



## Mexico: Oaxaca and Chiapas

A Tropical Birding Custom Birding Tour

5 – 17 March 2024

**TOUR LEADER: Nick Athanas**

*Report and photos by Nick Athanas*



*Boucard's Wren – a cactus-loving Mexican endemic that we saw on the first full day of the tour near Teotitlán del Valle.*

Mexico is always a fun place to visit, and not just for its amazing birds. The vibrant culture, unique food, famous archaeological sites, and varied scenery all help to make a memorable trip. For this custom tour, a lot of the group had already been to Oaxaca – but that was in March 2020, just as the pandemic reared its ugly head. Their tour was cut short and they never reached the Pacific Coast or Chiapas. So this trip mostly picked up where they left off four years ago, but we still spent a couple of days around Oaxaca City, since it would be a shame not to – it's such a neat area. Birding was overall very good, though the drought that Mexico had been experiencing did make it feel a bit slow in some areas. Despite that, we saw almost all the main targets. While there wasn't really a huge consensus on favorite sightings, two in particular rose to the top, the unique and undeniably cute **Pink-headed Warbler**, and the rare **Pheasant Cuckoo**. The cuckoo wasn't even seen all that well (it flew past us very close a couple of times), but it had been a nemesis bird for so many of the group that it got lots of votes. Other favorites mentioned were a pair of amazingly colorful **buntings** – **Rose-bellied** and **Orange-breasted**, the spectacular **Red Warbler**, a very close **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo**, the odd and very local **Belted Flycatcher**, a tiny **Bumblebee Hummingbird** singing its siren song, **Citreoline Trogon**, **Blue-throated Motmot**, **Singing Quail**, and **Buff-collared Nightjar**.

For the first morning of the tour, we headed east out of Oaxaca City to Teotitlán del Valle and birded the dirt road towards Benito Juárez. We arrived before dawn and our fantastic driver Basilio prepared the first of many field breakfasts, including fresh guacamole and hot coffee. It pays to be out early here since there is little to no shade, and the day heats up fast under the blazing sun. Some of the top birds of the morning included the **Boucard's Wren** on the cover page, **Gray-breasted Woodpecker**, **Dusky Hummingbird**, **West Mexican Chachalaca**, **Thick-billed Kingbird**, **Blue Mockingbird**, **Bridled Sparrow**, **White-throated Towhee**, **Black-vented Oriole**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, **Brown-backed Solitaire**, and this **Oaxaca Sparrow**:





Later in the morning we stopped at the reservoir above town which was full of **ducks, herons, grebes, coots**, and a few **shorebirds**. A **Canvasback** that had been around for a while was still present, a major rarity in this part of Mexico. We enjoyed a long lunch with great Oaxacan cuisine at a nearby restaurant before heading over to Yagul, one of the archaeological sites in the Oaxaca Valley. The sun was relentless but that didn't stop us from walking through the ruins, hoping for Beautiful Hummingbird that sadly never appeared. **Rock Wren** and **Canyon Wren** were singing from the stonework and we had some nice views of **Nutting's Flycatcher** along with repeat views of some of the morning's birds. On the way out of Yagul, we stopped to look at some petroglyphs, and Rise pointed out an odd shape on the edge of a distant cliff. I scanned for it and found something that looked owl shaped, but Rise thought it was a bee's nest. It was so far away that I got the scope out of the van, and it turned out we were both right! We had been looking at two different things. Mine was a **Great Horned Owl** dozing next to a crevice, and the first of several owls we would see during the tour.

Next morning we headed out extra early to Monte Albán, Oaxaca's most famous archaeological site. Tom and Carol had been there recently and said that **Buff-collared Nightjars** were singing near the gate, so we decided to give it a shot. Luck was with us when one was singing just as we arrived, and a convenient trail took us deep into the scrub, straight towards it. A bit of playback coerced it to circle over us a few times where I got it in the spotlight. After our field breakfast, we birded the entrance road and the ruins themselves for a few hours, where the best bird was the scarce **Pileated Flycatcher**, and there were also more common species like **Hook-billed Kite**, **Cassin's** and **Western Kingbirds**, **Gray Silky-flycatcher**, **MacGillivray's** and **Black-throated Gray Warblers**, **Western Tanager**, and **Black-headed Grosbeak**.



*Monte Albán*



In the afternoon we drove south into the Sierra de Miahuatlán to our cabins in the small town of San José del Pacifico. After checking in, we had a few hours to bird in high elevation pine-oak forest, and there is no doubt that **Red Warbler** stole the show even for those who had seen it before! It's just such a cool little bird; *photo left*. Others we saw included **Hutton's Vireo**, **Olive Warbler**, **Elegant Euphonia**, **Black-headed Siskin**, **Scott's Oriole**, **Crescent-chested** and **Townsend's Warblers**, and **Slate-throated Redstart**. We worked on a Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo for a while but it frustratingly stayed hidden in the treetops.

Next day, was, well interesting. Someone later asked me what is the weirdest thing that's ever happened to me on a tour, and this was right up there – getting stuck in the middle of a rally race along a remote Mexican highway! We knew something was up when a bunch of fancy cars jammed into the hotel parking lot and started setting up tents, almost blocking us in. We didn't think much about it and carried on birding the forest – **Bumblebee Hummingbird** was the clear winner this morning, but **Collared Towhee** was a close runner up. Others were **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Mexican Chickadee**, **Yellow-eyed Junco**, **Brown Creeper**, to mention a few. Then we tried to descend to lower elevations, but a very agitated woman stood in our way and said we had to stop since 50 race cars were about to come up the road. Sure enough, a minute later one of the leaders sped by, impressively passing another car right in front of us. Basilio then argued with her for a while and eventually we were allowed to continue down a bit before the next wave came through, but we didn't get far and eventually just stopped and watched. Finally we made it through and got off that particular road before the race cars came back down. We checked into our lovely lodge in the coffee growing town of Pluma Hidalgo and had a late but well-earned lunch. The hotel is surrounded by forest and during the meal we were distracted by **Golden-crowned Emerald**, **Berylline Hummingbird**, a couple of **Zone-tailed Hawks**, **Flame-colored Tanager**, and **Red-legged Honeycreeper**. Our afternoon session... well, let me just say that the highlight was stopping at a coffee roaster to sample some local coffee and stock up on bags of beans and other souvenirs. The birding was quite frankly dead! But we did hear a couple of Middle American Screech-Owls singing in broad daylight, which was strange, so we decided to come back up pre-dawn and try in the dark.

That plan worked, after a fashion. While we did not see the screech-owl or even hear it, a beautiful **Mottled Owl** came in and perched in the spotlight, a nice consolation prize. Maybe the bigger owl was keeping the smaller owl away? We enjoyed the breakfast spread that Basilio had laid out during the owling, waiting for it to get light and hoped for better birding this morning – it certainly couldn't be worse than the previous afternoon. Fortunately, we had nothing to fear, it ended up being superb session and we saw just about everything we were hoping for including key endemics like **Blue-capped Hummingbird**, **Gray-crowned Woodpecker**, **Golden Vireo**, **Happy Wren**, and **Red-headed Tanager**. We also saw



the *wagleri* subspecies of **Northern Emerald-Toucanet**, a possible split. Some of the more widespread species included **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**, **Acorn Woodpecker**, **Olivaceous** and **Ivory-billed Woodcreepers**, **Ruddy Foliage-gleaner**, **Bright-rumped Attila**, **Green Jay**, **Audubon's Oriole**, and **Black-headed Grosbeak**. After lunch, we headed down to the Pacific lowlands with its deciduous forest and thornscrub. A stop at a side road along the way got us our first of many bold and beautiful **White-throated Magpie-Jays** and a few others like **Russet-crowned Motmot**, **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker**, **Citreoline Trogon**, and **Orange-fronted Parakeet**, despite the furnace-like heat. Eventually we reached the resort town of Huatulco, where we would spend the next two nights. While I don't normally go out of my way to stay in resort towns on birding tours, Huatulco is an exception since it is literally right next to a huge national park that also bears that name. It offers some of the best dry forest birding in all of Mexico. After checking in, we headed into the park and quickly connected with one of its best-looking birds, the iconic **Orange-breasted Bunting**, and a few others like **Turquoise-crowned Hummingbird**, **White-fronted Parrot**, **Rufous-naped Wren**, and **Streak-backed Oriole**. While looking at a **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**, a group of twentysomethings on motorcycles shouted and asked what we were looking at. Funny how the word "owl" can get even non-birders excited! They immediately screeched to a halt and came over to admire the tiny but fierce creature in the scope. They were all from different countries – remote IT workers who discovered they could make a living while still traveling the world, and had found each other along the coast of Mexico where they became friends. What a strange and wonderful world we live in.



*Citreoline Trogon*

The next day was my favorite of the trip I think – it was just a lot of fun. We decided to go out early again and try for some night birds. I like doing that in the morning here instead of the afternoon since the sun rises quite late due to the time zone, and the temperature is much more pleasant. Pacific Screech-Owl was singing but never came in – maybe because there were more Mottled Owls around? We had better luck with **Northern Potoo** and **Lesser Nighthawk**, both of which flew over the road. After sunrise and our usual picnic breakfast, we enjoyed good birding for the rest of the morning. A few of the highlights were **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo**, **Plain-capped Starthroat**, **Cinnamon Hummingbird**, **Pale-billed Woodpecker**, **White-lored Gnatcatcher**, **Banded Wren**, **Olive Sparrow**, **Yellow-winged Cacique**, “**Long-crested**” **Northern Cardinal**, **Red-breasted Chat**, **Blue Bunting**, as well as more **Orange-breasted Buntings**, like this one:



It gets very hot here in the middle of the day, so we had a long and rather opulent lunch at a great restaurant on the beach, followed by a long siesta. We spent the afternoon at a couple of different spots near Huatulco. First was the golf course – or at least the edge of it since they aren’t very friendly to birders. Lots of waterbirds were lounging around by the water hazards, good for padding the list with things like **Black-necked Stilt**, **Northern Jacana**, **Wood Stork**, **Anhinga**, **White Ibis**, **Tricolored Heron**, etc. However the big target – pretty tiny actually, was **Colima Pygmy-Owl**, which showed beautifully and perched much higher than they normally do. Later on, we specifically targeted **Flammulated Flycatcher** which had eluded us so far, and had great luck with that too, finding it shortly before dusk. Once again, a scope set up by the side of the road attracted attention, but for some reason a flycatcher didn’t impress the curious passersby nearly as much as an owl...





*Colima Pygmy-Owl*

Early the next morning, we set out eastward towards the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, our longest drive of the trip. However we broke it up with a few stops. Breakfast was at dawn along a side road to target the local endemic **Cinnamon-tailed Sparrow**, which came in right away. There were quite a few other birds here too, but we had seen them all around Huatulco. A short stop at a lake got us a few new trip birds like **Northern Shoveler** and **American Avocet**, and then we spend a bit of time among the vast wind farms of the isthmus to find **Double-striped Thick-knee**. The almost gale force winds made other birding almost impossible, though we did see some brave **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** enduring the violent gusts. Eventually we made it to the town of Arriaga, checked into our hotel, then headed out for the “main course” for the day, the subtly beautiful endemic **Rose-bellied Bunting**. We found a distant one almost immediately, perched next to a **Painted Bunting**, but we wanted better. A while later, with the help of a pair of **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owls** that became the targets of an angry mob of passerines, we saw them much closer – adult male, immature male, and female to complete the set. A few other species for the afternoon included **Gray Hawk**, **Collared Aracari**, **Brown-crested Flycatcher**, **Magnolia Warbler**, and **Indigo Bunting**.

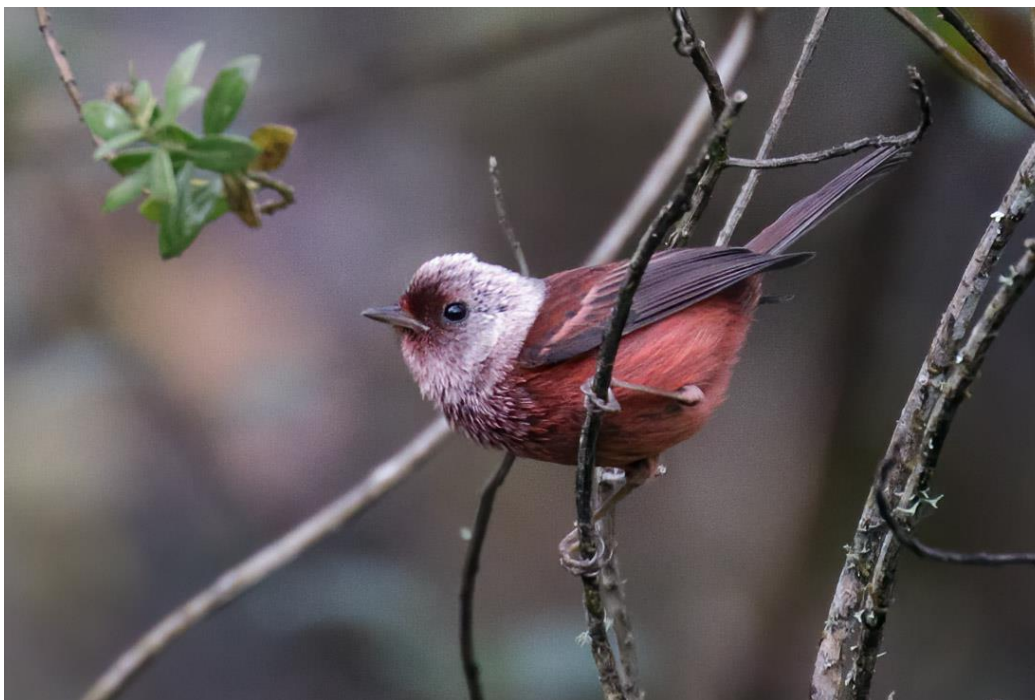


*Rose-bellied Bunting*

After the single night in Arriaga, we first went to Puerto Arista in search of two species in particular, **White-bellied Chachalaca** and **Giant Wren**. Birding started out a bit slow and frustrating, taking a couple of hours to find some chachalacas, with no sign of the wren, but at least seeing **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron**, **Stripe-headed Sparrow**, and **Cinnamon-bellied Saltator**. With the day heating up fast, we headed to different spot near a bridge, and finally hit a burst of activity that kept us busy for a while. A pair of **Giant Wrens** showed well along with a bunch of other birds such as **Common Black-Hawk**, **Rose-throated Becard**, **Scrub Euphonia**, **Spot-breasted Oriole**, **Melodious Blackbird**, and **Blue Grosbeak**. After that, we settled in for the long drive into the mountains to San Cristobal de las Casas, a picturesque city and the cultural capital of Chiapas. We had a little time in the afternoon to bird in the Montetik reserve nearby. This turned out to be an adventure – the gates were about to be closed to vehicles when we arrived, but the guard said that Basilio could drop us off a mile up the road, and then he could drive back and wait for us outside the gate. Great idea, right? Well, just as we got to the drop off point, it started pouring with rain. The only rain for the entire tour. It had been so dry that a lot of folks had left rain gear in the hotel! But no one was willing to miss a bird, and we went out anyway as the van raced off to avoid getting locked in. Good choice. The rain stopped in about 10 minutes and it was a pretty darn good afternoon. Not tons of birds, some great ones like **Blue-throated Motmot**, **“Guatemalan” Northern Pygmy-Owl**, **Amethyst-throated Mountain-gem**, **Unicolored Jay**, **Band-backed Wren**, **Rufous-collared Robin**, and several migrant warblers.



**Pink-headed Warbler** was one bird we hadn't seen that afternoon in Montetik, so we headed back early next morning – that's one species we were not going to leave Chiapas without seeing, at least not without a fight. Basilio bravely drove us higher up the steep road than yesterday, and it did not take long to find them. In fact, I think we saw six during the morning walk, along with birds like **Black-capped Swallow**, **Rivoli's Hummingbird**, **Hairy Woodpecker**, "**Guatemalan**" **Northern Flicker**, **Spot-crowned Woodcreeper**, **Hammond's Flycatcher**, **Yellowish Flycatcher**, **Steller's Jay**, **Red Crossbill**, **Spotted Towhee**, **Yellow-backed Oriole**, **Crescent-chested Warbler**, **Hepatic Tanager**, **Slate-throated Redstart**, and others. Our afternoon session was another slow one, as afternoons can be, and we mostly saw the same species as we had seen in the morning.



*Pink-headed Warbler*

For our second morning out of San Cristóbal, we drove high up into the mountains north of the city. This area has sadly been heavily deforested in recent years, but still holds some good birds. Chief among them is the handsome **Black-throated Jay**, and we lucked out finding a flock of them pretty early, but they sure made us work to get a good view as they flitted from tree to tree and never sat in the open for more than a moment or two. Other nice sightings up here were **Rufous-browed Wren**, **Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer**, **Garnet-throated Hummingbird**, **Gray Silky-Flycatcher**, **Unicolored Jay**, and other typical highland species. Later in the morning, we headed back down to the city, pausing to watch a **Lesser Roadrunner** that was hunting in a field by the road. We stopped in at the botanical gardens for a quick look around, had a very nice lunch, then attempted to go to another small reserve near the city called Huitepec, but the gate was chained shut – it looks like it may be permanently closed, a shame. Looking for another option, I found a place on Google called "Casa de las Aves Huitziltepetl" that seemed to be a private house with hummer feeders, and gave them a call, but no one answered. With time to spare, we went anyway, and they fortunately let us come in (phone number should be updated now). Only one species was coming to the feeder, a **Garnet-throated Hummingbird**, but it gave us nice views and photos. Other hummers nearby were **Rivoli's** and **White-eared Hummingbirds**. Around the house we also saw the only **Golden-browed Warbler** and **Blue-and-white Mockingbird** of the tour. In the afternoon, we drove an hour and a bit to Tuxtla Gutiérrez, where we'd spend the final nights of the trip.



*Golden-browed Warbler (above) and Garnet-throated Hummingbird (below)*





Tuxtla is a good base to visit a couple of neat birding areas. The first one we hit was the road to Ejido Armando Zebadua which skirts the edge of Ocote Biosphere Reserve. The road is most famous for being the easiest accessible spot for the endemic **Nava's Wren**. Sadly it did not want to play ball today. Pretty much we just heard it, though a couple of people I think got some brief glimpses. However the cloudforest habitat is full of birds and there was plenty to keep us busy as we spent most of the day here. There is where we saw that **Pheasant Cuckoo** I mentioned before – it was singing for a while before it finally was convinced to fly over the road very close to us a couple of times. Other species of note included **White-bellied Emerald**, **Gartered Trogon**, **Lesson's Motmot**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, **Golden-olive Woodpecker**, **Northern Bentbill**, **Yellow-olive Flatbill**, **Lesser Greenlet**, **Brown Jay** (*right*) **Green Jay**, **Long-billed Gnatwren**, **White-browed Gnatcatcher**, **Cabanis's Wren**, **White-breasted Wood-Wren**, **Slate-colored Solitaire**, **Yellow-throated Euphonia**, **Montezuma Oropendola**, **Hooded Warbler**, **Red-throated Ant-Tanager**, **Black-faced Grosbeak**, **Yellow-faced Grassquit**, and **Black-headed Saltator**. We also enjoyed finding an active **Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** nest, with a female incubating. Lunch was at the edge of the Malpaso Reservoir, which also gave us a few different birds like **Morelet's Seedeater**, **Yellow-winged Tanager**, and **American White Pelican**.



On the last morning of the tour we headed up along the edge of the scenic Sumidero Canyon, having breakfast just as the sun came up over the rim of the impressive gorge. After a couple of hours of slow birding, things picked up in a flash and everything seemed to happen at once. The soft calls of a **Belted Flycatcher** started things off, and we set off up the road after it, determined to find it before it went quiet. At first it looked like it was going to slip away, but then it started calling again and we got the right angle to see it inside the bushes. Soon after in quick succession we had **Spot-breasted Wren**, **Fan-tailed Warbler**, **Collared** and **Gartered Trogons**, and **Blue Seedeater**, among others. Back at the van, Basilio was urgently waving to us, getting us on a bird skulking on the ground that turned out to be an **Ovenbird**, always nice to see. Not to be outdone, the owner of the kiosk at the parking lot called to us and pointed out a pair of **Singing Quail** that were on the other side of the road – sorry Basilio, the quail won! After that, activity died down again and we visited a few more lookouts before heading back for lunch. In the afternoon, nearing the end of the trip, we were feeling a bit lazy and birded some nearby parks in the city. The first one closed ridiculously early so we only had time for a quick look around, but the other was much better. Noisy parrots were everywhere, mostly **White-fronted**, but with a few **Red-ored Parrots** mixed in. We enjoyed an easy stroll around taking in the last few birds of the tour, and I think the last new trip species may have been a **Green Kingfisher**. With some of us having crazy early departures to the airport, we headed back to the hotel and celebrated the end of the tour with a round of margaritas and a nice dinner, going over our favorite moments of the trip. Thanks everyone once again! You all helped make it a fun and memorable trip.





*Singing Quail (above) and Red-breasted Chat (below)*





**BIRD LIST**

The list includes everything that was seen by at least one of the group, including the guide/tour leader. Taxonomy follows Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, T. A. Fredericks, J. A. Gerbracht, D. Lepage, S. M. Billerman, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2022. The eBird/Clements checklist of Birds of the World: v2023. Downloaded from <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>

**(E)=Endemic to Mexico**

**(I)=Introduced species**

**H=heard only**

**GO=guide only**

**TINAMOUS**

**H** Slaty-breasted Tinamou

**DUCKS, GEESE, & WATERFOWL**

Blue-winged Teal

Northern Shoveler

Green-winged Teal

Canvasback

Ring-necked Duck

Ruddy Duck

**GUANS, CHACHALACAS, ALLIES**

Plain Chachalaca

West Mexican Chachalaca (E)

White-bellied Chachalaca

**H** Highland Guan

**NEW WORLD QUAIL**

**H** Long-tailed Wood-Partridge (E)

Singing Quail

**GREBES**

Least Grebe

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

Rock Pigeon (I)

Red-billed Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)

Inca Dove

Common Ground Dove

Ruddy Ground Dove

White-tipped Dove

**H** Gray-headed Dove

White-winged Dove

Mourning Dove

**CUCKOOS**

Groove-billed Ani

Pheasant Cuckoo

Lesser Ground-Cuckoo

Lesser Roadrunner

**TINAMIDAE**

*Crypturellus boucardi*

**ANATIDAE**

*Spatula discors*

*Spatula clypeata*

*Anas crecca*

*Aythya valisineria*

*Aythya collaris*

*Oxyura jamaicensis*

**CRACIDAE**

*Ortalis vetula*

*Ortalis poliocephala*

*Ortalis leucogastra*

*Penelopina nigra*

**ODONTOPHORIDAE**

*Dendrortyx macroura*

*Dactylortyx thoracicus*

**PODICIPEDIDAE**

*Tachybaptus dominicus*

**COLUMBIDAE**

*Columba livia*

*Patagioenas flavirostris*

*Patagioenas fasciata*

*Streptopelia decaocto*

*Columbina inca*

*Columbina passerina*

*Columbina talpacoti*

*Leptotila verreauxi*

*Leptotila plumbeiceps*

*Zenaida asiatica*

*Zenaida macroura*

**CUCULIDAE**

*Crotophaga sulcirostris*

*Dromococcyx phasianellus*

*Morococcyx erythropygus*

*Geococcyx velox*

Squirrel Cuckoo (West Mexico)  
Squirrel Cuckoo (Middle America)

**NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES**

Lesser Nighthawk

H Common Pauraque

Buff-collared Nightjar

H Mexican Whip-poor-will

**POTOOS**

Northern Potoo

**SWIFTS**

White-collared Swift

Vaux's Swift

White-throated Swift

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

H Stripe-throated (Little) Hermit

Rivoli's (Magnificent) Hummingbird

Plain-capped Starthroat

Amethyst-throated Mountain-gem

Garnet-throated Hummingbird

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Bumblebee Hummingbird (E)

Dusky Hummingbird (E)

Turquoise-crowned (Broad-billed) Hummingbird (E)

Golden-crowned Emerald (E)

White-eared Hummingbird

Blue-capped (Oaxaca) Hummingbird (E)

Berylline Hummingbird

Cinnamon Hummingbird

Buff-bellied Hummingbird

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

White-bellied Emerald

**RAILS, GALLINULES, & COOTS**

Common Gallinule

American Coot

**THICK-KNEES**

Double-striped Thick-knee

**STILTS AND AVOCETS**

Black-necked Stilt

American Avocet

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS**

Killdeer

**JACANAS**

Northern Jacana

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES**

Whimbrel

Spotted Sandpiper

Willet

Greater Yellowlegs

Least Sandpiper

**GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS**

Laughing Gull

*Piaya cayana mexicana*

*Piaya cayana thermophila*

**CAPRIMULGIDAE**

*Chordeiles acutipennis*

*Nyctidromus albicollis*

*Antrostomus ridgwayi*

*Antrostomus arizonae*

**NYCTIBIIDAE**

*Nyctibius jamaicensis*

**APODIDAE**

*Streptoprocne zonaris*

*Chaetura vauxi*

*Aeronautes saxatalis*

**TROCHILIDAE**

*Phaethornis striigularis*

*Eugenes fulgens*

*Heliomaster constantii*

*Lampornis amethystinus*

*Lamprolaima rhami*

*Archilochus colubris*

*Selasphorus heloisa*

*Phaeoptila sordida*

*Cynanthus doubledayi*

*Cynanthus auriceps*

*Basilinna leucotis*

*Eupherusa cyanophrys*

*Saucerottia beryllina*

*Amazilia rutila*

*Amazilia yucatanensis*

*Amazilia tzacatl*

*Chlorestes candida*

**RALLIDAE**

*Gallinula galeata*

*Fulica americana*

**BURHINIDAE**

*Hesperoburhinus bistriatus*

**RECURVIROSTRIDAE**

*Himantopus mexicanus*

*Recurvirostra americana*

**CHARADRIIDAE**

*Charadrius vociferus*

**JACANIDAE**

*Jacana spinosa*

**SCOLOPACIDAE**

*Numerius phaeopus*

*Actitis macularius*

*Tringa semipalmata*

*Tringa melanoleuca*

*Calidris minutilla*

**LARIDAE**

*Leucophaeus atricilla*



Royal Tern

### STORKS

Wood Stork

### FRIGATEBIRDS

Magnificent Frigatebird

### ANHINGAS

Anhinga

### CORMORANTS AND SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

### PELICANS

American White Pelican

Brown Pelican

### HERONS, EGRETS, & BITTERNs

Bare-throated Tiger-Heron

**GO** Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Black-crowned Night Heron

Little Blue Heron

Tricolored Heron

Snowy Egret

Green Heron

Western Cattle Egret

Great Egret

Great Blue Heron

### IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

White Ibis

### NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

### OSPREY

Osprey

### HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES

White-tailed Kite

Hook-billed Kite

Sharp-shinned (White-breasted) Hawk

Common Black Hawk

Roadside Hawk

Gray Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

Zone-tailed Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

### OWLS

**H** Middle American (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl

**H** Pacific Screech-Owl

Great Horned Owl

**H** Northern Pygmy-Owl (Mountain)

Northern Pygmy-Owl (Guatemalan)

Colima Pygmy-Owl (E)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

Mottled Owl

*Thalasseus maximus*

### CICONIIDAE

*Mycteria americana*

### FREGATIDAE

*Fregata magnificens*

### ANHINGIDAE

*Anhinga anhinga*

### PHALACROCORACIDAE

*Nannopterum brasilianum*

### PELECANIDAE

*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

*Pelecanus occidentalis*

### ARDEIDAE

*Tigrisoma mexicanum*

*Nyctanassa violacea*

*Nycticorax nycticorax*

*Egretta caerulea*

*Egretta tricolor*

*Egretta thula*

*Butorides virescens*

*Bubulcus ibis*

*Ardea alba*

*Ardea herodias*

### THRESKIORNITHIDAE

*Eudocimus albus*

### CATHARTIDAE

*Coragyps atratus*

*Cathartes aura*

### PANDIONIDAE

*Pandion haliaetus*

### ACCIPITRIDAE

*Elanus leucurus*

*Chondrohierax uncinatus*

*Accipiter striatus chionogaster*

*Buteogallus anthracinus*

*Rupornis magnirostris*

*Buteo plagiatus*

*Buteo platypterus*

*Buteo brachyurus*

*Buteo albonotatus*

*Buteo jamaicensis*

### STRIGIDAE

*Megascops guatemalae*

*Megascops cooperi*

*Bubo virginianus*

*Glaucidium gnoma gnoma*

*Glaucidium gnoma cobanense*

*Glaucidium palmarum*

*Glaucidium brasilianum*

*Strix virgata*

**TROGONS**

Citreoline Trogon (E)  
Gartered (Violaceous) Trogon

**GO** Mountain Trogon

Collared Trogon

**MOTMOTS**

Blue-throated Motmot  
Russet-crowned Motmot  
Lesson's (Blue-crowned) Motmot

**KINGFISHERS**

Green Kingfisher

**TOUCANS**

Northern Emerald-Toucanet (Wagler's)

**H** Northern Emerald-Toucanet (Emerald)

Collared Aracari

Keel-billed Toucan

**WOODPECKERS**

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  
Acorn Woodpecker  
Golden-cheeked Woodpecker (E)  
Gray-breasted Woodpecker (E)  
Golden-fronted Woodpecker  
Ladder-backed Woodpecker  
Hairy Woodpecker

**H** Smoky-brown Woodpecker

Pale-billed Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Gray-crowned Woodpecker (E)

Northern Flicker (Guatemalan)

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS**

**H** Laughing Falcon

**H** Collared Forest-Falcon

**H** Barred Forest-Falcon

Crested Caracara

American Kestrel

**PARROTS**

Red-lored Parrot

White-fronted Parrot

Orange-fronted Parakeet

**TYPICAL ANTBIRDS**

**H** Barred Antshrike

**OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS**

Olivaceous Woodcreeper

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper

Spot-crowned Woodcreeper

Ruddy Foliage-gleaner

**H** Rufous-breasted Spinetail

**TITYRAS AND ALLIES**

**X** Masked Tityra

**TROGONIDAE**

*Trogon citreolus*  
*Trogon caligatus*  
*Trogon mexicanus*  
*Trogon collaris*

**MOMOTIDAE**

*Aspatha gularis*  
*Momotus mexicanus*  
*Momotus lessonii*

**ALCEDINIDAE**

*Chloroceryle americana*

**RAMPHASTIDAE**

*Aulacorhynchus prasinus wagleri*  
*Aulacorhynchus prasinus [prasinus Group]*  
*Pteroglossus torquatus*  
*Ramphastos sulfuratus*

**PICIDAE**

*Sphyrapicus varius*  
*Melanerpes formicivorus*  
*Melanerpes chrysogenys*  
*Melanerpes hypopolius*  
*Melanerpes aurifrons*  
*Dryobates scalaris*  
*Dryobates villosus*  
*Dryobates fumigatus*  
*Campephilus guatemalensis*  
*Dryocopus lineatus*  
*Colaptes rubiginosus*  
*Colaptes auricularis*  
*Colaptes auratus mexicanoides*

**FALCONIDAE**

*Herpetotheres cachinnans*  
*Micrastur semitorquatus*  
*Micrastur ruficollis*  
*Caracara plancus*  
*Falco sparverius*

**PSITTACIDAE**

*Amazona autumnalis*  
*Amazona albifrons*  
*Eupsittula canicularis*

**THAMNOPHILIDAE**

*Thamnophilus doliatus*

**FURNARIIDAE**

*Sittasomus griseicapillus*  
*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*  
*Lepidocolaptes affinis*  
*Clibanornis rubiginosus*  
*Synallaxis erythrothorax*

**TITYRIDAE**

*Tityra semifasciata*



X Rose-throated Becard

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS**

Northern Bentbill  
 Yellow-olive Flatbill  
 Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet  
 Greenish Elaenia  
 Belted Flycatcher  
 Pileated Flycatcher  
 Tufted Flycatcher  
 Greater Pewee  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
 Least Flycatcher  
 Hammond's Flycatcher  
 Dusky Flycatcher  
 Western Flycatcher  
 Yellowish Flycatcher  
 Black Phoebe  
 Say's Phoebe  
 Vermilion Flycatcher  
 Flammulated Flycatcher (E)  
 Bright-rumped Attila  
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher  
 Ash-throated Flycatcher  
 Nutting's Flycatcher  
 Brown-crested Flycatcher  
 Great Kiskadee  
 Boat-billed Flycatcher  
 Social Flycatcher  
 Tropical Kingbird  
 Cassin's Kingbird  
 Thick-billed Kingbird  
 Western Kingbird  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

**VIREOS AND ALLIES**

H Rufous-browed Peppershrike  
 H Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo  
 H Green Shrike-Vireo  
 Lesser Greenlet  
 Golden Vireo (E)  
 H Dwarf Vireo (E)  
 H White-eyed Vireo  
 Bell's Vireo  
 Hutton's Vireo  
 Yellow-throated Vireo  
 Cassin's Vireo  
 Blue-headed Vireo  
 Plumbeous Vireo (Plumbeous)  
 Plumbeous Vireo (Central American)  
 Warbling Vireo

*Pachyramphus aglaiae*

**TYRANNIDAE**

*Oncostoma cinereigulare*  
*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*  
*Camptostoma imberbe*  
*Myiopagis viridicata*  
*Xenotriccus callizonus*  
*Xenotriccus mexicanus*  
*Mitrephanes phaeocercus*  
*Contopus pertinax*  
*Empidonax flaviventris*  
*Empidonax minimus*  
*Empidonax hammondii*  
*Empidonax oberholseri*  
*Empidonax difficilis*  
*Empidonax flavescens*  
*Sayornis nigricans*  
*Sayornis saya*  
*Pyrocephalus rubinus*  
*Ramphotrigon flammulatum*  
*Attila spadiceus*  
*Myiarchus tuberculifer*  
*Myiarchus cinerascens*  
*Myiarchus nuttingi*  
*Myiarchus tyrannulus*  
*Pitangus sulphuratus*  
*Megarynchus pitangua*  
*Myiozetetes similis*  
*Tyrannus melancholicus*  
*Tyrannus vociferans*  
*Tyrannus crassirostris*  
*Tyrannus verticalis*  
*Tyrannus forficatus*

**VIREONIDAE**

*Cyclarhis gujanensis*  
*Vireolanius melitophrys*  
*Vireolanius pulchellus*  
*Pachysylvia decurtata*  
*Vireo hypochryseus*  
*Vireo nelsoni*  
*Vireo griseus*  
*Vireo bellii*  
*Vireo huttoni*  
*Vireo flavifrons*  
*Vireo cassinii*  
*Vireo solitarius*  
*Vireo plumbeus repetens*  
*Vireo plumbeus montanus*  
*Vireo gilvus*

**CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES**

Black-throated Jay  
 White-throated Magpie-Jay  
 Brown Jay  
 Green Jay  
 Steller's Jay  
 Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay  
 Unicolored Jay  
 Common Raven

**TITS, CHICKADEES, AND TITMICE**

Mexican Chickadee  
 Bridled Titmouse

**SWALLOWS**

- GO** Mangrove Swallow  
 Violet-green Swallow  
 Gray-breasted Martin  
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
 Black-capped Swallow  
 Cliff Swallow

**KINGLETS**

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

**NUTHATCHES**

- H** White-breasted Nuthatch

**TREECREEPERS**

Brown Creeper

**GNATCATCHERS**

- GO** Long-billed Gnatwren  
 White-browed (Tropical) Gnatcatcher  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
 White-lored Gnatcatcher

**WRENS**

Rock Wren  
 Canyon Wren  
 Nava's Wren (E)  
 House Wren (Brown-throated)  
 House Wren (Southern)  
 Rufous-browed Wren  
 Bewick's Wren  
 Band-backed Wren  
 Giant Wren (E)  
 Rufous-naped Wren (Sclater's)  
 Rufous-naped Wren (Rufous-backed)  
 Boucard's Wren (E)  
 Spot-breasted Wren  
 Happy Wren (E)  
 Banded Wren  
 Cabanis's (Plain) Wren  
 White-breasted Wood-Wren

- H** Gray-breasted Wood-Wren

**MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS**

Blue Mockingbird (E)

**CORVIDAE**

*Cyanolyca pumilo*  
*Calocitta formosa*  
*Psilorhinus morio*  
*Cyanocorax yncas*  
*Cyanocitta stelleri*  
*Aphelocoma woodhouseii*  
*Aphelocoma unicolor*  
*Corvus corax*

**PARIDAE**

*Poecile sclateri*  
*Baeolophus wollweberi*

**HIRUNDINIDAE**

*Tachycineta albilinea*  
*Tachycineta thalassina*  
*Progne chalybea*  
*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*  
*Atticora pileata*  
*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*

**REGULIDAE**

*Corthylio calendula*

**SITTIDAE**

*Sitta carolinensis*

**CERTHIIDAE**

*Certhia americana*

**POLIOPTILIDAE**

*Ramphocaenus melanurus*  
*Polioptila bilineata*  
*Polioptila caerulea*  
*Polioptila albiloris*

**TROGLODYTIDAE**

*Salpinctes obsoletus*  
*Catherpes mexicanus*  
*Hylorchilus navai*  
*Troglodytes aedon brunneicollis*  
*Troglodytes aedon intermedius*  
*Troglodytes rufociliatus*  
*Thryomanes bewickii*  
*Campylorhynchus zonatus*  
*Campylorhynchus chiapensis*  
*Campylorhynchus rufinucha humilis*  
*Campylorhynchus rufinucha nigricaudatus*  
*Campylorhynchus jocosus*  
*Pheugopedius maculipectus*  
*Pheugopedius felix*  
*Thryophilus pleurostictus*  
*Cantorchilus modestus*  
*Henicorhina leucosticta*  
*Henicorhina leucophrys*

**MIMIDAE**

*Melanotis caerulescens*



Blue-and-white Mockingbird

Gray Catbird

Curve-billed Thrasher

Northern Mockingbird

### THRUSHES AND ALLIES

Brown-backed Solitaire

Slate-colored Solitaire

**H** Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush

Swainson's Thrush

**H** Hermit Thrush

White-throated Thrush

Clay-colored Thrush

Black Thrush

American Robin

Rufous-backed Robin (E)

Rufous-collared Robin

### SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Gray Silky-flycatcher

### OLIVE WARBLER

Olive Warbler

### OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow (I)

### WAGTAILS AND PIPITS

American Pipit

### FINCHES, EUPHONIAS, & ALLIES

Elegant (Blue-hooded) Euphonia

Scrub Euphonia

Yellow-throated Euphonia

House Finch

Red Crossbill

Black-headed Siskin

Lesser Goldfinch

### NEW WORLD SPARROWS

Common Chlorospingus (Southwest Mexico)

Common Chlorospingus (Middle America)

Cinnamon-tailed (Sumichrast's) Sparrow (E)

Stripe-headed Sparrow

Bridled Sparrow (E)

Olive Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch

Yellow-eyed Junco (Mexican)

Yellow-eyed Junco (Chiapas)

Rufous-collared Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-throated Towhee (E)

Oaxaca Sparrow (E)

Spotted Towhee

Collared Towhee (E)

White-naped Brushfinch

*Melanotis hypoleucus*

*Dumetella carolinensis*

*Toxostoma curvirostre*

*Mimus polyglottos*

### TURDIDAE

*Myadestes occidentalis*

*Myadestes unicolor*

*Catharus frantzii*

*Catharus mexicanus*

*Catharus ustulatus*

*Catharus guttatus*

*Turdus assimilis*

*Turdus grayi*

*Turdus infuscatus*

*Turdus migratorius*

*Turdus rufopalliatus*

*Turdus rufitorques*

### PTILIOGONATIDAE

*Ptiliogonys cinereus*

### PEUCEDRAMIDAE

*Peucedramus taeniatus*

### PASSERIDAE

*Passer domesticus*

### MOTACILLIDAE

*Anthus rubescens*

### FRINGILLIDAE

*Chlorophonia elegantissima*

*Euphonia affinis*

*Euphonia hirundinacea*

*Haemorhous mexicanus*

*Loxia curvirostra*

*Spinus notatus*

*Spinus psaltria*

### PASSERELLIDAE

*Chlorospingus flavopectus albifrons*

*Chlorospingus flavopectus [postocularis Grp]*

*Peucaea sumichrasti*

*Peucaea ruficauda*

*Peucaea mystacalis*

*Arremonops rufivirgatus*

*Spizella passerina*

*Arremon brunneinucha*

*Junco phaeonotus phaeonotus*

*Junco phaeonotus fulvescens*

*Zonotrichia capensis*

*Melospiza lincolnii*

*Melospiza albicollis*

*Aimophila notosticta*

*Pipilo maculatus*

*Pipilo ocai*

*Atlapetes albinucha*

**TROUPIALS AND ALLIES**

- H** Yellow-billed Cacique  
 Yellow-winged Cacique  
 Montezuma Oropendola  
 Black-vented Oriole  
 Orchard Oriole  
 Yellow-backed Oriole  
 Streak-backed Oriole  
 Bullock's Oriole  
 Spot-breasted Oriole  
 Altamira Oriole  
 Audubon's Oriole  
 Baltimore Oriole  
 Scott's Oriole  
 Bronzed Cowbird  
 Melodious Blackbird  
 Great-tailed Grackle
- NEW WORLD WARBLERS**
- Ovenbird  
 Blue-winged Warbler  
 Black-and-white Warbler  
 Crescent-chested Warbler  
 Tennessee Warbler  
 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 Nashville Warbler  
 MacGillivray's Warbler  
 Common Yellowthroat  
 Hooded Warbler  
 American Redstart  
 Northern Parula
- H** Tropical Parula  
 Magnolia Warbler  
 Blackburnian Warbler  
 Yellow Warbler  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's)  
 Yellow-throated Warbler  
 Black-throated Gray Warbler  
 Townsend's Warbler  
 Hermit Warbler  
 Black-throated Green Warbler  
 Fan-tailed Warbler  
 Rufous-capped Warbler  
 Golden-browed Warbler  
 Golden-crowned Warbler  
 Wilson's Warbler  
 Red Warbler (White-cheeked) (E)  
 Pink-headed Warbler  
 Painted Redstart  
 Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)

**ICTERIDAE**

- Amblycercus holosericeus*  
*Cassiculus melanicterus*  
*Psarocolius montezuma*  
*Icterus wagleri*  
*Icterus spurius*  
*Icterus chrysater*  
*Icterus pustulatus*  
*Icterus bullockii*  
*Icterus pectoralis*  
*Icterus gularis*  
*Icterus graduacauda*  
*Icterus galbula*  
*Icterus parisorum*  
*Molothrus aeneus*  
*Dives dives*  
*Quiscalus mexicanus*

**PARULIDAE**

- Seiurus aurocapilla*  
*Vermivora cyanoptera*  
*Mniotilta varia*  
*Oreothlypis superciliosa*  
*Leiothlypis peregrina*  
*Leiothlypis celata*  
*Leiothlypis ruficapilla*  
*Geothlypis tolmiei*  
*Geothlypis trichas*  
*Setophaga citrina*  
*Setophaga ruticilla*  
*Setophaga americana*  
*Setophaga pitiauyumi*  
*Setophaga magnolia*  
*Setophaga fusca*  
*Setophaga petechia*  
*Setophaga coronata coronata*  
*Setophaga coronata auduboni*  
*Setophaga dominica*  
*Setophaga nigrescens*  
*Setophaga townsendi*  
*Setophaga occidentalis*  
*Setophaga virens*  
*Basileuterus lachrymosus*  
*Basileuterus rufifrons*  
*Basileuterus belli*  
*Basileuterus culicivorus*  
*Cardellina pusilla*  
*Cardellina rubra rubra/rowleyi*  
*Cardellina versicolor*  
*Myioborus pictus*  
*Myioborus miniatus*



**CARDINALS AND ALLIES**

Hepatic Tanager  
Summer Tanager  
Western Tanager  
Flame-colored Tanager  
Red-headed Tanager (E)  
Red-throated Ant-Tanager  
Black-faced Grosbeak  
Northern Cardinal (Long-crested)  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Black-headed Grosbeak  
Red-breasted Chat (E)  
Blue Seedeater  
Blue Bunting  
Blue Grosbeak  
Lazuli Bunting  
Indigo Bunting  
Rose-bellied (Rosita's) Bunting (E)  
Orange-breasted Bunting (E)  
Painted Bunting

**TANAGERS AND ALLIES**

Blue-gray Tanager  
Yellow-winged Tanager  
Red-legged Honeycreeper  
Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer  
Blue-black Grassquit  
Morelet's (White-collared) Seedeater

**H** Bananaquit  
Yellow-faced Grassquit  
Black-headed Saltator  
Cinnamon-bellied (Grayish) Saltator

**MAMMALS**

Gray Fox  
Mexican Gray Squirrel  
Black-tailed Jackrabbit  
Vole sp.

**CARDINALIDAE**

*Piranga flava*  
*Piranga rubra*  
*Piranga ludoviciana*  
*Piranga bidentata*  
*Piranga erythrocephala*  
*Habia fuscicauda*  
*Caryothraustes poliogaster*  
*Cardinalis cardinalis carneus*  
*Pheucticus ludovicianus*  
*Pheucticus melanocephalus*  
*Granatellus venustus*  
*Amaurospiza concolor*  
*Cyanocompsa parellina*  
*Passerina caerulea*  
*Passerina amoena*  
*Passerina cyanea*  
*Passerina rositae*  
*Passerina leclancherii*  
*Passerina ciris*

**THRAUPIDAE**

*Thraupis episcopus*  
*Thraupis abbas*  
*Cyanerpes cyaneus*  
*Diglossa baritula*  
*Volatinia jacarina*  
*Sporophila moreletii*  
*Coereba flaveola*  
*Tiaris olivaceus*  
*Saltator atriceps*  
*Saltator grandis*

*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*  
*Sciurus aureogaster*  
*Lepus californicus*  
*Microtus sp.*