



A **Tropical Birding** scheduled tour.

## SOUTHERN ECUADOR CUSTOM Birding with a Camera (BwC) Tour

**16<sup>th</sup> February - 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



**Blue-throated Hillstar** (Cerro de Arcos), was one of **60** hummingbird species recorded. (Sam Woods).

*Guided by **Sam Woods***

*Photos by the guide **Sam Woods**, and participants **Stephan & Xueping Popp**.*

**Sam's Flickr Album of Tour Photos:**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/samwoodsbirding/albums/72177720315270705>

**INTRODUCTION:**

*Southern Ecuador never fails to impress birders or birders with cameras, and this custom tour was no different. There are simply so many birds (more than a 1000 species are crammed into this region of Ecuador alone), so many specialty birds (e.g., dozens of endemics of the Tumbesian region), so many gorgeous specialties among them (e.g., **Blue-throated Hillstar**, **Rainbow Starfrontlet**, **Black-crested Tit-Tyrant-photo below**, **Elegant Crescentchest**, **White-tailed Jay**, and **Masked Mountain-Tanager**), an absorbing wide variety of habitats (including Dry Deciduous Forest in the Southwest Andes, Elfin Forest in the high eastern Andes, Shrubby Paramo above the timberline, Polylepis Woodland in the highest Andean sites, and Freshwater Wetlands, Saltpans, and humid tropical rainforest in the lowlands and foothills of the Andes), and an excellent series of birding lodges in which to be based in during the tour. We lodged and birded in no fewer than eight properties of the **Jocotoco Conservation Foundation**, knowing that we were directly contributing to ongoing, critical conservation projects in the region in doing so, which are having quantifiable beneficial effects to threatened bird populations in the region.*



This **Black-crested Tit-Tyrant** was one of the most popular birds of the tour, a scarce and local endemic that performed with aplomb near *Utua* (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

*In doing all of this, we also managed to accrue a long list of birds photographed, a major goal for the two birders for which this custom tour was set up. Among the birds photographed were some real beauties and specialties for which Southern Ecuador could be argued is the best part of the world to find them, such as **Gray and Pale-***

*browed Tinamous, Esmeraldas Woodstar, Blue-throated Hillstar, Neblina and Violet-throated Metaltails, Purple-throated, Amethyst-throated and Little (Flame-throated) Sunangels, Peruvian Screech-Owl, Peruvian Pygmy-Owl, Jocotoco and Watkins's Antpittas, Ecuadorian Trogon, Ecuadorian Piculet, Golden-plumed, Cordilleran, El Oro and White-necked Parakeets, Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner, Lanceolated Monklet, White-tailed Jay, Club-winged Manakin, Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant and Tit-like Dacnis!*

The couple on this trip were already seasoned veterans of Ecuador tours, having been to the western and eastern slopes of the Andes in the north of the country during two previous tours. However, in spite of this, the south offered a lot for them, as illustrated by a long list of more than **200 new lifebirds seen on the tour**. Whichever way you look at the tour it was a resounding success, with a good time had by all, plentiful new birds and species photographed in a truly exceptional birding destination.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Due to their extensive coverage of Northern Ecuador already, this custom tour was ran in a very focused way, only targeting species that they had not previously seen. The targeted nature of the tour meant that the triplist is quite skewed and abnormal, with a high number of “heard onlys”, which were not seen or even looked for if the group had already seen the species on either of their two previous Northern Ecuador tours. Likewise, there were some specialties we did not even search for, as they had already seen them. Most notably, this included one of the birds that most visitors to Southern Ecuador normally prioritize, (often even winning one of the top birds of the tour spots), Long-wattled Umbrellabird. However, Stephan and Xueping had already seen this in Northern Ecuador and so no efforts were made to find this species at Buenaventura. Likewise, around Maycu in the far Southeast of Ecuador, there were many extra Amazonian species we could have looked for to “pad” the list further, though decided not to do so, and cover less areas, as they had already seen many common, widespread Amazonian species during a previous trip to Sani Lodge (e.g., we did not look for Hoatzin, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Spot-breasted Woodpecker, and many other common Amazonian birds).



**TOUR SUMMARY:****Day 1 (of birding): 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – The Santa Elena Peninsula & Ayampe (Refugio del Colibri).**

**Gray-and-white Tyrannulets** were on a long list of *Tumbesian* regional endemics encountered on our first morning on the *Santa Elena Peninsula of Southwest Ecuador (Sam Woods/Tropical birding Tours)*.

Following an evening arrival in *Guayaquil* the evening before, we were ready to begin our circuit of the south of this small Andean country. With more than 1000 bird species in the region, we set out with some work to do! We started out in some dry country several hours west of Ecuador's most populous city, near the town of *Atahualpa* on the *Santa Elena Peninsula*. *Ecuador* has a wet, tropical climate, although this corner of the country is the exception to that rule. This part has very little rain at all throughout the year by comparison, and is home to a swathe of regional endemics to the *Tumbesian Region of Southwest Ecuador and Northern Peru*. Our first stop brought an onslaught of new birds for the pair of birders for whom this tour was customised, even though this was their third visit to Ecuador. Among the highlights were: a couple of teeny **Short-tailed Woodstars**, **Collared Antshrikes**, some bold **Baird's Flycatchers**, some showy **Short-tailed Field-Tyrants**, several **Tumbes and Gray-and-white Tyrannulets** (*photo above*), a foursome of **Necklaced Spintails**, a septet of **Crimson-breasted Finches**, a single **White-edged Oriole**, and plentiful **Peruvian Meadowlarks** and **Parrot-billed Seedeaters**! It was a hectic opening stanza indeed. A couple of **Comb Ducks** passing overhead looked out of place against the stark, semi-arid landscape we were part of at that time.

Checking of a nearby, bustling fishing port, paid off with a brace of **Blue-footed Booby** resting there. After that we moved from dry country into wet country, checking the wetlands around the coastal resort of *Salinas*, and locating **White-cheeked Pintails**, **Chilean Flamingos**, a **Snowy Plover**, flocks of wintering **Wilson's Phalaropes**, rosy **Roseate Spoonbills**, and a couple of **Cocoi Herons** on the saline ponds, and **Gray Gulls** and **American Oystercatchers** on the shore. We took full advantage of the fantastic seafood on offer at a boat-shaped, seaside restaurant, enjoying plates of fresh prawns. This was followed by a visit to *Pacoa Saltponds* to the north, where we had a very specific target bird in mind, the *Peruvian Thick-knee*, which just sneaks into Ecuador in this area, and remains rare and local in the country. It proved especially rare that afternoon as we drive away empty-handed in this regard. However, our visit was more than justified when we came upon a roosting **Lesser Nighthawk** – *photo below* - (a new bird for the group), which made an excellent subject for our well-used cameras there. After that, we pushed north to the Jocotoco Foundation's *Ayampe Reserve*, close to our coastal hotel, making a head start on our birding there, which had been planned from the day after. The main target species in the area is the Ecuadorian endemic, *Esmeraldas Woodstar*. However, we found no hummingbirds of note that afternoon, though did enjoy watching a **Speckled-breasted Wren** visiting its stick bundle of a nest, and enjoyed *two trogons*, both **Ecuadorian** and **Gartered Trogons** both featuring, along with **Blue-black Grosbeak**, **Tumbes Pewee**, **Guayaquil Woodpecker**, and a late afternoon appearance from a constantly calling **Watkin's Antpitta**.



This roosting **Lesser Nighthawk** was arguably the most popular find of the day, by *Pacoa Saltponds*, which also hosted a pair of **Burrowing Owls**, and later produced a pair of **Peruvian Thick-knees** (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

Day 2: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Ayampe (Refugio del Colibri), Machalilla National Park & Pacoa Saltponds.

An immature male **Esmeraldas Woodstar**, one of the tiniest birds on Earth, and an endangered species restricted to *Western Ecuador* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*). It is most easily located between November and March, when they migrate into areas around *Ayampe* to breed.

This was another busy day, as we focused on finding the main target of the area, *Esmeraldas Woodstar* in the morning and afternoon, and then visited *Pacoa Saltponds* again in the afternoon as a break on our journey back east to the city of *Guayaquil*. Our overtures to find the *woodstar* were aided by local guide, *Byron*, a worker from the excellent *Jocotoco Foundation*, which has a wonderful series of reserves in *Ecuador*, many of which were visited or stayed in during this custom tour; (thus, directly supporting worthy and ongoing conservation efforts in the region). We successfully located a male **Esmeraldas Woodstar** in the morning that was surveying his territory from a high perch for long periods, one on occasion battling with another visiting male. The height of the tree meant that we struggled to get good images of the bird, and so we therefore visited another local reserve in the afternoon, where we were rewarded with excellent views of another, immature, *male*. Other morning highpoints included a gliding **Gray-backed Hawk**, **White-whiskered Puffbird**, **Gray-breasted Flycatcher**, several **Gray-and-gold Warblers**, and a showy **Ochre-throated Foliage-gleaner**.

Remarkably, both *Xueping* and *Stephan* managed to get decent photos of the ordinarily elusive **Henna-hooded Foliage-Gleaner** too, one of the most handsome of this group. In the middle of the day, our local guide took us to a section of *Machallilla National Park*, where we were on the hunt for **Saffron Siskin**, often a difficult bird to find. It seemed this way at first, though our first **Peruvian Pygmy-Owl** took the sting out of this, before we finally found a group of *siskins*, including a male that lingered for some time (and photos). After checking out of our coastal resort, we visited another local sanctuary, where we upgraded our looks, and photos, of **Esmeraldas Woodstar** (*photo page 6*), with a magnificent male perched there. We also stopped in at *Pacoa* once again in the afternoon, breaking our journey back to *Guayaquil*, in order to again look for the pair of **Peruvian Thick-knees** (*photo below*) that are often found there. This time, they were stood on their usual haunt, boldly posing for photos at length.



A pair of **Peruvian Thick-knees** required two visits to *Pacoa* in order to locate them (Sam Woods/ Tropical Birding Tours).

**Day 3: 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Guayaquil to Buenaventura.**

We departed the city of *Guayaquil* early again once more, though this time stopping *south* of the city, when we located nearly a dozen **Horned Screamers** and a **Plain-breasted Ground-Dove** hiding in among a group of the much more common **Ecuadorian Ground-Doves**. **Savanna Hawks**, some wild **Muscovy Ducks**, **Purple Gallinule**, **Pacific Parrotlets** and **Pacific Horneros**, and some perched groups of **Tricolored Munias** were also all encountered in the same area. Then it was time for lunch, and so, once more, we took full advantage of the abundance of locally available seafood restaurants. A try for *Rufous-necked Wood-Rail* had us looking at a high tide in vain, completely the wrong water level for the bird to be viewable! Therefore, we pushed on to our next major destination, and our second *Jococotoco Foundation* reserve of the trip, *Buenaventura*. One of our target birds yielded to our attempts to find it at the very first crack, when a constantly calling **Ochraceous Attila** was located in the treetops, where it remained until we left. We also caught up with a **Thick-billed Seed-Finch** in the same area. In the late afternoon we drove, then hiked up, to a known hang out for the endangered *El Oro Parakeet*, an endemic, which is almost entirely restricted to this reserve. In spite of some fine, clear spells no parakeets were either seen nor heard in the forest around their nesting boxes, with the only notable birds up there being a few **Swallow-tailed Kites** passing overhead. We vowed to return the next morning, when we hoped for considerably more activity that we experienced that afternoon!



The **El Oro Parakeet** was seen in *Buenaventura Reserve*, within *El Oro province*. This endangered Ecuadorian endemic is virtually confined to this reserve (*Sam Woods/ Tropical Birding Tours*).



**Day 4: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Buenaventura.**

The entire day was spent within the limits of *Buenaventura Reserve*, although mixing our time between the lower parts and upper sectors of the reserve, which each offered us different species. As the group had already seen *Long-wattled Umbrellabird* during another, previous visit to *Northern Ecuador*, no attempts were made to see that celebrity local bird, instead allowing us to give the **El Oro Parakeets** (*photo page 8*) our full attention that morning. This paid off handsomely, when one of the occupied nest boxes had several birds present, poking their heads out of the holes and even emerging to perch in the branches above, causing our cameras to go into overdrive!

Our attempts to find the very rarely seen *El Oro Tapaculo* did not go so well though, with none even heard. By late morning we were back near *Umbrellabird Lodge* in the lower section of the reserve, where a short pre-lunch trail walk led us to see a pair of **Song Wrens**. Some nearby blossoms attracted the attentions of a male “**Emerald-bellied**” **Crowned Woodnymph** (*photo below*). Over lunchtime, we took in the frenetic action at the lodge hummingbird feeders, where **White-necked Jacobins** and **Green Thorntails** were the main visitors, along with a single male **Violet-bellied Hummingbird** (*photo next page*), and plentiful **Bananaquits** and **Green Honeycreepers**.



The Emerald-bellied form of **Crowned Woodnymph** was seen in *Buenaventura Reserve*, where the hummingbird feeders were frantic (*Sam Woods/ Tropical Birding Tours*).

In the afternoon, we set off to visit the garden of one of the local rangers, in a slightly drier area around *Moromoro*. As we drove out of *Buenaventura*, we surprised a pair of **Sunbitterns** that were feeding along the wet entrance road. We were hoping our visit to *Moromoro* would lead to our first sightings of *Elegant Crescentchest* or the “Ecuadorian” version of *White-vented Plumeleeter*, however we were frustrated by a calling *crescentchest* and never got a sight of the *plumeleeter*. However, we did find a male **Black-lored Yellowthroat** and a **Swallow Tanager** and added **Rufous-headed Chachalaca** on the return journey to the lodge.



Another striking hummingbird from *Buenaventura*: **Violet-bellied Hummingbird** (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

#### Day 5: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Buenaventura to Jorupe via El Empalme.

The morning was spent trying to sweep up some final additions within *Buenaventura*, before we packed up and left with a packed lunch, in order to drive straight towards *Peru*, and *Jorupe Reserve* close to the frontier with that country. This worked out well, especially when we found a male **Club-winged Manakin** that regularly raised its wing above its head in display. Other new birds included an **Esmeraldas Antbird**, **Ashy-throated Chlorospingus**, **Ochre-breasted Tanager**, **Brownish Twistwing**, and a single **Rufous Motmot**. We then drove on south, stopping to take our packed lunch at a hidden gem of a coffee shop en-route. Before arriving at *Jorupe*, we had one very special stop to make, birdwise. We made a visit to *El Empalme*, where we hoped to find the scarce and local **White-headed Brushfinch**, which eventually showed up. We were also pleased to find **Tumbes Hummingbird** there too, along with our first noisy **Red-masked Parakeets**.

We then planned to have a leisurely look at the feeders on arrival at *Urraca Lodge* in *Jorupe Reserve* (yes, you guessed it, another *Jocotoco Foundation* property!). However, before reached the lodge a fortuitous meeting with *Leo*, one of the local rangers, informed us that a **Rufous-necked Wood-Rail** had been seen on a nearby trail just moments earlier. There was no stopping us, and we were soon creeping along the trail, hoping to glimpse this elusive beast (that we had already missed a few days previous due to inconvenient high tides). We soon arrived at a blind there and tried a little playback to see if the bird was still present in the area. Immediately, it gave some throaty gulps in response to playback, though predictably, we could not see it in the thick brush at this time following recent, heavy rains. We waited, hearing it several times more before it then suddenly emerged out of the forest walked to a pool in front of the blind and then proceeded to bathe in full view in front of us. What an absurdly good welcome to *Jorupe*! This was followed shortly after dinner by an equally cooperative **West Peruvian Screech-Owl** (*photo below*) to close another absorbing day in *Southwest Ecuador*.



This **Peruvian Screech-Owl** was the first of three individuals seen in *Jorupe Reserve* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

**Day 6: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 – Jorupe & Zapotillo.**

The day was spent in two different dry deciduous wooded sites on *Southwest Ecuador*, close to the border with *Peru*. The morning was spent walking from the lodge itself within *Jorupe Reserve*, while in the afternoon we ventured even closer to Peru, at *Zapotillo*. A veritable flood of news species for the group came as the area is home to an abundance of *Tumbesian* specialties only found in *Southwest Ecuador* and *Northern Peru*. The day started unfavourably however, when we heard a close calling *Spectacled Owl* but could not locate it before light brought a close to our search. However, our luck was soon to improve dramatically. The feeders at *Jorupe* are legendary for being good, though the heavy rains had meant that during our visit many birds were breeding and therefore not coming in to the feeders as regularly as usual. This was a bitter blow to hear as we knew this would provide our best shot at actually seeing a *Pale-browed Tinamou*. So, we were somewhat incredulous, when the only bird to visit the feeder during our short watch that morning was a **Pale-browed Tinamou!** By then we'd already had breakfast and set off down the road from the lodge with *Leo*, in pursuit of some more special birds. We were soon eyeballing a reactive male **Slaty Becard**, another of the trickier species in the reserve (along with the *wood-rail* and *tinamou* that we had both already seen!) We then moved back up the road, walking up from the lodge for the rest of the morning, which was peppered with sightings of many new birds, like **Blackish-headed Spinetail**, **Rufous-necked Foliage-Gleaner**, a pair of nesting **Whooping Motmots**, some photogenic White-tailed Jays, and even managed to get really good looks at both **Elegant Crescentchest** and **Watkins's Antpitta** too. We returned to the lodge hot but not bothered for lunch. After that, we made the long drive to *Zapotillo*, deeper into *Southwest Ecuador*. Our reason for being there was to find a handful of missing birds. One of these, **Tumbes Sparrows** proved pretty straightforward, and we got good looks at this even when it was so hot on arrival.

**Tumbes**

**Hummingbird** also featured again there too, and we got another look at an **Elegant Crescentchest** too. However, the hoped for *Tumbes Tyrant* (here at its only known site in Ecuador) was silent the whole time. Some compensation came in the form of our only **Long-billed Starthroat** of the tour. Several more **Comb Ducks** were also seen on the return leg to the lodge.



PHOTO PAGE BEFORE: **Black-crested Tit-Tyrant**, the clear bird-of-the-day winner from our time in the *Utuaana* area (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).



**Jelski's Chat-Tyrant** in *Utuaana* Reserve (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

#### Day 7: 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 – Sozoranga, Utuaana & Los Corales.

Just after dawn we left *Urraca Lodge* for the day, and went upslope in the direction of *Utuaana Reserve*, a very different *cloudforest* reserve, which hosts some local specialties. We took our time getting there though, as some of these birds can be found below the reserve too. First stop was in the tiny Andean town of *Sabiango*, where over 60 **Chestnut-collared Swallows** were gathered on the roadside wires and attending their mud nests attached to some of the low local building there. Next up, we stopped just above the slightly larger mountain town of *Sozoranga*, where the hoped-for **Bay-crowned Brushfinches** made a swift entry. We also saw our first **Silvery Tanagers** and only **Three-banded Warblers** of the tour. We continued our upward trajectory, then stopping close to the town of *Utuaana*, where **Black-cowled Saltator** appeared after some time, a couple more **Bay-crowned Brushfinches** occurred too, as did our first **Line-cheeked Spinetail** and **Rufous-chested Tanager**. A calling pied male **Chapman's Antshrike** was also found there during this productive early spell. Only a short drive later, and well before mid-morning we were admiring a bird that we were fairly sure would not be topped

that day, the outrageously handsome **Black-crested Tit-Tyrant** (*photo page 12*), which gave superlative views. Lastly, for the rest of the morning, we walked a trail inside the reserve itself, where a steep trail was required to track down a pair of confiding **Jelski's Chat-Tyrants** (*photo page 13*) and a very cooperative **Leymebamba Antpitta**, which came in and showed three or four times. We did not get the photos that we craved, though it was seen very well a few times. The rest of the morning was much slower as activity slowed, and we were looking for only the toughest of the local specialties. We took lunch beside the excellent hummingbird feeders. Excellent not for the diversity, (as this is actually quite low, with just three species showing up) but for the gorgeous species that visit, **Purple-throated Sunangel** and the exceptionally beautiful **Rainbow Starfrontlet**, (*photos page 15*), arguably one of the best of the **60 hummingbird species seen...**



**Laughing Falcons** were seen multiple times on the trip with 7 seen (3 pairs at *Jorupe* and this single in the *eastern foothills of the Andes*) - Sam Woods

**PHOTOS NEXT PAGE:** **Rainbow Starfrontlet**, from the feeders in *Utuna*, visited during a day trip from (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).



After lunch, we entered a large stand of *Chusquea* bamboo and were rewarded for our persistence with several views of a male **Gray-headed Antbird**, one of the harder specialties to see inside *Utuana*, due to its reclusive behavior, generally staying within dense bamboo cover. That signalled the end of our time there, as we wished to return to the *Sozoranga* area to try and track down a *White-vented Plumeleteer*, which was fast turning into a nemesis bird following three unsuccessful searches for it, although we did find some success with a pair of **White-winged Brushfinches**, hear in the south looking markedly different from the northern form, yielding us to discuss if there are several cryptic species hidden within this complex. For the final diurnal birding of the day we opted to visit the impressive *Los Corales* section of *Jorupe*, where we were once again back inside *deciduous forest* with its attractive towering *Ceiba* trees. The afternoon was less productive than hoped, though we did spot our first male **Golden Grosbeak** of the tour but were thwarted by a calling *Gray-capped Cuckoo* that refused to budge from its well concealed position.

#### Day 8: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 - Jorupe, Los Corales, Sozoranga & Catamayo.

This was another varied day, as we mixed up habitats in order to try and plug some gaping gaps in our list. Within the dry, deciduous forest in *Jorupe* we first successfully located a pair of **Sooty-crowned Flycatchers**, then were stunned to get an exemplary performance from the often extremely elusive **Gray-capped Cuckoo** (*photo right*), this individual emerging for us to take photos. Flushed with success, we then visited nearby *Los Corales*, where the favourite of the day were two pairs of calling **Laughing Falcons** that posed for an age in the treetops. Better yet, we



ventured higher and tracked down a superb calling male **Black-and-white Tanager**, another often difficult species that seems to be only present when it is wetter. Closeby, we had *another Gray-capped Cuckoo* to cap an extraordinary morning. We all finally got good looks at an **Ecuadorian Piculet** that had previously only be seen well by *Stephan*. We then returned to *Sozoranga* to try and find a **White-vented Plumeleteer**, although with lunch coming around we had still not managed to find one in spite of many of their preferred flowers littering the roadsides. Then, finally, in the early afternoon we finally got one, and so promptly left the area in favour of one last lifer...For this we visited some rocky slopes above the city of *Catamayo*, where during the late afternoon over 40 **Cordilleran Parakeets**, an extremely local species in Ecuador flew in to roost in the area. We were rewarded for climbing up the hills with low flight views of dozens as they passed low over our heads. Some very confiding **Fasciated Wrens** (*photo next page*) also entertained us in the area, before we left to drive to *Vilcabamba* in the "Sacred Valley" for the night, close to the edge of *Podocarpus National Park*.





One of a group of inquisitive **Fasciated Wrens** near the airport town of *Catamayo* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

#### Day 9: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Cerro Toledo & Tapichalaca.

Today, we changed focus completely, leaving the dry, *Southwest* behind and climbing out of the *Inter-Andean Valley* up into *elfin forest*, at the treeline high in the Andes, on the *eastern* slope of the mountains. We met a driver and a four-wheel drive to get up the bumpy mountain road to the edge of *Podocarpus National Park*, where our main target was a very local, uncommon species of hummingbird, which is restricted to *Southern Ecuador* and *Northern Peru*. Oftentimes, this can be tough to find in challenging high Andean weather. However, we were gifted a bright and clear day up there, which was very fortunate indeed, and perhaps, for this reason, finding **Neblina Metaltails** (*photo page 18*) was reasonably straightforward with at least five individuals seen and several photographed too. The other high-living species on the mountain took considerably more work, although we did manage some views of a calling **Loja Tapaculo** (another very local species), and then that was trumped by a **Masked Mountain-Tanager**, which we stumble down a slope to see. Further down the road we took lunch and spent quite some time trying to pull some more birds out of the cloud forest, eventually finding a very confiding **Orange-banded Flycatcher** (*photo page 19*), another regional endemic.



Some fantastic views of **Neblina Metaltails** were enjoyed on *Cerro Toledo* in *Podocarpus National Park*, (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

After a long period of few birds, we decided to return to *Yangana*, reconnect with our original van and driver and continued on to the inaugural *Jocotoco Foundation* reserve of *Tapichalaca*. We still had sufficient time to walk *Quebrada Honda* and part of the famous *Jocotoco Antpitta trail* during the afternoon. We expected it to be relatively quiet (as afternoons often are), so were stunned when one of the first birds we saw was a group of three **Red-hooded Tanagers**, a much wanted species for the group! The rest of the afternoon was, of course, a bit of a comedown after this, with little of note seen except for **Bearded Guan** and some great looks at some vociferous **Golden-plumed Parakeets** but few of the antpittas *heard* that we had hoped to *see*. The good news was the weather was good with no rain at all, a real rarity at this site! As we checked in to the lodge, “Casa Simpson”, we were greeted by several new hummingbirds at the feeders, which were dominated by **Chestnut-breasted Coronets** but also held a few **Amethyst-throated Sunangels**, one of our site target birds.



Orange-banded Flycatcher from the cloud-forested slopes of Cerro Toledo (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

#### Day 10: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Tapichalaca & the Valladolid/Palanda area.

This was a landmark day of the tour, as we were to visit one of Ecuador's most famous birds, the *Jocotoco Antpitta*. This incredibly striking antpitta was not discovered until 1997, when an esteemed group of birders recorded a strange call, played it back, and were stunned to see a large and distinctive pied-faced antpitta come crashing through the bamboo towards them. And the rest, they say, is history. This led to the purchase of what is now *Tapichalaca Reserve* and the formation of a superb Ecuadorian NGO that bears its name, the *Jocotoco Conservation Foundation*, which now has 15 different reserves and a series of lodges through, many of which we used on this tour, thus directly supporting their critical conservation work for so many threatened Ecuadorian bird species. So, the antpitta is special itself as a rare bird, which is routinely seen at a forest feeding station in *Tapichalaca*, though the antpitta is now also become an iconic symbol for conservation. To get to the bird we needed to walk an ascending forest trail for one kilometer (0.6 miles), a track that led to us getting further close ups with nesting **Golden-plumed Parakeets**, and also add **Black-throated Tody-Tyrant**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, **Black-capped Hemispingus**, **Grass-green Tanager**, **Citrine Warbler**, and **Smoky Bush-Tyrant** to our

burgeoning birdlist. Once we arrived at the *antpitta* feeding station we soon saw an antpitta, although not the star of the show, as it was a **Chestnut-naped Antpitta**, which is often bullied away from the feeder by the larger *Jocotoco Antpitta*. However, on this morning, it was left undisturbed as it came in several times, while overhead a higher feeder, also offering worms drew in a female Barred Fruiteater, which remained there for some time. Our second antpitta of the morning was the main one we were seeking, as a single **Jocotoco Antpitta** (*photo below*), came in rather later than expected to collect some worms, within 20 feet of us, when cameras were swiftly fired into action. We then added a third antpitta just before lunch, with a responsive **Equatorial Antpitta** close to the lodge.



One of South America's most sought after birds, **Jocotoco Antpitta**, a species that went undetected until 1997. It remains and rare and very local, only known from around five localities in *Southern Ecuador* and *Northern Peru*. *Tapichalaca* continues to be the most reliable place to see it, where this photo was taken during the tour, (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).



**Maranon Thrush** just reaches into Ecuador just south of *Tapichalaca*, where this photo was taken near the town of *Valladolid* (Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours).

Other morning trail highlights included a seen **Chusquea Tapaculo**, **Blue-and-black** and **Lacrimose Mountain Tanagers**, and a gorgeous **Golden-crowned Tanager** that was perched above the antpitta station for a while. We took lunch at the lodge, although were soon after departing for lower elevations, and another local specialty, **Maranon Thrush** (*photo above*), a largely Peruvian species, which stretches into Ecuador where the northern tip of the range reaches just south of *Tapichalaca*, near the lower altitude town of *Valladolid*. The thrush was initially difficult and unseen while we saw other new birds during our first foray into the Andean foothills of the eastern slope, with **Torrent Tyrannulet**, **Rufous-fronted Thornbird**, **Mottle-backed Elaenia**, **Bronze-green Euphonia**, **Speckled Chachalaca** and a **Dull-colored Grassquit** singing from a roadside cable. Our final stop was just above the town of *Valladolid*, where we found a calling **White-winged Brushfinch**, here of the distinctive “Paynter’s” form that some suggest deserves full species status, in an area where we also saw one of the few **Blackburnian Warblers** of the tour.

#### Day 11: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Tapichalaca to Cabanas de Yankuam via Yantzaza.

During a shortened morning we spent some final hours at *Tapichalaca* chasing down some missing lifers. In general, it was a quiet spell, though we did finally manage some good views and photos of a calling **Slate-crowned Antpitta**, our fourth and final antpitta species for the site. Little else was calling along the trail and so

we opted to return to the vehicle and drive downhill some to an area above the town of Valladolid where one of the local rangers had been seeing the rare **Chestnut-crested Cotinga** in recent days. We prayed for a lack of rain and good visibility, as the birds prefer to emerge on to the canopies when the first good sun of the day occurs. As we arrived there at 09:30am the first warmer spell of the day was already nigh. We split up to scan a wider area when *Sam* found a lone cotinga sitting out in the open, which afforded 'scope views in several positions from there. After that, we packed up and took our boxed lunch on the road as we headed to the remote *Yankuam Lodge*, in the far southeast of Ecuador, very close to Peruvian frontier once more, although this time in the eastern part of the country. We did a little birding near *Yantzaza* on the way, with the little time we had spare during the long journey but did not find the hoped-for *Bluish-fronted Jacamar*. We were compensated with a couple of new birds for the group with a **Duida Woodcreeper** and a **Little Woodpecker**. We arrived at Yankuam just after dark when a calling *Band-bellied Owl* was calling on arrival, although we did not attempt to see it then as *Stephan* and *Xueping* had seen a pair on a previous trip to Ecuador.

### Day 12: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Maycu Reserve.

This exciting area offered a long list of possibilities, many of which were lifebirds for the group, and through the day we recorded in the region of 100 species, while never traveling very far in doing so. However, the bird we craved the most, the already rare *Orange-throated Tanager* could never be located on this or the next day, a flagship species for the area that seems to be getting alarmingly rarer with forest clearance occurring at pace with widespread mining concessions growing in the area. However, what about the birds we did see? Things were very quiet first thing until the day warmed and flocks began. To appear, causing a late morning flourish in birds seen. These included a number of species on the groups "shopping list", like a wonderful pair of **Lanceolated Monklets**, a handful of **Purplish Jacamars**, a male **Black-and-white Tody-Flycatcher**, **Rusty-winged Antwren**, **Ecuadorian and White-lored Tyrannulets**, **Yellow-margined Flycatcher**, **Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner**, **White-vented Euphonia**, **Fulvous-crested Tanager**, several **Masked and Yellow-backed Tanagers**, and the rarely seen **Yellow-shouldered Grosbeak**. Other birds seen among the 70 or so recorded during the morning included **Gilded and lemon-throated Barbets**, **Green-backed Trogon**, **Yellow-tufted Woodpecker**, **Euler's Flycatcher**, and **Flame-crested, Paradise, and Green-and-gold Tanagers**, and **Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo**. We returned to the nearby lodge for lunch and soon returned to *Maycu Reserve* for much of the afternoon, which was punctuated with rainy spells, in between which we finally got good looks at the Lilliputian **White-bellied Pygmy-Tyrant** that just sneaks into Ecuador at this one site. Barely bigger was a pair of **Lafresnaye's Piculets**. Other afternoon highpoints were provided by a pair of **White-browed Purpletufts**, and **Fulvous Shrike-Tanager**, among others. A good find too was a flock dwelling **Red-stained Woodpecker** spotted by *Xueping*. We made a quick foray into *Peru*, where the road briefly crosses over the border before returning to *Yankuam* at the very end of the day.

### Day 13: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Maycu Reserve to Copalinga via Nangaritza.

The morning was spent searching in vain for any sign of the *Orange-throated Tanager*, which was heard (at least) the previous day but went unseen and unheard on this day unfortunately. However, we were still able to make some worthy additions to the bird list, including **Golden-winged Tody-Flycatchers**, **Eastern Woodhaunter**, **Yellow-bellied Tanager**, a few **Black Caracaras**, a single singing **Musician Wren**, a pair of gorgeous **Golden-collared Toucanets**, and a navy blue male **Amazonian Grosbeak**. In the afternoon, we headed towards *Copalinga Lodge* our fourth *Jocotoco Foundation* lodge of the tour and fifth foundation reserve. However, we stopped near *Nangaritza*, to try another known stakeout for *Bluish-fronted Jacamar*, which proved to be fruitless in that regard with none heard at all. Our visit there was not wasted though as we photographed

another **Laughing Falcon** there, and added two more photogenic target birds, **Olive-chested Flycatcher** (*photo below*), and **Dusky-cheeked (Bamboo) Foliage-gleaner**. We could not resist delaying check in to *Copalinga Lodge*, bypassing the lodge in order to reach a particular stretch of roadside to try for **Blackish Nightjar**. It was barely getting dark when one was heard calling close by and then noticed to be sitting on the road close by, a wonderful welcome to the area!



The restricted range **Olive-chested Flycatcher** was seen beside the *Nangaritza River* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

#### Day 14: 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Copalinga Lodge, Rio Bombuscaro & Mi Paradise.

This was a thrilling day, as we visited three major sites, *Copalinga Lodge*, the *Rio Bombuscaro* sector of *Podocarpus National Park*, and a small private reserve, *Mi Paradise*, finding some excellent specialties in each. However, you would not have seen this coming from our unextraordinary opening birding session around the lodge, where we hoped to find one of the roaming groups of endangered *White-necked Parakeets* that had recently been ravaging the fruiting trees in the garden. None appeared, although we did see a sweet set of hummingbirds as usual, with **Many-spotted Hummingbirds**, a couple of **Wire-crested Thorntails** browsing the violet *Verbena* flowers where **Violet-headed Hummingbirds** also showed up, while **Golden-tailed Sapphire** and **Violet-fronted Brilliant** visited the lodge feeders.

**Green Jays** (*photo below*), and a **Streaked Xenops** also featured in the parking lot. With lots on offer inside nearby *Podocarpus National Park*, we soon split in favour of there.



The South American version of the **Green Jay** (sometimes referred to as “*Inca Jay*”) was seen at *Copalinga Lodge* in the eastern foothills of the Andes (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

We walked the forest trail into the park, with our first breakthrough coming when we reached a parrot lick along the entrance track, where a restless party of seven **White-necked Parakeets** (*photo page 25*) were waiting for us, perching on the wooden railing, landing in the nearby trees, and then dropping on to the clay bank within close quarters of us rapidly shooting nearby! In between bouts of activity we encountered the typical, tropical drop offs, with notable quiet periods too. However, when we reached the park clearing, things picked up once more, with the regular exciting flock of *tanagers* blazing through, with species like **Golden, Paradise, Orange-eared, Yellow-bellied, Green-and-gold and Blue-necked Tanagers** lighting up the trees around us, all being seen in quick succession. *Tanagers* were not the only members of the flock, (even if they were the most visible and striking ones). In between the *tanagers* came another key species at this site, with four **Foothill Elaenias**, a



relatively bright *flycatcher* that went undescribed until the year 2000, after it was first seen where we stood. An **Ash-browed Spinetail** was also another flock member that was a new addition for us in company with the other *elaenias* and *tanagers*. Venturing further inside the park, we located a feisty pair of the scarce **Orange-crested Flycatcher**, then played hide-and-seek with an **Olive Finch** that eventually appeared in a position that we could both see, and photograph, it. On the way back out, we found a burly brace of **Amazonian Umbrellabirds** and enjoyed a prolonged photo shoot with our third **Lanceolated Monklet** (*photo page 26*) of the tour...



The endangered **White-necked Parakeet** was seen in the *Rio Bombuscaro sector of Podocarpus National Park*, where a flock of seven featured. This species is a near endemic to Ecuador, just barely sneaking into Peru, (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

With *Mi Paradise* next on our itinerary, an hours' drive away close to *Yantzaza*, and with the need to be back at *Copalinga Lodge* for another appointment in the late afternoon, we set off with our boxed lunches for there, promptly next. On arrival, we were met by the sanctuary owner, *Cristian*, who informed us we should try a higher trail than usual as the only adult male *Spangled Coquette* (our principal target species there), was not visiting the lower sets of *Verbena* flowers.



Our third **Lanceolated Monklet** of the tour was seen in *Podocarpus National Park*,  
(*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

We hiked uphill but were thwarted by only brief views of the *coquette* and so walked back downhill to the usual feeding area, where we were soon back on track with up to four different male **Spangled Coquettes** being seen, including a long crested adult male, while other hummingbirds also visiting the banks of flowers included **Blue-tailed Emerald**, **Glittering-throated Emerald** and two different **Little Woodstars**, including a rarely seen adult male. With us scoring bingo now on all of our main targets at *Mi Paradise*, after just over an hour we drove back to *Copalinga* in readiness for another very special appointment. We met with local ranger *Victor* who led us up to a well-known forest blind where they scatter cracked corn in the late afternoons to attract a normally shy and elusive forest denizen, the **Gray Tinamou** (photo page 27). Forty odd minutes later the *tinamou* had not yet appeared, but it regularly called very nearby, keeping our hopes alive. Then, the group spotted this stout tinamou walking down the trail towards us and it came in close enough to the blind that the larger lenses had difficulty fitting the entire bird in the frame! We were enraptured by this bird, indeed so much so, that we did not initially notice that another individual **Gray Tinamou** was approaching the “blind” (more like a wooden screen than a blind) from the side we were standing in, so we were now positioned between two different tinamous at close quarters. Things took a turn for the bizarre when the bird behind us began softly calling, luring

in a third *tinamou* that then joined the second bird and attempted several times to mate with it, trying to mount it several times (unsuccessfully) and puffing up its plumage in the excitement in between bouts of chasing it up and down the trail just on front of us! We did not just see the tinamou, we enjoyed some truly intimate moments with them over 30 minutes or so.



One of three individual **Gray Tinamous** seen in front of and behind the blind with us at *Copalinga Lodge*, the only reliable place to see this timid *tinamou* species anywhere (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

After the *tinamous* departed down a steep slope, a **White-throated Quail-Dove** also came in for some corn too. We returned to the lodge during the latest part of the afternoon to observe hummingbirds, hoping for something new, though unfortunately only *Sam* saw a male **Peruvian Racket-tail** that came in late on.

#### **Day 15: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 – Copalinga Lodge, Rio Bombuscaro & Huashapamba (Saraguro).**

March opened with another visit to *Rio Bombuscaro*, as there was still plenty of interest to us there. Although slow at times we did manage to find some notable new birds, arguably the best being a brace of **Black-streaked**

**Puffbirds**, a male **Foothill Stipplethroat**, a **Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher**, and a male **Peruvian Racket-tail**, this time for everybody. We also ran into the same *tanager* flock this time holding *seven tanager different species* (**Paradise, Spotted, Yellow-bellied, Blue-necked, Swallow, Bay-headed, and Green-and-gold Tanagers**) to admire. We then undertook the long drive north to *Saraguro*, where we spent two nights in this distinctive, highland town. We scheduled the journey so that our arrival time would allow time to visit a small community reserve in the late afternoon, *Huashapamba*, a known hang out for the rare *Red-faced Parrot*. The chances of seeing this low density, threatened bird, are always low, though this is the best time to find them when they are flying around in the late afternoon before heading to roost in the nearby hills. Regarding the *parrot*, it did not work out with only one party heard after low cloud had descended on us and ruined any chance we had of actually seeing them. Thankfully, another species made our visit very worthwhile anyway, when a calling **Andean Pygmy-Owl** (*photo below*), was lured into the trees above us where it remained on its mossy perch for some time glaring at us, before we left once the fog drove us back to the hotel with minimal visibility for *parrots* remaining!



This **Andean Pygmy-Owl** was seen close to the highland town of *Saraguro* (*Sam Woods*).

**Day 16: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 – Cerro Acacana & Huashapamba (Saraguro).**

Our full day out of *Copalinga Lodge* just a few days earlier was a contender for the best day of the tour, as it simply had us shaking our heads at times in sheer disbelief and wonder. The latter could also be said for this day, though unfortunately at the other end of the scale, this being arguably the most frustrating and challenging day of the tour. We actually had some good early sightings but were then dogged by heavy, persistent rain in the cloud forest, making it having to work very hard for very few avian rewards after the rain set in. Early on arrival within the *elfin forest* close to the treeline we heard one of our main target birds straight off the bat and it had us battling through some forest growth to get closer to it. We got into position played back the call, and a **Crescent-faced Antpitta** came in very close, showing very well to *Sam* and *Xueping*, although *Stephan* was blocked from view and we never managed to get it to come in again, most probably as a result of the substantial unrelenting late morning and afternoon rain. The next notable birding moment though was better still as *Xueping* spotted a pair of the very rare **Chestnut-bellied Cotingas** that showed well before retiring once the rain came in, in full force. Our persistence was rewarded to some degree later on once we found two different parties of **Black-headed Hemispingus**, a species that we had tried for several times without success before then.



**PHOTO PAGE BEFORE:** Male **Blue-throated Hillstar** perched on a *Puya* plant, *Cerro de Arcos* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

**Day 17: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 – Cerro de Arcos to Santa Isabel.**

After the battles and hard times of our rainy day the day before, we needed a break and we got just that on this day with a marvelous period of birding with almost no rain at all, and some beautiful birds in addition to plentiful impressive high Andean vistas. Just what we required after those earlier, recent frustrations. We were upbeat on this day, as we headed into the high Andes of *Cerro de Arcos* the site of a very special discovery in 2017, when an unknown hummingbird was discovered and then described as a new species to science just a year later. The *Blue-throated Hillstar* was therefore our primary goal of the day, though we knew that notoriously temperamental high Andean weather had the potential to derail us once more. On the way, the climate looked fine, and so we made some short birding stops enroute, seeing **Rainbow Starfrontlet** and **Blue-capped Tanager**.



**Shining Sunbeam** was the dominant hummingbird species at the refuge feeders in *Cerro de Arcos*. **Great Sapphirewing** and **Viridian Metaltail** were also present (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

Once we were close to the refuge, we were met by local guide *Bernardino*, who took us up the final few miles in a four-wheel drive vehicle to the trailhead for the treasured *hillstar*. We walked into the scenic paramo and staked out several stands of oriole-orange *Chuquiragua* plants, their favoured food source, which is native to the high Andes. We glimpsed a male as we arrived but then needed to wait some time before we located a close perched **Blue-throated Hillstar** (*photo page 29*), which we spent quite some time with, admiring its shimmering blue throat in doing so as it diffracted the sunlight regularly.

We also added a **Many-striped Canastero** to the list in the same area and also had several pairs of low-flying **Mountain Caracaras** to the delight of the group. We took a hot, cooked lunch at the nearby mountain refuge with a burning stove providing some welcome heat. Outside the feeders were buzzing with aggressive **Shining Sunbeams** (*photo page 30*), with the occasional visit from a **Great Sapphirewing** and **Viridian Metaltail** too. Soon after we thanked and bid farewell to *Bernardino* after reconnecting with our vehicle, for the exceptionally picturesque drive through the *Inter Andean Valley* to the town of *Santa Isabel* for our final night of the tour. The minivan was stopped multiple times to both admire and capture some stunning landscape images as we passed through. We also made a couple of final birding stops that were very productive. The first one gave us a singing **Purple-collared Woodstar**, a tight group of **Hooded Siskins**, and several gaudy male **Vermilion Flycatchers**. The next pause produced plentiful **Band-tailed Sierra-Finches** and a very confiding **Short-tailed Field-Tyrant** (*photo below*).



This **Short-tailed Field-Tyrant** was seen within dry country within the Inter Andean Valley near *Santa Isabel*.

We had been trying to track down the scarce *Drab Seedeater* too, but time ran out and we drove on with the windows down. Then, as we entered an area of low, semi-arid shrubbery the striking song of the **Drab Seedeater** reached our ears, and we jumped out to admire a pair of these specialty seedeaters to finish off the day in style!

#### Day 18: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Yunguilla & El Cajas National Park to Guayaquil for DEPARTURES.

The final day started out at *Yunguilla Reserve* near our hotel in *Santa Isabel* where the site offered few new species but one very special one indeed, the *Pale-headed Brushfinch*, an endangered species numbering just under 230 individuals, almost all occurring only in this one small protected area, which is owned by the *Jocotoco Foundation*. This represented the *seventh* reserve of the foundation that we covered on the tour. We were led to a feeder, where some oranges quickly attracted a single **Pale-headed Brushfinch**, making extremely light work of finding this genuinely rare species. A **Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush** also visited the feeder several times too, although we did not wait for the regular *Chestnut-crowned Antpitta* to show up, as *Xueping* and *Stephan* had already seen that species before and we instead left the reserve as early as possible in order to fit in a final few stops within *El Cajas National Park* during the journey back to *Guayaquil* for our night flights out at the end of the tour.



Half a dozen or more **Violet-throated Metaltails** were seen around *El Cajas National Park*.

The species is endemic to Southern Ecuador (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).



As we approached first *Cuenca*, and then *El Cajas*, we birded some highland scrub just below the paramo, and just outside of the park, where we quickly located the first two of around half a dozen **Violet-throated Metaltails** (*photo page 32*), seen during the morning when their primary food plants seemed to be blooming absolutely everywhere. In the same area a small flock appeared, which held another new species for the group, a pair of **Superciliaried Hemispingus**, as well as a **Blue-backed Conebill** and **White-throated and White-banded Tyrannulets** (*photo below*).



This **White-banded Tyrannulet** was in company with **Blue-backed Conebill** and a pair of **Superciliaried Hemispingus** in a high Andean flock just outside *El Cajas National Park* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

After that, we entered the park itself and took a secluded mountain trail through the open *paramo* to a grove of rusty, flaky-barked, *polylepis* trees on the edge of a scenic mountain lake. At the trailhead we saw a **Sharp-shinned (Plain-breasted) Hawk** sitting on some rocks just off of the trail. These trees have been recorded growing higher than any other trees on Earth, which was illustrated by the fact that we were at a lofty 11,

800ft/3600m there. We combed the trees for a large, rare, red-and-white flycatcher (**Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant**-*photo below*), which suddenly responded to our overtures, and flew in and landed just above our heads!



A pair of **Red-rumped Bush-Tyrants** featured on the last day of the tour, and was seen in a large, mature grove of *polylepis* trees around a scenic highland lake in *El Cajas* (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

More **Violet-throated Metaltails** were seen there too. The next stop was the most popular tourist attraction in the park, *Laguna Torreadora*, where we did not find a hoped for *Blue-mantled Thornbill* within the limited time available, although did find a quartet of **Tit-like Dacnis** (*photo page 36*), including an astonishing, denim blue male. All too soon, time was against us, and we needed to head back to the city of *Guayaquil*, where we were taking our international and domestic flights home, passing by large flooded areas on the way back with many **Snail Kites**, plus **Wattled Jacanas**, **Limpkins**, **Cocoi Herons**, **Anhingas**, and **Black-bellied and Fulvous Whistling-Ducks**, (among other wetland birds), along with a handful of **Savanna Hawks** too, to finish off the tour.



**PHOTOS PAGE BEFORE: (TOP)** *Polylepis* woodland surrounding this scenic highland lake in *El Cajas* held a pair of **Red-rumped Bush-Tyrants** and the scrub alongside hosted a number of the endemic **Violet-throated Metaltail** (*Sam Woods*).

**(BOTTOM)** This scenic area within the Inter Andean Valley between *Cerro de Arcos* and *Santa Isabel* was home to **Short-tailed Field-Tyrant**, **Purple-collared Woodstar**, **Band-tailed Seedeaters**, **Vermilion Flycatchers**, and **Drab Seedeaters** (*Sam Woods*).



**Andean Emerald** was one of more than 60 hummingbirds recorded on the tour, and one of many seen at *Buenaventura* Reserve, where **White-necked Jacobin**, **Green Thorntail**, **Violet-bellied Hummingbird**, **Crowned Woodnymph**, **White-booted Racket-tail**, **Violet-tailed Sylph**, **Velvet-purple Coronet** and **Brown Inca** were all also seen there (*Sam Woods/Tropical Birding Tours*).

Some final images from the tour from the tour participants:

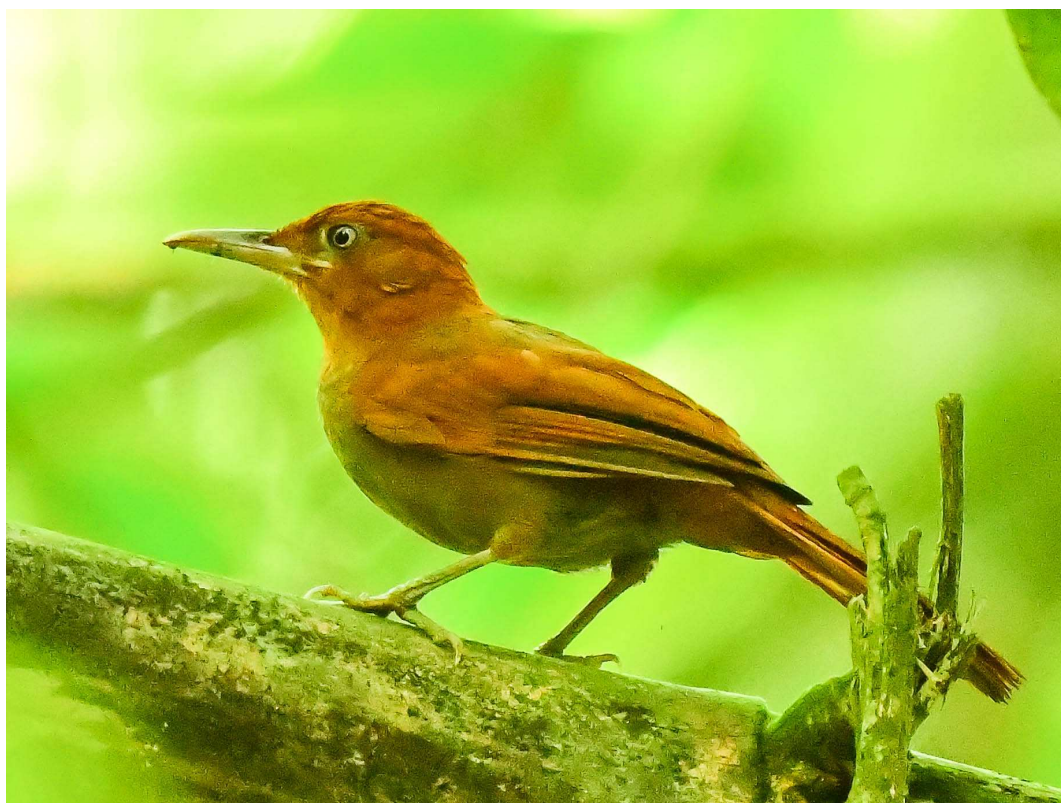


Horned Screamer (TOP) and Chapman's Antshrike, Utuana (Xueping & Stephan Popp)





Chestnut-naped Antpitta, *Tapichalaca* (TOP) and Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner, *Ayampe* (Xueping & Stephan Popp)



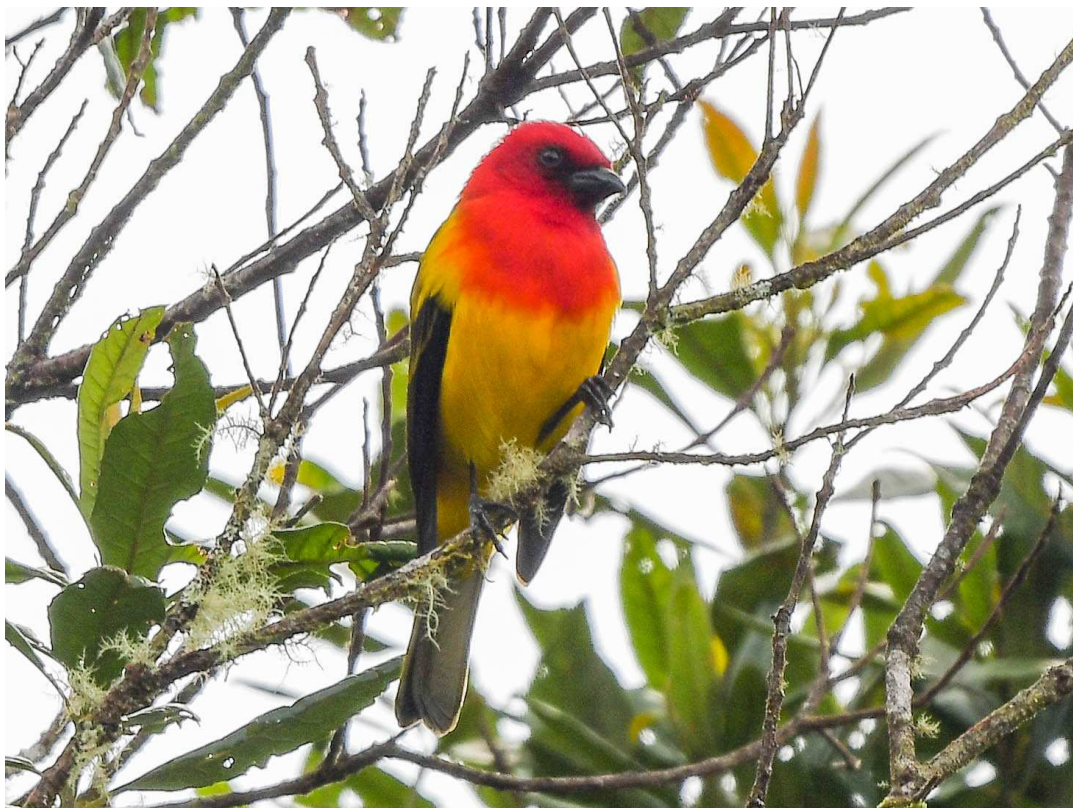


Black-and-white Tanager, Jorupe (TOP) and Ecuadorian Piculet, El Empalme (Xueping & Stephan Popp)





Female **Barred Fruiteater** (TOP) and **Red-hooded Tanager**, both *Tapichalaca* (Xueping & Stephan Popp)







Masked Mountain-Tanager (TOP) and female Neblina Metaltail, Podocarpus National Park (Xueping & Stephan Popp)





Peruvian Meadowlark, Santa Elena Peninsula (TOP) & White-tailed Jay, Jorupe (Xueping & Stephan Popp)





Tit-like Dacnis, El Cajas NP (TOP) &, White-throated Screech-Owl, Tapichalaca (Xueping & Stephan Popp)



**CHECKLIST:**

The taxonomy of the bird list follows Clements, James F., White, Anthony W., and Fitzpatrick, John W. *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*. Cornell, 2007. This list is up to date with changes published by Cornell in **October 2023**.

(H) - INDICATES A SPECIES THAT WAS HEARD ONLY.

(GO) – INDICATES A SPECIES RECORDED BY THE GUIDE ONLY.

BIRDS IN **Red** ARE REGIONAL SPECIALTIES.

**BIRDS****TINAMOUS**

Gray Tinamou

H Great Tinamou

H Little Tinamou

**Pale-browed Tinamou**

**SCREAMERS**

Horned Screamer

**DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS**

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Fulvous Whistling-Duck

Comb Duck

Muscovy Duck

Torrent Duck

Blue-winged Teal

White-cheeked Pintail

Andean Duck

**GUANS, CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS**

Rufous-headed Chachalaca

Speckled Chachalaca

Bearded Guan

**FLAMINGOS**

Chilean Flamingo

**GREBES**

Pied-billed Grebe

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

Rock Pigeon

**TINAMIDAE**

*Tinamus tao*

*Tinamus major*

*Crypturellus soui*

***Crypturellus transfasciatus***

**ANHIMIDAE**

*Anhima cornuta*

**ANATIDAE**

*Dendrocygna autumnalis*

*Dendrocygna bicolor*

*Sarkidiornis melanotos*

*Cairina moschata*

*Merganetta armata*

*Spatula discors*

*Anas bahamensis*

*Oxyura ferruginea*

**CRACIDAE**

*Ortalis erythroptera*

*Ortalis guttata*

*Penelope barbata*

**PHOENICOPTERIDAE**

*Phoenicopterus chilensis*

**PODICIPEDIDAE**

*Podilymbus podiceps*

**COLUMBIDAE**

*Columba livia*

	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>
	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>
	Plumbeous Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas plumbea</i>
	Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>
	Plain-breasted Ground Dove	<i>Columbina minuta</i>
H	Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>
	Ecuadorian Ground Dove	<i>Columbina buckleyi</i>
	Croaking Ground Dove	<i>Columbina cruziana</i>
	Blue Ground Dove	<i>Claravis pretiosa</i>
	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>
H	Ochre-bellied Dove	<i>Leptotila ochraceiventris</i>
GO	Gray-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>
	Pallid Dove	<i>Leptotila pallida</i>
	White-throated Quail-Dove	<i>Zentrygon frenata</i>
	West Peruvian Dove	<i>Zenaida meloda</i>
	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>
	<b>CUCKOOS</b>	<b>CUCULIDAE</b>
	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>
	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>
H	Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>
	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>
	Gray-capped Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus lansbergi</i>
	<b>NIGHTJARS</b>	<b>CAPRIMULGIDAE</b>
	Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>
	Blackish Nightjar	<i>Nyctipolus nigrescens</i>
GO	Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>
	<b>SWIFTS</b>	<b>APODIDAE</b>
	Chestnut-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne rutila</i>
	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>
	Gray-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>
	Short-tailed (Tumbes) Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura ocybetes</i>

## HUMMINGBIRDS

White-necked Jacobin  
 Pale-tailed Barbthroat  
 H **White-whiskered Hermit**  
 Green Hermit  
 GO Gray-chinned Hermit  
 Sparkling Violetear  
 Brown Violetear  
 GO Lesser (Green) Violetear  
 Purple-crowned Fairy  
 Black-eared Fairy  
**Amethyst-throated Sunangel**  
 Little (Flame-throated) Sunangel  
**Purple-throated Sunangel**  
 Wire-crested Thorntail  
 Green Thorntail  
 Spangled Coquette  
 Ecuadorian Piedtail  
 Speckled Hummingbird  
**Violet-tailed Sylph**  
**Blue-throated Hillstar (E)**  
 Black-tailed Trainbearer  
 GO Blue-mantled Thornbill  
 Rainbow-bearded Thornbill  
 Tyrian Metaltail  
 Viridian Metaltail  
**Violet-throated Metaltail (E)**  
**Neblina Metaltail**  
 Greenish Puffleg  
 Glowing Puffleg  
 Shining Sunbeam  
**Brown Inca**

## TROCHILIDAE

*Florisuga mellivora*  
*Threnetes leucurus*  
***Phaethornis yaruqui***  
*Phaethornis guy*  
*Phaethornis griseogularis*  
*Colibri coruscans*  
*Colibri delphinae*  
*Colibri cyanotus*  
*Heliiothryx barroti*  
*Heliiothryx auritus*  
***Heliangelus amethysticollis***  
*Heliangelus micraster*  
***Heliangelus viola***  
*Discosura popelairii*  
*Discosura conversii*  
*Lophornis stictolophus*  
*Phlogophilus hemileucurus*  
*Adelomyia melanogenys*  
***Agelaiocercus coelestis***  
***Oreotrochilus cyanolaemus***  
*Lesbia victoriae*  
*Chalcostigma stanleyi*  
*Chalcostigma herrani*  
*Metallura tyrianthina*  
*Metallura williami*  
***Metallura baroni***  
***Metallura odomae***  
*Haplophaedia aureliae*  
*Eriocnemis vestita*  
*Aglaeactis cupripennis*  
***Coeligena wilsoni***

Collared Inca	<i>Coeligena torquata</i>
Rainbow Starfrontlet	<i>Coeligena iris</i>
GO Mountain Velvetbreast	<i>Lafresnaya lafresnayi</i>
Great Sapphirewing	<i>Pterophanes cyanopterus</i>
Chestnut-breasted Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua matthewsii</i>
Velvet-purple Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua jardini</i>
White-booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i>
Peruvian (Booted) Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus peruanus</i>
Fawn-breasted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa rubinoides</i>
Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>
Violet-fronted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa leadbeateri</i>
Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Helimaster longirostris</i>
Short-tailed Woodstar	<i>Myrmia micrura</i>
Purple-collared Woodstar	<i>Myrtis fanny</i>
Little Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus bombus</i>
Esmeraldas Woodstar (E)	<i>Chaetocercus berlepschi</i>
Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>
Gray-breasted Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus largipennis</i>
White-vented Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffonii intermedia</i>
Crowned (Emerald-bellied) Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica hypochlora</i>
Fork-tailed Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania furcata</i>
Tumbes Hummingbird	<i>Thaumasius baeri</i>
Many-spotted Hummingbird	<i>Taphrospilus hypostictus</i>
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>
Amazilia Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amazilia</i>
Andean Emerald	<i>Uranomitra franciae</i>
Golden-tailed Sapphire	<i>Chrysuronia oenone</i>
Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Chionomesa fimbriata</i>
Violet-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Chlorestes julie</i>
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>	<b>RALLIDAE</b>
Rufous-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides axillaris</i>

Common Gallinule

Purple Gallinule

H Chestnut-headed Crake

H White-throated Crake

### LIMPKIN

Limpkin

### THICK-KNEES

Peruvian Thick-knee

### STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt

### OYSTERCATCHERS

American Oystercatcher

### PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Black-bellied (Gray) Plover

Snowy Plover

Wilson's Plover

Semipalmated Plover

### JACANAS

Wattled Jacana

### SANDPIPERS

Whimbrel

Ruddy Turnstone

Stilt Sandpiper

Sanderling

Least Sandpiper

Western Sandpiper

Short-billed Dowitcher

Wilson's Phalarope

Spotted Sandpiper

Greater Yellowlegs

Willet

Lesser Yellowlegs

*Gallinula galeata*

*Porphyrio martinica*

*Anurolimnas castaneiceps*

*Laterallus albigularis*

### ARAMIDAE

*Aramus guarauna*

### BURHINIDAE

*Hesperoburhinus superciliaris*

### RECURVIROSTRIDAE

*Himantopus mexicanus*

### HAEMATOPODIDAE

*Haematopus palliatus*

### CHARADRIIDAE

*Pluvialis squatarola*

*Anarhynchus nivosus*

*Anarhynchus wilsonia*

*Charadrius semipalmatus*

### JACANIDAE

*Jacana jacana*

### SCOLOPACIDAE

*Numenius phaeopus*

*Arenaria interpres*

*Calidris himantopus*

*Calidris alba*

*Calidris minutilla*

*Calidris mauri*

*Limnodromus griseus*

*Phalaropus tricolor*

*Actitis macularius*

*Tringa melanoleuca*

*Tringa semipalmata*

*Tringa flavipes*



**GULLS, TERNS, & SKIMMERS**

Gray-hooded Gull

Gray Gull

Laughing Gull

Kelp Gull

Gull-billed Tern

Royal Tern

Sandwich Tern

**SUNBITTERN**

Sunbittern

**STORKS**

Wood Stork

**FRIGATEBIRDS**

Magnificent Frigatebird

**BOOBIES AND GANNETS**

Blue-footed Booby

**ANHINGAS**

Anhinga

**CORMORANTS AND SHAGS**

Neotropic Cormorant

**PELICANS**

Brown Pelican

**HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERNs**

Cocoi Heron

Great Egret

Snowy Egret

Tricolored Heron

Western Cattle Egret

Striated Heron

Black-crowned Night Heron

Yellow-crowned Night Heron

**LARIDAE***Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus**Leucophaeus modestus**Leucophaeus atricilla**Larus dominicanus**Gelochelidon nilotica**Thalasseus maximus**Thalasseus sandvicensis***EURYPYGIDAE***Eurypyga helias***CICONIIDAE***Mycteria americana***FREGATIDAE***Fregata magnificens***SULIDAE***Sula nebouxii***ANHINGIDAE***Anhinga anhinga***PHALACROCORACIDAE***Nannopterum brasilianum***PELECANIDAE***Pelecanus occidentalis***ARDEIDAE***Ardea cocoi**Ardea alba**Egretta thula**Egretta tricolor**Bubulcus ibis**Butorides striata**Nycticorax nycticorax**Nyctanassa violacea*

**IBIS AND SPOONBILLS**

White Ibis

Roseate Spoonbill

**NEW WORLD VULTURES**

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture

**HAWKS, EAGLES, KITES**

White-tailed Kite

Swallow-tailed Kite

Snail Kite

Plumbeous Kite

Sharp-shinned (Plain-breasted) Hawk

Savanna Hawk

Roadside Hawk

Harris's Hawk

Variable Hawk

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle

White Hawk

*Gray-backed Hawk*

GO Gray-lined (Gray) Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

**OWLS**

White-throated Screech-Owl

*Peruvian Screech-Owl*

H Spectacled Owl

H Band-bellied Owl

H Great Horned Owl

Andean Pygmy-Owl

*Peruvian (Pacific) Pygmy-Owl*

Burrowing Owl

**THRESKIORNITHIDAE***Eudocimus albus**Platalea ajaja***CATHARTIDAE***Coragyps atratus**Cathartes aura**Cathartes melambrotus***ACCIPITRIDAE***Elanus leucurus**Elanoides forficatus**Rostrhamus sociabilis**Ictinia plumbea**Accipiter striatus ventralis**Buteogallus meridionalis**Rupornis magnirostris**Parabuteo unicinctus**Geranoaetus polyosoma**Geranoaetus melanoleucus**Pseudastur albicollis**Pseudastur occidentalis**Buteo nitidus**Buteo platypterus**Buteo brachyurus***STRIGIDAE***Megascops albogularis**Megascops roboratus**Pulsatrix perspicillata**Pulsatrix melanota**Bubo virginianus**Glaucidium jardiinii**Glaucidium peruanum**Athene cunicularia*

**TROGONS****Ecuadorian Trogon**

Green-backed (Amaz. White-tailed) Trogon

Gartered (N. Violaceous) Trogon

H Amazonian (Violaceous) Trogon

H Collared Trogon

Masked Trogon

**MOTMOTS**

Whooping (Blue-crowned) Motmot

Rufous Motmot

**KINGFISHERS**

Ringed Kingfisher

GO Green Kingfisher

**PUFFBIRDS**

White-whiskered Puffbird

Black-streaked Puffbird

Lanceolated Monklet

**JACAMARS****Coppery-chested Jacamar**

Purplish Jacamar

**NEW WORLD BARBETS**

Gilded Barbet

Lemon-throated Barbet

Red-headed Barbet

**TOUCANS**

H Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan

Chestnut-eared Aracari

Golden-collared Toucanet

Yellow-throated Toucan (Chestnut-mandibled) Toucan

H **Choco Toucan**

GO Channel-billed Toucan

**TROGONIDAE*****Trogon mesurus****Trogon viridis**Trogon caligatus**Trogon ramonianus**Trogon collaris**Trogon personatus***MOMOTIDAE***Momotus subrufescens argenticinctus**Baryphthengus martii***ALCEDINIDAE***Megaceryle torquata**Chloroceryle americana***BUCCONIDAE***Malacoptila panamensis**Malacoptila fulvogularis**Micromonacha lanceolata***GALBULIDAE*****Galbula pastazae****Galbula chalcothorax***CAPITONIDAE***Capito auratus**Eubucco richardsoni**Eubucco bourcierii***RAMPHASTIDAE***Andigena hypoglauca**Pteroglossus castanotis**Selenidera reinwardtii**Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii****Ramphastos brevis****Ramphastos vitellinus*

**WOODPECKERS**

Lafresnaye's Piculet

**Ecuadorian Piculet**

H Olivaceous Piculet

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker

Smoky-brown Woodpecker

Little Woodpecker

GO Scarlet-backed Woodpecker

Red-stained Woodpecker

**Guayaquil Woodpecker**

Lineated Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS**

Laughing Falcon

Crested Caracara

Black Caracara

GO Carunculated Caracara

Mountain Caracara

American Kestrel

Merlin

Bat Falcon

**PARROTS****Gray-cheeked Parakeet**H **Red-faced Parrot**

Blue-headed Parrot

Bronze-winged Parrot

Scaly-naped Parrot (Amazon)

Pacific Parrotlet

**El Oro Parakeet (E)****White-necked Parakeet (E)****Golden-plumed Parakeet****PICIDAE***Picumnus lafresnayi****Picumnus sclateri****Picumnus olivaceus**Melanerpes cruentatus**Dryobates fumigatus**Dryobates passerinus**Dryobates callonotus**Dryobates affinis****Campephilus guayaquilensis****Dryocopus lineatus**Colaptes rubiginosus**Colaptes rivolii***FALCONIDAE***Herpetotheres cachinnans**Caracara plancus**Daptrius ater**Daptrius carunculatus**Daptrius megalopterus**Falco sparverius**Falco columbarius**Falco ruficularis***PSITTACIDAE*****Brotogeris pyrrhoptera******Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops****Pionus menstruus**Pionus chalcopterus**Amazona mercenarius**Forpus coelestis****Pyrrhura orcesi******Pyrrhura albipectus******Leptosittaca branickii***

Cordilleran (Scarlet-fronted) Parakeet

Red-masked Parakeet

White-eyed Parakeet

### TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS

H Great Antshrike

Chapman's Antshrike

Lined Antshrike

Collared Antshrike

Black-crowned (Western Slaty) Antshrike

Plain-winged Antshrike

Uniform Antshrike

H Russet Antshrike

Plain Antvireo

Foothill Stipplethroat

Pygmy Antwren

White-flanked Antwren

Slaty Antwren

H Yellow-breasted Antwren

Rusty-winged (Rufous-winged) Antwren

Black Antbird

Blackish Antbird

H Black-faced Antbird

H Chestnut-backed Antbird

Gray-headed Antbird

Esmeraldas Antbird

GO Zimmer's (Chestnut-tailed) Antbird

Zeledon's (Immaculate) Antbird

H Common Scale-backed Antbird

### CRESCENTCHESTS

Elegant Crescentchest

### ANTPITTAS

H Scaled Antpitta

*Psittacara frontatus*

*Psittacara erythrogenys*

*Psittacara leucophthalmus*

### THAMNOPHILIDAE

*Taraba major*

*Thamnophilus zarumae*

*Thamnophilus tenuipunctatus*

*Thamnophilus bernardi*

*Thamnophilus atrinucha*

*Thamnophilus schistaceus*

*Thamnophilus unicolor*

*Thamnistes anabatinus*

*Dysithamnus mentalis*

*Epinecrophylla spodionota*

*Myrmotherula brachyura*

*Myrmotherula axillaris*

*Myrmotherula schisticolor*

*Herpsilochmus axillaris*

*Herpsilochmus frater*

*Cercomacroides serva*

*Cercomacroides nigrescens*

*Myrmoborus myotherinus*

*Poliocrania exsul*

*Ampelornis griseiceps*

*Sipia nigricauda*

*Sciaphylax castanea*

*Hafferia zeledoni*

*Willisornis poecilinotus*

### MELANOPAREIIDAE

*Melanopareia elegans*

### GRALLARIIDAE

*Grallaria guatemalensis*

H Plain-backed Antpitta	<i>Grallaria haplonota</i>
H Chestnut-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ruficapilla</i>
Watkins's Antpitta	<i>Grallaria watkinsi</i>
Jocotoco Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ridgelyi</i>
Chestnut-naped Antpitta	<i>Grallaria nuchalis</i>
Equatorial (Rufous) Antpitta	<i>Grallaria saturata</i>
H Tawny Antpitta	<i>Grallaria quitensis</i>
H Thrush-like Antpitta	<i>Myrmothera campanisona</i>
Leymebamba (Rusty-breasted) Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula leymebambae</i>
Slate-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula nana</i>
Crescent-faced Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula lineifrons</i>
<b>TAPACULOS</b>	<b>RHINOCRYPTIDAE</b>
H Ash-colored Tapaculo	<i>Myornis senilis</i>
Loja (Paramo) Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus androstictus</i>
H (Northern) White-crowned Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus atratus</i>
Blackish (Unicolored) Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus latrans</i>
Chusquea Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus parkeri</i>
<b>ANTTHRUSHES</b>	<b>FORMICARIIDAE</b>
H Rufous-breasted Antthrush	<i>Formicarius rufipectus</i>
H Short-tailed Antthrush	<i>Chamaeza campanisona</i>
<b>OVENBIRDS &amp; WOODCREEPERS</b>	<b>FURNARIIDAE</b>
Olivaceous Woodcreeper (west)	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus aequatorialis</i>
Olivaceous Woodcreeper (east)	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus amazonus</i>
H Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>
H Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>
Spotted Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus erythropygius</i>
Red-billed Scythebill	<i>Campylorhamphus trochilirostris</i>
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>
Duida (Lineated) Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes duidae</i>
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>
Streaked Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>

Streaked Tuftedcheek	<i>Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii</i>
<b>Pacific Hornero</b>	<i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>
Chestnut-winged (Bar-winged) Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes albidiventris</i>
Dusky-cheeked (Bamboo) Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabazenops dorsalis</i>
Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia variegaticeps</i>
Montane Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia striaticollis</i>
Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia ruficaudata</i>
Lineated Foliage-gleaner	<i>Syndactyla subalaris</i>
<b>Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner</b>	<i>Syndactyla ruficollis</i>
<b>Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner</b>	<i>Clibanornis erythrocephalus</i>
Ruddy Foliage-gleaner	<i>Clibanornis rubiginosus</i>
H Striped Treehunter	<i>Thripadectes holostictus</i>
Ochre-throated (Buff-thr.) Foliage-gleaner	<i>Automolus ochrolaemus</i>
Eastern (Striped) Woodhaunter	<i>Automolus subulatus</i>
Western (Striped) Woodhaunter	<i>Automolus virgatus</i>
H Spotted Barbtail	<i>Premnoplex brunnescens</i>
Pearled Treerunner	<i>Margarornis squamiger</i>
H Andean Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura andicola</i>
Rufous-fronted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus rufifrons</i>
H White-browed Spinetail	<i>Hellmayrea gularis</i>
Many-striped Canastero	<i>Asthenes flammulata</i>
<b>Mouse-colored Thistletail</b>	<i>Asthenes griseomurina</i>
Ash-browed Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca curtata</i>
<b>Line-cheeked Spinetail</b>	<i>Cranioleuca antisiensis</i>
<b>Necklaced Spinetail</b>	<i>Synallaxis stictothorax</i>
H Slaty Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis brachyura</i>
H Dark-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albicularis</i>
Azara's Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis azarae</i>
<b>Blackish-headed Spinetail</b>	<i>Synallaxis tithys</i>
Rufous Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis unirufa</i>
<b>MANAKINS</b>	<b>PIPRIDAE</b>
<b>Club-winged Manakin</b>	<i>Machaeropterus deliciosus</i>

**COTINGAS**

Green-and-black Fruiteater

Barred Fruiteater

**Chestnut-bellied Cotinga**

Chestnut-crested Cotinga

Andean Cock-of-the-rock

Amazonian Umbrellabird

**TITYRAS AND ALLIES**

White-browed Purpletuft

**Slaty Becard**

Cinnamon Becard

Cryptic (Black-and-white) Becard

One-colored Becard

**SHARPBILL, ROYAL FLY., & ALLIES**

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS**

H Wing-barred Piprites

Olive-striped Flycatcher

H Ochre-bellied Flycatcher

Slaty-capped Flycatcher

**Ecuadorian Tyrannulet****White-bellied Pygmy-Tyrant**

H Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant

**Black-throated Tody-Tyrant**

H Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher

Black-and-white Tody-Flycatcher

Golden-winged Tody-Flycatcher

Common Tody-Flycatcher

H Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher

Brownish Twistwing

Yellow-olive Flatbill (southeast)

Yellow-olive Flatbill (Flatbill) (west)

**COTINGIDAE***Pipreola riefferii**Pipreola arcuata****Doliornis remseni****Ampelion rufaxilla**Rupicola peruvianus**Cephalopterus ornatus***TITYRIDAE***Iodopleura isabellae****Pachyramphus spodiurus****Pachyramphus cinnamomeus**Pachyramphus albogriseus**Pachyramphus homochrous***OXYRUNCIDAE***Terenotriccus erythrurus***TYRANNIDAE***Piprites chloris**Mionectes olivaceus**Mionectes oleagineus**Leptopogon superciliaris****Phylloscartes gualaquizae******Myiornis albiventris****Lophotriccus pileatus****Hemitriccus granadensis****Poecilotriccus ruficeps**Poecilotriccus capitalis**Poecilotriccus calopterus**Todirostrum cinereum**Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum**Cnipodectes subbrunneus**Tolmomyias sulphurescens peruvianus**Tolmomyias sulphurescens aequatorialis*



Yellow-margined Flatbill (Zimmer's Flatbill)	<i>Tolmomyias assimilis obscuriceps</i>
Olive-faced (Yellow-breasted) Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias viridiceps</i>
Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus</i>
Ornate Flycatcher	<i>Myiotriccus ornatus</i>
Orange-banded Flycatcher	<i>Nephelomyias lintoni</i>
White-lored Tyrannulet	<i>Ornithion inermis</i>
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>
White-tailed Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus poecilocercus</i>
White-banded Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus stictopterus</i>
White-throated Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus leucophrys</i>
Black-crested Tit-Tyrant	<i>Anairetes nigrocristatus</i>
Tufted Tit-Tyrant	<i>Anairetes parulus</i>
H Agile Tit-Tyrant	<i>Uromyias agilis</i>
Tumbes (Mouse-colored) Tyrannulet	<i>Nesotriccus tumbezanus</i>
Marañon (Mouse-colored) Tyrannulet	<i>Nesotriccus maranonicus</i>
Foothill Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis olallai</i>
Pacific Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis subplacens</i>
Mottle-backed Elaenia	<i>Elaenia gigas</i>
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>
Lesser Elaenia	<i>Elaenia chiriquensis</i>
White-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>
H Sierran Elaenia	<i>Elaenia pallatangae</i>
Torrent Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga cinerea</i>
H Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias griseiceps</i>
H Black-capped Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias nigrocapillus</i>
Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias uropygialis</i>
H Golden-faced Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius chrysops chrysops</i>
Peruvian (Loja) Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius viridiflavus flavidifrons</i>
Fulvous-faced Scrub-Tyrant (Tawny-cr. Pygmy-Tyr.)	<i>Euscarthmus fulviceps</i>
Gray-and-white Tyrannulet	<i>Pseudelaenia leucospodia</i>
Orange-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus phoenicomitra</i>
Olive-chested Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus cryptoxanthus</i>

Mouse-gray (Bran-colored) Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus crypterythrus</i>
Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>
Gray-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus griseipectus</i>
Smoke-colored Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>
Tumbes (Tropical) Pewee	<i>Contopus punensis</i>
Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>
Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant	<i>Cnemarchus erythropygius</i>
Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	<i>Myiotheretes striaticollis</i>
Smoky Bush-Tyrant	<i>Myiotheretes fumigatus</i>
Masked Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola nengeta</i>
Crowned Chat-Tyrant	<i>Silvicultrix frontalis</i>
Jelski's Chat-Tyrant	<i>Silvicultrix jelskii</i>
Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant	<i>Silvicultrix diadema</i>
H Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca rufipectoralis</i>
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca fumicolor</i>
Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>
Short-tailed Field Tyrant	<i>Muscigralla brevicauda</i>
Ochraceous Attila	<i>Attila torridus</i>
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>
Sooty-crowned Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus phaeocephalus</i>
H Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>
Gray-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>
Lemon-browed Flycatcher	<i>Conopias cinchoneti</i>
H Golden-bellied (-crowned) Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes hemichrysus</i>
Baird's Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes bairdii</i>
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>
H Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>

**Snowy-throated Kingbird**

Tropical Kingbird

**VIREOS AND ALLIES**

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

H Olivaceous Greenlet

Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo

Lesser Greenlet

Dusky-capped Greenlet

Brown-capped Vireo

Chivi Vireo

**CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES**

Turquoise Jay

Green (Inca) Jay

Violaceous Jay

**White-tailed Jay****DONACOBIUS**

Black-capped Donacobius

**SWALLOWS**

Blue-and-white Swallow

Brown-bellied Swallow

White-banded Swallow

Southern Rough-winged Swallow

Gray-breasted Martin

Cliff Swallow

**Chestnut-collared Swallow****GNATCATCHERS**

Tawny-faced Gnatwren

H Long-billed Gnatwren

White-browed (Tropical) Gnatcatcher

**WRENS**

Scaly-breasted (Southern Nightingale) Wren

House Wren

***Tyrannus niveigularis****Tyrannus melancholicus***VIREONIDAE***Cyclarhis gujanensis**Hylophilus olivaceus**Vireolanius leucotis**Pachysylvia decurtata**Pachysylvia hypoxantha**Vireo leucophrys**Vireo chivi***CORVIDAE***Cyanolyca turcosa**Cyanocorax yncas yncas**Cyanocorax violaceus****Cyanocorax mystacalis*****DONACOBIIDAE***Donacobius atricapilla***HIRUNDINIDAE***Pygochelidon cyanoleuca**Orochelidon murina**Atticora fasciata**Stelgidopteryx ruficollis**Progne chalybea**Petrochelidon pyrrhonota****Petrochelidon rufocollaris*****POLIOPTILIDAE***Microbates cinereiventris**Ramphocaenus melanurus**Polioptila bilineata***TROGLODYTIDAE***Microcerculus marginatus**Troglodytes aedon*

H Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>
H Grass (Sedge) Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>
Fasciated Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus fasciatus</i>
H Thrush-like Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus turdinus</i>
Plain-tailed Wren	<i>Pheugopedius euophrys</i>
H Whiskered Wren	<i>Pheugopedius mystacalis</i>
H Coraya Wren	<i>Pheugopedius coraya</i>
Speckle-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius sclateri</i>
Bay Wren	<i>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</i>
Superciliated Wren	<i>Cantorchilus superciliaris</i>
Rufous Wren	<i>Cinnycerthia unirufa</i>
H White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>
Song Wren	<i>Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus</i>
Musician Wren	<i>Cyphorhinus arada</i>
<b>MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS</b>	<b>MIMIDAE</b>
Long-tailed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus longicaudatus</i>
<b>THRUSHES AND ALLIES</b>	<b>TURDIDAE</b>
H Andean Solitaire	<i>Myadestes ralloides</i>
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>
H White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>
Ecuadorian Thrush	<i>Turdus maculirostris</i>
Plumbeous-backed Thrush	<i>Turdus reevei</i>
Black-billed Thrush	<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>
Marañon Thrush	<i>Turdus maranonicus</i>
Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>
Chiguanco Thrush	<i>Turdus chiguanco</i>
Andean Slaty Thrush	<i>Turdus nigriceps</i>
H Glossy-black Thrush	<i>Turdus serranus</i>
<b>WAXBILLS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>ESTRILDIDAE</b>
Tricolored Munia (I)	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS**

House Sparrow

**WAGTAILS AND PIPITS**

Paramo Pipit

**SISKINS AND ALLIES**

Golden-bellied (White-lored) Euphonia

White-vented Euphonia

Thick-billed Euphonia

Orange-bellied Euphonia

Bronze-green Euphonia

Hooded Siskin

Saffron Siskin

**SPARROWS AND ALLIES**

Yellow-throated Chlorospingus (Bush-Tan.)

GO Short-billed Chlorospingus (Yellow-whisk. Bush-Tan.)

Ashy-throated Chlorospingus (Bush-Tan.)

Common Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager)

Tumbes Sparrow

Yellow-browed Sparrow

H Gray-browed (Stripe-headed) Brushfinch

Orange-billed Sparrow

Black-capped Sparrow

Olive Finch

Rufous-collared Sparrow

White-headed Brushfinch

Pale-naped Brushfinch

Yellow-breasted (Rufous-naped) Brushfinch

White-winged Brushfinch (southwest)

White-winged Brushfinch (Paynter's)

Pale-headed Brushfinch (E)

Bay-crowned Brushfinch

**PASSERIDAE***Passer domesticus***MOTACILLIDAE***Anthus bogotensis***FRINGILLIDAE***Euphonia chrysopasta**Euphonia minuta**Euphonia laniirostris**Euphonia xanthogaster**Euphonia mesochrysa**Spinus magellanicus**Spinus siemiradzkii***PASSERELLIDAE***Chlorospingus flavigularis**Chlorospingus parvirostris**Chlorospingus canigularis**Chlorospingus flavopectus**Rhynchospiza stolzmanni**Ammodramus aurifrons**Arremon assimilis**Arremon aurantiirostris**Arremon abeillei**Arremon castaneiceps**Zonotrichia capensis**Atlapetes albiceps**Atlapetes pallidinucha**Atlapetes latinuchus**Atlapetes leucopterus dresseri**Atlapetes leucopterus paynteri**Atlapetes pallidiceps**Atlapetes seebohmi*

**TROUPIALS AND ALLIES**

Peruvian Meadowlark  
 Yellow-billed Cacique  
 Russet-backed Oropendola  
 Crested Oropendola  
 Yellow-rumped Cacique  
 (Northern) Mountain Cacique  
 White-edged Oriole  
 Yellow-tailed Oriole  
 Shiny Cowbird  
 Scrub Blackbird  
 Great-tailed Grackle

**NEW WORLD WARBLERS****Black-lored (Masked) Yellowthroat**

H Olive-crowned Yellowthroat  
 Tropical Parula  
 Blackburnian Warbler  
 Three-striped Warbler  
**Three-banded Warbler**  
 Citrine Warbler  
 Black-crested Warbler  
 Buff-rumped Warbler  
**Gray-and-gold Warbler**  
 Russet-crowned Warbler  
 Canada Warbler  
 Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)  
 Spectacled Redstart (Whitestart)

**GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES**

(Highland) Hepatic Tanager  
 H Summer Tanager  
 Scarlet Tanager  
 Red-hooded Tanager

**ICTERIDAE**

*Leistes bellicosus*  
*Amblycercus holosericeus*  
*Psarocolius angustifrons*  
*Psarocolius decumanus*  
*Cacicus cela*  
*Cacicus chrysonotus leucoramphus*  
*Icterus graceannae*  
*Icterus mesomelas*  
*Molothrus bonariensis*  
*Dives waczewiczi*  
*Quiscalus mexicanus*

**PARULIDAE**

***Geothlypis auricularis***  
*Geothlypis semiflava*  
*Setophaga pitiayumi*  
*Setophaga fusca*  
*Basileuterus tristriatus*  
***Basileuterus trifasciatus***  
*Myiothlypis luteoviridis*  
*Myiothlypis nigrocristata*  
*Myiothlypis fulvicauda*  
***Myiothlypis fraseri***  
*Myiothlypis coronata*  
*Cardellina canadensis*  
*Myioborus miniatus*  
*Myioborus melanocephalus*

**CARDINALIDAE**

*Piranga flava lutea*  
*Piranga rubra*  
*Piranga olivacea*  
*Piranga rubriceps*

**Ochre-breasted Tanager**

Golden (Southern Yellow) Grosbeak

Blue-black Grosbeak

Amazonian Grosbeak

**TANAGERS AND ALLIES**

Magpie Tanager

**Black-and-white Tanager**

H White-capped Tanager

Black-capped Hemispingus

Superciliaried Hemispingus

Rufous-chested Tanager

Flame-crested Tanager

Fulvous-crested Tanager

Fulvous Shrike-Tanager

Flame-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Tanager

Silver-beaked Tanager

H **Orange-throated Tanager**

Hooded Mountain-Tanager

Blue-capped Tanager

**Masked Mountain-Tanager**

Grass-green Tanager

Lacrimose Mountain Tanager

Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager

H Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager

Golden-crowned Tanager

Orange-eared Tanager

Blue-gray Tanager

Palm Tanager

Yellow-bellied Tanager

Spotted Tanager

**Silvery (Silver-backed) Tanager**

Masked Tanager

***Chlorothraupis stolzmanni****Pheucticus chrysogaster**Cyanoloxia cyanooides**Cyanoloxia rothschildii***THRAUPIDAE***Cissopis leverianus****Conothraupis speculigera****Sericossypha albocristata**Kleinotheraupis atropileus**Thlypopsis superciliaris**Thlypopsis ornata**Loriotus cristatus**Tachyphonus surinamus**Lanio fulvus**Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus**Ramphocelus carbo****Wetmorethraupis sterrhopteron****Buthraupis montana**Sporathraupis cyanocephala****Tephrophilus wetmorei****Chlorornis riefferii**Anisognathus lacrymosus**Anisognathus igniventris**Dubusia taeniata**Iridosornis rufivertex**Chlorochrysa calliparaea**Thraupis episcopus**Thraupis palmarum**Ixothraupis xanthogastra**Ixothraupis punctata****Stilpnia viridicollis****Stilpnia nigrocincta*

Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Stilpnia cyanicollis</i>
Blue-and-black Tanager	<i>Tangara vassorii</i>
Paradise Tanager	<i>Tangara chilensis</i>
GO Opal-rumped Tanager	<i>Tangara velia</i>
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>
Green-and-gold Tanager	<i>Tangara schrankii</i>
Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>
Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>
Black-faced Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata lineata</i>
Black-faced (Yellow-tufted) Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata aequatorialis</i>
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>
Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>
Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>
Yellow-backed Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis flavicollis</i>
Blue-backed Conebill	<i>Conirostrum sitticolor</i>
Capped Conebill	<i>Conirostrum albifrons</i>
Glossy Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa lafresnayii</i>
Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>
Bluish Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa caerulescens</i>
Masked Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa cyanea</i>
<b>Tit-like Dacnis</b>	<b><i>Xenodacnis parina</i></b>
Plumbeous Sierra Finch	<i>Geospizopsis unicolor</i>
Ash-breasted Sierra Finch	<i>Geospizopsis plebejus</i>
Band-tailed Sierra Finch	<i>Rhopospina alaudina</i>
Black-headed Hemispingus	<i>Pseudospingus verticalis</i>
Gray-hooded Bush Tanager	<i>Cnemoscopus rubrirostris</i>
<b>Collared Warbling Finch</b>	<b><i>Poospiza hispaniolensis</i></b>
Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>
<b>Parrot-billed Seedeater</b>	<b><i>Sporophila peruviana</i></b>



Chestnut-throated Seedeater	<i>Sporophila telasco</i>
Drab Seedeater	<i>Sporophila simplex</i>
Chestnut-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i>
Thick-billed (Lesser) Seed-Finch	<i>Sporophila funerea</i>
Chestnut-bellied (Lesser) Seed-Finch	<i>Sporophila angolensis</i>
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>
Black-and-white Seedeater	<i>Sporophila luctuosa</i>
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>
Crimson-breasted Finch	<i>Rhodospingus cruentus</i>
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>
Dull-colored Grassquit	<i>Asemospiza obscura</i>
Yellow-shouldered Grosbeak	<i>Parkerthraustes humeralis</i>
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>
Black-winged Saltator	<i>Saltator atripennis</i>
Blue-gray (Grayish) Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>
Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>
Black-cowled Saltator	<i>Saltator nigriceps</i>
Slate-colored Grosbeak	<i>Saltator grossus</i>

## MAMMALS

Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasybus novemcinctus</i>
White-fronted Capuchin	<i>Cebus albifrons</i>
Mantled Howler	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>
Guayaquil Squirrel	<i>Sciurus stramineus</i>
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>
Tapeti (Brazilian Rabbit)	<i>Sylvilagus brasiliensis</i>
South American Coati	<i>Nasua nasua</i>