

TROPICAL BIRDING

COLOMBIA

22 February – 14 March 2010

Custom tour

Tour leaders: Nick Athanas, with Trevor Ellery for the first three days
Report and photos by Nick Athanas



Santa Marta Antpitta – now coming into a worm feeder at the El Dorado reserve!

This was my first Colombia trip since late 2007, and it was great to be back! The birds were even better than I remembered, and the logistically the trip was near-perfect. This tour was a custom trip to target endemics and other specialties of the northern half of the country. We went to some fantastically out-of-the-way places and saw some birds not many people ever get to see. Ornithology in Colombia is experiencing a renaissance now that most of the country is once again safe to visit, and there have been a slew of new discoveries in recent years. It seemed like almost every day we were seeing birds that have only been recently found (or rediscovered), some of which are not even described to science yet! It makes it all the more interesting to visit this ultra-diverse country. I should point out that this is one of the more strenuous trips that we offer, with lots of walking involved on often tough terrain, which is one reason why we currently offer this trip upon request only. However, every year, existing reserves are being improved and new sites are being found that make the trip easier. Before too long we will offer a similar itinerary as a set-departure tour.

22 February: It was the arrival day, with no birding planned, though I had arrived a couple days early to do some birding around Bogotá with an old friend Trevor Ellery, who used to work with me in Ecuador seven years ago and whom I hadn't seen for years; it was a happy reunion. Trevor now works for our Colombian ground agent, and he co-guided the first few days of the trip with me.

23 February: We started early and drove out of the city towards Chingaza National Park. The main entrance was closed due to fire risk, but Trevor knew another way in, so we switched into an ancient 4WD jeep and headed up a bumpy road to an area where ProAves Colombia (a local NGO dedicated to the conservation of Colombian birds) has put up artificial nest boxes for the rare and endemic **Brown-breasted Parakeet**. We had a field breakfast near the boxes waiting for the parakeets to come in, enjoying views of **Andean Guan**, **Red-crested Cotinga**, and **Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant** in the beautiful early morning light. Patience paid off in the end



as a flock of parakeets flew in and perched close giving great views. It's sometimes called Flame-winged Parakeet, a much better name in my opinion, from the yellow and orange at the bend of the wing, as you can see in the photo above. That was just the start – we continued



walking up the road birding the temperate forest, seeing birds everywhere. Another endemic, **Matorral Tapaculo**, came out right in the open by the side of the road, starting what would turn out to be an amazing run on endemic tapaculos. Soon afterwards, a **Rufous Antpitta** came to the edge of the road and eventually ran across it. The Rufous Antpittas above Bogotá in the eastern Andes of Colombia sound totally different from those I've heard anywhere else, and I think they must be an undescribed species. I hope someone is working on it. Afterwards, a beautiful **Barred Fruiteater** sat still for ages allowing plenty of photos (left), and it was soon followed by **Black-billed Mountain-Toucan**, **Blue-throated Starfrontlet**, **Coppery-bellied Puffleg**, **Amethyst-throated Sunangel**, and **Rufous-browed Conebill**, among other more common birds. Activity finally slowed after lunch, but we did get a nice view of a **Noble Snipe** at a stream farther along the road before we finally headed back to Bogotá for a second night.

24 February: Who would have guessed we would be back at the airport so soon? But there we were, standing by a marsh full of tall reeds as the sun came up while Avianca jets roared off the runway nearby. The birds here seem to be used to it, and we quickly had some really nice views of a **Bogotá Rail** strutting around next to the reeds. Another endemic, the **Silvery-throated Spinetail** was singing away while we watched the rail, and we finally we couldn't resist it anymore and went after it; we needn't have worried, it turned out to be easy today and we all had nice views of it (photo right). After pausing to watch some **Spot-flanked Gallinules**, we started our search for the third and final endemic of the morning, **Apolinar's Wren**. It sang to us for ages before finally it came in as we close as we wanted. After the successful outing, we got back in the van and drove through the middle of the day down to



the hot Magdalena Valley, crossing over Colombia longest river. We had a quick lunch, checked into our hotel in Mariquita, and immediately went out birding again to some dry habitat that Trevor knew was good for **Velvet-fronted Euphonia**; well, he managed to find one before we even got out of the car! A pair seemed to be inspecting this concrete utility pole for a nest site. With the main target under our belts, we enjoyed some stress-free birding the rest of the afternoon until a thunderstorm stopped play. A few of the birds we saw included **Grassland Yellow-Finch**, **Ruddy-breasted Seedeater**, **Slate-crowned Tody-Flycatcher**, and **White-bellied Antbird**.



25 February:

We rose early and drove up into the steep mountains on the west side of the Magdalena Valley. We reached the vibrant coffee town of Libano just before dawn, and headed up to some patches of cloudforest bordering some coffee plantations. Our field breakfast was interrupted when Trevor spotted an endemic **Yellow-headed Brush-Finch** singing high up in a tree. There was no rush – we saw a bunch of them over the next 30 minutes or so as we birded the roadsides. There was a lot of bird activity here, and even though we only heard Tolima Dove, we saw plenty of birds including **Bar-crested Antshrike**, **Cinereous Becard**, **Whiskered Wren**, **Rufous-naped Greenlet**, **Golden-winged Manakin**, **Scrub Tanager**, **Black-winged Saltator**, and **Highland Motmot**. We found a pair of **Sharp-tailed Streamcreepers** that showed very badly, but likely represent a slight range extension. Trevor's stakeout for **Black-headed Brush-Finch** and **Moustached Puffbird** worked like a charm, and we finally were out of time and had to drive back down to Mariquita. We drove through the ruins of Armero, a town [tragically destroyed by mudslides](#) when a



Yellow-headed Brush-Finch



Moustached Puffbird

nearby volcano erupted on November 13th, 1985, killing over 20,000 people. After lunch, we bid goodbye to Trevor and settled in for the several hour drive to the Paujil reserve. As the hot afternoon cooled down, we stopped for a few birds including our first **Northern Screamers**, **Speckled Chachalaca**, **Capped Heron**, **Yellow-tailed Oriole**, a pair of **Spot-breasted Woodpeckers**, our only **Pale-legged Hornero**, and both **Pied** and **White-headed Marsh-Tyrants**. We arrived at the reserve to find out the river level was too low to take the boat in, so we walked an easy kilometer or so downhill to the lodge while our bags were brought in by mule. It was seriously threatening rain, but luckily it held off until later. An **Agami Heron** was a big surprise perched on a branch over a small pond; It was a first for the reserve, and strangely we had just been talking about it earlier, arguing whether Agami or Capped Heron was the prettier bird. I still vote for Agami. We managed to see a **Black-bellied Wren** nearby before finally getting to the lodge right before dark.



Northern Screamers

26 February: The Paujil reserve was created to protect an important population of the rare and endangered Blue-billed Curassow as well as the humid lowland rainforest that it depends on. Even though hunting has now been stopped in the area, the curassows are still extremely shy and hard to see – a huge amount of luck is required! The reserve staff have started to put out food for them, but with only limited success so far. We started our first morning by wading across the sandy river next to the lodge and birding a trail on the other side. We quickly located the very local **Black-billed Flycatcher**, but overall it was a pretty quiet morning despite the relatively cool and cloudy morning. We managed to find some young **Golden-headed Manakins** learning how to lek, **Long-billed Hermit**, **White-breasted Wood-Wren**, the pretty **Cinnamon Woodpecker**, **Plain-brown** and **Wedge-billed Woodcreepers**, **Sepia-capped Flycatcher**, and **Gray-headed Tanager**. We passed the areas where food was put out for the curassows, but it wasn't until late morning, when we had almost returned to the river again, that we heard the incredibly low pitched booming of a male **Blue-billed Curassow** not far from the trail. The terrain was unfortunately against us, looking up a slope, but Ron was looking in the right place at the right time and managed to see the head of one bird just as it disappeared from view.



Greater Anis

After lunch and a break (where we were entertained by an extraordinary flock of 150+ **Greater Anis**), we set out again on some easier trails on the near side of the river. We had better luck, quickly finding a perky pair of the endemic **Beautiful Woodpecker** on a dead tree near Agami Pond while a **Long-tailed Tyrant** looked on from a lofty perch. Along a dry streambed we found a **Collared Aracari** and **Thrush-like Schiffornis**, and farther along near a little waterfall, we played hide-and-seek with a shy **Dull-mantled Antbird**, which eventually gave us some brief views. Back at a nice lookout, we waited for the sun to set, watching **Red-lored** and

Orange-winged Parrots fly by and **Channel-billed** and **Chestnut-mandibled Toucans** sing from a distant tree. After dinner, one of the park rangers spotted a **Tropical Screech-Owl** next the lodge with a huge insect in its mouth, which luckily stayed until I grabbed my camera.



Beautiful Woodpeckers



Tropical Screech-Owl

27 February: Our second morning at Paujil dawned clear and hot, yet the birds seemed more active today. Maybe they like it hot here. Antbirds started things off with a nice **White-fringed Antwren** followed by a very cool **Bare-crowned Antbird** (photo below), then a female **Chestnut-backed Antbird**. We walked along the dry streambed again and up a steep trail to a ridge, getting **Band-tailed Barbthroat** and **White-tailed Trogon** along the way, before a calling **White-mantled Barbet** drew our attention, and with persistence we got some great views of this neat Colombian endemic. A cute **Striped Manakin** showed off at a display site, and we found a few small flocks that had **Southern Bentbill**, **Yellow-tufted Dacnis**, **Yellow-backed Tanager**, and **Fulvous-vented Euphonia**. It was really heating up now, and we stopped in the shade of fruiting tree that was full of toucans and a **Black-tailed Trogon**, before dropping back down to the shady river. A pair of **Crimson-crested Woodpeckers** were building a nest in a dead tree, and a **Black-striped Woodcreeper** and **White-fronted Nunbird** were still active in the heat. However, it wasn't until we were heading back to the lodge that we had what some of us thought to be the best sighting of the day. I was looking down at my Ipod while walking down the trail when it suddenly dawned on



me that there was a massive snake in the middle of the trail and I was about to step on it! It was a Boa Constrictor, which are fortunately quite docile by nature and not venomous, and spent about 15 minutes watching it, and decided it was at least 10 feet long perhaps as much as 12 feet, but it was for sure the biggest wild snake I've ever seen.



Head of our 10-12 foot long Boa Constrictor!



White-fringed Antwren



Black-striped Woodcreeper

After lunch, we decided to go across the river again for another go at the curassow, though this proved fruitless. We did finally find one of the main targets at Paujil, the endemic **Sooty Ant-Tanager**, as well as a few other birds like **Olivaceous Flatbill** and **Brown-capped Tyrannulet**.

28 February: This was to be mainly a travel day, but we had another couple hours to bird before heading off. We finally connected with a pair of **Black Antshrikes** near Agami Pond, and had great luck with a covey of **Marbled Wood-Quail** right by the edge of the track, before getting in the vehicles. More **Northern Screamers** and our best views of **Spectacled Parrotlet** gave us some excuses to stop during the long trip to the Cerulean Warbler reserve, and we even arrived in time to see the endemic **Indigo-capped Hummingbird** at the lodge feeders. We spent three nights at this very pleasant lodge.

1 March: While the flagship bird of this reserve is the Cerulean Warbler, it also protects numerous other mid-elevation forest birds. The downside is that it is an hour's walk to the edge of the forest, along an old stone track built 150 years ago by a German settler named Geo von Lengerke, who had to flee his home country after winning a duel. The path continues through some fabulously beautiful cloudforest, now part of the reserve. There was a new feeding station for the endemic Gorgeted Wood-Quail, but despite several long vigils, only a few **Chestnut-capped Brush-Finches** appeared. A hummer feeder in the same spot attracted several species including **Black Inca**, and we ended up seeing lots of these endemics along the trail. Soon after, we had great views of a **Lined Quail-Dove** right in the middle of a trail, and then managed to call in a pair of **Uniform Antshrikes**, quickly followed by the endemic **Parker's Antbird**. Finding an **Upper Magdalena Tapaculo** took a lot of persistence, but eventually one came in. Later in the morning, the mixed species flocks started moving through, really spicing up the day with **Smoky-brown Woodpecker**, **Rusty-winged Barbtail**, **Buff-fronted** and **Montane Foliage-gleaners**, **Streaked Xenops**, **Olive-backed Woodcreeper**, **Slaty Antwren**, **Variegated Bristle-Tyrant**, **Ornate**, **Cinnamon**, and **Pale-edged Flycatchers**, **Barred Becard**, **Cerulean** and **Three-striped Warblers**, **Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager**, and lots of colorful tanagers like **Flame-faced**, **Metallic-green**, and **Beryl-spangled**. We made an attempt in the afternoon to see the Recurve-billed Bushbird, but only heard it, eventually arriving back at the lodge at dusk, quite tired from the long day.

2 March: We "slept in" today, birding around the lodge for the endemic **Turquoise Dacnis**, which we found without too much trouble, along with other more common open country birds like **Bicolored Wren** (photo right), **Pale-breasted Spinetail**, **Sooty-headed Tyrannulet**, **Yellow-legged Thrush**, **Yellow-backed Oriole**, and **Yellow-rumped Tanager**. Eventually we walked back up the trail into the reserve, stopping again for the **Recurve-billed Bushbird**, which this time did come in very briefly for a poor view. Back up in the forest, the birds were pretty quiet, and we didn't really see much other than the same hummers, and another stint at the wood-quail feeder was not



productive. We headed back down, and decided to bird a different dirt road near the lodge for an hour or two. Mary managed to score a rare **Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird** at a flowering *Inga* tree, but it got away before anyone else saw it. We also found an out-of-place **Chestnut-headed Oropendola** among the much more common **Russet-backed Oropendolas** before calling it a day.

3 March: This was really just a travel day, as we drove a few hours to the city of Bucaramanga and caught a mid-day flight to Medellín, then drove another few hours northeast to the Chestnut-capped Piha reserve, arriving shortly before dark. There is a nice new lodge here that makes it quite a pleasant place to stay, with a comfy climate in the mid-elevations of the central Andes.

4 March: The best birding at the Piha reserve is along a well-made trail that climbs up to a ridge then follows it for a few miles. It's all forest birding and can be quite challenging, but there is a treasure trove of neat birds here that makes it worthwhile. One of the first birds we found was the outrageously cool **Red-bellied Grackle** (photo right). We had decent views now, but even better ones later in the afternoon as we came back down when we found out they were building a nest here. A calling **Chestnut-capped Piha** drew our attention, and Ron quickly spotted the bird, which showed pretty well; it was nice to see these two key targets so soon. Time to relax! Well, not quite. We continued our way up the trail, seeing **White-crowned Tapaculo** and getting very close to some singing Chestnut Wood-Quails, but they gave us the slip. Upon reaching the ridge, we found a nesting **Tropical Pewee**, then got very lucky with an almost eye-level view of the scarce **Rufous-browed Tyrannulet**. The trail climbed along the ridge into some really nice stunted forest, and we saw the first of several radiant **Purplish-mantled Tanagers** as well as a couple of **Indigo Flowerpiercers**. The best was yet to come though when our field lunch was interrupted by the arrival of a **Black-and-gold Tanager** on a bare branch. It came back to the same branch a few times allowing us to get in position for some really nice eye-popping scope views. On the way back down, we finally connected with the endemic **Stiles's Tapaculo** that had been taunting us all day, and it nearly scurried over Mary's foot.



5 March: It was a frustrating morning on the trails with lots of birds calling but very little coming into view. Luckily we had done well the day before, as we had to settle for some common species like **Band-tailed Pigeon**, **Highland Motmot**, **Slaty Antwren**, **Slaty-capped Flycatcher**, **Blackburnian**, **Canada**, and **Three-striped Warblers**, and **Beryl-spangled Tanager**. Later in the morning we packed up and drove back through Medellín and down into the Cauca Valley, eventually arriving at the lively little town of Bolívar. Traffic was surprisingly light and we arrived pretty early, giving us time to rest up for the exciting day tomorrow.

6 March: We left at what some might call the ridiculously early hour of 4:00am, but we had to make the most of the morning. I had jiggled the itinerary around at the last minute to give us a few hours in the brand new ProAves Bangsia reserve, where an insane number of rare and endemic birds had been recently found. We drove an hour then changed into a vintage 1966

Toyota jeep that really belonged in a museum, but it got us up to the reserve, where a reserve ranger joined us. We were greeted by ominous clouds and steady rain, and I began to wonder if this was going to be a terrible mistake. We ate a field breakfast of *Hawaiianos* (pastries filled with ham and pineapple) and yogurt as it slowly got light, and miraculously the rain stopped and the clouds started to break apart! It ended up being a beautiful, sunny morning. Spirits

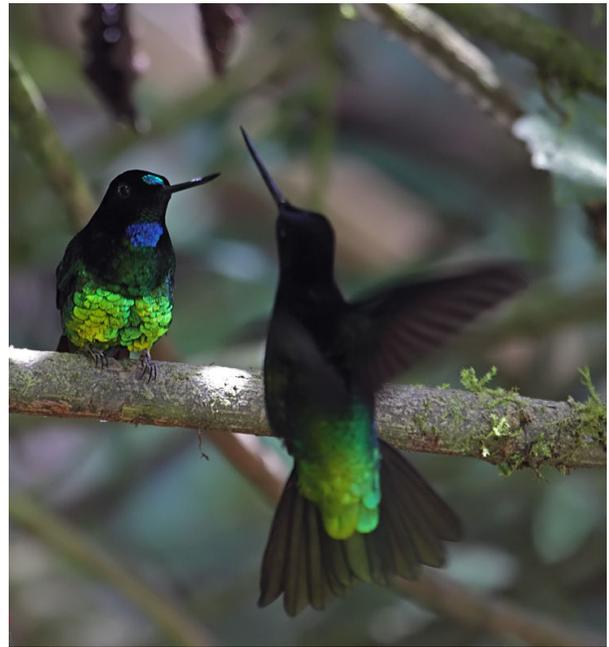


lifted, we started up the very well-made trail, first passing through a pasture where we saw a pair of **White-naped Brush-Finches** and a handsome **White-headed Wren**. Once in the forest proper, we got distracted by a singing tapaculo that I hadn't even known existed until recently when I was preparing for this tour. It's an undescribed species tentatively called **Alto de Pisones Tapaculo**. The discoverers apparently need more specimens before they can describe it formally. It was still quite dark in the forest and we only had some poor views before continuing up the trail. At a landslide, a **Black Solitaire** (photo left) was calling and it flew in straight away to playback. A small flock here also had a pair of **Glistening-green Tanagers**. With the clock ticking, we went up the last steep section to the ridge, where the reserve ranger said was the best spot for the Gold-ringed Tanager. We settled in to wait, checking out anything that came near. A **Greenish**

Puffleg and **Violet-tailed Sylph** fed on some flowers, and some **Black-chinned Mountain-Tanagers** and a **Toucan Barbet** were nice to see. Finally, with time running out, Ron and Dollyann spotted the **Gold-ringed Tanager**, but it flew before anyone else got it. Disaster! It would be a lifer even for me. We didn't have much more time. Then, Mary called my attention to a bird perched in a nearby tree, and there it was. It sat for more than five minutes preening, and we all enjoyed it in the scope. Elated, we started back down the mountain, but didn't get far before a frenetic mixed species flock appeared from nowhere and was all around us. **Handsome Flycatcher** and **Yellow-vented Woodpecker** were seen before the show-stopper flew in, a **Fulvous-dotted Treerunner** that was ridiculously close and better than I'd ever seen before. Still the flock persisted, and when the sweet song of a **Choco Vireo** filtered down through the canopy, all eyes were trained upward. With a bit of work it showed reasonably well; it's not a stunner, but was described only in 1996 and is quite localized. It was a fitting end to a stunning morning, and I'll be back. We drove through the middle of the day, making our way north to the town of Urrao and the mountains nearby. We reached the end of the road right on schedule, the sight of saddled horses and mules meaning we had reached our next adventure. We mounted up and headed up into the mountains, reaching the cabin in the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve in time to watch a few hummers at the feeders, like this **White-bellied Woodstar**, before it got dark.



7 March: It was a beautiful morning; just what we wanted as we headed up to the highest reaches of the reserve. Most of the group rode mules up to the edge of the forest – a good idea since the trail is super-steep, and at over 10,000 feet the air is thin. The trail has been improved a lot since my last visit, and the last part is now a stairway instead of an ankle-deep bog. We started things off with the endemic **Paramillo Tapaculo**, recently split from Paramo Tapaculo, and saw our first **Dusky Starfrontlet** at some flowers. We climbed up to the first patch of páramo, and found **Black-throated Flowerpiercers** everywhere. **Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer** proved to be more of a challenge, and finally after hearing them everywhere and climbing all the way to the top of the mountain, we managed to get a good view of this key endemic. We had a long lunch



break at the upper hummer feeders, seeing more **Dusky Starfrontlets** (photo above) as well as others like **Sword-billed Hummer** and **Mountain Velvetbreast**. We headed back down the cabin in the afternoon, and went to see an **undescribed species of antpitta** come in to a worm feeder near the lodge – an exciting bird to end the day, and we got it just before the rain started, so we returned to relax in front of the hummer feeders with a mug of hot chocolate.



Sword-billed Hummingbird



The new antpitta at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve



Riding up to the forest in the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve



8 March: We were a bit lazy this morning, sitting on the porch and watching a fruiting tree that attracted both **Black-billed Mountain-Toucan** and this **Emerald Toucanet**. It was nice to relax a little after the previous two intense days of birding. After a while and too much coffee, some of us walked and some of us rode back down the mountain to civilization. Our driver arrived right on time, and we drove back south to the Cauca River and up into the mountains again to the pleasant town of Jardín. After getting unpacked and cleaned up, we did a bit of birding near town despite some rain, seeing a few **Flame-rumped Tanagers**, **Black-and-white Seedeater**, **Green-breasted Mango**, and some other common birds before it got dark.

9 March: Sometimes timing means everything, and today was one of those days. We left the hotel at 4:30am, driving up a steep road out of town that soon deteriorated into a rough, potholed mess. Our driver was less than impressed, but luckily his Land Cruiser was up to the task. Going was slow, but we reached a muddy cow pasture dotted with wax palm trees just before dawn, and had a couple of minutes to bolt down breakfast before some raucous calls meant we better hurry up. We edged through a gate and managed to avoid most of the mud (and worse) as we reached a hilltop looking out over a massive wax palm tree. Three large shapes were already visible, and as the light improved they were clearly **Yellow-eared Parrots**. As the day dawned, more and more of them crawled out from hidden nooks in the palm tree and sat for a while, preening and squawking, before the flock took off in a riotous swirl of feathers. More and more of them poured out of the tree, about 22 in total, and they flew off over the forest and disappeared. Until quite recently, this would have been about 10% of the known population of the species. Fortunately, new surveys have increased the known population to 1000 birds. It was a fantastic way to start the morning, and while we saw them a few more times in the morning, that was the only time we saw them perched. We spent the rest of the day birding down the easy dirt road, enjoying some classic and colorful cloudforest birds like **Golden-headed Quetzal**, **Crimson-mantled Woodpecker**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, and **Lacrimose Mountain-Tanagers**, as well as the more somber but still superb **Pearled Treerunner**, **Streaked Tuftedcheek**, **Slaty Brush-Finch**, **Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant**, and **Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant**. We spent some time at a stakeout that Trevor had given me for **Chestnut-crested Cotinga**, eventually we did get a nice one perched up on the very top of a tall, distant tree while a few **Speckle-faced Parrots** (photo above) looked on.



Slaty Brush-Finch



Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant



Flame-rumped Tanager



Highland Motmot

10 March: Another travel day, and we left before dawn to reach the Medellín airport in time for our mid-day flight to Santa Marta, only to discover that it had been cancelled. Fortunately, we were able to get a later flight, and it only cost us a few hours of airport boredom. We landed shortly before 5pm, and soon were headed up into the mountains on another rough road, reaching the lodge at the El Dorado reserve just in time for dinner.

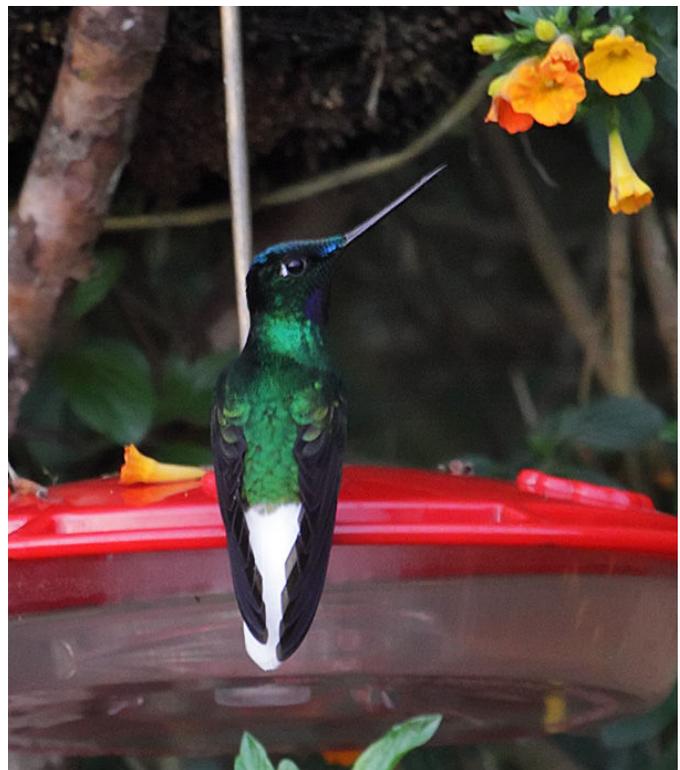
11 March: The Santa Marta Mountains are completely isolated from the Andes with a different geological history, yet they also have the highest mountains in Colombia at nearly 19000 ft. The middle elevations have an island of humid upland forest surrounded by dry lowland forest, and like an oceanic island, endemism is very high, perhaps unmatched by any other area of similar size on a major continent. That meant there was a lot riding on these last few days, but luckily the birding here is pretty easy. The only downside is the very rough road, which makes getting around a bit slow, so we had an early breakfast and set out at 5:00am up the bumpy road. An hour later and we had reached the stunted high elevation forest right at dawn, just as the birds starting waking up, and **Scarlet-fronted Parakeets** were perched right by the car. **Santa Marta Warbler** led the parade of endemics, quickly followed by **Rusty-headed Spinetail**, **Yellow-crowned Redstart**, **Black-cheeked Mountain-Tanager** (photo above), and **Santa Marta Brush-Finch**. We chased after a calling **Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant** only to see it fly over and



disappear. Darn! We'd have to try again later. We got distracted by some non-endemics as well, as a singing **Flammulated Treehunter** showed well, but a beautiful **Buff-breasted Mountain-Tanager** was even better. With the initial rush over, we walked slowly up the road, making quick work of **Brown-rumped Tapaculo** and **Streak-capped Spinetail**, and also saw the endemic subspecies of **Emerald Toucanet** and **Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant**. Up and down the road we walked, but still no sign of the bush-tyrant that had given us the slip earlier, and the morning was fast slipping away. Finally we spotted one on a distant treetop and got our scopes on it, and we could start thinking about other things, like parakeets. So far there had been not a hint of Santa Marta Parakeet, which was frustrating, since finding them is more of a matter of luck than anything else. We passed another birder, Dave, who had walked the entire way up the mountain from the lodge, and he told us he had seen the parakeets down a bit lower near some radio towers. We made our way back down to the spot, and heard the **Santa Marta Parakeets** almost as soon as we were out of the vehicle. Dollyann managed to see them land in a distant tree, but sadly they only stayed briefly and took off into the fog as we were training scopes on them. Those poor views were really the only disappointment of our time in the Santa Martas. As we were having lunch, a cracking male **White-tipped Quetzal** came in to cheer us up, and we birded our way back to the lodge, trying for Santa Marta Antpitta along the way but only heard it. I guess I can't make any drama out of that one considering the photo on the front page. It was nice to finally see the lodge in daylight, and we relaxed a bit around the hummingbird feeders, which were pretty active, attracting an astonishingly beautiful **White-tailed Starfrontlet** among other more common species. A male **Blossomcrown** worked the flowerbeds near the lodge and we saw it repeatedly throughout the afternoon. I kept checking the compost heap for Black-fronted Wood-Quail that had been seen there recently, but this did turn up our best pair of **White-lored Spinetails**. Time passed



Emerald Toucanet, AKA Santa Marta Toucanet



White-tailed Starfrontlet

quickly; soon it was 5:30pm, time to feed the antpittas. Only in the last week had two **Santa Marta Antpittas** started coming into worms on a regular basis, and they still weren't 100% reliable. They were today though as one bird came in within seconds of the worms being put out. Very nice! But the day wasn't finished. Just before dinner we reconvened to try for the **Santa Marta Screech-Owl** near the lodge. Standing right by the sign with its picture on it, we managed to get one to come in ridiculously close within a matter of minutes. Very lucky, as this can be a bear of an owl to actually see! A fitting end to a fantastic day – we had already seen all but a handful of the possible endemics.



Santa Marta Screech-Owl

12 March: We had done the upper elevations, and now it was time to work our way down. Luckily this meant we could have a later breakfast and walk down the road from the lodge. In the first couple of hours, we saw a whole bunch of endemic subspecies: **Masked Trogon**, **Gray-throated Leaf-tosser**, **Golden-breasted Fruiteater**, **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Black-hooded Thrush**, **Blue-naped Chlorophonia**, and **Stripe-headed Brush-Finch**. The latter will apparently soon be split as another Santa Marta endemic. We still hadn't seen any of the target endemics we were still looking for, but that soon changed as we got nice views of



Santa Marta Tapaculo right along the roadside, our seventh endemic *Scytalopus* seen on the tour. Soon afterwards, a **Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner** responded well and even sat still for this photo. We were pretty much out of endemics unless we got very lucky with something, but we kept down the road, enjoying whatever we saw, finding **Rusty-breasted Antpitta**, **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Swallow Tanager**, **Olive-striped Flycatcher**, **Montane Woodcreeper**, **Golden-faced Tyrannulet**, **Golden-olive Woodpecker**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, **Groove-billed Toucanet**, and others. We went back to the lodge in mid-afternoon and relaxed a bit, catching up with Trevor who had just arrived with another group. At 5:30pm, we went to see the antpittas again, but maybe they weren't hungry since they didn't show.

13 March: Hard to believe we were down to our last full day. We debated a bit about going back up for the parakeet, but decided that the extra two hours of getting thrown around in the jeep just was not worth it. We decided to instead go for **Black-fronted Wood-Quail** along the trails behind the lodge. Targeting wood-quail is usually fruitless, and things did not start well when the batteries in my recorder died just as one started singing near the trail. I changed batteries and hoped for the best, and just when I thought he had gone quiet for good, he gave an encore performance right into my microphone. With a bit of playback, first one bird, then another came into view. A great start to the day and a lifer even for me. We packed up, said our good-byes, and drove down to the shade coffee plantations at lower elevations in the foothills of the mountains. **Rufous-breasted** and **Rufous-and-white Wrens** were both new for the trip, and a **Golden-winged Sparrow** decided not to be shy as it sat right in the open. As we went down, the forest got drier and the birds changed. **Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant** and **Scaled Piculet** showed well, and one of my stakeouts for **Black-backed Antshrike** paid off big time despite the now searing mid-day heat. One last stop got us **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** with an attendant mob of angry passerines including several **Golden-fronted Greenlets**.



Golden-winged Sparrow



Black-backed Antshrike

We had a ridiculously opulent lunch in a nice air-conditioned restaurant, a good place to pass a few hours while the afternoon cooled down, watching **Royal** and **Sandwich Terns** flit over the water. Finally we headed out again, driving to a spot south of the city where the endemic **Chestnut-winged Chachalaca** had been seen several times recently. We got distracted by some activity on the roadside, stopping to see **Black-crested Antshrike**, **Pale-tipped Tyrannulet**, **Grayish Saltator**, and a surprising **Magnolia Warbler**, a very rare visitor to South America. As we walked down the road, something large flew across the road and we went ahead to see it, soon finding several chachalacas perched nicely in a brush pile near the side of the road. Our last endemic, and it was about time to go, so we drove west through the extensive wetlands of Isla Salamanca, crossed the Magdalena River, and entered the sprawling city of Barranquilla. We got to the hotel as it was getting dark, hoping to have a celebratory toast to a great trip, only to find out that they weren't serving alcohol tonight due to tomorrow's national congressional elections! A pity, but we still did it anyway with a round of Cokes.

14 March: Some of us didn't have flights until afternoon, so we had one last morning to see what we could see. We didn't have much left to look for, so we settled for birding the wetlands of Salamanca for a few hours, enjoying a variety of terns, shorebirds, herons, and other waterbirds before heading for the airport.

BIRD LIST

This list includes all the bird species that were recorded by at least one of the group, including the leader. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow: **Clements, James F. *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World. Sixth Edition, 2007, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press***, including all updates through December 2009.

H=Heard Only, E=Endemic to Colombia.

Due to time constraints, I've only annotated some of the species, especially the endemics. Keep in mind that "El Dorado" refers to the ProAves reserve within the Santa Marta Mountains. As the reserve only covers part of the area we birded, I only mention it for some species. Also, if I have not put a trinomial name, it does not mean the species in question is necessarily monotypic. I usually only mark subspecies when there is a chance they might be split in the future or if they are endemic.

TINAMOUS

Highland Tinamou

H Gray Tinamou

Little Tinamou

SCREAMERS

Northern Screamer

TINAMIDAE

Nothocercus bonapartei

Tinamus tao

Crypturellus soui

ANHIMIDAE

Chauna chavaria

One at the Piha reserve was sadly "guide only".

A few along the long dirt road to the Paujil reserve, and a bunch more from the car as we drive north through the Magdalena Valley.

WATERFOWL

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Blue-winged Teal

White-cheeked Pintail

ANATIDAE

Dendrocygna autumnalis

Anas discors

Anas bahamensis

CRADIDS

Chestnut-winged Chachalaca (E)

Speckled (Colombian) Chachalaca

Band-tailed Guan

Andean Guan

Wattled Guan

Sickle-winged Guan

Blue-billed Curassow (E)

NEW WORLD QUAIL

Crested Bobwhite

Marbled Wood-Quail

Black-fronted Wood-Quail

H Chestnut Wood-Quail (E)**GREBES**

Pied-billed Grebe

PELICANS

Brown Pelican

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

FRIGATEBIRDS

Magnificent Frigatebird

HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERNS

Great Blue Heron

Cocoi Heron

Great Egret

Snowy Egret

Little Blue Heron

Tricolored Heron

Reddish Egret

Cattle Egret

Striated Heron

Agami Heron

Capped Heron

CRACIDAE*Ortalis garrula**Ortalis guttata columbiana**Penelope argyrotis colombiana**Penelope montagnii**Aburria aburri**Chamaepetes goudotii**Crax alberti***ODONTOPHORIDAE***Colinus cristatus**Odontophorus gujanensis**Odontophorus atrifrons atrifrons**Odontophorus hyperythrus***PODICIPEDIDAE***Podilymbus podiceps***PELECANIDAE***Pelecanus occidentalis***PHALACROCORACIDAE***Phalacrocorax brasilianus***FREGATIDAE***Fregata magnificens***ARDEIDAE***Ardea herodias**Ardea cocoi**Ardea alba**Egretta thula**Egretta caerulea**Egretta tricolor**Egretta rufescens**Bubulcus ibis**Butorides striata**Agamia agami**Pilherodius pileatus*

A least three of these endemics not far from the Santa Marta airport.

Sometimes given full species status. Good views en route to El Paujil and also at the reserve itself.

Two seen at El Dorado, including one right next to the lodge.

One of the very first birds of the tour at Chingaza, but not seen again.

Nice views of this scarce, monotypic guan up on the ridge in the Piha reserve.

The ones we saw at El Dorado were subspecies *sanctaemarthae*, endemic to the Santa Marta range.

Only Ron was lucky enough to see this ultra-shy bird at the Paujil reserve.

A few sightings in dry, grassy areas.

Two coveys encountered at El Paujil, one right by the road and seen really well.

We saw two birds near the lodge at El Dorado, responding to recording playback.

Close but no cigar...

Several seen at Salamanca, including one white morph.

A big surprise in a pond not far from the lodge at El Paujil - it was a first for the reserve.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

Bare-faced Ibis

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture

King Vulture

OSPREY

Osprey

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES

Swallow-tailed Kite

Pearl Kite

White-tailed Kite

Plumbeous Kite

Sharp-shinned (Plain-breasted)
Hawk

Savanna Hawk

Harris's Hawk

Roadside Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Gray Hawk

Variable Hawk

Zone-tailed Hawk

H Black Hawk-Eagle

H Ornate Hawk-Eagle

FALCONS AND CARACARAS

H Barred Forest-Falcon

H Collared Forest-Falcon

Crested Caracara

Yellow-headed Caracara

Laughing Falcon

American Kestrel

Bat Falcon

Peregrine Falcon

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS

H White-throated Crake

Bogota Rail (E)

Gray-necked Wood-Rail

H Russet-crowned Crake

Purple Gallinule

Common Gallinule

Spot-flanked Gallinule

American Coot

Nyctanassa violacea

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Phimosus infuscatus

CATHARTIDAE

Coragyps atratus

Cathartes aura

Cathartes burrovianus

Sarcoramphus papa

PANDIONIDAE

Pandion haliaetus

ACCIPITRIDAE

Elanoides forficatus

Gampsonyx swainsonii

Elanus leucurus

Ictinia plumbea

Accipiter striatus ventralis

Buteogallus meridionalis

Parabuteo unicinctus

Buteo magnirostris

Buteo platypterus

Buteo nitidus

Buteo polyosoma

Buteo albonotatus

Spizaetus tyrannus

Spizaetus ornatus

FALCONIDAE

Micrastur ruficollis

Micrastur semitorquatus

Caracara cheriway

Milvago chimachima

Herpetotheres cachinnans

Falco sparverius

Falco ruficularis

Falco peregrinus

RALLIDAE

Laterallus albigularis

Rallus semiplumbeus

Aramides cajanea

Anurolimnas viridis

Porphyrio martinica

Gallinula galeata

Gallinula melanops

Fulica americana

It wasn't until the last full day of the tour until we finally saw one of these impressive birds, soaring over coffee plantations near Minca.

We saw one near Mariquita while we were looking for euphonias.

Two birds were seen at La Florida.

Surprisingly easy this time (they can be a pain) at the edge of the marsh at La Florida. Endemic to the highlands around Bogotá.

Several on the pond at La Florida near Bogotá.

LIMPKIN

Limpkin

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Southern Lapwing

Semipalmated Plover

STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt

JACANAS

Wattled Jacana

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES

Spotted Sandpiper

Solitary Sandpiper

Greater Yellowlegs

Willet

Lesser Yellowlegs

Whimbrel

Sanderling

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Western Sandpiper

Least Sandpiper

Short-billed Dowitcher

Noble Snipe

ARAMIDAE*Aramus guarauna***CHARADRIIDAE***Vanellus chilensis**Charadrius semipalmatus***RECURVIROSTRIDAE***Himantopus mexicanus***JACANIDAE***Jacana jacana***SCOLOPACIDAE***Actitis macularius**Tringa solitaria**Tringa melanoleuca**Tringa semipalmata**Tringa flavipes**Numenius phaeopus**Calidris alba**Calidris pusilla**Calidris mauri**Calidris minutilla**Limnodromus griseus**Gallinago nobilis***TERNs**

Gull-billed Tern

Caspian Tern

Royal Tern

Sandwich Tern

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Pale-vented Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

H Plumbeous Pigeon

Ruddy Pigeon

Eared Dove

Ruddy Ground-Dove

White-tipped Dove

H Tolima Dove (E)

Lined Quail-Dove

LARIDAE: STERNINAE*Gelocheilidon nilotica**Hydroprogne caspia**Thalasseus maximus**Thalasseus sandvicensis***COLUMBIDAE***Columba livia**Patagioenas cayennensis**Patagioenas fasciata**Patagioenas plumbea**Patagioenas subvinacea**Zenaida auriculata**Columbina talpacoti**Leptotila verreauxi**Leptotila conoveri**Geotrygon linearis***PARROTS**

Santa Marta Parakeet (E)

Brown-breasted (Flame-winged) Parakeet (E)

Scarlet-fronted Parakeet

Brown-throated Parakeet

H Chestnut-fronted Macaw**PSITTACIDAE***Pyrrhura viridicata**Pyrrhura calliptera**Aratinga wagleri**Aratinga pertinax**Ara severus*

One along a stream at Chingaza.
Thanks to Ron for scaring it up so
we could all see it well!

Heard at Libano, but unresponsive.
Good luck with this one, seeing it
three times well: twice along the
Camino de Lengerke and once at
El Dorado.

Bad luck with this one: distant poor
views at El Dorado.

A flock seen very well near their
nest boxes in Chingaza NP.

Numerous at El Dorado.

A few flocks south of Santa Marta
and at Isla Salamanca.

Yellow-eared Parrot	<i>Ognorhynchus icterotis</i>	At least 22 birds seen coming out of their roosting tree at their reserve above Jardín, and probably more seen later in the day flying around.
Spectacled Parrotlet	<i>Forpus conspicillatus</i>	A near endemic, barely reaching Panama and Venezuela. Common in lightly wooded areas, but our best sighting was along the road to Paujil.
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	
H Blue-fronted Parrotlet	<i>Touit dilectissimus</i>	
Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	
Red-billed Parrot	<i>Pionus sordidus saturatus</i>	Flight views only in the Santa Marta Mountains.
Speckle-faced Parrot	<i>Pionus tumultuosus seniloides</i>	Great perched views above Jardín. The race in the northern Andes is sometimes split as White-capped Parrot <i>P. seniloides</i> .
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	
Orange-winged Parrot	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	
Scaly-naped Parrot	<i>Amazona mercenaria</i>	
H Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	
H Yellow-crowned Parrot	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	
CUCKOOS	CUCULIDAE	
Little Cuckoo	<i>Coccyua minuta</i>	
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	
H Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	
H Pavonine Cuckoo	<i>Dromococcyx pavoninus</i>	
Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>	
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	
OWLS	STRIGIDAE	
Tropical Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>	
Santa Marta Screech-Owl (E)	<i>Megascops gilesi</i>	This species is about to be formally described, so it doesn't appear on official lists yet. We had a fantastic close view of a bird right by the lodge at El Dorado.
H Andean Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium jardinii</i>	
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	
H Mottled Owl	<i>Ciccaba virgata</i>	
NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES	CAPRIMULGIDAE	
Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	
Band-winged Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus longirostris</i>	
H Lyre-tailed Nightjar	<i>Uropsalis lyra</i>	
POTOOS	NYCTIBIIDAE	
H Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	
OILBIRD	STEATORNITHIDAE	
Oilbird	<i>Steatornis caripensis</i>	One flew down the trail at the Cerulean Warbler reserve while we were trying to see an Upper Magdalena Tapaculo.

SWIFTS

- H Spot-fronted Swift
- Chestnut-collared Swift
- White-collared Swift
- White-tipped Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Rufous-breasted Hermit

Band-tailed Barbthroat

Green Hermit

- H Tawny-bellied Hermit
- Long-billed (W. Long-tailed) Hermit
- Stripe-throated Hermit
- Green-fronted Lancebill
- White-necked Jacobin
- Brown Violetear
- Green Violetear
- Sparkling Violetear
- Green-breasted Mango

Western Emerald

Red-billed Emerald

Violet-crowned Woodnymph
Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird (E)

Andean Emerald
Blue-chested Hummingbird

Steely-vented Hummingbird

Indigo-capped Hummingbird (E)

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

APODIDAE

Cypseloides cherriei
Streptoprocne rutila
Streptoprocne zonaris
Aeronautes montivagus

TROCHILIDAE

Glaucis hirsutus

Threnetes ruckeri

Phaethornis guy
Phaethornis syrmatorphorus
Phaethornis longirostris
Phaethornis striigularis
Doryfera ludovicae
Florisuga mellivora
Colibri delphinae
Colibri thalassinus
Colibri coruscans
Anthracothorax prevostii iridescens

Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus

Chlorostilbon gibsoni

Thalurania colombica
Amazilia castaneiventris

Amazilia franciae
Amazilia amabilis

Amazilia saucerrottei

Amazilia cyanifrons

Amazilia tzacatl

Heard in fog on the ridge at Piha.

Often flying over the Camino de Lengerke on the way up to the forest.

One perched for ages by the edge of Agami Pond at dusk, it probably was going to roost there.

A singing bird found perched at Paujil.

One seen up on the ridge at Piha.

One male seen in Jardín. Note that this subspecies is placed by some authorities under Black-throated Mango *A. nigricollis*, which is what I was calling it at the time.

Scarce on this trip; one at Piha and another above Jardín, but not everyone saw them.

The female *Chlorostilbon* I saw in the foothills of the Santa Marta Mountains had to be this by range.

Mary saw one at a flowering Inga tree near the Cerulea Reserve. A very rare and range-restricted Colombian endemic.

At least one was visiting the feeders at Paujil.

Seen at several locations throughout the Andes, though best at the feeders at the Piha Reserve.

A Colombian endemic. We only saw it at the Cerulea reserve, where it comes into the feeders at the lodge.

Blossomcrown (E)	<i>Anthocephala floriceps floriceps</i>	A Colombian endemic, where it occurs disjunctly in the Santa Marta mountains and in the southern Central Andes. One male came in regularly to feed on flowers in the gardens of the lodge at El Dorado.
White-vented Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffonii</i>	A nice male was regular at the feeders at Paujil, and we saw another one in the foothills of the Santa Marta Mountains.
Speckled Hummingbird Green-crowned Brilliant Mountain Velvetbreast	<i>Adelomyia melanogenys</i> <i>Heliodoxa jacula</i> <i>Lafresnaya lafresnayi</i>	Many at the feeders at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve (<i>saul</i>). We also saw the Santa Marta endemic subspecies <i>liriopae</i> at El Dorado.
Black Inca (E)	<i>Coeligena prunellei</i>	Endemic to the eastern Andes of Colombia. We only saw them at the Cerulea reserve, where they were quite common and even visited a feeder in the forest.
Collared Inca White-tailed Starfrontlet (E)	<i>Coeligena torquata</i> <i>Coeligena phalerata</i>	A very striking Santa Marta endemic. Luckily a male was visiting the feeders by the lodge. Ron & Dollyann also saw a female higher up in the reserve.
Dusky Starfrontlet (E)	<i>Coeligena orina</i>	Endemic to the northern part of the western Andes of Colombia. A beautiful species deserving of a better name! We saw several at the reserve of the same name, including at least two coming to feeders.
Blue-throated Starfrontlet	<i>Coeligena helianthea</i>	A near endemic, also occurring in SW Venezuela. We saw one female in Chingaza NP.
Sword-billed Hummingbird Amethyst-throated Sunangel	<i>Ensifera ensifera</i> <i>Heliangelus amethysticollis clarisse</i>	We saw a few in Chingaza NP. This subspecies, along with a couple of others, are sometimes split off as Longuemare's Sunangel, <i>H. clarisse</i> .
Tourmaline Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus exortis</i>	Common at the feeders at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve. Also seen above Jardín.
Coppery-bellied Puffleg	<i>Eriocnemis cupreovertris</i>	A near endemic, also occurring in SW Venezuela. We had a terrific view of this rare hummer on the first day in Chingaza NP.
Greenish Puffleg	<i>Haplophaedia aureliae</i>	One in the Piha reserve and another at the Bangsia reserve.
Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii incommodus</i>	

Purple-backed Thornbill	<i>Ramphomicron microrhynchum</i>	Dollyann saw one up in the páramo at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve.
Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>	The ones in El Dorado were the endemic subspecies <i>districta</i> , which may merit full species status.
Long-tailed Sylph	<i>Aglaiocercus kingi</i>	
Violet-tailed Sylph	<i>Aglaiocercus coelestis</i>	One seen in the Bangsia reserve.
H Wedge-billed Hummingbird	<i>Schistes geoffroyi</i>	
White-bellied Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus mulsant</i>	
TROGONS	TROGONIDAE	
Golden-headed Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus auriceps</i>	A male put on a nice show above Jardín.
White-tipped Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus fulgidus festatus</i>	Great views of a cooperative male during lunch on our first day at El Dorado. Also occurs in Northern Venezuela.
H Crested Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus antisianus</i>	
Black-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>	
White-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon viridis</i>	
H Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>	
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>	
Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>	The endemic race <i>sanctaemartae</i> at El Dorado, and <i>assimilis</i> in Jardín.
MOTMOTS	MOMOTIDAE	
Blue-crowned (Highland) Motmot	<i>Momotus momota aequatorialis</i>	Numerous encounters in the Andes. Has now been resplit by the SACC.
Blue-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus momota subrufescens</i>	One seen only by me near Minca in the foothills of the Santa Marta Mountains. This has been recently split by the SACC as Whooping Motmot.
Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>	
H Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>	
KINGFISHERS	ALCEDINIDAE	
H Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	
PUFFBIRDS	BUCCONIDAE	
H Pied Puffbird	<i>Notharchus tectus</i>	
H Barred Puffbird	<i>Nystalus radiatus</i>	
Moustached Puffbird	<i>Malacoptila mystacalis</i>	Terrific response from a bird at a spot Trevor knew at Libano. One down by the river at Paujil.
White-fronted Nunbird	<i>Monasa morphoeus</i>	
JACAMARS	GALBULIDAE	
H Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	
NEW WORLD BARBETS	CAPITONIDAE	
White-mantled Barbet (E)	<i>Capito hypoleucus</i>	We saw a pair of this Colombian endemic really well at Paujil. Also heard at the Cerulea reserve.
Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>	A pair was building a nest just past the water tank at the Piha reserve.

TOUCAN-BARBETS

Toucan Barbet

TOUCANS

Emerald Toucanet

Emerald (Santa Marta) Toucanet

Groove-billed (Yellow-billed) Toucanet

Crimson-rumped Toucanet
Black-billed Mountain-ToucanCollared Aracari
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan
Keel-billed Toucan
Channel-billed (Citron-throated) Toucan**WOODPECKERS**

Scaled Piculet

Olivaceous Piculet
Beautiful Woodpecker (E)Red-crowned Woodpecker
Smoky-brown Woodpecker
Red-rumped Woodpecker
Yellow-vented Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker
Spot-breasted Woodpecker
Cinnamon Woodpecker
Lineated Woodpecker**H** Powerful Woodpecker
Crimson-crested Woodpecker**OVENBIRDS & WOODCREEPERS****H** Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser**SEMORNITHIDAE***Semnornis ramphastinus***RAMPHASTIDAE***Aulacorhynchus prasinus**Aulacorhynchus prasinus lautus**Aulacorhynchus sulcatus calorhynchus**Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*
*Andigena nigrirostris**Pteroglossus torquatus*
Ramphastos swainsonii
Ramphastos sulfuratus
*Ramphastos vitellinus citreolaemus***PICIDAE***Picumnus squamulatus**Picumnus olivaceus*
*Melanerpes pulcher**Melanerpes rubricapillus*
Picoides fumigatus
Veniliornis kirkii
*Veniliornis dignus**Colaptes rubiginosus**Colaptes rivolii*
Colaptes punctigula
Celeus loricatus
Dryocopus lineatus
Campephilus pollens
*Campephilus melanoleucos***FURNARIIDAE***Sclerurus mexicanus*

One seen well in the Bangsia reserve while we were waiting for the Gold-ringed Tanager.

Best seen at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve and above Jardín (*phaeolaemus*), with another seen at Libano (*albivitta*).

This is sometimes considered a distinct species, but not in the Clements list. Seen well in the El Dorado reserve.

A nice view in the lower elevations of the Santa Marta Mountains. This race was formerly split as Yellow-billed Toucanet. The other races have mostly red bills.

Seen on four days of the trip, at Chingaza, Dusky Starfrontlet, and above Jardín.

One was with a mixed flock near Minca in the foothills of the Santa Marta Mountains.

We only saw this localized Colombian endemic at Paujil.

One bird was following a mixed species flock at the Bangsia reserve.
Race *alleni* in the Santa Marta Mountains (endemic) and *gularis* elsewhere.

Gray-throated Leaf-tosser	<i>Sclerurus albigularis propinquus</i>	A singing bird sat for ages in one place along the road below the lodge at El Dorado. We even got it in the scope. Subspecies endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains.
Pale-legged Hornero Silvery-throated Spinetail (E)	<i>Furnarius leucopus</i> <i>Synallaxis subpudica</i>	Nice views of a pair right at the edge of the marsh at La Florida. Endemic to the eastern Andes of Colombia.
Azara's Spinetail Pale-breasted Spinetail Rusty-headed Spinetail (E)	<i>Synallaxis azarae</i> <i>Synallaxis albescens</i> <i>Synallaxis fuscorufa</i>	This Santa Marta endemic showed well along the roadside in the upper forest at El Dorado.
Slaty Spinetail H Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis brachyura</i> <i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>	Heard while trying to see the bushbird at Cerulea.
White-browed Spinetail Streak-capped Spinetail (E)	<i>Hellmayrea gularis</i> <i>Cranioleuca hellmayri</i>	We saw them a few times in El Dorado. There is one record of this species from Venezuela, but the status there is unclear so most people still regard it as a Santa Marta endemic for the time being.
Yellow-chinned Spinetail Rusty-winged Barbtail	<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomeus</i> <i>Premnornis guttuligera</i>	One seen well moving with a mixed flock in the Cerulea reserve.
Spotted Barbtail Fulvous-dotted (Star-chested) Treerunner	<i>Premnoplex brunnescens</i> <i>Margarornis stellatus</i>	Two birds seen brilliantly in a mixed flock in the Bangsia reserve.
Pearled Treerunner H Buffy (Pacific) Tuftedcheek Streaked Tuftedcheek Montane Foliage-gleaner	<i>Margarornis squamiger</i> <i>Pseudocolaptes lawrencii johnsoni</i> <i>Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii</i> <i>Anabacerthia striaticollis</i>	Race <i>anxia</i> is endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains. We saw the nominate race elsewhere.
H Lineated Foliage-gleaner Striped (Western) Woodhaunter	<i>Syndactyla subalaris</i> <i>Hyloctistes subulatus assimilis</i>	One bird with a flock at the Piha reserve.
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner Uniform Treehunter	<i>Philydor rufum</i> <i>Thripadectes ignobilis</i>	A bird responded well to playback in the Bangsia reserve and showed well.
H Striped Treehunter H Streak-capped Treehunter Flammulated Treehunter	<i>Thripadectes holostictus</i> <i>Thripadectes virgaticeps</i> <i>Thripadectes f. flammulatus</i>	A nice sighting high up in El Dorado. Unlike most other members of the family occurring here, there is no endemic subspecies described.

Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner (E)	<i>Automolus rufipectus</i>	Good views (check out the photo) well below the lodge in El Dorado. Recently split from Ruddy Foliage-gleaner, which it never should have been lumped with, as it more resembles a <i>Hylocryptus</i> than anything else.
Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper	<i>Lochmias nematura</i>	Poor views at Libano. A pity as it is a rare bird in the Central Andes.
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	<i>Phelpsi</i> was the endemic race we saw in El Dorado, and <i>heterurus</i> in the Andes.
Streaked Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>	
H Tyrannine Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla tyrannina</i>	It was nice to see a pair of these bruisers high up in the El Dorado reserve. It was another endemic subspecies, <i>sanctaemartae</i> .
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	
H Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	
Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>	
Straight-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Dendroplex picus</i>	One seen well at Paujil.
Black-striped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus alarum</i>	
Olive-backed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus triangularis</i>	
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	
Montane Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger</i>	
H Red-billed Scythebill	<i>Campylorhamphus trochilirostris</i>	You guessed it, another Santa Marta endemic subspecies, <i>sanctaemartae</i> . The ones we saw elsewhere are apparently referable to <i>sneiderni</i> .
TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS	THAMNOPHILIDAE	
H Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>	A very handsome bird. We saw one male while looking for the Chestnut-winged Chachalacas near Santa Marta.
Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>	
H Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	Almost a Colombian endemic, barely reaching Venezuela. We saw it nicely at Libano and again near the lodge at Cerulea.
Bar-crested Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus multistriatus</i>	
Western Slaty-Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus atrinucha</i>	Occurs very locally from eastern Panama to northern Colombia. We saw a pair in Paujil.
Black Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus nigriceps</i>	
Uniform Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus unicolor</i>	They were quite common in the forest at Cerulea and Piha.
Black-backed Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus melanonotus</i>	Excellent views of a responsive pair below Minca in the foothills of the Santa Marta mountains.

Recurve-billed Bushbird	<i>Clytoctantes alixii</i>	Near endemic - it also occurs in far western Venezuela. We tried like heck but only managed a brief, bad, naked eye view at the stakeout in the Cerulean Warbler reserve.
H Plain Antwreos Slaty Antwrens	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i> <i>Myrmotherula schisticolor</i>	
H Yellow-breasted Antwren White-fringed Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus axillaris</i> <i>Formicivora grisea hondae</i>	Good views of a male at Paujil. This species should be split due to differences in voice and female plumages in the northern and southern races.
Long-tailed Antbird	<i>Drymophila caudata</i>	It was quite common in the lower elevations of the Santa Marta mountains.
H Rufous-rumped Antwren	<i>Terenura callinota</i>	Cerulea. Probably would have seen it if it weren't for the fog.
Parker's Antbird (E)	<i>Cercomacra parkeri</i>	Only described in 1997. We saw a pair really well along the Camino de Lengerke in Cerulea, and heard it at Piha.
H Jet Antbird Bare-crowned Antbird	<i>Cercomacra nigricans</i> <i>Gymnocichla nudiceps</i>	A really cool male showed well at Paujil.
White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	We only saw this handsome bird near Mariquita on the euphonia road.
Chestnut-backed Antbird Dull-mantled Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza exsul</i> <i>Myrmeciza laemosticta</i>	One seen at Paujil.
H Bicolored Antbird	<i>Gymnopithys leucaspis</i>	
ANTTHRUSHES	FORMICARIIDAE	
H Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>	
ANTPITTAS	GRALLARIIDAE	
H Scaled Antpitta	<i>Grallaria guatimalensis</i>	
H Chestnut-crowned Antpitta Santa Marta Antpitta (E)	<i>Grallaria ruficapilla</i> <i>Grallaria bangsi</i>	Very easy now that it is coming into a worm feeder near the lodge.
H Chestnut-naped Antpitta	<i>Grallaria nuchalis</i>	
H Yellow-breasted Antpitta	<i>Grallaria flavotincta</i>	
H White-bellied Antpitta Rufous Antpitta	<i>Grallaria hypoleuca</i> <i>Grallaria rufula</i>	We had a really good view of a bird in Chingaza NP. Supposedly the nominate race here, but vocally it is completely different, which suggests it is actually an undescribed species.
H (Santa Marta) Rufous Antpitta	<i>Grallaria rufula spatiator</i>	Too bad as this is a likely future split. We sure tried hard for it.

"Fenwick's" Antpitta (E)	<i>Grallaria sp. nov.</i>	This is the new antpitta at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve, to be named in honor of the president of American Bird Conservancy and a major patron of the reserve.
Rusty-breasted Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula f. ferrugineipectus</i>	Seen nicely in the lower part of the El Dorado reserve. Note that this is clearly a different species from the birds from Ecuador to Bolivia, but a lack of published data means it is not split on most lists.
H Slate-crowned Antpitta TAPACULOS	<i>Grallaricula nana</i> RHINOCRYPTIDAE	
H Ocellated Tapaculo	<i>Acropternis orthonyx</i>	Heard above Jardín.
H Ash-colored Tapaculo	<i>Myornis senilis</i>	Heard at Chingaza NP.
H Blackish Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus latrans</i>	Heard at Cerulea and above Jardín.
Santa Marta Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus sanctaemartae</i>	Endemic to the lower-middle elevations of the Santa Marta Mountains. We saw it well in the El Dorado reserve.
H Long-tailed Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus micropterus</i>	Heard at the Cerulea reserve.
White-crowned Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus atratus confusus</i>	A couple of good views at the Piha reserve.
Upper Magdalena Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus rodriguezi</i>	Originally only known from the headwaters of the Rio Magdalena, but in 2007 it was found to be quite common in the Cerulea reserve, extending it's range a long way north. It took a lot of effort but we finally saw one!
Stiles's Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus stilesi</i>	Described only in 2005. This little skulker really made us work, but it finally came in so close that I think it ran over Mary's foot.
"Alto de Pisones" Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus sp. nov.</i>	An undescribed species that we saw at the Bangsia reserve. It seemed to be far outnumbered (at least by voice) by the next species.
H Nariño Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus viciniar</i>	Heard at the Bangsia reserve.
Brown-rumped Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus latebricola</i>	Endemic to the upper elevations of the Santa Marta range. Also seen well in the El Dorado reserve.
H Spillmann's Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus spillmanni</i>	Heard above Jardín.
Matorral (Pale-bellied) Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus griseicollis</i>	Well seen in Chingaza NP. Endemic to the eastern Andes of Colombia. The SACC has voted to change its name to Pale-bellied Tapaculo.
Paramillo Tapaculo (E)	<i>Scytalopus canus</i>	Recently split from Paramo Tapaculo, which is now called <i>S. opacus</i> . It inhabits a tiny range in and near the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve, where it was quite responsive and easy to see.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Brown-capped Tyrannulet
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet
White-tailed Tyrannulet
White-banded Tyrannulet
White-throated Tyrannulet
Yellow Tyrannulet
Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet
Forest Elaenia
Greenish Elaenia
Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Mountain Elaenia
Streak-necked Flycatcher
Olive-striped Flycatcher

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher
Sepia-capped Flycatcher
Slaty-capped Flycatcher
Rufous-breasted Flycatcher

Variiegated Bristle-Tyrant

Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant
Rufous-browed Tyrannulet

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet
Black-capped Tyrannulet
H Plumbeous-crowned Tyrannulet

Golden-faced Tyrannulet

Pale-tipped Tyrannulet
Ornate Flycatcher
Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant
Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant

Southern Bentbill

H Black-throated Tody-Tyrant
Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher

TYRANNIDAE

Ornithion brunneicapillus
Camptostoma obsoletum
Mecocerculus poecilocercus
Mecocerculus stictopterus
Mecocerculus leucophrys
Capsiempis flaveola
Tyrannulus elatus
Myiopagis gaimardii
Myiopagis viridicata
Elaenia flavogaster
Elaenia frantzii
Mionectes striaticollis
Mionectes olivaceus

Mionectes oleagineus
Leptopogon amaurocephalus
Leptopogon superciliaris
Leptopogon rufipectus

Phylloscartes poecilotis

Phylloscartes ophthalmicus
Phylloscartes superciliaris

Phyllomyias griseiceps
Phyllomyias nigrocapillus
Phyllomyias plumbeiceps

Zimmerius chrysops

Inezia caudata
Myiotriccus ornatus
Pseudotriccus ruficeps

Lophotriccus pileatus
Atalotriccus pilaris

Oncostoma olivaceum

Hemitriccus granadensis
lehmanni
Poecilotriccus sylvia

Galbinus is the Santa Marta endemic race. *Hederaceus* should be the one we saw in Cerulea and Piha.

Ron and I had a pretty good view of this above Jardín in the Yellow-eared Parrot reserve, but it seems totally out of range here according to published range maps.

At least one was with a mixed flock in the Cerulea reserve.

Great view of a lone bird in the Piha reserve.

Heard in a distant flock at Cerulea, but everything was too far away to make out the necessary details.

We saw the endemic *minimus* in the Santa Marta mountains, and nominate *chrysops* everywhere else.

We saw this really cute flycatcher above Jardín.

Good view of one bird above Minca in the foothills of the Santa Marta mountains.

Calling everywhere at Paujil but a pain to see. Eventually one did show itself.

	Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	
H	Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum nigriceps</i>	
	Olivaceous Flatbill	<i>Rhynchocyclus olivaceus</i>	
	Yellow-breasted (Ochre-lored) Flycatcher	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris aurulentus</i>	
H	White-throated Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i>	
H	Yellow-throated Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus flavigularis</i>	Heard at the Piha reserve on the morning that nothing was responding.
	Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus</i>	The Santa Marta endemic <i>assimilis</i> looks quite distinctive, but it sounds pretty similar to the widespread <i>pyrrhopterus</i> we saw elsewhere.
H	Orange-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus phoenicomitra</i>	At the Piha reserve, where it apparently hasn't been recorded before.
	Handsome Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus pulcher</i>	
	Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>	
	Black-billed Flycatcher	<i>Aphanotriccus audax</i>	A very local bird occurring from eastern Panama to northern Colombia. We saw one at Paujil.
	Smoke-colored Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>	
	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>	One was found on a nest at Piha.
	Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	
	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	
	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	
	Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	<i>Myiotheretes striaticollis</i>	
	Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant (E)	<i>Myiotheretes pernix</i>	A close call... one got away early in the morning, but we finally got one in the scope later on high up on the San Lorenzo ridge.
H	Smoky Bush-Tyrant	<i>Myiotheretes fumigatus</i>	
	Pied Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	
	White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>	
	Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca diadema</i>	The race that we saw in El Dorado, <i>jesupi</i> , sounds different from Andean races, and it has been suggested that it might merit a split. We also saw the widespread <i>gratiosa</i> above Jardín.
	Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris</i>	
	Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca rufipectoralis</i>	
	Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca fumicolor</i>	
	Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>	
	Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosa</i>	
H	Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	
	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	
	Pale-edged Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cephalotes</i>	
	Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	
	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	
	Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus lictor</i>	
	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	
	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	

Rusty-margined Flycatcher
Social Flycatcher
Golden-crowned Flycatcher
Streaked Flycatcher
Piratic Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird
Fork-tailed Flycatcher

COTINGAS

Green-and-black Fruiteater
Barred Fruiteater

Golden-breasted Fruiteater

Red-crested Cotinga
Chestnut-crested Cotinga

Olivaceous Piha

H Purple-throated Fruitcrow
Chestnut-capped Piha (E)

MANAKINS

Golden-winged Manakin
(Western) Striped Manakin

White-bearded Manakin
Golden-headed Manakin

H Wing-barred Piprites

TITYRAS AND ALLIES

Masked Tityra
Thrush-like Schiffornis
Barred Becard
Cinereous Becard
Cinnamon Becard

H White-winged Becard

VIREOS

Yellow-throated Vireo
Choco Vireo

Brown-capped Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo

Myiozetetes cayanensis
Myiozetetes similis
Myiodynastes chrysocephalus
Myiodynastes maculatus
Legatus leucophaeus
Tyrannus melancholicus
Tyrannus savana

COTINGIDAE

Pipreola riefferii
Pipreola arcuata

Pipreola aureopectus

Ampelion rubrocristatus
Ampelion rufaxilla

Snowornis cryptolophus

Querula purpurata
Lipaugus weberi

PIPRIDAE

Masius chrysopterus
Machaeropterus regulus antioquiae

Manacus manacus
Pipra erythrocephala
Piprites chloris

TITYRIDAE

Tityra semifasciata
Schiffornis turdina stenorhyncha
Pachyramphus versicolor
Pachyramphus rufus
Pachyramphus cinnamomeus
Pachyramphus polychopterus

VIREONIDAE

Vireo flavifrons
Vireo masteri

Vireo leucophrys
Vireo olivaceus

Amazing views of one bird in Chingaza.

We saw then in the Piha reserve (*aureopectus*) and in El Dorado (endemic race *decora*).

Following a tip from Trevor, we found one perched in a distant tree on the road above Jardín to the parrot reserve. Fortunately with a 60x scope it was actually a decent view.

One seen with a mixed flock at the Bangsia reserve.

Endemic to a tiny area in the northern part of the Colombian Central Andes, and only described in 2001. We saw it in the reserve that bears its name.

We tracked down a singing male at Paujil and saw it really nicely.

One male seen well at Libano.

Described in 2006, it was originally thought to be a Colombian endemic, but has been since found in far NW Ecuador. We found one in a mixed flock at the Bangsia reserve.

Rufous-naped Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus semibrunneus</i>	Colombia is this bird's stronghold, and we saw or heard them in many places.
Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>	
Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>	Several birds were mobbing a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl near the start of the road up the Santa Marta Mountains.
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus decurtatus</i>	
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	
CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES	CORVIDAE	
Black-chested Jay	<i>Cyanocorax affinis</i>	A very handsome bird that we saw well at Paujil and in the Santa Marta mountains.
Green Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yncas</i>	
Black-collared Jay	<i>Cyanolyca armillata</i>	We saw a few on the first day in Chingaza.
Beautiful Jay	<i>Cyanolyca pulchra</i>	There was a small flock of this Chocó endemic on the way up to the ridge at the Bangsia reserve.
SWALLOWS	HIRUNDINIDAE	
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	
Pale-footed Swallow	<i>Orochelidon flavipes</i>	A small flock flew over at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve. ID'd by voice, which is quite distinctive for a swallow.
Brown-bellied Swallow	<i>Orochelidon murina</i>	
White-thighed Swallow	<i>Atticora tibialis</i>	
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	
White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	
WRENS	TROGLODYTIDAE	
White-headed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus albobrunneus</i>	A unique wren found from Panama to western Colombia. We saw one in the Bangsia reserve.
Bicolored Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>	
Rufous Wren	<i>Cinnycerthia unirufa</i>	
Sooty-headed Wren	<i>Thryothorus spadix</i>	Totally unresponsive at the Piha reserve, and we had only poor views.
Black-bellied Wren	<i>Thryothorus fasciatoventris</i>	A very pretty and very shy wren that is pretty common at Paujil. It was once of the first birds we saw there.
Whiskered Wren	<i>Thryothorus mystacalis</i>	Can be very skulky, but that pair at Libano made it look easy.
Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus rutilus laetus</i>	Seen well in the coffee above Minca.
Rufous-and-white Wren	<i>Thryothorus rufalbus</i>	Same with this one, and at one point we had them both in the same binocular field!

H Niceforo's Wren (E)	<i>Thryothorus nicefori</i>	According to Thomas Donegan, all the "Rufous-and-white" Wrens in the coffee below the Cerulea reserve are this species, though they are probably best treated as conspecific.
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	
Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>	
H Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	
Apolinar's Wren (E)	<i>Cistothorus apolinari</i>	We called in a pair to the edge of the marsh at La Florida. Endemic to the highlands around Bogotá.
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys anachoreta</i>	I mention this subspecies separately. It is endemic to the upper elevations of the Santa Marta mountains and has a distinctly different voice. It may well deserve species status.
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>	We saw <i>bangsi</i> in the lower elevations of the Santa Marta mountains, <i>brunneiceps</i> at the Bangsia reserve, and <i>leucophrys</i> elsewhere. None of these are likely to be split.
H Scaly-breasted Wren	<i>Microcerculus marginatus</i>	
DIPPERS	CINCLIDAE	
White-capped Dipper	<i>Cinclus leucocephalus</i>	They were along the river near the cabin at Dusky Starfrontlet.
DONACOBIUS	DONACOBIIDAE	
Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	
GNATCATCHERS	POLIOPTILIDAE	
Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	
THRUSHES AND ALLIES	TURDIDAE	
H Andean Solitaire	<i>Myadestes ralloides</i>	
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantiirostris sierrae</i>	We saw it in the foothills of the Santa Marta mountains, an endemic subspecies.
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater sanctaemartae</i>	You can tell by the name that this was another Santa Marta endemic race. It can be skulky, but we saw it well not far from the lodge.
Gray-cheeked Thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	
Black Solitaire	<i>Entomodestes coracinus</i>	This is such a cool bird. We got one nicely in the Bangsia reserve.
Yellow-legged Thrush	<i>Turdus flavipes</i>	
Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>	
Black-billed Thrush	<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>	
Black-hooded Thrush	<i>Turdus olivater sanctaemartae</i>	Seen only in the Santa Marta mountains, where it is yet another endemic race.
Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>	
H Glossy-black Thrush	<i>Turdus serranus</i>	

H White-necked Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS
Tropical Mockingbird
NEW WORLD WARBLERS
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Tropical Parula
Yellow Warbler
Magnolia Warbler

Blackburnian Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Cerulean Warbler

Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Northern Waterthrush
Mourning Warbler
Canada Warbler
Slate-throated Redstart

Golden-fronted Redstart

Yellow-crowned Redstart (E)

H Citrine Warbler
Black-crested Warbler
White-lored Warbler (E)

Russet-crowned Warbler
Rufous-capped Warbler
Three-striped Warbler
Santa Marta Warbler (E)

Buff-rumped Warbler
BANANAQUIT
Bananaquit

TANAGERS AND ALLIES

H White-capped Tanager
Black-capped Hemispingus
Superciliaried Hemispingus

Turdus albicollis

MIMIDAE

Mimus gilvus

PARULIDAE

Vermivora chrysoptera

Vermivora peregrina

Parula pitiayumi

Dendroica petechia

Dendroica magnolia

Dendroica fusca

Dendroica castanea

Dendroica cerulea

Mniotilta varia

Setophaga ruticilla

Protonotaria citrea

Seiurus noveboracensis

Oporornis philadelphia

Wilsonia canadensis

Myioborus miniatus

Myioborus ornatus

Myioborus flavivertex

Basileuterus luteoviridis

Basileuterus nigrocristatus

Basileuterus conspiciatus

Basileuterus coronatus

Basileuterus rufifrons

Basileuterus tristriatus

Basileuterus basilicus

Phaeothlypis fulvicauda

COEREBIDAE

Coereba flaveola

THRAUPIDAE

Sericossypha albocristata

Hemispingus atropileus atropileus

Hemispingus superciliaris

A super-rare winter visitor to South America. We saw one well while looking for chachalacas near Santa Marta.

Just a single male seen in the reserve of the same name.

Sanctaemartae is again the name of the endemic race. Elsewhere was the widespread *ballux*.

A near-endemic, barely reaching Venezuela. They were common in most high Andean sites we visited.

Endemic to the Santa Marta mountains, where it was quite common in the upper elevations of El Dorado.

A Santa Marta endemic. We saw it best by the compost pile near the lodge.

Another Santa Marta endemic. They can sometimes be tricky, occurring only at the highest elevations in the El Dorado reserve, but it was one of the first birds we saw up there.

Oleaginous Hemispingus	<i>Hemispingus frontalis</i>	One singing bird was spotted in a mixed flock above Jardín.
Gray-hooded Bush Tanager	<i>Cnemoscopus rubrirostris</i>	
Blue-backed Conebill	<i>Conirostrum sitticolor</i>	
Capped Conebill	<i>Conirostrum albifrons</i>	
Rufous-browed Conebill	<i>Conirostrum rufum</i>	A near endemic, reaching Venezuela in one tiny spot. Several showed well in a mixed flock in Chingaza on the first day.
Plushcap	<i>Catamblyrhynchus diadema</i>	
Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus exitelus</i>	
Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus flavigularis</i>	
Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus canigularis</i>	
Yellow-backed Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis flavicollis</i>	
H Rosy Thrush-Tanager	<i>Rhodinocichla rosea</i>	
Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>	
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	
Crimson-backed Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus dimidiatus</i>	
Flame-rumped (Yellow-rumped) Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus</i>	
Flame-rumped Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus flammigerus flammigerus</i>	This Colombian endemic race really should be considered separate from the other yellow-rumped race. We saw them only around Jardín, where they were common.
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	
Blue-capped Tanager	<i>Thraupis cyanocephala</i>	We saw the endemic <i>margaritae</i> in El Dorado and <i>annectens</i> above Jardín.
Black-and-gold Tanager (E)	<i>Bangsia melanochlamys</i>	Endemic to the western and central Andes of Colombia. Nice views of one on the ridge at the Piha reserve.
Gold-ringed Tanager (E)	<i>Bangsia aureocincta</i>	Also endemic to the western Andes of Colombia, and for many years it was unsafe to visit the area in which it occurs. Luckily things have gotten better! This was out top priority at the new Bangsia reserve, and we scored big time.
Hooded Mountain-Tanager	<i>Buthraupis montana</i>	
Black-cheeked Mountain-Tanager (E)	<i>Anisognathus melanogenys</i>	A Santa Marta endemic, sometimes called Santa Marta Mountain-Tanager. We saw several in the upper part of El Dorado.
Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus lacrymosus</i>	
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus igniventris</i>	
Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus somptuosus</i>	
Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus notabilis</i>	Another neat tanager we saw at the Bangsia reserve while waiting for the Gold-ringed to come in.

Buff-breasted Mountain-Tanager	<i>Dubusia taeniata</i>	Great views first in the Yellow-eared Parrot reserve (nominated), then seen even better in El Dorado, the endemic subspecies <i>carrikeri</i> .
Purplish-mantled Tanager	<i>Iridosornis porphyrocephalus</i>	A fabulous bird. We encountered them several times on the ridge at Piha, then had another one above Jardín.
Fawn-breasted Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea melanonota</i>	Another gem of the Bangsia reserve!
Glistening-green Tanager	<i>Chlorochrysa phoenicotis</i>	
Plain-colored Tanager	<i>Tangara inornata</i>	They were pretty common in secondary habitats of the subtropical central and western Andes.
Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>	
Saffron-crowned Tanager	<i>Tangara xanthocephala</i>	
Flame-faced Tanager	<i>Tangara parzudakii</i>	
Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>	
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	
Scrub Tanager	<i>Tangara vitriolina</i>	
Metallic-green Tanager	<i>Tangara labradorides</i>	A few in flocks in the lower and middle elevations of the Santa Marta mountains.
Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanicollis</i>	
Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>	
Blue-and-black Tanager	<i>Tangara vassorii</i>	
Black-capped Tanager	<i>Tangara heinei</i>	
Black-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanoptera</i>	
Black-faced (Yellow-tufted) Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata egregia</i>	A pretty pair in Paujil.
Turquoise Dacnis (E)	<i>Dacnis hartlaubi</i>	A very local Colombian endemic. It prefers disturbed habitat in the mountains. We saw at least two males and a female near the lodge at the Cerulean Warbler reserve.
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	We saw the endemic <i>grisescens</i> in the Santa Marta mountains, and the more widespread <i>occidentalis</i> at Paujil.
Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>	
Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>	Trevor was the only one to see it near Maraquita.
Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	
Black-winged Saltator	<i>Saltator atripennis</i>	
SPARROWS AND ALLIES	EMBERIZIDAE	
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	
Gray Seedeater	<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>	
Black-and-white Seedeater	<i>Sporophila luctuosa</i>	
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	
Thick-billed Seed-Finch	<i>Oryzoborus funereus</i>	
Band-tailed Seedeater	<i>Catamenia analis</i>	

Plain-colored Seedeater	<i>Catamenia inornata</i>	
Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>	
Rusty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa sittoides</i>	
Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer (E)	<i>Diglossa gloriosissima</i>	A beautiful endemic that was not at all easy to find. We finally nailed it down near the highest point of the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve.
Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>	
Black-throated Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa brunneiventris vuilleumieri</i>	Much more common than the Chestnut-bellied in the páramo at the Dusky Starfrontlet reserve. This isolated subspecies is separated by 1500 km and has a slightly different voice, so look for it to be split.
White-sided Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa albilatera</i>	
Indigo Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa indigotica</i>	At least two were seen along the ridge at the Piha reserve.
Bluish Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa caerulescens</i>	
Masked Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa cyanea</i>	
Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	
Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	
White-naped (Yellow-throated) Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes albinucha gutturalis</i>	
Santa Marta Brush-Finch (E)	<i>Atlapetes melanocephalus</i>	Possibly the most common of the Santa Marta endemics, occurring in a wide elevational zone.
Pale-naped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes pallidinucha</i>	
Yellow-headed (Olive-headed) Brush-Finch (E)	<i>Atlapetes flaviceps</i>	Endemic to a small area on the east slope of the central Andes. They were easy to find at Libano.
H Tricolored Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes tricolor</i>	
Slaty Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes schistaceus</i>	
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Arremon brunneinucha frontalis</i>	
Golden-winged Sparrow	<i>Arremon schlegeli</i>	A beautiful bird that we connected with in the coffee plantations above Minca.
(Santa Marta) Stripe-headed Brush-Finch	<i>Arremon torquatus basilicus</i>	The birds in the Santa Marta mountains have quite a different voice, and rumor has it a paper is in preparation that will split it off as another endemic species. We had good luck with one along the road below the lodge.
Stripe-headed (Black-headed) Brush-Finch	<i>Arremon torquatus atricapillus</i>	We saw this one in Libano. It was formerly separated with the other black-headed races, and may again some day as the vocal difference seem significant.
H Black-striped Sparrow	<i>Arremonops conirostris</i>	
Grassland Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i>	
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	
GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES	CARDINALIDAE	
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	
H White-winged Tanager	<i>Piranga leucoptera</i>	

H Red-hooded Tanager Sooty Ant-Tanager (E)	<i>Piranga rubriceps</i> <i>Habia gutturalis</i>	Endemic to lowland rainforest of northern Colombia. We saw a pair at Paujil.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak TROUPIALS AND ALLIES Red-breasted Blackbird Eastern Meadowlark Great-tailed Grackle Red-bellied Grackle (E)	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i> ICTERIDAE <i>Sturnella militaris</i> <i>Sturnella magna</i> <i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i> <i>Hypopyrrhus pyrohypogaster</i>	Endemic to the Colombian Andes. It's always been one of my favorite Colombian birds. A pair was building a nest at the Piha reserve.
Yellow-hooded Blackbird Shiny Cowbird Giant Cowbird Yellow-backed Oriole Orange-crowned Oriole Yellow-tailed Oriole Baltimore Oriole Mountain Cacique	<i>Chrysomus icterocephalus</i> <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i> <i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i> <i>Icterus chrysater</i> <i>Icterus auricapillus</i> <i>Icterus mesomelas</i> <i>Icterus galbula</i> <i>Cacicus chrysonotus leucoramphus</i>	
H Scarlet-rumped Cacique Yellow-rumped Cacique Russet-backed Oropendola Crested Oropendola Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Cacicus uropygialis</i> <i>Cacicus cela</i> <i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i> <i>Psarocolius decumanus</i> <i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>	We saw one near the lodge at the Cerulean Warbler reserve, which is quite unusual as this is a lowlands species.
SISKINS AND EUPHONIAS Velvet-fronted Euphonia (E)	FRINGILLIDAE <i>Euphonia concinna</i>	One pair seen near Mariquita. Also heard at Libano.
Thick-billed Euphonia Fulvous-vented Euphonia Orange-bellied Euphonia Blue-naped Chlorophonia	<i>Euphonia laniirostris</i> <i>Euphonia fulvicrissa</i> <i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i> <i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i>	A pair was with a flock at Paujil.
Lesser Goldfinch Andean Siskin	<i>Spinus psaltria</i> <i>Spinus spinescens</i>	We only saw them in the Santa Marta mountains, endemic <i>psittacina</i> .