

COMPLETE COSTA RICA, PART I: NEOTROPICAL BIRD CLUB CONSERVATION TOUR TRIP REPORT

13th - 26th MARCH 2017

By Andy Walker



Gartered Trogon



This scheduled tour around northern Costa Rica, doubling as a Conservation Tour for the Neotropical Bird Club, commenced on the 13th of March 2017 in San José and concluded back there on the 26th of March 2017. The tour visited some of Costa Rica's most spectacular national parks, volcanoes, and top birding destinations, such as La Selva Biological Station, Braulio Carrillo National Park, Poás Volcano National Park, Arenal Volcano, Caño Negro Lake, Tenorio Volcano National Park, Miravalles Volcano, Hacienda Solimar, Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve, San Gerardo Field Station, and Puntarenas. Tour participants came from Australia (John and Su), New Zealand (Rosemary), South Africa (Don), Trinidad (Stuart), and the United States of America (Tim and Kay). Kevin, an American having lived in Costa Rica for the last 20 years, acted as local guide. This all meant an interesting combination of discussions on a range of topics, particularly world birding and sport! Kevin's local knowledge and bird identification expertise ensured that we saw a huge number of birds during the tour and had a whole lot of fun along the way.

A total of 498 bird species were recorded during the 12.5 days birding during the tour. This included a number of highly sought-after Costa Rican and Chiriqui (shared with Western Panama) endemic resident species, many migratory species from both North and South America, and numerous rare, uncommon, or secretive species, with some of the major highlights of birds having been seen including Resplendent Quetzal, Three-wattled Bellbird, Scaled, Ochre-breasted, and Thicket Antpittas, Jabiru (including a nesting pair with three young), Agami Heron, Sungrebe, Yellow-breasted Crake, Rufous-necked Wood Rail, Pinnated and Least Bitterns, Highland Tinamou, Great Curassow, King Vulture, Black-collared Hawk, Pearl Kite, Black Skimmer, Scarlet and Great Green Macaws, Green-and-rufous Kingfisher, Tody Motmot, Keel-billed Motmot, Whitefronted Nunbird, Pied, White-necked, and White-whiskered Puffbirds, Zeledon's, Barecrowned, Spotted, Dusky, and Dull-mantled Antbirds, Black-faced, Black-headed, and Rufous-breasted Antthrushes, Grey-throated and Tawny-throated Leaftossers, Silveryfronted Tapaculo, Long-tailed, White-crowned, White-ruffed, and White-collared Manakins, Sharpbill, Lovely and Snowy Cotingas, Azure-hooded Jay, White-throated Magpie-Jay, Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher, Black-and-yellow Phainoptila, Song Wren, Northern Nightingale-Wren, Nicaraguan Seed Finch, nesting Golden-browed Chlorophonia, and not forgetting 24 species of tanagers (including Blue-and-gold, Emerald, Silver-throated, and Spangle-cheeked Tanagers), and 36 species of hummingbirds (including Coppery-headed Emerald, Violet Sabrewing, Snowcap, and **Black-crested Coquette).**

In addition to the above highlights we also did very well on nocturnal birds, with Pacific, Bare-shanked, and Vermiculated Screech Owls, several Black-and-white, Spectacled, and Striped Owls, three Great Potoos, Ferruginous and Central American Pygmy Owls, Chuck-will's-widow, and Lesser and Short-tailed Nighthawks all seen during the daylight hours. Furthermore, an interesting selection of Nearctic migrants were found either wintering or on passage. Some favorites included Chestnut-sided Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Ovenbird, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Wood Thrush, Painted Bunting, Broad-winged and Swainson's Hawks, and Turkey Vulture (a large visible migration of thousands of birds at Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge).

There was plenty of other interesting wildlife to keep us on our toes, including Hoffmann's two-toed sloth, brown-throated sloth, northern tamandua, mantled howler monkey, Geoffroy's (Central American) spider monkey, Colombian white-faced capuchin, numerous reptiles (including the stunning green basilisk), and plenty of gorgeous butterflies and moths. Complete lists are found at the end of this report for species identified.



Costa Rica 2017: Tour Report

Day 1, 13th March 2017: Arrival in San José

The group assembled in San José ready for a welcome evening meal, with participants arriving from New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Trinidad, and America. Those who arrived early enough got some birding in around the hotel, finding Pearl Kite, Cooper's Hawk, Zone-tailed Hawk, Laughing Falcon, Spot-bellied Bobwhite, Plain-capped Starthroat, Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, Olive Sparrow, and Nutting's Flycatcher.



Ferruginous Pygmy Owl

Day 2, 14th March 2017: Poás Volcano, La Paz Waterfall Gardens, and La Selva

We left our airport hotel and headed up the slopes of Poás Volcano. Our first stop was a hummingbird garden, where we found some real beauties: Magenta-throated Woodstar, Volcano Hummingbird, Lesser Violetear, and the huge Violet Sabrewing. Several other birds were noted in the small garden and included Mountain Thrush, Flame-colored Tanager, and Slaty Flowerpiercer. After moving a few kilometers further along the road a strategic stop produced the hoped-for (and now nesting) Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher. This is a really impressive bird, so we were rather pleased to see it so early in the trip, especially as this was our only chance to see one. However, it was probably overshadowed by the incredibly beautiful pair of Golden-browed Chlorophonia that we also found nesting at fairly close range. These birds gave fantastic prolonged views as they tended their nest. Yellow-thighed Finch, Collared Whitestart, and Prong-billed Barbet were also seen well here.



Driving higher up the volcano we found some rather smart birds, highlights including **Black-and-yellow Phainoptila**, **Flame-throated Warbler**, and **Large-footed Finch**. A distant **Bare-shanked Screech Owl** was noted calling down the valley but was a long way off.

It was getting close to lunchtime, so we drove across to La Paz Waterfall Gardens, home to an array of hummingbird feeders, some lush forests, and a rapidly-flowing river containing several waterfalls. Our first port of call was the hummingbird feeders, where we found several of the species we'd seen earlier in the morning but also plenty of new ones, such as the endemic Coppery-headed Emerald along with Black-bellied Hummingbird, Whitebellied Mountaingem, Green Hermit, Green Thorntail, and Green-crowned Brilliant. A walk along the river produced American Dipper and Green-fronted Lancebill, the latter feeding over the water, collecting tiny insects. Some impressive flocks were found here, containing Streak-breasted Treehunter. Lineated Foliage-gleaner, Woodcreeper, Spotted Barbtail, Red-faced Spinebill, Spangle-cheeked Tanager, Kentucky Warbler, Ovenbird, Golden-winged Warbler, Black-eared Warbler, and more.

Our final proper birding stop of the day, again at a feeding station, gave us our best views of the day, with **Passerini's**, **Silver-throated**, **Blue-grey**, **Palm**, and **Summer Tanagers** allowing good photographic opportunities.

We continued our journey to our base for the next three nights, La Selva Biological Station. At the entrance to the area we found **Great Green Macaw** and **Red-lored Amazon**, and as the sun went down **Pauraque** were on the road and outside of our rooms to end a memorable day.



Silver-throated Tanager



Day 3, 15th March 2017: La Selva Biological Station

After an early start we were out birding around our accommodation, where we quickly found Cinnamon Woodpecker, Black-cheeked Woodpecker, and Yellow-olive Flatbill. We soon moved onto the La Selva entrance road, where the birds came thick and fast, such as Pied Puffbird, Slaty-tailed Trogon, Yellow-throated Toucan, Keel-billed Toucan, Chestnut-colored Woodpecker, Pale-billed Woodpecker, and several woodcreepers, along with smaller birds like Black-faced Grosbeak, Band-tailed Barbthroat, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-crowned Euphonia, and Black-cowled Oriole.

After a breakfast interrupted by a few birds (Band-backed Wren and Golden-hooded Tanager being the best) and several rather heavy rain showers we started birding around the mosaic of trails in this large reserve. Highlights were many, but some of the best birds were Agami Heron, Great Curassow, Crested Guan, Great Tinamou, Double-toothed Kite, Semiplumbeous Hawk, Collared Aracari, Rufous Motmot, Broad-billed Motmot, Gartered Trogon, Slaty-tailed Trogon, Black-throated Trogon, Northern Mealy Amazon, White-crowned Parrot, Great Green Macaw, Northern Royal Flycatcher, Red-throated Ant Tanager, Dusky Antbird, Fasciated Antshrike, and Buff-rumped Warbler.

After lunch a siesta was in order before the afternoon's birding back in the forest. A male White-collared Manakin showed rather nicely, allowing great views of this rather stunning species. Two King Vultures gave prolonged overhead flight views, and several Great Curassows showed very well as they walked across some open areas – two of the many highlights of the day. Yet another soon followed when we found the diminutive Vermiculated Screech Owl on a day roost. We finished the day by the river, where we found Short-tailed Nighthawk and Bat Falcon.



Collared Aracari



Day 4, 16th March 2017: Braulio Carillo National Park area

A walk near our accommodation at dawn produced very nice views of a pair of White-fronted Nunbirds as well as Bay Wren, White-collared Manakin, and Bright-rumped Attila. The river provided great views of Green Ibis and Anhinga, with Yellow-throated Toucan, Keel-billed Toucan, and Red-lored Amazon all visiting a fruiting tree.

After breakfast we drove towards Braulio Carillo National Park, finding a perched Laughing Falcon, quickly followed by White-whiskered Puffbird, Fasciated Tiger Heron, Green Ibis, Buff-rumped Warbler and Orange-billed Sparrow.

A garden full of flowering *Verbena* gave us the opportunity to add some more new hummingbirds to our rapidly expanding list, with **Snowcap** and **Black-crested Coquette** jumping right to the top of the pile! Here we also found **Violet-headed Hummingbird**, **White-necked Jacobin**, and **Crowned Woodnymph**, but we were temporarily distracted by a migratory kettle of **Swainson's Hawk**, with the odd **Broad-winged Hawk** thrown in for good measure.

We then took a walk around the forest – typically difficult birding, but we found the odd bird of high quality, with the real highlight being Lattice-tailed Trogon. Males of both White-ruffed and White-crowned Manakins were found, and some subdued ant activity resulted in Black-faced Antthrush, Spotted Antbird, White-flanked Antwren, and Checker-throated Antwren being discovered. A mixed flock contained Black-faced Grosbeak, Tawny-crested Tanager, Emerald Tanager, Black-and-Yellow Tanager, Green Honeyeater, and Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, among other species.

After our picnic lunch and the morning's hike we had a relaxing afternoon of target birding and feeder stakeouts. By this process we found some seriously great birds, the top three being Thicket Antpitta, Spectacled Owl, and Great Potoo. We also got Rufous-naped Wood Rail, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Long-billed Hermit, Red-legged Honeyeater, Palevented Pigeon, Gartered Trogon, Montezuma and Chestnut-headed Oropendolas, Masked Tityra, and more!



Thicket Antpitta



Day 5, 17th March 2017: La Selva to Arenal Volcano

After breakfast we set off on our final walk at La Selva, seeing many of the same exciting species we'd seen the day before, such as **Great Curassow**, **Keel-billed Toucan**, and **Rufous Motmot**. We found several new birds for the trip and saw a few species we'd only heard previously, such as **Little Tinamou**, **Black-throated Wren**, **Stripe-breasted Wren**, and **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, with a rather nice **Hooded Warbler** seen too. We took a drive around some nearby farmland, where we had a few **Great Green Macaws** and **Red-lored Amazons** and a perched **Bat Falcon**. A **Giant Cowbird** was hanging around a **Montezuma Oropendola** nesting colony, and a **Western Osprey** went along the river, as did a small kettle of **Broad-winged Hawks**.

Our time in the La Selva area also resulted in a large list of non-avian highlights, including Central American agouti, collared peccary, mantled howler monkey, brown-throated (three-toed) sloth, eyelash pit viper, green iguana, and strawberry poison frog.



Great Curassow

We then drove toward our next destination at Arenal Volcano, making a stop along the way for lunch. Here we found a very confiding pair of White-throated Crakes as well as spectacular views of Yellow-throated Euphonia, Red-legged Honeycreeper, and Greyish Saltator. A brief walk at this site also yielded Yellow-crowned Night Heron, American Pygmy Kingfisher, Olivaceous Piculet, Black-and-white Warbler, and Wood Thrush. Here we also had the rather gaudy red-eyed treefrog.

As the afternoon progressed we headed up the Arenal Volcano, settled into our very nice rooms, and then started birding. A walk around the lodge grounds produced several good birds, such as **Great Curassow**, **Crested Guan**, **Emerald Tanager**, **Red-legged** and **Green**



Honeycreepers, White-breasted Wood Wren, Black-throated Wren, Stripe-breasted Wren, and Carmiol's Tanager. A fruiting tree attracted many species; Bay-headed Tanager was a new one for the trip, and Tropical Pewee was also present. The flowering bushes attracted many hummingbirds; Brown Violetear was a new one for us, and another adult male Black-crested Coquette was a welcome sight.

After a lovely three-course dinner we thought our list was finished for the day, only to discover a gorgeous **Black-and-white Owl** outside our rooms when we got back to them!

Day 6, 18th March 2017: Arenal Volcano

We awoke to rain, and unfortunately it persisted all morning, sometimes rather heavy, but at times stopping long enough for some birding. Prior to breakfast we added a few new birds like White-throated Thrush, Northern Waterthrush, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Black-striped Sparrow, Swainson's Thrush, Purple-crowned Fairy, Olive-striped Flycatcher, Lineated Woodpecker, and Scaly-breasted Hummingbird, along with several birds from the previous day like Great Curassow, Montezuma Oropendola, Green Honeycreeper, Red-legged Honeycreeper, and Emerald Tanager.

Due to the low clouds and persistent rain we decided to come down from the volcano to some slightly 'drier' areas, although rain still featured a little too much for our liking. Regardless, we pressed on and found several more new birds, like Pied-billed Grebe, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Black-headed Saltator, Yellow Tyrannulet, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Barecrowned Antbird, and Dull-mantled Antbird. Another day-roosting Great Potoo was also a pleasant surprise, though it looked rather wet and fed up.

Over a rather nice typical Costa Rican lunch we had excellent looks at **Swallow-tailed Kite** and a male **Scarlet-thighed Dacnis**. Driving back to our hotel for a siesta we had the magnificent sight of the giant **Barred Hawk** cruising over.

After our break (adding Yellow-faced Grassquit in front of our rooms) we headed back down the volcano, as the weather still wasn't good high up. This was a great move, as we stayed dry and found loads of excellent birds. Highlights from the afternoon included Keelbilled Motmot, Rufous-winged Woodpecker, Mourning Warbler, Great Antshrike, Barred Antshrike, Fasciated Antshrike, Russet Antshrike, Smokey Brown Woodpecker, and Vaux's Swift. A group of five Swallow-tailed Kites drifted over in the late-afternoon sun against a black sky and looked seriously impressive, and a nest-building Stripe-throated Hermit also proved popular.

As dusk approached we drove back up to our hotel, seeing several **Pauraque** along the way.

Day 7, 19th March 2017: Arenal Volcano to Caño Negro

A great morning was spent birding around our hotel on the slopes of Arenal Volcano. The weather through the night and the early morning was worrying, and we were fully expecting to be rained off again. However, as our meeting time arrived the rain stopped and the wind dropped. Heading out into the damp forest we were soon watching several great birds: Wood Thrush, Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, Song Wren, Louisiana Waterthrush, Tawny-faced Gnatwren, Semiplumbeous Hawk, and Rufous Motmot. Not a bad haul before breakfast!

After breakfast we spent some time around the edge habitat at our hotel, enjoying the spectacular landscape views and plenty of **Swallow-tailed Kites**. Other highlights included



the rare and localized Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet, which showed remarkably well. We also enjoyed watching a pair of Golden-olive Woodpeckers excavating two nest holes. Back in the same forest we'd visited earlier we found a few new birds, such as Streak-crowned Antvireo, Slaty Antwren, Collared ('Orange-bellied') Trogon, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, and Black-and-yellow Tanager.

Late in the morning we left the volcano to start our drive toward Caño Negro. First we visited some marshland, where we found Nicaraguan Seed Finch, complete with its huge, pink bill, Thick-billed Seed Finch, Blue-black Grassquit, and the localized Ruddy-breasted Seedeater. Here we also saw Ringed, Amazon, and Green Kingfishers, Bare-throated Tiger Heron, and our first of at least 26 Green Herons. Finsch's and Orange-chinned Parakeets showed well, as did Roadside Hawk, Grey-crowned Yellowthroat, Orchard Oriole, nesting Green-breasted Mango, Solitary Sandpiper, and Greater Yellowlegs.

Our last birding stop of the day was one of the highlights of the whole tour for many people and involved an afternoon boat ride through some marshy areas near the Nicaraguan border. New birds and very high quality birds were on offer, and we succeeded in getting good views of all of our targets and a few nice surprises, such as Sungrebe, Yellow-breasted Crake, Pinnated Bittern, Least Bittern, Nicaraguan Grackle, Red-breasted Blackbird, Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, Purple Gallinule, Northern Jacana, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Great Blue, Little Blue, Tricolored, and Green Herons, Great, Snowy, and Western Cattle Egrets, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, American White Ibis, Wood Stork, Anhinga, Neotropic Cormorant, Green, Amazon, Ringed and Belted Kingfishers, Canebrake Wren, and Common, Olive-crowned, and Grey-crowned Yellowthroats.



Green-breasted Mango (Phone-scoped Swarovski ATX 95 and IPhone 7)



As darkness fell we commenced the drive to our hotel, stopping along the way for close views of **Great Potoo**, **Black-and-white Owl**, and a gorgeous **Striped Owl** to end what turned out to be a fantastic day with 170 species logged!

Day 8, 20th March 2017: Caño Negro to Heliconias Lodge

After yesterday's really big day list and enjoyable boat trip we awoke at Caño Negro full of anticipation for another great day, and it didn't disappoint, with the first bird of the morning being a confiding Pacific Screech Owl in our hotel garden. A walk around the village gave us two restricted-range species, and both showed well: Grey-headed Dove (alongside White-tipped and White-winged Doves to allow ample comparison) and Spot-breasted Wren, which sat up for all to see.

After breakfast we headed out on our morning boat ride. We had several big targets, and gradually they all fell into place. After views of multiple Ringed, Amazon, Green, and American Pygmy Kingfisher we found our main kingfisher target, Green-and-rufous Kingfisher, which showed well, and this meant that we'd completed the set of all American kingfishers for the tour. Unfortunately, a pair of Snowy Cotinga didn't play the game and just flew through. Other interest along this section of river included another Sungrebe, Mangrove Cuckoo, Nicaraguan Grackle, Rufous-naped Wood Rail, Black-headed Trogon, and the bizarre-looking Boat-billed Heron.



Sungrebe

Heading out into a marshy area we found several new and exciting species. Top of the list here were the four **Jabirus** that were circling low before landing at the back of the marsh. These are seriously enormous birds, especially when seen in flight next to the large **Wood Stork** or walking along next to cows! We also had good looks at a perched, local, and rare **Black-collared Hawk**, many **Roseate Spoonbills**, **Glossy Ibis**, **Tricolored**, **Little Blue**,



Great Blue, Green, and more Boat-billed Herons, and Black-crowned Night Heron, Snowy Egret, and Great Egret. As we headed back to the dock a juvenile Snail Kite and another Black-collared Hawk flew over. Although we'd seen some fantastic, rare, and localized birds here, one of the special memories that will stay with us from here involves a common species, Turkey Vulture. During our morning on the river we got to witness thousands of these birds migrating in huge towering kettles as they made their way north, a highly impressive sight. While in this area we also saw Geoffroy's (Central American) spider monkey and dozens of common (spectacled) caimans.

In the late morning, after a short break back at our hotel, we grabbed some food, made a picnic of sorts, and started our drive to the Caribbean foothills and our next location, Heliconias Lodge. A strategic stop along the way proved very worthwhile; here we found the rather vocal and particularly scarce Central American Pygmy Owl that eventually gave fantastic views. We also saw the gorgeous White Hawk, Short-tailed Hawk, and Swallow-tailed Kite in the air here, while the forest contained White-ruffed Manakin, Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner, and Golden-winged Warbler.

In the late afternoon we checked into our new hotel and took a walk around the hotel grounds. By now it was quite windy, so these were not ideal conditions, but this didn't stop us from seeing a pair of the very localized **Tody Motmot**, although a **Long-tailed Manakin** frustratingly remained out of sight – views of this one would have to wait.

Day 9, 21st March 2017: Heliconias Lodge to Hacienda Solimar

We awoke to find ourselves surrounded by low clouds with strong wind. These were conditions far from ideal for birding, especially when the light drizzle started. We headed out for a short pre-breakfast walk, hearing some good birds but having no luck with seeing them, and so Purplish-backed Quail-Dove, Northern Nightingale-Wren, and Yellow-eared Toucanet remained frustratingly elusive. We did get views of Ovenbird, Wood Thrush, and Grey-chested Dove, though.

After breakfast we walked a loop trail near our hotel. It was again difficult birding due to the weather with Yellow-eared Toucanet, Northern Schiffornis, and Green Shrike-Vireo all remaining out of sight. However, Tody Motmot, Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, and Northern Nightingale-Wren showed well, and the real highlight was a Chuck-will's-widow that was found roosting halfway up a tree. Brilliant to be able to see this nocturnal uncommon migrant during the day! We also saw Spotted Antbird, Tawny-crowned Greenlet, Bright-rumped Attila, and Golden-crowned Warbler here. A Central American dwarf squirrel ran through the forest like a bolt of lightning, but paused briefly, allowing everybody to see it.





Tody Motmot (Phone-scoped Swarovski ATX 95 and IPhone 7)

In the mid morning, with no sign of the weather improving, we cut our losses and started our journey into the Pacific lowlands. A brief stop at an area of dry forest gave us a lesson in *Myiarchus* flycatcher identification, with **Great Crested**, **Brown-crested**, and **Nutting's Flycatchers** all in evidence at the same time! Here we also had **Banded Wren**, **White-lored Gnatcatcher**, **Canivet's Emerald**, **Yellow-olive Flatbill**, **Blue Grosbeak**, and **Scrub Euphonia**.

After reaching our new accommodation at Hacienda Solimar and taking a short rest through the heat of the middle of the afternoon we birded the dry Pacific lowlands for the first time. This site, a working farm with several wetland areas, is a paradise for birds, and it was fantastic driving around and finding great bird after great bird. Some highlights from the afternoon included Limpkin, Jabiru, Double-striped Thick-knee, Southern Lapwing, Glossy Ibis, Boat-billed Heron, Bare-throated Tiger Heron, Muscovy Duck, Harris's Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Ferruginous Pygmy Owl (with Barn Swallow prey in claws), Lesser Nighthawk, Yellow-naped Amazon, White-fronted Amazon, Orange-fronted Parakeet, Streak-backed Oriole, Spot-breasted Oriole, and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. We also got to see one of the most impressive sunsets of the tour while watching three large Jabiru chicks standing on their nest and scores of very vocal Black-bellied Whistling Ducks circling overhead, definitely another trip highlight.





Double-striped Thick-knee

Day 10, 22nd March 2017: Hacienda Solimar to Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve

A pre-breakfast walk along a dry riverbed gave us several new trip birds and further views at a number of others, with Long-tailed Manakin, Thicket Tinamou (for a lucky few), White-necked Puffbird, Turquoise-browed Motmot, Steely-vented Hummingbird, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Black-headed Trogon, Yellow-green Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Lesser Nighthawk, Olive Sparrow, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Streaked Flycatcher, Rufous-capped Warbler, and Grey-headed Kite all seen well.

Back at our hotel we found a roosting Pacific Screech Owl, White-throated Magpie-Jay, and Least Grebe. We took another drive around the farm, seeing most of what we'd seen the previous evening, We heard Lesser Ground Cuckoo but couldn't entice it out, but imitation of Ferruginous Pygmy Owl brought in a number of birds, such as Streak-backed Oriole, Oriole, Plain-capped Starthroat, **Steely-vented Baltimore** and **Ruby-throated** Hummingbirds. Scrub Euphonia, Red-legged Honeycreeper, **Sulphur-bellied** Flycatcher, Philadelphia, Yellow-throated, and Yellow-green Vireos, and Tropical Pewee.

Driving back to the hotel for lunch we saw Peregrine Falcon, Snail Kite, American Kestrel, Western Osprey, and Roadside Hawk, all making use of the wonderful habitat here. A pair of adult Jabirus was scoped not too far from the nest we had observed the previous day. Further very close views of Limpkin, Double-striped Thick-knee, and many other quality birds were had, and a pair of Collared Plovers were new for the trip. There also was plenty of non-avian interest during our time here, highlights including Colombian white-



faced capuchin, American Crocodile, common spiny-tailed iguana, crab-eating raccoon, and northern tamandua.

After a wonderful lunch we left the Pacific lowlands, heading back into the mountains to the world-famous birding area that is Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. As with most of our time at elevation it was cooler and wetter, but the drizzle didn't stop us from enjoying several new species, with great views of **Black-breasted Wood Quail** being right up there. We found a few **Lesson's Motmots** to complete the set of Costa Rican motmots, **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush** in full song sat out in the open for quite a while, and a couple of pairs of both **White-eared Ground Sparrow** and **White-naped Brushfinch** eventually showed well. A pair of **Blue-throated Toucanets** flew into view, sitting out in the open to allow good, close-range scope views.



Lesson's Motmot (Phone-scoped Swarovski ATX 95 and IPhone 7)

Day 11, 23rd March 2017: Monteverde, Santa Elena, San Gerardo Field Station

We awoke to wind, more rain, and low clouds and were a bit concerned about our chances of finding our highly-prized target. We needed not have worried, though, as a little after 30 minutes of waiting beside a fruiting tree near our hotel we found three **Resplendent Quetzals** (two male and one female). They were wet, and so were we, but who cares when you are looking at one of the most beautiful birds on the planet. We watched them feeding and listened to them calling for a good length of time.





Resplendent Quetzal (Phone-scoped Swarovski ATX 95 and IPhone 7)

It's hard to get distracted while you are watching a quetzal, but there were a few species trying their best to put us off, and eventually, as the quetzals moved down the valley and out of sight, we took a look at some of the other birds that were around. The best species was Azure-hooded Jay; at least three of these secretive and difficult-to-find forest corvids came marauding through and were gone as quickly as they had appeared. Several Black Guans were more sedate, allowing great views as they fed in the same fruiting trees we'd previously enjoyed while looking at the quetzal. White-throated Thrush, Mountain Thrush, and Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush were all seen (the latter only briefly by a few). Despite the rain we found a few hummingbirds coming to some sheltered feeders and enjoyed seeing some birds we'd seen much earlier in the tour, like Coppery-headed Emerald, Lesser Violetear, Green-crowned Brilliant, and Violet Sabrewing.

After breakfast we checked out of our hotel for the Santa Elena Reserve. There still were very poor weather conditions, but nevertheless we set off in the hope of finding something interesting. A mixed flock at the visitors' center was a good start, and we got good looks at



Spotted Barbtail, Red-faced Spinebill, Common Bush Tanager, Black-eared Warbler, Collared Whitestart, Northern Tufted Flycatcher, and Golden-winged Warbler. Further walking in the rain yielded Black-throated Green Warbler, Grey-breasted Wood Wren, Ruddy Treerunner, Slaty-backed and Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrushes, Yellow-thighed Finch, Barred Becard, Collared ('Orange-bellied') Trogon, and the super-skulking Silvery-fronted Tapaculo. A rather sorry-looking (and rather drenched) Hoffmann's two-toed sloth was also found in the treetops here.

As lunchtime approached it was also a good time to shelter from the rain and warm ourselves up, as well as prepare for our hike down to the San Gerardo Field Station, our base for the next two nights. As luck would have it the rain stopped and the wind died down for the majority of our descent, and over the course of the three-hour walk we picked up some seriously good birds. Highlights included **Bare-shanked Screech Owl** that flew in to check us out and proceeded to show fantastically well with its large, bright-yellow eyes glaring at us as we watched in awe, **Three-wattled Bellbird** sitting atop a tree from which it was singing, a pair of feeding and fighting **Grey-throated Leaftossers**, a couple of **Zeledon's Antbirds**, several **Silvery-fronted Tapaculos**, multiple **Blue-throated Toucanets**, and a lone but rather vocal **Golden-bellied Flycatcher**. We arrived at the field station in perfect time, just as the rain started up again.

Despite the difficult birding and hiking conditions we ended up with a good list of high-quality birds during the day.

Day 12, 24th March 2017: San Gerardo Field Station

On waking up it was clear that the weather situation had not improved. We took an early breakfast and waited for an improvement in the mist/wind/rain. As we were getting our boots on our attention was drawn to a large bird that stood in the trail head, and our first bird of the day was a huge Scaled Antpitta! The bird showed well for 20 minutes or so as it fed on the trail. Then there was a perceived improvement in the weather conditions, so we set off on our morning walk. Highland Tinamou was calling but not close enough to get to, as was Thicket Antpitta (but there was no chance of bettering our previous views, so we didn't even try to see it!). Eve-ringed Flatbill moved through rather quickly, and a short while later Brown-billed Scythebill and Slaty-capped Flycatcher flew into view, the scythebill showing rather well. A singing Three-wattled Bellbird, viewed through the scope, was also a very special sight. We continued walking through this pristine forest, some of the best in Costa Rica, and before long we were looking face to face at a pair of the tiny Ochrebreasted Antpitta and shortly thereafter at Black-headed Antthrush, which walked around giving nice views. Not a bad selection of birds for before 9 a.m.! A very small mixed flock contained another Slaty-capped Flycatcher, Kentucky Warbler, Tawny-crowned Greenlet, Golden-crowned Warbler, and Stripe-breasted Wren, with Spotted Antbird and Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush also close by. Black Guan, Crested Guan, and Great Curassow were also found foraging in fruiting trees, along with several species of thrush.

As we made our descent back to the lodge in time for lunch we hit a rather interesting mixed flock of good size and species make-up. The big highlights of this flock were the uncommon Sharpbill, a stunning Red-headed Barbet, and Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner, but there were also plenty of repeat views to be had of other species, such as Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner, Red-faced Spinetail, Spotted Woodcreeper, Ruddy Treerunner, Lesser Greenlet, Black-and-white Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, and Rufous-tailed



Jacamar. With that great flock under our belt we hiked back to the accommodation for lunch, stopping for a Tawny-throated Leaftosser and another Three-wattled Bellbird along the way.

After a long hike yesterday and again this morning we took a relaxed and gentle walk near the accommodation during the afternoon. Luckily, we found a decent flock not far away. Here we enjoyed watching Rufous-browed Tyrannulet, Azure-hooded Jay (improving from our views yesterday), Red-headed Barbet, Blackburnian and Golden-winged Warblers, Tawny-capped Euphonia, Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant, Golden-bellied Flycatcher, Russet Antshrike, Blue-throated Toucanet, Collared ('Orange-bellied') Trogon, and Squirrel Cuckoo.

As dusk approached we moved to the balcony of the accommodation, had a nice drink of rum, and added **Brown-hooded Parrot** to our list.



Ochre-breasted Antpittas

Day 13, 25th March 2017: San Gerardo Field Station to Puntarenas

Our pre-breakfast birding walk was again very successful, and it was even dry for the most part of it, a nice change from the last few days! It was interesting walking the same area we had done the previous day, but there was a lot more song audible. One of the species was Northern Nightingale-Wren, a beautiful songster that showed at a few meters. Next up was the uncommon and restricted-range Blue-and-gold Tanager, which showed well at close range. Into the forest we saw Highland Tinamou, Sharpbill, Grey-throated and Tawny-throated Leaftossers, White-throated Spadebill, Eye-ringed Flatbill, Black-thighed Grosbeak, Black-headed Antthrush, and an inquisitive Great Curassow that walked right up to us. Soon it was time for breakfast, so we headed back to the field station, and a female Lovely Cotinga graced the paddock along the way.



After breakfast we needed to get back up the mountain. Some walked all the way, some walked and then jumped on the back of an ATV, and others (the sensible ones) took an ATV all the way to the top. Those that walked were rewarded with a couple of good birds (Three-wattled Bellbird [our closest views yet], Swainson's Thrush, and Black Hawk-Eagle) and one great one, Rufous-breasted Antthrush, which made us work but rewarded us highly.



Three-wattled Bellbird (Phone-scoped Swarovski ATX 95 and IPhone 7)

Then we commenced our drive down to the Pacific lowlands, stopping along the coast near Puntarenas. Here we found **Brown Pelican**, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, **Royal** and **Elegant**



Terns, Laughing Gull (some in full breeding plumage), Willet, and Whimbrel. A short while later we arrived at our hotel with stunning views of the Gulf of Nicoya and the Nicoya Peninsula. Great views of Scarlet Macaw and Turquoise-browed Motmot were had in the hotel grounds, and as we watched a gorgeous sunset the sound of Ferruginous Pygmy Owl rang out and several Lesser Nighthawks started hawking.

We enjoyed out final evening meal of the tour and reminisced on some of the many tour highlights, including the votes for bird of the trip: **Resplendent Quetzal** (Su), **Collared** ('Orange-bellied') **Trogon** (John), **Three-wattled Bellbird** (Stuart, Don, and Kay), **Turquoise-browed Motmot** (Tim), and **Violet Sabrewing** (Rosemary).



Scarlet Macaw

Day 14, 26th March 2017: Puntarenas to San José, and tour concludes

As the final morning of the tour dawned we were already up and having breakfast, ready to head out for a final look for more new birds. In some scrub and mangroves we found some great birds like Lesser Ground Cuckoo, Cinnamon Hummingbird, Stripe-headed Sparrow, Turquoise-browed Motmot, Black-headed Trogon, Indigo and Painted Buntings (the latter a stunning male), Northern Scrub Flycatcher, Panamanian Flycatcher, Mangrove Warbler, and American Redstart.

Our final birding stop was at a small, unassuming area of saltpans. Here we got some incredible views of lots of new shorebirds and terns, all at close range. However, before that a perched **Pearl Kite** gave prolonged views and was probably breeding in the area. Highlights from the saltpans included **Black Skimmer**, **Stilt Sandpiper**, **Short-billed Dowitcher**, **Willet**, **Marbled Godwit**, **Western**, **Semipalmated**, and **Least Sandpipers**, and **Grey**, **Semipalmated**, and (rather amorous) **Wilson's Plovers**. **Western Osprey**, **Royal Tern**,



Cabot's Tern, and Magnificent Frigatebirds were overhead, while Gull-billed Terns flew in and landed, a few in complete breeding plumage. We took a quick look inside some adjacent mangroves, and in no time at all we were eye-to-eye with the uncommon Rufousnecked Wood Rail, a very nice bonus bird and always a treat to see.

Then we started our journey back to San José, stopping for lunch along the way, and as luck would have it there was a nesting pair of **White-necked Puffbirds** in the restaurant car park. They gave excellent, close views, proving a fitting end to the tour. On reaching San José the tour concluded.



White-necked Puffbird



COSTA RICA 2017 BIRD LIST

Bold = Country Endemic

Status: CR = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near-threatened, I = Introduced

Common Name (IOC 7.01)	Scientific Name (IOC 7.01)	Trip
	TINAMIFORMES	
<u>Tinamous</u>	<u>Tinamidae</u>	
Great Tinamou (NT)	Tinamus major	1
Highland Tinamou	Nothocercus bonapartei	1
Little Tinamou	Crypturellus soui	1
Thicket Tinamou	Crypturellus cinnamomeus	1
Slaty-breasted Tinamou	Crypturellus boucardi	1
	ANSERIFORMES	
Ducks, Geese and Swans	<u>Anatidae</u>	
Black-bellied Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna autumnalis	1
Muscovy Duck	Cairina moschata	1
Blue-winged Teal	Anas discors	1
	GALLIFORMES	
Chachalacas, Curassows and Guans	<u>Cracidae</u>	
Grey-headed Chachalaca	Ortalis cinereiceps	1
Crested Guan	Penelope purpurascens	1
Black Guan (NT)	Chamaepetes unicolor	1
Great Curassow (VU)	Crax rubra	1
New World Quail	Odontophoridae	
Spot-bellied Bobwhite	Colinus leucopogon	1
Black-breasted Wood Quail	Odontophorus leucolaemus	1
	PODICIPEDIFORMES	
Grebes	<u>Podicipedidae</u>	
Least Grebe	Tachybaptus dominicus	1
Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps	1
	CICONIIFORMES	
<u>Storks</u>	<u>Ciconiidae</u>	
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	1
Jabiru	Jabiru mycteria	1
	PELECANIFORMES	
Ibises, Spoonbills	Threskiornithidae	
Green Ibis	Mesembrinibis cayennensis	1
American White Ibis	Eudocimus albus	1
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	1
Roseate Spoonbill	Platalea ajaja	1
Herons, Bitterns	Ardeidae	



Fasciated Tiger Heron	Tigrisoma fasciatum	1
Bare-throated Tiger Heron	Tigrisoma mexicanum	1
Agami Heron (VU)	Agamia agami	1
Boat-billed Heron	Cochlearius cochlearius	1
Pinnated Bittern	Botaurus pinnatus	1
Least Bittern	Ixobrychus exilis	1
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	Nyctanassa violacea	1
Green Heron	Butorides virescens	1
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	1
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	1
Great Egret	Ardea alba	1
Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor	1
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	1
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	1
Pelicans	Pelecanidae Pelecanidae	
Brown Pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis	1
	SULIFORMES	
Frigatebirds	Fregatidae	
Magnificent Frigatebird	Fregata magnificens	1
Gannets, Boobies	<u>Sulidae</u>	
Brown Booby	Sula leucogaster	1
Cormorants, Shags	Phalacrocoracidae	
Neotropic Cormorant	Phalacrocorax brasilianus	1
Anhingas, Darters	Anhingidae	
Anhinga	Anhinga anhinga	1
	ACCIPITRIFORMES	
New World Vultures	<u>Cathartidae</u>	
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	1
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	Cathartes burrovianus	1
Black Vulture	Coragyps atratus	1
King Vulture	Sarcoramphus papa	1
Ospreys	Pandionidae	
Western Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	1
Kites, Hawks and Eagles	Accipitridae	
White-tailed Kite	Elanus leucurus	1
Pearl Kite	Gampsonyx swainsonii	1
Grey-headed Kite	Leptodon cayanensis	1
Swallow-tailed Kite	Elanoides forficatus	1
Black Hawk-Eagle	Spizaetus tyrannus	1
Double-toothed Kite	Harpagus bidentatus	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	1



Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	1
Black-collared Hawk	Busarellus nigricollis	1
Snail Kite	Rostrhamus sociabilis	1
Common Black Hawk	Buteogallus anthracinus	1
Barred Hawk	Morphnarchus princeps	1
Roadside Hawk	Rupornis magnirostris	1
Harris's Hawk	Parabuteo unicinctus	1
White Hawk	Pseudastur albicollis	1
Semiplumbeous Hawk	Leucopternis semiplumbeus	1
Grey Hawk	Buteo plagiatus	1
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	1
Short-tailed Hawk	Buteo brachyurus	1
Swainson's Hawk	Buteo swainsoni	1
Zone-tailed Hawk	Buteo albonotatus	1
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	1
	GRUIFORMES	
Finfoots	<u>Heliornithidae</u>	
Sungrebe	Heliornis fulica	1
Rails, Crakes and Coots	<u>Rallidae</u>	
White-throated Crake	Laterallus albigularis	1
Rufous-necked Wood Rail	Aramides axillaris	1
Rufous-naped Wood Rail	Aramides albiventris	1
Yellow-breasted Crake	Porzana flaviventer	1
Purple Gallinule	Porphyrio martinica	1
<u>Limpkin</u>	<u>Aramidae</u>	
Limpkin	Aramus guarauna	1
	CHARADRIIFORMES	
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees	<u>Burhinidae</u>	
Double-striped Thick-knee	Burhinus bistriatus	1
Stilts, Avocets	Recurvirostridae	
Black-necked Stilt	Himantopus mexicanus	1
<u>Plovers</u>	<u>Charadriidae</u>	
Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis	1
Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	1
Semipalmated Plover	Charadrius semipalmatus	1
Wilson's Plover	Charadrius wilsonia	1
Collared Plover	Charadrius collaris	1
<u>Jacanas</u>	<u>Jacanidae</u>	
Northern Jacana	Jacana spinosa	1
Sandpipers, Snipes	<u>Scolopacidae</u>	
Short-billed Dowitcher	Limnodromus griseus	1
Marbled Godwit	Limosa fedoa	1



Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	1
Greater Yellowlegs	Tringa melanoleuca	1
Solitary Sandpiper	Tringa solitaria	1
Willet	Tringa semipalmata	1
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius	1
Semipalmated Sandpiper (NT)	Calidris pusilla	1
Western Sandpiper	Calidris mauri	1
Least Sandpiper	Calidris minutilla	1
Stilt Sandpiper	Calidris himantopus	1
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers	<u>Laridae</u>	
Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger	1
Laughing Gull	Leucophaeus atricilla	1
Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	1
Royal Tern	Thalasseus maximus	1
Elegant Tern (NT)	Thalasseus elegans	1
Cabot's Tern	Thalasseus acuflavidus	1
	COLUMBIFORMES	
Pigeons, Doves	Columbidae	
Rock Dove (I)	Columba livia	1
Band-tailed Pigeon	Patagioenas fasciata	1
Pale-vented Pigeon	Patagioenas cayennensis	1
Red-billed Pigeon	Patagioenas flavirostris	1
Ruddy Pigeon (VU)	Patagioenas subvinacea	1
Short-billed Pigeon	Patagioenas nigrirostris	1
Inca Dove	Columbina inca	1
Common Ground Dove	Columbina passerina	1
Plain-breasted Ground Dove	Columbina minuta	1
Ruddy Ground Dove	Columbina talpacoti	1
White-tipped Dove	Leptotila verreauxi	1
Grey-headed Dove	Leptotila plumbeiceps	1
Grey-chested Dove	Leptotila cassinii	1
Purplish-backed Quail-Dove	Zentrygon lawrencii	1
White-winged Dove	Zenaida asiatica	1
	CUCULIFORMES	
Cuckoos	<u>Cuculidae</u>	
Groove-billed Ani	Crotophaga sulcirostris	1
Lesser Ground Cuckoo	Morococcyx erythropygus	1
Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana	1
Mangrove Cuckoo	Coccyzus minor	1
	STRIGIFORMES	
Owls	<u>Strigidae</u>	
Pacific Screech Owl	Megascops cooperi	1



Bare-shanked Screech Owl	Megascops clarkii	1
Vermiculated Screech Owl	Megascops vermiculatus	1
Black-and-white Owl	Strix nigrolineata	1
Spectacled Owl	Pulsatrix perspicillata	1
Central American Pygmy Owl	Glaucidium griseiceps	1
Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	Glaucidium brasilianum	1
Striped Owl	Pseudoscops clamator	1
_	CAPRIMULGIFORMES	
Potoos	Nyctibiidae	
Great Potoo	Nyctibius grandis	1
<u>Nightjars</u>	<u>Caprimulgidae</u>	
Lesser Nighthawk	Chordeiles acutipennis	1
Short-tailed Nighthawk	Lurocalis semitorquatus	1
Pauraque	Nyctidromus albicollis	1
Chuck-will's-widow	Antrostomus carolinensis	1
	APODIFORMES	
<u>Swifts</u>	<u>Apodidae</u>	
White-collared Swift	Streptoprocne zonaris	1
Grey-rumped Swift	Chaetura cinereiventris	1
Vaux's Swift	Chaetura vauxi	1
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift	Panyptila cayennensis	1
Hummingbirds	<u>Trochilidae</u>	
Band-tailed Barbthroat	Threnetes ruckeri	1
Green Hermit	Phaethornis guy	1
Long-billed Hermit	Phaethornis longirostris	1
Stripe-throated Hermit	Phaethornis striigularis	1
Green-fronted Lancebill	Doryfera ludovicae	1
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	Phaeochroa cuvierii	1
Violet Sabrewing	Campylopterus hemileucurus	1
White-necked Jacobin	Florisuga mellivora	1
Brown Violetear	Colibri delphinae	1
Lesser Violetear	Colibri cyanotus	1
Green-breasted Mango	Anthracothorax prevostii	1
Violet-headed Hummingbird	Klais guimeti	1
Black-crested Coquette	Lophornis helenae	1
Green Thorntail	Discosura conversii	1
Canivet's Emerald	Chlorostilbon canivetii	1
Fiery-throated Hummingbird	Panterpe insignis	1
Coppery-headed Emerald	Elvira cupreiceps	1
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	Eupherusa eximia	1
Black-bellied Hummingbird	Eupherusa nigriventris	1
Crowned Woodnymph	Thalurania colombica	1



Blue-throated Sapphire	Hylocharis eliciae	1
Cinnamon Hummingbird	Amazilia rutila	1
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	Amazilia tzacatl	1
Blue-chested Hummingbird	Amazilia amabilis	1
Steely-vented Hummingbird	Amazilia saucerottei	1
Snowcap	Microchera albocoronata	1
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer	Chalybura urochrysia	1
White-bellied Mountaingem	Lampornis hemileucus	1
Purple-throated Mountaingem	Lampornis calolaemus	1
Green-crowned Brilliant	Heliodoxa jacula	1
Admirable Hummingbird	Eugenes spectabilis	1
Purple-crowned Fairy	Heliothryx barroti	1
Plain-capped Starthroat	Heliomaster constantii	1
Magenta-throated Woodstar	Calliphlox bryantae	1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	1
Volcano Hummingbird	Selasphorus flammula	1
	TROGONIFORMES	
Trogons	<u>Trogonidae</u>	
Resplendent Quetzal (NT)	Pharomachrus mocinno	1
Lattice-tailed Trogon	Trogon clathratus	1
Slaty-tailed Trogon	Trogon massena	1
Black-headed Trogon	Trogon melanocephalus	1
Gartered Trogon	Trogon caligatus	1
Black-throated Trogon	Trogon rufus	1
Collared Trogon	Trogon collaris	1
	CORACIIFORMES	
<u>Kingfishers</u>	Alcedinidae	
American Pygmy Kingfisher	Chloroceryle aenea	1
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	Chloroceryle inda	1
Green Kingfisher	Chloroceryle americana	1
Amazon Kingfisher	Chloroceryle amazona	1
Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata	1
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	1
Motmots	<u>Momotidae</u>	
Tody Motmot	Hylomanes momotula	1
Lesson's Motmot	Momotus lessonii	1
Rufous Motmot	Baryphthengus martii	1
Keel-billed Motmot (VU)	Electron carinatum	1
Broad-billed Motmot	Electron platyrhynchum	1
Turquoise-browed Motmot	Eumomota superciliosa	1
	PICIFORMES	
<u>Jacamars</u>	<u>Galbulidae</u>	



Rufous-tailed Jacamar	Galbula ruficauda	1
<u>Puffbirds</u>	Bucconidae	
White-necked Puffbird	Notharchus hyperrhynchus	1
Pied Puffbird	Notharchus tectus	1
White-whiskered Puffbird	Malacoptila panamensis	1
White-fronted Nunbird	Monasa morphoeus	1
New World Barbets	Capitonidae	
Red-headed Barbet	Eubucco bourcierii	1
Toucan Barbets	Semnornithidae	
Prong-billed Barbet	Semnornis frantzii	1
Toucans	Ramphastidae	
Blue-throated Toucanet	Aulacorhynchus caeruleogularis	1
Collared Aracari	Pteroglossus torquatus	1
Yellow-eared Toucanet	Selenidera spectabilis	1
Keel-billed Toucan	Ramphastos sulfuratus	1
Yellow-throated Toucan (NT)	Ramphastos ambiguus	1
Woodpeckers	Picidae	
Olivaceous Piculet	Picumnus olivaceus	1
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	Melanerpes pucherani	1
Hoffmann's Woodpecker	Melanerpes hoffmannii	1
Smoky-brown Woodpecker	Leuconotopicus fumigatus	1
Rufous-winged Woodpecker	Piculus simplex	1
Golden-olive Woodpecker	Colaptes rubiginosus	1
Cinnamon Woodpecker	Celeus loricatus	1
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker	Celeus castaneus	1
Lineated Woodpecker	Dryocopus lineatus	1
Pale-billed Woodpecker	Campephilus guatemalensis	1
•	FALCONIFORMES	
Caracaras, Falcons	Falconidae	
Northern Crested Caracara	Caracara cheriway	1
Yellow-headed Caracara	Milvago chimachima	1
Laughing Falcon	Herpetotheres cachinnans	1
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	1
Merlin	Falco columbarius	1
Bat Falcon	Falco rufigularis	1
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	1
	PSITTACIFORMES	
African & New World Parrots	<u>Psittacidae</u>	
Orange-chinned Parakeet	Brotogeris jugularis	1
Brown-hooded Parrot	Pyrilia haematotis	1
White-crowned Parrot	Pionus senilis	1
White-fronted Amazon	Amazona albifrons	1



Red-lored Amazon	Amazona autumnalis	1
Yellow-naped Amazon (VU)	Amazona auropalliata	1
Northern Mealy Amazon (NT)	Amazona guatemalae	1
Olive-throated Parakeet	Eupsittula nana	1
Orange-fronted Parakeet	Eupsittula canicularis	1
Great Green Macaw (EN)	Ara ambiguus	1
Scarlet Macaw	Ara macao	1
Finsch's Parakeet	Psittacara finschi	1
	PASSERIFORMES	
<u>Ovenbirds</u>	<u>Furnariidae</u>	
Slaty Spinetail	Synallaxis brachyura	1
Red-faced Spinetail	Cranioleuca erythrops	1
Spotted Barbtail	Premnoplex brunnescens	1
Ruddy Treerunner	Margarornis rubiginosus	1
Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner	Anabacerthia variegaticeps	1
Lineated Foliage-gleaner	Syndactyla subalaris	1
Streak-breasted Treehunter	Thripadectes rufobrunneus	1
Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner	Automolus ochrolaemus	1
Tawny-throated Leaftosser	Sclerurus mexicanus	1
Grey-throated Leaftosser (NT)	Sclerurus albigularis	1
Plain Xenops	Xenops minutus	1
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	Dendrocincla fuliginosa	1
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	Glyphorynchus spirurus	1
Northern Barred Woodcreeper	Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae	1
Cocoa Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus susurrans	1
Spotted Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus erythropygius	1
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes souleyetii	1
Brown-billed Scythebill	Campylorhamphus pusillus	1
<u>Antbirds</u>	Thamnophilidae	
Fasciated Antshrike	Cymbilaimus lineatus	1
Great Antshrike	Taraba major	1
Barred Antshrike	Thamnophilus doliatus	1
Black-crowned Antshrike	Thamnophilus atrinucha	1
Russet Antshrike	Thamnistes anabatinus	1
Plain Antvireo	Dysithamnus mentalis	1
Streak-crowned Antvireo	Dysithamnus striaticeps	1
Checker-throated Antwren	Epinecrophylla fulviventris	1
White-flanked Antwren	Myrmotherula axillaris	1
Slaty Antwren	Myrmotherula schisticolor	1
Dusky Antbird	Cercomacra tyrannina	1
Bare-crowned Antbird	Gymnocichla nudiceps	1
Dull-mantled Antbird	Myrmeciza laemosticta	1



Zeledon's Antbird	Myrmeciza zeledoni	1
Spotted Antbird	Hylophylax naevioides	1
<u>Antthrushes</u>	<u>Formicariidae</u>	
Black-faced Antthrush	Formicarius analis	1
Black-headed Antthrush	Formicarius nigricapillus	1
Rufous-breasted Antthrush	Formicarius rufipectus	1
Antpittas	Grallariidae	
Scaled Antpitta	Grallaria guatimalensis	1
Thicket Antpitta	Hylopezus dives	1
Ochre-breasted Antpitta (NT)	Grallaricula flavirostris	1
Tapaculos	Rhinocryptidae	
Silvery-fronted Tapaculo	Scytalopus argentifrons	1
Tyrant Flycatchers	<u>Tyrannidae</u>	
Greenish Elaenia	Myiopagis viridicata	1
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	Elaenia flavogaster	1
Mountain Elaenia	Elaenia frantzii	1
Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet	Ornithion semiflavum	1
Northern Beardless Tyrannulet	Camptostoma imberbe	1
Yellow Tyrannulet	Capsiempis flaveola	1
Mistletoe Tyrannulet	Zimmerius parvus	1
Rufous-browed Tyrannulet	Phylloscartes superciliaris	1
Olive-striped Flycatcher	Mionectes olivaceus	1
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	Mionectes oleagineus	1
Slaty-capped Flycatcher	Leptopogon superciliaris	1
Northern Scrub Flycatcher	Sublegatus arenarum	1
Northern Bentbill	Oncostoma cinereigulare	1
Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant	Lophotriccus pileatus	1
Common Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum cinereum	1
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum nigriceps	1
Eye-ringed Flatbill	Rhynchocyclus brevirostris	1
Yellow-olive Flatbill	Tolmomyias sulphurescens	1
White-throated Spadebill	Platyrinchus mystaceus	1
Black Phoebe	Sayornis nigricans	1
Northern Tufted Flycatcher	Mitrephanes phaeocercus	1
Olive-sided Flycatcher (NT)	Contopus cooperi	1
Dark Pewee	Contopus lugubris	1
Tropical Pewee	Contopus cinereus	1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Empidonax flaviventris	1
Willow Flycatcher	Empidonax traillii	1
Yellowish Flycatcher	Empidonax flavescens	1
Black-capped Flycatcher	Empidonax atriceps	1
Long-tailed Tyrant	Colonia colonus	1



Piratic Flycatcher	Legatus leucophaius	1
Social Flycatcher	Myiozetetes similis	1
Grey-capped Flycatcher	Myiozetetes granadensis	1
Great Kiskadee	Pitangus sulphuratus	1
White-ringed Flycatcher	Conopias albovittatus	1
Golden-bellied Flycatcher	Myiodynastes hemichrysus	1
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	Myiodynastes luteiventris	1
Streaked Flycatcher	Myiodynastes maculatus	1
Boat-billed Flycatcher	Megarynchus pitangua	1
Tropical Kingbird	Tyrannus melancholicus	1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus forficatus	1
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus savana	1
Rufous Mourner	Rhytipterna holerythra	1
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	Myiarchus tuberculifer	1
Panamanian Flycatcher	Myiarchus panamensis	1
Nutting's Flycatcher	Myiarchus nuttingi	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	1
Brown-crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus tyrannulus	1
Bright-rumped Attila	Attila spadiceus	1
<u>Cotingas</u>	Cotingidae	
Lovely Cotinga	Cotinga amabilis	1
Three-wattled Bellbird (VU)	Procnias tricarunculatus	1
Snowy Cotinga	Carpodectes nitidus	1
<u>Manakins</u>	<u>Pipridae</u>	
Long-tailed Manakin	Chiroxiphia linearis	1
White-ruffed Manakin	Corapipo altera	1
White-collared Manakin	Manacus candei	1
White-crowned Manakin	Pseudopipra pipra	1
Tityras, Becards	<u>Tityridae</u>	
Sharpbill	Oxyruncus cristatus	1
Northern Royal Flycatcher	Onychorhynchus mexicanus	1
Black-crowned Tityra	Tityra inquisitor	1
Masked Tityra	Tityra semifasciata	1
Northern Schiffornis	Schiffornis veraepacis	1
Barred Becard	Pachyramphus versicolor	1
Cinnamon Becard	Pachyramphus cinnamomeus	1
Rose-throated Becard	Pachyramphus aglaiae	1
Vireos, Greenlets	<u>Vireonidae</u>	
Green Shrike-Vireo	Vireolanius pulchellus	1
Mangrove Vireo	Vireo pallens	1
Yellow-throated Vireo	Vireo flavifrons	1
Yellow-winged Vireo	Vireo carmioli	1



Brown-capped Vireo	Vireo leucophrys	1
Philadelphia Vireo	Vireo philadelphicus	1
Yellow-green Vireo	Vireo flavoviridis	1
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	Hylophilus ochraceiceps	1
Lesser Greenlet	Hylophilus decurtatus	1
Crows, Jays	Corvidae	
Azure-hooded Jay	Cyanolyca cucullata	1
Brown Jay	Psilorhinus morio	1
White-throated Magpie-Jay	Calocitta formosa	1
Silky-flycatchers	Ptiliogonatidae	
Black-and-yellow Phainoptila	Phainoptila melanoxantha	1
Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher	Ptiliogonys caudatus	1
Swallows, Martins	<u>Hirundinidae</u>	
Sand Martin	Riparia riparia	1
Mangrove Swallow	Tachycineta albilinea	1
Grey-breasted Martin	Progne chalybea	1
Blue-and-white Swallow	Notiochelidon cyanoleuca	1
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	1
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx ruficollis	1
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	1
American Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	1
Wrens	<u>Troglodytidae</u>	
Band-backed Wren	Campylorhynchus zonatus	1
Rufous-backed Wren	Campylorhynchus capistratus	1
Black-throated Wren	Pheugopedius atrogularis	1
Spot-breasted Wren	Pheugopedius maculipectus	1
Banded Wren	Thryophilus pleurostictus	1
Rufous-and-white Wren	Thryophilus rufalbus	1
Cabanis's Wren	Cantorchilus modestus	1
Canebrake Wren	Cantorchilus zeledoni	1
Bay Wren	Cantorchilus nigricapillus	1
Stripe-breasted Wren	Cantorchilus thoracicus	1
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	1
Ochraceous Wren	Troglodytes ochraceus	1
White-breasted Wood Wren	Henicorhina leucosticta	1
Grey-breasted Wood Wren	Henicorhina leucophrys	1
Northern Nightingale-Wren	Microcerculus philomela	1
Song Wren	Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus	1
Gnatcatchers	<u>Polioptilidae</u>	
Tawny-faced Gnatwren	Microbates cinereiventris	1
Long-billed Gnatwren	Ramphocaenus melanurus	1
White-lored Gnatcatcher	Polioptila albiloris	1



Tropical Gnatcatcher	Polioptila plumbea	1
Mockingbirds, Thrashers	<u>Mimidae</u>	
Tropical Mockingbird	Mimus gilvus	1
<u>Thrushes</u>	Turdidae	
Black-faced Solitaire	Myadestes melanops	1
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus gracilirostris	1
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus aurantiirostris	1
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus fuscater	1
Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus frantzii	1
Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus mexicanus	1
Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	1
Wood Thrush (NT)	Hylocichla mustelina	1
Mountain Thrush	Turdus plebejus	1
Pale-vented Thrush	Turdus obsoletus	1
Clay-colored Thrush	Turdus grayi	1
White-throated Thrush	Turdus assimilis	1
<u>Dippers</u>	<u>Cinclidae</u>	
American Dipper	Cinclus mexicanus	1
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches	<u>Passeridae</u>	
House Sparrow (I)	Passer domesticus	1
<u>Finches</u>	<u>Fringillidae</u>	
Scrub Euphonia	Euphonia affinis	1
Yellow-crowned Euphonia	Euphonia luteicapilla	1
Yellow-throated Euphonia	Euphonia hirundinacea	1
Olive-backed Euphonia	Euphonia gouldi	1
Tawny-capped Euphonia	Euphonia anneae	1
Golden-browed Chlorophonia	Chlorophonia callophrys	1
New World Warblers	<u>Parulidae</u>	
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	1
Louisiana Waterthrush	Parkesia motacilla	1
Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	1
Golden-winged Warbler (NT)	Vermivora chrysoptera	1
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	1
Flame-throated Warbler	Oreothlypis gutturalis	1
Tennessee Warbler	Leiothlypis peregrina	1
Grey-crowned Yellowthroat	Geothlypis poliocephala	1
Mourning Warbler	Geothlypis philadelphia	1
Kentucky Warbler	Geothlypis formosa	1
Olive-crowned Yellowthroat	Geothlypis semiflava	1
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	1
Hooded Warbler	Setophaga citrina	1
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	1



Tropical Parula	Setophaga pitiayumi	1
Blackburnian Warbler	Setophaga fusca	1
American Yellow Warbler	Setophaga aestiva	1
Mangrove Warbler	Setophaga petechia	1
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Setophaga pensylvanica	1
Black-throated Green Warbler	Setophaga virens	1
Buff-rumped Warbler	Myiothlypis fulvicauda	1
Rufous-capped Warbler	Basileuterus rufifrons	1
Golden-crowned Warbler	Basileuterus culicivorus	1
Black-eared Warbler	Basileuterus melanotis	1
Wilson's Warbler	Cardellina pusilla	1
Slate-throated Whitestart	Myioborus miniatus	1
Collared Whitestart	Myioborus torquatus	1
Oropendolas, Orioles and Blackbirds	<u>Icteridae</u>	
Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna	1
Red-breasted Blackbird	Sturnella militaris	1
Yellow-billed Cacique	Amblycercus holosericeus	1
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	Psarocolius wagleri	1
Montezuma Oropendola	Psarocolius montezuma	1
Scarlet-rumped Cacique	Cacicus microrhynchus	1
Streak-backed Oriole	Icterus pustulatus	1
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula	1
Spot-breasted Oriole	Icterus pectoralis	1
Black-cowled Oriole	Icterus prosthemelas	1
Orchard Oriole	Icterus spurius	1
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	1
Giant Cowbird	Molothrus oryzivorus	1
Shiny Cowbird	Molothrus bonariensis	1
Bronzed Cowbird	Molothrus aeneus	1
Melodious Blackbird	Dives dives	1
Nicaraguan Grackle	Quiscalus nicaraguensis	1
Great-tailed Grackle	Quiscalus mexicanus	1
Bananaquit	<u>Coerebidae</u>	
Bananaquit	Coereba flaveola	1
Buntings, New World Sparrows	Emberizidae	
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Zonotrichia capensis	1
Stripe-headed Sparrow	Peucaea ruficauda	1
White-eared Ground Sparrow	Melozone leucotis	1
Olive Sparrow	Arremonops rufivirgatus	1
Black-striped Sparrow	Arremonops conirostris	1
Orange-billed Sparrow	Arremon aurantiirostris	1
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	Arremon brunneinucha	1





Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	1
Black-faced Grosbeak	Caryothraustes poliogaster	1
Blue-black Grosbeak	Cyanocompsa cyanoides	1
Blue Grosbeak	Passerina caerulea	1
Indigo Bunting	Passerina cyanea	1
Painted Bunting (NT)	Passerina ciris	1
TOTAL		498

COSTA RICA 2017 MAMMAL LIST		
Common Name (IUCN)	Scientific Name (IUCN)	Trip
	LAGOMORPHA	
	Leporidae	
Tapiti	Sylvilagus brasiliensis	1
-	CARNIVORA	
	Procyonidae	
White-nosed coati	Nasua narica	1
Crab-eating raccoon	Procyon cancrivorus	1
	RODENTIA	
	Sciuridae	
Variegated squirrel	Sciurus variegatoides	1
Red-tailed squirrel	Sciurus granatensis	1
Central American dwarf squirrel	Microsciurus alfari	1
	Dasyproctidae	
Central American agouti	Dasyprocta punctata	1
	CETARTIODACTYLA	
	Tayassuidae	
Collared peccary	Pecari tajacu	1
	CHIROPTERA	
	Emballonuridae	
Proboscis bat	Rhynchonycteris naso	1
	Phyllostomidae	
Honduran white bat	Ectophylla alba	1
	PRIMATES	
	Atelidae	
Mantled howler monkey	Alouatta palliata	1
Geoffroy's spider monkey	Ateles geoffroyi	1
	Cebidae	



Colombian white-faced capuchin	Cebus capucinus	1
	PILOSA	
	Bradypodidae	
Brown-throated sloth	Bradypus variegatus	1
	Myrmecophagidae	
Northern tamandua	Tamandua mexicana	1
	Megalonychidae	
Hoffmann's two-toed sloth	Choloepus hoffmanni	1
TOTAL	**	16

COSTA RICA 2017 REPTILE LIST		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	TESTUDINES	1
	Geoemydidae	
Black wood turtle	Rhinoclemmys funerea	1
	Emydidae	
Yellow-bellied slider turtle	Trachemys scripta	1
	Kinosternidae	
Eastern musk turtle	Sternotherus odoratus	1
	SQUAMATA	
	Viperidae	
Eyelash viper	Bothriechis schlegelii	1
	Dactyloidae	
Humble anole	Anolis humilis	1
Neotropical green anole	Anolis biporcatus	1
Bighead anole	Anolis capito	1
	Iguanidae	
Common green iguana	Iguana iguana	1
Common spiny-tailed iguana	Ctenosaura similis	1
	Corytophanidae	
Green basilisk	Basiliscus plumifrons	1
Smooth helmeted iguana	Corytophanes cristatus	1
Common basilisk	Basiliscus basiliscus	1
	Gekkonidae	
Tropical house gecko	Hemidactylus mabouia	1
	Teiidae	
Middle American ameiva	Holcosus festivus	1
	CROCODYLIA	
	Alligatoridae	



Common caiman	Caiman crocodilus	1
	Crocodylidae	
American crocodile	Crocodylus acutus	1
TOTAL		16

COSTA RICA 2017 AMPHIBIAN LIST		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	ANURA	
	Dendrobatidae	
Strawberry poison frog	Oophaga pumilio	1
	Phyllomedusidae	
Red-eyed treefrog	Agalychnis callidryas	1
	Leptodactylidae	
South American bullfrog	Leptodactylus pentadactylus	1
	Bufonidae	
Cane toad	Rhinella marina	1
	Ranidae	
Vaillant's frog	Lithobates vaillanti	1
TOTAL		5

