

Costa Rica

10-20 March 2006



For Spring Break 2006, Jim Pease, Jim Dinsmore and I took a group of 14 students on a trip to explore the natural history of Costa Rica as part of a class through Iowa State University. The 11-day trip included 2-day stops in 4 of the 12 Life Zones found in Costa Rica. The course was broad and emphasized everything from plant communities and insects to birds and mammals. The diversity of life seen during the trip was impressive – a wide array of plants and insects, 14+ reptiles and amphibians, 265+ birds, and 10 mammals. In addition to the three leaders, participants included Kelcey Brockmeyer, Nichole Cudworth, Mary Fuller, Doug Gibson, MJ Hatfield, Natalie Hedlund, Chad Holy, Paul Keller, Laura Kohn, Annabel Major, Dave Miller, Sheena Pope, Sarah Scheel, and Taylor Shire. Below is a summary of our daily travels that includes logistical and cultural details and natural history highlights.

10 March

We departed Ames at 5 a.m. and our flight left Des Moines at 7:20 a.m. After stops in Chicago and Miami (where we met Jim Dinsmore) we arrived in San Jose at 6:25 p.m. After passing through customs we met our driver, Franklin, outside the main airport terminal. We loaded up the bus and arrived at our motel, Hotel Vesuvio in San Jose, by 8 p.m. After checking into our rooms, we gathered for dinner at a small restaurant near the hotel – most of us ate a chicken or fish meal, plus a few beers. We ended the day with a quick meeting to discuss plans for the next day and were in our rooms by 9:30 p.m. for some much-needed sleep.

11 March



Most people were tired from the long travel day on the 10th, but we still managed to rise early. Some of us met outside the hotel a little after 5 a.m. to look for birds. We stayed within a block of the motel and saw many Neotropical migrants plus Red-billed Pigeon, Crimson-fronted Parakeet, Hoffmann's Woodpecker, Rufous-and-white Wren, and Blue-gray Tanager. We gathered for breakfast at the hotel at 7:30 a.m. – bread, pancakes, eggs, and fresh fruit.

We then took a hike into downtown San Jose where we enjoyed a taste of the local culture and architecture. We enjoyed quick stops in a grocery store and at a bank to exchange money and were back at the hotel by 10:15 a.m. to meet Franklin.

We departed San Jose by 10:30 a.m. and headed north-northeast towards La Selva. We slowly made our way up into the mountains, making several stops in Braulio Carillo National Park. It was overcast, foggy, and raining lightly and we didn't see much wildlife. We stopped for lunch at a small restaurant near Santa Clara – a chicken dish with rice, fresh fruit, fried plantains, and a wonderful selection of blended fruit juices. On the south side of the mountains the weather improved and we encountered our first Chestnut-mandibled Toucans and a cooperative Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth along the road near La Selva.



Our final stop of the day was at La Selva Biological Reserve, where we arrived at 3:10 p.m. La Selva is a biological research station located in the Caribbean lowlands and includes large stands of lowland tropical rainforest. After a short introduction by the lead guide, we checked into our quarters. The students stayed in the Tortuga lodge while the Jim's and I stayed in a smaller cabin. After unloading our gear we were anxious to sample the local flora and fauna! La Selva is famous for its plant and

bird life, so much of our focus here was on these groups of organisms. An hour or so of birding on the grounds produced a nice list of tropical species that included Great

Tinamou, White-collared Manakin, Common Tody-Flycatcher, Blue Dacnis, and Green Honeycreeper. We had a nice dinner in the dining hall at 6 p.m. with other guests – rice, pork, a potato-like vegetable, and water. After dinner we went for a short night hike until 8:45 p.m. On the hike we saw lots of eye shine, mostly from spiders. We also lucked into 2 snakes, one of which was a Blunt-nosed Vine Snake eating a freshly-killed anole! (temperatures in the 70s and low 80s, winds light and variable, cloudy to partly cloudy)

12 March

We spent all of today at La Selva. Our cabin awakened at 5 a.m. to the sound of distant Howler Monkeys and a chorus of birdsong. We spent about a half hour in the vicinity of the main buildings and then met for a quick breakfast at 6 a.m. Breakfast consisted of rice, beans, eggs mixed with heart of palm, fried sausage, an interesting fried hollow roll, and fruit. After breakfast we birded the grounds again before meeting at 7:30 a.m. Then we met our guides for the morning, Alex and Yahira, and divided into 2 groups for a long morning walk. Steve took a group with Alex while the two Jim's went with Yahira. Both groups had a terrific morning. We all saw Spider Monkeys, Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloths, and White-nosed Coatis. My



group had an impressive bird list plus an interesting lesson in the general natural history of the area. We learned about many species of local plants, plant-animal interactions, nutrient cycling, and much more. Notable birds included Long-tailed Hermit, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Golden-hooded Tanager, plus an interesting Black-capped Pygmy-tyrant nest that looked like a miniature oriole nest. Both groups rendezvoused for lunch at noon. Lunch consisted of rice, beans, seasoned fish, and a wonderful array of fresh fruit (the pineapple was delicious!).

After lunch we took an hour to listen to a couple of student presentations before taking a siesta until 4 p.m. The group split up during this time – some looked for birds, some botanized, while others just relaxed or took a nap. The birding group saw several interesting species including Sungrebe and a pair of Great Tinamous. At 4 p.m. we all took a short drive into the banana plantations to the north of La Selva where Franklin told us all about this thriving form



of agriculture. As it turns out, Franklin had grown up working on banana plantations and knew all about this industry. The banana processing plant was closed (it was Sunday) so all we could do was walk into the plantation and learn about how the trees were grown and harvested. We really didn't do any birding here, but did see Mangrove Swallow and many Montezuma Oropendolas.



We had a nice dinner of rice, beans, chicken, salad, and a tasty flan at 6 p.m. At 7:15 p.m. we met for a short night hike that lasted about an hour and a half. We walked the river trail adjacent to the main buildings and saw a Green Basilisk (caught by Jim and Steve), Red-eyed Leaf Frog, several Central American Bullfrogs, a myriad of large spiders in all colors, and a couple of Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs. We also had great close-up looks at a Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth by the swinging bridge. After the walk we had a short group discussion on the patio of the main dining area before adjourning at 9:15 p.m. (temperatures in the 70s to low 80s, light winds, mostly cloudy all day, but clearing near sunset, light mist in early a.m.)



13 March

We arose early again this morning (4:30 a.m.) and had some free time before breakfast at 6 a.m. Kelcey, MJ and I hiked the trail along the river SW of camp before dawn. We saw several interesting looking spiders and frogs before the dawn bird chorus. Interesting birds included Crested Guan, Bat Falcon, White-necked Puffbird, Slaty-tailed Trogon, and Orange-billed Sparrow. We were also able to lure in a pair of Mottled Owls, although they never actually showed themselves. Breakfast was at 6 a.m. and included eggs (with salsa on top), rice, beans, fresh fruit, a sweet roll, and several varieties of fresh juice. There was a crowd at breakfast because at least 8 tours were visiting today. La Selva is a biological research station run by a consortium of North



American universities (Organization for Tropical Studies, or OTS), including Iowa State University. Although its main programs involve research and education, they also have an active outreach program for local people and visitors to the area to increase their understanding of tropical ecology.



After breakfast we had the rest of the morning to hike on our own. Most of us birded the area around the main buildings for about an hour before taking a short hike to the arboretum. The arboretum was awesome! We saw several Collared Peccaries on the way, and in the arboretum itself we saw Pale-billed Woodpecker, a group of Crested Guans, and a troop of Spider Monkeys. On our return to camp we encountered an Army Ant swarm that had several antbirds attending it, including Ocellated and Spotted antbirds, Black-faced Antthrush, and Plain-brown and Spotted woodcreepers. We ended the morning back

near the main buildings where we witnessed a flight of >2500 Turkey Vultures, 200+ Black Vultures, 30+ Swainson's Hawks, and a Broad-winged Hawk in about a half hour. It was quite a sight!

We packed a lunch to go (sandwiches, chips, cookies, fruit, and juice or water) and headed for Arenal at 11 a.m. We made a number of short stops along the way and saw several huge iguanas in one of the small towns and an uncooperative King Vulture. We ate lunch in the town of Venecia where we enjoyed talking to some school kids and looking at a nearby church. We arrived at Arenal at 4 p.m. and enjoyed extended looks at a Laughing Falcon near the turnoff to the main lodge. We then checked into the Arenal Observatory Lodge (3 stayed at the main lodge, the other 14 of us in the Casona).



Arenal is the only active volcano in Costa Rica (and one of the most active in the world!) and, at an elevation of 1,657 m, it towers above the surrounding area. It is a popular tourist destination where you can watch volcanic eruptions, visit a spectacular waterfall or nearby Lake Arenal, and swim in hot springs. The region is covered with secondary rainforest that transition into scrub on the old lava flows at the base of the volcano. After taking a few photos from the main deck (looking east to Laguna de Arenal) we headed back to the main lodge for a swim in the pool and a dip in the sauna. After the swim we had a beer at the restaurant and watched flaming boulders appear from



the clouds and tumble down the slope of the volcano! Dinner at 7:30 p.m. was a wonderful buffet at the restaurant and included salad, bread, rice, beans, cheese and crackers, tilapia, sea bass, chicken, steak, and an array of desserts that included flan and teramasu. After dinner we had a brief discussion session at the observatory before adjourning for the day. (temperatures in the 70s and low 80s, wind SE 10-20 mph, clear early then becoming partly cloudy)

14 March

Today was spent exploring Arenal Volcano and the immediate vicinity. Some of us awoke early for a bird hike. We started at 5 a.m. in the dark hoping for some herps, but came up empty. We did hear several Common Pauragues around the cabin (some kept people up all night), but little else. At dawn we were at the observatory where we saw a number of hummingbirds and tanagers at the feeding station and in the flowers around the motel. The hummers were awesome – Violet-headed Hummingbird, White-necked Jacobin, Little Hermit, Black-crested Coquette, Bronze-tailed Plummeleeter, and Green Hermit. We ate at the lodge's breakfast buffet at 7:30 a.m. and the food was once again delicious – pancakes, bacon, sausage, rice, eggs, fresh fruit, and a variety of fruit juices.



After breakfast we drove down to the main park gate and hiked onto the lava fields. We saw very little wildlife on the hour-long hike to the fields, but did see tourists almost constantly. The only bird of note along this hike was a cooperative Rufous Nightjar perched along the trail. Once we arrived on the lava field (from a 1992 eruption) we took time to enjoy the scenery, listen to the volcano rumble, and watch car-sized boulders tumble down the slope. We finished the hike at 11

a.m. and drove to an observation deck where we spent a half hour snacking on fresh fruit (pineapple, mango, and papaya), enjoying more views of the volcano, and watching a large flock of 300+ Blue-and-white Swallows feed. We then returned to the motel and ate lunch on the deck – ham and bologna sandwiches, tortilla chips, cookies, and water. We finished lunch at 1 p.m. and had the afternoon on our own.



The class split into several groups for the afternoon – most went to the waterfall and then for a swim, some hiked around the main lodge area, and 3 of us (me, Dave, and Kelcey) birded the 2 or so miles of road below the motel. The first part of our hike down the mountain was rather uneventful – we saw few birds and failed to catch a couple of small tree frogs whose defense mechanism seemed to be to jump and then burrow into the leaf litter. We exited the

park and at the first stream crossing found several flocks of birds throughout the

afternoon. Some of the highlights included Fasciated Tiger-Heron, Torrent Tyrant, White-collared Manakin, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, Bay-winged Tanager, Golden-crowned and Wilson's warblers, and Buff-rumped Warbler. It rained several times during the hike, and we finally decided to call it quits during a torrential downpour that lasted more than half an hour. We returned to the motel by 5:30 p.m. After cleaning up we all drove to La Fortuna for dinner at a local restaurant – meat (fish, chicken, beef, or pork chop), rice, beans, shredded potatoes, fried plantain, several fresh fruit drinks (cas, guanabana, and blackberry), and fresh ice cream with fruit for dessert. We then returned to the motel by 9 p.m. and had a discussion that lasted until 9:40 p.m. (temperatures in the 70s, light winds, clear in the a.m. becoming mostly cloudy, intermittent rain after lunch)



15 March



We slept in this morning and got up at 4:45 a.m. After a quick shower some of us headed up the main lodge to enjoy the hummingbird show. The hummers were once again out in full force and we saw the same species as the previous day plus Violet-crowned Woodnymph. We had the breakfast buffet at the lodge again at 7 a.m. and had until 9:30 a.m. on our own.

We left Arenal at 9:45 a.m. and took the scenic route to Palo Verde National Park. Along the shore of Laguna de Arenal we encountered several troops of Howler Monkeys, but the only bird of note was a pair of Amazon Kingfishers. After passing the lake we climbed over to the Pacific Slope where we noticed an immediate and dramatic change in the vegetation. The trees were now smaller, almost bare with

only small leaves, and the understory was a mix of bare ground and grasses. The temperature also climbed noticeably and the skies cleared in the dry air. We stopped at 12:45 p.m. for lunch in Montenegro – rice with one of several meat or vegetable toppings, beans, soda or juice, and a fruit slushy for dessert.



We continued on to Palo Verde National Park, arriving there at 3:30

p.m. On the road into the park we encountered a small troop of 8 White-faced Capuchins and a single White-nosed Coati. After checking into our rooms we had about an hour to bird. The huge wetland across from headquarters was nearly dry and covered with



thousands of waterbirds. The most numerous species was Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (5,000+). We also saw good numbers of Blue-winged Teal, a couple of Northern Shovelers, 100+ Muscovy, 2 Anhingas, all of the common waders plus 2 Glossy Ibis and a Jabiru, a Snail Kite, many Limpkins, Black-necked Stilts, and a Lesser Yellowlegs. In the trees along the edge we saw several pairs of Yellow-naped Parrots.

Palo Verde National Park is located in the Pacific lowlands of the Guanacaste Province and includes deciduous and evergreen tropical dry forest, freshwater and brackish wetlands, and mangroves. The park houses another OTS biological station, although it is smaller than La Selva. After a dinner of rice, beans, fruit, and cake for dessert we listened to a long lecture by one of the local scientists on the history of the Palo Verde wetlands that lasted until 9 p.m.

After the talk we took a short night walk north of camp but saw only 2 Pauraques and a few invertebrates. Back in camp we saw a Bare-throated Tiger-Heron, heard and briefly saw a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, and saw many bats. At 9:45 p.m. we called it quits and headed for bed or to the library to check email. (temperatures in the 70s at Arenal and in the mid-80s at Palo Verde, winds S 20-30 mph by afternoon, partly cloudy early, clearing by noon)



16 March

Some of us again awoke early for some pre-breakfast birding. We scoped the marsh in front of the station and again saw many waterbirds. The best finds were 3 Jabirus, several species of herons and ibis, and Snail Kites. We enjoyed a breakfast of sausage, eggs, rice, beans, fresh pineapple, and juice. After breakfast, we met our guide Mario for a tour of the park. We hiked up the road into the dry forest towards a scenic overlook. On the way we saw few birds, but did get quick looks at a Mangrove Cuckoo. The overlook was a steep hike up a narrow, rocky trail, but the view was worth it. After pausing here for a half hour, we returned to the station by 10 a.m. and took a few minutes to rest and enjoy a cold drink. We then took a short hike south along the edge of the marsh and saw many Purple Gallinules plus more of the common waterbirds. We were back in camp by 11:30 a.m. to enjoy a lunch of rice, beans, chicken, fresh fruit, and juice.



Our plan for the afternoon was to relax for a couple of hours before taking a late afternoon boat ride on Rio Tempisque. The afternoon heat was stifling now, so a siesta felt good. At 2 p.m. we met for a class meeting and then drove down to the river at 2:30 p.m. There we met our guides and loaded into two covered boats. The river cruise was awesome! We saw a few American Crocodiles and Spectacled Caimans in the first stretch of river. As we worked our way downstream we stopped to

look at some shorebirds when Franklin spotted a pair of Scarlet Macaws overhead! A little later we found a Boat-billed Heron perched in a mangrove along the river bank. By now we were seeing lots of herons and Spotted Sandpipers, plus Black-bellied Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, and Whimbrel. At the end of our tour was Heron Island, a small mangrove in the center of the river with a large nesting colony of Wood Storks and other wading birds. The storks appeared to be having a great year as all of the nests contained 1-2 large young, some of which were already flying. Also present were many pairs of Roseate Spoonbills and several Anhingas. We returned to camp by 6:30 p.m., just in time for a dinner of rice, beans,



fish, fresh fruit, and a dessert cake. After dinner we went on a short night hike along the edge of the wetland and saw a small cat, Tropical King Snake, several frogs, and a couple of hawk moths. Our hike ended at 8:45 p.m. and after a short gathering to discuss plans for the next day we went to bed. (temperatures in the mid to upper 80s, winds W 25-35 mph and gusty, clear)

17 March



Once again, some of us woke early for a bird hike before breakfast. The Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl was again calling from the parking area. Dave and I walked west from camp towards the campground where we found decent bird activity. We saw Mangrove Black-Hawk, Black-headed Trogons, Crowned Woodnymph, Rufous-naped Wren, and a Northern Tamandua, which is a small arboreal anteater. We returned to camp and along the way scanned the wetland where we saw the same variety of waterbirds as the day before, including 2 Jabirus. After a breakfast of pancakes, rice, beans, fresh

melon, and juice we packed for the drive to Savegre. The main lodge area was now bustling with wildlife activity – a cooperative troop of White-faced Capuchins put on a real show, as did a Turquoise-browed Motmot. We were finally on the road by 8:45 a.m. after taking a group photo in front of the park sign. As we were leaving the park we spotted a pair then a group of 4 Double-striped Thicknees.



Once we got to the main paved highway, we soon encountered a massive traffic jam caused by a truck accident on a bridge ahead. We decided to take advantage of the delay and eat an early lunch in Montenegro, but traffic was still backed up when we finished. We decided to push on anyway, and were amazed at Franklin's bravery at passing parked



trucks in the oncoming lane! Traffic was unbelievably slow for the next couple of hours, and we made only moderate time. We saw few birds on this stretch, but did note a few Orange-fronted Parakeets and several parrots. The drive to Savegre was incredibly slow as we encountered two more automobile accidents that cost us delays of several more hours. We didn't reach San Jose until 5 p.m. and Savegre until 8 p.m. When we arrived we immediately ate dinner because the restaurant had kept the buffet open just for us.

Dinner consisted of salad, fresh fruit, fried plantain, rice and beans, sautéed rabbit, baked local trout, and a variety of desserts. After dinner we checked into our rooms, after which some of us met in the bar for a beer. (temperatures in the 80s at Palo Verde cooling to the 60s in Savegre, winds light and variable, sunny early, becoming cloudy with light rain in the evening)

18 March



Savegre is located 90 km southeast of San Jose in a small valley in the Cordillera de Talamanca and includes high elevation (2200m) humid cloud forest. The valley includes a mix of native habitat and agriculture and also supports an introduced population of rainbow trout. After a good night's sleep I awoke at 5 a.m. and birded the grounds of the hotel before breakfast. The hummingbirds were awesome and consisted of 5 species – Magnificent, Scintillant, and Volcano hummingbirds, Green Violet-ear, and Gray-tailed Mountain-Gem. Breakfast was at 6:30 a.m. and consisted of fresh fruit, eggs, pastries, sausage, pancakes, toast, and fresh fruit juice. After breakfast we met our guide, Marino Chacón, and he took us on a morning hike to see the local birds. Our primary target was Resplendent Quetzal, and we eventually had amazing looks at 2 males and 2 females, including one in a nest hole. Other birds seen on the hike included Spotted Wood-Quail, Sulphur-winged Parakeet, Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher, Yellowish and Tufted flycatchers, Collared Redstart, Elegant Euphonia, and Golden-browed Chlorophonia. After our hike Merino told us about the history of the hotel before we headed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. The lunch buffet consisted of salad and all the fixings, fresh fruit, rice and beans, grilled ham, baked local trout, and a variety of desserts.



After lunch the group split into several small groups. Some people hiked the area around the hotel while others took longer hikes into the surrounding mountains or went for a horseback ride. My group (me, Kelcey, and Doug) hiked east from camp up into the mountain on a birding trail. We saw several Green Spiny Lizards plus our first Black

Guan, Emerald Toucanet, Boat-billed Flycatcher, and Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush. We were back in camp by 4:30 p.m. and relaxed until dinner at 6:30 p.m. After dinner we said goodbye to Franklin, who was unexpectedly called back to San Jose to drive for another group. (temperatures in the 60s and low 70s, winds light and variable, clear but becoming overcast in the afternoon with scattered showers)



19 March



This was our last day in the field, so several of us again woke early for a bird hike at 5:30 a.m. We walked the trails south of the motel and saw 3 Golden-browed Chlorophonias and several of the other “typical” forest birds. Breakfast was at 6:30 a.m. and consisted of the same buffet as the day before. After breakfast

Dave and I birded the main trail south of the motel as far as the waterfall and were back at our rooms by 10:15 a.m. to load the bus and depart. On our hike we found quite a few passerine flocks and some of the more interesting species included Ruddy Pigeon, Ochraceous Wren, and Spangled-cheeked and Silver-throated tanagers. Back at the motel several of us glimpsed a male Violet Sabrewing at the feeders.



We departed Savegre at 10:30 a.m. and after the long uphill drive to the main highway we detoured south a few kilometers to experience the paramo habitat. We made a quick stop to walk through this interesting and unique habitat and saw a Peregrine Falcon, several Volcano Juncos, and Large-footed Finch. From here we retraced our way north, stopping for a half hour on the road south from the small town of Division near km 78. The habitat here looked great, but we found few birds in the mid-morning fog and cool temperatures. After a quick snack stop we headed for San Jose, arriving there at about 2:30 p.m. We stopped to shop for an hour before driving to Hotel Rincon de San



Jose where we would stay for the night. After checking in some of us walked to the Hotel Don Carlos to buy coffee and other souvenirs. We then relaxed for the rest of the afternoon before meeting for dinner at 6:30 p.m. (temperatures in the 60s and low 70s, winds W 5-15 mph, partly cloudy with scattered afternoon showers)

20 March

This was our last day in Costa Rica, and our travel day home. After breakfast we left the hotel at 7 a.m. for the San Jose airport. Jim left an hour earlier via taxi because he had an earlier flight. Our flight departed at 10 a.m. with a stop in Dallas before arriving in Des Moines at 5:30 p.m. We made it to Dallas on time, but were delayed there for 2 hours and were relieved to even get to Des Moines after hearing that all flights there had been canceled for the previous 24 hours! After arriving in Des Moines at 7 p.m. we gathered our luggage and were back in Ames by 8 p.m. to conclude the trip.



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SPECIES LISTS

Mammals

Northern Tamandua
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth
Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth
White-faced Capuchin
Mantled Howler Monkey
Central American Spider
Monkey
Red-tailed Squirrel
Variegated Squirrel
White-nosed Coati
Collared Peccary

Birds

Great Tinamou
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck
Fulvous Whistling-Duck
Muscovy
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Northern Shoveler
Neotropic Cormorant
Anhinga
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron
Fasciated Tiger-Heron
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Little Blue Heron
Snowy Egret
Tricolored Heron
Cattle Egret
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Boat-billed Heron
White Ibis
Glossy Ibis
Green Ibis
Wood Stork
Roseate Spoonbill
Jabiru
Turkey Vulture
Black Vulture
King Vulture
Osprey
Snail Kite
White-tailed Kite
Swallow-tailed Kite
Roadside Hawk
Gray Hawk
Common Black-Hawk
Mangrove Black-Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Swainson's Hawk
Crested Caracara
Laughing Falcon
Bat Falcon
Peregrine Falcon
Gray-headed Chachalaca
Crested Guan

Black Guan
Great Curassow
Spotted Wood-Quail
Limpkin
Purple Gallinule
Sungrebe
Northern Jacana
Double-striped Thicknee
Black-bellied Plover
Black-necked Stilt
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
Spotted Sandpiper
Whimbrel
Rock Pigeon
Band-tailed Pigeon
Pale-vented Pigeon
Red-billed Pigeon
Short-billed Pigeon
Ruddy Pigeon
White-winged Dove
Common Ground-Dove
Ruddy Ground-Dove
Inca Dove
White-tipped Dove
Scarlet Macaw
Crimson-fronted Parakeet
Orange-fronted Parakeet
Sulfur-winged Parakeet
Orange-chinned Parakeet
White-crowned Parrot
White-fronted Parrot
Yellow-naped Parrot
Mangrove Cuckoo
Squirrel Cuckoo
Groove-billed Ani
Vermiculated Screech-Owl
Mottled Owl
Central American Pygmy-Owl
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl
Common Pauraque
Rufous Nightjar
Black Swift
White-collared Swift
Gray-rumped Swift
Vaux's Swift
Long-tailed Hermit
Green Hermit
Little Hermit
Violet Sabrewing
White-necked Jacobin
Green Violet-ear
Violet-headed Hummingbird
Black-crested Coquette
Crowned Woodnymph
Cinnamon Hummingbird
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird
Steely-vented Hummingbird
Bronze-tailed Plumbeleteer

Purple-throated Mountain-Gem
Gray-tailed Mountain-Gem
Magnificent Hummingbird
Scintillant Hummingbird
Volcano Hummingbird
Resplendent Quetzal
Slaty-tailed Trogon
Black-headed Trogon
Collared Trogon
Violaceous Trogon
Amazon Kingfisher
Green Kingfisher
Broad-billed Motmot
Turquoise-browed Motmot
Rufous Motmot
Blue-crowned Motmot
White-necked Puffbird
Emerald Toucanet
Collared Aracari
Keel-billed Toucan
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan
Acorn Woodpecker
Black-cheeked Woodpecker
Hoffmann's Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker
Pale-billed Woodpecker
Plain-brown Woodcreeper
Spotted-crowned Woodcreeper
Streak-headed Woodcreeper
Ruddy Treerunner
Lineated Foliage-gleaner
Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner
Fasciated Antshrike
Dusky Antbird
Spotted Antbird
Ocellated Antbird
Black-faced Antthrush
Barred Becard
Cinnamon Becard
Masked Tityra
Black-crowned Tityra
White-collared Manakin
Black Phoebe
Bright-rumped Attila
Long-tailed Tyrant
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird
Piratic Flycatcher
Boat-billed Flycatcher
Gray-capped Flycatcher
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Social Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Empidonax sp.
Yellowish Flycatcher
Tufted Flycatcher

Yellow-margined Flycatcher
Common Tody-Flycatcher
Torrent Tyrannulet
Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Mountain Elaenia
Black-capped Pygmy-tyrant
Brown-chested Martin
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Southern Rough-winged Swallow
Blue-and-white Swallow
Mangrove Swallow
White-throated Magpie-Jay
Brown Jay
Long-billed Gnatwren
American Dipper
Banded-backed Wren
Rufous-naped Wren
Bay Wren
Plain Wren
House Wren
Ochraceous Wren
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren
White-throated Robin
Clay-colored Robin
Mountain Robin
Black-faced Solitaire
Wood Thrush
Sooty Robin
Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush
Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher
Yellow-throated Vireo
Yellow-winged Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Lesser Greenlet
Bananaquit
Tennessee Warbler

Tropical Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Flame-throated Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
Prothonotary Warbler
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Gray-crowned Yellowthroat
Wilson's Warbler
Slate-throated Redstart
Collared Redstart
Golden-crowned Warbler
Black-cheeked Warbler
Buff-rumped Warbler
Montezuma Oropendola
Red-winged Blackbird
Great-tailed Grackle
Bronzed Cowbird
Black-cowled Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Streak-backed Oriole
Golden-browed Chlorophonia
Olive-backed Euphonia
Elegant Euphonia
Yellow-throated Euphonia
Silver-throated Tanager
Golden-hooded Tanager
Rufous-winged Tanager
Spangle-cheeked Tanager
Green Honeycreeper
Shining Honeycreeper
Red-legged Honeycreeper
Blue Dacnis
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis
Blue-gray Tanager
Palm Tanager
Scarlet-rumped Tanager
Crimson-collared Tanager
Summer Tanager

Hepatic Tanager
Flame-colored Tanager
Common Bush-Tanager
Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager
Buff-throated Saltator
Black-headed Saltator
Grayish Saltator
Black-faced Grosbeak
Black-thighed Grosbeak
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Blue-black Grosbeak
Yellow-faced Grassquit
White-collared Seedeater
Variable Seedeater
Slaty Flowerpiercer
Yellow-thighed Finch
Large-footed Finch
Orange-billed Sparrow
Black-striped Sparrow
Rufous-collared Sparrow
Volcano Junco
House Sparrow

Reptiles and Amphibians

Marine Toad
Common Rain Frog
Red-eyed Leaf Frog
Strawberry Poison Dart Frog
Fleischmann's Glass Frog
Green Basilisk
Black Spiny-tailed Iguana
Green Iguana
Green Spiny Lizard
Tropical King Snake
Blunt-nosed Vine Snake
American Crocodile
Spectacled Caiman
Red-cheeked Mud Turtle