



A [Tropical Birding](#) SET DEPARTURE tour

Ecuador: Andes Introtour

June 10-17, 2018

with High Andes Extension (June 17-19)

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Report and photos by Scott Olmstead.

Introduction

Our June Andes Introtour combined mostly dry weather with spectacular Chocó endemics, some rare mammal sightings, and comfortable accommodations and consistently superb meals at Tandayapa Bird Lodge. Birding Northwest Ecuador in the dry season has advantages and disadvantages. We never lost a morning to rain, and we enjoyed breathtaking mountain vistas; however, bird activity was reduced with less cloud cover and we had to work hard to find our birds! North American migrants are absent this time of year, which means the trip list comes up a little shorter, but it also means when you are sifting through a mixed flock you don't have to worry about every other bird being a Blackburnian Warbler or Summer Tanager! With our whole group taking part in their first dedicated birding trip to South America, this minor simplification of the avifauna probably played to our benefit.

In the end we did well with Chocó endemics, spotting some of the rarest and most sought-after species of the region like Tanager Finch and Chocó Vireo, as well as some of the most magnificent birds in Ecuador, like Toucan Barbet, Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, Velvet-



Moss-backed Tanager at Amagusa Reserve

purple Coronet, Lyre-tailed Nightjar, Andean Condor, and Giant Antpitta. We tallied five species of toucans, over 30 species of tanagers, and over 40 species of hummingbirds in our eight days in the field. After the main tour concluded, incredible mountain landscapes, the cozy charm of Guango Lodge, and unexpected sightings of Spectacled Bear and Mountain Tapir made the High Andes extension a memorable couple of days.

Itinerary

June 10	Arrival / Night in Quito
June 11	Yanacocha to Tandayapa / Night Tandayapa Bird Lodge
June 12	Tandayapa Valley / Night Tandayapa Bird Lodge
June 13	Mashpi area / Night Tandayapa Bird Lodge
June 14	Upper Tandayapa Valley & Bellavista Reserve / Night Tandayapa Bird Lodge
June 15	Rio Silanche & Milpe / Night Tandayapa Bird Lodge
June 16	Refugio Paz de las Aves & Calacalí / Night in Puembo
June 17	Antisana Ecological Reserve / Night Guango Lodge
June 18	Guango and Papallacta vicinity / Night in Puembo
June 19	Departure

Daily Birding Summary

June 11: Yanacocha | As we crossed Quito in the predawn twilight and approached Pichincha Volcano, the weather looked menacing, with thick clouds and light rain. We thought we were in for a wet morning, but as we left the city and circled around to the western slope the clouds thinned and the sun came out. The sprawling highland vistas impressed, and as we slowly approached Yanacocha on rugged dirt track, we made a few stops and began to find some specialty birds of the highlands, such as Black-tailed Trainbearer, Paramo Pipit, and White-browed Spinetail. At one stop, Art spotted a Red-crested Cotinga conveniently sitting up in a treetop. Arriving at the reserve, we did a quick check of the feeders, and were thrilled to have an Andean Guan leap out into view. We spent most of the morning walking along the *trocha Inca* (Inca trail). At 11,500 ft, this trail provides over a mile of great access to temperate forest, and we saw some of the characteristic species of this habitat, such as Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanagers and Spectacled Redstarts (Whitestarts). However, activity was light overall as the sun continued to burn off the clouds. Fortunately the hummingbird garden at the end of the track was busy with Buff-winged Starfrontlets, Great Sapphirewings, Sword-billed



Hummingbirds, Golden-breasted and Sapphire-vented Pufflegs, and Tyrian Metaltails. Perhaps the top highlight of the morning came in the form of a daytime active White-throated Screech-Owl, which dazzled us with great views inside the canopy. (Photo previous page.)

Back from our long, slow-and-steady walk, we enjoyed a hot lunch right at the reserve, took a last look at the Shining Sunbeams flocking to the feeders, and watched the mist roll in. Considering the visibility was rapidly decreasing, it was a good time to load into the van and head downslope toward Tandayapa Bird Lodge. Our stops along the way gave us a few more new birds like Golden Grosbeak, Speckled Hummingbird, and Black Phoebe. Once at the lodge we got our first study of a few of the Tandayapa hummingbirds, including Green-crowned Brilliant and Booted Racket-tail, and our first taste of the gourmet cuisine that would be a staple of our next five days!



June 12: Tandayapa Valley | We started with coffee and then a short walk to the forest hide, arriving in the dark. As we turned off our lights and our vision adjusted to the darkness we listened to the dawn chorus. Soon Scaled Antpitta bounded into view, and later a pair of Zeledon's Antbird came to visit the bug light and feast on moths, just feet away from us on the other side of the screen. On our way back to breakfast we coaxed a Rufous-breasted Antthrush into view and it briefly paraded on the trail. It was a good ant-start to the morning! Back at the lodge Toucan Barbets were showing well by the back deck and Crimson-rumped Toucanets (photo this page) and Red-headed Barbets were competing with the local Red-tailed Squirrels on the fruit feeders. We began to see learn some more of the middle-elevation hummingbirds visiting the feeders, such as Lesser Violetear, Andean Emerald, and Fawn-breasted

Brilliant. After breakfast we birded our way down the driveway from the lodge to the old Nono-Mindo road, and then walked up the valley, finding White-winged Brushfinch, a pair of handsome Flame-faced Tanagers, and nest-building Golden-crowned Flycatcher and Tropical Parula. Susie spotted out first Crimson-mantled Woodpecker low by the roadside; this bird is always a crowd favorite. Tawny-bellied Hermit and Collared Inca expanded our hummingbird total, and a group of Plain-tailed Wrens performed well in a bamboo patch in the upper valley. The non-bird highlight of the morning came in the form of a family of Tayras, seen briefly on the road as we came around a bend. We returned for lunch at the lodge, and then drove up to bird around the Bellavista Reserve and look for some upper subtropical species. The songs of secretive understory dwellers like Spillman's and Ocellated Tapaculos were heard, but the vocalists would not allow themselves to be seen. Although we managed a few new birds like Sharpe's (Sepia-brown) Wren, Montane Woodcreeper, and White-tailed Tyrannulet, overall it was fairly quiet. It seems with the dry and fairly clear weather we sacrificed higher levels of bird activity for breathtaking views. This sometimes happens in the dry season!

June 13: Mashpi | Today we took an early breakfast and traveled to the cloudforest of Mashpi, not too far from the lodge as the eagle flies, but a significant excursion, over an hour-and-a-half away, by road. Our birding started along the roadside, as we hunted for some of the specialty Chocó endemics of this area. It was only a matter of getting onto a good mixed flock before we had begun to lock binoculars onto our targets like Moss-backed Tanager, Glistening-green Tanager ([photo this page](#)), Indigo Flowerpiercer, and Chocó Vireo. The vireo, while not the most gaudy, was a particularly exciting observation since it was just described to science in 1996 in Colombia and there are only a few sites in Ecuador where it has been found. While we worked the flock, Kevin spotted us a handsome Orange-breasted Fruiteater.



Once at the Amagusa Reserve itself, the fruit feeders were promptly stocked with bananas and we spent a good while studying (or just plain ogling) at close range the variety of tanagers that dropped in for a bite to eat. Golden, Flame-faced ([photo this page](#)), Golden-naped, and Moss-backed Tanagers took turns with the larger Blue-winged and Black-chinned Mountain-Tanagers, and a pair of Golden-collared Honeycreepers, very rare on the western slope of the Andes, tried to steal the show. Meanwhile, hummingbirds buzzed all around us, and we enjoyed watching jewels such as Violet-tailed Sylph, Empress Brilliant, and the splendid Velvet-purple Coronet ([photo this page](#)). It was the best feeder-watching of the trip.



We stopped to have our pack lunch at an impressive overlook, serenaded by a vocal Black-billed Peppershrike, and then continued down the rough road to lower elevations for some roadside birding. We got good looks at the impressive Squirrel Cuckoo, Blue-tailed (Chocó) Trogon, and Golden-olive Woodpecker, and we were able to study White-collared and Lesser Swallow-tailed Swifts as they cruised overhead. As we were sifting through a big mixed flock, Jim spotted the rarest bird of the afternoon in the form of a Scarlet-and-white Tanager. There were at least three individuals of this scarce and gaudy canopy species in the flock and everyone was able to get binoculars on at least one. Some exciting flourishes capped off the birding in the Mashpi area: our first Golden-headed Quetzal granted some brief views in the mossy cloud forest beside the road, and later we were treated to a large flock of Bronze-winged Parrots flying across an open valley, easily visible from the van. We finished our long day with our first attempt to see the Lyre-tailed Nightjar, unfortunately without success.



June 14: Bellavista | This was a day to bird closer to our base of Tandayapa Bird Lodge. After breakfast our first stop was the Bellavista reserve at the top of Tandayapa Valley, where after some intensive searching we turned up a very confiding pair of Tanager Finches ([photo this page](#)) and we were able to watch them right next to the road for some time. This Chocó endemic is extremely rare, or localized (or both), and it is always a treat to see. We spent the rest of the morning walking the roads around Bellavista, finding a few good flocks with several new species like Blue-and-black Tanager, Dusky Chlorospingus, Hooded Mountain-Tanager, Capped Conebill, Turquoise Jay, Pearled Treerunner, and the distinctive Streaked Tuftedcheek. Short-tailed Hawk and White-rumped Hawk were seen soaring overhead, while a pair of Bat Falcons perched cooperatively on a snag over the road, allowing an

excellent study. White-collared and Spot-fronted Swifts circled above us, permitting yet another nice swift comparison. As lunch time approached and we began to drive back down the valley toward the lodge, it seemed we would miss out on one of our top targets, Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan. However, as we drove slowly along the old Nono-Mindo road the loud yelping call of the toucan rang out and we piled out of the van, eager to lay eyes on this unique toucan. After quite a bit of scanning and searching, the toucans were located, hidden by several layers of trees between us and them. In the end we managed good scope views of this gorgeous endemic, a satisfactory end to our morning birding.

We lunched at the lodge and then elected to head down the Tandayapa Valley to the Alambi Cloud Forest Lodge. This property had a tree with ripe *aguacatillos* and this fruit is one of the preferred foods of the two species of quetzals found in Ecuador's cloud forest. A Crested Quetzal had reportedly been visiting the tree regularly for the last week or so, and the chance to see this infrequently seen member of the trogon family was worth the visit. So we spent the overcast and misty afternoon with one proverbial eye on the fruiting tree and one on the feeders. While the Crested Quetzal never showed up, we did enjoy the White-necked

Jacobins, Andean Emeralds, and Brown Violetears at the hummingbird feeders, and White-lined, Lemon-rumped, and Golden Tanagers at the fruit feeders. A White-capped Dipper worked the river nearby, and as we watched it on the rocks we had no idea it would be our only sighting of the trip due to the extremely turbid waters we would find on the High Andes Extension. To finish the day we acted on a tip from a local birder and went looking for Rufescent (Colombian) Screech-Owl. As the mist thickened and darkness settled, the owls began to vocalize and soon we had one perched over the road. It always feels great to end the day's birding with some successful owling!

July 15: Rio Silanche | We started with breakfast in the dark and piled into the car for our long drive down into the low foothills. Our main destination was the Rio Silanche area in the low foothills around 400-500m in elevation, but we had a long day ahead of us with many spots to visit and many new birds to see! The low overcast and constant mist seemed to put a damper on bird activity, but we put in the effort to see as much as we could! This turned out to be our most productive morning of the trip for raptors, and Laughing Falcon, Gray-lined Hawk (photo this page), and Hook-billed Kite were all spotted along the road. We added birds of the open,



nonforest habitats like Masked Water-Tyrant and Lineated Woodpecker, and we enjoyed the performance of a cooperative White-throated Crake that scampered across the road. Further on, we went for a walk in the forest at the Rio Silanche Bird Sanctuary, which was largely quiet except for a few chatty Tawny-faced Gnatwrens roaming the understory. Near the end of our walk we did get onto one fabulous and chaotic mixed flock that produced great views of Dusky-faced Tanagers and Scarlet-rumped Caciques, as well as a



superb Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo, which granted us a rare eye-level view! A White-whiskered Puffbird perched nearby, gathering moss for a nest. Before we knew it, our time was up and we set out to return to the town of San Miguel de los Bancos for lunch. On the way, we stopped to call in a family of Barred Puffbirds, cute even for a puffbird, but in a diabolical way. As we searched for the puffbirds, Sandy spotted our only Guayaquil Woodpecker of the trip, a majestic male drumming on a hollow palm trunk.

Lunch at the Restaurante Mirador Rio Blanco did not disappoint, even if the view off the back deck was veiled by dense clouds. We enjoyed excellent food and a

variety of tanagers, such as Blue-gray, Silver-throated, Golden, and Rufous-throated, visiting the fruit feeders. The tanagers were interrupted now and again by the sporadic visits of a band of gaudy Collared Araçaris ([photo previous page](#)), seemingly always ready to gorge themselves on more and more banana. After lunch we headed to Milpe Bird Sanctuary, where it was raining lightly. Although the manakin lek was not active, we did bump into one more big, frantic mixed flock and we added Chocó Warbler, Yellow-throated Chlorospingus, and a few other goodies. Finally the end of the day found us at a site near Mindo for Lyre-tailed Nightjar. It was our driver Nestor who knew this spot, and had suggested we give it a try. Well, third time's a charm, as they say, and finally after two misses we had success, a male nightjar thrilling us by sallying out from a steep slope, his spectacularly long tail streamers silhouetted against the white sky of twilight. What a finale to a great day!

July 16: Refugio Paz de las Aves | The last morning of the main tour featured a visit to the famous Refugio Paz de las Aves. This private reserve is situated at approximately the same elevation as Tandayapa in a nearby valley, and hosts most of the same birds. However, as a result of the legendary efforts of local naturalist Angel Paz and his brother Rodrigo, the species one might hope to see here on a morning visit differ substantially from Tandayapa. We began with a visit to the Andean Cock-of-the-rock lek, where glowing red males enthusiastically shrieked, screeched, and fluttered their wings in a frantic display aimed to win the favor of the females. A Masked Trogon entertained nearby and a Cloudforest Pygmy-Owl tooted in the distance. After we had watched the lek long enough to be convinced it was real, the parade of reclusive, rare, and hard-to-spot cloud forest species began. Angel first showed us pair of roosting Rufous-bellied Nighthawks, resting inconspicuously on a moss-covered branch far across the valley but visible in the spotting scope. Next, after a little coaxing, a covey of Dark-backed Wood-Quail scampered into the open to feed on banana provided for them, and as if in a blatant attempt to upstage the wood-quail, a Giant Antpitta loomed into view behind them.



([Photo this page.](#)) This formidable forest floor predator is one of the species for which Refugio Paz is famous, but has been quite unreliable lately and we were fortunate to see this beast! Onward, Angel tried his best to produce a Yellow-breasted Antpitta but it resisted his pleas for it to “¡venga, venga, venga!” and after a long wait we continued to the next spot, where a roosting Common Potoo was stake out. No pun intended, but the potoo did look rather like a broken stake as it perched camouflaged in the open during the day. From there we continued on to the breakfast overlook, where we watched the Golden-naped Tanagers, Toucan and Red-headed Barbets, and Blue-winged and Black-chinned Mountain-Tanagers visiting the fruit

feeders. After a snack and some coffee we continued farther up in to the hills where Angel and Rodrigo tempted Chestnut-crowned and Yellow-breasted Antpittas into the relative open at the edge of the forest understory with offerings of worms. To cap off the morning we got onto a nice mixed flock as the mist and clouds settled in, and we pulled out a couple new species like Rusty-winged Barbtail and a pair of uncommon Yellow-vented Woodpeckers.

At the end of our busy morning it was back to Tandayapa Bird Lodge for a final lunch. The staff had decided to grill out, and we enjoyed our last meal at the lodge in the outdoor dining area with the World Cup on TV. After one last delightful dessert, it was time to pack our bags, say farewell and depart for Quito. Near the crest of the western Andes, we made a couple of birding stops in semi-arid habitat where the mountains drain the moisture carried up from the Pacific Ocean and create a rainshadow. Here we added a few new species typical of dry inter-Andean scrub like Tufted Tit-Tyrant and Blue-and-yellow Tanager before continuing on our way to Puenbo for the night and the conclusion of the main tour.



Birding at Refugio Paz de las Aves

High Andes Extension

July 17: Antisana | For the two days of the extension, we continued on to explore more of the inter-Andean valley and the high temperate reaches of the eastern cordillera. Our first stop was the vast open grasslands and bogs of Antisana Ecological Reserve. This turned out to be among our most eventful days of the tour, as our visit unfortunately coincided with a large bicycle race, evidently organized without the permission of the park staff, but nevertheless monopolizing the single road to access the park. As a result, we were behind schedule for most of the day. However, in the end we saw most of our target species, and the experience was probably more stressful for our driver than anyone else! When we finally made it to Laguna Micacocha, we were greeted by a cold wind and some light rain blowing sideways, but that didn't stop us from turning up a few Silvery Grebes and Andean Coots near the lakeshore. In the nearby open terrain a Many-striped Canastero provided great views as it scampered in and out of bunchgrasses and a Tawny Antpitta ambled into the open. This is one of the few antpittas is one of the very few that regularly ventures out of cover.



Moving on toward lunch, the weather improve somewhat, and the majestic Antisana Volcano was partially revealed. ([Photo this page.](#)) We came across a few groups of the localized Andean (Black-faced) Ibis and a handful of Andean Lapwings, and further on we spotted our first Andean Condors. In total we must have seen around 10 individual condors, in flight and on the ground, making for a great study of this emblematic South American goliath of the vulture family. Lunch at the Alto Tambo restaurant gave us an opportunity to relax, stay out of the cold, and enjoy some typical highland food. Not to mention a chance to see the incomparable Giant Hummingbird, dwarfing the nearby Sparkling Violetear, not a small hummingbird itself! After lunch we made the drive up and over the eastern Andes to reach our base for the night, Guango Lodge. But we made an unexpected roadside stop as we ascended toward Papallacta Pass when our local guide Pablo spotted a dark blob moving on a distant hillside. Binoculars confirmed what we had hoped: it was a Spectacled Bear! ([Photo next page.](#)) We spent a half-hour watching this rarely seen inhabitant of the

Andes as it munched contentedly on páramo vegetation. We spent the final birding light at Guango Lodge, acquainting ourselves with the local hummingbirds, including Tourmaline Sunangel, Long-tailed Sylph, and Buff-tailed and Chestnut-breasted Coronets. Cozy and charming, with its hot *canelazo* and smoldering fireplace, Guango was the perfect place to finish a long day of birding in the highlands.

July 18: Guango and Papallacta | Rain fell persistently in the early morning hours, and we awoke to a wet cloud forest landscape at Guango Lodge. After breakfast we birded the clearing along the river, first savoring the Turquoise and Inca Jays competing for our attention at the bug light, and then lucking into a couple of good mixed flocks. New species included Gray-hooded Bush-Tanager, Blue-backed Conebill, and Slaty Brushfinch. We checked the Quijos River for Torrent Ducks, but found a raging cascade of turbid water due to the recent heavy rainfall. Unfortunately, this water condition meant the ducks were most



likely up in the smaller tributary streams, and despite numerous checks of the river at various points throughout the day, we were unable to find any sign of the ducks. However, some consolation came in the form of an unexpected sighting; as we worked through a mixed flock near the lodge, a large bird flew up into view. “Is that a quetzal?” announced Jonathan, half-statement, half-question and indeed it was a handsome male Crested Quetzal, perched in the open briefly, here at the very upper limit of its altitudinal range. By mid morning we were heading up toward Papallacta, with our fingers crossed that we would find adequate weather conditions for birding the highest elevations near the pass. A short stop at Laguna Papallacta gave us Andean Gull, Yellow-billed Pintail, and Andean Teal, and then we continued our drive up toward the pass. Let’s just say it wasn’t meant to be, as we encountered howling winds, dense clouds, and ice on the ground near the communication towers above the pass. (Photo next page.) Bird activity was almost nil, not much more than a Tawny Antpitta hopping along the muddy track through the fog. We tried to wait it out, but conditions showed no sign of improving, so we cut our losses and headed downslope once again. Instead we birded for a couple hours on the road above the Papallacta hot springs, where we mostly stayed dry and although bird activity was light, we enjoyed the fascinating and beautiful variety of cloud forest flowers while tallying just a couple new birds: Viridian Metaltail and White-throated Tyrannulet.

Back at Guango Lodge for lunch, we got word that one of the lodge staff had located a Mountain Tapir earlier in the morning. We were led to the spot and found the tapir still there, snoozing in a thicket at the edge of the pipeline clearing! This rare mammal of the high Andes is perhaps even more seldom seen than the Spectacled Bear, and to have seen these two species on consecutive days was truly an incredible stroke of luck. There was really no way to top a Mountain Tapir sighting, and though we tried birding along the old road on the way back to Quito, the weather continued to be unfavorable and we didn’t add any new species. Back in Puembo we concluded the tour with a farewell dinner and voted on the favorite birds of the

trip. Taking top honors as the #1 bird of the trip was the White-throated Screech-Owl from Yanacocha on our first day in the field! Considering the Lyre-tailed Nightjar and Common Potoo also made it into the top five, it's safe to say this group was definitely excited about nightbirds. Reminiscing about our sightings was a pleasant way to end the trip. See you next time!



Frozen páramo above Papallacta

The List

In total we recorded **329** species during our trip. Of these **329** species, **37** were heard but not seen.

- Taxonomy follows eBird/Clements. Names in (parentheses) indicate older or alternate nomenclature.
- An “H” indicates the species was heard only; an “L” indicates the species was seen only by the leader.

TINAMOUS

Little Tinamou

DUCKS, GEESE, & WATERFOWL

Yellow-billed Pintail

Andean Teal

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, & CURASSOWS

Andean Guan

Sickle-winged Guan

NEW WORLD QUAIL

Dark-backed Wood-Quail

GREBES

Silvery Grebe

TINAMIDAE

Crypturellus soui

H

ANATIDAE

Anas georgica

Anas andium andium

CRACIDAE

Penelope montagnii

Chamaepetes goudotii

ODONTOPHORIDAE

Odontophorus melanonotus

PODICIPEDIDAE

Podiceps occipitalis

CORMORANTS & SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

HERONS, EGRETS, & BITTERNS

Great Egret

Cattle Egret

IBIS & SPOONBILLS

Black-faced (Andean) Ibis

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Andean Condor

HAWKS, EAGLES, & KITES

Hook-billed Kite

Swallow-tailed Kite

Barred Hawk

Roadside Hawk

White-rumped Hawk

Variable Hawk

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle

Gray-lined Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

RAILS, GALLINULES, & COOTS

White-throated Crake

Slate-colored (Andean) Coot

PLOVERS & LAPWINGS

Andean Lapwing

GULLS, TERNS, & SKIMMERS

Andean Gull

PIGEONS & DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Plumbeous Pigeon

Ruddy Pigeon

Dusky Pigeon

Black-winged Ground-Dove

White-tipped Dove

Pallid Dove

White-throated Quail-Dove

Eared Dove

CUCKOOS

Smooth-billed Ani

Striped Cuckoo

Squirrel Cuckoo

OWLS

Colombian (Rufescent) Screech-Owl

White-throated Screech-Owl

Cloud-forest Pygmy-Owl

Andean Pygmy-Owl

NIGHTJARS & ALLIES

Rufous-bellied Nighthawk

Lyre-tailed Nightjar

PHALACROCORACIDAE*Phalacrocorax brasilianus***ARDEIDAE***Ardea alba**Bubulcus ibis***THRESKIORNITHIDAE***Theristicus melanopis branickii***CATHARTIDAE***Coragyps atratus**Cathartes aura jota**Vultur gryphus***ACCIPITRIDAE***Chondrohierax uncinatus**Elanoides forficatus**Morphnarchus princeps**Rupornis magnirostris**Parabuteo leucorrhous**Geranoaetus polyosoma**Geranoaetus melanoleucus**Buteo nitidus**Buteo brachyurus***RALLIDAE***Laterallus albigularis**Fulica ardesiaca***CHARADRIIDAE***Vanellus resplendens***LARIDAE***Chroicocephalus serranus***COLUMBIDAE***Columba livia**Patagioenas fasciata**Patagioenas plumbea* H*Patagioenas subvinacea**Patagioenas goodsoni* H*Metriopelia melanoptera* L*Leptotila verreauxi**Leptotila pallida**Zentrygon frenata* H*Zenaida auriculata***CUCULIDAE***Crotophaga ani**Tapera naevia**Piaya cayana***STRIGIDAE***Megascops (ingens) colombianus**Megascops albogularis**Glaucidium nubicola* H*Glaucidium jardinii* H**CAPRIMULGIDAE***Lurocalis rufiventris**Uropsalis lyra*

POTOOS

Common Potoo

SWIFTS

Spot-fronted Swift

Chestnut-collared Swift

White-collared Swift

Gray-rumped Swift

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

White-necked Jacobin

White-whiskered Hermit

Tawny-bellied Hermit

Brown Violetear

Lesser (Green) Violetear

Sparkling Violetear

Purple-crowned Fairy

Gorgeted Sunangel

Tourmaline Sunangel

Green Thorntail

Speckled Hummingbird

Long-tailed Sylph

Violet-tailed Sylph

Ecuadorian Hillstar

Black-tailed Trainbearer

Purple-backed Thornbill

Tyrian Metaltail

Viridian Metaltail

Glowing Puffleg

Sapphire-vented Puffleg

Golden-breasted Puffleg

Shining Sunbeam

Brown Inca

Collared Inca

Buff-winged Starfrontlet

Sword-billed Hummingbird

Great Sapphirewing

Buff-tailed Coronet

Chestnut-breasted Coronet

Velvet-purple Coronet

Booted Racket-tail

Purple-bibbed Whitetip

Fawn-breasted Brilliant

Green-crowned Brilliant

Empress Brilliant

Giant Hummingbird

White-bellied Woodstar

Purple-throated Woodstar

Crowned (Green-crowned) Woodnymph

Andean Emerald

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

TROGONS

Golden-headed Quetzal

NYCTIBIIDAE*Nyctibius griseus***APODIDAE***Cypseloides cherriei**Streptoprocne rutila**Streptoprocne zonaris**Chaetura cinereiventris**Panyptila cayennensis***TROCHILIDAE***Florisuga mellivora**Phaethornis yaruqui**Phaethornis symmatophorus**Colibri delphinae**Colibri cyanotus**Colibri coruscans**Heliothryx barroti**Heliangelus strophianus**Heliangelus exortis**Discosura conversii**Adelomyia melanogenys**Agelaiocercus kingii**Agelaiocercus coelestis**Oreotrochilus chimborazo**Lesbia victoriae**Ramphomicron microrhynchum**Metallura tyrianthina**Metallura williami**Eriocnemis vestita**Eriocnemis luciani**Eriocnemis mosquera**Aglaeactis cupripennis**Coeligena wilsoni**Coeligena torquata**Coeligena lutetiae**Ensifera ensifera**Pterophanes cyanopterus**Boissonneaua flavescens**Boissonneaua matthewsii**Boissonneaua jardini**Ocreatus underwoodii**Urosticte benjamini**Heliodoxa rubinoides**Heliodoxa jacula**Heliodoxa imperatrix**Patagona gigas**Chaetocercus mulsant**Calliphlox mitchellii**Thalurania colombica**Amazilia franciae**Amazilia tzacatl***TROGONIDAE***Pharomachrus auriceps*

Crested Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus antisianus</i>	
Blue-tailed (Chocó) Trogon	<i>Trogon comptus</i>	
Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>	
MOTMOTS	MOMOTIDAE	
Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>	
Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>	H
PUFFBIRDS	BUCCONIDAE	
Barred Puffbird	<i>Nystalus radiatus</i>	
White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Malacoptila panamensis</i>	
NEW WORLD BARBETS	CAPITONIDAE	
Orange-fronted Barbet	<i>Capito squamatus</i>	
Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>	
TOUCAN-BARBETS	SEMNORNITHIDAE	
Toucan Barbet	<i>Semnornis ramphastinus</i>	
TOUCANS	RAMPHASTIDAE	
Crimson-rumped Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus haematopygus</i>	
Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan	<i>Andigena laminirostris</i>	
Collared (Pale-mandibled) Araçari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus erythropygius</i>	
Yellow-throated (Chestnut-mandibled) Toucan	<i>Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii</i>	
Chocó Toucan	<i>Ramphastos brevis</i>	
WOODPECKERS	PICIDAE	
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	
Smoky-brown Woodpecker	<i>Picoides fumigatus</i>	
Yellow-vented Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis dignus</i>	
Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>	
Crimson-mantled Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rivolii</i>	
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	
Guayaquil Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus गयाquilensis</i>	
FALCONS & CARACARAS	FALCONIDAE	
Barred Forest-Falcon	<i>Micrastur ruficollis</i>	H
Carunculated Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus carunculatus</i>	
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco rufigularis</i>	
NEW WORLD & AFRICAN PARROTS	PSITTACIDAE	
Barred Parakeet	<i>Bolborhynchus lineola</i>	H
Red-billed Parrot	<i>Pionus sordidus</i>	
Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	
Bronze-winged Parrot	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i>	
Mealy Parrot (Amazon)	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	
Scaly-naped Parrot (Amazon)	<i>Amazona mercenarius</i>	H
Pacific Parrotlet	<i>Forpus coelestis</i>	
Maroon-tailed Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura melanura pacifica</i>	
TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS	THAMNOPHILIDAE	
Rufous-rumped Antwren	<i>Euchrepomis callinota</i>	H
Uniform Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus unicolor</i>	H
Russet Antshrike	<i>Thamnistes anabatinus</i>	
Plain Antvireo	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>	H
Dot-winged Antwren	<i>Microrhopias quixensis</i>	
Streak-headed (Long-tailed) Antbird	<i>Drymophila striaticeps</i>	H
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Poliocrania exsul</i>	H
Esmeraldas Antbird	<i>Sipia nigricauda</i>	

Zeledon's (Immaculate) Antbird

ANTPITTAS

Giant Antpitta

Scaled Antpitta

Plain-backed Antpitta

Chestnut-crowned Antpitta

Yellow-breasted Antpitta

Rufous Antpitta

Tawny Antpitta

TAPACULOS

Ocellated Tapaculo

Blackish (Unicolored) Tapaculo

Nariño Tapaculo

Spillmann's Tapaculo

ANTTHRUSHES

Rufous-breasted Antthrush

OVENBIRDS & WOODCREEPERS

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper

Strong-billed Woodcreeper

Spotted Woodcreeper

Streak-headed Woodcreeper

Montane Woodcreeper

Plain Xenops

Streaked Tuftedcheek

Rusty-winged Barbtail

Pale-legged (Pacific) Hornero

Chestnut-winged (Bar-winged) Cinclodes

Stout-billed Cinclodes

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner

Lineated Foliage-gleaner

Ruddy Foliage-gleaner

Uniform Treehunter

Streak-capped Treehunter

Spotted Barbtail

Pearled Treerunner

Andean Tit-Spinetail

White-browed Spinetail

Many-striped Canastero

Red-faced Spinetail

Azara's Spinetail

Slaty Spinetail

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Brown-capped Tyrannulet

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet

White-tailed Tyrannulet

White-banded Tyrannulet

White-throated Tyrannulet

Tufted Tit-Tyrant

Yellow-bellied Elaenia

Slaty-capped Flycatcher

Ashy-headed Tyrannulet

Chocó (Golden-faced) Tyrannulet

*Hafferia zeledoni***GRALLARIIDAE***Grallaria gigantea**Grallaria guatemalensis**Grallaria haplonota*

H

*Grallaria ruficapilla**Grallaria flavotincta**Grallaria rufula*

H

*Grallaria quitensis***RHINOCRYPTIDAE***Acropternis orthonyx*

H

*Scytalopus latrans**Scytalopus vicinior*

H

Scytalopus spillmanni

H

FORMICARIIDAE*Formicarius rufipectus***FURNARIIDAE***Glyphorhynchus spirurus**Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*

H

*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius**Lepidocolaptes souleyetii**Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger**Xenops minutus**Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii**Premnornis guttuliger**Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus**Cinclodes albidiventris**Cinclodes excelsior**Philydor rufum**Syndactyla subalaris**Clibanornis rubiginosus*

H

Thripadectes ignobilis

H

*Thripadectes virgaticeps**Premnoplex brunnescens**Margarornis squamiger**Leptasthenura andicola**Hellmayrea gularis**Asthenes flammulata**Cranioleuca erythrops**Synallaxis azarae**Synallaxis brachyura***TYRANNIDAE***Ornithion brunneicapillus*

H

*Camptostoma obsoletum**Mecocerculus poecilocercus**Mecocerculus stictopterus**Mecocerculus leucophrys**Anairetes parulus**Elaenia flavogaster*

H

*Leptopogon superciliaris**Phyllomyias cinereiceps*

H

Zimmerius (chrysops) albigularis

Ornate Flycatcher	<i>Myiobius sulphureipygius</i>	
Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Myiophobus flavicans</i>	
Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>	
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	
Yellow-margined Flycatcher (Flatbill)	<i>Fluvicola nengeta</i>	
Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Ochthoeca diadema</i>	
Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher	<i>Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris</i>	
Flavescent Flycatcher	<i>Ochthoeca rufipectoralis</i>	
Smoke-colored Pewee	<i>Ochthoeca fumicolor</i>	
Black Phoebe	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	
Masked Water-Tyrant	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	
Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	
Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Myiodynastes chrysocephalus</i>	
Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	
Dusky-capped Flycatcher		
Boat-billed Flycatcher		
Rusty-margined Flycatcher		
Golden-crowned Flycatcher		
Streaked Flycatcher		
Tropical Kingbird		
COTINGAS	COTINGIDAE	
Green-and-black Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola riefferii</i>	
Barred Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola arcuata</i>	
Orange-breasted Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola jucunda</i>	
Scaled Fruiteater	<i>Ampelioides tschudii</i>	H
Red-crested Cotinga	<i>Ampelion rubrocrissatus</i>	
Andean Cock-of-the-rock	<i>Rupicola peruvianus</i>	
MANAKINS	PIPRIDAE	
White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>	H
TITYRAS & ALLIES	TITYRIDAE	
Barred Becard	<i>Pachyramphus versicolor</i>	
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>	
White-winged Becard	<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus dorsalis</i>	H
Black-and-white Becard	<i>Pachyramphus albogriseus</i>	
VIREOS & ALLIES	VIREONIDAE	
Black-billed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis nigristrois</i>	
Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo	<i>Vireolanius leucotis</i>	
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtata</i>	H
Chocó Vireo	<i>Vireo masteri</i>	
Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>	
CROWS, JAYS, & MAGPIES	CORVIDAE	
Beautiful Jay	<i>Cyanolyca pulchra</i>	
Turquoise Jay	<i>Cyanolyca turcosa</i>	
Green (Inca) Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yncas yncas</i>	
SWALLOWS	HIRUNDINIDAE	
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	
Brown-bellied Swallow	<i>Orochelidon murina</i>	
White-thighed Swallow	<i>Atticora tibialis</i>	
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	
WRENS	TROGLODYTIDAE	
Scaly-breasted (Southern Nightingale) Wren	<i>Microcerculus marginatus</i>	H

House Wren
 Mountain Wren
 Sedge (Grass) Wren
 Plain-tailed Wren
 Whiskered Wren
 Bay Wren
 Rufous Wren
 Sharpe's (Sepia-brown) Wren
 Gray-breasted Wood-Wren
GNATCATCHERS
 Tawny-faced Gnatwren
DIPPERS
 White-capped Dipper
THRUSHES & ALLIES
 Andean Solitaire
 Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush
 Ecuadorian Thrush
 Great Thrush
 Glossy-black Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS
 Tropical Mockingbird
WAGTAILS & PIPITS
 Paramo Pipit
NEW WORLD WARBLERS
 Olive-crowned Yellowthroat
 Tropical Parula
 Three-striped Warbler
 Black-crested Warbler
 Buff-rumped Warbler
 Golden-bellied (Chocó) Warbler
 Russet-crowned Warbler
 Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)
 Spectacled Redstart (Whitestart)
TANAGERS & ALLIES
 Black-eared (Western) Hemispingus
 Gray-hooded Bush Tanager
 Rufous-chested Tanager
 White-shouldered Tanager
 Tawny-crested Tanager
 White-lined Tanager
 Flame-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Tanager
 Moss-backed Tanager
 Hooded Mountain-Tanager
 Grass-green Tanager
 Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager
 Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager
 Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager
 Blue-and-yellow Tanager
 Glistening-green Tanager
 Blue-gray Tanager
 Palm Tanager
 Blue-capped Tanager

Troglodytes aedon
Troglodytes solstitialis
Cistothorus platensis aequatorialis H
Pheugopedius euophrys
Pheugopedius mystacalis
Cantorchilus nigricapillus
Cinnycerthia unirufa
Cinnycerthia olivascens
Henicorhina leucophrys
POLIOPTILIDAE
Microbates cinereiventris
CINCLIDAE
Cinclus leucocephalus
TURDIDAE
Myadestes raloides H
Catharus fuscater
Turdus maculirostris
Turdus fuscater
Turdus serranus
MIMIDAE
Mimus gilvus
MOTACILLIDAE
Anthus bogotensis
PARULIDAE
Geothlypis semiflava H
Setophaga pitiayumi
Basileuterus tristriatus
Myiothlypis nigrocristata
Myiothlypis fulvicauda
Myiothlypis chrysogaster chlorophrys
Myiothlypis coronata
Myioborus miniatus
Myioborus melanocephalus
THRAUPIDAE
Hemispingus melanotis ochraceus
Cnemoscopus rubrirostris
Thlypopsis ornata L
Tachyphonus luctuosus
Tachyphonus delatrii
Tachyphonus rufus
Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus
Bangsia edwardsi
Buthraupis montana
Chlorornis riefferii
Anisognathus igniventris
Anisognathus somptuosus
Anisognathus notabilis
Pipraeidea bonariensis
Chlorochrysa phoenicotis
Thraupis episcopus
Thraupis palmarum
Thraupis cyanocephala

Golden-naped Tanager
 Black-capped Tanager
 Gray-and-gold Tanager
 Blue-necked Tanager
 Rufous-throated Tanager
 Blue-and-black Tanager
 Beryl-spangled Tanager
 Metallic-green Tanager
 Bay-headed Tanager
 Flame-faced Tanager
 Golden Tanager
 Silver-throated Tanager
 Green Honeycreeper
 Golden-collared Honeycreeper
 Scarlet-and-white Tanager
 Cinereous Conebill
 Blue-backed Conebill
 Capped Conebill
 Glossy Flowerpiercer
 Black Flowerpiercer
 White-sided Flowerpiercer
 Indigo Flowerpiercer
 Masked Flowerpiercer
 Plumbeous Sierra-Finch
 Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch
 Thick-billed (Lesser) Seed-Finch
 Variable Seedeater
 Yellow-bellied Seedeater
 Band-tailed Seedeater
 Plain-colored Seedeater
 Bananaquit
 Buff-throated Saltator
 Black-winged Saltator

NEW WORLD BUNTINGS & SPARROWS

Tanager Finch
 Yellow-throated Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager)
 Dusky Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager)
 Gray-browed (Stripe-headed) Brushfinch
 Orange-billed Sparrow
 Chestnut-capped Brushfinch
 Rufous-collared Sparrow
 Tricolored Brushfinch
 Slaty Brushfinch
 Pale-naped Brushfinch
 Yellow-breasted (Rufous-naped) Brushfinch
 White-winged Brushfinch

MITROSPINGID TANAGERS

Dusky-faced Tanager

CARDINALS & ALLIES

Golden Grosbeak

TROUPIALS & ALLIES

Scrub Blackbird

Tangara ruficervix
Tangara heinei
Tangara palmeri
Tangara cyanicollis L
Tangara rufigula
Tangara vassorii
Tangara nigroviridis
Tangara labradorides
Tangara gyrola
Tangara parzudakii
Tangara arthus
Tangara icterocephala
Chlorophanes spiza
Iridophanes pulcherrimus
Crysothlypis salmoni
Conirostrum cinereum
Conirostrum sitticolor
Conirostrum albifrons
Diglossa lafresnayii
Diglossa humeralis
Diglossa albilatera
Diglossa indigotica
Diglossa cyanea
Phrygilus unicolor
Phrygilus plebejus
Sporophila funerea
Sporophila corvina
Sporophila nigricollis
Catamenia analis
Catamenia inornata
Coereba flaveola
Saltator maximus
Saltator atripennis
PASSERELLIDAE
Oreothraupis arremonops
Chlorospingus flavigularis
Chlorospingus semifuscus
Arremon assimilis H
Arremon aurantirostris
Arremon brunneinucha
Zonotrichia capensis
Atlapetes tricolor
Atlapetes schistaceus
Atlapetes pallidinucha
Atlapetes latinuchus
Atlapetes leucopterus leucopterus
MITROSPINGIDAE
Mitrospingus cassinii
CARDINALIDAE
Pheucticus chrysogaster
ICTERIDAE
Dives waczewiczii

Scarlet-rumped Cacique
(Northern) Mountain Cacique
Russet-backed Oropendola

FINCHES, EUPHONIAS & ALLIES

Thick-billed Euphonia
Golden-rumped Euphonia
Orange-bellied Euphonia
Hooded Siskin

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow

MAMMALS

Western Dwarf Squirrel
Red-tailed Squirrel
Central American Agouti
Tapeti (Brazilian Rabbit)
Tayra
Kinkajou
Mountain Tapir
Spectacled Bear
White-tailed Deer

Cacicus uropygialis pacificus
Cacicus chrysonotus leucoramphus
Psarocolius angustifrons

FRINGILLIDAE

Euphonia laniirostris
Euphonia cyanocephala
Euphonia xanthogaster
Spinus magellanicus

PASSERIDAE

Passer domesticus

Microsciurus mimulus
Sciurus granatensis
Dasyprocta punctata
Sylvilagus brasiliensis
Eira barbara
Potos flavus
Tapirus pinchaque
Tremarctos ornatus
Odocoileus virginianus

Photo Gallery



Andean Guan at Yanacocha



Highland landscape near Yanacocha



Shining Sunbeam at Yanacocha



Cloud forest, Tandayapa Valley



Flame-faced Tanager at Amagusa Reserve



Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager at Refugio Paz de las Aves



Toucan Barbets, Refugio Paz de las Aves



Mountain Tapir, Guango Lodge



Dark-backed Wood-Quail, Refugio Paz de las Aves



Red-headed Barbet, Refugio Paz de las Aves



Pallid Dove at Mirador Rio Blanco



Common Potoo at Refugio Paz de las Aves