



Tour Leader: Pablo Cervantes Daza
Report and photos by Pablo



Keel-billed Toucan

The tiny Central American country of Costa Rica boasts incredible biodiversity of both flora and fauna, and much of it is protected in superb and extensive system of parks and reserves. This tour visited many of the best spots in the country for wildlife photography, and we filled memory chips with thousands of shots of not just birds, but colorful frogs and other wildlife too.

This trip report is a summary of what we were able to see and photograph in the various locations visited on the tour.

Itinerary

February 14 th	Day 1: Arrival Day; Night in San José
February 15 th	Day 2: San Jose – Alajuela – Cinchona – Selva Verde
February 16 th	Day 3: Donde Cope – Laguna del Lagarto
February 17 th	Day 4: Laguna del Lagarto
February 18 th	Day 5: Laguna del Lagarto
February 19 th	Day 6: Frogs Heaven – El Arenal
February 20 th	Day 7: Three-Wattled Bellbird – Canopy San Luis
February 21 st	Day 8: Tapir Nature Valley
February 22 nd	Day 9: La Ensenada
February 23 rd	Day 10: La Ensenada
February 24 th	Day 11: La Ensenada - Tarcoles
February 25 th	Day 12: Tarcoles River – Talari Mountain Lodge
February 26 th	Day 13: Talamanca Highlands
February 27 th	Day 14: Talamanca Highlands
February 28 th	Day 15: Highlands to San José
February 29 th	Day 16: San José (Departure)

DAYS 1 – 2: San José to Selva Verde

Birds on these days

Acadian Flycatcher	Fiery-billed Aracari	Rufous-naped Wren
Baltimore Oriole	Gartered Trogon	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird
Bananaquit	Gray Hawk	Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Black Guan	Great Egret	Scrub Euphonia
Black Vulture	Great Kiskadee	Silver-throated Tanager
Black-bellied Hummingbird	Great-tailed Grackle	Social Flycatcher
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Green Hermit	Southern Lapwing
Black-striped Sparrow	Green Heron	Spot-breasted Oriole
Blue Grosbeak	Green Kingfisher	Spotted Sandpiper
Blue-and-white Swallow	Green-crowned Brilliant	Streak-backed Oriole
Blue-black Grassquit	Hoffmann's Woodpecker	Streaked Flycatcher
Blue-gray Tanager	Inca Dove	Stripe-throated Hermit
Blue-winged Teal	Keel-billed Toucan	Striped Owl
Boat-billed Flycatcher	Lesser Scaup	Talamanca Hummingbird
Broad-winged Hawk	Lesser Violetear	Tropical Kingbird
Bronzed Cowbird	Lesson's Motmot	Turquoise-browed Motmot
Buff-throated Saltator	Lineated Woodpecker	Violet Sabrewing
Chestnut-collared Swift	Little Blue Heron	Western Cattle Egret
Cinnamon Hummingbird	Melodious Blackbird	White-collared Swift

Clay-colored Thrush	Montezuma Oropendola	White-fronted Parrot
Common Chlorospingus	Mourning Dove	White-tailed Kite
Common Ground Dove	Northern Emerald-Toucanet	White-winged Dove
Common Pauraque	Northern Jacana	Wood Stork
Coppery-headed Emerald	Orange-chinned Parakeet	Yellow Warbler
Crested Caracara	Pale-vented Pigeon	Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Crimson-collared Tanager	Palm Tanager	Yellow-throated Euphonia
Double-striped Thick-knee	Prong-billed Barbet	
Eastern Meadowlark	Purple-throated Mountain-gem	



Double-striped Thick-knee



Northern Jacana



Lineated Woodpecker



Crimson-collared Tanager



Fiery-billed Aracari



Striped Owl



Gartered Trogon

DAYS 3 – 6: Cope, Laguna del Lagarto, Frog's Heaven

Birds on these days.

American Kestrel	Green Heron	Red-winged Blackbird
American Pygmy Kingfisher	Green Honeycreeper	Roadside Hawk
Anhinga	Green Ibis	Ruddy Ground Dove
Baltimore Oriole	Green Kingfisher	Ruddy Pigeon
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	Green-breasted Mango	Rufescent Tiger-Heron
Black Vulture	Groove-billed Ani	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird
Black-and-white Warbler	Hoffmann's Woodpecker	Russet-naped Wood-Rail
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	House Sparrow	Scaly-breasted Hummingbird
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	Keel-billed Toucan	Scarlet Macaw
Black-cowled Oriole	King Vulture	Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Blue-black Grassquit	Laughing Falcon	Slaty-tailed Trogon
Blue-gray Tanager	Lesser Greenlet	Snowy Egret
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer	Long-billed Hermit	Social Flycatcher
Brown-hooded Parrot	Long-tailed Tyrant	Southern Rough-winged Swallow
Buff-throated Saltator	Masked Tityra	Spectacled Owl
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker	Melodious Blackbird	Squirrel Cuckoo
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	Montezuma Oropendola	Stripe-throated Hermit
Clay-colored Thrush	Morelet's Seedeater	Summer Tanager
Collared Aracari	Muscovy Duck	Tennessee Warbler
Crested Guan	Olive-backed Euphonia	Tropical Kingbird
Crested Owl	Olive-throated Parakeet	Tropical Mockingbird
Crowned Woodnymph	Orange-chinned Parakeet	
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	Pale-vented Pigeon	Turkey Vulture
Gartered Trogon	Palm Tanager	Western Cattle Egret
Golden-hooded Tanager	Pied Puffbird	White-collared Manakin
Gray Hawk	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	White-crowned Parrot
Gray-capped Flycatcher	Plain-colored Tanager	White-necked Jacobin
Great Curassow	Purple Gallinule	White-winged Dove
Great Egret	Red-billed Pigeon	Yellow Warbler
Great Green Macaw	Red-breasted Meadowlark	Yellow-throated Euphonia
Great Kiskadee	Red-capped Manakin	Yellow-throated Toucan
Great Potoo	Red-legged Honeycreeper	
Great-tailed Grackle	Red-lored Parrot	



Black-cheeked Woodpecker



Brown-hooded Parrot



Chestnut-colored Woodpecker



Collared Aracari



Great Potoo



Crested Guan



Crested Owl



Golden-hooded Tanager



Russet-naped Wood-Rail



Great Curassow



Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog



Hourglass Tree Frog



Keel-billed Toucan



King Vulture



Masked Tityra



Orange-chinned Parakeet



Pied Puffbird



Plain-brown Woodcreeper



Red-breasted Meadowlark



Red-capped Manakin



Red-legged Honeycreeper



Emerald Basilisk



Red-lored Parrot



Scarlet-rumped Tanager



Slaty-tailed Trogon



Spectacled Owl



Splendid Leaf Frog



Strawberry Poison-Dart Frog



Striped Basilisk



Tawny Tree Frog

DAYS 7 – 8: Arenal area

Birds on these days.

Bananaquit	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	Scaly-breasted Hummingbird
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	Emerald Tanager	Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Bay-headed Tanager	Golden-olive Woodpecker	Silver-throated Tanager
Black Vulture	Gray-headed Chachalaca	Snowcap
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	Great Curassow	Speckled Tanager
Black-crested Coquette	Great Egret	Squirrel Cuckoo
Blue-black Grassquit	Great Kiskadee	Stripe-throated Hermit
Blue-gray Tanager	Great-tailed Grackle	Tawny-capped Euphonia
Blue-throated Goldentail	Keel-billed Toucan	Three-wattled Bellbird
Broad-billed Motmot	Mealy Parrot	Tropical Kingbird
Buff-throated Saltator	Montezuma Oropendola	Tropical Parula
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	Olive-backed Euphonia	Violet-headed Hummingbird
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Orange-chinned Parakeet	White-tipped Dove
Clay-colored Thrush	Palm Tanager	White-winged Dove
Collared Aracari	Red-legged Honeycreeper	Yellow-faced Grassquit
Common Chlorospingus	Rufous Motmot	Yellow-throated Euphonia
Common Tody-Flycatcher	Rufous-collared Sparrow	Yellow-throated Toucan
Crested Guan	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	
Crimson-collared Tanager	Russet-naped Wood-Rail	

*Snowcap*



Black-crested Coquette



Emerald Tanager



Crimson-collared Tanager



Golden-olive Woodpecker



Montezuma Oropendola



Stripe-throated Hermit



Tawny-capped Euphonia



Three-wattled Bellbird



Yellow-throated Toucan



Yellow-throated Euphonia



Speckled Tanager



Bay-headed Tanager

DAYS 9 – 12: La Ensenada and Tarcoles

Birds on these days.

Anhinga	Green Kingfisher	Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Baltimore Oriole	Groove-billed Ani	Semipalmated Plover
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	Hoffmann's Woodpecker	Semipalmated Sandpiper
Black Skimmer	Inca Dove	Short-billed Dowitcher
Black Vulture	Laughing Gull	Snowy Egret
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	Least Sandpiper	Social Flycatcher
Black-crowned Night Heron	Lesser Greenlet	Spot-breasted Oriole
Black-crowned Tityra	Lesser Yellowlegs	Spotted Sandpiper
Black-necked Stilt	Lesson's Motmot	Squirrel Cuckoo
Blue-and-white Swallow	Lineated Woodpecker	Stilt Sandpiper
Blue-throated Goldentail	Little Blue Heron	Streak-headed Woodcreeper
Blue-winged Teal	Magnificent Frigatebird	Stripe-throated Hermit
Boat-billed Heron	Mangrove Swallow	Swallow-tailed Kite
Brown Jay	Melodious Blackbird	Thicket Tinamou
Brown Pelican	Montezuma Oropendola	Tricolored Heron
Brown-crested Flycatcher	Morelet's Seedeater	Tropical Kingbird
Canivet's Emerald	Neotropic Cormorant	Turquoise-browed Motmot
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker	Northern Jacana	Variable Seedeater (Black)
Clay-colored Thrush	Northern Tropical Pewee	Whimbrel
Common Black Hawk	Olive Sparrow	White Ibis
Common Ground Dove	Orange-fronted Parakeet	White-collared Swift
Common Pauraque	Osprey	White-fronted Parrot
Common Tody-Flycatcher	Palm Tanager	White-lored Gnatcatcher
Crested Caracara	Philadelphia Vireo	White-throated Magpie-Jay
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	Prothonotary Warbler	White-tipped Dove
Garden Emerald	Red-billed Pigeon	White-winged Dove
Golden-hooded Tanager	Red-legged Honeycreeper	Willet
Gray-crowned Yellowthroat	Ringed Kingfisher	Wilson's Plover
Gray-headed Tanager	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Wood Stork
Great Blue Heron	Roseate Spoonbill	Yellow Warbler (Mangrove)
Great Egret	Ruddy Turnstone	Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Great Kiskadee	Rufous-naped Wren	Yellow-headed Caracara
Great-tailed Grackle	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	Yellow-throated Euphonia
Green Heron	Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	Yellow-throated Toucan



Baltimore Oriole



Bare-throated Tiger-Heron



Black-headed Trogon



Common Black Hawk



Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl



Green Kingfisher



Harris's Hawk



Lesson's Motmot



Olive Sparrow



Osprey

DAYS 13 – 15: Talamanca Highlands

Birds photographed on these days.

Bay-headed Tanager	Large-footed Finch	Silver-throated Tanager
Black Vulture	Lesser Violetear	Slaty Flowerpiercer
Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher	Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher	Sooty Thrush
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush	Melodious Blackbird	Spangle-cheeked Tanager
Blue-and-white Swallow	Northern Emerald-Toucanet (Blue-throated)	Stripe-tailed Hummingbird
Blue-gray Tanager	Orchard Oriole	Talamanca Hummingbird
Brown Jay	Peg-billed Finch	Tennessee Warbler
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	Purple-throated Mountain-gem	Volcano Hummingbird
Clay-colored Thrush	Red-crowned Woodpecker	White-collared Swift
Common Chlorospingus	Resplendent Quetzal	White-crowned Parrot
Elegant Euphonia	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	White-naped Brushfinch
Fiery-throated Hummingbird	Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush	White-throated Mountain-gem
Flame-colored Tanager	Rufous-collared Sparrow	Yellow-thighed Brushfinch
Golden-browed Chlorophonia	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	
House Wren	Scintillant Hummingbird	



Chestnut-capped Brushfinch



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Fiery-throated Hummingbird



© Pablo Cervantes D.

Golden-browed Chlorophonia



Lesser Violetear



Northern Emerald-Toucanet



Prong-billed Barbet



Resplendent Quetzal



Scintillant Hummingbird



Spangle-cheeked Tanager



Talamanca Hummingbird

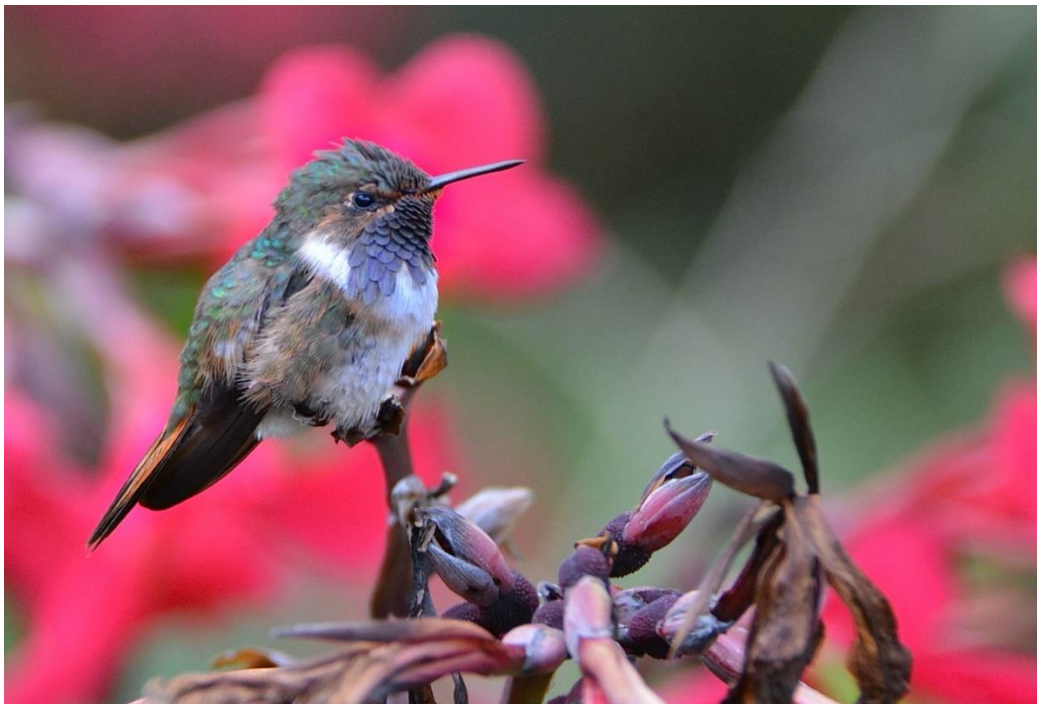


Volcano Hummingbird



White-throated Mountain-gem

The next set of photos were taken by tour participant Diane Robbie (thank you for sharing!)



Volcano Hummingbird



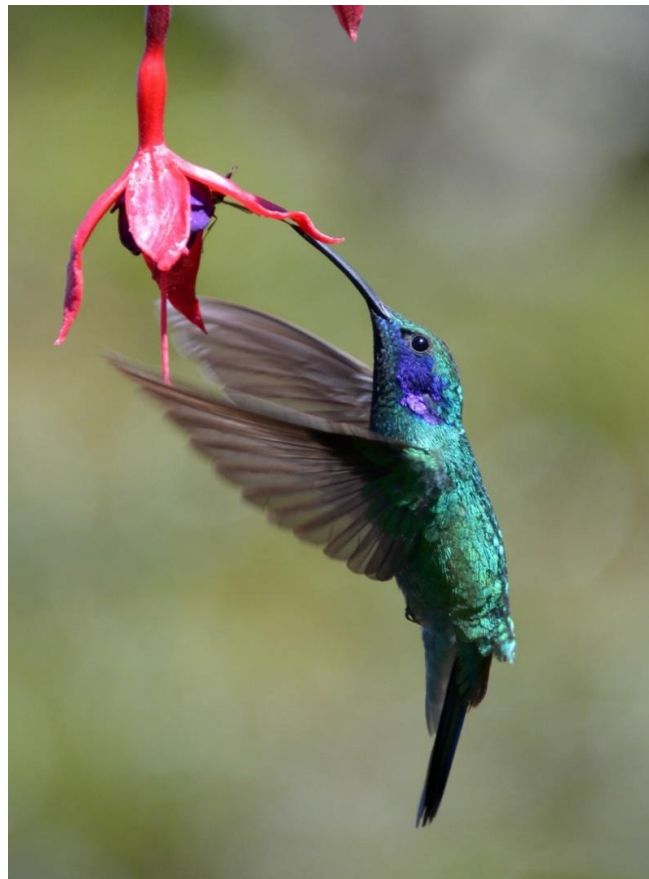
Talamanca Hummingbird



Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher



Fiery-throated Hummingbird



Lesser Violetear

These photos were taken by participant John Licharson – thank you too!



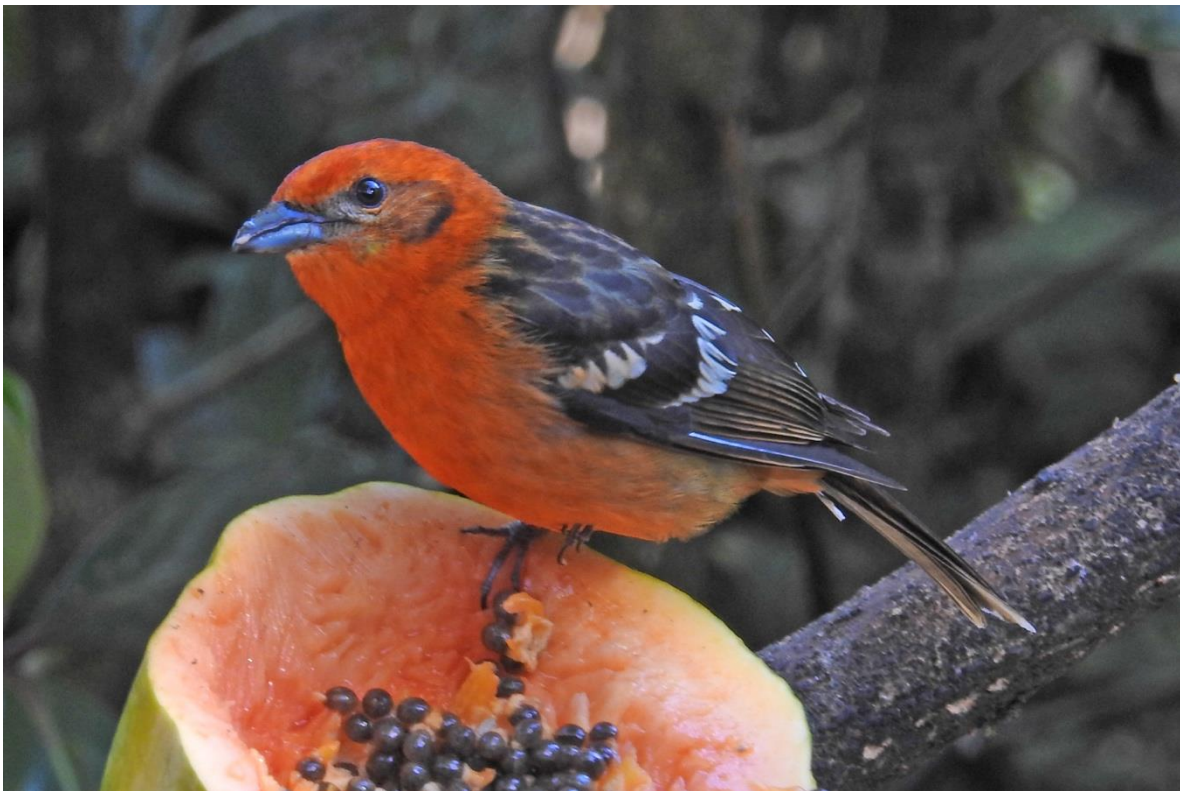
Black-necked Stilt



Green Honeycreeper



Large-footed Finch



Flame-colored Tanager



Northern Emerald-Toucanet