



A [Tropical Birding](#) SET DEPARTURE tour

# Costa Rica: The Introtour

**July 21 – 31, 2016**

**Tour Leader: Scott Olmstead**



**Three-wattled Bellbird** was voted the top bird of the trip by the group!

All photos in this report were taken during the tour.

## INTRODUCTION

Our July Costa Rica tours have been very successful during the last couple of years. We have seen not only some of the most wanted and emblematic species such as Resplendent Quetzal, Three-wattled Bellbird, and Great Curassow, but also some superb mammals and amphibians, such as three species of monkeys, White-nosed Coatis, and some really stunning frogs like Green-and-black and Strawberry Poison Frogs and Red-eyed Leaf Frog. This time of year is billed as the “Green Season” in Costa Rica, which means it is wetter than February, another popular time to visit. However, this year’s tour had only one out of nine mornings

affected by rain, and only twice were our afternoon birding outings somewhat disrupted by rain showers. We did experience some rain on most days but it seemed to typically fall during lunchtime or early afternoon. The more frequent rain does offer advantages, such as the chance to experience the rainforest and cloudforest in a lusher state than during the first half of the year. This year's trip also encountered a pretty spectacular frog show at La Selva and Tárcoles, probably stimulated by the recent rainfall.

Our group this for this Introtour included a mix of veteran tropical birders and complete newbies to international birding. The company turned out to be perfect; everyone got along swimmingly and contributed with entertaining stories, outstanding spotting skills, and patience during some dizzying mixed flocks. Many epic meals, fantastic experiences with spectacular birds and our helpful, knowledgeable, and good-natured driver Luís all contributed to make this tour a total success.

### TOP FIVE BIRDS OF THE TOUR

(as decided by the group)

1. **Three-wattled Bellbird – Curi-Cancha**
2. **Streak-chested Antpitta – Carara National Park**
3. **American Pygmy Kingfisher – Mangroves on Río Tárcoles**
4. **Great Curassow – La Selva**
5. **Buff-fronted Quail-Dove – Monteverde Cloudforest Reserve**



This **American Pygmy Kingfisher** was spotted after much searching on our mangrove boat tour in Tárcoles.



## ITINERARY

July 21	Arrival / Birding around Hotel Robledal
July 22	Braulio Carrillo National Park, Reserva El Tapir, La Selva Biological Station
July 23	La Selva Biological Station
July 24	La Selva Biological Station, travel to San Gerardo de Dota
July 25	Savegre
July 26	Cerro de la Muerte, San Isidro, travel to Tárcoles
July 27	Carara National Park, Tárcoles River
July 28	Carara National Park, Punta Morales, travel to Monteverde
July 29	Monteverde Cloudforest Reserve
July 30	Refugio Curi-Cancha, return to San José
July 31	Departure



**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloths** were plentiful in the tropical lowlands. This was our first one, seen at Braulio Carrillo National Park.

## BIRDING SUMMARY

### Day 1

Much of the group got to San José early on our arrival day, so we took a short excursion to the *finca* across from the hotel. The property, preserves (at least for now) a beautiful remnant pocket of the savanna-like habitat of the dry northwest, which is fairly unique in the Central Valley. The Crested Bobwhites stayed out of view despite our efforts to find them, but we enjoyed good looks at species like Gray-crowned Yellowthroat, Blue Grosbeak, and three varieties of ground-doves. After dinner at the hotel, we walked around the grounds with Emanuel, the hotel manager and resident bird expert, and were fortunate to see one of the resident Tropical Screech-Owls in the spotlight.



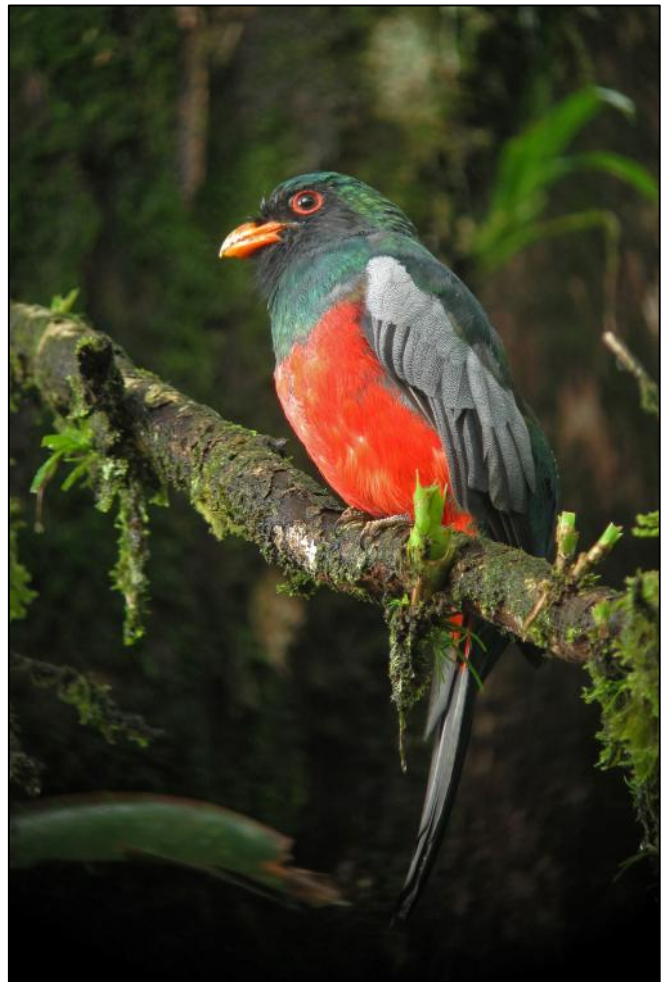
El Tapir was the only place on the tour where we saw the tiny **Green Thorntail**.

### Day 2

A quick look around the grounds turned up our main target, Cinnamon Hummingbird, as well as some curious Rufous-naped Wrens. A flyby Crested Caracara was an unexpected bonus. After our first of many superb breakfasts, we loaded up our mini-bus, drove across the Central Valley, and down the wet Caribbean slope into Braulio Carrillo National Park. The views of the forested mountainsides on the way down the highway are breathtaking, and our walk at Quebrada Gonzalez gave us an opportunity to see the inside of these precious forests up close. Although offering the chance to see some mega-rare species, birding at Quebrada Gonzalez is often challenging and no exception to the rule was made for our visit. The forest is tall and dense, making spotting difficult, and upon our arrival we were greeted with a

formidable chorus of cicadas, making listening difficult as well! However, we make the best of the conditions, and the whole group managed to get looks at some challenging forest interior species like Tawny-crested Tanager, White-breasted Wood-Wren, and Orange-billed Sparrow. We enjoyed seeing a Stripe-throated Hermit feeding a juvenile. And as the mixed-species foraging flocks raced past, species like Black-and-yellow Tanager, Russet Antshrike, and Tawny-capped Euphonia were seen by a few. In addition to the birds, we also got our first **three-toed sloth (photo on page 3)** and our first monkeys (Mantled Howler Monkey), both seen right from the parking area! Next up a quick stop at some hummingbird gardens farther down the highway gave us some new hummingbird species like **Green Thorntail (photo previous page)**, Crowned Woodnymph, Brown Violetear, Green Hermit, and Snowcap, although we only saw the female of the latter species.

The afternoon started with a rainstorm but it subsided fairly quickly and we spotted some good birds en route to La Selva after lunch, such as Green Ibis and Fasciated Tiger-Heron. Finally as we arrived at the La Selva we found ourselves surrounded by many of the quintessential species of the lowland Costa Rican rainforest. We spent a memorable 15 minutes or so birding from the suspension bridge over the Sarapiquí River, quickly spotting Keel-billed Toucan, Collared Araçari, Black-cheeked Woodpecker, and Masked Tityra, among others. As we prepared to head for our cabins a pair gorgeous Chestnut-colored Woodpeckers foraged low in the HW clearing. It seemed a strong end to the day, but we weren't done yet, picking up **Slaty-tailed Trogon (photo this page)** and a flyover pair of Great Green Macaws before heading for dinner. Walking to dinner and back in the dark gave us four frog species, several Common Parauques, and a Great Tinamou roosting above the path.



### Day 3

Our first morning at La Selva was loaded with birds, as is typical. The walk from the cabins to the dining hall was so productive that we almost didn't arrive in time for breakfast! Flocks of Dusky-faced Tanagers and Red-faced Ant-Tanagers rushed across the trail. A Dusky Antbird popped out of its thicket long enough for all to see. White-whiskered Puffbird sat stoically beside the trail. Fruit-bearing trees like Cecropia hosted Keel-billed and Yellow-throated



Toucans, along with Crested Guans. A large flock of both Montezuma and Chestnut-headed Oropendolas rambled through the treetops. As we all gulped down our breakfast, I sensed that everyone was hungry to get out in the field for more birding! We met our local guide, Joel, and headed out across the Sarapiquí River to bird the trails in the old-growth forest on the other side. As often happens at La Selva, it took more time than expected to even reach the forest; this is usually a good thing! First we detoured to hunt for a Rufous Motmot at the edge of the headquarters clearing. Then as we walked up onto the bridge Joel spotted a Broad-billed Motmot perched at eye level for a satisfactory comparison with the Rufous. A pair of Rufous-tailed Jacamars belted out their loud, squeaky calls as they flitted around the vines on the opposite side of the bridge.



La Selva is one of the best places anywhere to see **Great Curassow**.

Once inside the tall forest, things were predictably quieter, but we found several interesting herps, including the nocturnal Tropical Night Lizard, which Joel showed us, resting with its snout just sticking out of a burrow beside the trail. Lucy impressed everyone by spotting Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs left and right in the leaf litter of the forest floor! One of the top highlights of an action-packed morning was a Great Curassow; we heard it booming and worked hard to locate it, triangulating the sound, determining the bird was above us in the trees, searching for openings through the branches, and eventually finding it perched in the subcanopy high above us. Great views for everyone of this threatened Cracid, an emblematic species of La Selva! Farther down the trail we heard White-fronted Nunbird, and Joel led us down a side trail to a small clearing where we all began scanning the treetop that seemed to

be the source of its loud and frantic call. Finally Anne spotted the nunbird and we enjoyed a good study of this large puffbird through the scope. White-fronted Nunbirds essentially disappeared from the forest at La Selva for 15 years or so, leading some to speculate they were victims of habitat fragmentation. It's quite encouraging to find them here again! Returning to HQ for lunch, we spotted a Semiplumbeous Hawk hunting at the edge of the forest. It's always a treat to find this localized raptor here.

As we parted ways with Joel, the sun had come out and the temperature was climbing, making things quite steamy. Vultures soared and Gray-rumped Swifts fluttered overhead. We sat down to a well-deserved lunch and then decided to head for our cabins for a rest. A mid-afternoon rain shower broke the heat. After some down time, we birded along the entrance road, working hard to see a few new species, such as a fairly uncooperative group of Crimson-collared Tanagers. But we also got upgraded views some species seen earlier, like Slaty-tailed Trogon. Our night walk in the forest failed to produce any owls, but we did find some outrageous moths at the blacklight and a Great Tinamou on its roost for the second night in a row!



**Semiplumbeous Hawk** is another specialty of La Selva; we were fortunate to encounter it twice!

#### Day 4

With many of the common, showy species under our belts, we were able to use this morning to spend more time trying to see some of the more challenging birds. We started the morning with a Fasciated Antshrike, eventually seen well with patience as it lurked in a vine tangle. After breakfast we managed to see the elusive Stripe-breasted Wren, which had eluded us for two days. Semiplumbeous Hawk perched for good views in the arboretum. And we enjoyed a



long study of a Gray-necked Wood-Rail foraging in the swamp, seemingly oblivious to our presence at times. As we returned from our morning walk in the forest, we could sense our time at La Selva was drawing to a close, as of course there are always a few species you don't get to see that you'd hoped to. But that feeling was quickly interrupted when Darrin spotted a white bird perched up behind the dining hall. After a comical moment of confusion over the identify of the plump, over-sized marshmallow of a bird resting at the top of a tall cecropia, the group was celebrating our sighting of the male Snowy Cotinga! Although it only sat just long enough for everyone to see it in the scope, it was a major highlight for everyone.

As would happen several times during our trip, our timing turned out to be just right, and the sky opened up for a downpour as we prepared to depart La Selva. Sheltered inside the bus, we headed for the highlands, with three in our group having notched their first experience in the lowland tropical rainforest! It was certainly a memorable visit to La Selva. We spent most of the afternoon driving onward toward our next destination, San Gerardo de Dota. Traffic was pretty light, time was on our side, and we found ourselves with a chance to bird along the Providencia Road. Wrenthrush did not cooperate, but our first cloudforest mixed flock gave us all new birds, including the striking Flame-throated Warbler and the strangely alluring Yellow-thighed Finch. The cold, misty air at 7,500 ft. was a stark contrast to the sweltering humidity of the Caribbean Lowlands. We pressed on and checked into the famous Savegre Mountain Hotel, and enjoyed the first of many excellent meals.

#### Day 5

The Savegre Valley is lovely, with a variety of nice cloudforest birds. The Hotel Savegre is beautiful and its food is outstanding. Indeed, sometimes it may seem like birding is just a way to pass the time between the impressive meals! But let's not kid ourselves. The top priority for birding groups that visit Savegre is the **Resplendant Quetzal** (photo this page). So we made it our first objective of our first morning. We hopped aboard the bus and Luis took us up the valley a short distance to where the quetzals had been feeding recently. It didn't take long to spot the first one, a handsome male with a short tail. A female was present as well, and they were both alternating feeding on aguacatillo and resting in the shadows. As we waited around for another view of





the male, we ticked Mountain Thrush, and watched the group of birders gathering. Then, as we were about to head back for breakfast, another male, complete with extravagant tail plumes, flew in and perched in the open, producing oohs and aahhs and a multitude of shutter clicks. A total success! We returned for breakfast knowing that everything else would be bonus birding.

After breakfast we rode up the track behind the hotel in an old 4x4, and from the highest point we walked up the Robles Trail into the old-growth oak forest. The forest is truly a sight to see, tall and magnificent and caked with epiphytes. Our search for the Silvery-throated Jay was not fruitful, but we came across an excellent mixed flock with a variety of species, including a Ruddy Treerunner that gave crippling closeup views as it foraged along mossy branches and capture, dismembered, and ate a huge stick insect. As we descended the trail, we managed good views of Large-footed Finch and Chestnut-capped Brushfinch on the forest floor. Tufted Flycatcher posed on a perch. We continued on our hike around the La Quebrada Trail, perhaps as beautiful as the Robles Trail, and as we dropped into the ravine we got onto another mixed flock. By the time we were done everyone had seen Buffy Tuftedcheek, Black-cheeked Warbler, and Streak-breasted Treehunter, and for icing on the cake a pair of Golden-browed Chlorophonias appeared right over our heads! We returned for lunch with a solid haul of new birds from the cloudforest.



This **Black-faced Solitaire** was hanging around the cabins at Savegre.

In the afternoon after a rain shower we walked down the road, looking for dippers to no avail. We did add Collared Trogon to our list. We finished the day with a drive up the valley to a

stakeout for Dusky Nightjar and were treated to a lengthy study of the bird hawking insects in a streetlamp.

#### Day 6

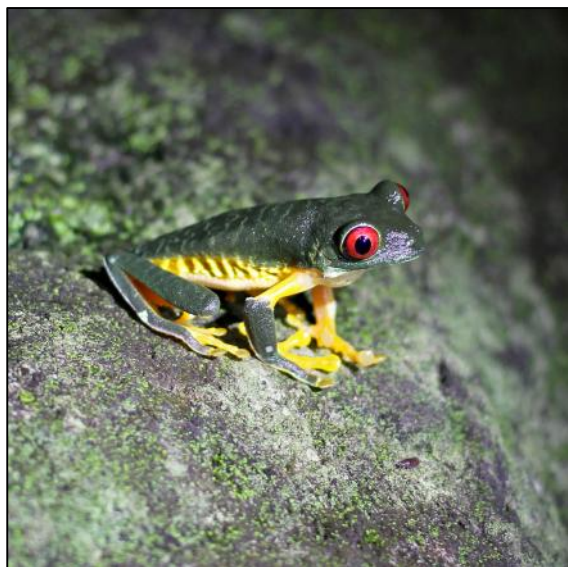
As the sun was coming up, we began the day in the forest near the hotel with excellent views of a pair of Spotted Wood-Quail, foraging in the leaf litter on the dark forest floor. Next we found a fruiting tree being visited by Long-tailed Silky-flycatchers and **Black-faced Solitaires (photo previous page)**. Seeing the potential for Emerald Toucanet, we decided to stake out the tree for a little while. As we watched, a couple of Black Guans appeared. And then... toucanets! It was a superb start to the day. After breakfast it was time to say goodbye to Savegre. We made a couple short birding stops on the way up the valley, picking up Barred Becard on the way, and headed for the highest segment of the Panamerican Highway where it crosses Cerro de la Muerte. We spent time birding the high-altitude elfin forest and open páramo, reminiscent of the high temperate habitats of the South American Andes. Volcano Junco showed well for everyone, while the Timberline Wren provided only fleeting views as it moved through the bamboo. A stop at a roadside restaurant with hummingbirds gave us searing views of several Fiery-throated Hummingbird, leaving no doubt about how they got their name.



This **Volcano Junco** helped itself to a moth as we watched!

From there it was time to begin the descent to lower, more tropical habitats. We drove down to San Isidro del General, to a stakeout for Turquoise Cotinga at the outskirts of town. Even with the sun barely burning through the clouds, after our time in the mountains it felt very humid and steamy! After quite a lot of everyone scanning the canopy, Luis finally spotted the cotinga in the highest treetop! While watching this dazzling bird in the scope, a second flew in as if one weren't enough! Satisfied, we moved on to an open pasture where we parked the bus to enjoy our box lunches and scan the fields. Red-breasted Meadowlark and Fork-tailed Flycatcher, two of our targets, appeared but we struggled to maintain attention with White-tailed Kites trying their best to distract us. The sky opened up for a good rain shower and one





of the kites sat up atop a snag to bathe in the rain. As the rain abated, we added Tropical Mockingbird to our trip list and set off down the mountains toward the coast. It was a good afternoon to be traveling and not birding, and we drove through heavy rain for much of the trip. After arriving at Hotel Villa Lapas outside Tárcoles, we enjoyed some after-dinner herping around the hotel grounds. Perhaps owing to the considerable rainfall, the frogs were extremely active and we easily tallied six species, including the gaudy **Red-eyed Treefrog! (Photo this page.)**

#### Day 7

We started with some pre-breakfast birding around the hotel grounds. The high water level in the river prevented us from accessing the trail into the forest but we added new species left and right: Black-hooded Antshrike, Piratic Flycatcher, Gray-headed Tanager, White-winged Becard, Rufous-and-White Wren, and more. After breakfast, the main event was a walk in Carara National Park. The park preserves an important and unique patch of forest situated at the interface between the dry deciduous forests of the northwest and the humid rainforests of farther south. We found the forest beautiful, the weather steamy, and the birding challenging! We struggled to find mixed flocks, but succeeded with some of the tough-to-see antbirds. First a Barred Antshrike, spotted by Brad, showed well as it foraged in a vine tangle. Next, a Chestnut-backed Antbird moved slowly through the shady understory, providing a good study for everyone. We could not see a singing Streak-chested Antpitta, but found a Great Tinamou preening on the forest floor during our attempt. Orange-billed Sparrows seemed to be everywhere in the understory! An army ant swarm produced killer views of a Northern Barred-Woodcreeper through the scope, and everyone got to see a Black-faced Antthrush dancing around in the leaf litter. As we headed back for lunch, a **White-whiskered Puffbird (photo this page)** treated us to long views as it perched on a vine beside the trail.

For the afternoon our agenda had but one item: we had the famous mangrove boat tour on the Tárcoles River. As we drove toward the dock it began to rain, but this would not stop us! Our trip



was timed perfectly for low tide, and we were able to bird not just the mangroves but mudflats as well. A significant number of boreal migrant shorebirds seemed to be present already, so we padded the list with the likes of Semipalmated Plover, Whimbrel, and Western Sandpiper. During the northern winter, these long-distance migrants join resident waterbirds like Bare-throated Tiger-Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, Wood Stork, and the impressive **Boat-billed Heron (photo this page)**. It took more than a little searching in the mangroves, but we finally managed to spot an **American Pygmy-Kingfisher (photo on page 2)** and we were rewarded by watching it splash into the water several times for a bath. Mangrove Vireo and Mangrove Warbler showed nearby. As we emerged from the mangroves, the rain subsided and we headed upriver to look for the Double-striped Thick-knee. Along the way we paused to admire our first Laughing Falcon of the trip and to take in a tree filling up with several pairs of Scarlet Macaws. A pair of Muscovy



Ducks flew across the river as many more pairs of macaws headed in the opposite direction. Our boatman showed us a gigantic American Crocodile, perhaps one of the biggest in the area, easily 15 feet long! Finally, as dusk approached, we spotted the strange **Double-striped Thick-knee (photo next page)**, cavorting with a Southern Lapwing near a herd of cattle atop the riverbank. With our river trip in the books as a total success, the boatman began to turn the boat around to return to the dock when Brad suddenly exclaimed "There's an owl!" Startled and excited we all frantically focused our binoculars on one of the short trees on the opposite riverbank and lo and behold there was a gorgeous Striped Owl sitting in the open, peering down toward the shore. Absolutely amazing! We watched the owl until everyone was satisfied and then cruised back to the dock as the sun set. What a day!

#### Day 8

We again began the day birding the hotel grounds, and this time we focused on the big fruiting tree next to the swimming pool. The tree was full of activity as we watched for over a half-hour. We were struggling to see a Yellow-throated Euphonia, half-hidden amid the leaves, when Sylvia announced "I see a manakin! It's the Long-tailed Manakin!" Indeed it was, a handsome male with his black, blue, and red plumage and long whimsical tail. Not long



after, a sharp Red-tailed Manakin appeared too. Two manakins before breakfast is always a good result! For the rest of the morning we spent more time at Carara National Park, where we enjoyed our closest views yet of Scarlet Macaw and Turquoise-browed Motmot. We had good luck with some of the skulkers: both Rufous-breasted and Black-bellied Wren gave up good views, and I thought we were doing pretty well. But the highlight of the morning was an antpitta adventure, as we followed the song of the Streak-chested Antpitta into the forest. It took over thirty minutes of work and some crawling and crouching in the understory, but we finally managed to see the source of the phantom voice! Dazed, soaked with sweat, and late for lunch, we happily returned to the hotel to prepare for departure.

The afternoon was mostly occupied by travel to Monteverde but we made a stop near the coast in mangrove habitat to try to add some new birds. We tallied Banded Wren, Canivet's Emerald, Northern Scrub-Flycatcher, and Orange-fronted Parakeet before continuing onward. The bumpy road to Monteverde, seemingly never to be paved, made for slow going, but we were jolted back into birding mode when a group of White-throated Magpie-Jays bounded into a tree right next to the bus.



As dusk approached, we found this **Double-striped Thick-knee** on our boat trip on the Tárcoles River.

### Day 9

We began with a walk around the hotel, and immediately started finding new birds. With some work we saw Plain Wren well, Yellow-bellied Elaenia sat in the open on a wire, and a pair of White-eared Ground-Sparrows gave fleeting views as they crossed the road. A Three-wattled Bellbird could be heard calling nearby but it could not be seen. After a superb buffet

breakfast, we headed for the famous Monteverde Cloudforest Reserve for a walk through the lush cloudforest. We marveled at the dense epiphytes, with mosses, bromeliads, ferns, and vines seeming to cover every inch of tree trunks and branches in some places. Our walk was very productive, as we encountered a couple of excellent mixed flocks. Three-striped Warblers (soon to be split as Costa Rican Warbler) worked through the understory, while Lineated Foliage-gleaners, Slaty Antwrens, Eye-ringed Flatbills, and Spotted Barbtails moved in the middle levels. Fruiting trees attracted numerous Black-faced Solitaires and Spangle-cheeked Tanagers. Red-faced Barbet and Orange-bellied Trogon showed well in the treetops, and we spotted a Prong-billed Barbet from the suspension bridge that crosses through the canopy. It was one of the most wanted birds for the day, and we enjoyed a long study as it perched in the open. However, the morning show was stolen by a Buff-fronted Quail-Dove, which we saw at its nest, camouflaged on a branch about 10 feet above the forest floor, but downslope from our position. We were privileged to watch the beautifully colored adult actively feeding a very hungry nestling for a couple minutes before it flew down to the forest floor and disappeared.



**Prong-billed Barbet** is one of just two species in the toucan-barbet family.

After lunch at the reserve, we sat down to enjoy the Hummingbird Gallery. This was our group's introduction to the outrageous Violet Sabrewing, the feisty Green-crowned Brilliant, and the handsome endemic **Coppery-headed Emerald (photo next page)**, as well as a chance to get reacquainted with species we first observed at Savegre, like Green Violetear and Stripe-tailed Hummingbird. An afternoon shower looked like it might turn the rest of the



day into a washout, but as dusk approached we determinedly decided to go out for a walk anyway – what dedication! As we entered the dense, viney forest at the private reserve near our hotel, the rain began to pick up and it grew even darker on the trail. At first it didn't look like it would be a productive outing. However, we soon came across a group of 10-15 White-nosed Coatis, and everyone forgot about the rain as they scampered down from a large tree and across the forest floor right in front of us. We continued on to pick up some new birds, with a highlight being brief scope views of an Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush, singing its complicated song from a concealed position in a dense shrub. As we ambled back to the hotel at dusk, the rain had passed, and a group of Gray-headed Chachalacas flew clumsily across the road over our heads, adding yet another new bird to the list.



#### Day 10

The wind continued to blow overnight, and the weather was ominous as the day began. We enjoyed our last breakfast together of *gallo pinto*, eggs, and fruit, and packed up the van to head for Curi-Cancha. On a good day, Curi-Cancha is just a superb birding site, with an extensive network of trails, great birds, and lots of other wildlife. However, setting out for our walk, the wind continued to gust through the treetops, casting waves of mist onto our resolute group of birders and even blowing one umbrella inside out! The situation did not look promising; this is sometimes the hand you are dealt when birding Monteverde this time of year. Its position right on the continental divide produces its exceptional diversity of species but also leaves it susceptible to strong weather systems blowing across the country. However, the birds were still active. A Blue-crowned Motmot perched low in the understory and allowed lengthy appreciation, and a Gray-crowned Yellowthroat sat up to sing from a fencepost just outside the forest. A couple of Resplendent Quetzals were spotted – always a treat. A Black Guan flew up into view, but this was just as we were hearing our top target bird, the **Three-wattled Bellbird (photo on page 1)** giving its strange and explosive calls in the distance. We crisscrossed the trails, followed the sound, and soon found ourselves under the song perch of this bizarre cotinga, endemic to Costa Rica, Panama, and Nicaragua. We quickly trained our scope and binoculars on the bellbird's perch below the canopy of a massive fig tree, and just watched him doing his thing, enveloped in his sensationally loud bonking and squeaking calls. This turned out to be the culminating moment of the tour, as the bellbird

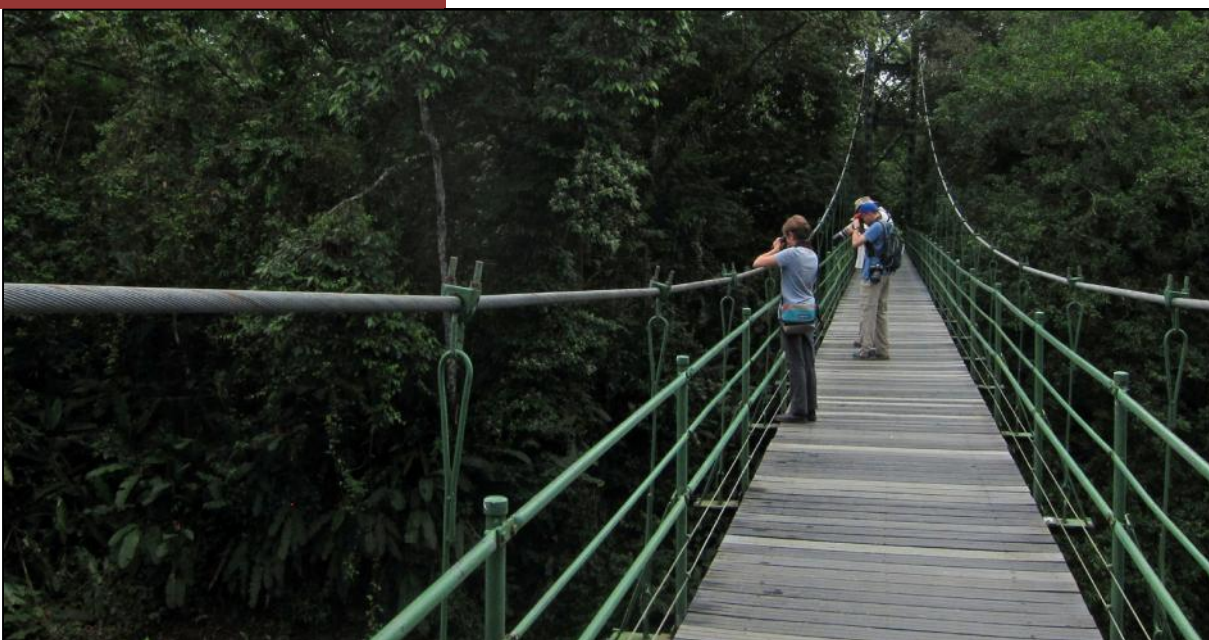
would later be voted the top bird of the trip by the group. We watched until all were satisfied, and chatted with a local naturalist about the bellbird's natural history and migration. Eventually we decided to move on in search of new birds, although we probably could have stayed there for an hour!

Elsewhere on the trails we added Golden-crowned Warbler, Olivaceous Woodcreeper, Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, and Plain Antvireo, and upgraded our views of Spotted Barbtail, seen only briefly yesterday. A staked out Green Palm Pitviper, snoozing on an arboreal perch, was our last new herp for the trip. Sometime during the morning it stopped raining, but we were so giddy about the bellbird sighting that I'm not sure it really mattered to anyone. As the morning drew to a close, Anne spotted a Hepatic Tanager perched in a high treetop across a ravine, and we stopped to check it out in the scope. This pause turned out to be extremely fortuitous because it led to one of the best surprises of the tour: it was just then that Lucy spotted a very large raptor silently alight on a thick branch in the canopy far above us. Peering upward we quickly realized we were looking at a very elegant Ornate Hawk-Eagle! The bird seemed to be actively hunting, moving from perch to perch, but everyone got at least fleeting views through the scope of this rare raptor before it disappeared. Considering how bleak the weather looked at the beginning of the day, our visit to Cur-Cancha had turned out to be quite productive in the end.

The hawk-eagle provided the end to the morning, but not the end to our birding. After lunch in Monteverde we departed for San José with a couple of final stops planned. The first stop actually took a lot more time than anticipated, but it also yielded yet another highlight bird in the form of a **Lesser Ground-Cuckoo** (photo this page) that at first gave us fits, taunting us for over a half-hour with its mysterious whistle given from dense scrub beside the road. Finally we got the bird on a semi-exposed perch so everyone could admire its enchanting rufous, yellow, black, and blue face. It was a perfect last bird for the tour and gave everyone a reason to reconsider their Top 5 Birds of the Trip as we continued our trip back to San José. At our last dinner together, we reminisced about favorite moments from the trip and shared our favorite birds. Thanks for a great trip with great company, everyone!







Birding from the suspension bridge over the Sarapiquí River at La Selva.

## BIRD LIST

The taxonomy of the bird list follows: Clements, James F., White, Anthony W., and Fitzpatrick, John W. ***The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World***. Cornell, 2007.

This list is up to date with the major changes published by Cornell through August 2016.

**Key to Locations:** **HR** = Hotel Robledal & nearby finca, **QG** = Quebrada Gonzalez (Braulio Carrillo National Park), **ET** = Reserva El Tapir, **LS** = La Selva, **Sav** = Savegre Valley, **CdM** = Cerro de la Muerte (including La Georgina rest stop), **SI** = San Isidro, **VL** = Hotel Villa Lapas, **Car** = Carara National Park, **RT** = Río Tárcoles, **PM** = Punta Morales, **Mon** = Monteverde, **Hwy** = birds seen while traveling

**Other Codes:** **(E)** = Regional endemic, **H** = Heard only, **L** = Seen by leader only

### TINAMOUS

Great Tinamou

Little Tinamou **H**

Slaty-breasted Tinamou **H**

### DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Muscovy Duck

### GUANS, CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS

Gray-headed Chachalaca

Crested Guan

Black Guan

Great Curassow

### NEW WORLD QUAIL

Crested Bobwhite **H**

### TINAMIDAE

*Tinamus major*

*Crypturellus soui*

*Crypturellus boucardi*

### ANATIDAE

*Dendrocygna autumnalis*

*Cairina moschata*

### CRACIDAE

*Ortalis cinereiceps*

*Penelope purpurascens*

*Chamaepetes unicolor*

*Crax rubra*

### ODONTOPHORIDAE

*Colinus cristatus*

### Locations:

LS, Car

LS

LS

SI, RT

RT

Mon

LS, Car

Sav, Mon

LS

HR

Spotted Wood-Quail	<i>Odontophorus guttatus</i>	Sav
<b>STORKS</b>	<b>CICONIIDAE</b>	
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	RT, PM
<b>FRIGATEBIRDS</b>	<b>FREGATIDAE</b>	
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	PM
<b>CORMORANTS AND SHAGS</b>	<b>PHALACROCORACIDAE</b>	
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	SI, RT
<b>PELICANS</b>	<b>PELECANIDAE</b>	
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	RT
<b>HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS</b>	<b>ARDEIDAE</b>	
Fasciated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma fasciatum</i>	Hwy
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>	RT
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	RT
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	RT, PM
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	RT
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	RT
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	RT, PM
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	LS, RT
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	RT, PM
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	RT
Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>	RT
<b>IBISES AND SPOONBILLS</b>	<b>THRESKIORNITHIDAE</b>	
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Car, RT
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	LS
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	RT, PM
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>	<b>CATHARTIDAE</b>	
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Various
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Various
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	ET
<b>OSPREY</b>	<b>PANDIONIDAE</b>	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	RT
<b>HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES</b>	<b>ACCIPITRIDAE</b>	
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Mon, Hwy
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	SI, RT
Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	Car, RT
Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus a. anthracinus</i>	RT
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	PM, Hwy
Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	Hwy
Ornate Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus ornatus</i>	Mon
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>	<b>RALLIDAE</b>	
Russet-naped Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides albiventris</i>	LS
<b>THICK-KNEES</b>	<b>BURHINIDAE</b>	
Double-striped Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	RT
<b>PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS</b>	<b>CHARADRIIDAE</b>	
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	RT
Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	RT
Wilson's Plover	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	RT, PM
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	RT
<b>STILTS AND AVOCETS</b>	<b>RECURVIROSTRIDAE</b>	
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus m. mexicanus</i>	PM



**JACANAS**

Northern Jacana

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES**

Spotted Sandpiper

Willet

Whimbrel

Western Sandpiper

Least Sandpiper

**GULLS**

Laughing Gull

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

Rock Pigeon (I)

Pale-vented Pigeon

Red-billed Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Ruddy Pigeon

Short-billed Pigeon

Inca Dove

Common Ground-Dove

Ruddy Ground-Dove

Blue Ground-Dove

White-tipped Dove

Gray-chested Dove

Buff-fronted Quail-Dove (E)

White-winged Dove

**CUCKOOS**

Squirrel Cuckoo

Lesser Ground-Cuckoo

Smooth-billed Ani

Groove-billed Ani

**OWLS**

Tropical Screech-Owl

Striped Owl

**NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES**

Pauraque

Dusky Nightjar (E)

**SWIFTS**

White-collared Swift

Vaux's Swift

Gray-rumped Swift

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

Green Hermit

Long-billed Hermit

Stripe-throated Hermit

Green-fronted Lancebill

Brown Violetear

Lesser Violetear

Green Thorntail

Green-crowned Brilliant

Magnificent Hummingbird

**JACANIDAE***Jacana spinosa*

SI

**SCOLOPACIDAE***Actitis macularius*

SI, RT, PM

*Tringa semipalmata*

RT

*Numenius phaeopus**Calidris mauri*

RT

*Calidris minutilla***LARIDAE: LARINAE***Leucophaeus atricilla*

PM

**COLUMBIDAE***Columba livia*

SI

*Patagioenas cayennensis*

ET, LS, Hwy

*Patagioenas flavirostris*

HR, Mon

*Patagioenas fasciata*

Sav, Mon

*Patagioenas subvinacea*

Sav, Mon

*Patagioenas nigrirostris*

LS, Car

*Columbina inca*

HR, PM

*Columbina passerina*

PM

*Columbina talpacoti*

Various

*Claravis pretiosa*

LS

*Leptotila verreauxi*

LS, VL, PM

*Leptotila cassini*

LS, Car

*Zentrygon costaricensis*

Mon

*Zenaida asiatica*

HR, RT, PM

**CUCULIDAE***Piaya cayana*

LS, Car, Mon

*Morococcyx erythropygus*

Hwy

*Crotophaga ani*

SI

*Crotophaga sulcirostris*

Car, PM, Hwy

**STRIGIDAE***Megascops choliba*

HR

*Pseudoscops clamator*

RT

**CAPRIMULGIDAE***Nyctidromus albigollis*

LS, RT

*Androstomus saturatus*

Sav

**APODIDAE***Streptoprocne zonaris*

Sav

*Chaetura vauxi*

Mon

*Chaetura cineiventris*

LS

**TROCHILIDAE***Phaethornis guy*

ET, Mon

*Phaethornis longirostris cephalus*

LS, Car, VL

*Phaethornis striigularis*

QG, LS, Car

*Doryfera ludovicae*

Sav

*Colibri delphinae*

ET

*Colibri cyanotus*

Sav, Mon

*Discosura conversii*

ET

*Heliodoxa jacula*

Mon

*Eugenes fulgens*

Sav

Fiery-throated Hummingbird (E)	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>	CdM
Purple-throated Mountain-gem (E)	<i>Lampornis calolaemus</i>	Mon
White-throated Mountain-gem	<i>Lampornis castaneoventris cinereicauda</i>	
Volcano Hummingbird (E)	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>	CdM
Scintillant Hummingbird (E)	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>	Sav
Canivet's Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon canivetii</i>	PM, Mon
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeochroa cuvierii</i>	VL, RT
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>	ET, LS
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus</i>	Mon
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura urochrysis</i>	LS
Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>	ET, LS
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa eximia</i>	Sav, Mon
Snowcap	<i>Microchera albocoronata</i>	ET
Blue-chested Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amabilis</i>	LS
Steely-vented Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia saucerrottei</i>	Mon
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	ET, LS
Cinnamon Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rutila</i>	HR, PM
Blue-throated Goldentail	<i>Hylocharis eliciae</i>	VL
<b>TROGONS</b>	<b>TROGONIDAE</b>	
Black-headed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanocephalus</i>	PM
Baird's Trogon (E) <b>H</b>	<i>Trogon bairdii</i>	Car
Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>	LS, Car
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>	Sav
Orange-bellied Trogon (E)	<i>Trogon aurantiiventris</i>	Mon
Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon rufus</i>	LS
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>	LS
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus mocinno</i>	Sav, Mon
<b>MOTMOTS</b>	<b>MOMOTIDAE</b>	
Lesson's Motmot	<i>Momotus lessonii</i>	Mon
Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>	LS
Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>	LS
Turquoise-browed Motmot	<i>Eumomota superciliosa</i>	RT, Car, PM
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>	<b>ALCEDINIDAE</b>	
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	SI, PM
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	Hwy
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	LS, RT
American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	RT
<b>PUFFBIRDS</b>	<b>BUCCONIDAE</b>	
White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Malacoptila panamensis</i>	LS, Car
White-fronted Nunbird	<i>Monasa morphoeus</i>	LS
<b>JACAMARS</b>	<b>GALBULIDAE</b>	
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	LS, VL, Car
<b>NEW WORLD BARBETS</b>	<b>CAPITONIDAE</b>	
Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>	Mon
<b>TOUCAN-BARBETS</b>	<b>SEMNORNITHIDAE</b>	
Prong-billed Barbet (E)	<i>Semnornis frantzii</i>	Mon
<b>TOUCANS</b>	<b>RAMPHASTIDAE</b>	
Emerald Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus maxillaris</i>	Sav, Mon
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus t. torquatus</i>	LS, VL, Car
Fiery-billed Aracari (E)	<i>Pteroglossus frantzii</i>	Hwy



Yellow-throated (Chestnut-mandibled) Toucan	<i>Ramphastos swainsonii</i>	LS, Car
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	LS, Mon
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>	<b>PICIDAE</b>	
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Sav
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	LS
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	SI
Hoffmann's Woodpecker (E)	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>	HR, PM, Mon
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker	<i>Celeus castaneus</i>	LS
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	LS, VL
Pale-billed Woodpecker <b>H</b>	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>	LS, VL
<b>FALCONS AND CARACARAS</b>	<b>FALCONIDAE</b>	
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	HR
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	RT, Hwy
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	Car, RT, PM
<b>PARROTS</b>	<b>PSITTACIDAE</b>	
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	Various
Brown-hooded Parrot	<i>Pyrilia haematotis</i>	LS, Mon
White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>	LS
White-fronted Parrot	<i>Amazona albifrons</i>	HR
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	LS, RT
Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	LS
Yellow-naped Parrot <b>H</b>	<i>Amazona auropalliata</i>	RT
Sulphur-winged Parakeet (E)	<i>Pyrrhura hoffmanni</i>	Sav
Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula nana</i>	LS
Orange-fronted Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula canicularis</i>	PM
Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambiguus</i>	LS
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>	Various
Crimson-fronted Parakeet (E)	<i>Psittacara finschi</i>	HR, LS, SI
<b>TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS</b>	<b>THAMNOPHILIDAE</b>	
Fasciated Antshrike	<i>Cymbilaimus lineatus</i>	LS
Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	Car
Black-crowned Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus atrinucha</i>	LS
Black-hooded Antshrike (E)	<i>Thamnophilus bridgesi</i>	VL, Car
Russet Antshrike	<i>Thamnistes anabatinus</i>	QG, LS
Plain Antvireo	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>	Mon
Streak-crowned Antvireo (E) <b>L</b>	<i>Dysithamnus striaticeps</i>	QG
Slaty Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula schisticolor</i>	QG, Mon
Dot-winged Antwren	<i>Microrhophias quixensis</i>	Car
Dusky Antbird	<i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i>	LS, VL, Car
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza exsul</i>	Various
Bicolored Antbird <b>H</b>	<i>Gymnopithys bicolor</i>	Car
<b>ANTPITTAS</b>	<b>GRALLARIIDAE</b>	
Streak-chested Antpitta	<i>Hylopezus perspicillatus</i>	Car
<b>TAPACULOS</b>	<b>RHINOCRYPTIDAE</b>	
Silvery-fronted Tapaculo (E) <b>H</b>	<i>Scytalopus argentifrons</i>	Sav, Mon
<b>ANTTHRUSHES</b>	<b>FORMICARIIDAE</b>	
Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>	Car
<b>OVENBIRDS</b>	<b>FURNARIIDAE: FURNARIINAE</b>	
Tawny-throated Leaf Tosser	<i>Sclerurus mexicanus</i>	Mon
Red-faced Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca erythrops</i>	Mon

Spotted Barbtail  
 Ruddy Treerunner (E)  
 Buffy Tuftedcheek  
 Lineated Foliage-gleaner  
 Streak-breasted Treehunter (E)  
 Plain Xenops

**WOODCREEPERS**

Tawny-winged Woodcreeper  
 Olivaceous Woodcreeper  
 Wedge-billed Woodcreeper  
 Northern Barred-Woodcreeper  
 Cocoa Woodcreeper  
 Black-striped Woodcreeper  
 Spotted Woodcreeper  
 Streak-headed Woodcreeper  
 Spot-crowned Woodcreeper

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS**

Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet **H**  
 Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet  
 Greenish Elaenia **H**  
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia  
 Mountain Elaenia  
 Torrent Tyrannulet  
 Olive-striped Flycatcher  
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher  
 Paltry Tyrannulet  
 Northern Scrub-Flycatcher  
 Northern Bentbill **H**  
 Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher  
 Common Tody-Flycatcher  
 Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher **H**  
 Eye-ringed Flatbill  
 Yellow-olive Flycatcher **H**  
 White-throated Spadebill  
 Royal Flycatcher **L**  
 Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher  
 Tufted Flycatcher  
 Tropical Pewee  
 Yellowish Flycatcher  
 Black-capped Flycatcher  
 Black Phoebe  
 Long-tailed Tyrant  
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher  
 Great Kiskadee  
 Boat-billed Flycatcher  
 Social Flycatcher  
 Gray-capped Flycatcher  
 White-ringed Flycatcher  
 Golden-bellied Flycatcher (E)  
 Streaked Flycatcher

*Premnoplex brunnescens* Mon  
*Margarornis rubiginosus* Sav  
*Pseudocolaptes l. lawrencii* Sav  
*Syndactyla subalaris* Sav, Mon  
*Thripadectes rufobrunneus* Sav  
*Xenops minutus* LS, Car

**FURNARIIDAE: DENDROCOLAPTINAE**

*Dendrocincla anabatina* Car  
*Sittasomus griseicapillus sylvioides* Mon  
*Glyphorhynchus spirurus* QG, LS, Car  
*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae* LS, Car  
*Xiphorhynchus susurrans* LS, Car  
*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus* Car  
*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius* ET, Mon  
*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii* Various  
*Lepidocolaptes affinis* Sav

**TYRANNIDAE**

*Ornithion semiflavum* Car  
*Camptostoma imberbe* HR  
*Myiopagis viridicata* VL  
*Elaenia flavogaster* SI, Mon  
*Elaenia frantzii* Sav  
*Serpophaga cinerea* Sav  
*Mionectes olivaceus* Mon  
*Mionectes oleagineus* LS  
*Zimmerius vilissimus parvus* LS, Sav, Mon  
*Sublegatus arenarum* PM  
*Oncostoma cinereigulare* Car  
*Poecilatriccus sylvia* Car  
*Todirostrum cinereum* Various  
*Todirostrum nigriceps* LS  
*Rhynchocyclus brevirostris* Mon  
*Tolmomyias sulphurescens cinereiceps* LS, VL, Car  
*Platyrinchus mystaceus* Mon  
*Onychorhynchus coronatus mexicanus* LS  
*Myiobius sulphureipygius aureatus* Car  
*Mitrephanes phaeocercus aurantiiventris*  
*Contopus cinereus brachytarsus/rhizophorus* RT  
*Empidonax flavescens* Sav, Mon  
*Empidonax atriceps* CdM  
*Sayornis nigricans* Sav, Hwy  
*Colonia colonus* LS  
*Myiarchus tuberculifer* LS  
*Pitangus sulphuratus* Various  
*Megarynchus pitangua* Various  
*Myiozetetes similis* Various  
*Myiozetetes granadensis* LS, VL, Car  
*Conopias albobittatus* LS  
*Myiodynastes hemichrysus* Mon  
*Myiodynastes maculatus* VL



Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher <b>H</b>	<i>Myiodynastes luteiventris</i>	Mon
Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	VL, Mon
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Various
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	SI
<b>COTINGAS</b>	<b>COTINGIDAE</b>	
Turquoise Cotinga (E)	<i>Cotinga ridgwayi</i>	SI
Three-wattled Bellbird (E)	<i>Procnias tricarunculatus</i>	Mon
Snowy Cotinga	<i>Carpodectes nitidus</i>	LS
<b>MANAKINS</b>	<b>PIPRIDAE</b>	
White-ruffed Manakin <b>L</b>	<i>Corapipo altera</i>	QG
Blue-crowned Manakin	<i>Lepidothrix coronata</i>	Car
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>	LS
Orange-collared Manakin (E)	<i>Manacus aurantiacus</i>	Car
Long-tailed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia linearis</i>	VL, Mon
White-crowned Manakin	<i>Dixiphia pipra anthracina</i>	QG
Red-capped Manakin	<i>Pipra mentalis</i>	VL
<b>TITYRAS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>TITYRIDAE</b>	
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>	HR
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	LS, RT, Mon
Barred Becard	<i>Pachyramphus versicolor</i>	Sav
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>	ET, LS
White-winged Becard	<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus similis</i>	VL
Rose-throated Becard	<i>Pachyramphus aglaiae</i>	Car
<b>VIREOS</b>	<b>VIREONIDAE</b>	
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	RT
Green Shrike-Vireo <b>H</b>	<i>Vireolanius pulchellus</i>	Car
Tawny-crowned Greenlet <b>H</b>	<i>Tunchiornis ochraceiceps</i>	Car
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtata</i>	LS, Car, Mon
Mangrove Vireo	<i>Vireo pallens</i>	RT
Yellow-winged Vireo (E)	<i>Vireo carmioli</i>	Sav
<b>CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES</b>	<b>CORVIDAE</b>	
White-throated Magpie-Jay	<i>Calocitta formosa</i>	Hwy
Brown Jay	<i>Cyanocorax morio</i>	VL, Mon
<b>SWALLOWS</b>	<b>HIRUNDINIDAE</b>	
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	HR, Sav, Mon
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	Sav, RT, PM
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	PM
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	RT
<b>WRENS</b>	<b>TROGLODYTIDAE</b>	
Scaly-breasted Wren <b>H</b>	<i>Microcerculus marginatus luscini</i>	Car
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon intermedius</i>	Various
Ochraceous Wren	<i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i>	Sav, Mon
Timberline Wren	<i>Thryorchilus browni</i>	CdM
Rufous-naped Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus rufinucha capistratus</i>	HR, Car
Black-throated Wren (E) <b>H</b>	<i>Pheugopedius atrogularis</i>	LS
Black-bellied Wren	<i>Pheugopedius fasciatoventris</i>	Car
Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius rutilus</i>	Car
Rufous-and-white Wren	<i>Thryophilus rufalbus</i>	VL, Car, Mon
Banded Wren	<i>Thryophilus pleurostictus</i>	PM
Cabanis's Wren (formerly Plain Wren)	<i>Cantorchilus modestus</i>	Mon

Bay Wren	<i>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</i>	LS
Stripe-breasted Wren (E)	<i>Cantorchilus thoracicus</i>	QG, LS
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	QG, LS
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys collina</i>	Sav, Mon
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>	<b>POLIOPTILIDAE</b>	
Tawny-faced Gnatwren <b>L</b>	<i>Microbates cinereiventris</i>	QG
Long-billed Gnatwren <b>H</b>	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	Car
White-lored Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila albiloris</i>	HR, PM
Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea superciliaris</i>	Car
<b>THRUSHES AND ALLIES</b>	<b>TURDIDAE</b>	
Black-faced Solitaire (E)	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>	Sav, Mon
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush (E)	<i>Catharus gracilirostris</i>	Sav
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantirostris</i>	Mon
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>	Mon
Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus frantzii</i>	Sav
Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus mexicanus</i>	Mon
Sooty Thrush (Robin) (E)	<i>Turdus nigrescens</i>	Sav
Mountain Thrush (Robin)	<i>Turdus plebejus</i>	Sav, Mon
Pale-vented Thrush	<i>Turdus obsoletus</i>	QG
Clay-colored Thrush (Robin)	<i>Turdus grayi</i>	Various
<b>MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS</b>	<b>MIMIDAE</b>	
Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	SI
<b>SILKY-FLYCATCHERS</b>	<b>PTILOGONATIDAE</b>	
Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher (E)	<i>Ptilogonys caudatus</i>	Sav
<b>NEW WORLD WARBLERS</b>	<b>PARULIDAE</b>	
Flame-throated Warbler	<i>Oreothlypis gutturalis</i>	Sav
Gray-crowned Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis poliocephala</i>	RT, PM
Yellow (Mangrove) Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia bryanti</i>	Mon
Slate-throated Redstart	<i>Myioborus miniatus comptus/aurantiacus</i>	Mon
Collared Redstart	<i>Myioborus torquatus</i>	Sav
Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>	Mon
Rufous-capped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus rufifrons delatirii/mesochrysus</i>	Mon
Black-cheeked Warbler (E)	<i>Basileuterus melanogenys</i>	Sav
Costa Rican Warbler (E)	<i>Basileuterus melanotis</i>	Mon
Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis fulvicauda</i>	QG, LS, Car
Wrenthrush (E) <b>H</b>	<i>Zeledonia coronata</i>	CdM
<b>TANAGERS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>THRAUPIDAE</b>	
Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>	VL
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	QG, Car
Tawny-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus delatirii</i>	QG
Crimson-collared Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus sanguinolentus</i>	LS
Passerini's Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>	ET, LS
Cherrie's Tanager (E)	<i>Ramphocelus costaricensis</i>	SI, Car
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus cana</i>	Various
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Various
Emerald Tanager	<i>Tangara florida</i>	QG
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>	QG, Sav, Mon
Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>	QG
Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Tangara larvata</i>	LS, Car, VL
Spangle-cheeked Tanager (E)	<i>Tangara dowii</i>	Sav, Mon



Shining Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes lucidus</i>	LS
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	QG, Mon
Black-and-yellow Tanager (E)	<i>Chrysothlypis chrysomelas</i>	QG
Slaty Flowerpiercer (E)	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>	Sav, CdM
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	RT, PM
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina corvina</i>	ET, LS, SI, VL
White-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila torqueola</i>	PM
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola mexicana</i>	Various
Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>	Sav, Mon
Dusky-faced Tanager	<i>Mitrospingus cassinii</i>	LS
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	LS, VL
<b>BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, SEEDEATERS</b>	<b>EMBERIZIDAE</b>	
Common Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus regionalis/novicius</i>	Sav, Mon
Sooty-capped Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>	Sav
Stripe-headed Sparrow	<i>Peucaea ruficauda</i>	PM, Hwy
Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>	Various
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	<i>Arremon brunneinucha</i>	Sav
Sooty-faced Finch (E) <b>H</b>	<i>Arremon crassirostris</i>	Mon
Volcano Junco (E)	<i>Junco vulcani</i>	CdM
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	Sav, Mon
Large-footed Finch (E)	<i>Pezopetes capitalis</i>	Sav
White-eared Ground-Sparrow	<i>Melospiza leucotis</i>	Mon
Yellow-thighed Finch (E)	<i>Pselliophorus tibialis</i>	Sav
<b>CARDINALS, AND ALLIES</b>	<b>CARDINALIDAE</b>	
Hepatic Tanager	<i>Piranga flava testacea</i>	Mon
Flame-colored Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>	Sav
Red-throated Ant-Tanager	<i>Habia fuscicauda</i>	LS
Black-faced Grosbeak <b>H</b>	<i>Caryothraustes poliogaster</i>	LS
Blue-black Grosbeak <b>H</b>	<i>Cyanococcyx cyanooides</i>	LS, VL
Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>	HR,
<b>TROUPIALS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>ICTERIDAE</b>	
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	RT
Red-breasted Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>	SI
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	HR
Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>	HR, Hwy
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Various
Streak-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus pustulatus</i>	PM
Montezuma Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>	LS
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>	LS
<b>SISKINS, CROSSBILLS, AND ALLIES</b>	<b>FRINGILLIDAE</b>	
Scrub Euphonia <b>H</b>	<i>Euphonia affinis</i>	PM
Yellow-crowned Euphonia (E)	<i>Euphonia luteicapilla</i>	LS
Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia lanirostris</i>	Car
Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirundinacea</i>	VL, Mon
Elegant Euphonia <b>L</b>	<i>Euphonia elegantissima</i>	Sav
Spot-crowned Euphonia (E)	<i>Euphonia imitans</i>	Car
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia gouldi</i>	ET, LS
Tawny-capped Euphonia (E)	<i>Euphonia anae</i>	QG
Golden-browed Chlorophonia (E)	<i>Chlorophonia callophrys</i>	Sav, Mon



We watched this **White-throated Capuchin** eating fruit in the forest canopy at Carara National Park.

### MAMMAL LIST

Common Opossum  
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth  
Nine-banded Long-nosed Armadillo  
White-throated Capuchin Monkey  
Mantled Howler Monkey  
Central American Spider Monkey  
Red-tailed Squirrel  
Variegated Squirrel  
Central American Agouti  
White-nosed Coati  
Collared Peccary

*Didelphis marsupialis*  
*Bradypus variegatus*  
*Dasybus novemcinctus*  
*Cebus capucinus*  
*Alouatta palliate*  
*Ateles geoffroyi*  
*Sciurus granatensis*  
*Sciurus variegatoides*  
*Dasyprocta punctate*  
*Nasua narica*  
*Tayassu tajacu*

### AMPHIBIAN LIST

Marine (Cane) Toad  
Dry Forest Toad  
Wet Forest Toad  
Litter Toad  
Savage's Bull Frog

*Rhinella (Bufo) marina*  
*Incilius (Bufo) coccifer*  
*Incilius (Bufo) melanochlorus*  
*Rhaebo (Bufo) haematiticus*  
*Leptodactylus savageii*



Red-eyed Leaf Frog  
Masked Treefrog  
Drab Treefrog  
Tawny Treefrog  
Yellow Treefrog  
Green-and-black Poison Frog  
Strawberry Poison Frog  
Forrer's Leopard Frog

*Agalychnis callidryas*  
*Smilisca phaeota*  
*Smilisca sordida*  
*Smilisca puma*  
*Dendropsophus microcephalus*  
*Dendrobates auratus*  
*Oophaga (Dendrobates) pumilio*  
*Lithobates (Rana) forreri*



We caught this **Savage's Bullfrog** making a meal out of another frog at La Selva!

#### REPTILE LIST

Black River Turtle  
Common Basilisk  
Brown Basilisk  
Spinytail Iguana  
Green Iguana  
Common House Gecko  
Tropical Night Lizard  
Central American Ameiva

*Rhinoclemmys annulata*  
*Basiliscus basiliscus*  
*Basiliscus vittatus*  
*Ctenosaura similis*  
*Iguana iguana*  
*Hemidactylus frenatus*  
*Lepidophyma flavimaculatum*  
*Ameiva festiva*



Reticulated Ameiva  
Northern Cat-eyed Snake  
Annulated Cat-eyed Snake  
Green (Side-striped) Palm Pitviper

Ameiva leptophrys  
Leptodeira septentrionalis  
Leptodeira annulata  
Bothriechis lateralis



We saw several **Reticulated Ameivas** sunning themselves on the forest trails at Carara.



Our local guide Joel knew to look for this **Tropical Night Lizard** peering out of its daytime residence at La Selva.