



MEXICO

Oaxaca: Birding the Heart of Mexico and the Chiapas Extension

26 March – 11 April 2025

TOUR LEADER: Nick Athanas

Report and photos by Nick Athanas



Rose-bellied Bunting – a striking Mexican endemic with a tiny range. We had unforgettable views on the extension

Our 2025 Oaxaca tour was superb as we had great birding, near perfect weather, a fun and relaxed group, and of course some truly superb food. Not the boring “Tex-Mex” dishes found in so much of the rest of the world, but the “real deal”, with fresh corn tortillas, delectable sauces, local cheese, and sometimes, for the more adventurous, a sprinkling of *chapulines*... Our itinerary took us into cactus-laden interior valleys, high mountains covered in pine-oak forest, lush gulf slope rainforest and cloudforest, and Pacific thornscrub to give us a huge variety of birds (around 400 species) including the vast majority of the regional endemics. I asked the group for some of their favorites and ended up with a long list – it is really tough to pick a “top bird” when you see so many cool things. However some species in particular that got a lot of mentions were the remarkable **Pink-headed Warbler**, eyeball-searing **Orange-breasted Bunting**, the more subtly colored **Rose-bellied Bunting**, the tiny and well-named **Bumblebee Hummingbird**, **Giant Wren** (and **wrens** in general – 21 species of them), **White-throated Magpie-Jay** (and nine other jays), an incredible close encounter with a **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo**, a fierce **Colima Pygmy-Owl** that we almost couldn’t find, and, at least for a lucky few standing in the right spot, a **Tody Motmot**.

After having a night in Oaxaca at the start of the trip, we began our birding along a quiet dirt road above the town of Teotitlán del Valle. We arrived in twilight, having the first of what would be many field breakfasts. Let me give a shoutout to our driver, Donaldo, who was not just a great driver (and nice guy), but every day he set up breakfast on a table with options for everyone to enjoy, including fresh coffee. You can’t get early breakfasts in most Mexican hotels, so these ample spreads made the trip so much better. Breakfast was interrupted when a **Dwarf Vireo** began singing nearby – a very good sign as it is usually one of the most difficult birds to find in the Oaxaca Valley. Mugs and bowls hastily put down, we approached it and nailed some great views. That set the tone for the rest of the morning as we birded up the road, enjoying good activity and seeing loads of neat birds like **West Mexican Chachalaca**, **Short-tailed Hawk**, **Elegant Trogon**, **White-striped Woodcreeper**, **Pileated Flycatcher**, **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Greater Pewee**, **Thick-billed Kingbird**, **Golden Vireo**, **Woodhouse’s Scrub-Jay**, **Boucard’s Wren**, **Blue Mockingbird**, **Gray Silky-Flycatcher**, **Bridled Sparrow**, **White-throated Towhee**, **Oaxaca Sparrow** (photo right), **Audubon’s Oriole**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, and **Painted Redstart**. We headed down to Teotitlán, stopping at a small reservoir for a few other species like **Least Grebe**, **Vermilion Flycatcher**, and **Dusky Hummingbird**, before having a long lunch in a pleasant restaurant that also sold local weavings for rather eye-popping prices. In the afternoon, we headed to a small Zapotec archaeological site named Yagul. Cacti are especially abundant here, making it a great spot to find the endemic **Gray-breasted Woodpecker**, and it did not take long. We also added a few other birds to the list including **Nutting’s Flycatcher**, **Rock** and **Canyon Wrens**, and **Rufous-backed Robin**. We headed back to the hotel a bit earlier than normal to get ready for the early start the following day.





Bridled Sparrow – one of southern Mexico's most striking birds

The reason for our early start was to look for Fulvous Owl in La Cumbre, where I had seen them on several previous tours. However, I knew from talking to other TB guides, and also from checking eBird, that very few birders were seeing it recently. There didn't really seem to be a reason why it wouldn't still be there, so I decided to give it a go. Despite having ideal conditions and checking several different spots, there was sadly no response whatsoever. Will we try again on a future trip? That remains to be seen, but at least we did have superb views of a **Mexican Whip-poor-will** as it was starting to get light, and we were well-placed (and well fed thanks to Donaldo) in the heart of the forest once the diurnal species started to wake up. Weather up here sometimes can be terrible with rain and fog, but today was perfect and we took full advantage. We very quickly found our two main targets, the diminutive **Dwarf Jay** and noisy **Gray-barred Wren** along with plenty of others like **White-eared Hummingbird**, **Mountain Trogon**, **Strong-billed** and **Spot-crowned Woodcreepers**, **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Mexican Chickadee**, **Brown Creeper**, **Gray-breasted Wood-Wren**, **Brown-backed Solitaire**, **Russet Nightingale-Thrush**, **Chestnut-capped Brushfinch**, and **Yellow-eyed Junco**. The pine-oak forest here also gave us a superb set of warblers. **Red**, **Golden-browed**, **Olive**, and **Crescent-chested Warblers** are year-round residents, and we also saw several wintering warblers including **Townsend's**, **Hermit**, and **Wilson's**. Lunch was at special spot called Restaurante Colibrí, or The Hummingbird Restaurant. Strangely, only one hummer species visits the feeder regularly, **Blue-throated Mountain-gem**, even though there are a bunch more living in the surrounding forest. However,

it was the other species that were coming in to a water feature that really attracted our attention, especially a pair of **Long-tailed Wood-Partridges**, the only ones we saw on the tour. Other sightings included point-blank views of **Collared Towhee**, **Rufous-capped Brushfinch**, **Steller's Jay**, and **Bushtit**. Our afternoon was spent back in La Cumbre, where we didn't really add anything new, but had improved views and photos of several species.



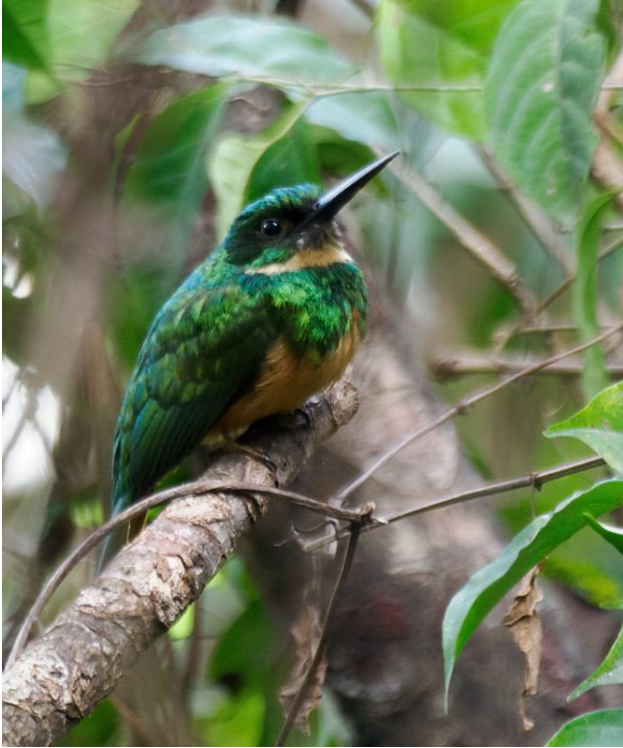
Dwarf Jay at La Cumbre

Next morning we left Oaxaca and headed north to the Gulf Slope, where we'd spend the next few days. It was a long drive, but we broke it up with some great birding stops, targeting several species in particular. First of all was **Ocellated Thrasher**, one of the tougher to find Oaxaca specialties. Following a tip from one of our other guides, we found one perched up and singing from a distant bush. The next one was quite a bit harder. **Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow** is more common in western Mexico, only barely reaching the areas visited on this tour. We whiffed on the first try, so I checked out a spot where I had seen it back in 2017, and finally located a cooperative pair that perched up in the open. In the afternoon, we made a couple of stops in humid montane forest for **Unicolored Jay**, **Slate-colored Solitaire** (which we saw) and to have a first go at Bumblebee Hummingbird (which we didn't) before ending up in the city of Tuxtepec. A few other species we saw today were **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Lark Sparrow**, **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Zone-tailed Hawk**, **Cinnamon-rumped Seedeater**, **Common Chlorospingus**, **Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Brown Jay**, **White-winged Tanager**, and **Red-legged Honeycreeper**.



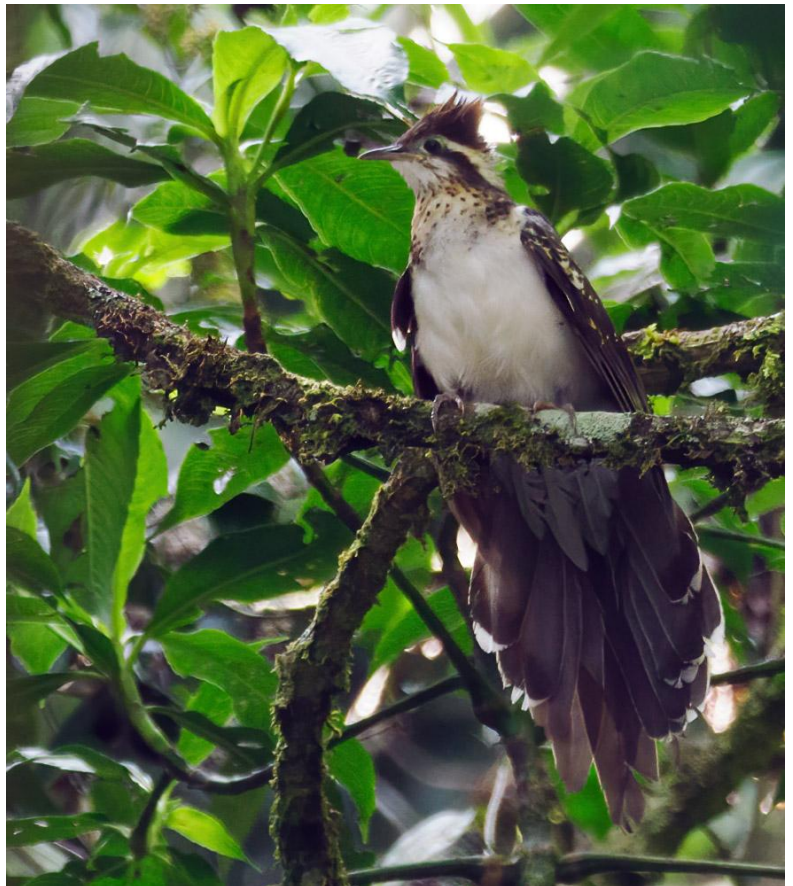
White-winged Tanager

Using a decent hotel in Tuxtepec as our base of operations, we spent the next two days birding the lowlands and foothills of the Gulf slope, finding close to 150 bird species. There is really only one targetable endemic in the area, **Sumichast's Wren**, found only in forested areas with limestone outcrops. We set our sights on it the first morning, hoping to find it quickly – we got it, but it turned out to be quite the adventure! An hour or so into our first morning of birding, one started singing upslope from the road. I spent a few minutes calling it, but it didn't want to come any closer, so we had to make our way up the hill towards the rocky ledge where it was hiding. At first it looked like there was a trail, but then a fallen tree blocked the path and it was just a scramble to get through it. Eventually we put ourselves into a good position, and with patience and playback everyone saw it. With our main target out of the way early, we had lots of time to look for other stuff. One such bird was **Tody Motmot**. There was a side road in the foothills where it had been seen recently, and I even got a GPS point from another TB guide. There was nothing at that spot, but down the steep road a few hundred meters we got a vocal response. There was even a trail going up a gully towards where we heard it calling. Sadly, the motmot did not want to cooperate, and the difficult and narrow trail with little space for a full group made it so that only a few of us got a decent look despite a major time investment. On a happier note, just down the road from there we saw a gorgeous male **Black-crested Coquette**, a very scarce bird around here.



Some of the other birds we saw during those two days were **Blue Ground Dove**, **White-necked Jacobin**, **Stripe-throated Hermit**, **Green-breasted Mango**, **Canivet's** and **White-bellied Emeralds**, **Azure-crowned Hummingbird**, **White Hawk**, **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**, **Gartered**, **Black-headed**, and **Collared Trogons**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar** (*photo left*), **Keel-billed Toucan**, **Golden-fronted**, **Pale-billed**, and **Lineated Woodpeckers**, **Barred Antshrike**, **Streak-headed Woodcreeper**, **Red-lored Amazon**, **Olive-throated Parakeet**, **Rufous-breasted Spinetail**, **Masked** and **Black-crowned Tityras**, **Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet**, **Yellow-olive Flatbill**, **Boat-billed** and **Piratic Flycatchers**, **Couch's Kingbird**, **Lesser Greenlet**, **Brown Jay**, **Mangrove Swallow**, **Band-backed** and **Spot-breasted Wrens**, **Yellow-throated** and **Scrub Euphonias**, **Rusty Sparrow**, **Black-cowled Oriole**, **Montezuma Oropendola**, **Melodious Blackbird**, 10+ species of **wintering wood-warblers**, **Gray-crowned Yellowthroat**, **Red-throated Ant-Tanager**, **Black-faced Grosbeak**, **Painted Bunting**, **Crimson-collared**, **Yellow-winged**, and **Golden-hooded Tanagers**, and **Black-headed** and **Cinnamon-bellied Saltators**.

After the third night in Tuxtepec, it was time to retrace our path along the sinuous Highway 175 back to Oaxaca, though not before spending a morning birding in lush, mid-elevation cloudforest. The road passes through pristine habitat, though apart from birding along the highway there is no way to access it. Imagine what it would be like if someone built a lodge with trails and feeders in this area? One can only dream. Luckily early in the morning the traffic was light, and we had decent luck finding great birds like **Brown-hooded Parrot**, **Mayan Antthrush**, **Spotted Woodcreeper**, **Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner**, **Gray-collared Becard**, **Eye-ringed Flatbill**, **Azure-hooded Jay**, **Slate-colored Solitaire**, **White-throated Thrush**, **Common Chlorospingus**, **Golden-crowned Warbler**, and **Flame-colored Tanager**. Not far up the road, I heard a **Pheasant Cuckoo** out the window of the van, and fortunately there was a place to pull off, and the bird came in and showed beautifully (*photo right*). It was a long drive back to Oaxaca, but we broke the trip up with various stops, mostly seeing species we had seen on the way north three days ago. Bumblebee hummingbird once again remained elusive, and a few folks did see a **Slaty Vireo**, but not very well – it would be a top target for tomorrow!



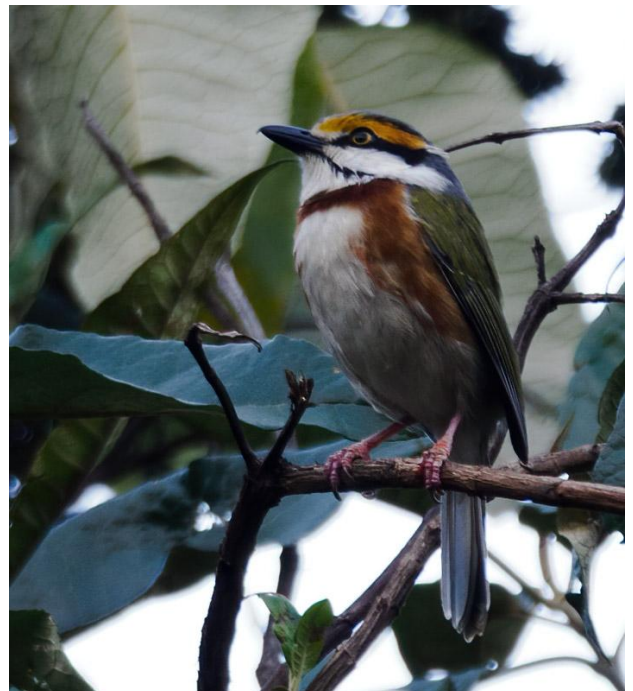
Just outside the city of Oaxaca lies Monte Albán, one of the most extensive and best-preserved archaeological sites in Mexico. It is surrounded by well-preserved desert scrub, and we were hoping to find the last few specialties we had missed up until now. The site itself doesn't open until 8:00am, but the entrance road opens early for joggers, walkers, cyclists, and, of course birders. One of our strangest "dips" up till now was **Black-vented Oriole**, quite a common bird in the Oaxaca Valley, but there was no way to miss it at Monte Albán, and it was one of the first birds we saw during breakfast. The other one, **Slaty Vireo**, proved to be more challenging. It wasn't until Monte Albán opened before we finally found a pair as we began our exploration of the ruins. It was nice to get it sooner rather than later, so we could mostly focus on exploring the site for the rest of the morning rather than obsessing over one final bird.



Monte Albán

We finally bade goodbye to Oaxaca City and headed south into the Sierra de Miahuatlán, a beautiful mountain range that is part of the Sierra Madre del Sur. We spent two nights in this area, the first in cool, high elevation pine-oak forest, and the second down lower in Pluma Hidalgo, which is surrounded by shade-grown coffee plantations. It's a very pleasant area to visit, helped a lot by the fact we could stay in eco-lodges in the forest instead of city hotels. As we already had spent quite a bit of time in the highlands, we had very specific targets in each area. A lengthy search in the higher elevations got us the elusive and surprisingly shy **White-throated Jay**. While looking for it we also finally located **Bumblebee Hummingbird**, pretty much at the 11th hour, along with **Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo** (*photo right*), **Rivoli's Hummingbird**, **Black Thrush**, and **Black-headed Siskin**.

The lower elevations around Pluma Hidalgo had a different set of species we were looking for. Perhaps the most wanted was **Red-headed Tanager**, and it also proved to be the most difficult, but just when I was starting to get a little concerned, we found a very confiding pair feeding on berries in a fruiting tree. Other noteworthy birds included **Long-billed Starthroat**, **Golden-crowned Emerald**, **"Cinnamon-sided" Green-fronted**



Hummingbird, Berylline Hummingbird, “Wagler’s” Northern Emerald-Toucanet, Gray-crowned Woodpecker, Happy Wren, and Fan-tailed Warbler. We had a very brief glimpse at a **Middle American Screech-Owl** that seemed to be chased away by something, and I found a **Mexican Hermit** that sadly did not stay around long enough for anyone else to see.



Red-headed Tanager above Pluma Hidalgo

The last segment of the main tour was spent in dry forest and thornscrub along the Pacific Coast near Huatulco. Huatulco is a resort town lined with hotels and all-inclusive resorts – not the place you would normally think of as a birding hotspot. However, the city borders a massive national park bearing the same name that protects 46 square miles of habitat, and all the target species can be seen within a few miles of your hotel. The birding here was really fun and for the most part really easy – in the dry season, the trees have shed most of their leaves, so it is harder for the birds to hide. We saw pretty much everything we were hoping to find including superstar birds like **Red-breasted Chat, Orange-breasted Bunting, Lesser Ground-Cuckoo, Citreoline Trogon, Russet-crowned Motmot, and White-throated Magpie-Jay.** **Colima Pygmy-Owl** caused us the most angst, as we had pretty much given up on it and heading back to the van when one started singing very close by and then showed beautifully. That one you can see during the day, but we had an

excellent morning nightbirding session as well seeing **Northern Potoo**, **Pacific Screech-Owl**, and **Mottled Owl**. A few other birds to mention from the Huatulco area include **Turquoise-crowned** and **Cinnamon Hummingbirds**, **Gray Hawk**, **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker**, **White-fronted Amazon**, **Orange-fronted Parakeet**, **Ivory-billed Woodcreeper**, **Flammulated Flycatcher**, **White-lored Gnatcatcher**, **Russet-naped** and **Banded Wrens**, **Olive Sparrow**, **Yellow-winged Cacique**, **Streak-backed** and **Spot-breasted Orioles**, “**Long-crested**” **Northern Cardinal**, and **Blue Bunting**.



Lesser Ground-Cuckoo came very close to us along a trail

The main tour had come to an end, and it was time to say farewell to those who were not taking the extension. The rest of us had another early start as we began our journey east through the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. We had our field breakfast at a spot good for the endemic **Cinnamon-tailed Sparrow**, and saw it almost immediately, and then saw another one later at a lookout over a salt evaporation pond where there a few ducks, shorebirds, and other waterbirds around. Reaching the Isthmus, there rather surprisingly very little wind – often it blows so hard here it can be hard to open the car door. Taking advantage, we spent a bit of time in a small reserve where we saw our first **Rose-bellied Buntings** (but only had a brief glimpse of an adult male) along with **Green-fronted Hummingbird** – a different subspecies from the one two days ago and a likely split. We took a few minutes to track down a **Double-striped Thick-knee** in a wind farm and also saw **Stripe-headed Sparrow** before heading to Arriaga. Even though we’d seen **Rose-bellied Bunting**, we all wanted better views, so headed up into the foothills in the late afternoon to a well-known stakeout. They were everywhere! We must have seen 15 buntings at least – I’ve never seen such a high concentration of them before. It must have been a productive nesting season.



Cinnamon-tailed Sparrow



Rose-bellied Bunting

After a night in Arriaga, we headed to the coastal plains near Puerto Arista and birded tree-fringed farmland for a few hours, quickly locating our two main targets, the impressive and noisy **Giant Wren** and the rather local **White-bellied Chachalaca**. We also got lucky with **Pacific Parakeet**, finding a flock feeding in a fruiting tree during breakfast – it is easy to miss on this tour. The recently split **Rufous-backed Wren** also showed well, and the nearby mangroves gave us the hoped-for **Mangrove Cuckoo**.



Giant Wren

From Puerto Arista, we drove north and then east back up into the high mountains to San Cristóbal de las Casas, a bustling city with well-preserved colonial architecture, and the cultural capital of Chiapas. We birded several sites on the slopes above the city, and by far the most wanted target was **Pink-headed Warbler** – this uniquely colored species replaces Red Warbler east of the Isthmus and is found in similar habitat. We had great views on two different days, and it was the “bird of the trip” for some of the group. There were other targets of course, and most of them showed themselves in the end, like **Singing Quail**, **Garnet-throated Hummingbird**, **Blue-throated Motmot**, **Guatemalan Flicker**, **Yellowish Flycatcher**, **Black-throated** and **Unicolored Jays**, **Rufous-browed Wren**, **Blue-and-white Mockingbird**, **Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush**, **Mountain Thrush**, **Rufous-collared Robin**, **White-naped Brushfinch**, **Yellow-backed Oriole**, **Red-faced Warbler**, and **Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer**. **Black-capped Swallow** proved more difficult, and we only had brief views of two birds. Owling was a mixed bag; we made a huge effort to see the super-difficult **Unspotted Saw-whet Owl**, and it was calling soooo close. It was very frustrating to not see it in the end, apart from an obscured red blob in a thermal scope that was possibly it. On the other hand, **Bearded Screech-Owl** gave us great views in the same location, so it was still well worth the late night.

*Pink-headed Warbler*

The last two nights of the extension were spent in Tuxtla Gutierrez, a sprawling city in a (usually) very hot valley, but we were blessed with atypical cool and pleasant weather during our stay. We split our time between two sites, Sumidero Canyon National Park and Selva El Ocote. Sumidero Canyon is an impressive gorge over 3000 feet deep flanked by dry and semihumid forest. A road heads from the city up to various viewpoints over the canyon, and gives good access to the forest. The handsome **Belted Flycatcher** is one of the main targets here, and we found a cooperative bird after a few hours. Some of the other species here were **Buff-bellied Hummingbird**, **Lesson's Motmot**, **Northern Emerald-Toucanet**, **Northern Bentbill**, **Rufous-browed Peppershrike**, **Green Jay**, and **Yellow Grosbeak**.

Selva El Ocote is a huge reserve in the Gulf slope foothills, and there is little access to it. Instead we birded a dirt road passing through forest patches near the edge of it. To my great surprise, the forest along this road had been severely damaged by a wildfire the previous year, and most of the trees were now dead! That was going to make finding the already tough **Nava's Wren** even harder. Nava's Wren is very similar to Sumicharast's Wren and is also tied to limestone outcrops. We heard one pretty quickly, but it didn't come in, so I decided to try down the road, only to find that almost all my other spots for it were no longer viable. We went back to where the first one was singing, and luckily it had moved into a much better location and we managed to get a good look at it. Despite the damage to the forest, we also had a good selection of other birds. Many of the species we had seen on our previous foray down the Gulf slope earlier

in the trip, but he had some new ones like **Smoky-brown Woodpecker**, **Green Parakeet**, **Tawny-winged Woodcreeper**, **Fawn-throated Foliage-gleaner**, **Green Shrike-Vireo**, **Cabanis's** and **White-bellied Wrens**, **Yellow-billed Cacique**, and **Red-crowned Ant-Tanager**.



Northern Emerald-Toucanet at Sumidero Canyon National Park

After one final dinner in Tuxtla to reminisce about some favorite moments, our epic tour of southern Mexico had finally come to an end. Thanks so much to everyone who came along – you were a fantastic group, and that is perhaps the most important ingredient in a successful tour. Hope to see you all again on another TB trip!

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., P. C. Rasmussen, T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, T. A. Fredericks, J. A. Gerbracht, D. Lepage, A. Spencer, S. M. Billerman, B. L. Sullivan, M. Smith, and C. L. Wood. 2024. The eBird/Clements checklist of Birds of the World: v2024. Downloaded from <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>

X=Only on the extension (64 birds were only found on the extension, of which 5 were heard only)

H=heard only

(I)=introduced species

(E)=endemic to Mexico

TINAMOUS

H Slaty-breasted Tinamou

H Thicket Tinamou

DUCKS, GEESE, & WATERFOWL

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Blue-winged Teal

X Northern Shoveler

Ring-necked Duck

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, ALLIES

Plain Chachalaca

West Mexican Chachalaca (E)

X White-bellied Chachalaca

HX Highland Guan

NEW WORLD QUAIL

Long-tailed Wood-Partridge (E)

X Singing Quail

H Spotted Wood-Quail

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon (I)

Red-billed Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

H Short-billed Pigeon

Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)

Inca Dove

Common Ground Dove

Ruddy Ground Dove

Blue Ground Dove

H Ruddy Quail-Dove

White-tipped Dove

HX Gray-headed Dove

H White-faced Quail-Dove

White-winged Dove

Mourning Dove

CUCKOOS

Groove-billed Ani

Pheasant Cuckoo

Lesser Ground-Cuckoo

Squirrel Cuckoo (West Mexico)

Squirrel Cuckoo (Middle America)

X Mangrove Cuckoo

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES

H Common Pauraque

HX Buff-collared Nightjar

Mexican Whip-poor-will

POTOOS

TINAMIDAE

Crypturellus boucardi

Crypturellus cinnamomeus

ANATIDAE

Dendrocygna autumnalis

Spatula discors

Spatula clypeata

Aythya collaris

CRACIDAE

Ortalis vetula

Ortalis poliocephala

Ortalis leucogastra

Penelopina nigra

ODONTOPHORIDAE

Dendrortyx macroura

Dactylortyx thoracicus

Odontophorus guttatus

COLUMBIDAE

Columba livia

Patagioenas flavirostris

Patagioenas fasciata

Patagioenas nigrirostris

Streptopelia decaocto

Columbina inca

Columbina passerina

Columbina talpacoti

Claravis pretiosa

Geotrygon montana

Leptotila verreauxi

Leptotila plumbeiceps

Zentrygon albifacies

Zenaida asiatica

Zenaida macroura

CUCULIDAE

Crotophaga sulcirostris

Dromococcyx phasianellus

Morococcyx erythropygus

Piaya cayana mexicana

Piaya cayana thermophila

Coccyzus minor

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Nyctidromus albicollis

Antrostomus ridgwayi

Antrostomus arizonae

NYCTIBIIDAE

Northern Potoo

SWIFTS

White-collared Swift

Vaux's Swift

X White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

White-necked Jacobin

GO Mexican Hermit (E)

Stripe-throated Hermit

Green-breasted Mango

Black-crested Coquette

Rivoli's (Magnificent) Hummingbird

Long-billed Starthroat

X Plain-capped Starthroat

Blue-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)

Canivet's Emerald

White-eared Hummingbird

Blue-capped (Oaxaca) Hummingbird (E)

X Green-fronted Hummingbird (Green-fronted)

Green-fronted Hummingbird (Cinnamon-sided)

Azure-crowned Hummingbird

Berylline Hummingbird

Cinnamon Hummingbird

X Buff-bellied Hummingbird

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

White-bellied Emerald

RAILS, GALLINULES, & COOTS

Common Gallinule

American Coot

THICK-KNEES

X Double-striped Thick-knee

STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Killdeer

JACANAS

Northern Jacana

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES

X Whimbrel

Spotted Sandpiper

X Lesser Yellowlegs

X Pectoral Sandpiper

X Western Sandpiper

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS

Royal Tern

Nyctibius jamaicensis

APODIDAE

Streptoprocne zonaris

Chaetura vauxi

Aeronautes saxatalis

TROCHILIDAE

Florisuga mellivora

Phaethornis mexicanus

Phaethornis striigularis

Anthracothorax prevostii

Lophornis helenae

Eugenes fulgens

Helimaster longirostris

Helimaster constantii

Lampornis clemenciae

Lamprolaima rhami

Archilochus colubris

Selasphorus heloisa

Phaeoptila sordida

Cynanthus doubledayi

Cynanthus auriceps

Cynanthus canivetii

Basilinna leucotis

Eupherusa cyanophrys

Ramosomyia viridifrons viridifrons

Ramosomyia viridifrons wagneri

Saucerottia cyanocephala

Saucerottia beryllina

Amazilia rutila

Amazilia yucatanensis

Amazilia tzacatl

Chlorestes candida

RALLIDAE

Gallinula galeata

Fulica americana

BURHINIDAE

Hesperoburhinus bistriatus

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Himantopus mexicanus

CHARADRIIDAE

Charadrius vociferus

JACANIDAE

Jacana spinosa

SCOLOPACIDAE

Numenius phaeopus

Actitis macularius

Tringa flavipes

Calidris melanotos

Calidris mauri

LARIDAE

Thalasseus maximus

GREBES

Least Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe

STORKS

Wood Stork

FRIGATEBIRDS

Magnificent Frigatebird

ANHINGAS

Anhinga

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

White Ibis

HERONS, EGRETS, & BITTERNS

X Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Little Blue Heron

X Tricolored Heron

Snowy Egret

Green Heron

Western Cattle Egret

Great Egret

PELICANS

Brown Pelican

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

OSPREY

Osprey

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

X Crane Hawk

Roadside Hawk

White Hawk

Gray Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Zone-tailed Hawk

Short-tailed Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

OWLS

Middle American (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl

X Bearded Screech-Owl

Pacific Screech-Owl

Colima Pygmy-Owl (E)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

HX Unspotted Saw-whet Owl

TROGONS

Black-headed Trogon

Citreoline Trogon (E)

Gartered (Violaceous) Trogon

Elegant Trogon (Coppery-tailed)

Mountain Trogon

PODICIPEDIDAE

Tachybaptus dominicus

Podilymbus podiceps

CICONIIDAE

Mycteria americana

FREGATIDAE

Fregata magnificens

ANHINGIDAE

Anhinga anhinga

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Nannopterum brasilianum

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Eudocimus albus

ARDEIDAE

Nyctanassa violacea

Egretta caerulea

Egretta tricolor

Egretta thula

Butorides virescens

Ardea ibis

Ardea alba

PELECANIDAE

Pelecanus occidentalis

CATHARTIDAE

Coragyps atratus

Cathartes aura

PANDIONIDAE

Pandion haliaetus

ACCIPITRIDAE

Accipiter striatus

Geranospiza caerulescens

Rupornis magnirostris

Pseudastur albicollis

Buteo plagiatus

Buteo platypterus

Buteo albonotatus

Buteo brachyurus

Buteo jamaicensis

STRIGIDAE

Megascops guatemalae

Megascops barbarus

Megascops cooperi

Glaucidium palmarum

Glaucidium brasilianum

Aegolius ridgwayi

TROGONIDAE

Trogon melanocephalus

Trogon citreolus

Trogon caligatus

Trogon elegans ambiguus

Trogon mexicanus

Collared Trogon

MOTMOTS

Tody Motmot

X Blue-throated Motmot

Russet-crowned Motmot

Lesson's (Blue-crowned) Motmot

KINGFISHERS

Ringed Kingfisher

X Green Kingfisher**JACAMARS**

Rufous-tailed Jacamar

TOUCANS

Northern Emerald-Toucanet (Wagler's)

Northern Emerald-Toucanet (Emerald)

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

X Smoky-brown Woodpecker

Pale-billed Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker

Gray-crowned Woodpecker (E)

X Guatemalan Flicker**FALCONS AND CARACARAS****H** Laughing Falcon**H** Collared Forest-Falcon

Barred Forest-Falcon

Crested Caracara

American Kestrel

X Merlin**H** Bat Falcon

Peregrine Falcon

PARROTS

Brown-hooded Parrot

Red-lored Amazon

White-fronted Amazon

Olive-throated Parakeet (Aztec)

Orange-fronted Parakeet

X Green Parakeet**X** Pacific Parakeet**TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS**

Barred Antshrike

ANTTHRUSHES

Mayan (Black-faced) Antthrush

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS*Trogon collaris***MOMOTIDAE***Hylomanes momotula**Aspatha gularis**Momotus mexicanus**Momotus lessonii***ALCEDINIDAE***Megaceryle torquata**Chloroceryle americana***GALBULIDAE***Galbula ruficauda***RAMPHASTIDAE***Aulacorhynchus prasinus wagleri**Aulacorhynchus prasinus* [prasinus Group]*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 mexicanoides***FALCONIDAE***Herpetotheres cachinnans**Micrastur semitorquatus**Micrastur ruficollis**Caracara plancus**Falco sparverius**Falco columbarius**Falco rufigularis**Falco peregrinus***PSITTACIDAE***Pyrilia haematotis**Amazona autumnalis**Amazona albifrons**Eupsittula nana astec/vicinalis**Eupsittula canicularis**Psittacara holochlorus**Psittacara strenuus***THAMNOPHILIDAE***Thamnophilus doliatus***FORMICARIIDAE***Formicarius moniliger***FURNARIIDAE**

- H** Middle American (Tawny-throated) Leaf-tosser
Olivaceous Woodcreeper
- X** Tawny-winged Woodcreeper
Strong-billed Woodcreeper
Ivory-billed Woodcreeper
Spotted Woodcreeper
Streak-headed Woodcreeper
White-striped Woodcreeper (E)
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper
Scaly-throated (Spectacled) Foliage-gleaner
- H** Ruddy Foliage-gleaner
Fawn-throated (Buff-thr.) Foliage-gleaner
Rufous-breasted Spinetail
- MANAKINS**
- HX** Long-tailed Manakin
- TITYRAS AND ALLIES**
Black-crowned Tityra
Masked Tityra
Gray-collared Becard
- X** Rose-throated Becard
- TYRANT FLYCATCHERS**
- X** Northern Bentbill
- X** Common Tody-Flycatcher
Eye-ringed Flatbill
Yellow-olive Flatbill
Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet
Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet
Yellow-bellied Elaenia
- X** Belted Flycatcher
Pileated Flycatcher
Tufted Flycatcher
Greater Pewee
Western Wood-Pewee
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
- X** Hammond's Flycatcher
Dusky Flycatcher
- H** Pine Flycatcher
Western Flycatcher
- X** Yellowish Flycatcher
Black Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher
Flammulated Flycatcher (E)
Bright-rumped Attila
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Nutting's Flycatcher
Great Crested Flycatcher
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee

Sclerurus mexicanus
Sittasomus griseicapillus
Dendrocincla anabatina
Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus sclateri
Xiphorhynchus flavigaster
Xiphorhynchus erythropygius
Lepidocolaptes souleyetii
Lepidocolaptes leucogaster
Lepidocolaptes affinis
Anabacerthia variegaticeps
Clibanornis rubiginosus
Automolus cervinigularis
Synallaxis erythrothorax

PIPRIDAE
Chiroxiphia linearis

TITYRIDAE
Tityra inquisitor
Tityra semifasciata
Pachyramphus major
Pachyramphus aglaiae

TYRANNIDAE
Oncostoma cinereigulare
Todirostrum cinereum
Rhynchocyclus brevirostris
Tolmomyias sulphurescens
Ornithion semiflavum
Camptostoma imberbe
Elaenia flavogaster
Xenotriccus callizonus
Xenotriccus mexicanus
Mitrephanes phaeocercus
Contopus pertinax
Contopus sordidulus
Contopus virens
Empidonax flaviventris
Empidonax minimus
Empidonax hammondi
Empidonax oberholseri
Empidonax affinis
Empidonax difficilis
Empidonax flavescens
Sayornis nigricans
Pyrocephalus rubinus
Ramphotrigon flammulatum
Attila spadiceus
Myiarchus tuberculifer
Myiarchus cinerascens
Myiarchus nuttingi
Myiarchus crinitus
Myiarchus tyrannulus
Pitangus sulphuratus

Boat-billed Flycatcher
 Social Flycatcher
 Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
 Piratic Flycatcher
 Tropical Kingbird
 Couch's Kingbird
 Cassin's Kingbird
 Thick-billed Kingbird
 Western Kingbird

X Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

VIREOS AND ALLIES

X Rufous-browed Peppershrike
 Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo
 X Green Shrike-Vireo
 Lesser Greenlet
 Golden Vireo (E)
 Slaty Vireo (E)
 Dwarf Vireo (E)
 Bell's Vireo
 Hutton's Vireo
 Cassin's Vireo
 Blue-headed Vireo
 Plumbeous Vireo
 Warbling Vireo

SHRIKES

Loggerhead Shrike

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES

White-throated Jay (E)
 Dwarf Jay (E)
 X Black-throated Jay
 Azure-hooded 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

SWALLOWS

Mangrove Swallow
 Violet-green Swallow
 Gray-breasted Martin
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow
 X Black-capped Swallow
 X Barn Swallow
 Cliff Swallow

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

KINGLETS

Megarynchus pitangua
Myiozetetes similis
Myiodynastes luteiventris
Legatus leucophaeus
Tyrannus melancholicus
Tyrannus couchii
Tyrannus vociferans
Tyrannus crassirostris
Tyrannus verticalis
Tyrannus forficatus

VIREONIDAE

Cyclarhis gujanensis
Vireolanius melitophrys
Vireolanius pulchellus
Pachysylvia decurtata
Vireo hypochryseus
Vireo brevipennis
Vireo nelsoni
Vireo bellii
Vireo huttoni
Vireo cassinii
Vireo solitarius
Vireo plumbeus repetens
Vireo gilvus

LANIIDAE

Lanius ludovicianus

CORVIDAE

Cyanolyca mirabilis
Cyanolyca nanus
Cyanolyca pumilo
Cyanolyca cucullata
Cyanocorax formosus
Cyanocorax morio
Cyanocorax yncas
Cyanocitta stelleri
Aphelocoma woodhouseii
Aphelocoma unicolor
Corvus corax

PARIDAE

Poecile sclateri

HIRUNDINIDAE

Tachycineta albilinea
Tachycineta thalassina
Progne chalybea
Stelgidopteryx serripennis
Atticora pileata
Hirundo rustica
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota

AEGITHALIDAE

Psaltiriparus minimus

REGULIDAE

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

TREECREEPERS

Brown Creeper

GNATCATCHERS

H Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

White-lored Gnatcatcher

WRENS

Rock Wren

Canyon Wren

Sumichrast's Wren (E)

X Nava's Wren (E)

Northern House Wren

Southern House Wren

X Rufous-browed Wren

Bewick's Wren

Band-backed Wren

Gray-barred Wren (E)

X Giant Wren (E)

Russet-naped (Rufous-naped) Wren

X Rufous-backed (Rufous-naped) Wren

Boucard's Wren (E)

Spot-breasted Wren

Happy Wren (E)

Banded Wren

X Cabanis's (Plain) Wren

White-bellied Wren

White-breasted Wood-Wren

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Blue Mockingbird (E)

X Blue-and-white Mockingbird

Gray Catbird

Curve-billed Thrasher

Ocellated Thrasher (E)

Tropical Mockingbird

Northern Mockingbird

THRUSHES AND ALLIES

Brown-backed Solitaire

Slate-colored Solitaire

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush

Russet Nightingale-Thrush (E)

X Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush

X Swainson's Thrush

Hermit Thrush

Wood Thrush

X Mountain Thrush

White-throated Thrush

Clay-colored Thrush

Black Thrush

American Robin

Corthylio calendula

CERTHIIDAE

Certhia americana

POLIOPTILIDAE

Polioptila caerulea

Polioptila albiloris

TROGLODYTIDAE

Salpinctes obsoletus

Catherpes mexicanus

Hylorchilus sumichrasti

Hylorchilus navai

Troglodytes aedon

Troglodytes musculus

Troglodytes rufociliatus

Thryomanes bewickii

Campylorhynchus zonatus

Campylorhynchus megalopterus

Campylorhynchus chiapensis

Campylorhynchus humilis

Campylorhynchus capistratus

Campylorhynchus jocosus

Pheugopedius maculipectus

Pheugopedius felix

Thryophilus pleurostictus

Cantorichilus modestus

Uropsila leucogastra

Henicorhina leucosticta

Henicorhina leucophrys

MIMIDAE

Melanotis caerulescens

Melanotis hypoleucus

Dumetella carolinensis

Toxostoma curvirostre

Toxostoma ocellatum

Mimus gilvus

Mimus polyglottos

TURDIDAE

Myadestes occidentalis

Myadestes unicolor

Catharus aurantiirostris

Catharus occidentalis

Catharus frantzii

Catharus mexicanus

Catharus ustulatus

Catharus guttatus

Hylocichla mustelina

Turdus plebejus

Turdus assimilis

Turdus grayi

Turdus infuscatus

Turdus migratorius

- Rufous-backed Robin (E)
X Rufous-collared Robin
SILKY-FLYCATCHERS
 Gray Silky-flycatcher
OLIVE WARBLER
 Olive Warbler
OLD WORLD SPARROWS
 House Sparrow (I)
FINCHES, EUPHONIAS, & ALLIES
 Elegant (Blue-hooded) Euphonia
 Blue-crowned Chlorophonia
 Scrub Euphonia
 Yellow-throated Euphonia
 House Finch
 Black-headed Siskin
 Lesser Goldfinch
NEW WORLD SPARROWS
 Common Chlorospingus
X Cinnamon-tailed (Sumichrast's) Sparrow (E)
X Stripe-headed Sparrow
 Bridled Sparrow (E)
 Olive Sparrow
 Lark Sparrow
 Chestnut-capped Brushfinch
 Yellow-eyed Junco
 Rufous-collared Sparrow
 Lincoln's Sparrow
 Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow (E)
 White-throated Towhee (E)
 Rusty Sparrow
 Oaxaca Sparrow (E)
 Spotted Towhee
 Collared Towhee (E)
 Rufous-capped Brushfinch (E)
X White-naped Brushfinch
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT
 Yellow-breasted Chat
TROUPIALS AND ALLIES
 Yellow-billed Cacique
 Yellow-winged Cacique
 Montezuma Oropendola
 Black-vented Oriole
 Black-cowled Oriole
 Orchard Oriole
X Yellow-backed Oriole
 Yellow-tailed Oriole
 Streak-backed Oriole
 Bullock's Oriole
 Spot-breasted Oriole
 Altamira Oriole
 Audubon's Oriole (Dickey's)

Turdus rufopalliatu
Turdus rufitorques
PTILIOGONATIDAE
Ptiliogonys cinereus
PEUCEDRAMIDAE
Peucedramus taeniatus
PASSERIDAE
Passer domesticus
FRINGILLIDAE
Chlorophonia elegantissima
Chlorophonia occipitalis
Euphonia affinis
Euphonia hirundinacea
Haemorhous mexicanus
Spinus notatus
Spinus psaltria
PASSERELLIDAE
Chlorospingus flavopectus
Peucaea sumichrasti
Peucaea ruficauda
Peucaea mystacalis
Arremonops rufivirgatus
Chondestes grammacus
Arremon brunneinucha
Junco phaeonotus
Zonotrichia capensis
Melospiza lincolnii
Melospiza kieneri
Melospiza albicollis
Aimophila rufescens
Aimophila notosticta
Pipilo maculatus
Pipilo ocai
Atlapetes pileatus
Atlapetes albinucha
ICTERIIDAE
Icteria virens
ICTERIDAE
Amblycercus holosericeus
Cassiculus melanicterus
Psarocolius montezuma
Icterus wagleri
Icterus prothemelas
Icterus spurius
Icterus chrysater
Icterus mesomelas
Icterus pustulatus
Icterus bullockii
Icterus pectoralis
Icterus gularis
Icterus graduacauda dickeyae

Baltimore Oriole
Bronzed Cowbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Melodious Blackbird
Great-tailed Grackle

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Ovenbird

- X Northern Waterthrush
- Blue-winged Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Crescent-chested Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Gray-crowned Yellowthroat
- MacGillivray's Warbler
- X Kentucky Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Hooded Warbler
- American Redstart
- Northern Parula
- Tropical Parula
- Magnolia Warbler
- X Blackburnian Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)
- Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's)
- 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-faced Warbler
- Red Warbler (White-cheeked) (E)
- Pink-headed Warbler
- Painted Redstart
- Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)

CARDINALS AND ALLIES

Hepatic Tanager
Summer Tanager
Western Tanager
Flame-colored Tanager
White-winged Tanager
Red-headed Tanager (E)
X Red-crowned Ant-Tanager
Red-throated Ant-Tanager
Black-faced Grosbeak

Icterus galbula
Molothrus aeneus
Molothrus ater
Dives dives
Quiscalus mexicanus

PARULIDAE

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

CARDINALIDAE

Piranga flava
Piranga rubra
Piranga ludoviciana
Piranga bidentata
Piranga leucoptera
Piranga erythrocephala
Habia rubica
Driophlox fuscicauda
Caryothraustes poliogaster

| | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Northern Cardinal (Long-crested) | <i>Cardinalis cardinalis carneus</i> |
| X | Yellow Grosbeak | <i>Pheucticus chrysopheplus</i> |
| | Rose-breasted Grosbeak | <i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i> |
| | Black-headed Grosbeak | <i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i> |
| | Red-breasted Chat (E) | <i>Granatellus venustus</i> |
| | Blue Bunting | <i>Cyanocompsa parellina</i> |
| | Blue Grosbeak | <i>Passerina caerulea</i> |
| | Indigo Bunting | <i>Passerina cyanea</i> |
| X | Rose-bellied (Rosita's) Bunting (E) | <i>Passerina rositae</i> |
| | Orange-breasted Bunting (E) | <i>Passerina leclancherii</i> |
| | Painted Bunting | <i>Passerina ciris</i> |
| | TANAGERS AND ALLIES | THRAUPIDAE |
| | Crimson-collared Tanager | <i>Ramphocelus sanguinolentus</i> |
| | Blue-gray Tanager | <i>Thraupis episcopus</i> |
| | Yellow-winged Tanager | <i>Thraupis abbas</i> |
| | Golden-hooded Tanager | <i>Stilpnia larvata</i> |
| | Red-legged Honeycreeper | <i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i> |
| X | Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer | <i>Diglossa baritula</i> |
| X | Blue-black Grassquit | <i>Volatinia jacarina</i> |
| | Variable Seedeater | <i>Sporophila corvina</i> |
| | Morelet's (White-collared) Seedeater | <i>Sporophila moreletii</i> |
| | Cinnamon-rumped (White-collared) Seedeater (E) | <i>Sporophila torqueola</i> |
| | Bananaquit | <i>Coereba flaveola</i> |
| | Yellow-faced Grassquit | <i>Tiaris olivaceus</i> |
| | Buff-throated Saltator | <i>Saltator maximus</i> |
| | Black-headed Saltator | <i>Saltator atriceps</i> |
| | Cinnamon-bellied (Grayish) Saltator | <i>Saltator grandis</i> |

Mammals:**Mexican Cottontail** *Sylvilagus cunicularius***Mexican Gray Squirrel (Red-bellied Squirrel)** *Sciurus aureogaster***Gray Fox** *Urocyon cinereoargenteus***White-tailed Deer** *Odocoileus virginianus***Common Minke Whale** *Balaenoptera acutorostrata***Humpback Whale** *Megaptera novaeangliae***Reptiles****Black Spiny-tailed Iguana** *Ctenosaura similis***Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana***Spectacled Caiman** *Caiman crocodilus*

(Also a couple of lizards I am still trying to identify)