firefly species	Family <i>Lampyridae</i>	Along entrance road to Hotel Rio Mar
Ant-lion species	Family <i>Myrmeleontidae</i>	Larval pits at Rancho Naturalista
Large grasshopper species	Order <i>Orthoptera</i>	Attracted to lights (and Sarah) at a couple of restaurants on the Pacific coast
Dead Leaf Katydid	<i>Orophus</i> sp.	Brown cricket seen by night at Rancho Naturalista
Golden Orb-weaver	<i>Trichonephila clavipes</i>	Around Pachira Lodge grounds, Tortuguero
Wandering Spider	<i>Phoneutria</i> sp.	Hotel Bougainvillea
Spiny-backed Orb-weaver	<i>Gasteracantha cancriformis</i>	Tortuguero town
Flat-backed Millipede	Family <i>Platyrrhacidae</i>	Angostura Reservoir
Blue Land Crab	<i>Cardisoma guanhumi</i>	Around Pachira Lodge grounds, Tortuguero

Thanks to the botanists in the group (and Tina Fofana and Helen Dignam, in particular) for producing the following botanical species list.

SELECTED PLANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
Split leaf slipperwort	<i>Calceolaria tripartita</i>	Savegre Valley
	<i>Aciotis rubricaulis</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Hairy Jointvetch	<i>Aeschynomene villosa</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Billygoat Weed	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Ageratum</i> sp	Carara National Park
Golden Trumpet	<i>Allamanda cathartica</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Red Ginger	<i>Alpinia purpurata</i>	Dominical
Perennial Peanut	<i>Arachis pintoii</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
Pelican Flower	<i>Aristolochia grandiflora</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Aristolochia leuconeura</i>	Carara National Park
	<i>Arpophyllum spicatum</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Pinkfringe	<i>Arthrostemma cilliatum</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Tropical Milkweed	<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Begonia glabra</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Begonia involucrata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Begonia semiovata</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands; Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Begonia udisilvestris</i>	Rancho Naturalista

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SELECTED PLANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
	<i>Bidens alba</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Bixa orellana</i>	Dominical
	<i>Bomarea andreana</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Bombacopsis quinata</i>	Dominical
<b>Jamaican Forget-Me-Not</b>	<i>Browallia americana</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Buddleja nitida</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Rattlesnake Plant</b>	<i>Calathea crotalifera</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Calceolaria crenata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Calceolaria tripartita</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Cardamine ovata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Centradenia inaequilateralis</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Centropogon granulatus</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Centropogon gutierrezii</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Cerastium sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Chaetogastra longifolia</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Cirsium subcoriaceum</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Clematis acapulcensis</i>	Rancho Naturalista
<b>Spreading Dayflower</b>	<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Blue mistflower</b>	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	Rancho Naturalista
<b>Spiral Ginger</b>	<i>Costus barbatus</i>	Dominical
	<i>Costus pictus</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Crassocephalum crepidioides</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Cyanthillium sp</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Cyathula achyranthoides</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Rush-like Flatsedge</b>	<i>Cyperus luzulae</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Rancho Bajo
<b>Showy Tick Trefoil</b>	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Drymonia alloplectoides</i>	Rancho Naturalista
<b>False Daisy</b>	<i>Eclipta prostrata</i>	Rancho Naturalista
<b>Common Water Hyacinth</b>	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Eirmocephala brachiata</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Elaphoglossum peltatum</i>	Savegre Valley
	<i>Emilia sonchifolia</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Savegre Valley environs

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SELECTED PLANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
Mexican Culantro	<i>Eryngium foetidum</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
Yerba Gorda	<i>Eryngium humile</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Fire on the mountain	<i>Euphorbia cyathophora</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Painted Spurge	<i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Nodding spurge	<i>Euphorbia nutans</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Pineapple guava tree	<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Shrubby Fuchsia	<i>Fuchsia paniculata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Bifid Hemp-Nettle	<i>Galeopsis bifida</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Galinsoga quadriradiata</i>	Savegre Valley
	<i>Geranium sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Gouania polygama</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Golden Dwarf Heliconia	<i>Guarianthe skinneri</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea
	<i>Heliconia aurantiaca</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Heliconia clinophila</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Wild Plantain	<i>Heliconia latispatha</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Heliconia pogonantha</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Parrot Heliconia	<i>Heliconia psittacorum</i>	Dominical
	<i>Heliconia rostrata</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Heliconia sp</i>	Carara National Park
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Higuerilla</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Horse Poison	<i>Hippobroma longiflora</i>	Lunch stop near airport
	<i>Hoffmannia congesta</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Hydrocotyle leucocephala</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Hydrocotyle sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Hypericum costaricense</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Hypericum irazuense</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Hypericum sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Hypoxis decumbens</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Indigofera lespedeziodes</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Beach Morning-Glory	<i>Ipomoea imperati</i>	Tortuguero National Park
Bay hops or Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	Tortuguero National Park
	<i>Ipomoea trifida</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Justicia sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Kohleria spicata</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands; Rancho Naturalista

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SELECTED PLANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
	<i>Kohleria spicata</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Laelia lueddemannii</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Ligustrum robustum</i> <i>below</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Lobelia sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Mexican Primrose-Willow</b>	<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Lupinus costaricensis</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Lycopodium thyoides</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Malvaviscus penduliflorus</i>	Carara National Park
<b>Coconut Orchid</b>	<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
<b>Yellow-flowered Waterhyssop</b>	<i>Mecardonia procumbens</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Melampodium longifolium</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Mile-a-Minute or Bitter vine</b>	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	Tortuguero National Park
<b>Sensitive Plant</b>	<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Tropical Girdlepod</b>	<i>Mitracarpus hirtus</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands; Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Monnina xalapensis</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Monochaetum floribundum</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Monochaetum vulcanicum</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Pink Banana</b>	<i>Musa velutina</i>	Rancho Naturalista
<b>Mākole</b>	<i>Nertera granadensis</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Neustanthus phaseoloides</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Lavender Sorrel</b>	<i>Oxalis barrelieri</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Oxalis sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Provision Tree</b>	<i>Pachira aquatica</i>	Tortuguero National Park
	<i>Passiflora foetida</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Vine-leaved passion flower</b>	<i>Passiflora vitifolia</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Peperomia tetraphylla</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Pink Knotweed</b>	<i>Persicaria capitata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
<b>Green Tomato</b>	<i>Physalis ixocarpa</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
<b>Allspice</b>	<i>Pimenta dioica</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Polygala paniculata</i>	Rancho Naturalista

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SELECTED PLANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCATION
Brazilian Red-cloak	<i>Prosthechea fragrans</i>	Tortuguero National Park
	<i>Rhynchospora nervosa</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Rancho Bajo
Tropical Mexican Clover	<i>Richardia scabra</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Rubus rosifolius</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Giant Aster-bush	<i>Sanicula liberta</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Senecio cooperi</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Rootbeer Plant	<i>Senega paniculata</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Senna cobanensis</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Broomweed	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Limoncillo	<i>Siparuna thecaphora</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Siphocampylus sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
California Golden-eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium californicum</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Woodland False Buttonweed	<i>Spermacoce remota</i>	Savegre Valley environs
Trailing Daisy	<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>	Tortuguero National Park
	<i>Sphagneticola ulei</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Purple Porterweed	<i>Stachys costaricensis</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Stachytarpheta frantzii</i>	Dominical
	<i>Struchium sparganophorum</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Tabebuia chrysantha</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Tillandsia punctulata</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Tradescantia poelliae</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Verbena litoralis</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
	<i>Vernonanthura patens</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Viola scandens</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Viola sp</i>	Savegre Valley environs
	<i>Werauhia sp</i>	Hotel Bougainvillea; Central Highlands
	<i>Xanthosoma undipes</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Youngia japonica</i>	Rancho Naturalista
	<i>Zamia neurophyllidia</i>	Rancho Naturalista; Angosturo Reservoir
Calla Lily	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Savegre Valley environs

*thank you for travelling with us*

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