INTRODUCTION

Costa Rica has long held a special place in the hearts of tropical birders. It is often the first place someone goes to encounter the New World tropics and in few places is tropical birding so accessible and so civilized. While Costa Rica is always popular, July might not be the time period most associate with a trip there. Despite perception, July is an excellent time to visit this famed Central American gem. We had an outstanding trip tallying around 370 species, a bit fewer than are found in winter since the North American migrants are not
present, but we did very well on Costa Rican target species. We enjoyed **12 species of parrots, 28 species of hummingbirds**, and an extraordinary **9 species of woodcreepers**. We had a number of **Resplendent Quetzals**, great looks at the skulking **Wrenthrush**, and lengthy scope looks at a calling **Three-wattled Bellbird**. We located scarce species like **Long-tailed Woodcreeper** and **Dark Pewee**, and enjoyed colorful species like **Scarlet Macaw** and **Fiery-throated Hummingbird**. We had some great encounters with other wildlife as well, including **Geoffroy’s Spider-Monkeys**, a rare **Greater Grison**, a neon-yellow **Eyelash Pit Viper**, and a baby **Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth** clinging to its mother as it looked down on all the crazy people with scopes trained right at it.

Costa Rica though is more than just numbers of birds and other wildlife. It really comes down to the quality of the experience; fantastic birds every day, outstanding views of most species, a beautiful country, more abundant and tame mammals and other wildlife than just about any other place in Central America. The combination creates a fun and exciting, never-know-what-will-be-seen-next vibe. All this in a country that is so geared to Eco travelers with generally good roads, wide, well-maintained trails, and pleasant Eco lodges that you may never wish to leave!

**As voted by the group the top five birds of the trip were:**

1. Lesser Ground-Cuckoo
2. Three-wattled Bellbird
3. Purple Gallinule
4. “Mangrove” Yellow Warbler
5. Scarlet Macaw

The list only highlights one of the issues that must be dealt with in Costa Rica. While the group chose a great top five, So many unbelievable species did not make the list! Agonizing over which incredible species was the best bird of the day or of the trip is a regularly encountered dilemma in Costa Rica. It's a very, very good problem to have!

**Day 1 (of birding): Braulio Carrillo National Park to La Selva**

On our first morning before breakfast we poked about the grounds of our hotel finding several birds we would not see later in the tour, namely **Cinnamon Hummingbird**, a stunning male **Spot-breasted Oriole**, and a vigorously tooting **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**. After breakfast we loaded the bus and wound our way out of San Jose, up over the ridge, and down into the bird paradise that is the Caribbean slope of Costa Rica. Our first stop was the famous **Braulio Carrillo National Park**, our only opportunity for some of the mid-elevation Caribbean slope specialties.
Once on the trail we immediately ran into a small flock that included a Checker-throated Antwren, a couple of Speckled Tanagers, as well as several other common species. Once this flock passed, we walked through a quiet forest until hearing a Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush. We were able to track down this attractive thrush, but were soon distracted by the presences of a large bird in the canopy. After some maneuvering the scope was trained on a stunning Broad-billed Motmot. Everyone got terrific looks at it and as we were about to continue down the trail someone said, “Is that a trogon?” It was a trogon, a Lattice-tailed Trogon, an endemic and a very striking species! Farther down the trail we began to run into mixed flocks of Tawny-crested and Dusky-faced Tanagers. We found an uncharacteristically cooperative Carmiol’s (Olive) Tanager that was hopping around slowly in the understory at the edge of a flock. We got our first views of a woodcreeper, a tiny and charismatic Wedge-billed Woodcreeper in one of these flocks as well. Farther along, a Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher flitted amid some vines at eye-level. Perhaps the best sighting of the entire morning though came when we were almost back to the bus. A stunning male White-ruffed Manakin that was so totally engrossed in eating berries that it barely even noticed a group of happy birders that were drinking it in from just a few feet away! Just as we were finishing the trail a group of Geoffroy’s Spider-Monkeys, one of the scarcer primates in Costa Rica, moved through the canopy giving us fantastic views.

Our next stop was the nearby El Tapir Hummingbird Gardens where the skies were threatening rain. A Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer was our first good find, soon eclipsed by a tiny female Snowcap. We looked vainly for a male for quite some time but it was not to be on this very rainy day. The rain began to fall and we gathered on the porch to wait it out. We sallied out from the porch as new birds appeared and in this manner picked up Short-billed Pigeon, a female Red-headed Barbet, the highly range restricted Black-and-yellow Tanager, Olive-backed Euphonia, and the eye-popping Passerini’s Tanager. Out in the garden a few Buff-rumped Warblers danced in the rain. We also had a surprise visitor in the form of a Bird Snake that slithered right past us and climbed up into a small tree. Soon though it was time for lunch and then to finish our journey to our hotel.

In the late afternoon we made a stop in an open area that is good for Great Green Macaws that Sam Woods, who was leading another Tropical Birding tour during the same time period, knew about. This turned out to be a bird bonanza and we had fantastic views of Green Ibis and watched Great Green Macaws flying majestically above a distant treeline. In addition to those two headliners we watched perched Crimson-fronted
Parakeets in the scope, encountered with both Mealy and Red-lobed Parrots, watched a Bat Falcon patrol the area, and found our only Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher of the trip, along with a host of other species.

Despite an already fun and rewarding day we had one more highlight left in our bag of tricks. Before dinner we located several Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs, (photo below Andre Weiss Pryde), a vivid red creature with electric blue legs that is nearly as emblematic of Costa Rican wildlife as is Resplendent Quetzal.

Day 2: La Selva

Our second day of birding began at the world famous La Selva Biological Station where before we could even get out on the trails we had scored three species of toucans: Yellow-throated (Chestnut-mandibled) and Keel-billed Toucans, and the show-stopping Collared Aracari. Gray-rumped Swifts swooped overhead and in their midst was a Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift. Nearby a gaudy White-collared Manakin buzzed around the breakfast area. An auspicious beginning!

Out on the trails we soon found a small ant swarm and located two of the army ant following woodcreepers, Plain-brown Woodcreeper and the huge Northern Barred Woodcreeper. Black-headed Saltators and Dusky-faced Tanagers were also keeping careful tabs on the progress of the ant swarm. Walking down the trail we caught several glimpses of Stripe-throated Hermits zipping in and out of patches of Heliconia flowers. Joel, our local guide for the morning, nailed down a gorgeous Slaty-tailed Trogon and soon afterwards he also snagged one of the best birds of our trip, a Pied Puffbird sitting at the very top of a tree high above the trail. We were watching it with our scopes pointed straight at the sky when we encountered Sam’s group again and were all able to enjoy the puffbird. Nearby, scope views of a Hoffman’s Two-toed Sloth revealed the face of a tiny baby sloth tucked securely into its mother’s chest. We continued to pick up more great birds as the morning progressed, Rufous-winged Woodpecker, Rufous Mourner, the charismatic Long-tailed Tyrant, and we wrapped up the morning with great looks at a colorful little American Pygmy Kingfisher, a stunning tiny gem!

After lunch the plan was to venture into the denser forest across the bridge, but before doing so we headed to a stakeout spot for Fasciated Antshrike. After a little coaxing, our local guide was able to bring a stunning male Fasciated Antshrike out into the open for all to view. Across the bridge we picked up Blue-chested Hummingbird, Chestnut-colored Woodpecker, and Crested Guan in the gardens before we entered the forest. Here the birds were sparser but often highly sought after species. Over the course of a few hours we added Great Tinamou, Olive-backed Quail-Dove, a breathtaking Rufous Motmot, and watched as another of Costa Rica’s emblematic species, a female Great Curassow, strutted across the path in front of us. As incredible as this avian bounty was, the sight of a florescent yellow Eyelash Pit Viper curled up on a branch off the trail was equally impressive!

In the evening we went out searching for Spectacled Owl with Sam’s group near our hotel. After hearing an owl call for a lengthy period we eventually spotted a baby owl, still in its downy plumage, perched in a distant tree and were able to watch it in the scope.
Day 3: La Selva to Monteverde

We got off to a running start on our third morning with a flock of Red-throated Ant-Tanagers right at our hotel. A bit more birding on the grounds unearthed Cinnamon Woodpecker, Long-billed Starthroat, Plain Xenops, and great looks at Black-cowled Oriole.

While sitting at breakfast once back at La Selva I looked up to see a white bird atop a nearby tree. I knew immediately what it was but a binocular check was still needed. SNOWY COTINGA!!! Pandemonium ensued. Rice and beans went flying through the air as binoculars were snatched up. As is always the case, views of this incredible, pure-white cotinga made everyone very, very happy. Then we were back out on the trails with the local guide. Long-billed Hermit was our first new species; soon followed by a fantastic experience with a Vermiculated Screech-Owl in the midst of a dense thicket. We were able to get a scope in position to see the owl’s face clearly and we settled in and enjoyed the views for several minutes. We crossed the bridge again and tramped into the denser woods with a few more targets in mind. A cooperative Black-throated Trogon diverted us for a bit, but we had bigger things waiting. A troop of White-headed Capuchins was a welcome find as sometimes certain raptors will follow these monkey troops. We were in luck and soon located and enjoyed killer scope views of a Semiplumbeous Hawk. We were running short on time but our guide urged us on and with good reason. He had a very special bird staked out. A drop-dead gorgeous Crested Owl! The looks we got were unreal! Absolutely one of the most memorable moments of the tour. Walking back already on a serious bird high we encountered a male Great Curassow that refused to leave its perch right over the trail, so eventually we walked right under it! We were running late but a tree filled with mistletoe berries cannot be ignored. We soon were enjoying a gaudy male Scarlet-thighed Dacnis along with several Green Honeycreepers and Olive-backed Euphonias.

We had a long drive before us as we left La Selva at noon and headed to Monteverde. Having the world’s best birding driver helped break up the drive as Luis had a few stops lined up. The first was for a Great Potoo he had seen at a roost the week before. We were fortunate and the bird was still using the same spot. Views in the scope were excellent, even revealing the slit in the eyelid that allows them to see even with their eyes closed. We also enjoyed Swallow-tailed Kites and a White-tailed Kite en route. A Zone-tailed Hawk cruised right past us. Additional stops added Orange-fronted Parakeet, White-throated Magpie-Jay, and Blue-crowned Motmot.
We arrived at **Cala Lodge**, our hotel during our time in Monteverde just in time to see a beautiful **Emerald Toucanet** before darkness settled in. Our wildlife encounters were not through though as I ended up chasing a beautiful **Black Witch Moth** around the restaurant, which does not win you many points with the other diners or the staff, particularly since they believed it to be a bat.

**Day 4: Monteverde**

We met for some birding before breakfast and though it was windy we were soon enjoying outstanding looks at a striking **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush**. The nearby call of a **Three-wattled Bellbird** distracted us from the thrush and we spent the next 15-20 minutes trying to find an angle to see the bellbird but the angle did not exist. Heading to breakfast we enjoyed good views of a very tame female **Great Curassow** that had been hanging around Cala Lodge.

After breakfast it was time to go to the legendary **Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve**. This incredible reserve is worth visiting just to see the forest but the birds are pretty good too as we quickly discovered. Venturing out on the main trail and almost immediately a **Highland Tinamou** walked out onto the trail in front of us! I was trying to point the bird out but my voice sounded like Mickey Mouse because I was so excited. This created no major problem though since a bird walking out in the middle of a large trail less than 20 feet from you needs little to no announcement! Soon it was joined by a **Central American Agouti** and both paraded in the trail in front of us while my voice settled back into its proper octave. It was a strong start to our Monteverde visit. Monteverde is considered one of the best examples of a cloud forest in the world. The massive trees drip with mosses, bromeliads, and other epiphytic growth. In this lush ecosystem lives a rather unassuming little rust-colored wren known as **Ochraceous Wren**. They live high above the ground, amid the boughs of giant trees. These could present a problem when trying to view them except that the trails are such that we located one of these tiny arboreal specialists almost at eye-level in the canopy of a tree growing downhill from our trail. A bit farther down the trail we enjoyed a mixed flock that contained both **Spangle-cheeked Tanagers** and a family group of **Golden-browed Chlorophonias**. The Chlorophonias had a number of juveniles in tow making it a bit tricky to pick out the shockingly electric green-and-yellow adult male, but eventually we saw it. Our next flock was low to the ground, a welcome change; we quickly added **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Dusky Antwren**, and **Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch**. Wait, nightingale-thrush, antwren, brush-Finch? ANTS! Looking down we were indeed standing in a stream of army-ants, the realization causing us to scramble away, brushing energetically at our shoes and pants. Fortunately we only sustained a few bites and were soon walking back down the trail. Our next find was a **Red-faced Spinetail** actively building a nest in the middle of hanging clump of epiphytic moss. Off in the distance a group of **Prong-billed Barbets** began to sound off and we soon called them in and got looks at this odd, sand-colored endemic. We looped back around to the entrance and ate lunch at the hummingbird garden while watching...
enormous Violet Saberwings buzz about like gleaming purple gems. The Costa Rican endemic Coppery-headed Emeralds sipped daintily mere feet from us. Stripe-tailed Hummingbirds chattered and Purple-throated Mountain-Gems flashed their gorgeous gorgets. It was a spectacular show. After lunch we ventured briefly back onto the trails in search of Black-faced Solitaire, which we had only seen briefly during the morning. We soon found an adult and a juvenile and got excellent looks at the juvenile as it perched cooperatively for a long while.

We then headed to Bajo Del Tigre, the home of Three-wattled Bellbirds. Walking in we began to hear Three-wattled Bellbirds distinctive “BONK” before we even reached the preserve. A little deck overlooking the valley allowed us to get our first glimpses of this spectacular species, along with a number of swooping Swallow-tailed Kites, but the looks were distant and far downslope. We definitely needed a better view. Journeying down one of the trails we were hearing not only several bellbirds but also the musical harmonic whistle of Long-tailed Manakin. Both species remained elusive, though we had excellent looks at Golden-olive Woodpecker and Yellow-throated Euphonias. Eventually we did get stunning scope looks at a Three-wattled Bellbird opening its mouth wide to give its eardrum rattling call. Stunning! Long-tailed Manakins remained tough but with some creative maneuvering we managed to get scope looks at a manakin as well.

Back at Cala Lodge we made a late afternoon walk around the area that was highlighted by a surprise White-bellied Mountain-Gem and a pair of Pale-billed Woodpeckers working on a dead snag.
Day 5: Monteverde to Carara

Once again we were out before breakfast birding the grounds of Cala Lodge. Our primary target was Grey-necked Wood-Rail, a spectacular creature with a loud jangly call. After a few bouts of tape a pair of rails emerged from the forest, scampering back and forth quickly in front of us, calling at the top of their voices. We enjoyed the show as did a few White-headed Capuchin monkeys that appeared to be attempting to hunt the rails. The rails melted back into the trees, the monkeys ventured on, and we did as well. Looking up the sky was filled with swifts, primarily massive White-collared Swifts but amid them we spotted a few smaller birds that proved to be Vaux’s Swifts. While overlooking the beautiful gardens of Cala Lodge we noted a Steely-vented Hummingbird attending some blooming flowers. Just as we were preparing to leave Cala Lodge I heard the call of an Orange-bellied Trogon. Once the group had gathered we were able to pull it in and get scope looks at this stunning specialty.

Our destination for the morning was Curi Cancha reserve; a great private reserve that offers a diverse mix of habitats. We were promised Resplendent Quetzals by the staff and when we got to the spot they had recommended we did indeed see a male Resplendent Quetzal. Unfortunately he was only semi-resplendent as he only had a single long tail feather. It was still a great pleasure to see the legendary species and watch its swooping flight as it sallied out to grab wild avocados. Farther up the trail we had one of the biggest surprises of the trip when we walked up to a group to find out they had located a Mexican Dwarf Hairy Porcupine sleeping in a tree! We watched this elusive mammal in the scope for a bit then carried on to the hummingbird garden. The hummingbirds were a delight to watch but were all the same species we had seen yesterday in Monteverde, but we did add a surprise Hepatic Tanager and looks at a spiffy White-eared Ground-Sparrow. One of my favorite things about Curi Cancha is that there tends to be a few cooperative Gray-throated Leaftossers on the property. We were fortunate to have an unbelievable encounter with one of these ground-dwelling furnariids. It virtually walked right up to us! They pack a whole lot of charisma in a tiny, drab gray body! Up the trail we ran into a flock of birds that included both Olivaceous Woodcreeper and Spotted Woodcreeper. We next searched one of the higher trails for Azure-hooded Jay and eventually found a pair far, far up in the tallest trees. This was quite a frustrating experience as they were wildly uncooperative and while most of the group got glimpses of the birds, few got really good looks. Still it was great to encounter this difficult species. On the way out we improved on our views of Black-faced Solitaire, a nice adult this time. Just before returning the entrance a rustle of leaves in the canopy betrayed the presence of a whole family group of Black Guans, their electric blue bills setting off their jet black plumage in dramatic fashion. We couldn’t leave without adding just one more bird though so in the garden a Brown Violetear became the final species in a highly successful visit to Curi Cancha.

We left the mountains and headed down to the Pacific lowlands, on the way picking up Gray-headed Chacalaca, spotted by eagle-eyed bus driver Luis, and several Stripe-headed
Sparrows. Luis also knew a secret spot for Lesser Ground-Cuckoo, so after winding through some narrow, rural roads he stopped at small thicket on the edge of an expansive track of mangroves and announced this was the spot. We immediately located a Northern Scrub Flycatcher, a mangrove specialist that is often difficult to track down; the ground-cuckoo was being elusive however. With some effort and patience the entire group eventually did get excellent looks at an extraordinary Lesser Ground-Cuckoo (photo page before, Andre Weiss Pryde), skulking deep in the exact thicket Luis had pointed out. Just a drop-dead sexy bird! After that success we continued on to Hotel Villa Lapas, our home for the next two nights, arriving just in time for dinner. A bout of after-dinner owling produced a Common Pauraque and a fantastic encounter with another Spectacled Owl, this time an adult.

Day 6: Carara National Park & Tarcoles River Cruise

Birding before breakfast began with flyover Scarlet Macaws, a normal sight at Hotel Villa Lapas, but I was principally searching for something smaller and much skulkier. Near the river at the back of the hotel we located our main quarry, a pair of Riverside Wrens that flitted and jumped on the opposite side of the river. We also watched a Scaly-breasted Hummingbird hovering over the river and flycatching. Back on the hotel grounds we found a more cooperative pair of Riverside Wrens in a place where I had never seen them before and everyone enjoyed good looks at this handsome wren.

The River Trail of Carara National Park is one of the most diverse single locations in Costa Rica. We headed out on the trail and soon encountered a striking male Black-hooded Antshrike. We then called in a pair of Chestnut-backed Antbirds that actually cooperated and everyone got looks at this skulking species. Next a Northern Bentbill materialized out of the forest so we could enjoy it followed by a very cooperative White-whiskered Puffbird. Farther back on the trail we encountered two different species of wrens that were far less cooperative, a pair of Black-bellied Wrens that played hide-and-seek in a clump of vines, then a Rufous-breasted Wren that played a whole lot of “hide” and very little “seek”. A mixed species flock contained several flashy Dot-winged Antwrens and a pair of Barred Antshrikes. Walking back out we called in a Black-faced
**Antthrush** that stayed well back in shadow but walked around for a long while so everybody at least got glimpses. For an antthrush not attending an ant swarm it was pretty good behavior.

The boat trip on the *Rio Tarcoles* is always one of the highpoints of this tour, and this turned out to be a particularly eventful boat trip. It started normally enough, with *Mangrove Swallows* alighting on the boat and *Bare-throated Tiger-Heons* stalking the shallows. Soon we were approaching a roost of *Yellow-crowned Night-Heons* and the boat captain pointed out several somber-eyed *Boat-billed Heons* in their midst. We next eased up to an eye-popping *Turquoise-browed Motmot*, the undisputed king of the motmots. Overhead *Costa Rican Swifts* darted and a *Yellow-headed Caracara* flapped heavily. A pair of *Scarlet Macaws* came winging past at close range in perfect light, their guttural calls splitting the air. A gorgeous *Purple Gallinule* tripped its way along the shore, the afternoon light bringing out every glossy highlight. Closer to the mouth of the river we noticed several small plovers; they turned out to be two *Collared Plovers* and two *Wilson’s Plovers*, both species not normally present during our tours scheduled in the American winter months. A smattering of *Whimbrel* highlighted several other migrant species of shorebirds that were sharing the mudflats with the plovers. Near the mouth of the river we spotted several stunning specimens of the river’s most famous residents, *American Crocodile*. All the crocs in this part of the river were large, but one was an absolute giant! Living as I do in Florida I’m not easily impressed by crocodilians, but this one approached twenty feet in length.
with an air of raw power that was absolutely breathtaking. We next entered a mangrove-lined channel and this is where the trip really set itself apart from others I had done before. “Mangrove” Yellow Warbler showed well right after entering the channel, the chestnut head set off by the brilliant yellow plumage of the males eliciting “ooohs” and “aaahs”. That’s pretty standard, but immediately afterwards a Mangrove Vireo started calling and soon we were looking at this drab, but sought-after, vireo. Overhead Plumbeous Kites wheeled and the boat captain spotted an American Pygmy Kingfisher. The mangroves were blooming and so on a whim I tried some Mangrove Hummingbird tape. To my great surprise a Mangrove Hummingbird came in immediately but briefly and not everyone got on it. We tried some more but the bird remained elusive however the captain knew another patch of blooming mangroves where everyone saw the hummingbird. I figured we were doing so well with mangrove birds so I started up the Panama Flycatcher tape. On cue a Panama Flycatcher popped up and sat in the open for as long as we wanted to look. This pretty well wrapped up the mangrove specialists, far from an easy thing to do just from the boat! On the way back to the dock we got great looks at a juvenile Common Black-Hawk. A resoundingly successful boat trip under our belt we returned to Hotel Villa Lapas for dinner.

Day 7: Carara to Sevegre

Pre-breakfast birding got off to a hot start with an iridescent Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog. What a cool little critter! A female Orange-collared Manakin was nice to see but where was her male? In a back corner of the property we found an uncommonly cooperative pair of Chestnut-backed Antbirds and a pair of Yellow-throated Euphonias attending a nest. The coup though was when a couple of birders pointed out a pair of Fiery-billed Aracaris. I thought we were going to miss this stunning toucan and to pull it out at the last moment was a major triumph.
A jaunt through the main trail in Carara National Park was on tap for this morning, a slightly different habitat than the River Trail the day before. It was a quiet morning and we were well back on the trail system before we got our first interesting bird, a tiny and energetic Golden-crowned Spadebill that was bouncing all over the understory. We also could hear a distant Baird’s Trogon calling but despite our best efforts we could never track one down. A short ways down the trail a member of our group pulled off the near-impossible and spotted a Scaly-throated Leaflosser in the dark understory. Just as charismatic as its Gray-throated cousin but more unexpected it really gave our morning a jolt of excitement. Deeper in the forest we located a Russet Antshrike before we had to turn back and walk out. We weren’t done birding yet though and soon after turning around we called in a handsome Black-striped Woodcreeper. Our next find was another woodcreeper, this time a much scarcer species, a Long-tailed Woodcreeper. Farther down the trail a Great Tinamou moved slowly through the understory. A White-whiskered Puffbird posed right over the trail. An odd species, Long-billed Gnatwren, was spotted and made a nice addition to our trip list. Nearing the exit two young Pale-billed Woodpeckers, their nervous parents in tow, entertained us with their awkward antics. With the morning nearly finished our day took a turn for the weird and unexpected when a piercing shriek filled the air. Moments later some short-legged, heavy-bodied creature came tearing down the hill. It turned out to be a scarce tropical weasel called a Greater Grison. So ended our time in the Pacific lowlands.

After lunch Luis turned our bus to the mountains and we headed towards the legendary Savegre Valley. A few roadside stops netted us a few more lowland birds including Smooth-billed Ani, Red-crowned Woodpecker, and the eye-popping Cherrie’s Tanager. Luis had another stop in mind and so we headed to his stakeout spot for Turquoise Cotinga. We arrived and started scanning the treetops in a small clearing. The name of the game with Turquoise Cotingas is to be looking at the right treetop at just the right moment. A couple of members of our group did exactly that and briefly saw a male Turquoise Cotinga, sadly most of the group, myself included, were not so lucky. The bird had not reappeared when the time we had to wait expired. That evening we pulled into Hotel Savegre just in time for dinner and to rest up for a big day to come.

Day 8: Savegre

Our pre-breakfast birding in the garden of the Hotel Savegre was a veritable assault of new species! Flocks of Sulphur-winged Parakeets hurtled across the sky and disappeared into the orchard, occasionally emerging where we could put the scope on them. We had the chance to compare the very similar Scintillant and Volcano Hummingbirds. Silver-throated and Flame-colored Tanagers were coming into the feeders. Both the showy Yellow-thighed Finch and more soberly attired Large-footed Finch made an appearance. Band-tailed Pigeons streaked overhead. A large flock of Elegant Euphonias made its appearance. Mountain Elaenias and large numbers of Sooty-capped Chlorospinguses were working through the bushes in the garden at eye-level. Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrushes hopped down the path in front of us as
Yellow-winged Vireos complained from the branches above. Perhaps most impressive were several Long-tailed Silky-Flycatchers that were gorging on berries at eye-level. It was an intense half-hour!

After breakfast we headed up the valley to look for the bird that put Savegre on the map, the incomparable Resplendent Quetzal. Soon though we were sidetrack by a flock of birds. We picked up Streak-breasted Treehunter and another species highly sought after in the Savegre area, the little burning ember, Flame-throated Warbler. At the Resplendent Quetzal spot we had no trouble finding quetzals in a pair of massive wild avocado trees. At times there were 5-6 quetzals around at once and we easily saw eight individuals. A male with a full, stunning tail continued to elude us though. It was not until later in the afternoon when we visited this location again before we finally saw a male with a tail that really felt resplendent. For the moment we enjoyed the quetzals in front of us plus several Black Guans that were also stuffing themselves with avocados. Nearby we added Black-capped Flycatcher, Yellowish Flycatcher, our first male Slaty Flowerpiercer, and Collared Redstart. We headed back down the valley to a riverside trail and located our first Torrent Tyrannulet. Farther down the trail a distinctive “Pit-Pit” call eventually led us to a family group of Dark Pewees, a very scarce and difficult to find highlands specialty! Our next bird was less expected even than the pewees, a large hummingbird with an extraordinarily long bill held with a precise upward tilt, a Green-fronted Lancebill! An absolutely great pickup! Back at Hotel Savegre for lunch we admired the Magnificent Hummingbirds that were running the feeders at the lodge, all others subject to their tyrannical rule. After lunch we did finally connect with the nice male quetzal. We then headed to another Eco lodge to bird the grounds. Here while I was checking in the group located an American Dipper which, of course, was gone by the time I got back. It was ok though since we soon found and managed stunning photos of the bird I was really hoping for at that location, a glittering male White-throated Mountain-Gem. Far overhead swirling flocks of hundreds of Barred Parakeets brought to mind murmurations of European Starlings but the fact that we were actually watching hordes of tiny parakeets made it so much better than any mere flock of starlings. Back at Hotel Savegre we had just enough time before dinner for a quick walk over to a typically productive clearing. Productive it was! We soon had Ruddy Pigeons in the scope while a flock of Black-cheeked Warblers worked the understory. A singing nightingale-thrush proved to be Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush, the last possible species in this group that we could pick up this trip. We grabbed an early dinner, loaded back on the bus, and headed off to look for night birds. At first we were getting shutdown but Luis recommended a spot for Dusky Nightjar and we were able to call one in for terrific looks! A pair of Bare-shanked Screech-Owls was calling nearby and we worked and worked to see them but the owls felt like taunting us from just inside a dense shrub and never ventured forth. This minor letdown could not outbalance what was an outstanding day overall.
Day 9: Cerro de la Muerte to San Jose

After the blaze of glory that was pre-breakfast birding the day before, we only added heard-only Spotted Wood-Quail on our second morning in Hotel Savegre making it seem a bit flat, though many of the same birds from yesterday were still present. However immediately after breakfast as we were prepping to depart for Cerro de la Muerte I was standing in the dining hall waiting for our packed lunches when an adult Barred Forest-Falcon sailed along and alighted right outside the window! No one was nearby but I went sprinting through the dining hall yelling and gesturing where polite people were breakfasting. Our group seemed to stream in from every direction and rapidly approached the window. The bird was still present and we got it for about a count of ten before it sailed off again. Unbelievable luck! Lightning struck twice that day as while we were driving out of the Savegre Valley a group of Spotted Wood-Quail ran across the road right in front of us! This prompted me to yell, “WOOD QUAIL” in a voice that was probably much too loud given how close they were, but they stuck around long enough for all to see. Could we be lucky three times? We still had Wrenthrush to track down. First though we headed to high elevation for a few specialty birds. Arriving at Cerro de la Muerte we were immediately in the midst of a flock of Volcano Juncos. A great looking bird! Next we found a pair of Timberline Wrens that actually came out of cover for more than a split second, exceptionally cooperative behavior for Timberline Wrens! Nearby we checked another spot and had a pair of Yellow-bellied Siskins but little else.

Our next stop was the Providencia Road, a great spot for Wrenthrush. There was no lighting strike situation, but with some effort we did track down a Wrenthrush that eventually flitted in-and-out nearly on top of us. Another classic Costa Rican species under our belts! While we were at it we also pulled a Silvery-fronted Tapaculo in for a good view, a pretty significant achievement! Several mixed species flocks contained many glowing Flame-throated Warblers, but we added nothing new until a Rough-legged Tyrannulet popped up for us, a rare species. With only a few possible species left to find we headed to Paraiso Quetzal for our final stop. The famed hummingbird feeders at there were less active than normal but we did see the outstanding Fiery-throated Hummingbird and watch it flash its rainbow throat! We then chased an uncooperative Black-and-yellow Silky-Flycatcher for a long while before finding a very cooperative one. Next we called in a Buffy Tuftedcheek that was much less happy to see us than we were to see it. Finally, we heard a very distant Collared Trogon, our final addition to our trip list before loading up and heading back to San Jose.
Day 10: The Central Valley

Although not officially on the itinerary, a few of us took a short tour of some local farmland to squeeze the absolute most out of our final time in Costa Rica. Crested Bobwhite was the primary target for this little jaunt. Soon after dawn we were hearing the distinctive “BOB-white” calls emanating from the grasslands, and soon were viewing it in the scope. Another successful mission! We also added Yellow-olive Flycatcher, Eastern Meadowlark, Yellow-green Vireo, Northern Beardless-

Tyrannulet, and Olive Sparrow to pad our list.

BIRD & MAMMAL LISTS


This list is up to date with the major changes published by Cornell up until August 2014.

H indicates a species that was HEARD only.

GO indicates a species recorded by the GUIDE ONLY.

Bird List

TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Highland Tinamou  Nothocercus bonapartei
Great Tinamou  Tinamus major
H Little Tinamou  Crypturellus soui

DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL: ANATIDAE

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck  Dendrocygna autumnalis
Muscovy Duck  Cairina moschata

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, AND CURASSOWS: CRACIDAE

Gray-headed Chachalaca  Ortalis cinereiceps
Crested Guan  Penelope purpurascens
Black Guan  Chamaepetes unicolor
Great Curassow  Crax rubra
### New World Quail: Odontophoridae
- Crested Bobwhite: *Colinus cristatus*
- Spotted Wood-Quail: *Odontophorus guttatus*

### Storks: Ciconiidae
- Wood Stork: *Mycteria americana*

### Frigatebirds: Fregatidae
- Magnificent Frigatebird: *Fregata magnificens*

### Boobies and Gannets: Sulidae
- Blue-footed Booby: *Sula nebouxii*

### Cormorants and Shags: Phalacrocoracidae
- Neotropic Cormorant: *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

### Anhingas: Anhingidae
- Anhinga: *Anhinga anhinga*

### Pelicans: Pelecanidae
- Brown Pelican: *Pelecanus occidentalis*

### Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns: Ardeidae
- Bare-throated Tiger-Heron: *Tigrisoma mexicanum*
- Great Blue Heron: *Ardea herodias*
- Great Egret: *Ardea alba*
- Snowy Egret: *Egretta thula*
- Little Blue Heron: *Egretta caerulescens*
- Tricolored Heron: *Egretta tricolor*
- Cattle Egret: *Bubulcus ibis*
- Green Heron: *Butorides virescens*
- Black-crowned Night-Heron: *Nycticorax nycticorax*
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: *Nyctanassa violacea*
- Boat-billed Heron: *Cochlearius cochlearius*

### Ibises and Spoonbills: Threskiornithidae
- White Ibis: *Eudocimus albus*
- Green Ibis: *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*
- Roseate Spoonbill: *Platalea ajaja*

### New World Vultures: Cathartidae
- Black Vulture: *Coragyps atratus*
- Turkey Vulture: *Cathartes aura*
- King Vulture: *Sarcoramphus papa*

### Osprey: Pandionidae
- Osprey: *Pandion haliaetus*

### Hawks, Eagles, and Kites: Accipitridae
- White-tailed Kite: *Elanus leucurus*
- Swallow-tailed Kite: *Elanoides forficatus*
### Tropical Birding Trip Report

**Costa Rica: The Introtour July 2015 (Group 2)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plumbeous Kite</th>
<th>Ictinia plumbea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Black Hawk (Mangrove)</td>
<td>Buteogallus anthracinus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roadside Hawk</td>
<td>Rupornis magnirostris</td>
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<td>Harris's Hawk</td>
<td>Parabuteo unicinctus</td>
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<td>Semiplumbeous Hawk</td>
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<td>Gray Hawk</td>
<td>Buteo plagiatus</td>
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<td>Short-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>Buteo brachyurus</td>
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<td>Zone-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>Buteo albonotatus</td>
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### RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS: RALLIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White-throated Crake</th>
<th>Laterallus albigularis</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gray-breasted Crake</td>
<td>Laterallus exilis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purple Gallinule</td>
<td>Porphyrio martinicus</td>
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### STILTS AND AVOCETS: RECURVIROSTRIDAE

| Black-necked Stilt      | Himantopus mexicanus          |

### PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: CHARADRIIDAE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black-bellied Plover</th>
<th>Pluvialis squatarola</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collared Plover</td>
<td>Charadrius collaris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson's Plover</td>
<td>Charadrius wilsonia</td>
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### JACANAS: JACANIDAE

| Northern Jacana         | Jacana spinosa                |

### SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: SCOLOPACIDAE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spotted Sandpiper</th>
<th>Actitis macularius</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willet</td>
<td>Tringa semipalmata</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs</td>
<td>Tringa flavipes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whimbrel</td>
<td>Numenius phaeopus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruddy Turnstone</td>
<td>Arenaria interpres</td>
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<td>Least Sandpiper</td>
<td>Calidris minutilla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>Limnodromus griseus</td>
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### GULLS, TERNs, AND SKIMMERS: LARIDAE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caspian Tern</th>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Tern</td>
<td>Thalasseus maximus</td>
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<td>Elegant Tern</td>
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### PIGEONS AND Doves: COLUMBIDAE

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<td>Patagioenas cayennensis</td>
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<td>Short-billed Pigeon</td>
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<td>Inca Dove</td>
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<td>Common Ground-Dove</td>
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<td>Ruddy Ground-Dove</td>
<td>Columbina talpacoti</td>
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<td>Ruddy Quail-Dove</td>
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<td>Olive-backed Quail-Dove</td>
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<td>Cuckoos: Cuculidae</td>
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<td>Squirrel Cuckoo</td>
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<td>Owls: Strigidae</td>
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<td>Vermiculated Screech-Owl</td>
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<td>Nightjars and Allies: Caprimulgidae</td>
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<td>Potoos: Nyctibiidae</td>
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<td>Swifts: Apodidae</td>
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<td>Scintillant Hummingbird</td>
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<td>Canivet's Emerald</td>
<td>Chlorostilbon canivetii</td>
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www.tropicalbirding.com       +1-409-515-0514           info@tropicalbirding.com
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird  Phaeochroa cuvierii
Violet Sabrewing  Campylopterus hemileucurus
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer  Chalybura urochrysa
Crowned Woodnymph  Thalurania colombica
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird  Eupherusa eximia
Coppery-headed Emerald  Elvira cupreiceps
Snowcap  Microchera albocoronata
Blue-chested Hummingbird  Amazilia amabilis
Mangrove Hummingbird  Amazilia boucardi
Steely-vented Hummingbird  Amazilia saucerottei
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird  Amazilia tzacatl
Cinnamon Hummingbird  Amazilia rutila

TROGONS: TROGONIDAE
Resplendent Quetzal  Pharomachrus mocinno
Lattice-tailed Trogon  Trogon clathratus
Slaty-tailed Trogon  Trogon massena
Black-headed Trogon  Trogon melanocephalus
Baird's Trogon  Trogon bairdii
Gartered Trogon  Trogon caligatus
Black-throated Trogon  Trogon rufus
Orange-bellied Trogon  Trogon aurantiiventris
Collared Trogon  Trogon collaris

MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE
Blue-crowned Motmot  Momotus coeruliceps
Rufous Motmot  Baryphthengus martii
Broad-billed Motmot  Electron platyrhynchum
Turquoise-browed Motmot  Eumomota superciliosa

KINGFISHERS: ALCEDINIDAE
Ringed Kingfisher  Megaceryle torquata
Amazon Kingfisher  Chloroceryle amazona
Green Kingfisher  Chloroceryle americana
American Pygmy Kingfisher  Chloroceryle aenea

PUFFBIRDS: BUCCONIDAE
Pied Puffbird  Notharchus tectus
White-whiskered Puffbird  Malacoptila panamensis

JACAMARS: GALBULIDAE
Rufous-tailed Jacamar  Galbula ruficauda

NEW WORLD BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE
Red-headed Barbet  Eubucco bourcierii

TOUCANS-BARBETS: SEMNORNITHIDAE
Prong-billed Barbet  Semnornis frantzii

TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE
Emerald Toucanet  Aulacorhynchus prasinus
Collared Aracari  
Fiery-billed Aracari  
Yellow-throated Toucan (Chestnut-mandib.)  
Keel-billed Toucan

**WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE**

- Acorn Woodpecker  
- Black-cheeked Woodpecker  
- Red-crowned Woodpecker  
- Hoffmann’s Woodpecker  
- Red-crowned x Hoffmann’s Woodpecker  
- Hairy Woodpecker  
- Rufous-winged Woodpecker  
- Golden-olive Woodpecker  
- Cinnamon Woodpecker  
- Chestnut-colored Woodpecker  
- Pale-billed Woodpecker

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE**

- Barred Forest-Falcon  
- Crested Caracara  
- Yellow-headed Caracara  
- Laughing Falcon  
- Bat Falcon

**PARROTS: PSITTACIDAE**

- Barred Parakeet  
- Orange-chinned Parakeet  
- Brown-hooded Parrot  
- White-crowned Parrot  
- Red-lored Parrot  
- White-fronted Parrot  
- Mealy Parrot  
- Sulphur-winged Parakeet  
- Orange-fronted Parakeet  
- Great Green Macaw  
- Scarlet Macaw  
- Crimson-fronted Parakeet

**TYPICAL ANTBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE**

- Fasciated Antshrike  
- Great Antshrike  
- Barred Antshrike  
- Black-crowned Antshrike  
- Black-hooded Antshrike  
- Russet Antshrike  
- Plain Antvireo  
- Checker-throated Antwren  
- Slaty Antwren  
- Dot-winged Antwren  
- Dusky Antbird

---

Collared Aracari  
Pteroglossus torquatus

Fiery-billed Aracari  
Pteroglossus frantzii

Yellow-throated Toucan (Chestnut-mandib.)  
Rampastos ambiguus swainsonii

Keel-billed Toucan  
Rampastos sulfuratus

**WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE**

- Acorn Woodpecker  
  Melanerpes formicivorus
- Black-cheeked Woodpecker  
  Melanerpes pucherani
- Red-crowned Woodpecker  
  Melanerpes rubricapillus
- Hoffmann’s Woodpecker  
  Melanerpes hoffmannii
- Red-crowned x Hoffmann’s Woodpecker  
  Melanerpes rubricapillus x hoffmannii
- Hairy Woodpecker  
  Picoides villosus
- Rufous-winged Woodpecker  
  Piculus simplex
- Golden-olive Woodpecker  
  Colaptes rubiginosus
- Cinnamon Woodpecker  
  Celeus loricatus
- Chestnut-colored Woodpecker  
  Celeus castaneus
- Pale-billed Woodpecker  
  Campephilus guatemalensis

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE**

- Barred Forest-Falcon  
  Micrastur ruficollis
- Crested Caracara  
  Caracara cheriway
- Yellow-headed Caracara  
  Milvago chimachima
- Laughing Falcon  
  Herpetotheres cachinnans
- Bat Falcon  
  Falco rufigularis

**PARROTS: PSITTACIDAE**

- Barred Parakeet  
  Bolborhynchus lineola
- Orange-chinned Parakeet  
  Brotogeris jugularis
- Brown-hooded Parrot  
  Pyrilia haematotis
- White-crowned Parrot  
  Pionus senilis
- Red-lored Parrot  
  Amazona autumnalis
- White-fronted Parrot  
  Amazona albifrons
- Mealy Parrot  
  Amazona farinosa
- Sulphur-winged Parakeet  
  Pyrrhura hoffmanni
- Orange-fronted Parakeet  
  Eupsittula canicularis
- Great Green Macaw  
  Ara ambiguus
- Scarlet Macaw  
  Ara macao
- Crimson-fronted Parakeet  
  Psittacara finschi

**TYPICAL ANTBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE**

- Fasciated Antshrike  
  Cymbilaimus lineatus
- Great Antshrike  
  Thamnophilus doliatus
- Barred Antshrike  
  Thamnophilus atrinucha
- Black-crowned Antshrike  
  Thamnophilus bridgesi
- Black-hooded Antshrike  
  Thamnistes anabatinus
- Plain Antvireo  
  Dysithamnus mentalis
- Checker-throated Antwren  
  Epinecrophylla fulviventris
- Slaty Antwren  
  Myrmotherula schisticolor
- Dot-winged Antwren  
  Microhoriops quisensis
- Dusky Antbird  
  Cercomacroides tyrannina
### TAPACULOS: RHINOCRYPTIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silvery-fronted Tapaculo</td>
<td>Scytalopus argentifrons</td>
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### ANTHRUSHES: FORMICARIIDAE

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<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-faced Antthrush</td>
<td>Formicarius analis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: FURNARIIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scaly-throated Leaflazhoo</td>
<td>Sclerurus guatemalensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray-throated Leaff toler</td>
<td>Sclerurus albicularis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivaceous Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Sittasomus griseicapillus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Deconycura longicauda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain-brown Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedge-billed Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Glyphorynchus spirurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Barred-Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-striped Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Xiphorhynchus erythropygius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streak-headed Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot-crowned Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Lepidocolaptes affinis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain Xenops</td>
<td>Xenops minutus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffy Tuftedcheek</td>
<td>Pseudocolaptes lawrencii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lineated Foliage-leaner</td>
<td>Syndactyla subalaris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streak-breasted Treehunter</td>
<td>Thripadectes rufobrunneus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy Treerunner</td>
<td>Margarornis rubiginosus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-faced Spinet</td>
<td>Craniroleuca erythrops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet</td>
<td>Camptostoma imberbe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-bellied Elaenia</td>
<td>Elaenia flavogaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Elaenia</td>
<td>Elaenia frantzii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torrent Tyrannulet</td>
<td>Seraphoga cinerea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ochre-bellied Flycatcher</td>
<td>Mionectes oleagineus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough-legged Tyrannulet</td>
<td>Phyllomyias burmeisteri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paltry Tyrannulet</td>
<td>Zimmerius vilissimus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Scrub-Flycatcher</td>
<td>Sublegatus arenarum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Bentbill</td>
<td>Oncostoma cinereigulare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher</td>
<td>Poecilotriccus sylvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Tody-Flycatcher</td>
<td>Todirostrum cinereum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher</td>
<td>Todirostrum nigriceps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden-crowned Spadebill</td>
<td>Platyrinchus coronatus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher</td>
<td>Myiobius sulphureipygii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tufted Flycatcher</td>
<td>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark Pewee</td>
<td>Contopus lugubris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Pewee</td>
<td>Contopus cinereus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowish Flycatcher</td>
<td>Empidonax flavescens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-capped Flycatcher</td>
<td>Empidonax atriceps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Phoebe</td>
<td>Sayornis nigricans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Tyrant</td>
<td>Colonia colonus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright-rumped Attila</td>
<td>Attila spadiceus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous Mourner</td>
<td>Rhytipterna holerythra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky-capped Flycatcher</td>
<td>Myiarchus tuberculifer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panama Flycatcher    Myiarchus panamensis
Brown-crested Flycatcher    Myiarchus tyrannulus
Great Kiskadee    Pitangus sulphuratus
Boat-billed Flycatcher    Megarynchus pitangus
Social Flycatcher    Myiozetetes similis
Gray-capped Flycatcher    Myiozetetes granadensis
White-ringed Flycatcher    Conopias albovittatus
Streaked Flycatcher    Myiodynastes maculatus
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher    Myiodynastes luteiventris
Tropical Kingbird    Tyrannus melancholicus

COTINGAS: COTINGIDAE
Turquoise Cotinga    Cotinga ridgwayi
Three-wattled Bellbird    Procnias tricolor
Snowy Cotinga    Carpodectes nitidus

MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE
Long-tailed Manakin    Chiroxiphia linearis
White-ruffed Manakin    Corapipo alter
White-collared Manakin    Manacus candei
Orange-collared Manakin    Manacus aurantiacus
White-crowned Manakin    Dixiphia pipra

TITYRAS AND ALLIES: TITYRIDAE
Masked Tityra    Tityra semifasciata
Cinnamon Becard    Pachyramphus cinnamomeus

VIREOS: VIREONIDAE
Mangrove Vireo    Vireo pallens
Yellow-winged Vireo    Vireo carmioli
Yellow-green Vireo    Vireo flavoviridis
Tawny-crowned Greenlet    Tunchiornis ochraceiceps
Lesser Greenlet    Pachysylvia decurtata
Green Shrike-Vireo    Vireolanius pulchellus
Rufous-browed Peppershrike    Cyclarhis gujanensis

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES: CORVIDAE
Azure-hooded Jay    Cyanolyca cucullata
White-throated Magpie-Jay    Calocitta formosa
Brown Jay    Psilorhinus morio

SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE
Blue-and-white Swallow    Pygochelidon cyanoleuca
Northern Rough-winged Swallow    Stelgodopteryx serripennis
Southern Rough-winged Swallow    Stelgodopteryx ruficollis
Gray-breasted Martin    Progne chalybea
Mangrove Swallow    Tachycineta albilinea
Barn Swallow    Hirundo rustica

WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE
House Wren    Troglydytes aedon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ochraceous Wren</td>
<td>Troglodytes ochraceus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timberline Wren</td>
<td>Thryorchilus browni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band-backed Wren</td>
<td>Campylorhynchus zonatus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-naped Wren</td>
<td>Campylorhynchus rufinucha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Wren</td>
<td>Pheugopedius fasciatoventris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-breasted Wren</td>
<td>Pheugopedius rutilus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-throated Wren</td>
<td>Pheugopedius atrogularis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-and-white Wren</td>
<td>Thryophilus rufalus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stripe-breasted Wren</td>
<td>Cantorchilus thoracicus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain Wren</td>
<td>Cantorchilus modestus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside Wren</td>
<td>Cantorchilus semibadius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay Wren</td>
<td>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Wood-Wren</td>
<td>Henicorhina leucoptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray-breasted Wood-Wren</td>
<td>Henicorhina leucoptera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GNATCATCHERS: POLIOPTILIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed Gnatwren</td>
<td>Ramphocaenus melanurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Gnatcatcher</td>
<td>Polioptila plumbea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIPPERS: CINCLIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Dipper</td>
<td>Cinclus mexicanus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THRUSHES AND ALLIES: TURDIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-faced Solitaire</td>
<td>Myadestes melanops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush</td>
<td>Catharus gracilirostris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush</td>
<td>Catharus aurantirostris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush</td>
<td>Catharus fuscater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush</td>
<td>Catharus frantzii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush</td>
<td>Catharus mexicanus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooty Thrush</td>
<td>Turdus nigrescens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Thrush</td>
<td>Turdus plebejus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pale-vented Thrush</td>
<td>Turdus obsoletus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clay-colored Thrush</td>
<td>Turdus grayi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-throated Thrush</td>
<td>Turdus assimilis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: MIMIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Mockingbird</td>
<td>Mimus gilvus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: PTILOGONATIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher</td>
<td>Phainoptila melanoxantha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher</td>
<td>Ptiliogonys caudatus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flame-throated Warbler</td>
<td>Oreothlypis gutturalis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray-crowned Yellowthroat</td>
<td>Geothlypis poliocephala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Warbler (Mangrove)</td>
<td>Setophaga petechia erithachorides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-capped Warbler</td>
<td>Basileuterus rufifrons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-cheeked Warbler</td>
<td>Basileuterus melanogenys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden-crowned Warbler</td>
<td>Basileuterus culicivorus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-striped Warbler</td>
<td>Basileuterus tristriatus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buff-rumped Warbler</td>
<td>Myiothlypis fulvicauda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Slate-throated Redstart  
Collared Redstart  
Wrenthrush

Myioborus miniatus  
Myioborus torquatus  
Zeledonia coronate

**TANAGERS AND ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE**

**L**  
White-shouldered Tanager  
Tawny-crested Tanager  
Passerini's Tanager  
Cherrie's Tanager  
Blue-gray Tanager  
Palm Tanager  
Golden-hooded Tanager  
Speckled Tanager  
Spangle-cheeked Tanager  
Emerald Tanager  
Silver-throated Tanager  
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis  
Blue Dacnis  
Red-legged Honeycreeper  
Green Honeycreeper  
Slaty Flowerpiercer  
Blue-black Grassquit  
Variable Seedeater  
Bananaquit  
Yellow-faced Grassquit  
Dusky-faced Tanager

Tachyphonus luctuosus  
Tachyphonus delatirii  
Ramphocelus passerinii  
Ramphocelus costaricensis  
Thraupis episcopus  
Thraupis palmarum  
Tangara larvata  
Tangara guttata  
Tangara dowii  
Tangara florida  
Tangara icterocephala  
Dacnis venusta  
Dacnis cayana  
Cyanerpes cyaneus  
Chlorophanes spiza  
Diglossa plumbea  
Volatinia jacarina  
Sporophila corvina  
Coereba flaveola  
Tiaris olivaceus  
Mitrospingus cassinii

**BUNTINGS AND NEW WORLD SPARROWS: EMBERIZIDAE**

**B**  
Buff-throated Saltator  
Black-headed Saltator  
Sooty-capped Chlorospingus  
Common Chlorospingus  
Stripe-headed Sparrow  
Olive Sparrow  
Black-striped Sparrow  
Orange-billed Sparrow  
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch  
Volcano Junco  
Rufous-collared Sparrow  
Large-footed Finch  
White-eared Ground-Sparrow  
Yellow-thighed Finch  
White-naped Brushfinch

Saltator maximus  
Saltator atriceps  
Chlorospingus pileatus  
Chlorospingus flavopectus  
Peucaea ruficauda  
Arremonops rufivirgatus  
Arremonops conirostris  
Arremon aurantiirostris  
Arremon brunneinucha  
Junco vulcani  
Zonotrichia capensis  
Pezopetes capitalis  
Melozone leucotis  
Pselliophorus tibialis  
Atlapetes albinucha

**CARDINALS AND ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE**

Hepatic Tanager  
Flame-colored Tanager  
Red-crowned Ant-Tanager  
Red-throated Ant-Tanager  
Carmiol's Tanager  
Black-faced Grosbeak

Piranga flava  
Piranga bidentata  
Habia rubica  
Habia fuscicauda  
Chlorothraupis carmioli  
Caryothraustes poliogaster
### Tropical Birding Trip Report

**Costa Rica: The Introtour**

**July 2015 (Group 2)**

- **Blue-black Grosbeak**: *Cyanocompsa cyanoides*
- **Blue Grosbeak**: *Passerina caerulea*

### Troupials and Allies: Icteridae

- **Red-winged Blackbird**: *Agelaius phoeniceus*
- **Eastern Meadowlark**: *Sturnella magna*
- **Melodious Blackbird**: *Dives dives*
- **Great-tailed Grackle**: *Quiscalus mexicanus*
- **Shiny Cowbird**: *Molothrus bonariensis*
- **Bronzed Cowbird**: *Molothrus aeneus*
- **Black-cowled Oriole**: *Icterus prothemerias*
- **Spot-breasted Oriole**: *Icterus pectoralis*
- **Scarlet-rumped Cacique**: *Cacicus uropygialis*
- **Chestnut-headed Oropendola**: *Psarocolius wagleri*
- **Montezuma Oropendola**: *Psarocolius montezuma*

### Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies: Fringillidae

- **Yellow-crowned Euphonia**: *Euphonia luteicapilla*
- **Thick-billed Euphonia**: *Euphonia laniirostris*
- **Yellow-throated Euphonia**: *Euphonia hirundinacea*
- **Elegant Euphonia**: *Euphonia elegantissima*
- **Olive-backed Euphonia**: *Euphonia gouldii*
- **Golden-browed Chlorophonia**: *Chlorophonia callophrys*
- **Yellow-bellied Siskin**: *Spinus xanthogastrus*

### Old World Sparrows: Passeridae

- **House Sparrow**: *Passer domesticus*

### Mammal List

- **Brazilian Long-nosed (Proboscis) Bat**: *Rhynchonycteris naso*
- **Honduran White Bat/White Tent Bat**: *Ectophylla alba*
- **Greater Griscom**: *Galictis vittata*
- **Mantled Howler**: *Alouatta palliata*
- **White-headed Capuchin**: *Cebus capucinus*
- **Geoffroy's Spider Monkey**: *Ateles geoffroyi*
- **Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth**: *Bradypus variegatus*
- **Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth**: *Choloepus hoffmanni*
- **Variegated Squirrel**: *Sciurus variegatoides*
- **Red-tailed Squirrel**: *Sciurus granatensis*
- **Mexican Dwarf Hairy Porcupine**: *Sphiggurus mexicanus*
- **Central American Agouti**: *Dasyprocta punctata*
- **White-nosed Coati**: *Nasua narica*
- **Collared Peccary**: *Pecari tajacu*

### Others

- **Marine Toad**: *Rhinella marina*
- **Green-and-black Poison Frog**: *Dendrobates auratus*
- **Strawberry Poison Frog**: *Oophaga pumilio*
Black River Turtle  
Brown Wood Turtle  
Common Basilisk  
Spinytail Iguana (Ctenosaur)  
Green Iguana  
Common House Gecko  
Central American Ameiva  
Reticulated Ameiva  
Bird Snake  
Eyelash Pit Viper  
Spectacled Caiman  
American Crocodile  
Leafcutter Ant  
Bullet Ant

Rhinoclemmys funeréal  
Rhinoclemmys annulata  
Basiliscus basiliscus  
Ctenosaura similis  
Iguana iguana  
Hemidactylus frenatus  
Ameiva festiva  
Ameiva leptophrys  
Pseustes poecilonotus  
Bothriechis schlegelli  
Caiman crocodilus  
Crocodylus acutus  
Atta cephalotes  
Paraponera clavata