

# Costa Rica

Naturetrek Tour Report

23 January - 5 February 2010

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Magnificent Hummingbird

Report and image compiled by Chris Kehoe



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Santiago (Driver)  
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Bernal (Guide at Monteverde)  
Demetrio (Guide at Hacienda Solimar)  
Rodolpho (Guide at Selve Verde/ La Selva)

Participants: Jenny Dixon  
Jean Menzies  
Reg Davis  
Jan Davis  
Christine Wilson  
Nick Crowley  
Prue Crowley  
Deb Courtnage  
Ross Courtnage  
Dafydd Richards  
Heather Richards  
George Smith  
Heather Smith

## Day 1

Saturday 23rd January

Outbound to San Jose via Miami

Weather: Wintry - grim in London

With the exception of George and Heather, who were already in San Jose, everyone caught an on-time 09.40 BA flight from Heathrow to Miami. After several hours in transit our onward American Airlines flight to San Jose took off about 50 minutes late but arrived just a few minutes behind the scheduled time of 21.15 (local). Having negotiated immigration and collecting our luggage we met Simon from Birdwatch Costa Rica and Santiago, our excellent driver-cum-bird guide, outside the arrivals area. With the bus loaded up we set off on the short journey to the El Rodeo Country Resort. After a long travelling day everyone quickly retired to bed.

## Day 2

Sunday 24th January

Paraiso del Quetzal; Savegre

Weather: mostly fine and dry with a little light drizzle and low cloud for a short time after lunch, warm.

Coffee and carrot cake at 05.45, plus Great Kiskadees and Rufous-naped Wrens in the car park, preceded a 06.00 departure southwards through the San Jose suburbs and onto the Pan-american highway. Leaving the suburbs behind we began climbing through forested slopes towards the highlands of Cerro de la Muerte.

Clear skies augured well for a bird-filled morning and after about 90 minutes we arrived at the pleasant little establishment of Paraiso del Quetzal and were immediately greeted by a flurry of hummingbird activity at the feeders there. Stunning Fiery-throated and Magnificent Hummingbirds kept us well occupied for 20 minutes before a hearty breakfast was served at 08.00. Half-an-hour later we set off with local guide Jorge jnr. for a three hour exploration of the adjacent cloud forest and were soon seeing a host of upland specialities such as Collared Whitestarts, Sooty Thrushes, Yellow-thighed Finches, Black-billed Nightingale-thrushes and others. Jorge led us uphill to an area where Resplendent Quetzals had recently been seen and after brief diversions to look at a Hairy Woodpecker, Spangle-cheeked Tanagers and Long-tailed Silky Flycatchers we found ourselves enjoying excellent and prolonged scope views of up to five different Quetzals including stunning males that periodically chased each other about right overhead. That of course was hard to top but further highlights as we slowly made our way back towards the lodge for lunch included a Volcano Hummingbird, Golden-browed Chlorophonias, Flame-throated and Wilson's Warblers, Ruddy Treerunners, Sooty-capped Bush-tanagers, Black-capped Flycatchers and a Large-footed Finch.

Lunch at the lodge gave further opportunities to admire the Hummingbirds and Rufous-collared Sparrows at touching distance before we re-boarded the bus for the 40 minute drive to Savegre Mountain Lodge in the next valley along and a few hundred metres lower in altitude. Once there we were soon enjoying the numerous Green Violetears at the feeders plus a few Grey-tailed Mountaingems and a single Scintillant Hummingbird that put in a couple of appearances. A group of Acorn Woodpeckers gave good scope views in a large dead tree while a little further afield Flame-coloured Tanagers added a splash of colour and a Red-tailed Hawk flew over.

We commenced our return journey to San Jose at 15.00 and arrived at the El Rodeo just before 18.00 which allowed plenty of time to shower and change before dinner at 19.30.

## Day 3

Monday 25th January

En route to Monteverde via Rio Garita Reservoir, Orotina and Caldera; Monteverde Hummingbird gallery

Weather: warm and sunny, a little breezy and cooler in Monteverde

Early risers saw a nice selection of commoner species around the hotel before breakfast at 07.00 with our first Hoffman's Woodpeckers, Red-billed Pigeons, White-tipped Doves and Blue-grey Tanagers all noted. After check-out we set off eastwards at 07.45 and arrived at a roadside vantage point overlooking Rio Garita Reservoir about 40 minutes later. A single Least Grebe was seen briefly here along with a few Blue-winged Teals on the water while adjacent trees held Blue-crowned Motmots and Masked Tityras. After 30 minutes we continued our journey and within an hour reached the incongruous seeming setting of Orotina town square where the friendly locals soon pointed us in the right direction to find one of the famous Black-and-white Owls resident there plus a Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth. After half-an-hour we were on the road again but soon stopped for a coffee-cum-comfort stop on the Pacific coast at Caldera where some enjoyed the Brown Pelicans and Mangrove Swallows around the estuary there while others found time for a quick paddle in the sea.

Much of the road to Monteverde is now surfaced but the final 20km stretch remains unmade which consequently results in rather slow progress, even so we arrived at the Hotel Montana soon after 12.00 and sat down for lunch while the finishing touches were put to our recently vacated rooms.

At 14.45 we set off on the 20 minute drive to the rightly famous Monteverde Hummingbird Gallery near the Cloudforest Preserve entrance where, in addition to a gift shop and excellent coffee shop, a superb array of hummingbirds were on offer. During the couple of hours spent here we saw numerous Violet Sabrewings, Green Violet-ears, Green-crowned Brilliants and Purple-throated Mountaingems (all of which were on permanent view) plus scarcer or less predictable visitors such as Green Hermit, Stripe-tailed Hummingbirds, Magenta-throated Woodstars and Coppery-headed Emeralds, the latter endemic to Costa Rica. Some chose to walk back to the hotel and saw White-eared Sparrows along the way while those who returned by bus saw Blue-crowned Motmots and a Collared Trogon en route and numerous Baltimore Orioles, White-fronted Parrots and others at the hotel itself.

## Day 4

Tuesday 26th January

### Monteverde

Weather: fine and sunny throughout, a little breezy but pleasantly warm

Early risers saw a few bits and pieces in the rather windswept hotel grounds with Masked Tityras and Yellow-throated Euphonias the pick of the bunch. After breakfast at 06.30 we set off to Monteverde Cloudforest Preserve with local guide Bernal. A male Resplendent Quetzal attracted an admiring crowd at the entrance gate but we soon left them behind and set off along the wide main trail. The avian specialities of the area soon began to appear. First up were a couple of Golden-bellied Flycatchers followed very soon afterwards by the prized find of two obliging, by their standards, Scale-crested Pygmy-tyrants. A group of Prong-billed Barbets eventually put on a good show, Slate-throated Whitestarts were prominent and the first of about six Black Guans showed well too. Slaty-backed Nightingale Thrushes and Grey-breasted Wood-wrens skulked in the undergrowth while Common Bush Tanagers, Spotted Woodcreepers, Red-faced Spinetails, Brown-capped Vireo, Yellowish Flycatcher, Ochraceous Wren and many others flitted through the trees above.

After an excellent few hours we returned to the Hummingbird Gallery for a quick coffee before returning to the hotel for lunch. Those who opted for a return visit to the Cloudforest Preserve in the afternoon found predictably fewer birds, though a couple of rare Green-fronted Lancebills gave some fleeting views at the end of the Waterfall Trail. The undoubted highlight this afternoon though was a large troop of Spider Monkeys moving through the canopy while a couple of White-nosed Coatis and Mantled Howler Monkeys also put on a good show. Once again it was impossible to resist a quick visit to the Hummingbird Gallery before we returned to the hotel where Yellow-throated Euphonias and Baltimore Orioles vied for our attention with Yellow-faced Grassquits and various Flycatchers before darkness fell.

## Day 5

Wednesday 27th January

En route to Villa Lapas via Tarcoles Bridge; Tarcoles Estuary cruise

Weather: breezy and a little drizzly at Monteverde, sunny, hot and humid at Villa Lapas/Tarcoles

Windy conditions thwarted attempts to find many birds in the hotel grounds before breakfast though fly-bys by a Sharp-shinned Hawk and Emerald Toucanet were notable.

By 08.00 the bus was loaded and we retraced our route to the Pacific coast then southwards to a small cafe at the start of the bridge over the Rio Tarcoles, arriving there at 10.30. A 30 minute drinks stop, with a fly-by Scarlet Macaw for good measure, preceded an hour long exploration of the Tarcoles River from the busy road bridge. Numerous new species were seen including many very large American Crocodiles and birds such as Northern Jacanas, Black-necked Stilts, various Herons and Egrets and a Yellow-headed Caracara.

The Villa Lapas Hotel was now just 10 minutes away and we checked-in quickly and had half-an-hour to freshen up before lunch. Those who explored the hotel grounds after lunch were well rewarded with Long-billed Gnatwren, Plain Xenops, Dot-winged Antwrens and others.

At 14.45 we set off on the short drive to the Tarcoles Estuary where a boat was waiting to take us on an exploration of the area. An action packed couple of hours commenced with great views of Boat-billed and Yellow-crowned Night Herons in riverside trees, Bare-throated Tiger Herons, Southern Lapwings, Double Striped Thick-knees and Yellow-headed Caracaras were seen in quick succession along with Green Kingfishers and many other species. Entering the mangrove-lined section of the estuary we enjoyed great views of 'Mangrove' Common Black Hawks and soon after a very smart Mangrove Yellow Warbler put on a good show as did several Prothonotory Warblers and both Amazon and Belted Kingfishers. At the river mouth, Neotropic Cormorants were new and a nice selection of shorebirds was present on the mud flats along with several Ospreys. As we returned towards the jetty the light was starting to fade, several stunning Scarlet Macaws winged their way into the mangroves to roost, three Roseate Spoonbills suddenly appeared and, finally, several Lesser Nighthawks took to the dusk air and performed well right overhead.

## Day 6

Thursday 28th January

### Carara National Park

Weather: dry and sunny, rather hot in the middle of the day, humid

Pre-breakfast birds in the hotel grounds included Violaceous Trogon, Scarlet Macaws and a good range of Flycatcher including our first Streaked and Boat-billed. During breakfast itself our first Chestnut-mandibled Toucan was seen but we soon set off for a morning's birding along the Oxbow Trail at nearby Carara National Park. Birds soon began to appear as we made our way along the wide trail with Black-hooded Antshrikes noisily conspicuous and Dot-winged Antwrens more furtive. An Orange-collared Manakin put in a brief appearance before the first of three Northern Royal Flycatchers materialised. Several more bits and pieces such as Wedge-billed Woodcreepers and a fly-over Plumbeous Kite were seen before we reached our turning around point at the oxbow lake where a pair of perched Scarlet Macaws put on a great show, Orange-collared Manakins were lekking nearby, a Golden-naped Woodpecker was seen and Santiago saw a brief Yellow-billed Cotinga. The slow return walk to the bus was punctuated by views of Great-crested and Dusky-capped Flycatchers, Streak-headed Woodcreepers, Barred Antshrike and several others. The mammalian highlight this morning was a troop of White-faced Capuchins.

By the time we left for the hotel at 11.30 it was rather hot so cool drinks were in order before our buffet lunch and, for some, a short siesta. About half the group opted to return to Carara NP for an evening walk, the rest relaxing at the hotel; this time we visited the narrower Loop Trail near the park HQ where the undoubted highlight was an extremely obliging Great Tinamou that just stood there, a few feet away, for ages!

Several other new birds were found including Bay-headed and White-shouldered Tanagers, Turquoise-browed Motmot, Riverside Wrens and a White-whiskered Puffbird plus a new Hummer in the shape of a Purple-crowned Fairy. A Central American Agouti posed for the scope on the trail ahead at one point. The park authorities clearly relished our presence as they locked us in at 17.00 but Santiago soon found someone with a key!!

## Day 7

Friday 29th January

En route to Hacienda Solimar

Weather: dry, sunny, hot

Most of the group took the opportunity to explore the hotel grounds before our breakfast at 07.30 with highlights including a very smart pair of Pale-billed Woodpeckers, Ringed Kingfishers, Philadelphia Vireos and a couple of Painted Buntings that included a gaudy male. Further exploration of the area for an hour or so after breakfast produced more of the same with overflying Scarlet Macaws, Baltimore Orioles and a handful of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks to keep the interest up.

At 09.45 we commenced our journey up the Pacific coast towards Hacienda Solimar and arrived there a couple of hours later. Soon we were enjoying views of White-throated Magpie-jays, Cinnamon and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds from the veranda before sitting down for lunch at 13.00. At 15.00, just as the temperature began to subside a little we set off in the company of Demetrio, our local guide, to visit the wetland areas of the ranch at Estero Madrigal. First stop, after en route views of Harris' Hawks and Plain-breasted Ground Doves, was at a lily-covered oxbow where numerous birds included several Ringed Kingfishers, our first Limpkin, a good selection of Herons and Egrets plus a couple of Wood Storks and Snail Kites. In the trees here we saw our first, and only, Orange-fronted Parakeets, Yellow-naped Amazons and several Mantled Howler Monkeys. Moving on before the mozzies started to go to work in earnest we visited a more open area of flooded fields where a prized find was three Jabirus plus numerous Limpkins, Black-bellied Whistling-ducks, four wild Muscovy Ducks and numerous other wetland birds such as Northern Jacanas. Returning to the Hacienda, just as the sun set, gave us views of Double-striped Thick-knee and a Killdeer.

## Day 8

Saturday 30th January

Hacienda Solimar

Weather: dry, hot and sunny.

Early risers enjoyed views of numerous White-fronted Parrots and a Ferruginous Pygmy-owl before breakfast at 06.30. At 07.15 we were in the bus and on our way to the gallery forest area of the ranch and no sooner had we disembarked there than birds began to appear with Green-breasted Mangos and Tropical Gnatcatchers in the treetops and Olive Sparrows shuffling about on the ground. In the gallery forest proper we were soon watching a Ferruginous Pygmy-owl and a succession of flycatchers including Great-crested, Brown-crested, and Streaked. Black-headed Trogons put on a good show as did Lineated Woodpeckers, a couple of Barred Antshrikes and several Orange-chinned Parakeets. We were glad to reach the sanctuary of the air-conditioned bus at 11.15 and returned to the Hacienda for a rest, or swim, before lunch. Santiago did well to locate a roosting Pacific Screech-owl near the Hacienda after lunch.

At 15.00 we set off to an area of dry forest in a different area of the ranch, seeing a Solitary Sandpiper in a ditch en route, and quite soon located a roosting Pauraque in the leaf-litter. Some saw a fleeting Long-tailed Manakin as the Mozzies began to make their presence felt. Demetrio set off in pursuit of a calling Collared Forest-falcon and soon located it and called us over for scope views. By now the mozzies were becoming a nuisance so we fled to a more open area along to road to avoid them. Double-collared and Variable Seedeaters showed well here, as did a female Barred Antshrike and Common Tody-flycatchers and a pale dot in a distant tree turned out to be a Laughing Falcon that gave some reasonable scope views.

## Day 9

Sunday 31st January

HT 15.42 very high - perfect! Hacienda Solimar

Weather: dry, sunny and hot though with a cooling light breeze at Colorado Salinas in the evening

Turquoise-browed Motmot, Ferruginous Pygmy-owl and Lineated Woodpecker were the avian highlights before breakfast but the real start of the show was a Jaguarundi seen by a couple of group members as it ambled past the Hacienda at dawn. After breakfast we set off on the short drive to nearby Finca Pavones, an area of regenerating dry forest. A Yellow-olive Flatbill (Flycatcher) was seen briefly before we set off on our walk and soon afterwards the first of two Mangrove Cuckoos put in an appearance along with a few Black-headed Trogons and a Rose-throated Becard. Moving on we heard the characteristic call of a Long-tailed Manakin and, after a little persuasion, first a female then an immature male popped into view. A little further on a perched Double-toothed Kite was a good find then an adult male Long-tailed Manakin finally gave itself up. Demetrio excelled himself by finding a Lesser Nighthawk perched on a distant bough and Streak-backed Orioles put on a good show. It was getting rather hot now so we stood in the shade watching Yellow Warblers and Green-breasted mangos until Santiago appeared after a few moments and transported us back to the Hacienda.

After lunch and a rest, or swim, we set off at 14.45 for Colorado Salinas at the head of the Gulf of Nicoya where a very high tide augured well for a good collection of roosting waders. Somehow Demetrio spotted a roosting Pacific Screech-owl in a roadside tree as we drove along and after a bit of manoeuvring by Santiago we all enjoyed good views. At the Salinas massed ranks of waders were on view and we spent a couple of hours sifting through the various species present. Western and Semi-palmated Sandpipers were present in their hundreds with almost as many Short-billed Dowitchers and Willets. Marbled Godwits were present in their tens along with Stilt Sandpipers and Red Knots. Plovers were represented by numerous Semi-palmateds and Grey Plovers plus a handful of Wilson's Plovers. Amongst a small gathering of Ruddy Turnstones a couple of Surf-birds were a surprise find. Aside from the waders were lots of Laughing Gulls and a single Ring-billed Gull while Royal Terns and Cabot's (formerly 'American Sandwich') Terns were present in small numbers along with a few White Ibises and a couple of Roseate Spoonbills. The bordering mangroves held lots of Prothonotary and other migrant Warblers and amongst them a Mangrove Vireo was a good find.

## Day 10

Monday 1st February

En route to Arenal; Arenal

Weather: Fine and dry at Hacienda Solimar, overcast with intermittent drizzle at Arenal

At 07.45 we said our goodbyes to Demetrio and Anna at Hacienda Solimar and set off westwards towards Arenal. After about 90 minutes we arrived at a German bakery for refreshments before pressing on in increasingly overcast and drizzly conditions, typical weather at the continental divide. Reaching the far end of Lake Arenal we took a quiet back road and stopped there for some birding. During the following 90 minutes, which included a picnic lunch, new birds seen included Slaty-tailed Trogon, Passerina's Tanagers, Buff-throated Saltators and a Black-headed Tityra.

Thirty minutes later we arrived at our lodge overlooking Volcano Arenal, or at least the bank of cloud lying between us and periodically rumbling mountain, though a couple of obliging Crested Guans along the entrance road formed a good first impression. After a little while to settle into our rooms we gathered on the decking next to the restaurant overlooking the feeding station where, as well as the habituated Coatis, a host of good birds put in an appearance. We had our first close looks at spectacular Montezuma Oropendolas here as well as Black-cheeked Woodpeckers, Olive-backed Euphonias, Black-cowled Orioles and Band-backed Wrens as Black-striped Sparrows scuttled about and Violet-headed Hummingbirds fed at the flowering shrubs. A couple of Collared Aracaris also showed at some distance but most popular was a sumptuous male Red-legged Honeycreeper that appeared amongst the abundant Blue-grey, Palm and Passerina's Tanagers on the birdtable. Although cloud cover continued to obscure the mountain throughout the night a couple of particularly large explosions acted as a reminder of its presence!

## Day 11

Tuesday 2nd February

Arenal; en route to Selve Verde; Selve Verde

Weather: Overcast and drizzly at Arenal, overcast with sunny spells and rather hot and humid at Selve Verde

Early risers saw much the same as yesterday around the feeders though a couple of Tooth-billed (formerly Hepatic) Tanagers were new and most also got some views of A Keel-billed Toucan, a taste of what was to come as we pressed on into the Caribbean lowlands. At 09.00 we commenced our journey towards Selve Verde, only stopping for refreshments at Muelle's Restaurant de Iguanas where the eponymous reptiles put on a good show in the trees next to the road bridge. By 12.00 we had reached Selve Verde and were soon settling into our rooms before seeking out the restaurant for lunch.

At 15.00 we met up at the swimming pool area where a King Vulture flew over and Golden-hooded Tanagers, Blue Dacnises and a Shining Honeycreeper moved through the trees. At the nearby restaurant the King Vulture put on a good show overhead, a Green Honeycreeper made a brief appearance in the trees and a Fasciated Tiger-heron gave scope views on the river. Moving on we crossed the road to explore the botanical garden area where a Rufous Motmot gave some excellent views. Those who chose to explore the trails near the river were rewarded with Chestnut-backed Antbirds, Wood Thrush and others while back at the river near the restaurant dusk fell quickly but not before a couple of Short-tailed Nighthawks were seen hawking around the canopy opposite. Earlier on some had seen Strawberry and Black-and-Green Poison Dart Frogs near our rooms and after dark three Red-eyed Tree Frogs gave good torchlight views around the pond below the restaurant where they were stalked by an unidentified snake.

## Day 12

Wednesday 3rd February

Selve Verde area; La Selva Entrance Road

Weather: mostly sunny, hot and humid but with a couple of hours of rain after breakfast

Early risers explored the lodge grounds in the company of Rodolpho, our local guide. Toucans were a prominent feature with Both Keel-billed and Chestnut-mandibled in the treetops and Collared Aracaris in the undergrowth. Orang-billed Sparrows and Red-throated Ant-tanagers were seen near the restaurant and a Northern Barred Woodcreeper was glimpsed near the swimming pool where Long-billed Hermits, Grey-headed Chachalacas and a Semiplumbeous Hawk were seen. Rain set in for a while during breakfast and as we sat waiting for it to subside a succession of Tanagers appeared at the birdtables.

When the rain began to ease we crossed the road to the botanical gardens where birds were much in evidence drying off in the bare treetops with Keel-billed Toucans especially prominent, also seen before we returned for lunch were White-collared and Red-capped Manakins, White-necked Jacobin, Stripe-throated Hermit and White-lined Tanagers but the stars of the show were probably the flock of 40 plus migrating Swallow-tailed Kites that winged their way north.

Our afternoon session took us to the La Selva entrance road which proved very productive with Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker, Fasciated Antshrike, Black-striped Woodcreeper and Long-tailed Tyrant seen before we reached the station area where a spectacular Great Curassow, a supposedly shy denizen of the dark forest interior, rather disgraced itself by wandering around the lawns near the canteen! The final hour was spent scanning the treetops from the station area where numerous Red-lored Parrots were on view along with our first Red-rumped Caciques and a Rufous-winged Woodpecker. Toucans of all three species were also seen well before we began to make our way back towards the bus before being distracted by a Golden-winged Warbler bathing in a puddle, another very obliging Black-striped Woodcreeper and a group of Collared Peccaries. Our appetites were certainly whetted for a return to La Selva in the morning!

## Day 13

Thursday 4th February

Selve Verde

Weather: fine and sunny throughout, rather hot and humid

An early breakfast at 05.30 preceded our 06.15 departure for La Selva where we arrived 20 minutes later and retraced our route along the entrance road. Fasciated Antshrikes and a rather unobliging Smoky-brown Woodpecker were seen before a pair of Grey-necked Woodrails put on a good show along a side-track. A little further on a mixed species feeding flock contained a variety of Tanagers and three Shining Honeycreepers before a group of four Snowy Cotingas winged in and gave great views for several minutes in the bare treetops. A coffee break at the field station, where Chestnut-headed Oropendola and Giant Cowbird were new, preceded a division into two groups, most joining Rodolpho on a tour of the mature forest across the suspension bridge where Crested and Vermiculated Screech-owls and others were seen. Those who explored the trails closer to the station saw a couple of Rufous-tailed Jacamars and a Black-throated Wren.

After lunch and a rest at Selve Verde most opted for a return visit to La Selva where we explored some of the trails leading off the entrance road and concluded once more in the vicinity of the station. White-collared Manakins were a prime objective for most of those present and one eventually gave excellent views after several more fleeting encounters. Three different Band-tailed Barbthroats performed well and an obliging Pied Puffbird was a surprise find. Back at the station a White-ringed Flycatcher was seen and couple of Mealy Parrots gave great views, as did a particularly animated, by Sloth standards, Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth. The finale came in the shape of a Broad-billed Motmot at the suspension bridge and while watching this, another Rufous-tailed Jacamar appeared.

## Day 14

Friday 5th February

Weather: sunny

Selve Verde; en route to San Jose via El Tapir and inbound to UK via Miami

An early breakfast preceded our 07.00 departure en route to San Jose Airport. As good time was made during the early part of the journey we had an opportunity to stop for 30 minutes at an abandoned butterfly farm at El Tapir where Vervain plants often prove attractive to hummingbirds. So it turned out as almost as soon as we arrived a Green Thorntail was seen feeding at the purple flowers and a few minutes later, after watching a couple of Violet-crowned Woodnymphs, the main prize appeared in the shape of one or two male Snowcaps which eventually gave some great views.

Pressing on we, or rather Santiago, negotiated the back roads of San Jose and arrived at the airport in ample time to carry out the various formalities before passing through security at the start of the long journey back home.

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## Systematic Lists

### BIRDS

Sequence, taxonomy and nomenclature follow The International Ornithological Congress world list (v2.2), alternative names are mentioned when these differ from those used in field guides to the Central American Region. Subspecies follow the Handbook of the Birds of the World when available or, failing that, Clements' Checklist of the Birds of the World. Species in square brackets were heard only or only seen by the tour leader/ guides, the latter designated L/O. Species not seen by the tour leader/ guides are marked N/L. The following codes are used to indicate species with restricted ranges:

**E** = Costa Rica endemics

**NE** = Near-endemic - confined to Costa Rica and immediately adjacent areas in Panama or Nicaragua

**NE<sup>1</sup>** = highlands endemic in CR and W Panama only - mainly above 700m

**NE<sup>2</sup>** = lowland species and those extending into S Nicaragua

**CAE** = endemic to Central America from the USA border to the Columbia border; species that extend very marginally into USA or N Colombia are indicated with \*

### TINAMIDAE

#### **Great Tinamou** *Tinamus major fuscipennis / castaneiceps*

One gave stunning views along the loop trail at Carara NP, others were heard there and at Selva Verde and La Selva

#### [**Little Tinamou** *Crypturellus soui modestus*]

Heard but not seen at La Selva

### CRACIDAE

#### **Grey-headed Chachalaca** *Ortalis cinereiceps* **CAE\***

Groups of five and six were seen on successive mornings at Selva Verde

#### **Crested Guan** *Penelope purpurascens aequatorialis*

About six showed well at Arenal

#### **Black Guan** *Chamaepetes unicolor* **NE<sup>1</sup>**

A total of at least seven were seen during our morning in the cloud forest at Monteverde

#### **Great Curassow** *Crax r. rubra*

Males, presumably two birds, were seen very well on three occasions at La Selva, one bird strolled around on the lawns near the canteen!

## ODONTOPHORIDAE

**Spot-bellied Bobwhite** *Colinus leucopogon dickeyi* e CAE

One was seen briefly from the moving bus at Hacienda Solimar (N/L). Often considered conspecific with Crested Bobwhite *C. cristatus*

## ANATIDAE

**Black-bellied Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna a. autumnalis*

About 20 were at Tarcoles and a similar number at Hacienda Solimar

**Muscovy Duck** *Cairina moschata*

A few semi-domesticated birds at Rio Garita Reservoir were followed by four wild individuals at Hacienda Solimar

**Blue-winged Teal** *Anas discors*

About 30 were at Rio Garita Reservoir

## PODICIPEDIDAE

**Least Grebe** *Tachybaptus dominicus brachypterus*

One was at Rio Garita Reservoir

## CICONIIDAE

**Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana*

Small numbers were seen at a few wetland sites

**Jabiru** *Jabiru mycteria*

Two or three were seen each day at Hacienda Solimar

## THRESKIORNITHIDAE

**American White Ibis** *Endocimus albus*

Occasionally seen in small numbers at wetland areas after the first at Villa Lapas

**Roseate Spoonbill** *Ajaia ajaja*

Three were on the Tarcoles Estuary and two more at Colorado Salinas

## ARDEIDAE

**Fasciated Tiger-heron** *Tigrisoma fasciatum salmoni*

One was seen along the river at Selve Verde on a daily basis

**Bare-throated Tiger-heron** *Tigrisoma mexicanum*

After one from the Tarcoles Bridge another 20 or more were noted at the Tarcoles Estuary and at Estero Madrigal, Hacienda Solimar

**Boat-billed Heron** *Cochlearius cochlearius panamensis* etc

About six were seen during our cruise at the Tarcoles Estuary with a couple more next day at the Carara oxbow and another at Estero Madrigal, Hacienda Solimar

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax boactli*

About six were seen at Estero Madrigal, Hacienda Solimar

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron** *Nyctanassa violaceus* ssp.

At least 10 were at the Tarcoles Estuary and two more at Colorado Salinas

**Green Heron** *Butorides v. virescens*

A couple of fleeting birds at the Tarcoles Estuary were followed by 15 or so much more obliging individuals, mainly at Hacienda Solimar's Estero Madrigal

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus i. ibis*

Regularly seen in small to medium sized groups, mainly in the vicinity of cattle; hundreds flew to roost each evening at Selve Verde

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea b. herodias*

Ones and twos were seen regularly at wetland sites

**Western Great Egret** *Ardea alba egretta*

Ones and twos were seen regularly and a little more frequently than the last species

**Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor ruficollis*

At least six were at the Tarcoles Estuary

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea*

Frequently seen in wetland contexts throughout

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta t. thula*

Regularly seen at wetlands, a little less common than the last species

## FREGATIDAE

**Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens*

Half-a-dozen were seen at and near Caldera as we travelled to and from Monteverde with a few more seen in the distance during our cruise on the Tarcoles Estuary and about 15 more over Colorado Salinas

## PELECANIDAE

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis* ssp

About 20 at Caldera were followed by another 50 or so at the mouth of the Rio Tarcoles

## PHALACROCORACIDAE

**Neotropical Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus mexicanus*

About 10 were roosting at the Tarcoles Estuary; formerly known as Olivaceous Cormorant

## ANHINGIDAE

**Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga leucogaster*

Small numbers were at the Tarcoles Estuary with a few more at Carara NP and Hacienda Solimar

## CATHARTIDAE

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes a. aura* / *ruficollis*

Very common and widespread, seen everywhere in good numbers

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus brasiliensis*

Very common and widespread, generally a little less frequently seen than the last species except in the mountains where it was marginally the commoner of the two

**King Vulture** *Sarcoramphus papa*

Singles were seen daily at Selve Verde and La Selve

## PANDIONIDAE

**Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*

Up to six were seen at the Tarcoles Estuary with a similar number at Hacienda Solimar/ Colorado Salinas

## ACCIPTRIDAE

**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides f. forficatus* / *yetapa*

About 40 that flew north in one flock at Selve Verde formed a spectacular sight

**White-tailed Kite** *Elanus l. leucurus* / *majusculus*

A couple seen from the moving bus on the outskirts of San Jose were followed by three at Hacienda Solimar

**Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus s. sociabilis*

About seven were seen in the wetland areas at Hacienda Solimar

**Double-toothed Kite** *Harpagus bidentatus fasciatus*

One showed well at Finca Pavones, Hacienda Solimar

**Plumbeous Kite** *Ictinia plumbea*

One flew over at Carara NP

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus velox*

One flew over the Hotel Montana, Monteverde early one morning

**Crane Hawk** *Geranoospiza caerulescens nigra*

One was seen from the moving bus between Rio Garita and Orotina (N\L)

**Semiplumbeous Hawk** *Leucopternis semiplumbea*

Singles were seen twice at Selva Verde

**Common Black Hawk** *Buteogallus a. anthracinus*

About six were seen at the Tarcoles Estuary; birds along the Pacific coast were previously regarded as a separate species called Mangrove Black Hawk

**Harris' Hawk** *Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*

About five were seen at Hacienda Solimar; also known as Bay-winged Hawk

**Grey-lined Hawk** *Buteo nitidus plagiatus / costaricensis*

A total of four were seen at widespread sites; also known as Grey Hawk

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis costaricensis e*

One was over the Savegre Mountain Lodge

## FALCONIDAE

**Northern Crested Caracara** *Polyborus cheriway audubonii*

A handful were seen at Hacienda Solimar and one at La Selva

**Yellow-headed Caracara** *Milvago chimachima cordatus*

About five were seen at Tarcoles and another at Estero Madrigal, Hacienda Solimar

**Laughing Falcon** *Herpetotheres c. cachinnans*

A rather distant perched bird was seen at Hacienda Solimar and another was seen in a roadside tree west of Muelle as we passed, others were heard at Carara NP and Villa Lapas

**Collared Forest Falcon** *Micrastur semitorquatus naso*

One gave some decent scope views in the dry forest at Hacienda Solimar after a very briefly seen bird at Estero Madrigal

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* ssp.

Singles were seen three times at Hacienda Solimar and another was over Colorado Salinas

## RALLIDAE

**Grey-necked Wood-Rail** *Aramides c. cajanea* / *plumbeicollis* e

Two were seen by some of the group near our rooms at Selva Verde and two obliging birds posed for the scope at La Selva

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio martinica*

One was seen briefly from the Tarcoles Bridge

## ARAMIDAE

**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna dolosus*

Up to 40 were seen in the wetlands at Hacienda Solimar

## BURHINIDAE

**Double-striped Thick-Knee** *Burhinus b. bistriatus*

Two were seen during our cruise on the Tarcoles River and three more were noted at Hacienda Solimar

## RECURVIROSTRIDAE

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus m. mexicanus*

Up to 100 were seen in total at the Tarcoles River and Colorado Salinas; formerly considered a subspecies of Black-winged Stilt *H. himantopus*

## CHARADRIIDAE

**Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis cayennensis*

A couple showed well on the Tarcoles Estuary

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*

One was on the Tarcoles Estuary and about 50 at Colorado Salinas

**Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus*

A handful the Tarcoles Estuary were followed by about 50 at Colorado Salinas

**Wilson's Plover** *Charadrius wilsonia beldingi*

Three or four were at Colorado Salinas

**Killdeer** *Charadrius v. vociferus*

One at the Tarcoles Estuary was followed by another at Hacienda Solimar

## JACANIDAE

**Northern Jacana** *Jacana s. spinosa* CAE\*

Small numbers were seen at widespread wetlands on the Pacific slope after the first at Rio Garita Reservoir, particularly large numbers were at Estero Madrigal, Hacienda Solimar

## SCOLOPACIDAE

**Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus* ssp.

Up to 100 were at Colorado Salinas

**Marbled Godwit** *Limosa f. fedoa*

About 20 were at Colorado Salinas

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus*

Up to 15 at the Tarcoles Estuary were followed by up to 50 at Colorado Salinas

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

At least two were at Colorado Salinas

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa s. solitaria / cinnamomea*

One was at Hacienda Solimar

**Willet** *Catoptrophorus s. semipalmatus / inornatus*

About 50 were at Colorado Salinas with a couple more at Caldera

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*

The most widespread and frequently seen wader species with most wetlands and watercourses holding a few

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria i. interpres / morinella*

About 30 were at Colorado Salinas

**Surfbird** *Aphriza virgata*

Two were at Colorado Salinas, quite a scarce bird in Costa Rica in winter

**Red Knot** *Calidris canutus rufa / roselaari*

About 10 were at Colorado Salinas, an uncommon wintering species in Costa Rica

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba rubida*

About a dozen were on the Tarcoles Estuary

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla*

A few at the Tarcoles Estuary were followed by about 2-300 at Colorado Salinas

**Western Sandpiper** *Calidris mauri*

After several at the Tarcoles Estuary another 3-400 were at Colorado Salinas

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla*

A handful were at Tarcoles and about 50 at Colorado Salinas

**Stilt Sandpiper** *Calidris himantopus*

About 20 were at Colorado Salinas

## LARIDAE

**Laughing Gull** *Leucophaeus atricilla megalopterus*

Hundreds were at Caldera and Colorado Salinas with many more at the Tarcoles Estuary

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis*

One, an immature, was at Colorado Salinas

**Royal Tern** *Thalasseus m. maxima*

A handful at Caldera and Tarcoles were followed by up to 20 at Colorado Salinas

**Cabot's Tern** *Thalasseus a. acyflavida*

About 10 were at Colorado Salinas; formerly considered a subspecies of Sandwich Tern *T. sandvicensis* but populations in the Americas are now split due to marked genetic differences and, in the case of some populations, striking morphological differences

## COLUMBIDAE

**[Common Pigeon** *Columba livia*]

Small numbers were seen in some urban contexts; an introduced species

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata crissalis*

About 50 were seen at Paraiso del Quetzales

**Pale-vented Pigeon** *Patagioenas cayennensis pallidicrissa*

A handful were noted at Arenal

**Red-billed Pigeon** *Patagioenas f. flavirostris / minima* CAE\*

Small numbers were seen most days in the lowlands after the first in San Jose

**[Ruddy Pigeon** *Patagioenas s. subvinacea* ]

Heard but not seen in the highlands at Paraiso del Quetzal and Monteverde

**Short-billed Pigeon** *Patagioenas nigrirostris*

A couple posed for the scope at La Selva, several more were heard there and at Carara NP and Villa Lapas

**White-winged Dove** *Zenaida asiatica australis*

Small numbers were seen, mainly from the moving bus, in San Jose; a couple showed well at El Rodeo Country Inn there

**Inca Dove** *Columbina inca*

Regularly seen in small numbers after the first at our hotel in San Jose

**Common Ground Dove** *Columbina passerina neglecta*

Small numbers were seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Plain-breasted Ground Dove** *Columbina minuta elaeodes*

Two singles were seen during our first evening at Hacienda Solimar

**Ruddy Ground Dove** *Columbina talpacoti rufipennis*

Common at Hacienda Solimar after a handful of earlier birds, a couple more were at and near Selve Verde

**[Blue Ground Dove** *Claravis pretiosa*]

Heard but not seen at Carara NP and Villa Lapas

**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila v. verreauxi / riottei e*

Fairly common throughout the lowlands after the first at Villa Lapas

**Grey-chested Dove** *Leptotila cassini cerviniventris / rufinuca*

One or two were at Arenal

## PSITTACIDAE

**[Great Green Macaw** *Ara a. ambigu*]

Heard at both Selve Verde and La Selva but not seen (except by Santiago)

**Scarlet Macaw** *Ara m. macao*

Up to 10 per day were seen at Villa Lapas, Carara NP (where two perched birds gave great views) and at Tarcoles. A couple were also seen at Selve Verde where this species seems to be making something of a comeback after being absent for many years

**Finsch's Parakeet** *Aratinga finschi* **NE<sup>2</sup>**

Groups of up to 20 flew over our hotel in San Jose; also known as Crimson-fronted Parakeet

**Orange-fronted Parakeet** *Aratinga c. canicularis* **CAE**

A total of six were recorded at Hacienda Solimar

**[Barred Parakeet** *Bolborhynchus l. lineola*]

Heard but not seen at Paraiso del Quetzales

**Orange-chinned Parakeet** *Brotogeris j. jugularis*

Ones and twos, occasionally larger groups, were seen at Hacienda Solimar, Selve Verde and La Selva

**Brown-hooded Parrot** *Pionopsitta h. haematotis*

Half-a-dozen at Monteverde were followed by another at Carara NP

**White-crowned Parrot** *Pionus senilis rubigularis* CAE

Small groups flew over at Selve Verde and La Selva on several occasions but none were seen settled

**White-fronted Amazon** *Amazona albifrons nana* CAE

A few flew over at San Jose, several were seen in flight at Carara and Villa Lapas, perched birds were seen at Monteverde and especially Hacienda Solimar where up to 20 gathered to roost in the trees below the swimming pool

**Red-Lored Amazon** *Amazona autumnalis salvini*

A few flight views at Carara NP and nearby areas were followed by some excellent views of up to 15 perched birds at La Selva

**Yellow-naped Amazon** *Amazona a. auropalliata* CAE

Only seen at Hacienda Solimar where three posed for the scope

**Mealy Amazon** *Amazona farinosa virenticeps*

Two showed well during our final evening at La Selva

## CUCULIDAE

**Groove-billed Ani** *Crotophaga sulcirostris*

Common at Hacienda Solimar with a handful elsewhere in the lowlands

**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana thermophila*

A total of 10 were seen at widespread lowland sites

**Mangrove Cuckoo** *Coccyzus minor*

Two or three gave some good views at Finca Pavones, Hacienda Solimar

## STRIGIDAE

**Pacific Screech Owl** *Megascops c. cooperi* CAE

Two were seen at Hacienda Solimar where another was heard near our rooms

**Vermiculated Screech Owl** *Megascops vermiculatus*

A roosting bird was seen at La Selva

**Black-and-white Owl** *Strix nigrolineata*

A roosting bird was in the regular, but incongruous seeming, site of Orotina town square

**Crested Owl** *Lophostrix cristata stricklandi*

Two roosting birds were seen at La Selva

**Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium brasilianum ridgwayi*

Singles were seen on five occasions at Hacienda Solimar

## CAPRIMULGIDAE

**Short-tailed Nighthawk** *Lurocalis semitorquatus noctivagus*

One or two were seen one evening at Selva Verde

**Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis littoralis* etc

About 20 were seen in flight at the Tarcoles Estuary and a perched bird was at Finca Pavones, Hacienda Solimar

**Pauraque** *Nyctidromus albicollis intercedens*

One showed quite well in the dry forest at Hacienda Solimar, others were heard there, at Monteverde and at Villa Lapas

## APODIDAE

**White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris bouchelli*

Groups of up to 30 were seen over Paraiso del Quetzal, Savegre Mountain Lodge, Selva Verde and La Selva

**Costa Rican Swift** *Chaetura fumosa* CAE\*

A handful were over the Tarcoles Estuary and Villa Lapas; formerly included as a subspecies of Band-rumped Swift *C. spinicauda*

**Grey-rumped Swift** *Chaetura cinereiventris phaeopygos*

Small numbers were recorded daily in the Caribbean lowlands

**Vaux's Swift** *Chaetura vauxi richmondi*

Up to 100 were over Savegre Mountain Lodge

## TROCHILIDAE

**Band-tailed Barbthroat** *Threnetes ruckeri ventosus*

Three or four showed well during our final afternoon at La Selva

**Green Hermit** *Phaethornis guy coruscus*

One or two gave great views at Monteverde's Hummingbird Gallery

**Long-billed Hermit** *Phaethornis longirostris cephalus*

Two gave some quite fleeting views at Carara NP; also known as (Western) Long-tailed Hermit

**Stripe-throated Hermit** *Phaethornis striigularis saturatus*

Singles were seen on our occasions at Selve Verde; also known as Little Hermit

**Green-fronted Lancebill** *Doryfera ludovicae veraguensis*

Two gave some fleeting views at Monteverde

**Scaly-breasted Hummingbird** *Phaeochroa cuvierii roberti* / *maculicauda* **e CAE\***

Fairly common at Villa Lapas and Carara NP where up to 10 per day were seen

**Violet Sabrewing** *Campylopterus hemileucurus mellitus* **CAE**

Common at the Hummingbird Gallery in Monteverde but not seen elsewhere

**White-necked Jacobin** *Florisuga m. mellivora*

One posed for the scope at Selve Verde

**Green Violet-ear** *Colibri thalassinus cabanidis*

Small numbers were seen, and many more heard at Paraiso del Quetzal and Savegre Mountain Lodge, several were also seen at Monteverde

**Green-breasted Mango** *Anthracoceros prevostii gracilirostris*

Ones and twos were seen with some regularity at Villa Lapas and Hacienda Solimar

**Violet-headed Hummingbird** *Klais guimeti merrittii*

Two or three were at Arenal and a couple more at El Tapir as we returned to San Jose

**Green Thorntail** *Discosura conversii*

One was seen briefly at El Tapir

**Fiery-throated Hummingbird** *Panterpe i. insignis* / *eisenmanni* **e NE<sup>1</sup>**

Fairly common at Paraiso del Quetzal where several showed very well at the feeders

**Coppery-headed Emerald** *Elvira cupreiceps* **E**

Several showed well at Monteverde's Hummingbird Gallery

**Stripe-tailed Hummingbird** *Eupherusa eximia* **CAE**

Ones and twos made regular appearances at the Hummingbird Gallery in Monteverde

**Violet-crowned Woodnymph** *Thalurania colombica venusta*

At least three were at El Tapir

**Cinnamon Hummingbird** *Amazilia rutila corallirostris* CAE

A total of about 10 were seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** *Amazilia t. tzacatl*

Ones and twos at Villa Lapas were followed by about 10 at Selve Verde and La Selva

**Steely-vented Hummingbird** *Amazilia saucerrottei hoffmanni*

Ones and twos were seen occasionally at Villa Lapas and Hacienda Solimar

**Snowcap** *Microchera albocoronata parvirostris* CAE

A couple of these stunning little hummers put on a good show at El Tapir

**Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer** *Chalybura urochrysis melanorrhoa*

Two at Selve Verde were followed by one at La Selva; also known as Red-footed Plumeleteer (or Rumpulet), birds in Costa Rica don't actually have a bronze tail

**Purple-throated Mountaingem** *L. c. calolaemus e / pectoralis / homogenes* NE<sup>1\*</sup>

Quite common at Monteverde, especially at the Hummingbird Gallery; sometimes lumped with the next species under Variable Mountaingem *L. castaneiventris*

**Grey-tailed Mountaingem** *Lampornis cinereicauda* E

One was at Paraiso del Quetzal and a few more were at Savegre Mountain Lodge; also known as White-throated Mountaingem but that name is now used for a similar Panamanian species *L. castaneiventris*

**Green-crowned Brilliant** *Heliodoxa jacula henryi*

One of the commoner Hummers at Monteverde's Hummingbird Gallery but not seen elsewhere

**Magnificent Hummingbird** *Eugenes fulgens spectabilis*

Common at the feeders at Paraiso del Quetzal with a few more in the cloudforest there and at Savegre Mountain lodge

**Purple-crowned Fairy** *Heliobryx barroti*

One showed quite well along the Loop Trail at Carara NP

**Magenta-throated Woodstar** *Calliphlox bryantae* NE<sup>1</sup>

Regularly seen at the feeders at Monteverde's Hummingbird Gallery

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** *Archilochus colubris*

A male came regularly to the flowers at Hacienda Solimar

**Volcano Hummingbird** *Selasphorus flammula torridus* NE<sup>1</sup>

A handful were seen at Paraiso del Quetzal and Savegre mountain Lodge

**Scintillant Hummingbird** *Selasphorus scintilla* NE<sup>1</sup>

A single female came to the feeders at Savegre Mountain Lodge

## TROGONIDAE

**Resplendent Quetzal** *Pharomachrus mocinno costaricensis* CAE

At least five gave some great views at Paraiso del Quetzal and another was at Monteverde

**Slaty-tailed Trogon** *Trogon massena hoffmanni*

Heard at Carara NP and singles were seen on three occasions at Selve Verde and La Selva after an earlier bird along the Tabacon Road

**Black-headed Trogon** *Trogon melanocephalus* CAE

Fairly common at Hacienda Solimar where at least 10 were seen

**Violaceous Trogon** *Trogon violaceus concinnus*

Singles were at Villa Lapas and Carara NP with a couple more on the Caribbean slope

**Black-throated Trogon** *Trogon rufus tenellus*

One was seen at Selve Verde N/L

**Collared Trogon** *Trogon collaris puella*

One was seen at Monteverde; birds in the Costa Rican highlands were previously considered a separate species called Orange-bellied Trogon *T. aurantiiventris* but these are now regarded as a colour morph of the more widespread Collared Trogon

## ALCEDINIDAE

**Green Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle americana septentrionalis*

Three or four were seen at Tarcoles and Villa Lapas with a couple more at Selve Verde

**Amazon Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle amazona*

One was seen during our cruise through the Tarcoles mangroves

**Ringed Kingfisher** *Megaceryle t. torquata*

A couple were at Villa Lapas, one at Tarcoles, two or three at Hacienda Solimar and one at Selve Verde

**Belted Kingfisher** *Megaceryle alcyon*

One was in the Tarcoles Mangroves

## MOMOTIDAE

**Blue-crowned Motmot** *Momotus momota lessonii*

Two at Rio Garita Reservoir were followed by two or three more at Monteverde

**Rufous Motmot** *Baryphthengus martii semirufus*

One was seen at Selve Verde

**Broad-billed Motmot** *Electron platyrhynchum minor*

One was at La Selva

**Turquoise-browed Motmot** *Eumomota superciliosa australis* CAE

One at Carara NP was followed by about five at Hacienda Solimar

## GALBULIDAE

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda melanogenia*

Three were seen at La Selva

## BUCCONIDAE

**Pied Puffbird** *Bucco tectus subtectus*

One posed for the scope during our final evening at La Selva

**White-whiskered Puffbird** *Malacoptila p. panamensis / inornata*

One was seen by some of the group along the Loop Trail at Carara NP

## RAMPHASTIDAE

**Prong-billed Barbet** *Semnornis frantzii* NE<sup>1</sup>

Up to 10 were seen during our morning visit to Monteverde Cloudforest Preserve

**Blue-throated Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus caeruleogularis* NE<sup>1</sup>

One was seen, but only in flight, at Hotel Montana, Monteverde

**Collared Aracari** *Pteroglossus t. torquatus*

Up to eight per day were found at Selve Verde and La Selva after a few earlier birds at Arenal

**Keel-billed Toucan** *Ramphastos sulfuratus brevicarinatus*

About 20 were seen in total at Selve Verde and La Selva after an earlier bird at Arenal

**Chestnut-mandibled Toucan** *Ramphastos swainsonii*

A couple at Villa Lapas were followed by up to 20 at Selve Verde and La Selva

## PICIDAE

**Acorn Woodpecker** *Melanerpes formicivorus striatipectus*

About six were at Savegre Mountain Lodge, a regular site for this species

**Golden-naped Woodpecker** *Melanerpes chrysauchen* NE<sup>2</sup>

One was seen near the oxbow at Carara NP

**Black-checked Woodpecker** *Melanerpes pucherani*

Three or four were at Arenal with another 10 or so at Selva Verde and La Selva

**Hoffmann's Woodpecker** *Melanerpes hoffmannii* CAE

Common in the Central Valley and around Carara/ Tarcoles

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus varius*

One was at Monteverde, quite a scarcity in Costa Rica

**Hairy Woodpecker** *Picoides villosus sanctorum*

Two or three were found at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Smoky-brown Woodpecker** *Picoides fumigatus sanguinolentus*

One at La Selva gave rather poor views

**Rufous-winged Woodpecker** *Piculus simplex* CAE

A total of four were seen at La Selva

[**Cinnamon Woodpecker** *Ceelus loricatus diversus*]

Heard but not seen at La Selva

**Chestnut-colored Woodpecker** *Ceelus castaneus* CAE

Four were seen at La Selva

**Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus l. lineatus / similis*

Three or four were at Hacienda Solimar and another was at La Selva

**Pale-billed Woodpecker** *Campephilus g. guatemalensis* CAE

A pair gave some great views at Villa Lapas, also heard at Carara NP

## FURNARIIDAE

**Red-faced Spinetail** *Cranioleuca erythrops rufigenis*

Two or three showed well at Monteverde

**Ruddy Treerunner** *Margarornis r. rubiginosus* NE<sup>1</sup>

Two or three were at Paraiso del Quetzal with a couple more at Monteverde

[**Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus ochrolaemus hypophaeus / exsertus*]

One was seen briefly at Carara NP (L/O)

**Plain Xenops** *Xenops minutus ridgwayi*

A couple at Villa Lapas were followed by a couple more at Carara NP and La Selva

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus pectoralis*

The five seen were shared between Carara NP, Arenal and La Selva

**Northern Barred Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes s. sanctithomae / hesperius*

One was seen briefly at La Selva

**Black-striped Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus l. lachrymosus / eximius*

Two were seen very well at La Selva during our first evening visit there, a scarce bird

**Spotted Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius punctigula*

About four were found at Monteverde

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii compressus*

The nine seen were at Villa Lapas, Carara NP and Selve Verde

## THAMNOPHILIDAE

**Fasciated Antshrike** *Cymbilaimus lineatus fasciatus*

Ones and twos were seen on three occasions at La Selva

**Barred Antshrike** *Thamnophilus doliatus intermedius*

One at Carara NP was followed by a handful more at Hacienda Solimar

**Black-hooded Antshrike** *Thamnophilus bridgesi* NE<sup>2</sup>

Fairly common at Villa Lapas and Carara NP where about 20 were seen and several more heard

**Slaty Antwren** *Myrmotherula s. schisticolor*

One was seen along the Loop Trail at Carara NP

**Dot-winged Antwren** *Microrhoptias quixensis virgatus*

Fairly common at Carara NP and Villa Lapas though more often heard than seen

**Dusky Antbird** *Cercomacra tyrannina crepera*

A total of six were seen at Carara NP and Villa Lapas

**Chestnut-backed Antbird** *Myrmeciza exsul occidentalis / exsul*

A couple at Carara NP were followed by about six at Selve Verde

## RHINOCRYPTIDAE

**Silvery-fronted Tapaculo** *Scytalopus a. argentifrons* NE<sup>1</sup>

Heard at Monteverde where one was very briefly glimpsed

## TYRANNIDAE

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia** *Elaenia flavogaster subpagana*

Three singles were seen at Monteverde

**Mountain Elaenia** *Elaenia f. frantzii*

One was at Paraiso del Quetzal and another at Monteverde

**Paltry Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius vilissimus parvus*

One was at La Selva

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleagineus assimilis*

Two at Hacienda Solimar were followed by another at La Selva

**Northern Bentbill** *Oncostoma cinereigulare* CAE

Three were seen along the Loop Trail at Carara NP after an earlier bird briefly at the Oxbow Trail

**Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant** *Lophotriccus pileatus luteiventris*

Two gave some nice views at Monteverde

**Common Tody-flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum finitimum / wetmorei*

Regularly encountered in small numbers after the first at Monteverde

**Black-headed Tody-flycatcher** *Todirostrum nigriceps*

Singles were seen twice at Selve Verde and La Selva

**Yellow-olive Flatbill** *Tolmomyias sulphurescens cinereiceps*

One or two were seen on a couple of occasions at Hacienda Solimar; also known as Yellow-olive Flycatcher

**Northern Royal Flycatcher** *Onychorhynchus mexicanus* CAE

Three were seen along the Oxbow Trail at Carara NP

**Sulphur-rumped Myiobius** *Myiobius sulphureipygius aureatus*

One or two were seen on three occasions at Villa Lapas; also known as Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans amnicola*

One was near Tabacon as we approached Arenal and another was along the river at Selve Verde

**Tropical Pewee** *Contopus cinereus brachytarsus / rhizophorus e*

One showed quite briefly at the Gallery Forest at Hacienda Solimar

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** *Empidonax flaviventris*

One or two were noted at Finca Pavones, Hacienda Solimar

**Yellowish Flycatcher** *Empidonax f. flavescens CAE*

A couple were seen at Monteverde

**Black-capped Flycatcher** *Empidonax atriceps NE<sup>1</sup>*

Three or four showed well at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus leuconota*

One posed for the scope at La Selva

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis texensis / columbianus*

Common and widespread, recorded almost daily in good numbers

**Grey-capped Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes g. granadensis*

Small numbers were at Monteverde and Villa Lapas with slightly larger numbers on the Caribbean slope

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus guatemalensis*

Common, widespread and rather noisy, recorded daily

**White-ringed Flycatcher** *Conopias albobittata distinctus*

One was seen and a couple more heard at La Selva

**Golden-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes hemichrysus NE<sup>1</sup>*

At least three showed very well at Monteverde

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus difficilis / insolens*

A handful were seen at Villa Lapas, Hacienda Solimar and Selve Verde

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarhynchus pitangua mexicanus*

After the first few at Villa Lapas several more were found at Selve Verde and La Selva

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus satrapa*

Very common and widespread, seen everywhere except at the highest elevation at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer littoralis / nigricapillus*

A couple were identified at Carara NP and Villa Lapas

**Great Crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus crinitus*

Three singles were noted at Hacienda Solimar

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus brachyurus*

The only one identified was at Hacienda Solimar but some of the dozen or so unidentified Myiarchus Flycatchers seen may also have been this species

**Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus citreopygus*

At least three were seen at La Selva

**COTINGIDAE****[Yellow-billed Cotinga** *Carpodectes antoniae* **NE<sup>2</sup>**]

One was seen by Santiago only at Carara NP (L/O)

**Snowy Cotinga** *Carpodectes nitidus* **CAE**

At least four showed well at La Selva

**PIPRIDAE****White-collared Manakin** *Manacus candei* **CAE**

A total of about eight were seen and several more heard at Selva Verde and La Selva

**Orange-collared Manakin** *Manacus aurantiacus* **NE<sup>2</sup>**

Three or four gave some nice views at Carara NP

**Long-tailed Manakin** *Chiroxiphia linearis fastuosa* **CAE**

Three at Finca Pavones, Hacienda Solimar included an adult male, another male was seen briefly in the dry forest there

**Red-capped Manakin** *Pipra m. mentalis*

Two females and a brief male were seen at Selva Verde

**TITYRIDAE****Black-crowned Tityra** *Tityra inquisitor fraserii* / [*albitorques*]

One was along the Tabacon Road near Arenal

**Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata costaricensis*

Small numbers, totalling about 20 birds, were seen at widespread sites after the first at Rio Garita Reservoir

**Barred Becard** *Pachyramphus versicolor costaricensis*

One was seen briefly at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Cinnamon Becard** *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus fulvidior*

Fairly common at La Selva where about eight were noted

**Rose-throated Becard** *Pachyrampus aglaiae hypophaeus / latirostris*

Most of the six seen were at Hacienda Solimar

## VIREONIDAE

**Mangrove Vireo** *Vireo p. pallens* CAE

One was seen in the mangroves bordering Colorado Salinas

**Yellow-throated Vireo** *Vireo flavifrons*

Singles were seen at Villa Lapas and Hacienda Solimar

**Yellow-winged Vireo** *Vireo carmioli* NE<sup>1</sup>

Two were at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Brown-capped Vireo** *Vireo leucophrys chiriquensis*

One showed well at Monteverde

**Philadelphia Vireo** *Vireo philadelphicus*

Four or five were in the hotel garden at Villa Lapas

**Lesser Greenlet** *Hylophilus d. decurtatus*

Small numbers were seen at Carara NP, Villa Lapas and Selve Verde

## CORVIDAE

**[Azure-hooded Jay** *Cyanolyca c. cucullata* CAE]

Heard but not seen at Monteverde

**Brown Jay** *Cyanocorax morio mexicanus*

Small numbers were seen six dates after the first at Monteverde

**White-throated Magpie-Jay** *Calocitta formosa pompata* CAE

A couple below Monteverde were followed by regular encounters with up to six near our rooms at Hacienda Solimar

## PTILOGONATIDAE

**Black-and-yellow Silky-Flycatcher** *Phainoptila m. melanosantha e / parkeri e* NE<sup>1</sup>

At least four were seen at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher** *Ptilogonys caudatus* NE<sup>1</sup>

Up to 15 were at Paraiso del Quetzal and Savegre Mountain Lodge

## HIRUNDINIDAE

**Blue-and-white Swallow** *Notiochelidon c. cyanolenca*

Fairly common in the highlands south of San Jose and at Monteverde with a few more at Arenal and on the Caribbean slope

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* ssp.

A handful were seen at Selva Verde and La Selva

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis decolor*

One was at La Selva

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*

Fairly widespread in the lowlands, especially common at Hacienda Solimar

## TROGLODYTIDAE

**Band-backed Wren** *Campylorhynchus zonatus costaricensis*

A couple at Arenal were followed by a couple more at La Selva

**Rufous-naped Wren** *Campylorhynchus rufinucha capistratus / nicoyae* e CAE

Fairly common in the Pacific lowlands after the first in the hotel car park in San Jose

**Black-throated Wren** *Thryothorus atrogularis* CAE

One was seen at La Selva

[**Black-bellied Wren** *Thryothorus fasciatoventris melanogaster*]

One was at Carara NP (L/O)

**Rufous-breasted Wren** *Thryothorus rutilus hyperythrus*

One was glimpsed by a few at Carara NP

**Riverside Wren** *Thryothorus semibadius* NE<sup>2</sup>

Pairs were seen quite briefly on two occasions at Villa Lapas and Carara NP

**Stripe-breasted Wren** *Thryothorus thoracicus* CAE

One gave a couple of brief views at Selva Verde

[**Rufous-and-white Wren** *Thryothorus rufalbus skutchi*]

Heard but not seen at Carara NP

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon intermedius / inquietus*

Ones and twos were at Monteverde, Villa Lapas and Arenal

**Ochraceous Wren** *Troglodytes o. ochraceus* e CAE

One gave some good views in the cloudforest at Monteverde

**White-breasted Wood-wren** *Henicorbina leucosticta pittieri / costaricensis* e

One was seen briefly at Selve Verde

**Grey-breasted Wood-wren** *Henicorbina leucophrys collina*

Two or three were seen at Monteverde Cloudforest Preserve

## POLIOPTIDAE

**Long-billed Gnatwren** *Ramphocaenus melanurus rufiventris / panamensis*

One gave some nice views at Villa Lapas

**Tropical Gnatcatcher** *Poliophtila plumbea brodkorbi / superciliaris*

Small numbers were seen quite regularly at Hacienda Solimar and a couple more were in the Caribbean lowlands

## MIMIDAE

**Grey Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis*

One was seen at la Selva

## TURDIDAE

**Black-faced Solitaire** *Myadestes melanops* NE<sup>1</sup>

Up to four were seen at Monteverde

**Black-billed Nightingale-thrush** *Catharus g. gracilirostris* e NE<sup>1</sup>

Small numbers were seen well at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Slaty-backed Nightingale-thrush** *Catharus fuscater bellmayri*

A couple were noted at Monteverde

**Wood Thrush** *Hylocichla mustelina*

One or two were seen at Selve Verde

**Sooty Thrush** *Turdus nigrescens* NE<sup>1</sup>

Half-a-dozen were watched at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Mountain Thrush** *Turdus p. plebejus / rafaelsensis* CAE

One or two were seen at Paraiso del Quetzal

**[Pale-vented Thrush** *Turdus o. obsoletus*]

One at La Selva was seen by Rodolpho only (L/O)

**Clay-coloured Thrush** *Turdus grayi casius*

Common throughout the lowlands

**White-throated Thrush** *Turdus assimilis cnephosus* CAE

One was seen at Selve Verde (N/L)

**[House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*]

Small numbers were noted in some urban contexts; introduced

## FRINGILLIDAE

**Yellow-crowned Euphonia** *Euphonia luteicapilla* CAE

Ones and twos were seen on three dates at Monteverde and Selve Verde

**Yellow-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia hirundinacea gnatho* CAE

Up to 10 were in the grounds of the Montana Hotel in Monteverde and a couple more were at Villa Lapas

**Olive-backed Euphonia** *Euphonia gouldi praetermissa* CAE

Small numbers were regularly seen around the birdtables at Arenal and Selve Verde

**Golden-browed Chlorophonia** *Chlorophonia callophrys* NE<sup>1</sup>

Two or three gave some fleeting views at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Yellow-bellied Siskin** *Carduelis* *x. xanthogastra*

A handful were seen briefly at Paraiso del Quetzal

## PARULIDAE

**Golden-winged Warbler** *Vermivora chrysoptera*

A fine male bathed in a puddle at La Selva

**Tennessee Warbler** *Vermivora peregrina*

Up to 10 per day were noted on the Pacific slope

**Flame-throated Warbler** *Parula gutturalis* NE<sup>1</sup>

Two were seen briefly at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Dendroica pensylvanica*

One or two at Villa Lapas were followed by frequent encounters in the Caribbean lowlands

**American Yellow Warbler** *Dendroica aestiva* ssp.

Small numbers were seen on an almost daily basis in the Pacific slope

**Mangrove Warbler** *Dendroica petechia bryanti* / *xanthotera*

Nice, identifiable, males were seen at the Tarcoles mangroves and Colorado Salinas

**Black-throated Green Warbler** *Dendroica virens*

Two were at Paraiso del Quetzal and two more at Monteverde

**Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia*

A handful were found at Monteverde and in the Caribbean lowlands

**Prothonotary Warbler** *Protonotaria citrea*

Up to 10 were seen in the Tarcoles mangroves and at Colorado Salinas

**Northern Waterthrush** *Seiurus noveboracensis*

Most of the 10 or so seen were at Villa Lapas

**Wilson's Warbler** *Wilsonia p. pusilla* / *pileolata* / *chryseola*

Small numbers at Paraiso del Quetzal and Monteverde were followed by another at Arenal

**Slate-throated Whitestart** *Myioborus miniatus aurantiacus* / *comptus e*

Quite common at Monteverde where about 15 were seen; also known as Slate-throated Redstart

**Collared Whitestart** *Myioborus torquatus* **NE**<sup>1</sup>

About four performed well at Paraiso del Quetzal; also known as Collared Redstart

**Three-striped Warbler** *Basileuterus tristriatus chitrensis*

About 10 were found at Monteverde

**Buff-rumped Warbler** *Phaeothlypis fulvicauda leucopygia* / *veraguensis*

A couple at Villa Lapas were followed by half-a-dozen at Selva Verde

## ICTERIDAE

**Chestnut-headed Oropendola** *Psarocolius magleri ridgwayi*

At least two were seen at La Selva

**Montezuma Oropendola** *Psarocolius montezuma* **CAE**

Ones and two were seen from the moving bus on the Pacific slope but this characteristic species was a frequent site around the feeders at Arenal and on the Caribbean slope

**Scarlet-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus uropygialis microrhynchus*

About eight were seen at La Selva

**Spot-breasted Oriole** *Icterus pectoralis espinachi* **CAE**

Ones and twos were seen on three occasions at Hacienda Solimar

**Yellow-tailed Oriole** *Icterus mesomelas salvinii*

One was seen at Las Selva

**Black-cowled Oriole** *Icterus dominicensis* **CAE**

A handful at Arenal were followed by a couple more at Selve Verde

**Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula*

Up to 15 per day were at Monteverde with smaller numbers elsewhere on an almost daily basis

**Streak-backed Oriole** *Icterus pustulatus sclateri* **CAE**

A total of five were seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivora impacifa*

One was noted at La Selva

**Melodious Blackbird** *Dives dives* **CAE**

Several at Monteverde were followed by another at Arenal

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus grinnelli*

A male was seen in flight at Hacienda Solimar

**Great-tailed Grackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus peruvianus*

Common and widespread in open areas and urban contexts

**Eastern Meadowlark** *Sturnella magna alticola*

A handful were seen at Hacienda Solimar

## COEREBIDAE

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola mexicana*

Small numbers were around the feeders at Monteverde with a few more in the Caribbean lowlands

## EMBERIZIDAE

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis costaricensis*

Fairly common at Paraiso del Quetzal, Savegre Mountain Lodge and at the Hotel Montana in Monteverde

**Stripe-headed Sparrow** *Aimophila r. ruficauda* **CAE**

Half-a-dozen were seen at Hacienda Solimar and Colorado Salinas

**White-eared Ground-Sparrow** *Melospiza l. leucotis* **e CAE**

Two were seen at Monteverde (N/L)

**Olive Sparrow** *Arremonops rufivirgatus superciliosus* e

A couple were seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Black-striped Sparrow** *Arremonops conirostris richmondi*

Three or four were below the feeders at Arenal

**Orange-billed Sparrow** *Arremon a. aurantirostris / rufidorsalis*

Ones and twos were regularly seen and more often heard at Selve Verde

**Chestnut-capped Brush-finch** *Arremon brunneinucha elsae*

A couple gave fleeting views at Monteverde

**Large-footed Finch** *Pezopetes capitalis* NE<sup>1</sup>

One was seen as we returned for lunch at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Yellow-thighed Finch** *Pselliophorus tibialis* NE<sup>1</sup>

A handful were seen at Paraiso del Quetzal

## THRAUPIDAE

**White-shouldered Tanager** *Tachyphonus luctuosus axillaris?* / *nitidissimus*

Two or three were found along the Loop Trail at Carara NP

**White-lined Tanager** *Tachyphonus rufus*

Two were seen at Selve Verde

**Passerini's Tanager** *Ramphocelus passerinii* CAE

Fairly common in the Caribbean lowlands after the first near Arenal

**Blue-gray Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus cana*

Common and widespread, especially at lower elevations

**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum atripennis*

Distribution and numbers similar to the last species though a little less common overall

**Plain-colored Tanager** *Tangara inornata rava*

About 10 were noted at La Selva after an earlier bird at Selve Verde

**Silver-throated Tanager** *Tangara icterocephala frantzii*

Two were seen at Carara NP's Loop Trail

**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola bangsi*

Two were seen along the Loop Trail at Carara NP

**Golden-hooded Tanager** *Tangara l. larvata / centralis / franciscae*

After a couple at Villa Lapas about 20 were seen at Selva Verde and La Selva

**Spangle-cheeked Tanager** *Tangara dowii* NE<sup>1</sup>

Fairly common at Paraiso del Quetzal where about 40 were seen

**Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana callaina*

After the first at Villa Lapas a few more were seen in the Caribbean lowlands

**Shining Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes lucidus isthmicus* CAE\*

One was at Selva Verde and three at La Selva

**Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus carneipes*

A female at Hotel Montana, Monteverde was eclipsed by a superb male at Arenal

**Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza arguta*

A male was seen briefly at Selva Verde

**Slaty Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa p. plumbea* CAE

A handful were seen at Paraiso del Quetzal

**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina splendens*

One was seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Variable Seedeater** *Sporophila c. corvina / hoffmannii*

A handful were seen at Hacienda Solimar, Selva Verde and La Selva

**White-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila torqueola moreletii*

Small numbers were seen at Hacienda Solimar

**Blue Seedeater** *Amaurospiza concolor*

One was noted at Monteverde (N/L)

**Yellow-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris olivacea pusillus*

Small numbers were seen in Monteverde, mostly around the lawns of the Hotel Montana

**Common Bush-Tanager** *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus regionalis / novicius*

About 20 were seen at Monteverde

**Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager** *Chlorospingus p. pileatus* NE<sup>1</sup>

Only seen at Paraiso del Quetzal where it was quite common

**Flame-colored Tanager** *Piranga bidentata citrea* CAE

Two or three were at Savegre Mountain Lodge

**Tooth-billed Tanager** *Piranga lutea testacea*

Two or three were at Arenal; formerly included in Hepatic Tanager *P. hepatica*

**Summer Tanager** *Piranga r. rubra*

A total of about 10 were seen at widespread lowland sites

**Red-throated Ant-Tanager** *Habia f. fuscicauda*

Small numbers were occasionally seen in the grounds at Selva Verde

## CARDINALIDAE

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Phencticus ludovicianus*

Up to 10 were found in the grounds of Villa Lapas

**Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus magnoides / intermedius*

Small numbers were regularly seen after the first near Arenal

**Blue-black Grosbeak** *Cyanocompsa cyanooides toddi*

One was seen at La Selva

**Painted Bunting** *Passerina ciris pallidior*

Two were at Villa Lapas during our final pre-breakfast walk there

## MAMMALS

Species order and nomenclature follows Fiona Reid's A Field Guide to the Mammals of Central America and Southeast Mexico (OUP) 1997

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth** *Bradypus variegatus*

One gave some great views during our final evening at La Selva

**Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth** *Choloepus hoffmanni*

One showed quite well in the town square in Orotina

**White-faced Capuchin** *Cebus capuchinus*

A sizeable troop were seen along the Oxbow Trail at Carara NP

**Mantled Howler Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*

Most woodland areas held these noisy animals, several gave good views

**Spider Monkey** *Ateles geoffroyi*

A troop of 20 or more showed well as they moved through the canopy at Monteverde Cloudforest Preserve

**Variegated Squirrel** *Sciurus variegatoides*

These striking animals were seen well in several lowland areas

**Red-tailed Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis*

A couple were at Selve Verde and La Selva

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*

Singles were seen at Monteverde and Carara NP

**Jaguaraundi** *Puma yagouaroundi*

Two lucky group members saw one strolling across the football field below our rooms at Hacienda Solimar

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*

These characterful animals were seen on six dates after the first at Monteverde

**Northern Raccoon** *Procyon lotor*

One was seen briefly at a feeding table near the bar at Selve Verde one evening

**Neotropical River Otter** *Lutra longicaudis*

One was seen from the bar at Selve Verde (N/L)

**Collared Peccary** *Tayassu tajacu*

One at Carara NP was followed by a couple of encounters with groups of 10 or more at La Selva

**OTHER FAUNA**

Reptiles were represented by large numbers of American Crocodiles on the Rio Tarcoles and a few more at Hacienda Solimar, several Iguanas and a range of smaller unidentified lizards and geckos were noted as was a Black River Turtle. A couple of snakes were seen but not identified and Basilisk Lizards were noted at Villa Lapas. Amphibians were represented by some spectacular frogs including Strawberry and Black and Green Poison Dart Frogs at Selve Verde where Red-eyed Tree Frogs were also seen well. Of the many invertebrates encountered most spectacular were several Blue Morphos while Leafcutter Ants were as entertaining as ever.