



*Titicaca Flightless Grebe. Swimming in what exactly? Not the reed-fringed azure lake, that's for sure (Eustace Barnes)*

## **BOLIVIA**

**8 – 29 SEPTEMBER / 4 OCTOBER 2019**

**LEADER: EUSTACE BARNES**

Bolivia, indeed, THE land of parrots as no other, but Cotingas as well and an astonishing variety of those much-loved subfusc and generally elusive denizens of complex uneven surfaces. Over 700 on this tour now!



*Blue-throated Macaws hoping we would clear off and leave them alone (Eustace Barnes)*

Hopefully, now we hear of colourful endemic macaws, raucous prolific birdlife and innumerable elusive endemic denizens of verdant bromeliad festooned cloud-forests, vast expanses of rainforest, endless marshlands and Chaco woodlands, each ringing to the chorus of a diverse endemic avifauna instead of bleak, freezing landscapes occupied by impoverished unhappy peasants.

That is the flowery prose, but Bolivia IS that great destination. The tour is no longer a series of endless dusty journeys punctuated with miserable truck-stop hotels where you are presented with greasy deep-fried chicken and a sticky pile of glutinous rice every day. The roads are generally good, the hotels are either good or at least characterful (in a good way) and the food rather better than you might find in the UK. The latter perhaps not saying very much.



*Palkachupe Cotinga in the early morning light brooding young near Apolo (Eustace Barnes).*

That said, Bolivia has work to do too, as its association with that hapless loser, Che Guevara, corruption, dust and drug smuggling still leaves the country struggling to sell itself. Che Guevara, thought of as a damn nuisance by the peasants, is long dead, most of the country is in the humid tropics and drug smuggling is no more problematic here than anywhere else on this distressingly degraded planet. On a cautionary note, Evo Morales, the populist leader is cast from the same mould as every other such leader and perhaps especially that disastrous autocrat Hugo Chavez. He, whose great program for social reform, left Venezuela in ruins. It is not hard to see Bolivia going the same way, so best to get yourself to Bolivia now. The thought that there remain vast areas of pristine habitat wherever you go does leave birders thinking that Bolivia can wait. Maybe better to hurry to those last scraps of scrubby vegetation clinging to vertiginous slopes in the Philippines, Indonesia, or Madagascar, before anthropogenic climate change finally expunges the last vestiges of once complex ecosystems. Not very uplifting experiences I hear. Anyway, as of 2019, vast area of the Chiquitania woodlands have been destroyed by fire, the foothill rainforests are being stripped and burnt to the ground and the rate of environmental degradation, courtesy of the Upright Monkey, *Homo destructans*, is fast accelerating. Our tour was affected by unseasonal weather, the widely reported fires in the lowlands and degradation of many sites we visit.



*Los Volcanes on the edge of the Amoro National Park (Eustace Barnes).*

My first thought, on agreeing to guide this Bolivian extravaganza was how to improve on the last tour? Now renamed 'Ultimate Bolivia' I supposed that meant we were covering more than previously and perhaps as much as could be covered in a single trip so I did wonder.....Noting that it was timed for early September rather than late October there would be differences in both weather and the point in the breeding cycle for many species. Starting in Riberalta and Beni rather than ending there would mean that, at times, we would be a full eight weeks earlier than on the last visit So, it would be interesting to record differences in the weather, bird distribution and vocal activity. I recalled that cloud forest sites had been notably quiet in 2015 with many species feeding young and so maybe, being earlier, we might expect more vocal activity in those areas.



*No introductions necessary! The once near-mythical Scimitar-winged Piha (Eustace Barnes).*



*The troops and assorted makers of a great trip (Eustace Barnes).*

As usual, there would be taxonomic revisions and name changes to contend with. One might say that the pressure to publish, something I understand all too well, is accelerating the current fashion for splitting with Bolivia offering a particularly rich seam in this regard. So, the oft repeated phrase on tours that, this or that, is or might be a new species, would be heard on many occasions throughout the tour. Leaders have to engage with this and, in so doing, squeeze out ever more species for their tours, driving the need to visit ever more sites. We love it, and just get on with devising ever more tours to ever more remote locations as nature retreats. This process, however, is beginning to stretch the idea of what constitutes a species well beyond reliable field diagnosis in an already complex avifauna. We can all agree, that it is important to understand the evolution of species and calibrate that against biogeographical processes in order to adequately preserve biodiversity as the relentless onslaught of development accelerates the destruction of environmental systems. But, let's face it, we just want to go birding!



*On several occasions, birding was a struggle! (Eustace Barnes).*



*The magnificent Andean Condor; one of the best known and most iconic Andean species (Eustace Barnes)*

Highlights. **9 species of Macaw!** Otherwise, too many to recount on this tour, kicked off just outside the arrivals lounge at Santa Cruz airport with a family of Greater Rheas quietly feeding just minutes after picking up our bags. At Los Volcanes we enjoyed lengthy point blank views of Slaty Gnateater while a dozen Military Macaws flew along the towering red sandstone cliffs and Andean Condors circled overhead. A magical place that just gets better and better. A quite exceptional morning in the foothills at Quirusillas followed, producing Red-faced Guans, Alder Amazon, White-throated Antpitta and Short-tailed Antthrush. At Perereta, watching dozens of Red-fronted Macaws flying around us along the Rio Mizque with hundreds of Cliff Parakeets was another very memorable morning. We must not forget our successes in the cloud forests at Siberia and on the Chapare road where we had outstanding views of a superb pair of Hooded Mountain Toucans and a pair of Black-winged Parrots. However, a most memorable morning was walking the icy tops above La Paz with a group of Grey-breasted Seedsnipe. The combination of breath-taking scenery (quite literally) with such confiding birds is a memory that will stay with all of us. That same day we watched the rather infrequently seen, shall we say, Scimitar-winged Piha at our stakeout which gave exceptional looks.



*Polylepis obligate the Giant Conebill (Eustace Barnes).*



*The huge Jabiru is common in the Llanos de Moxos (Eustace Barnes)*

Lest we forget, the Llanos de Moxos was, as always, a wildlife spectacle. We enjoyed prolonged views of several pairs of Blue-throated Macaws; now critically endangered with no more than three hundred birds left in the wild. These fabulous wetlands provided a waterbird spectacle with dozens off Southern Screamers, Jabiru, Plumbeous Ibis and thousands of Egrets and Herons; a truly unforgettable sight, easily rivalling the Pantanal with masses of birds everywhere. In Riberalta we ended up with Masked Antpitta, while not far away we found Razor-billed Curassow, Scarlet Macaw, Long-billed Woodcreepers and a mass of other species in several mixed flocks. I sometimes think the staggering variety of scenery and wealth of birding moments in Bolivia does leave many other tours looking rather dull. No feeders and no shabby scraps of cloud forest or degraded dry forests called nature reserves here!



*The stately Plumbeous Ibis (Eustace Barnes)*



*Cotinga country: the Andean Cerrado of Bolivia (Eustace Barnes).*

The extension to Apolo was memorable for any number of reasons, chief of which was the outstanding views of the critically endangered Palkachupa Cotinga. A taxon lost until recently, but one we can confidently predict we will find on future trips. The Yungas was superb with good views of the infrequently seen Yungas Antwren and Yungas Tyrannulet and what is called the Inambari-Tambopata Antwren in similar habitat, 50km across the border in Peru.



*Palkachupa Cotinga on breeding grounds (Eustace Barnes)*

On the downside we were early in the year and few birds were singing. Consequently, we did not even hear or see Unicoloured Thrush. The Masked Antpittas were not active and the most easily accessed site was burnt. The newly described San Pedro Tanager was not active, although we may have heard it call. At Los Volcanes we had powerful hot winds during much of our visit. Also, the bamboo die back around the lodge meant that Bolivian Recurvebill was still not active, as on the last tour. Huge fires raging across the Chiquitania region made birding unpleasant around Santa Cruz and in the Andes we had to put up with unusually cool conditions, heavy rains and thick fog making it necessary to visit many cloud forest sites twice. This happened at Quirusillas, Siberia and on the Chapare road, where, in consequence, we did not have time to visit the lower sub-tropics. In Apolo we had fog, rain and heavy snow for our outward journey killing off any birding on the last day.





*A family party of Greater Rheas (Eustace Barnes).*

Right, so kicking off with a short session around the Viru Viru airport at Santa Cruz, prior to our Riberalta flight, we birded open grasslands and dry scrub in an area once reminiscent of African savannas. Now, of course, severely burnt savannas. This areas provides a good introduction to lowland birding in Bolivia with a selection of widespread species just minutes from the departure lounge! We were treated to the sight of a family party of Greater Rheas quietly feeding while the languid whistles of numerous Red-winged Tinamous wafted across the scorched earth. Poetry aside, we saw a few Tinamous bumbling about like winged wombles. I had surmised the group was, for the most part, energetic and enthusiastic and so we got on with notching up a useful list; this included White-tailed Hawk, Southern Crested Caracara, Yellow-chevroned and White-eyed Parakeets, Chestnut-fronted Macaw, Purplish Jay, Rufous Hornero and Chopi Blackbird but on this occasion Yellow-bellied Elaenia and Greater Thornbird. I believe, that in the usual tour report hyperbole, we say that this constitutes a cracking start.

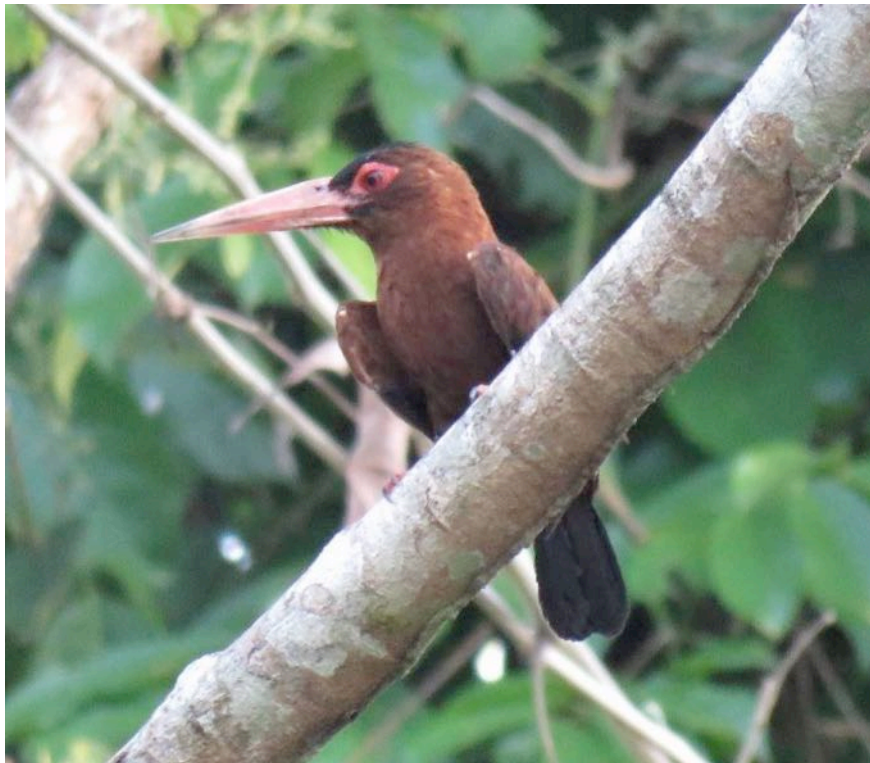


*Black-crowned Night Heron (left) and an immature Roadside (Chaparral) Hawk (right) (Eustace Barnes)*



*Rufous-tailed Jacamar (left) and Johann's Tody Tyrant (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

So, to the airport for the first of several flights. Starting in Riberalta was novel and with the widely reported fires raging across Rondonia and Santa Cruz I was quite concerned that our birding would be affected and sites actually ablaze. Added to this, for much of the flight to Trinidad we could hardly see the earth beneath us through a thick smoke haze. Evo Morales, a one-time friend of Hugo Chavez, has largely steered clear of the catastrophic legacy, the aforementioned populist autocrat bequeathed Venezuela, but has an equally appalling environmental record. Farmers across the planet do not need any encouragement to set fire to anything resembling 'nature'. And so, it was, Santa Cruz was on fire while the authorities gazed on, as if at a fireworks display. The onward flight to Riberalta, over the Llanos de Moxos and rainforests of northern Beni, was better with spectacular views across a largely, as yet, unspoilt landscape. The intricate mosaic of gallery forests, ox-bow lakes and open grasslands being a rather more inviting vista.



*Purus Jacamar near Riberalta. (Eustace Barnes).*

We arrived at the delightful Hotel Colonial in time for lunch. The dusty little town is on the extractive agricultural frontier in Bolivia and more associated with Brazil than the rest of the country. After a great lunch, and navigating squadrons of motorcycles, we headed to Puerto Hamburgo in a fleet of 4x4 Toyotas, in search of Masked Antpitta. On arrival, to my horror, much of the site had been burnt! Through the smoky haze and after a couple of hours we heard a single bird call a couple of times, but no amount of patience, persistence and careful placement of Bluetooth boom boxes elicited any response. Maybe too early in the year, maybe burnt out? In all that time, at what is now a miserable site, we did see a great selection of other species. We enjoyed good views of Black-throated Antbird and the near endemic Fawn-breasted Wren, Blue-crowned Trogon, a family group of Lettered Aracari, several Chestnut-eared Aracaris, the numerous Tui Parakeet, Blue-grey Tanager, our first Crested Oropendolas and Yellow-rumped Caciques all providing several colourful distractions. Less colourful perhaps were White-bellied and Johanniss' Tody Tyrants, Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher and the diminutive Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant. Rufous-tailed and Bluish-fronted Jacamar occur together here and were able to make some useful comparative studies and reflect on a bit of biogeography. A Green and rufous Kingfisher was a very welcome addition to the lists of several, while White-eyed Attila and Hauxwell's Thrush gave outstanding performances. Dusk was approaching and so back to the ranch to rethink the following days activities, which normally involved list padding in Cerrado at Pampa Sam Lorenzo.



*Green and rufous Kingfisher was quite numerous near Warnes (Eustace Barnes)*

And so, it was, that we returned to Puerto Hamburgo the following morning, but did not even hear a single Masked Antpitta call! I had checked, and, the last time I was here it was in fact late October and not early September.

Birding gallery forest, everything was new for us. A very cooperative Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner was much appreciated and Buff-throated and Straight-billed Woodcreepers performed well. We also saw a cracking male Bare-necked Fruitcrow, many more Tui, Yellow-chevrons and White-eyed Parakeets. So, after a frustrating morning we returned to base. Time for a rethink, and so we contacted local birder and friend Victor to see if he might get us to other sites for the Antpitta that afternoon. All this meant we had no time to pad the list with Cerrado species at Pampa San Lorenzo or El Triangulo.



*Slate-coloured Hawk (Eustace Barnes).*

A short session in tall rainforest east of town produced a few species, including Natterer's Slaty Antshrike, our first Moustached Wrens and a calling Yellow-throated Flycatcher. Heading back to town we met up with Victor and made for an area he knew near town: a disappointingly degraded scrap of humid gallery forest. Walking a pleasant, level track, we found a Dark-billed Cuckoo, a pair of Purus Jacamars, Laughing Falcon, several Squirrel Cuckoos and a Band-tailed Manakin. Victor, a bit non-plussed, was embarrassed to find that no Antpittas were calling here either. Walking further, to a narrow forest stream, we began to work the riparian woodlands and, after what seemed an eternity, a single bird did begin to call, but it was not cooperative and only a few members of the group saw the bird. It would not budge from a favoured thicket and was unusually skittish when approached.



*Laughing Falcon (left) and Band-tailed manakin (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

We also saw a pair of Plumbeous Antbirds and a smart looking Black-spotted Bare-eye so ending an interesting session. Dusk then ended our search, a Pheasant Cuckoo sang, and we planned to return the following morning.



*A spectacular forest interior near Warnes; expanding our Bolivia tour once again (Eustace Barnes)*

The morning after the night before was however scheduled for protest, roadblocks and lock down in Riberalta, as we discovered on our return to town. I decided to visit another site near Warnes to be on the safe side. A community reserve with some tall gallery forest. Lots of birds, but alas no Antpittas! The main track gave us Scarlet Macaws, Yellow-crowned Amazon, dozens of Parakeets, White-throated Toucans and much else besides. Walking a stunning trail through really excellent floodplain forest we picked up a great list of birds for the tour. Along a series of drying pools, we saw several Green and rufous, Amazon and Ringed Kingfishers, Sunbittern, Slate-coloured Hawk, a pair of stunning Long-billed Woodcreepers and a superb Razor-billed Curassow! All of this is a major expansion of what we normally look for in Bolivia and will present some issues on future tours. On the morning around Riberalta one can turn south to see the Cerrado species or north to see the rainforest species but not both in the time we have. As such one is either going to give up Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant or a long list of rainforest species! Take your pick.

Mixed flocks along the way delivered a long list of write-ins for the list and a great mornings birding. A nice understorey flock held Leaden Antwren and Amazonian Antshrikes and a pair of Buff-throated Foliage-gleaners. We watched a couple of Band-tailed Manakins displaying in some viney tangles. Heliconia clumps produced Plumbeous Antbird and more Johannis Tody-Tyrants. The forest was full of Green-backed and Black-tailed Trogons and a good-sized canopy flock produced Pygmy Antwren, Plain Xenops, the uncommon Ocellated Woodcreeper, Olivaceous and Buff-throated Woodcreepers, a female Pink-throated Becard, Dusky-capped and Lemon-chested Greenlets, Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner and many more besides. Not quite what one thinks of being part of a Bolivia tour. Still it is a big part of the avifauna.



*Bare-faced Ibis (Eustace Barnes)*

Our next port of call was Trinidad, in the heart of the Llanos de Moxos in Beni. This department is one of the most bird-rich areas in South America, and one that never fails to impress. Our first day took us in search of another target species; the critically endangered Blue-throated Macaw. On arrival we walked through open palm savannas and dry woodlands. In no time we found a single Blue-throated Macaw and subsequently a flock of four. They are relatively easy to find amongst the Blue and yellow Macaws as the calls are higher pitched. We were soaking it up and enjoying superb views of both species on territory. When parrots are on territory they don't leave, they just sit there and wait for you to leave. With a critically endangered species there are no walk away views there are sit and wait until it leaves views, which is exactly what we did.



*Our pair of Blue-throated Macaws at La Esperancita (Eustace Barnes).*



*Blue and yellow Macaws also in the vicinity (Eustace Barnes).*

We were then able to make good studies of a number of birds as they fussed about in preparation for the breeding season. We were lucky and the entrance track to the Estancia was dry with no prospect of rain. Birding this area of palm savanna was great and produced one of the best mornings birding of the tour. We found Blue-crowned Trogons almost over our breakfast table and Guira Cuckoo, Grey-crested Catchalote, Chotoy Spinetail and Rufous Hornero kept us entertained while we ate breakfast. Walking through the open woodlands produced Yellow-browed Tyrant, the uncommon Hudson's Black Tyrant, White-rumped and Grey Monjita and the ghostly White Monjita amongst many others. It was striking that there were so many austral migrants present and that dawn was silent. I guess that's what I call 'The Austral Winter'!



*White-rumped Monjita (left) and White Monjita right) both seen at La Esperancita (Eustace Barnes)*





*Southern Screamers were common (Eustace Barnes)*

Parrots were everywhere with Yellow-chevrons, Peach-fronted, White-eyed and Dusky Headed Parakeets all around us. John was in heaven, spotting all sorts from Sayaca Tanagers and Rufous Horneros to yet more White-eyed Parakeets and Saffron Finches, an enthusiasm maintained throughout the tour and to be applauded. Chestnut-fronted Macaws and a lovely pair of Golden-collared Macaws kept us entertained a while. Blue-winged Parrotlets and Saffron Finches fed on the grassy areas while Crimson-crested Woodpecker hammered away in the trees around us. It was hard to know which way to look and it proved throughout the tour with every new area presenting us with an extraordinary abundance of life.

A quick Pygmy Owl agitation session produced several Gilded Sapphires and a Buff-bellied Hermit, which is not always recorded on this tour, Southern Beardless Tyrannulets, Masked Gnatcatchers, Variable Oriole and others that came to see off the unwelcome predator. As we retraced our steps to Trinidad we stopped to look at more Golden-collared Macaws, the numerous Jabirus, Plumbeous Ibises, Roseate Spoonbills and Wood Storks decorating the roadside pools. We had hoped to find seedeaters but none were forthcoming (they were still on wintering grounds further north). Around 11.30 or so we returned to Trinidad in the oven-like heat for a short rest, lunch and to catch up on our notes.



*Maguari Stork (Eustace Barnes).*

Our afternoon session took us to some gallery forest near town. The disjunct population of Plain Sofftail in the Beni is somewhat distinctive with an unmistakable song. We heard this species everywhere we went in the more humid gallery forest and scrub. On an earlier tour we did not hear or see one. It seems utterly impossible that they could go unrecorded and yet be so numerous. We also picked up Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Black-backed Water Tyrant and Rufescent Tiger Heron at another roadside pool. Walking a broad trail through gallery woodlands we first found Velvet-fronted Grackle. The form here, *boliviensis*, is almost certainly a distinct species. Again, there was absolutely no vocal activity and we did not hear any Hauxwell's Thrushes, which are common here. The odd Trogon delivered a tired phrase and the lazy notes of numerous Undulated Tinamous made us feel in the tropics. As it was so dry, we were not plagued by mosquitoes which normally blight our sessions here. Although more comfortable, it did mean there were few flycatchers and that was to be a theme of our visit to Beni; few if any flycatchers! Viney tangles and bamboo thickets also held Band-tailed Manakin, which in many parts of its range usually means Sulphur-bellied Tyrant Manakins are not far away. A grating note, a territorial male, a short burst of canned recording and in it came. Not the most inspiring of species but certainly an interesting intermediate between true Manakins and tyrannids. The same spot produced Band-tailed Antbird and Rusty-backed Spinetail along a muddy creek along with more Plain Sofftails.



*Ferruginous Pygmy Owl (left) and Hoatzin (right) seen around Trinidad (Eustace Barnes)*

The following day we headed north to explore the vast wetlands and more gallery forests at La Habana. It is a long drive, passing through some amazing habitat in which we just had to stop and get some solid birding under our belts. We had numerous sightings of Southern Screamers, Plumbeous, Buff-necked and Green Ibises and large numbers of herons and egrets. The sky was full of Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures, while Great Black and Savanna Hawks sat on fence posts with Snail Kites. A superb Long-winged Harrier quartered a huge marsh giving great views. A muddy, wet area produced Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral and White-rumped Sandpipers but no South American Snipe. As ever there were a lot of parrots and we saw more Blue and yellow and a couple of Red and green Macaws along with numerous Chestnut-fronted Macaws, White-eyed, Peach-fronted and Yellow-chevrons Parakeets, Blue-headed Parrot and Turquoise-fronted Amazons. Parrot, parrots, parrots! Bolivia just cannot be beaten for parrots. Actually, there are many more species of parrot in Beni than in the whole of Africa!



*A rather dapper Yellow-chinned Spinetail (Eustace Barnes)*

While working through the wetland birds we were treated to good views of some of the commoner woodland species that includes the impressive Toco Toucan, Golden-green Woodpecker, Narrow-billed and Great Rufous Woodcreepers, Grey-crested Cachalote, Red-billed Scythebill, Large Eleania, more White-rumped and White Monjitas, hundreds of Unicoloured Blackbirds and a few very distant Scarlet-headed Blackbird. As we were early in the breeding cycle, woodpeckers were more easily located than later on. A single phrase of Pale-crested Woodpecker from the sound library and a lively male appeared in front of us. A lovely species to see so well. However, elsewhere along our route the marshes were very dry, as it had not rained very much for some time.



*Great Black-Hawk (Eustace Barnes).*

We then headed to some tall gallery forest on the La Habana ranch. The entrance track had been severely affected by recent fires. Nevertheless, we found a few Plain-breasted Ground Doves amongst the Ruddy and Picui Ground Doves. Several Rusty-backed Antwrens also kept us busy. Once in the gallery forest, we connected with Black-tailed Trogon, more Plain Softtails, Olivaceous Woodcreeper (which in the Beni has a very distinctive song), and a good session with White-crested Tyrannulet, Plain Inezia and Golden-crowned Warblers. At a nearby lake we picked up several Sunbitterns which put on a good show. Once in the gallery forest the lack of vocal activity was worrying and we heard no thrushes of any species singing or calling. Finding the unobtrusive Unicoloured Thrush when not vocalizing is not remotely likely, and so it proved. I tried but not a Thrush was calling. Wintering Creamy-bellied Thrushes were everywhere but no Unicoloured Thrush could be found.

At lunch, a big storm was heading our way and it was quickly agreed it was best to leave. We just managed to get back to the highway before the road was rendered impassable. A relief to all, but something of a shame, as we missed another session in some of the best gallery forest. We then made our way south to Trinidad after a great day of birding. After a considerable effort much of the group managed a single male Great-billed Seedeater. Another was seen crossing the road but would not show itself. The population of the latter in Beni is sometimes considered part of Large-billed Seedfinch. The birds in Beni do not seem to respond to either Large-billed or Great-billed Seedfinch song. Geographically the population is closer to Greater-billed populations in neighbouring Brazil and far removed from Large-billed populations in northern Peru. The Long-tailed Reedfinch is also found here, in a population long isolated from its main Brazilian range over 1000KM away but I don't think there is any suggestion they are specifically distinct.



*Long-tailed Reed-Finch (left) and Rusty-backed Antwren (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

In more open areas we did then searched for and found Long-tailed Reedfinch, which was much appreciated. Working our way back to Trinidad and looking in suitable places we did not see a single Seedeater! I cannot think of any tour on which no Seedeaters were recorded along this road. Time of year plus extensive burning in the south had driven them further north or west. So, we returned to Trinidad after some great birding.



*Pale-crested Woodpecker (left) and Plumbeous Ibis (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

We were due to drive back to Santa Cruz from Trinidad but after contemplating a twelve-hour drive through burnt and or burning woodlands and grasslands combined with dust and gargantuan roadworks at San Ramon, I put it to the group that we should fly. Needless to say, all opted for the flight, especially when it was pointed out that in addition to the tedium, general discomfort and danger associated with the journey that there were no birds to look for it was, as they say, a no-brainer. In consequence we had an extra day of birding around Trinidad. The troops were happy, everyone a winner. This section of the trip needs to be subjected to the rigours of an up to date 'solution architecting' algorithm or perhaps a bit of good old common sense...



*Sunbittern were common this year as it was the end of the dry season (Eustace Barnes).*

So, on our bonus day we visited another area of gallery forest where I had seen Unicoloured Thrush on several occasions. Dawn was good with more Plain Softtails, Rufous-tailed Jacamars, Band-tailed Antbirds and a couple of Sunbitterns. Blue-crowned Trogon, Straight-billed and Buff-throated Woodcreepers were much in evidence. Walking the trails, we saw a number of South Amazon Red Squirrels and several Band-tailed Manakins at their various leks. At one of which we taped in another Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin which displayed its saffron coronal crest. We don't see that very often, especially in Surbiton. However, try as I might I did not see or hear either Hauxwell's or Unicoloured Thrush. There were a number of Varzea Black-billed Thrushes and Creamy-bellied Thrushes and as someone wryly pointed out, a combination of features from these species would give us Unicoloured Thrush. True. Somewhat depressingly, it was then observed that had they been with a certain other tour company, the requisite reality adjustment would have taken place and it would be on the list. However, to actually see the bird, I would say that you have to be here late October onwards when the rains start. We were early because rain means one gets stuck in mud holes far from any help, which happened on the last tour. Erhhh...solution: 4X4 vehicles!

Then back to Trinidad airport after a rapid lunch at the 'Brasileno' and a mercifully short flight back to Santa Cruz through the thick smoke; burning savannas and woodlands a distressing sight. The whole planet is going up in smoke and governments, perhaps especially populist governments do not care. Climate change, extinction crisis? Wait a minute why should we care about that? By the time it really makes any difference WE will all be long dead.



*Scaly-headed Parrot (left) and female Bolivian Slaty Antshrike (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

The purported epic journey began at the botanical gardens, just east of Santa Cruz. This is always a productive destination for a few hours birding in Chaco and Chiquitania woodlands to mop up a few lowland species before heading to the Andes. Sadly, around Santa Cruz, it is now the only place to go to see these birds. So, our only Bolivian Slaty Antshrikes and first Black-capped Antwrens of the tour went down well. Then Gilded Sapphire, Scaly-headed Parrot, Peach-fronted Parakeet, Green-barred Woodpecker, Chestnut-eared Aracaris and a few other bits and bobs made for a good start. We subsequently found many more pairs of Fawn-breasted Wrens, Black-crowned Night Heron, Bare-faced Ibis, Blue-crowned Trogon, Snail Kite, Roadside Hawk, Blue-headed Parrot, Squirrel Cuckoo, Rufous-fronted Thornbirds, Buff-throated and Straight-billed Woodcreepers. I had thought that we would be able to continue our work on tyrannids but it was not to be as it was very dry and there were no insects. Again, too early in the year for the much-anticipated flycatcher-fest that usually dominates a visit to this oft buggy little spot.



*The exotic looking Guira Cuckoo (Eustace Barnes)*



*Gilded Sapphire (left) and Blue-crowned Trogon (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

Far more impressive was the mammal list! We saw Crab-eating Raccoon, South American Coatimundi, Bolivian and South Amazon Red Squirrels, Grey Titi Monkey, Large-headed Capuchin, a troop of Black and Gold Howlers with young, several Black-tailed Silvery Marmosets and a Brown-throated three-toed Sloth! All greys and browns. Maybe the best mammals list for any area in South America away from the Amazon and quite something to see in a couple of hours so close to the centre of a large city.



*Brown-throated (Three-toed) Sloth (left) and Black and gold Howler Monkey (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

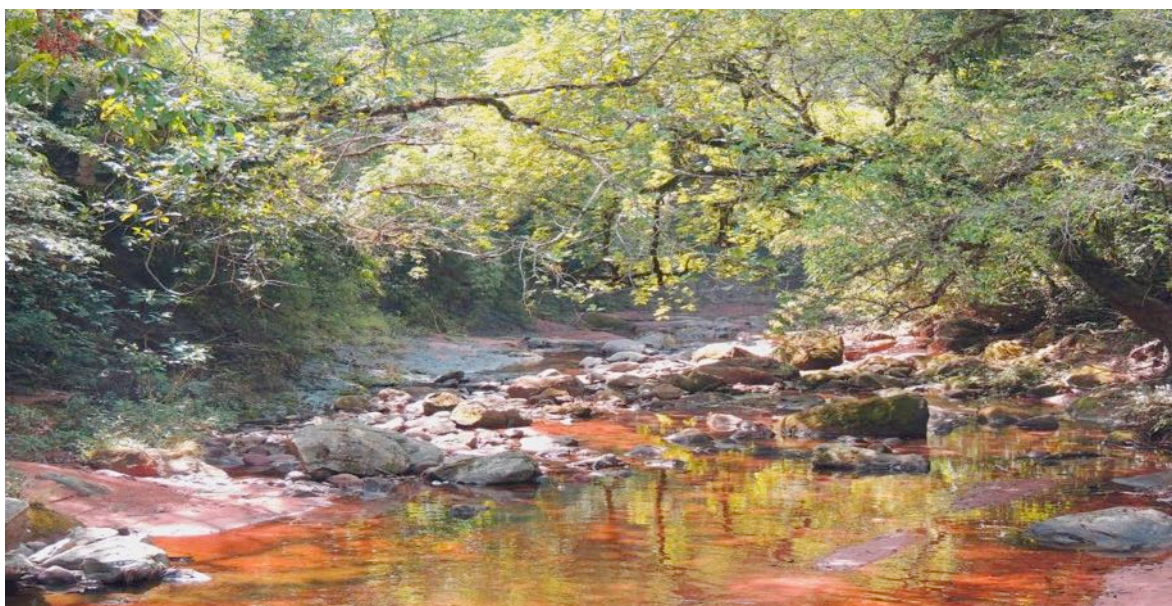
After the botanical gardens we had to get moving and, after a great lunch in town, we headed west to Los Volcanes to explore the semi-humid foothill forests adjacent to the famous Amboro National Park. This location is somewhat complicated to get to but generally worth the effort. We arrived in good time to make the pleasant walk down to the lodge through spectacular cloud forests to the lodge. On the way we saw the massive Red-necked Woodpecker, numerous Crested Oropendolas, Sclater's Tyrannulet and huge numbers of Mitred Parakeet and Turquoise-fronted Amazons on the way. Although we heard a number of Military Macaws we could not see them through the canopy.





*Blue-throated Piping-guan (Eustace Barnes)*

Los Volcanes is always a real pleasure to go birding and our visit was much enjoyed by the troops. Now, how about this, we were able to watch up to a dozen Military Macaws swirling around with hundreds of Mitred Parakeets while four Andean Condors circled above! A fabulous moment. We enjoyed many sightings Military Macaw and Blue-throated Piping-guan during our stay. We also had good views of both Grey and Brown Tinamous and a couple of us saw Rufous-breasted Wood-quail. Mixed flocks held Tschudi's and Inambari Woodcreepers, Chestnut-backed Antshrike, White-backed Fire-eye, Sclater's Tyrannulet, McConnell's Flycatcher and many others.



*Los Volcanes is a serene and rather beautiful place (Eustace Barnes)*

A reason birders visit Los Volcanes is to search for that elusive and endemic denizen of bamboo thickets; the Bolivian Recurvebill. Unfortunately, the bamboo seeded and died in 2016 and the Recurvebill is no longer active in the area. Perhaps, with a more imaginative leader the bird could be put together from glimpses of the many Furnarids present. We did see Slaty Gnateater, Ochre-cheeked Spinetail and Bolivian White-crowned Tapaculo, so completing our other main targets here. Night birding produced nothing. It was extremely windy during our entire stay and as it was also full moon, so, perhaps unsurprisingly, no amount of playback elicited any response from either Rufescent Screech Owls or Band-bellied Owls.



*A smart female Chestnut-backed Antshrike (Eustace Barnes).*

After another great stay at Los Volcanes we headed to the trendy weekend retreat of Samaipata, our base for exploring local semi-humid cloud forests. We enjoyed two very different visits to Quirusillas. VISIT ONE: on arrival there were dozens of Blue-crowned and Mitred Parakeets with a few Turquoise-fronted Amazons. White-browed Brush-Finch, Highland Eleania, Azara's Spinetail, Variable and Rufous-capped Antshrikes, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Golden-winged Cacique were present. We were, however, unable to actually see the calling Tucuman Amazons or find much else. We walked around the lake and heard Red-faced Guans calling upslope. After some considerable effort, we all enjoyed good views of a single bird warily watching us from a tall tree. That was a great experience and all felt happy to have seen this rare species so well. Working a narrow country lane, we found Yungas Doves, a very smart Black and chestnut Warbling-finch, a superb Cream-backed Woodpecker, Ringed Warbling-finch, Hooded Siskins and many other open country species. A White-throated Antpitta called from a dense thicket but only a couple managed a glimpse.

VISIT TWO: on arrival there were no parakeets of any sort. There were many more Turquoise-fronted Amazons and we could hear the Tucuman Amazons calling. Up with the scopes and I began to scan the hillsides. A fruiting tree I had looked at the day before, now held four Red-faced Guans which fed unconcernedly for an hour or so. Meanwhile the Tucuman Amazons flew from their roosting area and landed in a nearby Erythrina tree for great views! Then it was time for our great field breakfast, provided by our driver and all-round logistics wizard, Herman. Then we descended into a wooded area and found a superb Short-tailed Antthrush which paraded up and down in front of us. Moving on we again stopped to look for White-throated Antpitta and in no time a bird was found calling from a thicket and after a short wait it hopped in to view for all to see. That was that. The two visits could not have contrasted more sharply.



*Laguna Esmeraldas near Quirusillas (Eustace Barnes).*

Working our way down slope, temperatures quickly reached thirty degrees and, in combination with a hot desiccating wind, birding became more or less impossible. At this time of year such winds are common in the lowlands and foothills, heralding the approach of rains and a shift to early spring. We had to leave our search for Giant Antshrike and Dot-fronted Woodpecker to Comarapa. The later somewhat difficult once away from Boliviano-Tucuman bioregion.

We then made our way into progressively drier country, dominated by tall columnar cacti and acacia woodlands where we found our first White-fronted Woodpeckers, Greater Wagtail Tyrant, a very cooperative Bolivian Earthcreeper, Southern Scrub Flycatcher, Fuscous Flycatcher, White-tipped Plantcutter, Grey-crested Finch and others. Working a variety of sites, we quickly picked up most of the dry country species with great views of the hulking Dusky-legged Guan, Cliff Parakeets at a small colony, Bolivian Blackbird and somewhat unexpectedly an immature Blue-tufted Starthroat. Calculated to arrive at dusk we were treated to point blank views of a male Scissor-tailed Nightjar along the entrance track to our delightful lodgings.



*Red-fronted Macaws providing a splash of colour in an otherwise grey landscape (Eustace Barnes)*

Once at Perereta we began exploring the valley, which in this part of central Bolivia, is home to a number of endemic species including Bolivian Blackbird, Cliff Parakeet and the endangered Red-fronted Macaw. As we had arrived after dark, we were to be treated to a most spectacular sight at dawn the following morning. At first light, an immense cliff loomed in front of us with a huge colony of Cliff Parakeets nesting on the overhang. The raucous calls of Macaws could soon be heard and before long we found our first Red-fronted Macaws burbling away to one another and messing about. A phenomenal sight! We took our sturdy bus to the cliff top watch point to study several pairs of this stunning species at their nest holes beneath us. A great experience and a tour highlight.



*Red-fronted Macaw soaking up the first rays of light (Eustace Barnes).*



*Chaco Suiriri Flycatcher (left) and Bolivian Blackbird (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

We took the entire morning watching these magnificent birds at what is likely their last stronghold as peripheral populations continue to decline in the face of persecution and trapping for the bird trade. We also saw four Andean Condors and good numbers of Southern Martins while Mitred and Blue-crowned Parakeets, Turquoise-fronted Amazons and Cliff Flycatchers adorned the cliffs. Around the lodge we had great views of Greater Wagtail Tyrant, Chaco Puffbird and a pair of 'Chaco' Suiriri Flycatchers. As the temperatures soared we retreated to the lodge for lunch.



*Macaw breeding cliff at Perereta (Eustace Barnes).*



*Blue and yellow Tanager (left) and Dusky-legged Guan (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

Departing from Perereta, we made for the once dusty truck stop town of Comarapa. In fact, a new road and a charming family run hotel, replete with Amazons and Macaws in a courtyard packed with potted plants made our stay rather memorable. We arrived in good time for some to explore town and once we had celebrated another packed day of highlights, we retired for an early night.



*Cliff Parakeets at Perereta (Eustace Barnes)*



*Sculpturesque columnar cacti in the central valles (Eustace Barnes).*

So, our visits to Siberia were also characterised by contrasting conditions. Although the road across Siberia is now finished and the once tortuous drive to the top was quick and comfortable we again suffered two distinct outcomes. VISIT ONE: Some considerable time before dawn we climbed up to the cloud forests at Siberia for another great bird packed day. Well before another brief field breakfast we found a couple of Light-crowned Spinetails of the form *discolor*, Bolivian Brush-finches, Grey-bellied Flowerpiercers, the thinly distributed Andean Slaty Thrush, Buff-banded and White-throated Tyrannulets, Pearled Treerunners, Montane Woodcreeper and a pair of Bar-bellied Woodpeckers, Rufous-chested Chat-Tyrants, good numbers of Brown-capped Whitestarts and a few Tyrian Metaltails. The fog closed in and Rufous-faced Antpittas began to call. At times like this, these elusive little blighters come out onto the road and bounce about, which one did for us. Spectacular views right in front of the bus. Then, time to head to the puna, where in thick fog and driving rain, much to everyone's surprise, I taped out the *berjorani* form of Black-throated Thistletail. Possibly a separate species: the Cochabamba Thistletail. Needless to say, no photographs.



*The southern, pale eyed form, of Barred Fruiteater (Eustace Barnes)*

The fog closed in and we had to work on alternative options. Actually, it was time to descend to the drier intermontane habitats below Siberia and so we began to retrace our steps. This pattern of movement is quite usual on our visits to Siberia as fog hangs more or less permanently over the ridge. The drier montane scrub below is home to quite a number of species and we were searching for the upland form of Olive-crowned Crescentchest which we found and obtained good views of down to a few metres. In the late afternoon we took a narrow country road to explore dry woodlands and nearby farmed areas. This area was very birdy with Chiguanco, Great and Rufous-bellied Thrushes feeding together for some great studies. Ringed Warbling Finches, Hooded and Yellow-Bellied Siskins were feeding in a weedy field along with a Darwin's Nothura that picked its way along a field edge. A Giant Antshrike delivered its loud ringing song. A similarly loud blast of pre-recorded song was then delivered, we left it to cook, while watching nearby fields. After the usual wait we obtained some really outstanding views of this somewhat cautious Thamnophilid.



*Olive-crowned Crescentchest (left) and Light-crowned Spinetail(right) (Eustace Barnes)*





*Rufous-bellied Mountain-Tanager (or, better, Mountain-Saltator?) in the rain (Eustace Barnes).*

It was again time to move and so we headed west to Cochabamba. VISIT TWO: The entire Siberia watershed was shrouded in thick fog from just above Comarapa all the way to Pojo! As visibility was down to a few meters, we crept forward until we escaped its clammy grasp just above Pojo. We did stop briefly at a number of sites we would normally work but we could hardly see more than a few meters! Beyond Pojo one is able to explore arid canyons and polylepis scrub. Having lost so much time in the cloud forests at this point it would be best to search out the Cerro Tunari targets species so that the day allocated for that could then be spent in cloud forest on the Chapare road.

In spite of the colossal road works being undertaken along the way we were still able to explore a number of side valleys and find a good proportion of those target species we usually reserve for our day above Cochabamba. Obviously, there would be some commoner upland species we would not be able to find. As it happened we then missed a couple of them altogether as a result of poor weather later on in the tour. It is the target species that drive decision making and so species like Black-winged Ground Dove and Bright-rumped Yellow-finch ended up being seen only briefly from the bus or fleetingly in thick fog or snow.

Leaving the fog behind we began to traverse the dry valleys as we climbed to the puna. A number of frequently visited stops produced Giant Hummingbird, Red-tailed Comet, Rock Earthcreeper, Brown-capped Tit-Spintail, Rusty-vented Canastero, White-winged Black Tyrant, Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant, Black-hooded Sierra-Finches and many others. Of more interest we found the rarely seen Wedge-tailed Hillstar in a couple of our secret stakeouts. Watching a field high above the road we spied Rufous-sided and Bolivian Warbling Finches feeding along a field edge. An Andean Tinamou and a Montane Cavy then crept out to feed along the edge.



*Rock Earthcreeper picking about in thick vegetation (Eustace Barnes)*

Moving on we stopped to explore another polylepis clad valley to find several Rufous-bellied (Saltators) Mountain-Tanagers, Rusty-browed Warbling-finches, Brown-capped Tit-Spintails, Streak-fronted Thornbirds, White-browed Chat-Tyrants and a few Black-hooded Sierra-Finches. I shall have to take a look at the reasons behind this Saltator business. Why not call it a Mountain-Saltator? During the day we observed Black-chested Buzzard Eagle, Variable Hawk, Mountain Caracaras and American Kestrels from the bus as we passed through remote sparsely populated areas. After a simple lunch we headed to Cochabamba making a brief stop at Laguna Alalay before we reached our hotel. This lake is now a city reserve and great for waterfowl. We enjoyed a short session seeing dozens of White-cheeked Pintail, Yellow-billed Pintail, Yellow-billed Teal, Andean Duck and a White-backed Stilts. The lake also held Neotropic Cormorant, Common Gallinule, Slate-coloured Coot, White-tufted Grebe and Silvery Grebe of the distinctive southern form *occipitalis*. We also enjoyed great views of Wrenlike Rushbird. This lake always produces an interesting mix of southern and Andean species. I have seen Andean Avocet and Puna Plover together with Red Shoveler and Southern Screamer and there is now a breeding population of Red-fronted Coot present!

Anyway, Laguna Alalay offers an odd admixture of Andean and Chacoan avifauna. So, not a site we managed to devote much time to but one well worth while looking at during the austral spring.



*Red-crested Cotinga: a sartorial simplicity perhaps evocative of funereal elegance (Eustace Barnes)*

A day in the cloud forests on the Chapare road is usually a real pleasure. It should be one of the best days the tour. Our first day was blighted by thick fog. Again, WTF! We started with a field breakfast on a ridge over which passed numerous pairs of Scaly-naped Amazons, some of which we observed eating clay from a small cliff. The more usual fare here includes Barred Fruiteater, Orange-browed Hemispingus, Barred Becard, and Pale-footed Swallow which we saw well. We hope to see Bar-bellied Woodpecker which we did and Band-tailed Fruiteater which we did not. We tried for the elusive Barred Antthrush which came from afar and called very close to us. However, try as I might I could not lure it across the carefully prepared hole in the vegetation for all to see! All too soon thick fog closed in and we were forced to move. Road conditions were atrocious and we saw a number of accidents. We carefully descended for an early lunch before again climbing up to search out treeline endemics. To no avail, we could barely see a few feet in front of us!

Day two and a feature of this tour saw us forced to re-work key sites as a result of weather. Smoke, rain, fog, hot dry winds and snow plagued the trip from start to finish. This time it being the treeline and temperate zone forests rather than the humid sub-tropics for Tanagers, Toucans and foothill goodies. On the ridge again, we enjoyed better conditions and working our stake-out for Hooded Mountain Toucan (once again) we had success. We waited in the morning sun, the distorted recordings blaring out across the hillside. All was silent and I rather think the troops were wondering about the logic of this waiting business when there were Rufous-collared Sparrows hopping about in the roadside vegetation. Anyway, the toucan was billed as coming in silently and eventually flying to a prominent perch. Sometime passed and nothing. Then, a slight movement in a thick canopy in front of us and there it was and it did then fly to a prominent perch but it did not call. Another target bagged, maybe one of the biggest targets.



*The Chapare road; a superb vista of largely primary forest habitats. Almost gives one hope (Eustace Barnes).*

In spite of having to work for this spectacular species, and, possibly because it performed in precisely the manner described, it did not get many votes for the top ten! I did engineer the search for this species to appear more hit and miss this year and we did dash around a bit. I think it appeared less 'laid back' but maybe not enough so to get it in to list of favourites. Maybe, it is that headless-chicken style of birding that creates a false impression of competence! I suppose if you find the target easily it looks like luck and if you don't then you are not trying hard enough. Sweat and dash about, eventually finding the bird and, lo, we have a genius on our hands.



*Rufous-bellied (Bush) Tyrant was unusually easy this year (Eustace Barnes)*



*Chestnut-crested Cotinga (Eustace Barnes)*

We then worked our way along the ridge picking up Rufous-bellied Bush Tyrant and a spectacular pair of Black-winged Parrots. The latter, a big target for these temperate forests. A Chestnut-crested Cotinga had been seen and another was calling but it refused to show itself. Nevertheless, we found several Barred Fruiteaters and a Maroon-belted Chat-Tyant. Time to move and we clattered up the hill to a site for the *malagae* form of Scaled Metaltail which is almost certainly a separate species: the Reddish Metaltail. We found a very responsive individual and all got views of this rather dull hummingbird. The name sounds so great that when you see the bird you think you have missed something.



*Hooded Mountain-toucan (left) and Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

So, on to a more appealing endemic. Further on up the hill and no fog this time. No accidents and a pleasant session produced three Black-hooded Sunbeams! Superb and certainly one of the best hummers. That velvet-black hood contrasting with an electric turquoise back and a bright rufous tail makes for a spectacular show. We had great scope views – all too far away for any photography. There were also a few White-crested and Sierran Eleanias and a Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer present. Then, not sure how it happened, but it was time to head back to the marvellous Hotel Aruanjez with its stately, if faded, neo-victorian interiors.



*Cochabamba Mountain-finch on Cerro Tunari (Eustace Barnes).*

We really needed more time on the Chapare road as we had lost our time to visit the lower sub-tropics because of the fog. This is also often true of the Coroico road. However, the tour has to be tailored to find the endemics and it was time to move on. The following morning at a very specific spot we enjoyed a marvellous breakfast prepared by Herman overlooking the vast sprawling city of Cochabamba from Cerro Tunari. This is a secret stakeout for Cochabamba Mountain Finch, which duly appeared and put on a tremendous show; a stunning species that gave us another key target species. The site also gave us more Rufous-bellied Mountain (Saltators) Tanagers, Rufous-sided Warbling-finches, Rock Earthcreeper, an Andean Tinamou, Giant Hummingbird, several Tawny Tit-Spintail, Rusty-vented Canastero, another Olive-crowned Crescentchest, over a dozen Golden-billed Saltators, Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer, numerous Bolivian Blackbirds and a couple of Brown-backed Mockingbirds.

We had a long journey through dry puna to get to the delightful city of Oruro high on the Altiplano and so we headed off. However, not before we had thoroughly worked another superb site. A nice gully where Wedge-tailed Hillstar occurs.



*Greenish Yellow-finch (left) and Cochabamba Mountain-finch (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

A Wedge-tailed Hillstar did put in an appearance, but only briefly before a Giant Hummingbird chased it off! However, the site did produce a fine list of birds including Streak-fronted Thornbird, Rock Earthcreeper and Tawny Tit-Spintail. We also found another pair of Cochabamba Mountain-Finches, the misnamed Rufous-bellied Mountain-Tanager and a pair of Giant Conebills picking about in a huge ancient polylepis tree clinging to a cliff. Mountain Caracaras, Variable Hawks and an Aplomado Falcon also put on a great show. The Aplomado in a spectacular acrobatic display with both Mountain Caracara and Variable Hawk



*Arid canyons and polylepis scrub (Eustace Barnes).*



*Puna Plover and plastic rubbish on the Altiplano (Eustace Barnes).*

It was time to head to the high puna grasslands near Oruro where we saw good numbers of Puna Yellow Finches and our first Ornate Tinamou. Oruro lies next to a vast shallow lake and this was to be our first port of call. As always we saw Puna, Andean and Chilean Flamingos alongside good numbers of waterfowl and waders. This usually includes Puna Plover and Andean Avocet, good numbers of wintering waders, including on this occasion a Semipalmated Plover. This is one of very few records for Bolivia as it is a vagrant from the Pacific coast. We had Sanderling here on the last tour which was also a vagrant. In addition to this haul, there was also a full range of upland wildfowl and Puna Ibis to keep us entertained.



*Ornate Tinamou is quite numerous on the Altiplano (Eustace Barnes)*





*Andean Avocet seen near Oruro (Eustace Barnes)*

We had to drag ourselves away from the thronging wetlands and explore the nearby hillsides. In the dry and rather dead looking vegetation we did find an astonishing range of species that included Plain-mantled Tit-spinetail, Buff-breasted Earthcreepers, distant Mountain Parakeets, Spot-winged Pigeon, Bare-faced Ground-Dove, Black-hooded Sierra Finch and a pair of Brown-backed Mockingbirds. Rusty-vented Canasteros and Puna Yellow-finches are often common here along with numerous pairs of Andean Swallows. A nice session that sent us on our way, well satisfied with the morning's birding. Crossing the city, with its swirling columns of rubbish, distributing waste evenly across city and wetlands, we took the road north on our way to Quime. A disappointingly sparse little town that lays claim to be an ecological paradise, lying as it does in the greenest Bolivian region, surrounded by millions of eucalypts! Where does one even begin to talk about environmental management? Those eucalypts do burn nicely and the local lads had evidently been having a great time setting various hillsides alight. It must be terrifying when a thousand hectares go up in smoke.



*Puna Canastero (left) and Scribble-tailed Canastero (right) (Eustace Barnes)*



*Brown-backed Mockingbirds on tall cacti (Eustace Barnes)*

Stopping in the high puna we had a nice session with Puna and Cordilleran Canasteros, a few Ornate Tinamous and a Darwin's Nothura. Later on, at a small lake we saw a number of Giant Coot and the northern sub-species of Silvery Grebe. A very different looking bird from the *occipitalis* form we had seen at Laguna Alalay. We must not forget to mention our first Crested Ducks and Andean Geese which are both species that rely on these bofedales and alpine lakes in the very high Andes near which to breed. We also found a good number of White-fronted and Cinereous Ground Tyrants along with several Ochre-naped Ground Tyrants. The latter being an austral migrant normally hard to see on this tour, but timed as it was, they were common this time. As we descended into a deeply incised valley we stopped to search some montane scrub. This is an interesting site that has Black-hooded Sunbeam, which put on a good show. We headed for our delightful, if somewhat rustic accommodations, providing home for the night in this very infrequently visited region. It took us about an hour to work out how to get to our lodgings, as it was across a river with no bridge to it. Once on site, we viewed the usual rabbit warren style rooming, not endearing the owners to me. Access to rooms through other rooms with shared bathrooms and mattresses arranged on floors for the drivers and indeed me!

Not far from Quime is a fragmented area of dry deciduous woodlands, where Schoerd Mayer first found the Bolivian Spinetail. I have looked for this species elsewhere in other side valleys with apparently similar looking forests but without luck. It looks as if this species is more or less restricted to this rather small area below Inquisivi. We left in good time to be on site shortly after dawn and parked the bus at our breakfast stop next to a nest. I did it again, just too easy. I should have parked some distance away and worked on the tension but no, we saw the bird within a minute of arrival. Walking the road towards the bridge we found numerous pairs of Spinetails, several Yungas Doves, Mitred Parakeet and after driving upslope a pair of Striped Woodpeckers and a pair of 'Golden-breasted' Woodpeckers. We do like Woodpeckers!



*The endangered Bolivian Spinetail (Eustace Barnes).*

This woodland is very limited in extent. Surely, *H. destructans* will ensure that its extent is reduced to nothing in the near future. We have to feed our babies after all. The moral trump card. One played, even if that requires clearing the last hectare of rainforest and rendering land unproductive. We quickly took our leave and began to retrace our steps in an optimistic bid to devote more time to the puna grasslands and upland bogs on our way to La Paz. Fog! Thwarted again.



*Andean Lapwing (left) and Crested Duck (right) (Eustace Barnes)*



*Rock loving White-winged Diuca Finch (left) and Viscacha (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

The upland bogs and grasslands held small numbers of Cinereous and White-fronted Ground Tyrants, more Sierra-Finches and White-winged Diuca Finches. The Andean Geese at the highest pass watched us suspiciously from a safe distance as we ate a quick lunch.



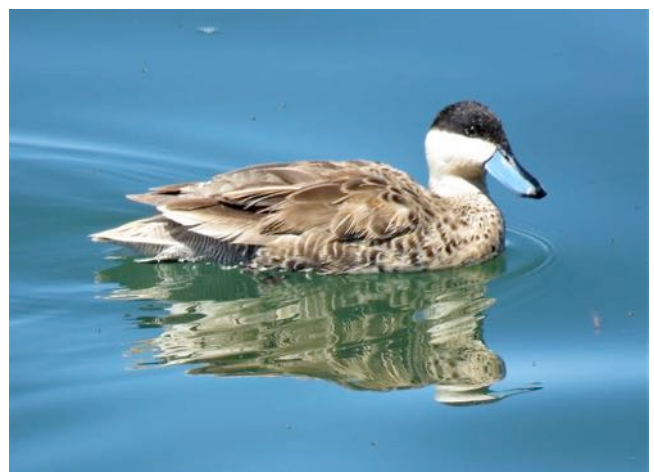
*The handsome Andean Flicker (Eustace Barnes).*

La Paz is always a challenge to escape from, but not one beyond our experienced driver. There is a notable difference in approach between 'Latins' and 'Gringos' in finding their way. While Gringos want a map to follow, picking their way along named roads to their destination the Latins say ...'we got to go that way'..., up as it happens, and just keep on heading 'that way' knowing that there is only one final exit that all roads converge upon. The outcome is the same, but the process is very different and while the Latins are never lost the Gringos are permanently lost, with or without digital mapping and GPS locators. I can't help myself; I need a map. In no time we were out of La Paz and heading for La Cumbre and one of the most outstanding locations of the trip.



*The arctic alpine environment at La Cumbre (Eustace Barnes).*

It was completely clear and windless and had snowed the night before leaving a light scattering of snow across the tundra-like landscape. We parked and walked the bofedales in search of Seedsnipe, finding a small party of Grey-breasted Seedsnipe and a Puna Snipe, but no Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe. We also saw a good many White-fronted Ground-Tyrants, Andean geese, Andean Gulls and a number of Yellow-billed Teal. We did wonder how a Streak-throated Canastero was managing in the freezing snow but there they were.



*Grey-breasted Seedsnipe (left) and Puna Teal (right) (Eustace Barnes)*



*White-fronted Ground-Tyrant, unusually perched on a shrub (Eustace Barnes).*

The temperate forests of the Coroico road are quite superb and leave birding such habitats elsewhere a little depressing. In Bolivia, pristine forests stretch in every direction from the main highways. No hike or pony trek to a distant fragment of degraded forest, as in Colombia or more or less anywhere in Asia. No fifteen-hour drive to a recreational water park, as in north-east Brazil, no lounging about waiting for semi-domesticates to arrive at feeders, as in Ecuador or northern Peru. Proper birding! Primary forest lines the road and you need to know where to stop. That's right, you need to have some idea of your target species habitat requirements. What!?! Surely that limits the scope for imaginative list padding? Yes, it does. Anyway, we had a very successful day finding our targets one by one as we descended from the treeline elfin forests at Cotopata through to Chuspipata and Sacramento Alta and thence to the foothills.



*The stunning Orange-browed Hemispingus (Eustace Barnes)*

First up was Scaled Metaltail at one of its favoured sites. This time the nominate green-tailed form. We also had repeated looks at a superb Undulated Antpitta. We walked the little used road and turned up a Diademed Tapaculo and then a flurry of activity in the bamboo and we had to deal with a flock. Pearled Treerunners, Saffron-headed and Blue-capped Tanagers, White-banded, Buff-banded, Bolivian and White-throated Tyrannulets, Superciliated and Black-eared Hemispingus swirled around us. A family party of Orange-browed Hemispingus made a sterling performance. A really superb species and not one we always see.



*Three-striped Hemispingus (left) and the Coroico road (right) (Eustace Barnes)*

Once we had burnt our way through this frenetic association we made our way down the 'road of death' as the local tour agents market it. Those thrill-seeking backpackers cycling down that rocky road for 80km do need their heads examined. I guess if they called it, 'The road of prolapsed wombs' there would be fewer takers and related medical emergencies in La Paz. We searched for and found first Band-tailed Fruiteater and then Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher which seem to associate on this road. Still no big flocks, and only minimal movement of birds apart from those targeted species on territory. Still, it was working for us as we descended through the stunning forests.



*Scimitar-winged Piha at one of few favoured sites (Eustace Barnes)*

Then 'Piha rules' (DBD, or don't be distracted) were applied for what was a stunning moment. We worked an area where Scimitar-winged Piha is known to occur and at a suitable area assembled the group. No mention of Rufous-collared Sparrows or wandering Turkey Vultures please, just look through these trees and keep a sharp eye out for a rather clumsy and sluggish species crashing about in the canopy. After a short while Mark spotted the movement and a Scimitar-winged Piha shortly landed in a leafless tree in front of us. No laser pointers required. We were able to watch this rarely seen bird at point blank range. Superb! Maybe too easy for the troops and in no time we were searching for Masked Flowerpiercers and White-eared Solitaires. Really!

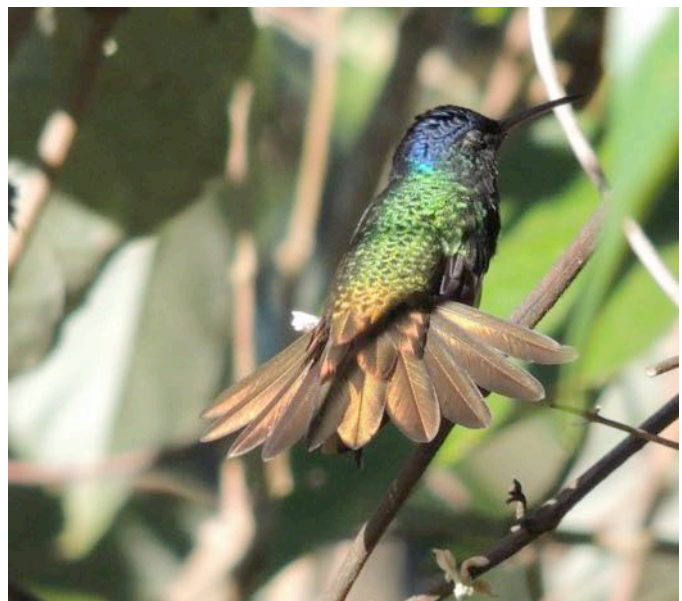
It was late in the afternoon and we had to get a move on. The afternoon had been very active with a splendid Chestnut-crested Cotinga putting in a much-appreciated appearance for all to see. Andean Guans and Blue-banded Toucanets were also seen together with a few Tanagers. Bolivia is not the land of huge Tanager flocks and we never connected with any. Time to go and so we headed to Coroico for a pleasant stay at a lovely Posada high above Coroico along a narrow steep track. Perhaps a little too high above town and perhaps along a rather too narrow and steep track?





*Speckled Chachalaca is abundant in the foothills. Presumably taste bad (Eustace Barnes).*

The following morning, we worked a nice stretch of foothill forest. Several pairs of Upland Antshrike were easily found and Pectoral Sparrow danced about in front of us. There were loads or was it tons (tonnes?) of Speckled Chachalacas, a few Andean Guans and many Purplish Jays. White-winged Becards, Chivi Vireos and the usual flocks of Blue-headed Parrots and White-eyed Parakeets swirled about. Raul spotted a Rufous-crested Coquette. We then clattered up to Chuspipata to dry and silent cloud forests with no flocks. Creaking and groaning up to Pongo we found our much-wanted Scribble-tailed Canasteros, more Tawny Tit-spinetails and Puna Tapaculos. It suddenly turned cold and Doug was not feeling well. Time to descend, but not before the eagle-eyed Jeff spotted a d'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant. A target for the site on this tour. So, off the hills and on to Lago Titicaca through the urban horror of La Paz and the unending sprawl of El Alto to Lake Titicaca arriving in good time to enjoy another great meal and celebrate a good days birding.



*Rufous-crested Coquette (left) and Golden-tailed Sapphire (right) (Eustace Barnes)*



*White-throated Hawk (Eustace Barnes).*

The following morning, we left in darkness to explore the upper Sorata valley. Searching the remnant scrub we found a pair of the critically endangered Berlepsch's Canastero, in ninety seconds or so. At the same site we enjoyed great views of a White-throated Hawk while finding Black-throated Flowerpiercer and Peruvian Sierra-finches, so beginning another busy day. White-throated Hawk is always good to see. It is an uncommon species, that appears in Bolivia and Peru during the austral winter in small numbers. This bird appeared to be very much on wintering territory, chasing off Caracaras and Kestrels during our stay. As time was short we then climbed back to the pass to look over the lake beneath the road. We worked our way through good numbers of Giant and Andean Coot, a few Silvery Grebe, Yellow-billed Pintail and Teal, a few Puna Teal, Andean Ducks, Andean Goose and a large flock of Puna Ibis. Again, there was a striking lack of passerines and we found no miners, ground-tyrants or yellow-finches.

Time to go and so we made for the reed-fringed azures waters of Lake Titicaca in search of our final speciality: the Titicaca Grebe. That flightless endemic icon of Andean birding, now thought to endangered as its population continues to decline in the face of pollution and the use of gill nets.



*The fast-declining Titicaca Grebe (Eustace Barnes).*

We did not have to wait that long, as on the way we spied a trash choked, channel of oozing slime that passes for a river on the Altiplano. A quick search and we found four Titicaca Flightless Grebes picking about in the liquid waste. The backdrop of piles of plastic bottles, used nappies, other assorted absorbents of bodily fluids, unwanted electronic gadgets, leaking batteries and rotting food waste lining the channel would not seem to provide those environmental quality indicators necessary for the fast-declining grebe, but there they were.



*Our prime site for Titicaca Grebe! (Eustace Barnes)*

As if this was not horrific enough, blood ran into the stream from an impromptu abattoir placed atop the compacted fetid layers of trash. Obviously a perfect place for a bit of mid-morning butchery. Peasant women first killed, then skinned and dismembered sheep attended by a flock of Andean Gulls in the midst of unimaginable filth. Not so much reed-fringed azure waters as trash-choked toxic slime. This was Mad max plus. Mutton was off the menu. In fact, I was thinking food should be off the menu, but anyway, back to the hotel for 'trucha a la plancha' and celebratory drinks before saying our farewell's to Barbara, Ger and John.



*The stunning Cordillera Real en route to Charazani (Eustace Barnes).*

Then, those not returning home took the long and rocky road to Charazani on our way to Apolo for the final instalment in this rather lengthy epic tour. That long rocky road was stunning, although the grasslands held no passerines at all and no Ibises. The bofedales and lakes were thronging with Giant and Andean Coots, Puna Ibis, Chilean Flamingos, Yellow-billed Pintail and Teal, Crested Ducks and a good number of Andean Geese but little of additional or particular note.

Arriving in Charazani in darkness we were pleasantly surprised to find ourselves in a clean small-town hotel with enough rooms for all of us. Always a plus! Departing shortly after we arrived, again in darkness, we headed to the foothill Yungas outliers for some humid forest birding. It was a long way, and I got bored of waiting to go birding as the sun rose. A Scissor-tailed Nightjar finally stopped us at the end of a long rain-shadow gorge to walk a nice stretch of semi-humid woodlands. We enjoyed the spectacle of swirling flocks of shrieking Psittacids and hordes (tons) of cackling Cracids.

I think the collective noun for many species should be refined a little from either tons or loads, which seemed to be the preferred options up for discussion in the group. Anyway, we then found a showy Lanceolated Monklet (write-in 51) and a couple (maybe a tangle?) of Cabanis's Spinetails. The Monklet, rather bizarrely flew in and landed on electricity cables over the valley. This species does seem to be quite tolerant of substantial habitat modification. We noticed that this area and all along the highway that most forest had been cleared for Coca production and that the tight terracing of Coca fields covered the hillsides in every direction. A frightening transformation since my last visit to the region. These Coca producing areas in Bolivia and Peru are not well off or in active, vibrant economies. They tend to be poor and occupied by wary and suspicious people..



*Lanceolated Monklet; a much-appreciated species (Eustace Barnes).*

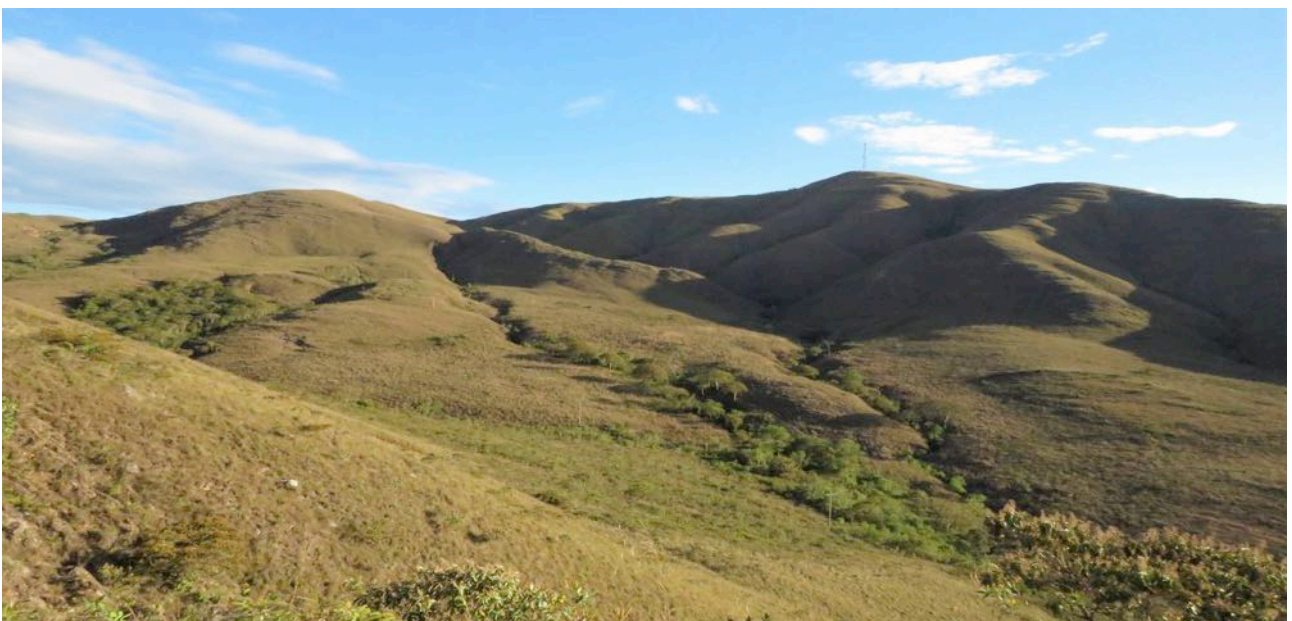
The aforementioned humid foothill forest was fairly productive. At around 1450m our route wound its way around several ridges. In a narrow gorge we found an Orange-breasted Falcon which, for no reason popped out for a couple of minutes before returning to its nest. We then picked up a shy Andean cock-of-the-Rock before ending up in a 'birdy' stretch of road. We found Round-tailed Manakins and heard some Fiery-capped Manakins. They were not particularly active and little or nothing was singing. Upland Antshrike and Yungas Tody-Tyrant were both easily seen and this may well be the best place to see these near endemics. We did see several Western Wood-pewees and a single Olive-sided Flycatcher. A White Hawk circled overhead and Grey-rumped Swifts cruised around the valley. Huge flocks of White-collared and Chestnut-collared Swifts appeared and were then with us during the remainder of the tour. Their aerial acrobatics and antics providing highly memorable series of moments watching them. We made tracks and headed for Apolo, arriving as usual on Birdquest tours, after dark. We were in for a very pleasant surprise. The accommodation was in a nunnery and the most liked of all on the tour. Clean, quiet and serving great food. Laurie suggested it could be a successful franchise. I pointed out that Jesus might think the idea has already been out there a while.

So, after a night of heavy rain and cold winds, it was 5am and offsky. This time to get to stunted Cerrado woodlands in search of the Palkachupa Cotinga. Herman dumped us a few hundred meters away from our breakfast stop and we walked along a windy ridge in the freezing cold, seeing nothing. On arrival at our breakfast stop, I had begun to think this was going to be tough. However, Herman was surprised we had not seen the birds, as he had already seen four and pointed to a bush where they were.



*Palkachupa Cotinga; bear repetition (Eustace Barnes)*

Herman sometimes plays tricks, I guess to remind me about the need for tipping. In the end we saw and photographed at least 12 birds and maybe more. Absolutely superb, and our experience with this species was a good as we could possibly have hoped. Notwithstanding any taxonomic complications with the Atlantic forest sister taxon, this is much easier to see and in such good numbers it is hard to understand how it went unnoticed for so long.



*Palkachupa Cotinga breeding area near Aten (Eustace Barnes).*

We then suffered a 'contra temps' with a drunken 'community leader' who was annoyed that he did not know we were there and that we needed 'authorisation' to be there at all. I directed him to our man on the ground, Herman. A revelation to us, that they just could not understand how we could be there without authorisation. How could anyone imagine they could walk along a road without the relevant paperwork? Just where do such ideas come from? In Britain, if there is no legal ruling on an activity then you can't be in breach of the law. It would seem that elsewhere, and particularly in South America, that you can only do what is authorised by law. Everything else requires a permit. I noted that this did not extend to the use of vehicles: they do not have vehicle registration or driving licences, which is illegal under Bolivian law. I guess that communities imagine that the only law they need abide by is the one they devise for their own benefit.



*Plumbeous Kite (Eustace Barnes).*

Anyway, all good. A great session with another spectacular Cotinga on what is now a Parrot and Cotinga tour. We headed off in search of other targets species. Recently, the Green-capped Tanager had been discovered in the Apolo Cerrado. At the site where everyone looks for this species we did hear one briefly but try as we might we could not lure it in to view. This species then eluded us altogether. We saw a few more Cotingas and ended up finding a couple of nests but no Tanagers. Taped out, nesting or just uncommon. In Peru this species is in roadside scrub and gardens. We did find Cinereous-breasted Spinetails, Channel-billed Toucans and Blue-crowned Trogons. White-eared Puffbirds called from way below us in the valley but we did not look for this species.



*Madidi National Park reduced to ashes (Laurie Dann).*

Next morning and off to the semi-arid forests of the foothills inside the Madidi National Park in search of the 'San Pedro' Tanager. An extraordinary area of forest, inside the park, was being cleared and much of it on fire. Passing through one such blaze we were stopped in our tracks by a fallen tree. The settlers had set fire to the bowls of larger roadside trees which then tumbled on to the road. Carlos headed off and, in no time, found someone with a chainsaw (actually everyone has a chainsaw here). The road was cleared and we were on our way.

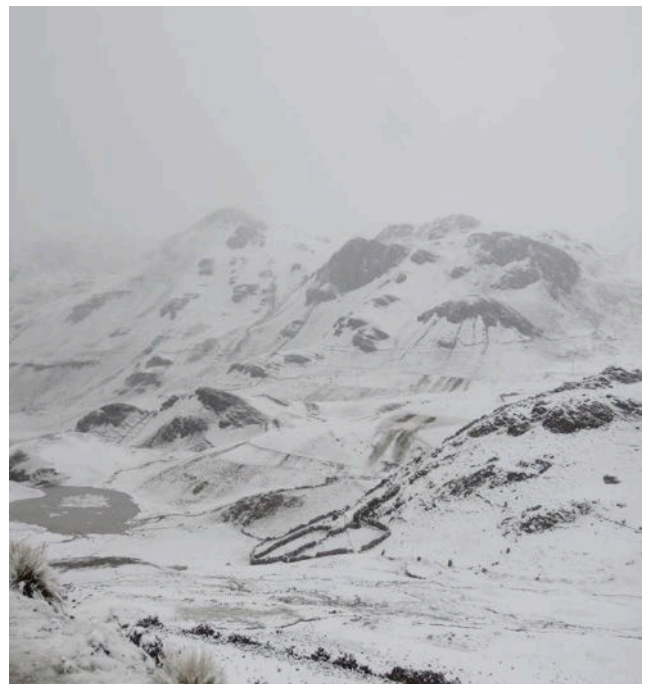
At the first of two ridges we heard a couple of phrases from the Tanager. That was it. At several other spots in prime habitat we did not hear, let alone see, the Tanager. I think we were too early in the year and it had been particularly dry. Nothing was singing and the only birds we saw were in mixed flocks. We did find during the course of the day both Yungas Antwren and Yungas Tyrannulet, both of which are infrequently seen and very poorly known. We quickly connected with the 'Inambari-Tambopata' Antwren, which is abundant here. This taxon is currently considered part of Black-capped Antwren but is morphologically distinct with pale brown wing panels. We also found Saffron-billed Sparrow, a Western Striolated Puffbird calling from a leafless tree. We also saw a good number of species including Hook-billed Kite, King Vulture, Stripe-chested Antwren, White-rumped Sirystes, Purple and Green Honeycreepers, Black-faced and Blue Dacnis, Guira Tanager, McConnell's Flycatcher and Yellow-olive and Grey-crowned Flatbills. White-collared Swifts rocketed over us all day long giving a nice backdrop to our birding. The end of the day was approaching and we had to get back to buy gasoline but 6.30pm. We should have been in good time but were significantly delayed by yet another fallen tree blocking progress. Thwarted again.





*White-bellied Pygmy-Tyrant was common in the dry woodlands (Eustace Barnes).*

Departing from our tranquil digs we had to bird the lower lying areas near Apolo to allow the drivers to buy the necessary gasoline for the lengthy return journey. It was a final and ultimately unsuccessful search for the Green-capped Tanager. We did see a pair of Rufous-sided Crakes, numerous Speckled Chachalacas, Blue-crowned Trogons and a host of the usual suspects. Birding through the foothill en route to Charazani was uneventful and we only recorded much of the same avifauna we found on our inbound journey. Along the river in the afternoon, we did find a good number of Torrent Ducks, a couple of Fasciated Tiger Herons plus White-capped Dipper, Torrent Tyrannulet and Black Phoebe.



*Snowy pass (left) and wintery peaks (right) on our way to La Paz (Eustace Barnes)*

It rained hard all night and looked clear by early morning. However, our final haul up to the Altiplano was slowed by heavy snowfall all morning. We crossed the 4800m pass in a winter wonderland. Truly spectacular but a little concerning as we could barely see the road. At a village we passed around 7.30am, we noted the local football teams were out in the snow at 4400m! Perfect conditions for a game of footie. We had to stop and watch a little. Otherwise, birdlife was very thin on the ground and our priority was to get off the high ridges and down to Lago Titicaca. So, it was back to El Alto airport, job done and homeward bound!



*The team at Lago Titicaca (Leo Bustamente).*

## TOP TEN

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 RED-FRONTED MACAW         | 6 HOODED MOUNTAIN-TOUCAN   |
| 2 BLACK-HOODED SUNBEAM      | 7 CHESTNUT-CRESTED COTINGA |
| 3 SCIMITAR-WINGED PIHA      | 8 TITICACA GREBE           |
| 4 BLUE-THROATED MACAW       | 9 RED-FACED GUAN           |
| 5 ORANGE-BROWED HEMISPINGUS | 10 WHITE-THROATED ANTPITTA |

I did not add in the Palkachupa Cotinga or other species from the extension to this list. Tucuman Amazon, Razor-billed Curassow, Sword-billed Hummingbird, Short-tailed Antthrush, Rufous-faced and Rufous Antpittas, Barred and Band-tailed Fruiteaters were also group favourites on a long list of highlights.



*The endangered Titicaca Grebe swimming around in a toxic blend of wastes (Eustace Barnes)*

## **SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR**

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). **IOC World Bird Names**. This list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>.

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

**Grey Tinamou** *Tinamus tao* Heard and seen very well at Los Volcanes.  
**Hooded Tinamou** ◊ *Nothocercus nigrocapillus* (H) Heard on Chapare and Coroico roads.  
**Cinereous Tinamou** *Crypturellus cinereus* (H) Heard Riberalta.  
**Little Tinamou** *Crypturellus soui* (H)  
**Brown Tinamou** *Crypturellus obsoletus* Seen at Los Volcanes drinking at a hillside trickle.  
**Undulated Tinamou** *Crypturellus undulatus* (H) Heard everywhere.  
**Black-capped Tinamou** *Crypturellus atrocapillus garleppi* (H) Common Apolo. Distinct endemic taxon.  
**Tataupa Tinamou** *Crypturellus tataupa* (H) Heard Apolo but nowhere else.  
**Red-winged Tinamou** ◊ *Rhynchotus rufescens* Seen at Viru Viru airport and heard at Apolo.  
**Huayco Tinamou** ◊ *Rhynchotus maculicollis* (H) Several birds heard very distantly.  
**Ornate Tinamou** *Nothoprocta ornata* Several seen en route to Inquisivi and around Oruro.  
**Andean Tinamou** *Nothoprocta pentlandii* Several noted.



*White-bellied Nothura (Eustace Barnes).*

**White-bellied Nothura** ◊ *Nothura boraquira* Seen in a housing complex near Warnes.  
**Darwin's Nothura** ◊ *Nothura darwinii* One seen near Comarapa and another en route to Inquisivi.  
**Greater Rhea** *Rhea americana* Seen at Santa Cruz airport and also north of Trinidad.  
**Razor-billed Curassow** *Mitu tuberosum* A superb adult seen near Warnes.  
**Speckled Chachalaca** *Ortalis guttata* Abundant.  
**Andean Guan** *Penelope montagnii* A few seen on the Coroico road.  
**Red-faced Guan** ◊ *Penelope dabbenei* Tour highlight. Four feeding together at 'The Emerald Lake'.  
**Spix's Guan** ◊ *Penelope jacuacu* Seen around Trinidad.  
**Dusky-legged Guan** *Penelope obscura* Common in the dry woodlands.  
**Blue-throated Piping Guan** *Pipile cumanensis* Seen at Los Volcanes and Puerto Baillivian near Trinidad.  
**Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail** *Odontophorus speciosa* One seen at Los Volcanes by a couple of us.



*Southern Screamer (Eustace Barnes)*

**Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta*** (H) Heard at Trinidad.

**Southern Screamer *Chauna torquata*** Common around Trinidad.

**White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*** Seen around Trinidad.

**Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*** Huge numbers south of Trinidad.



*Puna Teal on Lake Titicaca (Eustace Barnes).*

**Torrent Duck** *Merganetta armata* Up to 32 seen along the canyon road below Charazani.  
**Andean Goose** *Chloephaga melanoptera* Commonly seen in the high Andes.  
**Muscovy Duck** *Cairina moschata* Seen north of Trinidad.  
**Brazilian Teal** *Amazonetta brasiliensis* A few.  
**Crested Duck** *Lophonetta specularioides* A hulking denizen of high altitude lakes.  
**Cinnamon Teal** *Anas cyanoptera*  
**White-cheeked Pintail** *Anas bahamensis* Good numbers at Laguna Alalay.  
**Yellow-billed Teal** *Anas flavirostris*  
**Yellow-billed Pintail** *Anas georgica* Commonly seen from Laguna Alalay to Lago Titicaca  
**Puna Teal** *Anas puna* Common on the Altiplano.  
**Rosy-billed Pochard** *Netta peposaca* A few distant birds at Laguna Alalay.  
**Andean Duck** *Oxyura ferruginea*  
**White-tufted Grebe** *Rollandia Rolland*



*The pretty Capped Heron getting blown about (Eustace Barnes)*

**Titicaca Grebe** ◇ *Rollandia microptera* Superb viewing of this lovely species at a toxic waste dump.  
**(Southern) Silvery Grebe** *Podiceps o. occipitalis* This southern sub-species seen at Laguna Alalay.  
**(Northern) Silvery Grebe** *Podiceps o. juninensis* The northern sub-species seen on high altitude lakes.  
**Chilean Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus chilensis* Seen Lago Uru uru and other high altitude lakes.  
**Andean Flamingo** ◇ *Phoenicoparrus andinus* Reasonable numbers found at Lago Uru uru.  
**James's Flamingo** ◇ *Phoenicoparrus jamesi* A few noted at Lago Uru uro  
**Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana*  
**Maguari Stork** *Ciconia maguari*  
**Jabiru** *Jabiru mycteria* Common around Trinidad.  
**Plumbeous Ibis** ◇ *Theristicus caerulescens*  
**Buff-necked Ibis** *Theristicus caudatus* Small numbers noted in the Chaco and Llanos de Moxos.

**Green Ibis** *Mesembrinibis cayennensis* Seen around Trinidad.  
**Bare-faced Ibis** *Phimosus infuscatus* Seen around Santa Cruz.  
**Puna Ibis** *Plegadis ridgwayi* Seen on several occasions.  
**Roseate Spoonbill** *Platalea ajaja*  
**Rufescent Tiger Heron** *Tigrisoma lineatum*



*Fasciated Tiger Heron (Eustace Barnes).*

**Fasciated Tiger Heron** *Tigrisoma fasciatum* One El Chairó and several below Charazani.  
**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* Seen at numerous sites.  
**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*  
**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*  
**Cocoi Heron** *Ardea cocoi* Seen at a couple of locations.  
**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* Common.  
**Capped Heron** *Pilherodius pileatus*  
**Whistling Heron** *Syrigma sibilatrix* Noted at several sites.  
**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* Common.  
**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Common.  
**Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga* A couple noted.  
**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* Standard fare.  
**Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture** *Cathartes burrovianus*  
**Greater Yellow-headed Vulture** *Cathartes melambrotus* A couple at Warnes.  
**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* Where there's trash, and there is, we see them.  
**Andean Condor** *Vultur gryphus* Superb views of this ancient leviathan.

**White-tailed Kite** *Elanus leucurus* A few near Santa Cruz.  
**Hook-billed Kite** *Chondrohierax uncinatus* Several seen in dry woodlands near Apolo, where common.  
**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* The most beautiful of raptors. Always a favorite.  
**Plain-breasted Hawk** *Accipiter ventralis* A few noted.  
**Bicoloured Hawk** *Accipiter bicolor* One at Quirusillas.  
**Long-winged Harrier** *Circus buffoni* One in Beni.  
**Cinereous Harrier** *Circus cinereus* Several on the high puna. Easy at this time of year.  
**Plumbeous Kite** *Ictinia plumbea* Small numbers in the lowlands.  
**Black-collared Hawk** *Busarellus nigricollis*  
**Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus sociabilis* Common round Trinidad.  
**Crane Hawk** *Geranospiza caerulescens*  
**Slate-coloured Hawk** *Buteogallus schistaceus* A couple seen near Riberalta.  
**Savanna Hawk** *Buteogallus meridionalis* A few in the Beni.



*Great black Hawk at an Anaconda carcass (Eustace Barnes).*

**Great Black Hawk** *Buteogallus urubitinga* Common near Trinidad.  
**Roadside Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris occidus* Seen around Riberalta. Overlaps with following taxon.  
**Roadside ('Chaparral') Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris saturatus* Seen commonly, including Apolo in the north.



**White-rumped Hawk** *Parabuteo leucorrhous* Seen well on a few occasions.  
**White-tailed Hawk** *Geranoaetus albicaudatus* Common around Santa Cruz.  
**Variable Hawk** *Geranoaetus polyosoma* Seen at scattered locations in the Andes.  
**Black-chested Buzzard-eagle** *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*  
**White Hawk** *Pseudaster albicollis* Nice adult near Apolo.  
**Grey-lined Hawk** *Buteo nitidus* Seen Riberalta.  
**White-throated Hawk** ♦ *Buteo albigula* One near Sorata. Austral winterer.  
**Short-tailed Hawk** *Buteo brachyurus* One near Apolo.  
**Zone-tailed Hawk** *Buteo albonotatus* Seen on our first day.  
**Mountain Caracara** *Phalacrocorax megalopterus*  
**Southern Crested Caracara** *Caracara plancus*  
**Yellow-headed Caracara** *Milvago chimachima*  
**Laughing Falcon** *Herpetotheres cachinans* Seen at Riberalta.  
**Barred Forest Falcon** *Micrastur ruficollis* (H)  
**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*  
**Aplomado Falcon** *Falco femoralis*  
**Bat Falcon** *Falco ruficularis* Seen on a couple of occasions.  
**Orange-breasted Falcon** *Falco deiroleucus* Seen below Charazani, where a pair breeds.  
**Red-legged Seriema** *Cariama cristata* (H) We actually heard this at the Botanical gardens.  
**Sunbittern** *Eurypyga helias* Several seen at Warnes and La Habana.  
**Grey-necked Wood Rail** *Aramides cajaneus* Seen at many sites this year.  
**Rufous-sided Crane** *Porzana albicollis* A pair seen near Apolo.  
**Plumbeous Rail** *Pardirallus sanguinolentus* Seen at Laguna Alalay.  
**Common Gallinule** *Gallinula galeata*  
**Slate-coloured Coot (Andean C)** *Fulica ardesiaca*



*Giant Coot (Eustace Barnes0.*

**Giant Coot** *Fulica gigantea* Seen on a number of lakes.  
**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna*  
**White-backed Stilt** *Himantopus melanurus*  
**Andean Avocet** *Recurvirostra andina* A couple at Lago Poo Po.  
**Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis*  
**Andean Lapwing** *Vanellus resplendens*

**Semi-palmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* One seen at Oruro. A vagrant to Bolivia.

**Puna Plover** *Charadrius alticola* See near Oruro in good numbers.

**Wattled Jacana** *Jacana jacana*

**Grey-breasted Seedsnipe** *Thinocorus orbignyianus* A group of seven at la Cumbre.

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca*

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla*

**White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis* A couple in the Llanos de Moxos.

**Baird's Sandpiper** *Calidris bairdii*

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* Several seen in the Llanos de Moxos.

**Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor*

**Puna Snipe** *Gallinago andina* One seen La Cumbre.

**Black Skimmer** *Rhynchops niger* Seen near Trinidad and Riberalta.



*Andean Gull (Eustace Barnes)*

**Andean Gull** *Chroicocephalus serranus*

**Large-billed Tern** *Phaetusa simplex* Yes.

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia* But no Guinea Fowl, Turkey or Domestic Goose?

**Picazuro Pigeon** *Patagioenas picazuro* Common

**Spot-winged Pigeon** *Patagioenas maculosa* Has a liking for Eucalyptus plantations. Now common.

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata* A nice looking pigeon.

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

**Plumbeous Pigeon** *Patagioenas plumbea* A few at Apolo, Charzani and on the Coroico road.  
**Eared Dove** *Zenaida auriculata*  
**Ruddy Ground Dove** *Columbina talpacoti*  
**Picui Ground Dove** *Columbina picui*  
**Plain-breasted Ground Dove** *Columbina passerine* A few seen at La Habana. Not common in the Beni.  
**Blue Ground Dove** *Claravis pretiosa* A couple seen by some of the group at La Habana.  
**Maroon-chested Ground Dove** *Claravis mondetoura* (H) Heard briefly in thick seeding bamboo at Sacramento Alta.  
**Bare-faced Ground Dove** *Metriopelia ceciliae*  
**Black-winged Ground Dove** *Metriopelia melanoptera* (LO) A pair few noted in Cerro Tunari.  
**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila verreauxi*  
**Yungas Dove** ◊ *Leptotila megalura* Surprisingly numerous at many sites this year from Quirusillas to Inquisivi.  
**Grey-fronted Dove** *Leptotila rufaxilla*  
**White-throated Quail-Dove** *Geotrygon frenata* A couple seen on the Chapare road.



*Red-fronted Macaw (Eustace Barnes)*

**Blue-and-yellow Macaw** *Ara ararauna* One of nine. Not uncommon around Trinidad.  
**Blue-throated Macaw** ◊ *Ara glaucogularis* Two of nine. A superb performance from several pairs.  
**Military Macaw** ◊ *Ara militaris* Three of nine. Up to 12 seen on several occasions at Los Volcanes.  
**Red-and-green Macaw** *Ara chloropterus* Four of nine. One noted at La Habana.  
**Scarlet Macaw** *Ara macao* Five of nine. A pair seen near Warnes.  
**Red-fronted Macaw** ◊ *Ara rubrogenys* Six of nine. Good numbers noted at Perereta.  
**Chestnut-fronted Macaw** *Ara severus* Seven of nine. Common in the lowlands.  
**Red-bellied Macaw** *Orthopsittaca manilatus* Eight of nine. A couple seen in the Beni.  
**Golden-collared Macaw** ◊ *Primolius auricollis* Nine of nine. Several seen around Trinidad.  
**Blue-crowned Parakeet** ◊ *Aratinga acuticaudata*  
**Mitred Parakeet** *Aratinga mitrata* Abundant in the foothills.  
**White-eyed Parakeet** *Aratinga leucophthalma*  
**Peach-fronted Parakeet** *Aratinga aurea* Common around Trinidad.

**Dusky-headed Parakeet** *Aratinga wedellii* Common around Trinidad.  
**Green-cheeked Parakeet** *Pyrrhura molinae*  
**Cliff Parakeet** ◊ *Myiopsitta luchsii* Abundant at Perereta.  
**Grey-hooded Parakeet** ◊ *Psilopsiagon aymara*  
**Mountain Parakeet** *Psilopsiagon aurifrons* A flying high overhead near Oruro.  
**Yellow-chevroned Parakeet** *Brotogeris chiriri* Abundant.  
**Golden-winged Parakeet** *Brotogeris chrysoptera* Abundant at Warnes.  
**Cobalt-winged Parakeet** *Brotogeris cyanoptera* Seen at Puerto Hamburgo.  
**Tui Parakeet** *Brotogeris tui* Common in Riberalta.  
**Blue-winged Parrotlet** *Forpus passerinus* Fairly common in the lowlands.  
**Black-winged Parrot** ◊ *Hapalopsittaca melanotis* A pair seen on the Coroico road. Not breeding yet.  
**Blue-headed Parrot** *Pionus menstruus*  
**Red-billed Parrot** *Pionus sordidus* Small numbers at Los Volcanes.  
**Scaly-headed Parrot** *Pionus maximiliani*  
**Plum-crowned Parrot** *Pionus tumultuosus* One seen very briefly on the Coroico road.  
**Tucuman Amazon** ◊ *Amazona tucumana* Up to 12 seen at Laguna Esmeralda. Superb.  
**Yellow-crowned Amazon** *Amazona ochrocephala* Several pairs seen near Riberalta.  
**Turquoise-fronted Amazon** *Amazona aestiva*  
**Southern Mealy Amazon** *Amazona farinosa* A few around Riberalta and Apolo.  
**Scaly-naped Amazon** *Amazona mercenaries* - **LAST, BUT NOT LEAST OF 33 SPECIES OF PSITACIDS!**  
**Hoatzin** *Opisthocomus hoazin* Seen and heard around Trinidad.  
**Guira Cuckoo** *Guira guira*  
**Smooth-billed Ani** *Crotophaga ani*



*Yungas Pygmy Owl (Eustace Barnes)*

**Striped Cuckoo** *Tapera naevia* (H) Heard at numerous localities.  
**Pheasant cuckoo** ◊ *Dromococcyx phasianellus* (H) We could not return for this species with the road blocks!  
**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana* Common  
**Little Cuckoo** *Coccyzus minuta* (NL) Seen around Trinidad.

**Dark-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus melacoryphus* Seen at Riberalta.  
**Black-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (NL) Seen near Apolo by a couple of the group.  
**Tropical Screech Owl** *Megascops choliba* (H) Recorded at Coroico and Apolo.  
**Southern Tawny-bellied Screech Owl** *Megascops watsonii* (H)  
**Magellanic (Lesser Horned) Owl** *Bubo magellanicus* One at Inquisivi was a surprise.  
**Yungas Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium bolivianum* Seen on the Chapare road.



*Ferruginous Pygmy Owl (Eustace Barnes)*

**Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium brasilianum* Noted.  
**Subtropical Pygmy Owl** ◊ *Glaucidium parkeri* (H) Heard at Los Volcanes.  
**Burrowing Owl** *Athene cunicularia* A regular feature.  
**Common Potoo** *Nyctibius griseus* Seen at Puerto Baillivian and Apolo and heard at Coroico.  
**Nacunda Nighthawk** *Chordeiles nacunda* Seen briefly around Santa Cruz and Riberalta.  
**Pauraque** *Nyctidromus albicollis* Not so many.  
**Little Nightjar** *Setopagis parvulus* (LO) Seen along the roads north of Trinidad rather briefly.  
**Band-winged Nightjar** *Systellura longirostris* One at 4400m en route to Sorata. This species needs further spitting!  
**Scissor-tailed Nightjar** ◊ *Hydropsalis torquata* A superb pair seen at Perereta and others on Apolo extension.  
**Rufous Nightjar** *Antrostomus rufus* (H) Several heard at Los Volcanes and Apolo.  
**White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris*  
**Chestnut-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne rutila*  
**Grey-rumped Swift** *Chaetura cinereiventris* Seen around Apolo.  
**Short-tailed Swift** *Chaetura brachyura*  
**White-tipped Swift** *Aeronautes montivagus*  
**Andean Swift** *Aeronautes andecolus* Many great views of this lovely swift.  
**Neotropical Palm Swift** *Tachornis squamata*  
**Rufous-breasted Hermit** *Glaucis hirsutus* (H)  
**Great-billed Hermit** *Phaethornis malaris* A large lek at Los Volcanes and near Coroico.  
**Buff-bellied Hermit** ◊ *Phaethornis subochraceus* A single bird seen at La Esperancita.  
**White-vented Violetear** ◊ *Colibri thalassinus* (H) Heard near Samaipata. Would not budge.  
**Sparkling Violetear** *Colibri coruscans*

**Black-throated Mango** *Anthcothorax nigricollis* seen at several locations.  
**Blue-tailed Emerald** *Chlorostilbon mellisugus* A few noted.  
**Rufous-crested Coquette** ◊ *Lophornis delattrei* A stunning male found at Coroico by Raul.  
**Glittering-bellied Emerald** *Chlorostilbon lucidus*  
**Fork-tailed Woodnymph** *Thalurania furcata*  
**White-chinned Sapphire** *Hylocharis cyanus* A single bird noted.  
**Gilded Sapphire** *Hylocharis chrysura* One of the commonest hummers of the tour.  
**Golden-tailed Sapphire** *Chrysuronia oenone* A few noted.  
**White-tailed Goldenthrout** *Polytmus guainumbi* A couple seen by a couple of us at Apolo.  
**White-bellied Hummingbird** *Amazilia chionogaster*  
**Sapphire-spangled Hummingbird** *Amazilia lactea* One scrawny individual noted.  
**Speckled Hummingbird** *Adelomyia melanogenys* A single bird noted at Apolo. It has a buff rump patch?  
**Black-hooded Sunbeam** ◊ *Aglaeactis pamela* Three seen at Corani and one above Quime.  
**Andean Hillstar** *Oreotrochilus estella* A good number seen on flowering cactii  
**Wedge-tailed Hillstar** ◊ *Oreotrochilus adela* A couple of females seen.  
**Collared (Gould's) Inca** *Coeligena torquata* A single seen on the Chapare road.  
**Violet-throated Starfrontlet** *Coeligena violifer* A fairly common species.  
**Violet-fronted Brilliant** *Heliodoxa leadbeateri* (LO) One seen en route to Apolo by a couple of us, maybe only me.  
**Many-spotted Hummingbird** *Taphrospilus hypostictus* A single bird seen in the Yungas.  
**Sword-billed Hummingbird** *Ensifera ensifera* A single bird seen very well on the Chapare road.  
**Great Sapphirewing** *Pterophanes cyanopterus* Seen briefly on two occasions.  
**Giant Hummingbird** *Patagona gigas*  
**Amethyst-throated Sunangel** *Heliangelus amethysticollis*  
**Green-tailed Trainbearer** *Lesbia nuna* Several noted.  
**Red-tailed Comet** ◊ *Sappho sparganura* We saw several of this spectacular species.  
**Tyrian Metaltail** *Metallura tyrianthina*  
**Scaled Metaltail** ◊ *Metallura a. aeneocauda* An adult seen on the Coroico road.  
**Scaled Metaltail** ◊ *Metallura a. malagae* On the Chapare road. Probably a separate species; the Reddish Metaltail.  
**Blue-tufted Starthroat** ◊ *Heliomaster furcifer* A single immature male seen near Pereta. A vagrant this far north.  
**White-bellied Woodstar** *Chaetocercus mulsant* A single bird found.  
**Slender-tailed Woodstar** ◊ *Microstilbon burmeisteri* (LO) A single bird seen below Samaipata.  
**Golden-headed Quetzal** *Pharomachrus auriceps* (H) Heard on the Chapare road. It was Quetzal slumber season  
**Black-tailed Trogon** *Trogon melanurus* Common at La Habana.  
**Blue-crowned Trogon** *Trogon curucui* Generally common in drier woodlands.  
**Masked Trogon** *Trogon personatus* A few noted.  
**Green Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle americana* Very common around Trinidad.  
**Green and rufous Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle inda* Several seen near Warnes. A lovely kingfisher.  
**Amazon Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle amazona*  
**Ringed Kingfisher** *Megaceryle torquata*  
**Amazonian Motmot** *Momotus momota* (H)  
**Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda* Quite common around Trinidad.  
**Bluish-fronted Jacamar** *Galbula cyanescens* Occurs with the above around Riberalta and at Apolo.  
**Purus Jacamar** *Galbalcyrhynchus purusianus* A pair at Riberalta was new for the tour.  
**White-eared Puffbird** *Nystalus chauru* (H) Heard around Apolo.  
**Western Striolated Puffbird** *Nystalus obamai* Seen near Apolo.  
**Chaco Puffbird** *Nystalus striatipectus* A commonly noted species throughout the dry woodlands.  
**Lanceolated Monklet** *Micromonacha lanceolata* A superb sighting of this infrequently seen species.  
**Black-fronted Nunbird** *Monasa nigrifrons*  
**Swallow-winged Puffbird** *Chelidoptera tenebrosus* A few seen near Riberalta.  
**Gilded Barbet** *Capito auratus* Seen near Apolo.  
**Chestnut-tipped Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus derbianus* (H) Heard at Los Volcanes.  
**Blue-banded Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus coeruleicinctis* A couple seen on the Chapare road.  
**Black-throated Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus atrogularis* (H) Heard only.  
**Chestnut-eared Aracari** *Pteroglossus castanotis*

**Lettered Aracari** *Pteroglossus inscriptus* Found near Riberalta.  
**Hooded Mountain Toucan** ◇ *Andigena cucullata* Seen and others heard on the Chapare road. A top target.  
**Channel-billed Toucan** *Ramphastos vitellinus*  
**Toco Toucan** *Ramphastos toco* A common species in the lowlands. A pair seen near Samaipata was very high.  
**White-throated Toucan** *Ramphastos tucanus* (H) Near Riberalta.  
**White-wedged Piculet** *Picumnus albosquamatus* A few seen at many sites.  
**Ocellated Piculet** ◇ *Picumnus dorgignyanus* Not uncommon in the Andes.  
**White Woodpecker** *Melanerpes candidus* Small numbers throughout the lowlands.  
**Yellow-tufted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes cruentatus*  
**White-fronted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes cactorum* Commonly seen on columnar cacti.  
**Bar-bellied Woodpecker** *Veniliornis nigriceps* A pair found at Siberia and another on the Chapare road.  
**Little Woodpecker** *Veniliornis passerinus*  
**Striped Woodpecker** ◇ *Veniliornis lignarius* A pair near Inquisivi.  
**Golden-green Woodpecker** *Piculus chrysochloros* Replaces Green-barred Woodpecker in Beni.  
**Crimson-mantled Woodpecker** *Colaptes rivolii* A few found on the Coroico road.  
**Green-barred Woodpecker** *Colaptes melanochloros* One seen at the Botanical gardens.  
**'Golden-breasted' (Green-barred) Woodpecker** *Colaptes melanochloros melanolaemus* Inquisivi.  
**Andean Flicker** *Colaptes rupicola*  
**Campo Flicker** *Colaptes campestris* A common lowland species.  
**Pale-crested Woodpecker** ◇ *Celeus lugubris* A lovely species we found around Trinidad.  
**Cream-coloured Woodpecker** *Celeus flavus* A pair near Riberalta.  
**Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus*  
**Red-necked Woodpecker** *Campephilus rubricollis* Seen on a few occasions. Not yet with young.  
**Crimson-crested Woodpecker** *Campephilus melanoleucos*  
**Cream-backed Woodpecker** ◇ *Campephilus leucopogon* More easily found earlier in the year.  
**Grey-throated Leaf-tosser** *Sclerurus albigularis* (H) Heard at Los Volcanes  
**Common Miner** *Geositta cunicularia* Found on the Altiplano.  
**Puna Miner** *Geositta punensis* A few seen near Oruro.  
**Rock Earthcreeper** ◇ *Ochetorhynchus andaecola* A few pairs noted in the highlands.  
**Bolivian Earthcreeper** ◇ *Tarphonomus harterti* Found on a few occasions in the central valleys.  
**Buff-breasted Earthcreeper** ◇ *Upucerthia jelskii* Several pairs noted near Oruro.  
**Cream-winged Cinclodes** *Cinclodes albiventris*  
**White-winged Cinclodes** *Cinclodes atacamensis* Seen en route to Inquisivi. A most regularly mis-identified species.  
**Pale-legged Hornero** *Furnarius leucopus* Around Riberalta only.  
**Rufous Hornero** *Furnarius rufus*  
**Brown-capped Tit-spinetail** ◇ *Leptasthenura fuliginiceps*  
**Tawny Tit-Spinetail** ◇ *Leptasthenura yanacensis* A species more or less restricted to Polylepis  
**Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail** *Leptasthenura aegithaloides* A pair near Oruro.  
**Black-throated (Cochabamba) Thistletail** ◇ *Asthenes harterti berjaranoi* Seen at Siberia and on the Chapare road.  
**Black-throated Thistletail** ◇ *Asthenes harterti* Seen poorly on the Chapare road.  
**Maquis Canastero** ◇ *Asthenes heterura* One seen near Epizana and another seen near Quime.  
**Streak-throated Canastero** *Asthenes humilis*  
**Rusty-vented Canastero** *Asthenes dorbignyi*  
**Berlepsch's Canastero** ◇ *Asthenes berlepschi* A pair seen and another heard near Sorata.  
**Puna Canastero** *Asthenes sclateri* A pair near Inquisivi.  
**Streak-throated Canastero** *Asthenes humilis* Noted above 4700m at high altitude.  
**Cordilleran Canastero** *Asthenes modesta* Seen en route to Inquisivi.  
**Scribble-tailed Canastero** ◇ *Asthenes maculicauda* Found near Pongo.  
**Chotoy Spinetail** *Schoeniophylax phryganophilus*  
**Ochre-cheeked Spinetail** ◇ *Synallaxis scutata* Common at Los Volcanes.  
**Plain-crowned Spinetail** *Synallaxis gujanensis* Seen around Riberalta.  
**Cabanis's Spinetail** *Synallaxis cabanisi* A few noted below Charazani.  
**Cinereous-breasted Spinetail** ◇ *Synallaxis hypospodia* A pair near Apolo.  
**Sooty-fronted Spinetail** *Synallaxis frontalis*

**Azara's Spinetail** *Synallaxis azarae samaipatae* Seen in south. The pretty variegated form.  
**Azara's Spinetail** *Synallaxis azarae azarae* Seen below Charazani. The Plumbeous form.  
**Plain-crowned Spinetail** *Synallaxis gujanensis* (H) Heard in gallery forest near Riberalta.  
**Light-crowned Spinetail** ◊ *Cranioleuca albiceps discolor* Buff crowned form found at Siberia.  
**Stripe-crowned Spinetail** *Cranioleuca pyrrhophia*  
**Bolivian Spinetail** ◊ *Cranioleuca henricae* Somewhat easily seen near Inquisivi.  
**Rusty-backed Spinetail** *Cranioleuca vulpine* Several pairs noted around Trinidad.  
**Yellow-chinned Spinetail** *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* Common around Trinidad.  
**Plain Softtail** ◊ *Thripophaga fusciceps* Common around Trinidad. A disjunct population.  
**Rufous-fronted Thornbird (Common T)** *Phacellodomus rufifrons*  
**Streak-fronted Thornbird** *Phacellodomus striaticeps*  
**Spot-breasted Thornbird** ◊ *Phacellodomus maculipectus* A few noted at widely scattered localities.  
**Greater Thornbird** *Phacellodomus ruber*  
**Wren-like Rushbird** *Phleocryptes melanops*  
**Pearled Treerunner** *Margarornis squamiger* A few seen.  
**Grey-crested Cacholote** *Pseudoseisura unirufa* Common around Trinidad.  
**Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner** *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata* (H) Heard Los Volcanes.  
**Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor rufum* A few noted at Los Volcanes.



*Great Rufous Woodcreeper (Eustace Barnes).*

**Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor pyrrhodes* Seen very well at Riberalta.  
**Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner** *Anabacerthia ruficauda* Seen near Warnes.  
**Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus ochrolaemus* A responsive pair at Warnes.  
**Striped Treehunter** *Thripadectes holostictus* (H) heard on the Chapare road.  
**Streaked Xenops** *Xenops rutilans*  
**Plain Xenops** *Xenops minutus* A few noted.  
**Olivaceous Woodcreeper** *Sittasomus griseicapillus* Seen Trinidad where form *viridis* has a distinct song.



**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* (H) Heard on the Chapare road.  
**Great Rufous Woodcreeper** *Xiphocolaptes major* Common in drier lowlands.  
**Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper** *Dendrexetastes rufigula* Seen Warnes in a mixed flock.  
**Straight-billed Woodcreeper** *Dendroplex picus*  
**Tschudi's Woodcreeper** ◊ *Xiphorhynchus tschudii* Not uncommon at Los Volcanes.  
**Ocellated Woodcreeper** ◊ *Xiphorhynchus ocellatus* Seen well at Warnes, where rare.  
**Striped Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus obsoletus* A few seen around Riberalta.  
**Buff-throated Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus guttatus*  
**Narrow-billed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris*  
**Montane Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* A few noted.  
**Inambari Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes fatimalimae* Seen at Los Volcanes and recorded elsewhere in lowlands.  
**Red-billed Scythebill** *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris* Seen in the Chaco and around Trinidad.  
**Giant Antshrike** ◊ *Batara cinerea* A superb male seen near Comarapa.  
**Great Antshrike** *Taraba major*  
**Barred Antshrike** *Thamnophilus doliatus*  
**Chestnut-backed Antshrike** *Thamnophilus palliatus* A few found at Los Volcanes and Apolo.  
**Upland Antshrike** ◊ *Thamnophilus aroyae* Several pairs near Chairo and Apolo.  
**Amazonian Antshrike** *Thamnophilus amazonicus* Several pairs noted at Warnes  
**Natterer's Slaty Antshrike** ◊ *Thamnophilus stictocephalus* Seen near Riberalta.  
**Bolivian Slaty Antshrike** ◊ *Thamnophilus sticturus* First seen in the Botanical gardens.  
**Variable Antshrike** *Thamnophilus caerulescens* Upland and lowland sub-species noted.  
**Rufous-capped Antshrike** *Thamnophilus ruficapillus cochabambae* Not uncommon in the highlands.  
**Plain Antwren** *Dysithamnus mentalis* Widely seen.  
**Pygmy Antwren** *Myrmotherula brachyura* Seen Riberalta and heard at La Habana.  
**Sclater's Antwren** ◊ *Myrmotherula sclateri* A pair noted south of Guayamerim.  
**Stripe-chested Antwren** *Myrmotherula longicauda* Seen Rio Selva and Apolo.  
**Ashy (Yungas) Antwren** ◊ *Myrmotherula grisea* A couple seen near Apolo. A good species to find.  
**Leaden Antwren** *Myrmotherula assimilis* Not uncommon near Warnes.  
**Black-capped Antwren** *Herpsilochmus atricapillus* Seen Santa Cruz.  
**Inambari-Tambopata Antwren** ◊ *Herpsilochmus (atricapillus?) sp nov.* Abundant in Madidi NP. Must be this taxon.  
**Rusty-backed Antwren** *Formicivora rufa* Seen near La Habana.  
**Mato Grosso Antbird** ◊ *Cercomacra melanaria* Found near Trinidad.  
**Riparian (Blackish) Antbird** *Cercomacra fuscicauda* (H) Heard at Puerto Hamburgo  
**Grey Antbird** *Cercomacra cinerascens* Seen at Warnes  
**Band-tailed Antbird** *Hypocnemoides maculicauda* Seen around Trinidad  
**White-backed Fire-eye** *Pyriglena leuconota* First found at Los Volcanes.  
**Plumbeous Antbird** *Myrmelastes hyperythra* Seen around Trinidad.  
**Black-throated Antbird** *Myrmeciza atrothorax* Seen commonly at Riberalta.  
**Black-spotted Bare-eye** *Phlegopsis nigromaculatus* A couple seen around Trinidad.  
**Short-tailed Antthrush** ◊ *Chamaeza campanisona* A superb bird at Quirusillas.  
**Barred Antthrush** ◊ *Chamaeza mollissima* (H) One called in but not seen on the Chapare road.  
**Undulated Antpitta** *Grasllaria squamigera* A superb adult seen on the Coroico road.  
**White-throated Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria albigula* Two seen at Quirusillas.  
**Cochabamba (Rufous) Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria rufula cochabambae* Seen on the Chapare road. A distinct taxon.  
**Rufous-faced Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria erythrotus* Seen at Siberia and heard elsewhere.  
**Masked Antpitta** ◊ *Hylopezus auricularis* Good views for some near Riberalta.  
**Slaty Gnateater** ◊ *Conopophaga ardesiaca* A couple of pairs found at Los Volcanes.  
**Bolivian White-crowned Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus bolivianus* One walked around our feet at Los Volcanes.  
**Trilling Tapaculo** *Scytalopus parvirostris* A single bird seen poorly near Churo.  
**Diademed Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus schulenbergi* Point blank, although brief, views at Chuspipata.  
**Puna Tapaculo** *Scytalopus simonsi* Several. A sort of open air tapaculo (not read the script for this genus).  
**Olive-crowned Crescentchest** ◊ *Melanopareia maximiliani* A single bird found near Comarapa.  
**Sclater's Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias sclateri* Found at Los Volcanes.  
**Yungas Tyrannulet** ◊ *Phyllomyias weedeni* A single bird recorded near Apolo.

Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias uropygialis* Several pairs found near Siberia.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus* Found at Trinidad.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* Seen near Apolo.

Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata* Seen near Apolo in dry woodlands.

Grey Elaenia *Myiopagis caniceps* Seen near Apolo and elsewhere.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* Common from start to finish in the lowlands.

Large Elaenia *Elaenia spectabilis* A number seen. An austral winterer.

White-crested Elaenia *Elaenia albiceps*

Small-billed Elaenia *Elaenia parvirostris* Found at Apolo.

Lesser Elaenia *Elaenia chiriquensis* Common at Apolo.

Highland Elaenia *Elaenia obscura* Several noted at Quirusillas

Sierran Elaenia *Elaenia pallatangae*

Slaty Elaenia ◊ *Elaenia strepera* A couple noted around Riberalta. Another austral winter visitor.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*

White-lored Tyrannulet *Ornithion inerme* Seen near Santa Cruz.

'Chaco' Suiriri Flycatcher *Suiriri s. suiriri* A pair seen at Pereta, where uncommon. Possibly an austral migrant.

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys*

Buff-banded Tyrannulet ◊ *Mecocerculus hellmayri* Found with ease at Siberia.

White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus*

Yellow-billed Tit-tyrant *Anairetes flavirostris* Found at Pongo.

Tufted Tit-tyrant *Anairetes parvulus* Not uncommon in the uplands.

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea* Seen in the foothills.

White-bellied Tyrannulet *Serpophaga munda*

White-crested Tyrannulet *Serpophaga subcristata* Another austral winter visitor.

Mouse coloured Tyrannulet *Phaeomyias murina* Common in dry woodlands.

Greater Wagtail-tyrant ◊ *Stigmatura budytoides*

Bolivian Tyrannulet ◊ *Zimmerius bolivianus* A pair found on the Chapare road.

Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis* Found at Quirusillas.

McConnell's Flycatcher *Nionectes mcconnellii* Found at Los Volcanes and near Apolo.

Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis* Oddly one found near Perereta. Way out of habitat/range?

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* Seen at Los Volcanes.

Slaty-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon superciliaris*

Southern Scrub Flycatcher *Sublegatus modestus* A few noted.

Plain Inezia ◊ *Inezia inornata* A few noted in Beni. Another austral migrant.

Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher ◊ *Nephelomyias ochraceiventris* A pair on the Coroico road. Usual spot.

Yungas Tody-Tyrant ◊ *Hemitriccus spodiops* Common in Yungas above Apolo.

Johannes's Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus iohannis* Found in the gallery forest at Riberalta.

White-bellied Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus griseipectus* A few around Riberalta.

Pearly-vented Tody-tyrant *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer* Common throughout.

Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant *Myiornis ecaudatus* Commonly recorded around Riberlata.

White-bellied Pygmy-Tyrant ◊ *Myiornis albiventris* Very common near Apolo.

Ochre-faced Tody-flycatcher *Poecilotriccus plumbeiceps* Several pairs noted.

Rusty-fronted Tody-flycatcher *Poecilotriccus latirostris* A pair found near Trinidad.

Common Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*

Yellow-browed Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum* Found at Riberalta and Trinidad.

Zimmer's Flatbill *Tolmomyias assimilis* Noted.

Yellow-olive Flatbill *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*

Grey-crowned Flatbill *Tolmomyias poliocephalus*

Ochre-lored Flatbill *Tolmomyias flaviventris* Seen near El Chairó.

Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* Commonly recorded.

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*

Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri* Seen near Quirusillas.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus* A few seen in the lowlands.

Unnamed (Fuscous) Flycatcher ◊ *Cnemotriccus (fuscatus) bimaculatus* Seen near Inquisivi. A new species.

**Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans***



*Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher (Eustace Barnes).*

- Eastern Wood Pewee *Contopus virens*** Very common above Apolo. A boreal migrant.
- Western Wood Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*** (H) Picked up by Doug, who has them in his back yard.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*** Another boreal migrant.
- Vermilion (Scarlet) Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus***
- Hudson's Black Tyrant** ◊ *Knipolegus hudsoni* An austral migrant we saw commonly around Trinidad.
- White-winged Black Tyrant *Knipolegus aterrimus*** Common.
- Yellow-browed Tyrant *Satrapa icterophrys*** Another austral migrant.
- Andean Negrito *Lessonia lessonia*** Seen on the Altiplano.
- Puna Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola juninensis*** Very few recorded.
- Cinereous Ground Tyrant** ◊ *Muscisaxicola cinereus* Common.
- White-fronted Ground Tyrant** ◊ *Muscisaxicola albifrons* Seen on the bogs.
- Ochre-naped Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola flavinucha*** Austral winterer. We saw a good number on the high puna.
- Grey Monjita *Xolmis cinerea*** Several seen at Trinidad. Commoner in austral winter.
- White-rumped Monjita *Xolmis velatus*** Found around Trinidad.
- White Monjita *Xolmis irupero*** A few seen near Trinidad.
- Streak-throated Bush Tyrant *Myiotheretes striaticollis*** A few noted.
- Rufous-bellied Bush Tyrant** ◊ *Myiotheretes fuscorufus* A couple of pairs on the Chapare road.
- Rufous-webbed Bush Tyrant** ◊ *Polioxolmis rufipennis* Several seen.
- Black-backed Water Tyrant *Fluvicola albiventer*** Seen around Trinidad.
- White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala*** A few near Trinidad.
- Maroon-belted Chat-tyrant *Ochthoeca thoracica*** Not uncommon on Chapare road.
- Rufous-breasted Chat-tyrant *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*** Common edge species.

**D'Orbigny's Chat-tyrant** *Ochthoeca oenanthoides* One seen at Pongo.  
**White-browed Chat-tyrant** *Ochthoeca leucophrys* A few near Cochabamba.  
**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonia* Spotted by Adrian near Apolo.  
**Cattle Tyrant** *Machetornis rixosa*  
**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus*  
**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis* Very uncommon on this tour.  
**Rusty-margined Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes cayanensis* Seen around Riberalta and Trinidad.  
**Yellow-throated Flycatcher** *Conopias parva* (H) Heard near Riberalta. First record south of Madre de Dios for Beni?  
**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus*  
**Lesser Kiskadee** *Philohydor lictor* Only recorded at Riberalta.  
**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes luteiventris* Seen in lowlands.  
**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus* A common species, augmented with austral winterers.  
**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua*  
**Variegated Flycatcher** *Empidonomus varius*  
**Crowned Slaty Flycatcher** *Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus* Another austral migrant.  
**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus*  
**White-throated Kingbird** *Tyrannus albogularis* Austral migrant seen Trinidad.  
**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savanna* Huge movements of this common austral migrant noted.  
**White-rumped Sirystes** *Sirystes albocinereus* A pair seen near Apolo.  
**Rufous Casiornis** *Casiornis rufus* Partial austral migrant, very numerous at this time of year.



Female White-winged Black-Tyrant (Eustace Barnes)

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer*  
**Short-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus ferox*  
**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus*  
**White-eyed Attila** *Attila bolivianus* Seen near Riberalta.  
**Red-crested Cotinga** *Ampelion rubrocristatus* Several found.

**Chestnut-crested Cotinga** ◊ *Ampelion rufaxilla* Heard and seen Chapare road. Seen well Coroico road.  
**Palkachupa Cotinga** ◊ *Phibalura boliviana* Superb views of several pairs at nests.  
**Spangled Cotinga** *Cotinga cayana* A female seen near Riberalta.  
**White-tipped Plantcutter** *Phytotoma rutila*  
**Band-tailed Fruiteater** ◊ *Pipreola intermedia* Heard Chapare road and seen Coroico road.  
**Barred Fruiteater** *Pipreola arcuata*  
**Andean Cock-of-the-Rock** *Rupicola peruvianus saturata* Seen in Yungas.  
**Bare-necked Fruitcrow** *Gymnoderus foetidus* A couple seen around Riberalta and Trinidad.  
**Scimitar-winged Piha** ◊ *Lipaugus uropygialis* Totally fantastic views of this rare species.  
**Screaming Piha** *Lipaugus vociferans* Seen and heard at Warnes. 11 Cotinga species.  
**Greyish Mourner** *Rhytiperna simplex* Seen Warnes.  
**Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin** ◊ *Neopelma sulphureiventer* Seen around Trinidad where common.  
**Yungas Manakin** ◊ *Chiroxiphia boliviana* Tracked to source at Los Volcanes.  
**Band-tailed Manakin** *Pipra fasciicauda*  
**Red-headed Manakin** *Pipra rubrocapilla* (LO) Seen and heard near Riberalta.  
**Round-tailed Manakin** *Pipra chloromeros* Seen poorly above Apolo.  
**Fiery-capped Manakin** *Machaeropterus pyrrocephalus* (H) Heard only in humid Yungas.  
**Black-tailed Tityra** *Tityra cayana*  
**Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata*



*Cream-winged Cinclodes (Eustace Barnes)*

**Brown-winged Schiffornis** *Schiffornis turdine* (H) Despite working on this bird it did not move.  
**Green-backed Becard** *Pachyramphus viridis* A single bird seen in the botanical gardens by two of us.  
**Barred Becard** *Pachyramphus versicolor*  
**White-winged Becard** *Pachyramphus polychopterus*  
**Chestnut-crowned Becard** *Pachyramphus castaneus* A couple seen.  
**Pink-throated Becard** *Pachyramphus minor* A female seen near Warnes  
**Wing-barred Piprites** *Piprites chloris* A pair near Apolo.  
**Rufous-browed Peppershrike** *Cyclarhis gujanensis*  
**Chivi Vireo** *Vireo chivi*

**Lemon-chested Greenlet** *Hylophilus thoracicus* Seen near Warnes.  
**Dusky-capped Greenlet** *Hylophilus hypoxantha* Also seen near Warnes and Apolo.  
**Tawny-crowned Greenlet** *Hylophilus ochraceiceps* Several pairs found at Los Volcanes and seen at Apolo.  
**White-collared Jay** ◊ *Cyanolyca viridicyanus* A few noted on Chapare road.  
**Purplish Jay** *Cyanocorax cyanomelas*  
**Plush-crested Jay** *Cyanocorax chrysops*  
**White-winged Swallow** *Tachycineta albiventer*  
**White-rumped Swallow** *Tachycineta leucorrhoa* Seen in the Llanos de Moxos.  
**Grey-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea*  
**Southern Martin** *Progne elegans* A rare nesting bird in Bolivia but found doing so at Perereta.  
**Brown-chested Martin** *Progne tapera* Common around Trinidad.  
**Blue-and-white Swallow** *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*  
**Brown-bellied Swallow** *Notiochelidon murina* Very few noted this year.  
**Pale-footed Swallow** ◊ *Notiochelidon flavipes* Cryptic but common where found in Bolivia (in suitable habitat).  
**Andean Swallow** ◊ *Haplochelidon andicola* Common in the high Andes.  
**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*  
**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* Large numbers passing through in Beni.  
**American Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrronota* Seen at Apolo.  
**Black-capped Donacobius** *Donacobius atricapilla* Seen near Trinidad.  
**Thrush-like Wren** *Campylorhynchus turdinus*



*White-eared Solitaire (Eustace Barnes).*

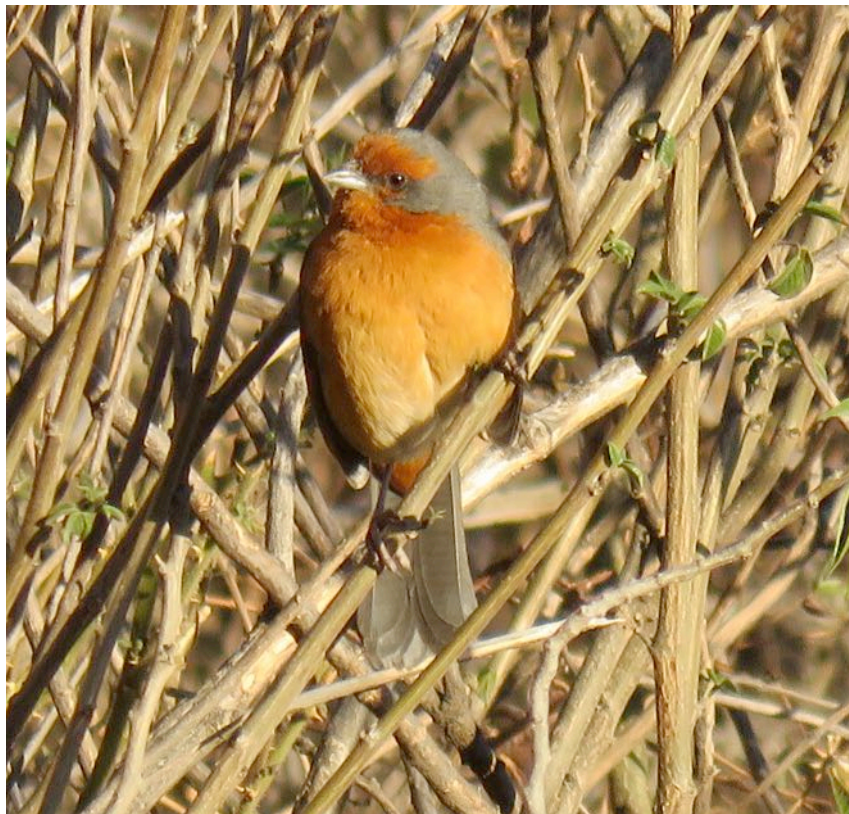
**Fulvous Wren** ◊ *Cinnycerthia fulva* A pair seen along the Chapare road. A good bird to see. I like Wrens.

**Moustached Wren** *Pheugopedius genibarbis*  
**Fawn-breasted Wren** ◊ *Cantorchilus guarayanus* Common in the east.  
**Buff-breasted Wren** *Cantorchilus leucotis* Seen near Warnes in rainforest.  
**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon*  
**Mountain Wren** *Troglodytes solstitialis*  
**Grey-breasted Wood Wren** *Henicorhina leucophrys* We took time to look at one on the Coroico road.  
**Masked Gnatcatcher** *Poliophtila dumicola*  
**Chalk-browed Mockingbird** *Mimus saturninus*  
**Brown-backed Mockingbird** ◊ *Mimus dorsalis* Noted near Cochabamba and around Oruro.  
**Andean Solitaire** *Myadestes ralloides* (H) A distant bird or two below Charazani.  
**Sclater's Nightingale-thrush** *Catharus maculatus* (H)  
**White-eared Solitaire** ◊ *Entomodestes leucotis* Seen on the Chapare and Coroico roads.  
**Great Thrush** *Turdus fuscater*  
**Chiguanco Thrush** *Turdus chiguanco*  
**Glossy-black Thrush** *Turdus serranus*  
**Andean Slaty Thrush** ◊ *Turdus nigriceps* Singing birds at Siberia. We dug these out for good views.  
**Rufous-bellied Thrush** *Turdus rufiventris*  
**Pale-breasted Thrush** *Turdus leucomelas* Common around Apolo.  
**Creamy-bellied Thrush** *Turdus amaurochalinus*  
**Varzea Black-billed Thrush** *Turdus (ignobilis) debilis* Seen around Riberalta. From a 3 or 4 way split.  
**Hauxwell's Thrush** *Turdus hauxwelli* A couple seen around Riberalta.  
**White-necked Thrush** *Turdus albicollis* Common this year at a few sites.  
**White-capped Dipper** *Cinclus leucocephalus* A few seen.  
**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* Everywhere.  
**Yellow-bellied Siskin** ◊ *Spinus xanthogastra* A few seen near Comarapa.  
**Olivaceous Siskin** ◊ *Spinus olivacea* Birds, probably this species seen in the sub-tropics on the Apolo road  
**Hooded Siskin** *Spinus magellanica*  
**Black Siskin** *Spinus atrata* Small numbers noted.  
**Purple-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia chlorotica*  
**Thick-billed Euphonia** *Euphonia lanirostris*  
**Bronze-green Euphonia** *Euphonia mesochrysa* A few seen.  
**Blue-naped Chlorophonia** *Chlorophonia cyanea* A pair below Charazani. A very smart species.  
**Southern Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis velata* Common in the dry Valles.  
**Tropical Parula** *Setophaga pitiayumi* Not uncommon in dry woodlands.  
**Citrine Warbler** *Myiothlypis luteoviridis* Chapare road.  
**Pale-legged Warbler** *Myiothlypis signata* Siberia, where common.  
**Riverbank Warbler** *Myiothlypis rivularis* A pair found at los Volcanes.  
**Two-banded Warbler** *Myiothlypis bivittate* The common dry forest foothill warbler.  
**Golden-crowned Warbler** *Basileuterus culicivorus* A few found at La Habana.  
**Brown-capped Whitestart** ◊ *Myioborus bruniceps* The common whitestart.  
**Spectacled Whitestart** *Myioborus melanocephalus*  
**Slate-throated Whitestart** *Myioborus miniatus* Seen Los Volcanes where uncommon.  
**Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus*  
**Dusky-green Oropendola** *Psarocolius atrovirens* A smart icterid.  
**Yellow-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus cela*  
**Golden-winged Cacique** ◊ *Cacicus chrysopterus* A pair found at Quirusillas.  
**Southern Mountain Cacique** *Cacicus chrysonotus* Seen on the Chapare road.  
**Solitary Cacique** *Cacicus solitarius* Seen near Riberalta.  
**Orange-backed Troupial** *Icterus croconotus*  
**Variable Oriole** *Icterus pyrropterus* Common in Beni.  
**Velvet-fronted (Bolivian) Grackle** ◊ *Lamprosar tanagrinus boliviensis* Abundant near Trinidad.  
**Chopi Blackbird** *Gnorimopsar chopi*  
**Scarlet-headed Blackbird** *Amblyramphus holosericeus*  
**Unicoloured Blackbird** *Agelasticus cyanopus*

**Yellow-winged Blackbird** *Agelasticus thilius*  
**Bolivian Blackbird** ◊ *Agelaioides oreopsar* I think this bird increasing and spreading. Rounded floppy brown wings.  
**Baywing (Bay-winged Cowbird)** *Agelaioides badius*  
**Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivorus*  
**Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis*  
**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola*  
**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis*  
**Grassland Sparrow** *Ammodramus humeralis*  
**Yellow-browed Sparrow** *Ammodramus aurifrons*  
**Pectoral Sparrow** *Arremon taciturnus* Seen near Rio Selva. Always a smart bird.  
**Saffron-billed Sparrow** *Arremon flavirostris* Very common in dry woodlands around Apolo.  
**White-browed Brush Finch** ◊ *Arremon torquatus* Another common species of the cloud forests.  
**Bolivian Brush Finch** ◊ *Atlapetes rufinucha*  
**Common Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus flavopectus*  
**Red-crested Cardinal** *Paroaria coronata*  
**Red-capped Cardinal** *Paroaria gularis*  
**Black-faced Tanager** *Schistochlamys melanopsis* Common on the cerrado near Apolo.  
**Magpie Tanager** *Cissopsis leverianus* A pair or two seen near Apolo.  
**Hooded Tanager** *Nemosia pileata*  
**Orange-browed Hemispingus** ◊ *Hemispingus calophrys* A group of three seen at Chuspipata. A good looking bird.  
**Superciliaried Hemispingus** *Hemispingus superciliaris*  
**Three-striped Hemispingus** ◊ *Hemispingus trifasciatus* A family group at Cotapata.  
**Black-eared Hemispingus** *Hemispingus melanotis* Seen at several locations.  
**Orange-headed Tanager** *Thlypopsis sordida*  
**Black-goggled Tanager** *Trichothraupis melanops* Not uncommon at Los Volcanes.  
**Grey-headed Tanager** *Eucometis penicillata* A few seen near Riberalta.  
**Silver-beaked Tanager** *Ramphocelus carbo*  
**Sayaca Tanager** *Thraupis sayaca*  
**Blue-grey Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus* Common in Riberalta.  
**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum*  
**Blue-capped Tanager** *Thraupis cyanocephala*  
**Blue-and-yellow Tanager** *Thraupis bonariensis*  
**Hooded Mountain Tanager** *Buthraupis montana*  
**Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus igniventris*  
**Blue-winged Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus somptuosus* Probably a split!  
**Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager** *Delothraupis castaneiventris* A single bird seen on the Chapare road.  
**Fawn-breasted Tanager** *Pipraeidea melanonota*  
**Turquoise Tanager** *Tangara mexicana* A few.  
**Paradise Tanager** *Tangara chilensis* A few near Apolo.  
**Yellow-bellied Tanager** *Tangara xanthogastra* A few above Apolo.  
**Spotted Tanager** *Tangara punctate* A single near Apolo.  
**Green and gold Tanager** *Tangara schrankii* A few pairs Apolo.  
**Golden Tanager** *Tangara arthus* A pair near Apolo.  
**Saffron-crowned Tanager** *Tangara xanthocephala* A few seen.  
**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola* A single bird seen near Apolo.  
**Blue-necked Tanager** *Tangara cyanicollis* Not uncommon around Apolo.  
**Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis* Abundant around Apolo.  
**Black-faced Dacnis** *Dacnis lineata*  
**Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana*  
**Yellow-bellied Dacnis** *Dacnis flaviventer* A pair.  
**Purple Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes caeruleus* Seen around Apolo  
**Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza* Seen near Apolo.  
**Guira Tanager** *Hemithraupis guira* Common in drier woodlands  
**Yellow-backed Tanager** *Hemithraupis flavicollis* Only found near Riberalta.



**Chestnut-vented Conebill** *Conirostrum speciosum* A few noted near Apolo.  
**Cinereous Conebill** *Conirostrum cinereum*  
**Blue-backed Conebill** *Conirostrum sitticolor* A couple seen.  
**Giant Conebill** ◊ *Oreomanes fraseri* A pair near Cochabamba.  
**Black-throated Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa brunneiventris*  
**Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer** ◊ *Diglossa carbonaria* Small numbers throughout.  
**Masked Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa cyanea*  
**Red Pileated Finch** *Coryphospingus cucullatus* Only seen once or twice. Normally abundant.  
**Black-hooded Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus atriceps*  
**Peruvian Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus punensis* Found around Titicaca.  
**Mourning Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus fruticeti* (LO) Seen but infrequently from the front of the bus. Normally common.  
**Plumbeous Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus unicolor*  
**Ash-breasted Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus plebejus*  
**Grey-crested Finch** ◊ *Lophospingus griseocristatus*  
**Long-tailed Reed Finch** ◊ *Donacospiza albifrons* A pair found near La Habana.  
**White-winged Diuca Finch** ◊ *Diuca speculifera*  
**Bolivian Warbling Finch** ◊ *Poospiza boliviana* Very few seen near Cochabamba.  
**Rufous-sided Warbling Finch** *Poospiza hypocondria*  
**Rusty-browed Warbling Finch** ◊ *Poospiza erythrophrys* Found at a couple of sites.  
**Ringed Warbling Finch** *Poospiza torquata*  
**Black-capped Warbling Finch** *Poospiza melanoleuca*



Cochabamba Mountain-finch (Eustace Barnes)

**Cochabamba Mountain Finch** ◊ *Compsospiza garleppi* Seen at two sites. A very smart species.  
**Puna Yellow Finch** *Sicalis lutea* A large group near Oruro.  
**Bright-rumped Yellow Finch** *Sicalis uropigyalis* Small groups seen in the snow by some of us on our last day.  
**Greenish Yellow Finch** *Sicalis olivascens*  
**Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola*  
**Wedge-tailed Grass Finch** *Emberizoides herbicola*

**Great Pampa Finch** *Embernagra platensis* Siberia and Apolo. An odd species.  
**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina*  
**Rusty-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila collaris* A few around Trinidad.  
**Double-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila caeruleascens* A few seen around Apolo.  
**Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch** *Oryzoborus angolensis*  
**Great-billed Seed Finch** ◊ *Oryzoborus maximiliani* One male found near La Habana.  
**Band-tailed Seedeater** *Catamenia analis*  
**Plain-coloured Seedeater** *Catamenia inornata*  
**Tooth-billed (Highland Hepatic) Tanager** *Piranga lutea* Seen.  
**White-winged Tanager** *Piranga leucoptera* Seen at los Volcanes.  
**Black-backed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus aureoventris*  
**Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus* Seen at El Chairó.  
**Greyish Saltator** *Saltator coerulescens*  
**Golden-billed Saltator** *Saltator aurantiirostris*  
**Rufous-bellied Mountain (Saltator) Tanager** ◊ *Pseudosaltator rufiventris* Found at several sites.  
**Ultramarine Grosbeak** *Cyanocompsa brissonii* Very few this year.  
**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola* Common at El Chairó and Apolo.  
**Plushcap** *Catamblyrhynchus diadema* (NL) Seen by Mark.  
**'San Pedro' Tanager** ◊ *gen, sp nov* (H) A new species. Probably heard Madidi NP, but generally not active October.

## MAMMALS



*Black-tailed Marmoset (Eustace Barnes).*

**Nine-banded Armadillo** *Dasypus novemcinctus* Seen Botanical gardens.  
**Bolivian Squirrel** *Sciurus ignitus* Seen in the Andes.  
**South Amazon Red Squirrel** *Sciurus spadiceus* Seen a few times.  
**Common Cavy** *Cavia aperea* Found in several places.  
**Andean (Montane) Cavy** *Cavia tschudi* Common in the high Andes.  
**Capibara** *Hydrochaerurus hydrocharis* Common around Trinidad.  
**Azara's Agouti** *Dasyprocta azarae* A few seen at a couple of sites.  
**Southern Viscacha** *Lagidium viscachia* Seen above Quime.

**Crab-eating Fox** *Cerdocyon thous* Seen near Perereta.  
**Kinkajou** (LO) Seen near Santa Cruz  
**South American Coatiimundi** *Nasua nasua* Seen around Trinidad.  
**Crab-eating Raccoon** *Procyon cancrivorus* Seen near Trinidad.  
**Tayra** *Eira barbara* One seen near Apolo.  
**Neotropical River Otter** One seen near Trinidad.  
**Black-tailed Marmoset** *Callithrix melanurus* Found in Santa Cruz.  
**Large-headed Capuchin** *Sapajus macrocephalus*  
**Azara's Night Monkey** *Aotus azarae* Seen near Trinidad.  
**Bolivian Grey (White-eared) Titi Monkey** *Callicebus donacophilus* South of Santa Cruz.  
**Beni Titi Monkey** *Callicebus modestus* (H) Heard near Trinidad.  
**Black (Paraguayan) Howler Monkey** *Alouetta caraya* Seen Santa Cruz.  
**Grey Brocket Deer** *Mazama gouazoupira* Seen near Trinidad.



*Montane Cavy (Eustace Barnes)*