



The still-to-be-described Santa Marta Screech Owl was once again seen very well on our tour (all photos taken on this tour by Pete Morris)

COLOMBIA

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With a country list of nearly 1900, and around 80 endemics, Colombia is quite simply an amazing country to go birding in! It also has excellent infrastructure (rivalling any other country on the continent), friendly people and a real endemic birding culture, with many excellent resident birders and ornithologists. Thankfully the conservation movement is strong too, and as a result, many important habitats and areas are well protected by a series of well run reserves. The main reasons for the degree of endemism in Colombia is the fact that the Andes split into three, isolating two major valleys and their associated endemics, coupled with the breathtaking and isolated Santa Marta Mountains, another endemic hotbed. Not surprisingly, our endemic-packed tour focused on these areas, amassing an impressive list of endemics and near endemics. Once again, we recorded over 700 species, amongst which were a fantastic selection of sought-after endemics and near endemics. The exact number is rather dependant on definitions (for example some species considered endemic by some



This stunning Ocellated Tapaculo was voted our bird of the trip!

have actually been recorded just outside of Colombia) and taxonomy (for example some of the endemics have not been described yet!), but suffice to say we saw in excess of 50, an excellent return by any standards. The weather was largely kind too, with not much rain, making for generally pleasant birding. With so many species and so many cracking sightings, it's difficult to pick out just a few highlights. Our bird of the trip was not an endemic, but the brilliant Ocellated Tapaculo which left us speechless after posing at point blank range. Another popular highlight was Andean Cock-of-the-Rock, a lek of which we watched incredulously at point blank range. Four antpittas in a morning was a brilliant highlight, dozens of hummingbirds (some at amazing hummingbird feeders) showed us colours that seemed barely feasible, and we had some superb sightings of rare owls including the yet-to-be-described Santa Marta Screech Owl, as well as White-throated Screech Owl and Black-and-white and Stygian Owls. Yellow-eared Parrots put on a magnificent display, difficult rarities such as Tawny-breasted Tinamou and Grey-cheeked Nunlet showed well, and old favourites such as Gold-ringed, Black-and-gold and White-capped Tanagers all performed to order. We also added two lifers to the ever-growing Birdquest lifelist, in the shape of a magnificent Hooded Antpitta and an obliging Tolima Blossomcrown! All in all, not too shabby!



The gorgeous little Hooded Antpitta brightened up our morning!

We began the tour with a couple of days around the capital city Bogota. The first day we set the tone with an early start and headed out to the scenic paramo in Sumapaz National Park. The weather was set fair, which may sound ideal, but as I had already warned, it does funny things in the paramo... the birds simply vanish! As a result, we had a very scenic morning, but had to work hard for the birds! We were we were greeted by the ubiquitous Great Thrush, and at the top soon found Andean Ducks and (Merida Speckled) Andean Teals. Our first of a few confiding Tawny Antpittas hopped boldly on the grass, and a couple of Chestnut-winged Cinclodes fed in the marshy margins. We also quickly found the hoped-for Apolinar's Wren which showed well. A Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle hung in the wind over us, and the bushes yielded a few passerines such as Many-striped Canastero, Andean Tit-Spinetail, Brown-backed-Chat, Pale-naped Brushfinch, Black Flowerpiercers and some skittish Rufous-browed Conebills, whilst an unexpected Paramo Ground Tyrant and a Paramo Pipit were found in more open areas. The hummers we were chasing had become devilishly difficult to find. After much perseverance, we did achieve some good looks at the much hoped-for Green-bearded Helmetcrest, though the couple of Bronze-tailed Thornbills were somewhat fleeting. The affect of the sun and breeze really was amazing, and very soon, the paramo became like a birdless desert, where nothing was prepared to reveal itself!!



Tawny Antpitta and Chestnut-winged Cinclodes - two species from the high paramo.

We decided to cut our losses, and headed for Chicaque National Park. Although not too far as the crow flies, in traffic, it was a long drive. One of the downsides of Colombia's booming economy is that the traffic just gets worse and worse!! Eventually we made it to Chicaque Park, where we were able to settle by the relatively quiet hummingbird feeders. The star of the show was the lovely Golden-bellied Starfrontlet, a very localized species which showed brilliantly. Also present were gorgeous Glowing Pufflegs, and a number of other species including Collared Inca, Lesser and Sparkling Violetears and tiny White-bellied Woodstars. For the last hour or so, we wandered along the nearby track, picking up a few new species such including some showy White-throated Toucanets, but with little happening, a long day behind us and traffic ahead of us, we headed for our comfortable hotel.

The following day was again clear, sunny and breezy as we made our way up to the nearby Cerro Guadeloupe. Here we searched the remnant forest patches and dense bamboo for a variety of species which once again seemed intent on hiding from us! With perseverance though, we found most of our hoped for targets. Copper-bellied and Glowing Pufflegs posed at length, Pale-bellied (or Mattoral) Tapaculos finally surrendered, granting some great views, and even a pair of Rufous Antpittas hopped out for us. Mixed flocks held Black-capped Hemispinguses, Agile Tit-Tyrants and gorgeous white-faced Golden-fronted Whitestarts, fine Crimson-mantled Woodpeckers delighted, Slaty Brushfinches sang and popped up every now and then, Andean Siskins flitted through the canopy and, best of all, a delightful pair of White-browed Spinetails showed at point-blank range. We then made our way down and after another traffic-hindered drive, made a brief stop at some gravel pits where we eventually found a couple of chunky Noble Snipes which gave great views to all as well as



The lovely little White-browed Spinetail showed very well indeed.

Wilson's Snipes, but the Bogota Rails we could hear stayed well buried in the undergrowth. We also found our first Yellow-backed Orioles and discovered that Carib Grackles had now made it to Bogota! It was once again time to move, this time to Parque La Florida. Here, we began with a very confiding endemic Silvery-throated Spinetail, which we followed with a showy smart endemic Rufous-browed Conebill. A few common waterbirds such as American Coot (yellow-billed here), Blue-winged Teal, our only Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Lesser Scaup, Bare-faced Ibis, Western Osprey, Purple Gallinule, Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs and Solitary Sandpiper were present, and numerous Yellow-hooded Blackbirds flitted through the reeds. However, it took until near dusk before we finally got the views that we had desired of the endemic Bogota Rail, which had been inexplicably elusive to this point. Phew!!



The endemic Silvery-throated Spinetail was unusually confiding.



It took a while, but the endemic Bogota Rail did eventually parade around in front of us!

The following day was largely a travel day, though we did make an extended stop on the way close to Laguna Pedro Palo. Here we found a good number of new trip species, including some not seen elsewhere such as Ash-browed Spinetail the elusive Stripe-breasted Spinetail and Moustached Brush Finch. Colourful tanager flocks contained Crimson-backed, Bay-headed, Blue-necked, Black-capped and Scrub Tanagers, Smoky-brown Woodpecker was found, Olivaceous Piculets and Golden-faced Tyrannulets flitted in the canopy and other species included Montane and Lineated Foliage-gleaners, . Nearby, in rather more degraded habitat, we found our first Bar-crested Antshrike and a fine pair of Colombian (Speckle-breasted) Wrens.

Lunch and a longish drive followed, before we continued our quest in some dry woodland close to Ibagué. It proved to be a productive hour as we found the endemic Apical Flycatcher, as well as Grey-necked Wood Rail, a male Blue Ground Dove, showy Barred Antshrikes, a shy White-bellied Antbird, Mouse-coloured Tyrannulets, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, Slaty-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Scrub Greenlets, Rufous-capped Warblers and a male Grey Seedeater, and, just as we were leaving, some noisy Spectacled Parrotlets. By the time we got to Ibagué, we were ready for dinner!



The range-restricted Bar-crested Antshrike (left) and Barred Antshrike were added in quick succession.

An early start and a couple of jeeps were required to get us to some remnant hill forest above Ibagué the following morning. We began the day hanging out by some flowers which ultimately paid dividends as a male Tolima Blossomcrown, a Birdquest lifer, paid us a couple of visits, giving some great views! Nearby, the endemic Yellow-headed Brush Finch was scoped up, and it was not too long before we could hear the soft tones of the endemic Tolima Dove. Sadly, these proved tricky to see well, and although they perched up a couple of times, they moved on before the scope could be put on them, meaning we were not all lucky! A few other species here included Speckled Hummingbird, Bronzy Inca, our first Tourmaline Sunangel, our first of many Montane Woodcreepers, Torrent Tyrannulets, a sneaky pair of Whiskered Wrens, our only White-naped Brushfinch of the tour, and colourful Lemon-rumped, Golden and Saffron-crowned Tanagers. As usual, much lay ahead, so we made our way back to the hotel, and having loaded up, we made our way to a nearby finca where we were soon watching a fine pair of Velvet-fronted Euphonias, putting right the failure of the previous afternoon. It was already pretty hot, and we had some distance to cover, so our visit was a brief one and we were on our way... We settled in for the long drive up and over the Central Andes. Our progress was slow as usual, but we arrived at our destination, shortly before dusk. Even so, we had time to find a smart White-throated Wedgebill (formerly Wedge-billed Hummingbird) in the garden, our first endemic Cauca Guans, a vocal Black-banded Woodcreeper and impressive Red-ruffed Fruitcrows. After dinner we ventured out again, finding a superb Tropical Screech Owl, a shy Mottled Owl and a Pauraque!



Common but still lovely to see well... a Tropical Screech Owl.

We were out before dawn, and headed to the higher reaches of Otun Quimbaya National Park. We arrived at first light, and were soon watching Sickie-winged Guans displaying in the half light. As the light levels rose, we then made an attempt to see a great rarity which was also a Birdquest lifer and a much-wanted bird for all. It wasn't long before we heard a thin whistle from the undergrowth, and after a few tense moments, there it was... a fantastic little Hooded Antpitta posing for us. Wow! The good birds kept coming though as we added a trio of White-capped Tanagers, a pair of Torrent Ducks, White-capped Dippers, showy Black-billed Pepper-shrikes, and even a trio of Chestnut Wood Quails which ventured across the road in front of us. The rest of the day we potteder slowly back down the road, gradually adding to our tally. The endemic Stiles's Tapaculo proved hard to get but showed well in the end, a couple of attempts during the morning yielded some decent views of the smart Chestnut-breasted Wren, and we even found a very smart male Crested Ant Tanager. Other goodies included Andean Motmots, Collared Trogon, more Red-ruffed Fruitcrows and Cauca Guans, and Strong-billed Woodcreeper, whilst mixed flocks held Montane Woodcreepers, Rufous-breasted Flycatchers,

Plumbeous-crowned Tyrannulet, Variegated and Marble-faced Bristle Tyrants, our first Cerulean Warbler, a Metallic-green Tanager, and a few Ashy-throated Bush-Tanagers.

After lunch, we hung around the garden for a while, to allow all to get great looks at the White-throated Wedge-bill, as well as Bronzy Incas, and then embarked on the longish drive to Nevado del Ruiz. We arrived at our lovely hotel just in time for some initial exploration of the garden, and more specifically, the hummingbird feeders. These feeders proved to be brilliant, and over the course of the evening and on subsequent visits, we were mesmerized by such gems as Black-thighed and Golden-breasted Pufflegs, incredible Rainbow-bearded Thornbills, amazing Sword-billed Hummingbirds, Great Sapphirewings, Buff-winged Starfrontlets, Shining Sunbeams, Tourmaline Sunangels, Mountain Velvetbreasts and tiny Viridian Metaltails. We even popped out after dinner and admired an obliging Band-winged Nightjar – amazing stuff!



The incredible Sword-billed Hummingbird!



Stunning hummers from Termales del Ruiz (clockwise from top): the incredible Rainbow-bearded Thornbill; the scarce Black-thighed Puffleg; a fine male Buff-winged Starfrontlet, and a fine Shining Sunbeam. At night, the Band-winged Nightjar appeared!





The remarkable Buffy Helmetcrest in the early morning sun.

We were out again the following day, but sadly, the hoped-for Rufous-fronted Parakeets were not on their cliffs, though more Band-winged Nightjars were present, and Stout-billed Cinclodes showed well. It was chilly at first to say the least, but by the time we got to the top, the sun was shining and the birds gradually appeared. Top of the list, and early to appear was the fantastic Bearded Helmetcrest! Andean Tit-Spinetails appeared, Brown-backed Chat-Tyrants perched prominently and Tawny Antpittas and friendly Sedge Wrens sang from the shrubbery. Later we moved down the road and here we struck gold as a fidgety flock of 17 of the hoped-for Rufous-fronted Parakeets allowed some great scope views, and an obliging Paramo Tapaculo was teased into view. Mixed flocks held White-throated and White-banded Tyrannulets, Citrine and Black-crested Warblers, stunning Golden-fronted Whitestarts, and impressive Hooded, Lacrimose and Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanagers, and we also found a fine male Paramo Seedeater, though sadly the Crescent-faced Antpitta that we heard went quiet before we got near to it. After lunch we checked some areas lower down. Here it was pretty quiet, though we did manage to find Pearled Treerunners, Black-capped Tyrannulets, Red-crested Cotingas, sneaky Golden-crowned Tanagers, smart Black-backed Bush Tanagers, and Blue-backed Conebills. Late on, a perched pair of Golden-plumed Parakeets provided a fine finale to the day.



Another view of the amazing Buffy Helmetcrest, and the rare Rufous-fronted Parakeet.



The Ruiz Volcano was lively during our visit!

We had the following day to enjoy the birds at Rio Blanco, and we began well with lovely views of a White-throated Screech Owl. Following breakfast, accompanied by our enthusiastic local guide, we embarked upon an antpitta quest which saw us enjoying fantastic views of four species of antpitta in just a few hours! One after another, Chestnut-crowned, Brown-banded, Bicoloured and Slate-crowned Antpittas all gave sensational views. Where else could one see so many antpittas so well? We also teased an amazing Ocellated Tapaculo out of the dense bamboo, a very smart Black-billed Mountain Toucan was scoped and the often elusive Dusky Piha popped up. Of special note was an amazing roosting Stygian Owl present at the same place as a confiding pair of immaculate Flammulated Treehunters! The rest of the day we tried to add as many of the other goodies as possible and succeeded in finding a goodly few! More White-capped Tanagers obliged, flocks held Streaked



This endearing White-throated Screech Owl got us off to a good start at Rio Blanco!



Our amazing antpitta morning summed up in 4 images! Clockwise, from above: Chestnut-crowned, Brown-banded, Bicoloured and Slaty-crowned Antpittas.



Tuftedcheek, White-tailed Tyrannulet, Barred Becard, Sepia-brown Wren, Capped Conebills, Grey-hooded Bush Tanagers and Black-eared Hemispinguses, Streak-headed Antbird chortled from the bamboo, and we also managed to add Spillmann's, Blackish and Ash-coloured Tapaculos. A lovely Golden-headed Quetzal, Masked Trogon, Andean Guan and Scaly-naped Amazon all obliged, a roosting Common Potoo was cunningly found, and around the lodge, the hummingbird feeders were home to Long-tailed Sylphs, Fawn-breasted Brilliants, Buff-tailed Coronets, whacky White-bellied Woodstars and more sombre Speckled Hummingbirds. It was a day to remember!



An amazing Flammulated Treehunter and Stygian Owl from Rio Blanco: the lovely Crimson-mantled Woodpecker was seen a few times.

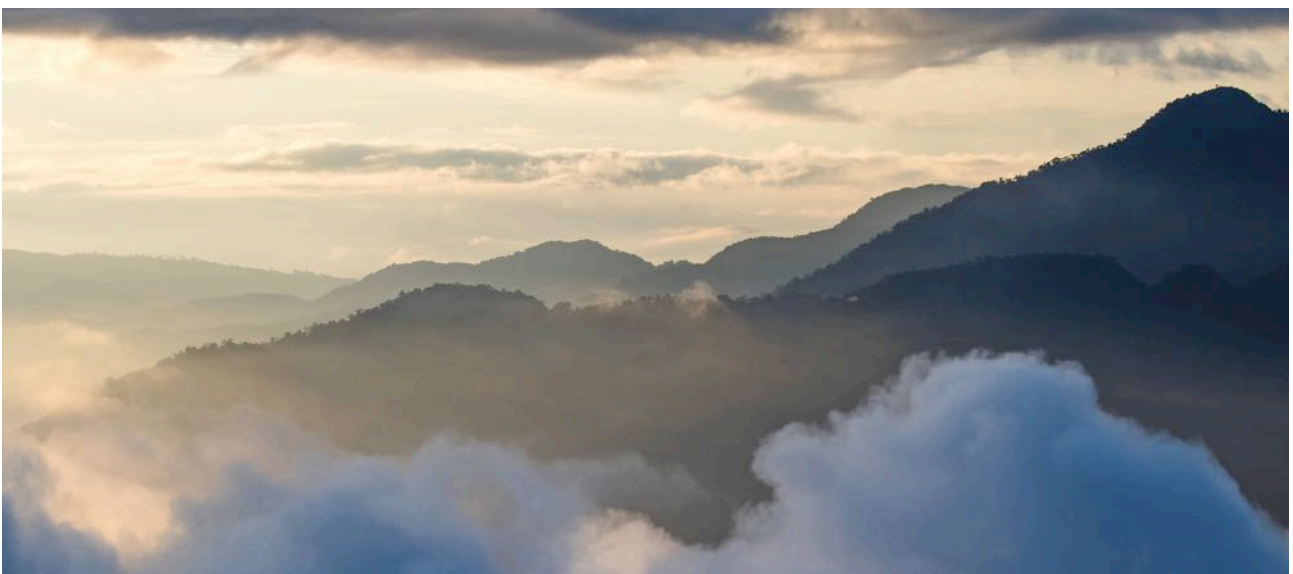




The lovely White-capped Tanager is always a crowd pleaser...

The following morning, we explored the excellent forests between Nevado del Ruiz and Manizales. Frequent rain did not help our cause, and it always felt like there was more on offer than we found! As well as seeing many by now familiar species, we did manage to find a few new ones, and these included a smashing Andean Pygmy Owl, a fine pair of Black-collared Jays, smart Bar-bellied Woodpeckers, sneaky Grey-striped Brush Finches, Crowned and Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrants, Rufous Wrens, and a lovely pair of Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatchers. We then paused for a fine 'traditional' lunch before heading towards the Chocó region, and our base at the fine Montezuma Lodge. On the way we added our first Flame-rumped Tanagers (alongside Lemon-rumped) as well as both Red-faced and Pale-breasted Spinetails. We arrived at the lodge just in time to have our first look at the hummingbird feeders...

We had two days and an early morning to enjoy this fine area on the Chocó slope, and thankfully, the weather was not too bad. Yes, we endured some rain and plenty of fog, but it could have been far worse and ultimately we were successful with nearly all of our targets. At highest altitudes, our main targets were the endemic Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer and the rare endemic Munchique Wood Wren, both of which showed very well indeed alongside Smoky Bush Tyrants, whilst the views across the mountains at first light were quite breathtaking.



The view at dawn at the top of the Montezuma Road in Tatama National Park.



A few highlights from the amazing Montezuma Road. Clockwise from top left: Munchique Wood Wren; Cloudforest Pygmy Owl; Gold-ringed Tanager; Purplish-mantled Tanager and a colour-ringed Black-and-gold Tanager



Much of our time was spent at mid-altitudes along the road that leads up to the military base, and here a rich variety of Chocó endemics and specialities obliged. Endemic Black-and-gold and Gold-ringed Tanagers were relatively common roadside birds, found alongside Black-chinned Mountain Tanagers, Purplish-mantled, Rufous-throated, Silver-throated and Glistening-green Tanagers as well as Dusky-bellied Bush Tanagers, whilst less common species included Golden-winged Manakin, both Yellow-collared and Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonias and a male Golden-collared Honeycreeper. A displaying Club-winged Manakin was quite sensational, whilst interesting furnarids included the smart Star-chested Treerunner, Buffy Tuftedcheek, the skulking Uniform Treehunter, Spotted Barbtails and Rufous Spinetails. Tapaculos were well represented. The recently described Tatama Tapaculo showed well, the skulking Narino Tapaculo did its best to hide but eventually gave in, and lower down we were delighted to find the local Choco Tapaculo. Choco Brushfinches moved noisily through the undergrowth, whilst lower down an Olive Finch showed superbly well by a stream which hosted a Green-fronted Lancebill, and nearby we found Choco Warbler. Mixed flocks held other species including Yellow-vented Woodpecker, Olive-backed and Wedge-billed Woodcreepers, Uniform Antshrikes, Ornate and Handsome Flycatchers and Rufous-rumped Antwrens, whilst interesting cotingids included Green-and-black and smart Orange-breasted Fruiteaters. Sharing their fruit were amazing Toucan Barbets (complete with surreal song) and some spectacular Black Solitaires. A fine rufescent individual of the seldom-seen Cloudforest Pygmy Owl took some tracking down, but was another highlight for sure and we were also delighted to find the elusive Bicoloured Antvireo and sneaky Black-throated Tody-Tyrant. The superb hummingbird feeders brought us yet more delights. Vivid Velvet-purple Coronets mingled with Violet-tailed Sylphs (is there a bird with a better tail?), Empress, Green-crowned and Fawn-breasted Brilliants, the localized Brown Inca, Tawny-bellied Hermits, fine rufous-gaped White-tailed Hillstars, Purple-throated Woodstars, Western and Andean Emeralds, Greenish Puffleg, Purple-bibbed Whitetip and several White-booted Racket-tails.



The fabulous Velvet-purple Coronet.



The amazing Empress Brilliant was easily seen along the Montezuma Road.

Before leaving on the last morning we encountered an unexpected noisy, wheeling flock of White-chinned Swifts, as well as the endemic Parker's Antbird before saying good bye to our amiable hosts. Another long drive lay ahead of us, and we were hampered by frequent roadworks and stoppages. One fortuitous comfort stop did yield a fine Dwarf Cuckoo, and a wander through the roadworks, another Apical Flycatcher, but otherwise it was a case of sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride!! We had an appointment with some 'fireballs', and having arrived in Jardin, we made our way to a small gully where what has to be one of the best (if not THE BEST) Andean Cock-of-the-Rock leks anywhere takes place! Watching 15 of these glowing 'noise-balls' bounding around the branches just a few metres away was an exhilarating experience to say the least! The Scrub and Flame-rumped Tanagers coming to the nearby feeders were very much a side show!

We set off early in our jeeps the following morning and made our way up a short, slippery trail in the half light. Very soon the calls of Yellow-eared Parrots rang out, but searching the surrounding wax palms drew a blank. A few others called and soon enough we saw a few pairs flying around, but none were especially close. A few Black-billed Mountain Toucans were also found and a Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant foraged around a nearby

garden, but the parrots seemed to have vanished. We then made our way slowly down. Birding was generally a little quiet though flocks held Citrine Warblers and a good variety of by now familiar species. A skulking Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant showed well, and, after much searching, we found a fantastic Tanager Finch, another much appreciated speciality. We made our way further down, and were amazed to find a Tawny-breasted Tinamou walking along the road! Time was moving on, and as we headed down we found some Northern Mountain Caciques, before the raucous calls of more parrots saw us grinding to a halt. This time we were in luck, as we managed to watch the parrots foraging, and as an extra special bit of luck, a furtive pair of Powerful Woodpeckers fed just behind us at point blank range!



A couple of Jardin rarities! Tawny-breasted Tinamou and Yellow-eared Parrot, and below, the smart Black-billed Mountain Toucan.



We made our way back to Jardin, enjoyed another quick wander around the picturesque square and then hit the road! There was time for a stop or two along the way, allowing us to add the endemic Antioquia Wren, but really we had to crack on as we were supposed to arrive at Anori in good time. Anori is home to another fabulous Pro Aves reserve, at the northern end of the Central Andes. The Chestnut-capped Piha reserve was set up to protect the piha, and this was of course our main target during the day and a bit that we had to explore the reserve. It took quite an effort to find the endemic Chestnut-capped Piha, but in the end we got wonderful views of this Critically Endangered species. Parker's Antbirds were seen again and in the forest we found a fine male Chestnut-crowned Gnatcatcher and a couple of extremely furtive Western Woodhaunters. Much time was spent looking for flocks, and in the flocks we found Rufous-naped Greenlets, a pair of Rufous-browed Tyrannulets, Yellow-throated Bush Tanagers and more Rufous-rumped Antwrens. The main prize, the endemic Multicoloured Tanager was seen a couple of times, but never stayed long enough for all to be happy with it. Other species of note included a singing Pavonine Cuckoo which appeared and then hid again, a smart Barred Forest Falcon, a fine male Pale-eyed Thrush, an excellent Sooty-headed Wren, a showy White-throated Spadebill and the uncommon White-crowned Manakin. Around the lodge itself a number of frugivores were attracted to the bananas (including Black-winged Saltators and Colombian Chachalacas), and the hummingbird feeders were busy with Green-crowned Woodnymphs, Andean Emeralds, Green-crowned Brilliants and Steely-vented Hummingbirds. We also saw a singing Wattled Guan which showed briefly on a distant ridge.



The now very rare Chestnut-capped Piha.

We packed up and made our way down the road, stopping to pick up a confiding Black-faced Antthrush, an excellent near-endemic Black-headed Brush Finch, and some tooting White-mantled Barbets as we went. Lower down we made a couple of further stops in forest where we found the endemic Magdalena Antbird, complete with amazing red eyes! It was then a very long drive, but eventually we reached an excellent area of marshes



The endemic White-mantled Barbet, the localized Black-headed Brushfinch and the endemic Magdalena Antbird; a quality trio on the way down from Anori.



in the Magdalena Valley. Here, numerous Northern Screamers were the stars of the show, but the supporting cast was good and included Black-collared Hawks, Black Skimmer, Red-lored and Orange-winged Amazons, giant Blue-and-yellow and Chestnut-fronted Macaws, and a singing Striped Cuckoo. We had to move on swiftly and arrived at our pleasant hotel in time for a beer and dinner!

Being in the lowlands, Rio Claro had a different set of birds to offer us. The first morning we set out at Rio Claro itself and found an excellent selection of specialities. Although one of the trails was a little steep and slippery, we persevered and found both Beautiful Woodpecker and Sooty Ant-Tanager, and a spectacular pair of Bare-crowned Antbirds. Pacific Antwren popped up, mixed flocks held other important species including the attractive Slaty-winged Foliage-gleaner, and we were delighted to find a fine Barred Puffbird. We also



One of several strange-looking Oilbirds, and a much appreciated Grey-cheeked Nunlet, at Rio Claro.



visited the excellent Oilbird caves, enjoying the amazing almost prehistoric Oilbirds and explored other nearby trails. By the end of our day and a half, we had amassed quite a selection of goodies. The rare endemic Antioquia Bristle-Tyrant (one of which showed very well), and the cracking little Grey-cheeked Nunlet were definite highlights, but other species found in the area included Double-toothed Kite, a fine displaying Black Hawk-Eagle, an inquisitive Pale-tailed Barbthroat, Greater Anis, a singing Plumbeous Pigeon, Cinnamon and Crimson-crested Woodpeckers, Gartered and White-tailed Trogons, lovely Citron-throated and Yellow-throated Toucans, Dusky and Chestnut-backed Antbirds, Checker-throated Antwren, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, a strange-looking Southern Bentbill, Cinnamon and One-coloured Becards, Bay-breasted and Buff-rumped Warblers, noisy Band-backed Wrens, splendid Golden-headed, Blue-crowned and White-bearded Manakins, Black-chested Jays, White-thighed Swallows, some aptly-named Plain-coloured Tanagers and Dusky-faced Tanagers. We also had great looks at both Rufous Motmot and the similar Broad-billed Motmot. After a final lunch at Rio Claro, which was interrupted by Green Iguanas, a Yellow-chinned Spinetail and White-winged Swallows, we made our way to Medellin for an overnight stay.

The following morning saw us exploring La Romera. Here we were delighted to gain some great views of smart endemic Red-bellied Grackles as well as some Slaty-capped Flycatchers, Russet-crowned Warblers, a showy male White-winged Becard and an obliging Andean Solitaire (finally!). We then made our way up to the Rio Negro Airport and checked in for our flight to Santa Marta.

It was hot when we touched down, and after a minor hiccup which allowed us to take lunch, we loaded the Landcruisers and began the somewhat tortuous drive up to the San Lorenzo Ridge. We first made a stop for a magnificent Black-and-white Owl, and then in a flower-filled garden where we found the rare Santa Marta Blossomcrown before eventually arriving at our comfortable base, the increasingly luxurious El Dorado Lodge. Here we began our explorations in the lodge garden, securing great views of sneaky Black-fronted Wood Quails and Band-tailed Guans. Later we made our first of a couple of nocturnal forays from the lodge, and these were successful in securing fine views of the still to be described Santa Marta Screech Owl.



This male Black-fronted Wood Quail was tracked down at its roost in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Our time in the mountains was split, with two nights at El Dorado and a night at Minca, giving us the opportunity to look for specialities at all altitudes! Much of our first two mornings was spent at the higher altitudes. Here in the crisp mountain air, endemics came thick and fast despite the windy conditions. Attractive Santa Marta Warblers, Santa Marta Mountain Tanagers and Yellow-crowned Whitestarts jostled for our attention and it wasn't long before we were visited by Santa Marta Brushfinches and sneaky Sierra Nevada Brushfinches that were after tit-bits from our breakfast. A most unexpected Crab-eating Raccoon may very well have been doing the same! Streak-capped and Rusty-headed Spinetails surrendered easily and we were soon searching the dense bamboo that held a couple of skulking but confiding Santa Marta Rufous Antpittas, a habitat they shared with confiding Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrants, the endemic Brown-rumped Tapaculo and the recently split Hermit Wood Wren. 'Santa Marta' Toucanets were also found, White-tailed Starfrontlets flashed by, and after much effort we found a couple of skulking Santa Marta Antpittas. Perhaps the rarest bird we found was a Common Yellowthroat, but this failed to light the touch paper in the same way as the endemics had! We were delighted to finally find a couple of fine White-tipped Quetzals and colourful Golden-breasted Fruiteaters, and endemic White-lored Warblers joined Montane Foliage-gleaners in the mixed flocks. A little lower still we looked for a different set of species. Here, the smart Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner and Santa Marta Antbird put in excellent



The views of the distant Santa Marta Mountains from the San Lorenzo Ridge can be quite spectacular. At altitude, the dense bamboo hides a number of goodies including the recently-split Hermit Wood Wren and the still to be split Santa Marta Rufous Antpitta.



appearances and some diligent work brought us face to face with Santa Marta Tapaculo and the *bangsi* form of Grey-breasted Wood Wren, another likely split! Red-billed Parrots fed in flowering trees, Scarlet-fronted Parakeets frequently appeared, and other widespread species such as Yellow-legged and Black-hooded Thrushes, Orange-billed Nightingale Thrush, colourful Blue-naped Chlorophonias, and Black-headed Tanager were also found.



A fabulous White-tipped Quetzal and the gorgeous Golden-crowned Whitestart - two more Santa Marta favourites.





More goodies from the Santa Martas (clockwise from above): the common but colourful Blue-naped Chlorophonia; Santa Marta Brush-finch; Santa Marta Mountain Tanager; Santa Marta Blossomcrown; Golden-breasted Fruiteater and Streak-capped Spinetail.



On our final morning we explored the lower and drier slopes closer to Minca. It was hard work, though stunning Golden-winged Sparrows raised the spirits. Coppery Emeralds came to investigate us, Rufous-and-white and Rufous-breasted Wrens gave themselves away with their distinctive songs, and other goodies at these altitudes included striking Keel-billed Toucans, Scaled Pigeons, Greenish Elaenia and Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant. It had been hard work, but eventually we gained some fantastic views of a gorgeous Rosy Thrush Tanager which pulled the morning round, and allowed us to enjoy our lunch in Minca, where we added White-vented Plumeleteer and Pale-bellied Hermit around the feeders. After lunch we greeted our new driver, and headed for the coast. Our first strategic stop finally secured great views of a female Black-backed Antshrike, and our second and final stop brought a few other goodies including a fine pair of Laughing Falcons, our only Plain-brown Woodcreeper, Ochre-lored Flatbills, a smart Lance-tailed Manakin and several vocal Trinidad Euphonias, whilst more colour was added by Rufous-tailed Jacamars and Whooping Motmot. As the sun sank, the sky became full of Lesser Nighthawks.



Two of the highlights close to Minca were Golden-winged Sparrow and the shockingly bright Rosy Thrush-Tanager.





La Guajira brought a whole new set of goodies including White-whiskered Spinetail, Chestnut Piculet and Vermilion Cardinal.



We were out early the following morning, exploring the Guajira Peninsula. A handy stop along the way produced a pair of Double-striped Thick-knees, and soon after we set about exploring the dry forests. And with the help of an excellent local guide, we made short work of finding most of our targets. Tropical Gnatcatchers were abundant, Black-crested (Maracaibo) and Northern White-fringed Antwrens were both common, the gorgeous White-whiskered Spinetail and Orinocan Saltator were much-admired, Slender-billed and Pale-tipped Inezias showed well several times, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrants were conspicuous, Chestnut Piculets and Russet-throated Puffbirds were much appreciated and Green-rumped Parrotlets flipped around. Vermilion Cardinals glowed out from the grey bushes, a Buffy Hummingbird investigated us and both Red-billed Emerald and Shining Green Hummingbird were added. Coveys of Crested Bobwhites shared open areas with Caribbean Horneros, whilst Grey Pileated Finches and Black-faced Grassquits were numerous on the ground. Targeted efforts then yielded the sometimes difficult Tocuyo Sparrow and Glaucous Tanager and that was more or less job done. A fine seafood lunch was enlivened by an unexpected Franklin's Gull and an Arctic Skua and after

lunch we explored the nearby estuary first with a telescope, and later with a boat! It was a list-padders heaven! The Laughing Gulls were joined by Lesser Black-backed, and Kelp Gulls, dense flocks of Cabot's (including Cayenne), Royal, Caspian and Common Terns were joined by numerous shorebirds that included Eastern and Western Willets, Marbled Godwits, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Semi-palmated, Least and Stilt Sandpipers, American Oystercatchers and even a couple of Collared Plovers. Tricoloured Herons and Reddish Egrets dashed through the shallows and the boat allowed us amazing views of vivid American Flamingos as well as a few Scarlet Ibises, and we even found a hybrid Scarlet x White Ibis. Heading back, we finally got some decent views of Bare-eyed Pigeons and added some fine Orange-crowned Orioles to our tally.



We enjoyed some list padding at Los Camarones. Amongst the flocks of gulls and terns, we found Kelp Gull and Franklin's Gull whilst Collared Plover was also much appreciated.





The vivid pink of the American Flamingos at Los Camarones had to be seen to be believed! This hybrid White x Scarlet Ibis provided amusement!

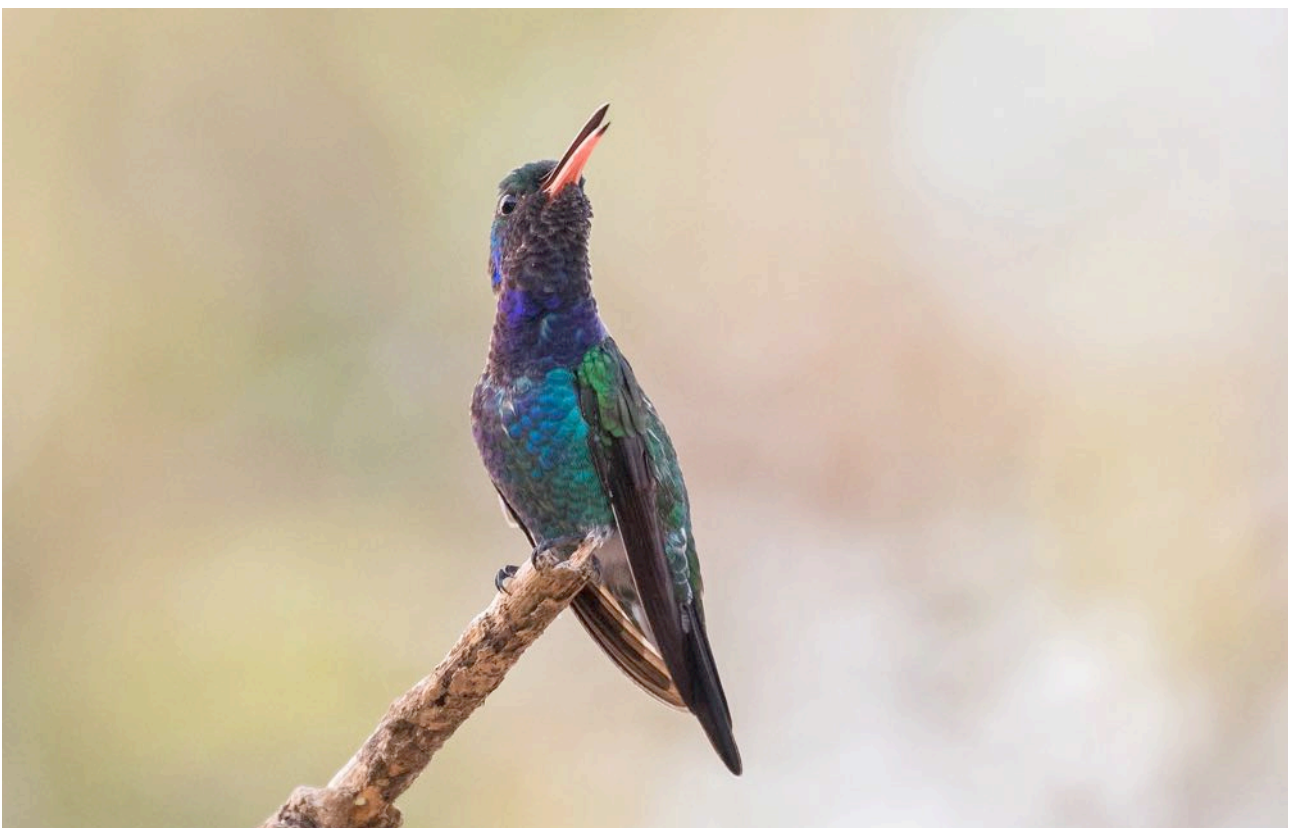


For our final morning we were up early and heading for the Barranquilla area, eager to avoid being caught up in the scheduled carnival there. We began the morning at Isla Salamanca where right at dawn we found the endemic Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird which showed brilliantly to all. Also here we found an obliging pair of Pied Puffbirds, Prothonotary Warblers and Bicoloured Conebills and the distinctive Panamanian Flycatcher. Nearby we watched a fine male Bronze-brown Cowbirds (another endemic) and then set about exploring a nearby road. Here we found Stripe-backed Wrens and good numbers of Snail Kites, Limpkins and other regular waterbirds such as Fulvous Whistling Duck, Green Herons, Common Black Hawks, our first (!!) Black-necked Stilts, a Gull-billed Tern, Amazon, Green and Ringed Kingfishers, and White-headed Marsh and Pied Water Tyrants. A couple of species of migrant hirundine were also added, but sadly, no chachalacas could be found despite some extensive searching, but hey, you can't win them all, and we'd won most of them!

It was now roasting, the carnival was looming and we headed for a shower, freshen up and Barranquilla Airport for our various flights home, reflecting back on what had been a fantastically successful tour to one of the birdiest countries on our planet.



New birds kept coming, even on the final day... Pied Puffbird, Stripe-backed Wrens, and the very rare Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird.





The amazing Andean Cock-of-the-Rock lek at Jardin is a definite tour highlight!

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

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).

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

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

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

Conservation threat categories and information are taken from *Threatened Birds of the World*, BirdLife International's magnificent book on the sad status of the rarest 10% of the world's avifauna, and updates on the BirdLife website: <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/home>

(EW) = Extinct in the wild, **(CR)** = Critically Endangered, **(EN)** = Endangered, **(VU)** = Vulnerable, **(NT)** = Near Threatened, **(DD)** = Data Deficient.

For polytypic species, the subspecies seen on the tour, where known, is placed in parentheses at the end of the species comment. Generally, species listed with trinomials are not currently split by the IOC.

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). **2017. IOC World Bird List (v 7.2)**. This list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>. Please note, this was the current version when the report checklist was created. Some alternative names are given in parentheses.

All of our checklists are powered by our partner iGoTerra (www.igoterra.com) who provide web and mobile applications for bird and wildlife enthusiasts and businesses. Their suite of services cover observations, rankings, lists, photos and trip management tools.

Tawny-breasted Tinamou ◇ *Nothocercus julius* Great views of one along the road below Los Ventanas, Jardin.

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* (H) Two forms heard: *caucae* at Rio Claro; *mustelinus* at the Los Gaviotas track.

Northern Screamer ◇ *Chauna chavaria* (NT) Great views of c10 at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio.

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* Just one seen at Parque La Florida [nominate].

Fulvous Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* Two seen on the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata* Pairs at El Cedral, Otun Quimbaya NP, and on the drive to Pereira [*colombiana*].

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* One seen flying over at the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* A handful around Bogota and common at the wetlands near Barranquilla.

Andean Teal ◇ (Merida Speckled T) *Anas [andium] altipetens* Several seen well, first at Sumapaz NP.

Andean Teal ◇ (A Speckled T) *Anas [andium] andium* (NL) Two at Nevado del Ruiz for some of the group.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* A few seen at Parque La Florida.

Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea* Plenty seen including several resembling Ruddy Ducks. First seen at Sumapaz NP.

Rufous-vented Chachalaca *Ortalis ruficauda* (H) Heard near to Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*ruficrissa*].

Colombian Chachalaca ◇ *Ortalis columbiana* Few this year. Best at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Band-tailed Guan ◇ *Penelope argyrotis* Common at El Dorado Lodge in the Santa Martas [*colombiana*].

Andean Guan ◇ *Penelope montagnii* A few seen, the first at the Rio Blanco Reserve [nominate].

Cauca Guan ◇ *Penelope perspicax* (EN) Great views of several at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Wattled Guan ◇ *Aburria aburri* (NT) A few heard and one seen at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Sickle-winged Guan ◇ *Chamaepetes goudotii* Two forms: nominate first at El Cedral; *sanctaemarthae* heard, Santa Martas.



The endemic Cauca Guan (above) showed well, as did Andean Guan and the much-wanted Northern Screamer.





Coveys of Crested Bobwhites showed well at La Guajira.

- Crested Bobwhite** ♦ *Colinus cristatus* Brilliant views of several coveys at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].
- Black-fronted Wood Quail** ♦ *Odontophorus atrifrons* (VU) Excellent views of two at El Dorado Lodge [nominate].
- Chestnut Wood Quail** ♦ *Odontophorus hyperythrus* (NT) Good views of 3 near El Cedral in Otun Quimbaya NP.
- Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* A few seen, the first at Parque La Florida [antarcticus].
- American Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus ruber* Great views of c200 on the boat trip from Los Camarones.
- Bare-faced Ibis** *Phimosus infuscatus* Very common and widespread. First seen at Parque La Florida [berlepschi].
- American White Ibis** *Eudocimus albus* A few on the Los Camarones boat trip, Guajira Peninsula [ramobustorum].
- Scarlet Ibis** *Eudocimus ruber* A few on the boat trip from Los Camarones. Also an apparent pink hybrid.
- Roseate Spoonbill** *Platalea ajaja* Several seen around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.
- Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* A couple at Guasca and a few around Los Camarones [hoactli].
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea* A few around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [cayennensis].
- Green Heron** *Butorides virescens* One or two seen at the wetlands near to Barranquilla [nominate].
- Striated Heron** *Butorides striata* Small numbers noted. First seen at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca [nominate].
- Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* Common and widespread.
- Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias* A few around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].
- Cocoi Heron** *Ardea cocoi* Just a few noted, the first on wetlands near to Ibague.
- Great Egret (American G E)** *Ardea [alba] egretta* Pretty common and widespread.
- Reddish Egret** *Egretta rufescens* (NT) Several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].
- Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor* Several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [ruficollis].
- Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* Several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.
- Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* Less numerous than the other egrets, though common at Los Camarones [nominate].
- Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis* Common along the Caribbean Coast, especially at Los Camarones [nominate].
- Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens* A few along the Caribbean Coast, especially at Los Camarones.
- Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Small numbers noted, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].
- Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga* (NL) One for some on the journey to Rio Claro.
- Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* Common and widespread.
- Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture** *Cathartes burrovianus* One at the marshes near Puerto Berrio and a few at Cienaga [nominate].
- Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* Very common and widespread.
- King Vulture** *Sarcoramphus papa* Good views of 2 on the drive down from the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve.
- Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* A few seen, the first at Parque La Florida [carolinensis].
- White-tailed Kite** *Elanus leucurus* A few seen, mostly whilst driving. First seen near to Medellin [nominate].
- Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* Just a few, the first along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
- Black Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus tyrannus* Great views of a displaying bird near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [serus].
- Ornate Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus ornatus* (H) (NT) One heard along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP [vicarius].
- Double-toothed Kite** *Harpagus bidentatus* A couple seen in the Rio Claro area [fasciatus].
- Plain-breasted Hawk** *Accipiter ventralis* One very briefly along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* One on a nest lower down along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas.

Black-collared Hawk *Busarellus nigricollis* A couple seen around the marshes south of Puerto Berrio [nominate].

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* Plenty at the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* A couple seen at Isla Salamanca NP [nominate].

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis* A few seen, the first on the journey from Anori to Rio Claro.

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* An adult seen at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio [nominate].

Barred Hawk *Morphnarchus princeps* (H) One heard along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris* Common and widespread [nominate].

White-rumped Hawk *Parabuteo leucorrhous* Good views of one displaying below Los Ventanas, Jardin.

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* Seen well at Sumapaz NP and Nevado del Ruiz [*australis*].

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus* Plenty seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* A couple seen on the lower parts of the Santa Martas [nominate].

Russet-crowned Crane *Laterallus viridis* (H) One heard at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Bogota Rail ◊ *Rallus semiplumbeus* (EN) After much effort, great views of one near to Parque La Florida [nominate].

Grey-necked Wood Rail *Aramides cajaneus* One seen crossing the road at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica* A few seen at Parque La Florida and in the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* A few seen, the first at Parque La Florida [*pauxilla*].

American Coot *Fulica americana* Plenty seen at wetlands around Bogota - many with yellow bills [*columbiana*].

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* One near to Los Camarones and three at the wetlands near Barranquilla [nominate].

Double-striped Thick-knee *Burhinus bistriatus* Great views of a pair on the way to Los Camarones [*pediacus*].

American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus* Three at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* Three at the wetlands near to Barranquilla were the only ones [nominate].

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* Fairly common and widespread [*cayennensis*].

Grey (or Black-bellied) Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* Several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*cynosurae*].

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris* Great views of three on the boat trip from Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana* Plenty, the first at the marshes near Puerto Berrio. Only black-backed *hypomelaena* noted.

Wilson's Snipe *Gallinago delicata* A few seen at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca, and at the wetlands near Barranquilla.

Noble Snipe ◊ *Gallinago nobilis* (NT) Great Good flight views of two at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca.

Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa* c7 seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

(Hudsonian) Whimbrel *Numenius [phaeopus] hudsonicus* Plenty seen around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* A good number seen, the first at Sumapaz NP.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* First seen at Parque La Florida.

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria* Several seen well, the first at Parque La Florida.

(Western) Willet *Tringa [semipalmata] inornata* A few (long legs and bills) at Los Camarones.

(Eastern) Willet *Tringa [semipalmata] semipalmata* Plenty seen at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* Surprisingly scarce, just 3 or 4 seen.

Stilt Sandpiper *Calidris himantopus* Two seen on the boat trip from Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.



Stilt Sandpiper (right) and Lesser Yellowlegs at Los Camarones.

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* c20 on the boat trip from Los Camarones, and a few on the wetlands near Barranquilla.

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* (NT) c15 seen on the boat trip from Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* Two seen flying over at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio [*cinerascens*].

Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla* Very common at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*megalopterus*].

Franklin's Gull *Leucophaeus pipixcan* An adult seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* A near adult seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* c4 seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*graellsii*].

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* One in flight at the wetlands near Barranquilla [*aranea*].

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* A few seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

(American) Royal Tern *Thalasseus [maximus] maximus* Good numbers seen well at Los Camarones.

Cabot's Tern *Thalasseus aculavidus* See note.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* Several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua) *Stercorarius parasiticus* A rather bleached 2cy seen well at Los Camarones.

Rock Dove (Feral) *Columba livia 'feral'* Introduced vermin.

Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa* Good views of several below Minca.

Bare-eyed Pigeon ◇ *Patagioenas corensis* Several seen well around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* Common at higher altitude sites. First seen in Chicaque NP [*albilinea*].

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis* A few seen, the first near to Jardin [*occidentalis*].

Plumbeous Pigeon *Patagioenas plumbea* Great views of a pair near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*chapmani*].



Plumbeous Pigeon (left) and the attractive Scaled Pigeon.

Ruddy Pigeon *Patagioenas subvinacea* (VU) Great views of a pair at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve [*anolaimae*].

Scaled Dove *Columbina squammata* Plenty in the north. First seen close to Santa Marta [*ridgwayi*].

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina* A few seen. Best views were near to Los Camarones [*albivitta*].

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti* Two forms: *rufipennis* widespread; *caucaae* on the drive to Jardin.

Blue Ground Dove *Claravis pretiosa* A male seen in the dry forest near to Payande.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* Fairly common and widespread [nominate].

Tolima Dove ◇ *Leptotila conoveri* (EN) Common by voice at Canon Combeima, Ibague. Two seen there by some.

White-throated Quail-Dove ◇ *Zentrygon frenata* (H) A few heard, the first along the Montezuma Road [*bourcierii*].

Lined Quail-Dove ◇ *Zentrygon linearis* A few heard and a couple flushed along the San Lorenzo Ridge [*linearis*].

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* Three forms: *pentheria* with rufous outer-tail feathers in the east; *caucaae* and *antioquiae*.

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major* A few seen, the first near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* Common and widespread. First seen near to Ibague.

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris* Seen at Finca El Palmar, near Ibague, and on the Guajira Peninsula.

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* Seen well at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio, and others heard.

Pavonine Cuckoo ◇ *Dromococcyx pavoninus* Heard and seen briefly at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.
Dwarf Cuckoo ◇ *Coccyzua pumila* Great views of one at a comfort stop between the Montezuma Road and Jardin!
Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* Two forms: *mehleri* first at Laguna Pedro Palo; *nigricrissa* first at Otun Quimbaya NP.
Santa Marta Screech Owl ◇ *Megascops sp. nov.* See note.
Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* Great views at Otun Quimbaya NP, and seen at Montezuma Lodge [*cruciger*].
White-throated Screech Owl ◇ *Megascops albogularis* Great views of a pair at the Rio Blanco Reserve [*macabrus*].
Mottled Owl *Strix virgata* Heard but only seen in flight at Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].
Black-and-white Owl ◇ *Strix nigrolineata* Excellent views of a roosting bird just above Minca.



Black-and-white Owl at a day roost and Band-tailed Guan... both in the Santa Martas.

Andean Pygmy Owl ◇ *Glaucidium jardiinii* Great views of along the road down from the Hotel Termale del Ruiz.
Cloud-forest Pygmy Owl ◇ *Glaucidium nubicola* (VU) Superb views of one along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* Just one seen at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*medianum*].
Stygian Owl *Asio stygius* Great views of a roosting bird at the Rio Blanco Reserve [*robustus*].
Oilbird ◇ *Steatornis caripensis* Great views at the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro, though quite skittish this year.
Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus* Great views of a roosting bird at the Rio Blanco Reserve [*panamensis*].
Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis* Lots seen at dusk on both nights on the Guajira Peninsula [nominate].
Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* A few seen, the first spotlighted at Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].
Band-winged Nightjar *Systellura longirostris* Brilliant views at Nevado del Ruiz [*ruficervix*].
White-chinned Swift ◇ *Cypseloides cryptus* See note.
White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* Fairly common. First noted on the journey to Ibague.
Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicaudus* Seen coming down to drink at the Rio Claro hotel [*aetherodroma*].
Grey-rumped (or Ash-rumped) Swift *Chaetura [cinereiventris] occidentalis* Plenty along the Montezuma Road.
Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura* A single flyover at Isla Salamanca NP [nominate].
Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsutus* Just a couple seen at Rio Claro [nominate].
Band-tailed Barbthroat *Threnetes ruckeri* Great views of a singing bird near the Oilbird Cave, Rio Claro [nominate].
Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy* A few seen at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori [*emiliae*].
Long-billed (or Western Long-tailed) Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris* See note.
Tawny-bellied Hermit ◇ *Phaethornis symmatophorus* A few along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP [nominate].
Pale-bellied Hermit *Phaethornis anthophilus* One seen well coming to the feeders at Minca [nominate].

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis* Great views of two near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [nominate].
Green-fronted Lancebill ◊ *Doryfera ludovicae* Great scope views of one along the Montezuma Road [nominate].
White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* Quite common on various feeders, first at Montezuma [nominate].
Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae* Several seen, first on the feeders at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.
Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus* Common and widespread. First noted in Chicaque NP [nominate].
Sparkling Violetear *Colibri coruscans* Just a couple noted, the first in Chicaque NP [nominate].
Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis* A few seen, best around the feeders at Montezuma Lodge.
Western Emerald ◊ *Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus* A couple of sightings on flowers at the Montezuma Lodge.
Red-billed Emerald ◊ *Chlorostilbon gibsoni* Common around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*nitens*].
Coppery Emerald ◊ *Chlorostilbon russatus* A young male was seen well near to Minca.
Crowned (or Violet-crowned) Woodnymph *Thalurania [colombica] colombica* Particularly common at El Dorado Lodge.
Crowned (or Green-crowned) Woodnymph *Thalurania [colombica] fannyae* A few seen well, the first at Montezuma.
Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird ◊ *Lepidopyga lilliae* (CR) Great views of a male at Isla Salamanca NP.
Shining-green Hummingbird ◊ *Lepidopyga goudoti* One or two seen well at Los Camarones [*luminosa*].
Buffy Hummingbird ◊ *Leucippus fallax* One seen well coming in to the pygmy owl tape at Los Camarones.
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl* Two forms: *fuscicaudata* first at Otun Quimbaya; *jucunda* at Montezuma Lodge.
Andean Emerald *Amazilia franciae* Common at Montezuma Lodge and the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve [nominate].
Steely-vented Hummingbird *Amazilia saucerrottei* Two forms: *warscewiczii* at Montezuma; nominate at Minca.
Santa Marta Blossomcrown ◊ *Anthocephala floriceps* (VU) Excellent views of a male along the San Lorenzo Ridge.
Tolima Blossomcrown ◊ *Anthocephala berlepschi* (VU) Great views of one at Canon Combeima near Ibague.
White-vented Plumeleteer *Chalybura buffonii* Common around the feeders at Minca [*aeineicauda*].
Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys* Small numbers at several sites. First near Ibague [*cervina*].
Fawn-breasted Brilliant ◊ *Heliodoxa rubinoides* Small numbers at Rio Blanco and Montezuma Lodge [*aequatorialis*].
Green-crowned Brilliant *Heliodoxa jacula* Several at Montezuma Lodge and the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve.
Empress Brilliant ◊ *Heliodoxa imperatrix* Brilliant views of several around the feeders at Montezuma Lodge.
White-tailed Hillstar *Urochroa bougueri* Several rufous-gaped nominate birds seen well at Montezuma Lodge.
Buff-tailed Coronet ◊ *Boissonneaua flavescens* Especially common at the Rio Blanco Reserve [nominate].
Velvet-purple Coronet ◊ *Boissonneaua jardini* Several seen along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP. Stunners!
Shining Sunbeam ◊ *Aglaeactis cupripennis* Many stunners on the feeders at Hotel Termales, Nevado del Ruiz.
Mountain Velvetbreast *Lafresnaya lafresnayi* Two forms: *longirostris* at Hotel Termales; *liriopae* in the Santa Martas.
Bronzy Inca *Coeligena coeligena* A handful seen, the first at Canon Combeima, Ibague [*ferruginea*].
Brown Inca ◊ *Coeligena wilsoni* A few seen, a showy bird along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
Collared Inca *Coeligena torquata* Seen in small numbers at several sites, the first in Chicaque NP [nominate].
White-tailed Starfrontlet ◊ *Coeligena phalerata* Just three, including a female on the feeders in the Santa Martas.
Golden-bellied Starfrontlet ◊ *Coeligena bonapartei* A couple of females seen in Chicaque NP [nominate].
Buff-winged Starfrontlet *Coeligena lutetiae* Great views of several on the feeders at Hotel Termales.
Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera* Great views of a male on the feeders at Hotel Termales.
Great Sapphirewing *Pterophanes cyanopterus* Great views of several on the feeders at Hotel Termales [*caeruleus*].
Tourmaline Sunangel ◊ *Heliangelus exortis* Great views of several at Hotel Termales; a few elsewhere.
Glowing Puffleg ◊ *Eriocnemis vestita* Seen well in Chicaque NP and at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota [nominate].
Black-thighed Puffleg ◊ *Eriocnemis derbyi* (NT) Great views of several at Hotel Termales, and in the forest nearby.
Coppery-bellied Puffleg ◊ *Eriocnemis cupreovertris* (NT) Several seen well at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota.
Golden-breasted Puffleg ◊ *Eriocnemis mosquera* Great views of several around the Hotel Termales.
Greenish Puffleg ◊ *Haplophaedia aureliae* Singles at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve and La Romera [*caucensis*].
Purple-bibbed Whitetip ◊ *Urostitte benjamini* A few seen well around the feeders at Montezuma Lodge.
White-booted Racket-Tail *Ocreatus underwoodii* See note.
Green-bearded Helmetcrest ◊ *Oxypogon guerinii* After some effort, good views of a male and female at Sumapaz NP.
Buffy Helmetcrest ◊ *Oxypogon stuebelii* (VU) Great views of a few males at Nevado del Ruiz. Crackers!
Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina* See note.
Viridian Metaltail *Metallura williami* Common on the feeders at Hotel Termales, Nevado del Ruiz [nominate].
Bronze-tailed Thornbill ◊ *Chalcostigma heteropogon* A couple of brief views at Sumapaz NP.
Rainbow-bearded Thornbill ◊ *Chalcostigma herrani* Amazing views of these incredible birds at Hotel Termales.
Long-tailed Sylph *Aglaiocercus kingii* At least three around the feeders at the Rio Blanco Reserve [*emmae*].
Violet-tailed Sylph ◊ *Aglaiocercus coelestis* Fairly common along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP [nominate].
White-throated Wedgebill ◊ *Schistes albugularis* See note.
Purple-throated Woodstar ◊ *Calliphlox mitchellii* Best views were at Montezuma Lodge where common.



There seems to be an endless variety of humming birds in Colombia! Here's a few to enjoy, clockwise from above: the rufous-gaped form of White-tailed Hillstar; (Violet-) Crowned Woodnymph; Brown Inca; Collared Inca and (Green-) Crowned Woodnymph.





More brilliant hummers... above Golden-breasted Puffleg and Great Sapphirewing at Termales del Ruiz. Below, clockwise from top left, Buff-tailed Coronet; the attractive Golden-bellied Starfrontlet; two images of the bee-like White-bellied Woodstar and the smart Purple-throated Woodstar.



White-bellied Woodstar ◇ *Chaetocercus mulsant* First seen in Chicaque NP but best at the Rio Blanco Reserve.
Golden-headed Quetzal *Pharomachrus auriceps* Great views at Rio Blanco and the Montezuma Road [nominate].
White-tipped Quetzal ◇ *Pharomachrus fulgidus* A stunning pair seen at a nest in the Santa Martas [*festatus*].
Crested Quetzal *Pharomachrus antisianus* (H) Heard distantly along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
White-tailed Trogon *Trogon chionurus* Good views of male near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro.
Gartered (or Northern Violaceous) Trogon *Trogon caligatus* Good views of a pair at Rio Claro [nominate].
Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus* Great views of a female and then male near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*cupreicauda*].
Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* Seen well in Otun Quimbaya NP and at Anori [*subtropicalis*].
Masked Trogon *Trogon personatus* Two forms: *assimilis* first at Rio Blanco, *sanctaemartae* in the Santa Martas.



Colourful trogons... White-tipped Quetzal, Black-throated Trogon and a smart Golden-headed Quetzal.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* Seen a couple of times at the wetlands near Barranquilla [*septentrionalis*].
Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* A few at the wetlands near to Barranquilla.
Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* A few at the wetlands near to Barranquilla [nominate].
Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon* A couple on the boat trip from Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.
Whooping Motmot ◇ *Momotus subrufescens* Great views of one along the track to Los Gaviotas [*spatha*].
Andean (or Highland) Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis* Several seen well, the first in Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].
Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii* Great views of a couple near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*semirufus*].
Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum* Excellent views of one at Rio Claro [*colombianum*].
Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda* Two forms: nominate first seen at Rio Claro; *pallens* at La Guajira.
Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus* Brilliant views of one at Isla Salamanca NP [*subtectus*].
Barred Puffbird ◇ *Nystalus radiatus* Great scope views of one at Rio Claro.
Russet-throated Puffbird ◇ *Hypnelus ruficollis* See note.
Moustached Puffbird ◇ *Malacoptila mystacalis* (H) One heard at Laguna Pedro Palo.
Grey-cheeked Nunlet ◇ *Nonnula frontalis* Stunning views near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*pallescens*].
White-mantled Barbet ◇ *Capito hypoleucus* (VU) Brilliant views of displaying birds on the drive down from Anori [*carrikeri*].
Red-headed Barbet ◇ *Eubucco bourcierii* Two forms: nominate best seen at Anori; *occidentalis* heard, Montezuma Road.
Toucan Barbet ◇ *Semnornis ramphastinus* (NT) Nice views of a pair along the Montezuma Road. Great call [*caucaei*]!
White-throated (or Santa Marta) Toucanet ◇ *Aulacorhynchus [albivitta] lautus* A few seen in the Santa Martas.
White-throated (or Grey-throated) Toucanet ◇ *Aulacorhynchus [albivitta] griseigularis* A few; Montezuma Road etc.
White-throated Toucanet ◇ *Aulacorhynchus [albivitta] albivitta* A few seen, the first in Chicaque NP.



More colour was added with Andean Motmot, Broad-billed Motmot and Rufous-tailed Jacamar. Russet-throated Puffbird was seen well in the north.



- Groove-billed (or Yellow-billed) Toucanet ◊ *Aulacorhynchus [sulcatus] calorhynchus* (H) Heard only in the Santa Martas.
 Crimson-rumped Toucanet ◊ *Aulacorhynchus haematopygus* One seen at Anori, others heard there [nominate].
 Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus* Several seen well in the Rio Claro area [*nuchalis*].
 Black-billed Mountain Toucan ◊ *Andigena nigrirostris* Excellent views at Rio Blanco and Los Ventanas [*occidentalis*].
 Citron-throated Toucan ◊ *Ramphastos citreolaemus* Great views of a pair near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro.
 Choco Toucan ◊ *Ramphastos brevis* (H) Heard distantly along the lower Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
 Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus* Great views of several around Minca [*brevicarinatus*].
 Chestnut-mandibled Toucan *Ramphastos [ambiguus] swainsonii* (NT) Seen well at Rio Claro. Not split by IOC.

Olivaceous Piculet *Picumnus olivaceus* Excellent views at Laguna Pedro Palo and at Rio Claro [nominate].

Chestnut Piculet ◊ *Picumnus cinnamomeus* Brilliant looks at 3 at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus* (H) Heard only at Laguna Pedro Palo [*flavigula*].

Beautiful Woodpecker ◊ *Melanerpes pulcher* Great views of a couple of pairs in the Rio Claro area.

Red-crowned Woodpecker *Melanerpes rubricapillus* Fairly common. First noted near to Jardin [nominate].

Yellow-vented Woodpecker ◊ *Veniliornis dignus* A male along the Montezuma Road. Others heard [nominate].

Bar-bellied Woodpecker *Veniliornis nigriceps* Good views below the Hotel Termas del Ruiz [*equifasciatus*].

Red-rumped Woodpecker *Veniliornis kirkii* A few seen in the Rio Claro area [*cecilii*].

Smoky-brown Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus fumigatus* A few noted, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* Just one seen well, low down in the Santa Martas [*alleni*].

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker *Colaptes rivolii* A few seen, the first very well at Cerro Guadalupe [*rivolii*-group].

Spot-breasted Woodpecker *Colaptes punctigula* Just one seen, near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*striatigularis*].

Cinnamon Woodpecker *Celeus loricatus* Great views of a couple near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*mentalis*].

Powerful Woodpecker ◊ *Campephilus pollens* Brilliant views of a confiding pair below Los Ventanas [nominate].

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos* Great views of a pair near to the Oilbird Cave [*malherbii*].

Northern Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* Scattered sightings but most common along the Caribbean Coast.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* Widespread in small numbers. First seen near to Payande [*cordata*].

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* Great views of a lovely pair along the track to Los Gaviotas [nominate].



A lovely pair of Laughing Falcons gave us some terrific views.

Barred Forest Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* Great views of a calling bird at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve [*interstes*].

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* A few seen, the first at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca [*ochraceus*].

Merlin *Falco columbarius* Two seen briefly first thing at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [nominate].

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis* A couple seen low down along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas [*petoensis*].

Rufous-fronted Parakeet ◊ *Bolborhynchus ferrugineifrons* (VU) Great views of a flock of c17 at Nevado del Ruiz.

Orange-chinned Parakeet *Brotogeris jugularis* Many seen well. First noted in the Rio Claro area [nominate].

Red-billed Parrot *Pionus sordidus* Plenty seen along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas [*saturatus*].

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus* First seen at Payande, and quite common in the Rio Claro area [*rubrigularis*].

Red-lored Amazon *Amazona autumnalis* A pair seen in flight at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio [*salvini*].

Scaly-naped Amazon *Amazona mercenarius* A few seen, mostly flying, but 1 scoped perched at Rio Blanco [*canipalliata*].

Orange-winged Amazon *Amazona amazonica* Seen at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio and at Los Camarones.
Green-rumped Parrotlet *Forpus passerinus* Plenty seen well around Los Camarones [*cyanophanes*].
Spectacled Parrotlet ◊ *Forpus conspicillatus* Excellent views on several occasions, first near to Payande [nominate].
Brown-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula pertinax* Best views were at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*aeruginosa*].
Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna* A stately flyover by eight near the marshes south of Puerto Berrio.
Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severus* A few over the marshes south of Puerto Berrio, and also seen near Rio Claro.
Golden-plumed Parakeet ◊ *Leptosittaca branickii* (VU) Great views of a pair in the lower forest at Nevado del Ruiz.



Above, a smart Golden-plumed Parakeet, below, Green-rumped and Spectacled Parrotlets.



Yellow-eared Parrot ◊ *Ognorhynchus icterotis* (EN) Good looks along the road below Los Ventanas, Jardin. Impressive.
Scarlet-fronted Parakeet *Psittacara wagleri* (NT) Common in the Santa Martas [nominate].
Chestnut-winged Cinclodes ◊ *Cinclodes albidiventris* Great views of a pair at Sumapaz NP [*oreobates*].

Stout-billed Cinclodes ◊ *Cinclodes excelsior* Several seen well at Nevado del Ruiz [*columbianus*].
Caribbean Hornero ◊ *Furnarius longirostris* A few seen well on the Guajira Peninsula [nominated].
Andean Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura andicola* Two forms: *exterior* at Sumapaz NP; nominate at Nevado del Ruiz.
White-chinned Thistletail ◊ *Asthenes fuliginosa* (H) A few heard at Nevado del Ruiz, but not responsive [nominated].
Many-striped Canastero ◊ *Asthenes flammulata* A couple seen well at Sumapaz NP [*multostriata*].
White-whiskered Spinetail ◊ *Synallaxis candei* Brilliant views of lots at Los Camarones. Stunners [*venezuelensis*].
Rufous Spinetail *Synallaxis unirufa* A few seen well at the top of the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP [nominated].
Rusty-headed Spinetail ◊ *Synallaxis fuscorufa* (VU) Great views of a few along the San Lorenzo Ridge, Santa Martas.
Stripe-breasted Spinetail ◊ *Synallaxis cinnamomea* A skulking individual seen briefly at Laguna Pedro Palo [*aveledo*].
Silvery-throated Spinetail ◊ *Synallaxis subpudica* Brilliant views of one at Parque La Florida.
Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae* Commonly heard, first seen well at Nevado del Ruiz [*media*].
Pale-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albescens* A few heard, one seen on the way to Montezuma Lodge [*latitabunda*].
White-browed Spinetail ◊ *Hellmayrea gularis* Best were the brilliant pair at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota [nominated].
Red-faced Spinetail *Cranioleuca erythropis* Seen on the way to Montezuma Lodge, and a few others [*griseigularis*].
Streak-capped Spinetail ◊ *Cranioleuca hellmayri* Great views of several in the Santa Martas.



Funky Furnarids! Stout-billed Cinclodes (above), and, left to right, Spotted Barbtail, Pearled Treerunner and a tame Yellow-chinned Spinetail.



Ash-browed Spinetail *Cranioleuca curtata* (VU) A pair seen well at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* Seen at the Rio Claro hotel and in the Barranquilla wetlands [*fuscifrons*].

Spotted Barbtail *Premnoplex brunnescens* Two forms: nominate along the Montezuma Road; *coloratus* in the Santa Martas.

Star-chested (or Fulvous-dotted) Treerunner ◊ *Margarornis stellatus* (NT) Several crackers along the Montezuma Road.

Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger* Several seen well at high altitude sites, first at Nevado del Ruiz [*perlatus*].

Pacific Tuftedcheek ◊ *Pseudocolaptes johnsoni* Great looks along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.

Streaked Tuftedcheek *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii* Good views at the Rio Blanco Reserve [nominate].

Montane Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis* See note.

Lineated Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla subalaris* See note.

Western Woodhaunter ◊ *Hyloctistes virgatus* Several heard (and one glimpsed) at Anori [*assimilis*].

Slaty-winged Foliage-gleaner *Philydor fuscipenne* Relatively brief views of one at Rio Claro [*erythronotum*].

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufum* Seen in mixed flocks along the Montezuma Road and at Anori [*rivetii*].

Uniform Treehunter ◊ *Thripadectes ignobilis* Great views of a couple along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.

Flammulated Treehunter ◊ *Thripadectes flammulatus* Brilliant views of a stunning pair at Rio Blanco [nominate].

Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus* (H) One heard near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*turdinus*].

Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner ◊ *Automolus rufipectus* (NT) Great views of one low down in the Santa Martas.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus* A few seen, the first in mixed flocks at the Anori [*littoralis*].

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans* Two forms: *heterurus* at El Cedral and Anori; *phelpsi* in the Santa Martas.

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* Just one seen, at the Los Gaviotas track [*lafresnayeii*].

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* Good views of one along the Montezuma Road [*subrufescens*].

Strong-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* Great views of a few at Otun Quimbaya NP [*virgatus*].

Black-banded Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes picumnus* Great views of one at Otun Quimbaya NP [*seilerni*].

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus* Two forms: *dugandi* at Rio Claro; *picrostris* at La Guajira.

Cocoa Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* A few heard then a few seen well around Rio Claro [*nana*].

Olive-backed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus triangularis* A few seen in a mixed flock along the Montezuma Road [nominate].

Streak-headed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii* One seen near Bolombolo and a couple near Minca [*lineaticeps*].

Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* See note.



Straight-billed and Montane Woodcreepers illustrating the variation in the family.

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus* Good views of a furtive female at Rio Claro [*fasciatus*].
Great Antshrike *Taraba major* (H) One heard near to Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*granadensis*].
Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus canadensis* First near Bolombolo then several at Los Camarones [*pulchellus*].
Black-backed Antshrike ◊ *Thamnophilus melanonotus* A female below Minca; immature male at Los Camarones.
Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* A few seen, the first near to Payande [*albicans*].
Bar-crested Antshrike ◊ *Thamnophilus multistriatus* See note.
Uniform Antshrike *Thamnophilus unicolor* Seen well along the Montezuma Road and at Anori [*grandior*].
Black-crowned Antshrike *Thamnophilus atrinucha* Good views of a couple of males at Rio Claro [nominate].
Plain Antvireo *Dysithamnus mentalis* A male seen along the Montezuma Road and another at Anori [*extremus*].
Bicolored Antvireo ◊ *Dysithamnus occidentalis* (VU) Brilliant views of a male along the Montezuma Road [nominate].



Uniform Antshrike was seen in mixed flocks at a few sites, whilst this male Bicoloured Antvireo was a good find along the Montezuma Road.

Checker-throated Antwren *Epinecrophylla fulviventris* A small family party showed well at Rio Claro.
Pacific Antwren ◊ *Myrmotherula pacifica* Great views on a couple of occasions in the Rio Claro area.
White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris* Seen a couple of times around Rio Claro [*albigula*].
Slaty Antwren *Myrmotherula schisticolor* A few seen in the flocks at Anori [nominate].
Yellow-breasted Antwren ◊ *Herpsilochmus axillaris* (H) (VU) One heard singing along the Montezuma Road [*senex*].
Dot-winged Antwren *Microrhopias quixensis* (H) One heard near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*consobrina*].
Northern White-fringed Antwren *Formicivora intermedia* Several seen well at Los Camarones [nominate].
Santa Marta Antbird ◊ *Drymophila hellmayri* (NT) Great views of a male low down in the Santa Martas.
Streak-headed Antbird ◊ *Drymophila striaticeps* Seen well at Rio Blanco and along the Montezuma Road.
Rufous-rumped Antwren ◊ *Euchrepomis callinota* Great views along the Montezuma Road and at Anori [nominate].
Dusky Antbird *Cercomacra tyrannina* A showy singing bird seen well at Rio Claro [nominate].
Parker's Antbird ◊ *Cercomacra parkeri* Excellent views along the Montezuma Road and at Anori.
Bare-crowned Antbird ◊ *Gymnocichla nudiceps* A stunning male showed well at Rio Claro [*sanctamartae*].
White-bellied Antbird *Myrmeciza longipes* A skulking male seen well near to Payande [*boucardi*].
Chestnut-backed Antbird *Myrmeciza exsul* A male seen well at Rio Claro. Others heard [*cassini*].
Magdalena Antbird ◊ *Myrmeciza palliata* (NT) Brilliant views on the drive down from Anori, and heard at Rio Claro.
Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis* Great views of one on the drive down from Anori [*saturatus*].
Rufous-breasted Antthrush ◊ *Formicarius rufipectus* (H) Heard distantly along the Montezuma Road [*carrikeri*].
Undulated Antpitta *Grallaria squamigera* (H) Heard below the Hotel Termales and at Los Ventanas [nominate].
Moustached Antpitta *Grallaria alleni* (H) (VU) Heard on the walk down from El Cedral, Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].

Plain-backed Antpitta *Grallaria haplonota* (H) One heard low down along the Montezuma Road [*parambae*].

Chestnut-crowned Antpitta *Grallaria ruficapilla* A few heard, but brilliant views at the Rio Blanco Reserve [nominate].

Santa Marta Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria bangsi* (VU) Decent views of one, brief views of another in the Santa Martas.

Bicolored Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria rufocinerea* (VU) Brilliant views at the feeders at the Rio Blanco Reserve [nominate].

Chestnut-naped Antpitta *Grallaria nuchalis* (H) A few heard, the first at Rio Blanco, but none close [*ruficeps*].

Yellow-breasted Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria flavotincta* (H) One heard a fair way off along the Montezuma Road.

Rufous (or Santa Marta Rufous) Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria [rufula] spatiator* Great views high up in the Santa Martas.

Rufous Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria [rufula] rufula* Excellent views of a pair at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota.

Tawny Antpitta *Grallaria quitensis* Great views at Sumapaz NP [*alticola*] and at Nevado del Ruiz [nominate].

Brown-banded Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria milleri* (VU) Brilliant views at the feeders at Rio Blanco [nominate].

Hooded Antpitta ◊ *Grallaricula cucullata* (VU) Brilliant views of a stunner in Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].

Slaty-crowned Antpitta *Grallaricula nana* Brilliant views at Rio Blanco, though took a while [*occidentalis*].

Crescent-faced Antpitta ◊ *Grallaricula lineifrons* (H) (NT) One heard below the Hotel Termales del Ruiz.

Chestnut-crowned Gnatcatcher ◊ *Conopophaga castaneiceps* Brilliant views of a male at Anori [*chocoensis*].

Ocellated Tapaculo ◊ *Acropternis orthonyx* Stunning views at Rio Blanco and the Montezuma Road [nominate].

Ash-colored Tapaculo ◊ *Myornis senilis* Decent views of one at Rio Blanco. Several others heard.

Northern White-crowned Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus atratus* A couple seen at Anori [*confusus*].

Santa Marta Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus sanctaemartae* A couple in the Santa Martas, the second giving amazing views!

Narino Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus vicinior* Eventually got some very good views of this one along the Montezuma Road.

Tatama (or Alto Pisones) Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus alvarezlopezi* See note.

Choco Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus chocoensis* Great views of a responsive pair low down along the Montezuma Road.

Stiles's Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus stilesi* We eventually got some decent views at Otun Quimbaya NP. Others heard.

Brown-rumped Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus latebricola* Great looks high up in the Santa Martas. Others heard.

Spillmann's Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus spillmanni* One gave some decent views at Rio Blanco. Others heard.

Pale-bellied (or Mattoral) Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus griseicollis* Brilliant views of a pair at Cerro Guadalupe.

Paramo Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus opacus* Great looks at Nevado del Ruiz... though no flight shots!

Blackish Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus latrans* One gave some decent views at Rio Blanco. Others heard [nominate].

Wing-barred Piprites *Piprites chloris* Excellent views of one at Rio Claro [*antioquiae*].

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias griseiceps* Great views on the drive down from Anori, a few others, mostly heard.

Plumbeous-crowned Tyrannulet ◊ *Phyllomyias plumbeiceps* Excellent views of one at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Black-capped Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias nigrocapillus* A few seen, the first seen well at Nevado del Ruiz [nominate].

Ashy-headed Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias cinereiceps* (H) One heard at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus* A few heard and a couple seen near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* Seen well at Rio Claro and several others heard [*macilvainii*].

Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata* Singles seen near Bolombolo and near to Minca [*pallens*].

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* A few seen, the first on the way down to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro.

Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzii* Several seen, the first at Parque La Florida [*pudica*].

Brown-capped Tyrannulet *Ornithion brunneicapillus* Great views of one at Rio Claro.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* Two forms: *cauae* at Rio Claro (H); *pusillum* at Minca etc.

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys* See note.

White-tailed Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus poecilocercus* Good views of one at the Rio Blanco Reserve. Others heard.

White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus* Several seen well at Nevado del Ruiz [nominate].

Agile Tit-Tyrant ◊ *Uromyias agilis* Great views of a lively flock at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota.

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea* A few seen, the first at Canon Combeima, Ibague [nominate].

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet *Phaeomyias murina* A few seen, the first near to Payande [*incomta*].

Rufous-headed Pygmy Tyrant *Pseudotriccus ruficeps* Excellent views along the road below Los Ventanas, Jardin.

Golden-faced Tyrannulet ◊ *Zimmerius chrysops* Common, especially by voice. First seen at Laguna Pedro Palo.

Coopmans's Tyrannulet ◊ *Zimmerius minimus* (H) Heard above Minca [*minimus*].

Variiegated Bristle Tyrant *Pogonotriccus poecilotis* Several seen very well in flocks at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Marble-faced Bristle Tyrant *Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus* Several in Otun Quimbaya NP, and a couple elsewhere.

Antioquia Bristle Tyrant ◊ *Pogonotriccus lanyoni* (EN) Excellent views of one at Rio Claro.

Rufous-browed Tyrannulet ◊ *Phylloscartes superciliaris* Good looks in the mixed flock at Anori [*griseocapillus*].

Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis* A few seen along the Montezuma Road [*columbianus*].

Olive-striped Flycatcher *Mionectes olivaceus* (H) Heard at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori [*hederaceus*].

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus* A few seen in the Rio Claro area and around Minca [*parcus*].

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* Best views were above Minca [*diversus*].



We saw a big variety of tyrant flycatchers... clockwise from top left: the rare Antioquia Bristle-Tyrant; Ornate Flycatcher; the localized Slender-billed Inezia and the similar Pale-tipped Inezia seen at the same site.



- Slaty-capped Flycatcher** *Leptopogon superciliaris* Best views were at La Romera [nominate].
- Rufous-breasted Flycatcher** ◊ *Leptopogon rufipectus* Great views of several at Otun Quimbaya NP.
- Northern Scrub Flycatcher** *Sublegatus arenarum* A few seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*atrirostris*].
- Slender-billed Inezia** ◊ *Inezia tenuirostris* Several seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.
- Pale-tipped Inezia** *Inezia caudata* A couple seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*intermedia*].
- Handsome Flycatcher** ◊ *Nephelomyias pulcher* Fairly common along the Montezuma Road [nominate].
- Ornate Flycatcher** *Myiotriccus ornatus* Two forms: *stellatus* first seen at the Montezuma Road; nominate at Anori.
- Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer* See note.
- Black-throated Tody-Tyrant** ◊ *Hemitriccus granadensis* Excellent views of one along the Montezuma Road [nominate].



Yet more flycatchers!! The lovely Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher, the strange Southern Bentbill and Slaty-headed Tody-Flycatcher



- Southern Bentbill** ◇ *Oncostoma olivaceum* Took some effort, but we eventually got great views at Rio Claro.
- Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant** *Lophotriccus pileatus* Mostly heard but seen in the mixed at Anori [*squamaecrista*].
- Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant** *Atalotriccus pilaris* Great views of a couple below Minca [nominate].
- Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher** *Poecilotriccus ruficeps* Excellent views of a pair below the Hotel Termales [*melanomystax*].
- Slaty-headed Tody-Flycatcher** *Poecilotriccus sylvia* Great views at Payande [*superciliaris*].
- Common Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum* Plenty seen, the first at Payande [nominate].
- Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum nigriceps* A few seen well in the Rio Claro area.
- Yellow-olive Flatbill** *Tolmomyias sulphureus* Just one seen well at Rio Claro [*exortivus*].
- Ochre-lored Flatbill** *Tolmomyias flaviventris* Great scope views of one along the track to Los Gaviotas [*aurulentus*].
- White-throated Spadebill** *Platyrinchus mystaceus* Superb views of one at Anori [*albogularis*].
- Cinnamon Flycatcher** *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* See note.
- Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans* Common. First seen at Parque La Florida [*angustirostris*] = White-winged Phoebe.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus cooperi* (NT) A couple of these migrants noted near to Minca
- Smoke-colored Pewee** *Contopus fumigatus* A few seen, the first along the Montezuma Road [*ardosiacus*].

Tropical Pewee *Contopus cinereus* Great views of a pair just above Minca [*bogotensis*].
Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens* A few seen, the first along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus obscurus* Two forms: *piurae* near to Ibaguè; *saturatus* on the Guajira Peninsula.
Paramo Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola alpinus* One seen well at Sumapaz NP. A write-in [*quesadae*].
Streak-throated Bush Tyrant *Myiotheretes striaticollis* Good views of a pair at Los Ventanas, Jardin [nominate].
Smoky Bush Tyrant *Myiotheretes fumigatus* A pair seen at the top of the Montezuma Road [nominate].
Pied Water Tyrant *Fluvicola pica* One on the boat from Los Camarones, and sev. at the wetlands near Barranquilla.
White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala* A male seen at the wetlands near Barranquilla.
Crowned Chat-Tyrant *Silvicultrix frontalis* One seen along the road down from the Hotel Termales [nominate].
Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant ◊ *Silvicultrix diadema* Great views of a couple in the Santa Martas [*jesupij*].



A delightful Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas.

Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant ◊ *Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris* One at Rio Blanco, then seen well below the Hotel Termales.
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor* Two forms: nominate first at Sumapaz; *ferruginea* at Nevado del Ruiz.
Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus* Just a couple seen at Rio Claro [*leuconota*].
Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* A few seen, best were the confiding pair at Los Camarones [*flavigularis*].
Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus* Common by voice and seen well near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [nominate].
Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis* Common and widespread, first at Laguna Pedro Palo [*hellmayri*].
Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* Scarce on the tour, seen best near to Minca [*columbianus*].
Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* Fairly common and widespread. First seen at Payande [*rufipennis*].
Golden-crowned Flycatcher *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* First seen at Otun Quimbaya NP [*minor*].
Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus* Several seen, the first on the journey from Jardin to Anori [*difficilis*].
Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* A couple seen in the Minca area [nominate].
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* Two forms: *satrapa* in the north of the country; nominate in the south.
Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* A few seen, the first on the outskirts of Manizales.
Grey Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis* Common in the north where first seen at Los Camarones [nominate].
Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* Two forms noted: *brunneiceps* at Anori; *pallidus* in the Minca area.
Panamanian Flycatcher ◊ *Myiarchus panamensis* Great views of a couple at Isla Salamanca NP [nominate].
Apical Flycatcher ◊ *Myiarchus apicalis* Great looks near to Payande, and another near to Bolombolo.
Pale-edged Flycatcher *Myiarchus cephalotes* Good views of one at Anori [nominate].
Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus* A few seen around Minca and along the track to Los Gaviotas.



More goodies: The endemic Apical Flycatcher (above) was seen well. Cotingids included (clockwise from below right) Dusky Piha and Orange-breasted and Green-and-black Fruiteaters.



Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* A few seen, most conspicuous around Los Camarones [nominate].
Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus* (H) Two forms heard: *caniceps* at Rio Claro; *parvirostris* near to Minca.
Red-crested Cotinga ◊ *Ampelion rubrocristatus* A single bird was seen in the lower forest at Nevado del Ruiz.
Green-and-black Fruiteater *Pipreola riefferii* Two forms: *occidentalis* at the Montezuma Road; nominate at Jardin.
Golden-breasted Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola aureopectus* Excellent views of a male in the Santa Martas [*decora*].
Orange-breasted Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola jucunda* Great views of two or three along the Montezuma Road.
Andean Cock-of-the-rock *Rupicola peruvianus* Stunning views of 15+ at the lek at Jardin [*sanguinolentus*].
Chestnut-capped Piha ◊ *Lipaugus weberi* (CR) Brilliant views of a confiding individual at Anori.
Dusky Piha ◊ *Lipaugus fuscocinereus* Great views of one at Rio Blanco and another below the Hotel Termales.
Red-ruffed Fruitcrow *Pyroderus scutatus* Several seen well in Otun Quimbaya NP [*occidentalis*].
Lance-tailed Manakin *Chiroxiphia lanceolata* Nice scope views of a fine male along the track to Los Gaviotas.
Golden-winged Manakin ◊ *Masius chrysopterus* Just a single female seen along the Montezuma Road [*bellus*].
Blue-crowned Manakin *Lepidothrix coronata* A female seen at Rio Claro [*minuscula*].
White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus* Several seen in the Rio Claro area [*abditivus*].
Club-winged Manakin ◊ *Machaeropterus deliciosus* Stunning views of a displaying male along the Montezuma Road.



Marvellous manakins! Here's two of our favourites - Golden-headed Manakin and the amazing Club-winged Manakin.

Western Striped Manakin *Machaeropterus striolatus* (H) One heard along the Montezuma Road [*antioquiae*].
White-crowned Manakin *Pseudopipra pipra* One seen briefly and others heard at Anori [*bolivari*].
Golden-headed Manakin *Ceratopipra erythrocephala* At least t10 males gave brilliant views at a lek at Rio Claro [nominate].
Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor* One seen briefly near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*albitorques*].
Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata* A couple, including one at Minca [*columbiana*].
Barred Becard *Pachyramphus versicolor* A couple seen at the Rio Blanco Reserve; a few others heard [nominate].
Cinnamon Becard *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus* Several seen well in the Rio Claro area [*magdalenae*].
White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus* A few at Otun Quimbaya NP and at La Romera [*cinereiventris*].
Black-and-white Becard *Pachyramphus albogriseus* (H) Heard along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas [*coronatus*].
One-colored Becard *Pachyramphus homocheus* Eventually found a displaying pair by a nest at Rio Claro [*quimarinus*].
Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* (H) A few heard, the first near to Payande [*cantica*].
Black-billed Peppershrike ◊ *Cyclarhis nigrirostris* A few seen, the first at El Cedral, Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].
Brown-capped Vireo *Vireo leucophrys* Two forms: nominate heard at Laguna Pedro Palo; *mirandae* in the Santa Martas.
Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* A few seen, the first near Bolombolo on the journey from Jardin to Anori.
Rufous-naped Greenlet ◊ *Hylophilus semibrunneus* Several heard, and seen well in the flocks at Anori.
Golden-fronted Greenlet *Hylophilus aurantiifrons* Several seen well around Minca and on the Guajira [nominate].
Scrub Greenlet *Hylophilus flavipes* A few seen, the first in the dry forest near to Payande [nominate].

Black-collared Jay ◇ *Cyanolyca armillata* Good looks at a pair along the road below the Hotel Termales [quindiuna].

Black-chested Jay ◇ *Cyanocorax affinis* First along the Montezuma Road and common later [nominate].

Inca Jay *Cyanocorax yncas* Some great views at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori [galeatus].

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* Many migrants seen in the wetlands near to Barranquilla [nominate].

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor* A handful of migrants seen in the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* A couple seen well at the Hotel Los Colores near Rio Claro.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* Seen a number of times, including breeding under various buildings [nominate].

Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca* Plenty seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Brown-bellied Swallow *Notiochelidon murina* Quite common at high elevations. First noted at Sumapaz NP [nominate].

White-thighed Swallow *Neochelidon tibialis* Several seen well near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [minima].

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis uropygialis* at Montezuma lodge etc; *aequalis* at Minca etc.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* A few seen on several dates [erythrogaster].

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* A few seen around Rio Claro [brevirostris].

Stripe-backed Wren ◇ *Campylorhynchus nuchalis* Great views of a couple of pairs near to Barranquilla [pardus].

Bicolored Wren *Campylorhynchus griseus* Common in the north, first seen around Minca [albicilius].

Rufous Wren *Cinnycerthia unirufa* Several seen well along the road down from the Hotel Termales [unibrunnea].

Sepia-brown (or Sharpe's) Wren *Cinnycerthia olivascens* Good views at Rio Blanco and Montezuma Road [nominate].

Apolinar's Wren ◇ *Cistothorus apolinari* (EN) Excellent views of several at Sumapaz NP [hermandezii].

Grass Wren *Cistothorus platensis* Good views of a few at Nevado del Ruiz [aequatorialis].

Sooty-headed Wren ◇ *Pheugopedius spadix* Excellent views of one at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Black-bellied Wren ◇ *Pheugopedius fasciatoventris* A few heard and good views of a couple at Rio Claro [nominate].

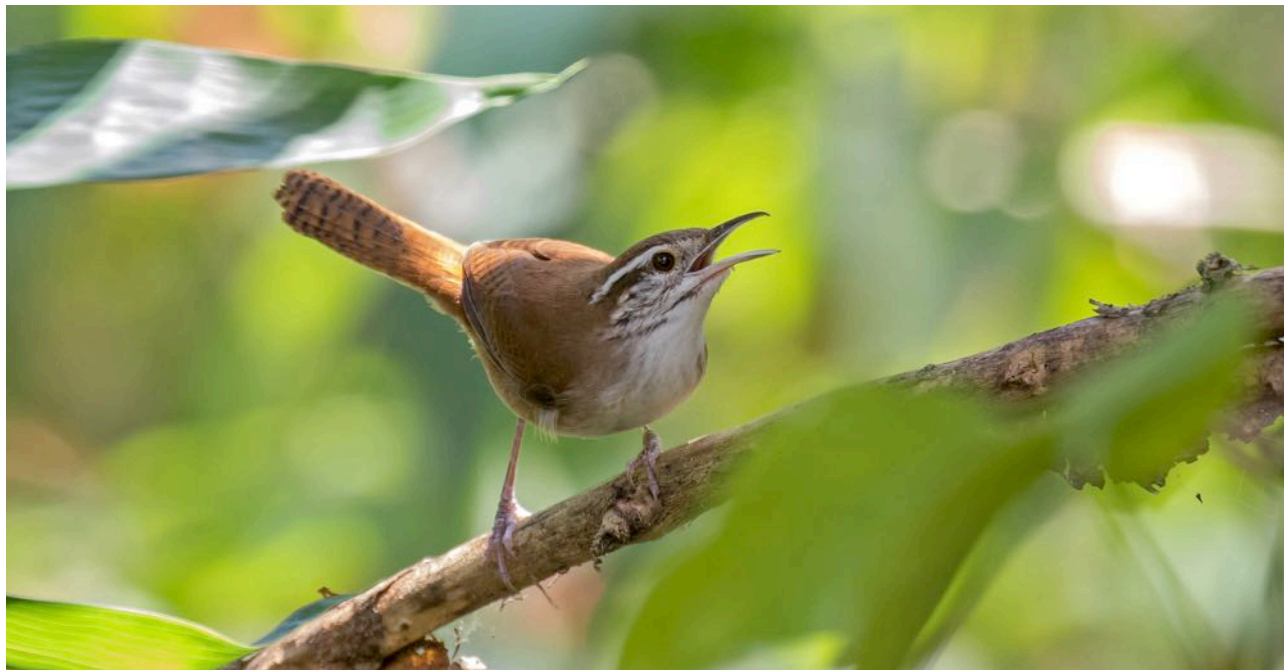
Whiskered Wren *Pheugopedius mystacalis* A pair seen well at Laguna Pedro Palo [amaurogaster].

Rufous-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius rutilus* A few seen well, especially in the Minca area [laetus].

Speckle-breasted (or Colombian) Wren ◇ *Pheugopedius [sclateri] columbianus* Great views near to La Mesa.

Rufous-and-white Wren *Thryophilus rufalbus* Great views of a couple in the Minca area [cumanensis].

Antioquia Wren ◇ *Thryophilus sernai* (EN) Great views of one near Bolombolo on the journey from Jardin to Anori.



The endemic Antioquia Wren showed well in the heat of the day.

Bay Wren *Cantorchilus nigricapillus* A few seen well in the Rio Claro area [schottii].

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* See note.

Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis* Just a couple seen, the first at the Rio Blanco Reserve [solitarius].

White-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucosticta* One seen near to the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [albilateralis].

Grey-breasted Wood Wren ◇ *Henicorhina leucophrys* See note.

Hermit (or Santa Marta) Wood Wren ◇ *Henicorhina anachoreta* Brilliant views at high altitude in the Santa Martas.

Munchique Wood Wren ◇ *Henicorhina negreti* (CR) Great views of a pair high along the Montezuma Road.

Southern Nightingale-wren *Microcerculus marginatus* (H) Several heard, especially around Rio Claro [squamulatus].

Chestnut-breasted Wren ◇ *Cyphorhinus thoracicus* Tough, but eventually showed in Otun Quimbaya NP [*dichrous*].
Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus* Nice views of a couple at Rio Blanco [*rufiventris*].
Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea* Seen at Payandé [*bilineata*], and especially at La Guajira [*plumbiceps*].
Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* Common around Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula [*melanopterus*].
Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides* Two forms:; *plumbiceps* Montezuma Road (H); *candela* seen at La Romera.
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus aurantiirostris* One showed superbly low in the Santa Martas [*sierrae*].
Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus* One seen near Bolombolo on the journey from Jardin to Anori.
Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus* A handful noted, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [*swainsoni*-group].
Black Solitaire ◇ *Entomodestes coracinus* Brilliant views of 2 or 3 along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.



An Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush in the Santa Martas and a couple of views of spectacular Black Solitaires from the Montezuma Road.



Yellow-legged Thrush *Turdus flavipes* Several seen at mid-elevations in the Santa Martas [*venezuelensis*].

Pale-eyed Thrush ◊ *Turdus leucops* Seen briefly along the Montezuma Road and then great views at Anori.

Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater* See note.

Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus* A few heard and a couple seen in a fruiting tree at Rio Blanco [*fuscobrunneus*].

Black-hooded Thrush ◊ *Turdus olivater* Great views of several at mid-elevations in the Santa Martas [*sanctaemartae*].

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas* Several seen around Rio Claro [*albiventer*] and in the Minca area [*cautor*].

Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis* Two forms: *ignobilis* first seen at Payande; *goodfellowi* at Montezuma Lodge.

White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus* A pair seen well at El Cedral in Otun Quimbaya NP [*leuconotus*].

Paramo Pipit *Anthus bogotensis* One scoped at Sumapaz NP [nominate].

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria* A few at Parque La Florida were the only ones [*colombianus*].

Andean Siskin *Spinus spinescens* Plenty seen, the first good views at Parque La Florida [nominate].

Trinidad Euphonia ◊ *Euphonia trinitatis* Good views of a couple along the track to Los Gaviotas. Others heard.

Velvet-fronted Euphonia ◊ *Euphonia concinna* Great views of a pair near to Ibague.

Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia laniirostris* Plenty, the first around the feeders at Montezuma Lodge [*crassirostris*].

Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster* Two forms: *oressinoma* Otun Quimbaya etc; *chocoensis* Montezuma Road.

Yellow-collared Chlorophonia ◊ *Chlorophonia flavirostris* A cracking male seen along the Montezuma Road.

Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea* See note.

Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia ◊ *Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys* A few seen well along the Montezuma Road.

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis* A few seen well, especially in the north.

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia* A few seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo.

Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea* Many great looks at sites along the Caribbean Coast. Brilliant birds.

Tennessee Warbler *Leiothlypis peregrina* Several seen, the first at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas* A male at the Sacred Lake in the Santa Martas was a surprise [nominate].

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla* Several seen well, especially in the Minca area.

Cerulean Warbler *Setophaga cerulea* (VU) Females at Otun Quimbaya, below the Hotel Termales and Montezuma Road.

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitiayumi* Surprisingly, just a couple in the Minca area [nominate].

Bay-breasted Warbler *Setophaga castanea* Several seen, the first on the drive down from Anori.

Blackburnian Warbler *Setophaga fusca* Common and widespread, first seen at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota.

American Yellow Warbler *Setophaga aestiva* Several seen, but most common in the north at the end of the tour.

Citrine Warbler *Myiothlypis luteoviridis* Two forms: *quindiana* below the Hotel Termales; at Los Ventanas, Jardin.

Santa Marta Warbler ◊ *Myiothlypis basilica* (VU) Great looks high on the San Lorenzo Ridge. A hemispingus-like bird!

Black-crested Warbler *Myiothlypis nigrocristata* Many heard and a few seen including a confiding bird at the Hotel Termales.

Buff-rumped Warbler *Myiothlypis fulvicauda* Several seen well in the Rio Claro area. Others heard [*semicervina*].

Choco Warbler ◊ *Myiothlypis chlorophrys* One seen well and others heard low down along the Montezuma Road.

White-lored Warbler ◊ *Myiothlypis conspicillata* (NT) Several seen well in the Santa Martas.



The endemic White-lored Warbler showed well in the Santa Martas. Black-crested Warblers were seen at several spots.

Russet-crowned Warbler *Myiothlypis coronata* A few heard and eventually seen at La Romera near Medellin [*regulus*].

Rufous-capped (or Chestnut-capped) Warbler *Basileuterus [rufifrons] mesochrysus* First at Payande, a few at Minca.

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus* A single seen well on the drive down from Anori [*occultus*].

Three-striped Warbler *Basileuterus tristriatus* Two forms: *auricularis* at Laguna Pedro Palo; *daedalus* at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Canada Warbler *Cardellina canadensis* A good number seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo.

Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus* Two forms: *ballux* on the main tour; *sanctaemartae* in the Santa Martas.

Yellow-crowned Whitestart ◊ *Myioborus flavivertex* Great views of several in the Santa Martas. Stunners!

Golden-fronted Whitestart ◊ *Myioborus ornatus* See note.

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* Best views were at Laguna Pedro Palo [*meridionalis*].

Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris* A few seen near the marshes c30km south of Puerto Berrio.

Yellow-billed Cacique *Amblycercus holosericeus* (H) Heard at Rio Blanco, but we were busy [*holosericeus/flavirostris*].

Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri* A few along the Montezuma Road [*ridgwayi*].

Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons* A small flock seen below Los Ventanas [*salmonij*].

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* Fairly common. First seen at Anori [*melanterus*].

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela* Common in the Rio Claro area [*vitellinus*].

Northern Mountain Cacique ◊ *Cacicus leucoramphus* A small flock seen below Los Ventanas [nominate].

Yellow-backed Oriole *Icterus chrysater* Several good views, the first at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca [*giraudii*].

Yellow Oriole *Icterus nigrogularis* Several seen well along the north coast, first at Los Camarones [nominate].

Orange-crowned Oriole *Icterus auricapillus* Nice views of a male and a couple of females near to Los Camarones.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus* Scattered sightings, the first pair at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* Just a few noted in the Rio Claro area [*cabanisii*].

Bronze-brown Cowbird ◊ *Molothrus armenti* (VU) Excellent views near to Barranquilla.

Carib Grackle *Quiscalus lugubris* Spreading! First seen near to Bogota and common now in the north [nominate].

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus* Common along the north coast. First at Santa Marta Airport [*peruvianus*].

Red-bellied Grackle ◊ *Hypopyrrhus pyrohypogaster* (VU) Several seen well at La Romera near Medellin.

Yellow-hooded Blackbird *Chrysomus icterocephalus* See note.



A couple of endemic icterids: a fine Red-bellied Grackle and the more subdued Bronze-brown Cowbird.

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* Small numbers at several sites [*columbiana*].

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* Common and widespread, first seen at Sumapaz NP [*costaricensis*].

Tocuyo Sparrow ◊ *Arremonops tocuyensis* Great views of a pair at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Black-striped Sparrow ◊ *Arremonops conirostris* One seen briefly along the track to Los Gaviotas [nominate].

Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantiirostris* Nice views of one near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*erythrorhynchus*].

Golden-winged Sparrow ◊ *Arremon schlegeli* Brilliant views of many in the Minca area. Superb birds!

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch *Arremon brunneinucha* One seen a couple of times at Anori [*frontalis*].

Black-headed Brushfinch ◇ *Arremon atricapillus* Excellent views of one on the drive down from Anori [nominate].
Sierra Nevada Brushfinch ◇ *Arremon basilicus* (NT) Good views in 'Brian's Hole' and near San Lorenzo, Santa Martas.
Grey-browed Brushfinch *Arremon assimilis* A few at Rio Blanco and below the Hotel Termales del Ruiz [nominate].
Olive Finch ◇ *Arremon castaneiceps* (NT) A confiding bird showed wonderfully well along the Montezuma Road.



A smart Olive Finch from the Montezuma Road.

Moustached Brushfinch ◇ *Atlapetes albofrenatus* Good views of a skulking pair at Laguna Pedro Palo.
White-naped (or Yellow-throated) Brushfinch ◇ *Atlapetes [albinucha] gutturalis* Great views at Canon Combeima, Ibagué.
Santa Marta Brushfinch ◇ *Atlapetes melanocephalus* Common and confiding in the Santa Martas.
Pale-naped Brush Finch ◇ *Atlapetes pallidinucha* Two forms: nominate first at Sumapaz NP, *papallactae* at Nevado del Ruiz.
Yellow-headed Brushfinch ◇ *Atlapetes flaviceps* (EN) One seen well in the scope at Canon Combeima, Ibagué.
Choco Brushfinch ◇ *Atlapetes crassus* Great views of good numbers along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
Slaty Brushfinch *Atlapetes schistaceus* Several seen well, the first at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota [nominate].
Common Bush Tanager *Chlorospingus flavopectus* A couple seen at Otun Quimbaya NP [*exitelus*].
Dusky Bush Tanager ◇ *Chlorospingus semifuscus* Good numbers seen along the Montezuma Road [*livingstoni*].
Yellow-throated Bush Tanager *Chlorospingus flavigularis* A few at Anori. Pale-eyed nominate subspecies.
Ashy-throated Bush Tanager *Chlorospingus canigularis* Several seen in Otun Quimbaya NP [*conspicillatus*].
White-capped Tanager ◇ *Sericossypha albocristata* (VU) Great views of 3 at El Cedral and 4 at Rio Blanco. Crackers!
Dusky-faced Tanager *Mitrospingus cassinii* Common at Rio Blanco where many were seen well [nominate].
Black-capped Hemispingus *Hemispingus atropileus* A few at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota and at Rio Blanco.
Superciliaried Hemispingus *Hemispingus superciliaris* Two forms: nominate around Bogotá; *nigrifrons* in Central Andes.
Black-eared Hemispingus *Hemispingus melanotis* Two or three seen in mixed flocks at Rio Blanco [nominate].
Grey-hooded Bush Tanager *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris* Several at Rio Blanco and one below Los Ventanas [nominate].
White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus* A few seen well at Rio Claro [*panamensis*].
Tawny-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus delatrii* A few seen well at Rio Claro.
White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus* A couple seen at Palo Alto in the Santa Martas.
Crimson-backed Tanager ◇ *Ramphocelus dimidiatus* Good numbers seen at several sites [nominate].
Flame-rumped Tanager ◇ *Ramphocelus flammigerus* See note.
Lemon-rumped Tanager ◇ *Ramphocelus icteronotus* Plenty seen well, the first at Canon Combeima, Ibagué.
Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus* Common. First seen at Laguna Pedro Palo. All of the form *cana*?
Glaucous Tanager ◇ *Thraupis glaucocolpa* Two seen well at Los Camarones and another nearby.
Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum* Fairly common and widespread. First seen at Laguna Pedro Palo [*atripennis*].
Blue-capped Tanager *Thraupis cyanocephala* Two forms: *auricrissa* first at Chicaque NR; *anectens* at Rio Blanco.
Black-and-gold Tanager ◇ *Bangsia melanochlamys* (VU) Several great looks along the Montezuma Road.



Some (largely!) colourful tanagers, clockwise from top left: Dusky-bellied Bush Tanager; Glistening-green Tanager; the wonderful endemic Crested Ant Tanager; Lemon-rumped Tanager; Speckled Tanager and the local Glaucous Tanager.



Gold-ringed Tanager ◊ *Bangsia aureocincta* (EN) Several great looks along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP.
Hooded Mountain Tanager *Buthraupis montana* Great views of several, the first near the Hotel Termales [*cucullata*].
Santa Marta Mountain Tanager ◊ *Anisognathus melanogenys* Several seen well in the Santa Martas.
Lacrimose Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus lacrymosus* A few seen; best views at Nevado del Ruiz [*intensus*].
Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris* See note.
Blue-winged Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus somptuosus* A few including a nice flock at Rio Blanco [*somptuosus*-group].
Black-chinned Mountain Tanager ◊ *Anisognathus notabilis* Great views of several along the Montezuma Road.
Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager *Dubusia taeniata* (H) A few heard, the first at the Rio Blanco Reserve [*taeniata*].
Purplish-mantled Tanager ◊ *Iridosornis porphyrocephalus* (NT) Great views of several along the Montezuma Road.
Golden-crowned Tanager ◊ *Iridosornis rufivertex* A couple in the lower forest at Nevado del Ruiz [*ignicapillus*].
Glistening-green Tanager ◊ *Chlorochrysa phoenicotis* Several seen in the flocks along the Montezuma Road.
Multicolored Tanager ◊ *Chlorochrysa nitidissima* (VU) A pair seen in the large mixed flock at Anori, but elusive.
Plain-colored Tanager ◊ *Tangara inornata* Several seen in the Rio Claro area [nominate].
Golden Tanager *Tangara arthus* Two forms: *palmitae* first at Laguna Pedro Palo; *occidentalis* Montezuma Road.
Silver-throated Tanager *Tangara icterocephala* Great views along the Montezuma Road and at Anori [nominate].
Saffron-crowned Tanager *Tangara xanthocephala* Seen at Canon Combeima, Ibague and at Otun Quimbaya NP [*venusta*].
Speckled Tanager *Tangara guttata* Seen a couple of times on the banana feeders at Anori [*bogotensis*].
Rufous-throated Tanager ◊ *Tangara rufigula* Seen a couple of times low down along the Montezuma Road.
Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola* First seen at Laguna Pedro Palo [*albertinae*-group]. Also in Santa Martas [*toddi*].
Scrub Tanager ◊ *Tangara vitriolina* Fairly common. First seen well at Laguna Pedro Palo.
Metallic-green Tanager ◊ *Tangara labradorides* Surprisingly scarce. Just 1 seen in Otun Quimbaya NP [nominate].
Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis* See note.
Golden-hooded Tanager *Tangara larvata* Seen low down along the Montezuma Road and several at Rio Claro [*fanny*].
Beryl-spangled Tanager *Tangara nigroviridis* Great views of many. First seen at Rio Blanco [*cyanescens*].
Blue-and-black Tanager *Tangara vassorii* Seen at a few high elevation sites, first at Rio Blanco [nominate].
Black-capped Tanager *Tangara heinei* Just a few seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo.
Black-headed Tanager ◊ *Tangara cyanoptera* A couple seen well above Minca [nominate].
Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis* Two forms: *occidentalis* around Rio Claro and *grisescens* around Minca.
Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* A couple at Rio Claro, and also around Minca and the track to Los Gaviotas [*caerebicolor*].
Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus* One at Anori and a couple near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [*chocoanus*].
Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza* Just a few, the first at the Cock-of-the-Rock lek at Jardin [*subtropicalis*].
Golden-collared Honeycreeper ◊ *Iridophanes pulcherrimus* A male scoped along the Montezuma Road [*aureinucha*].
Bicolored Conebill *Conirostrum bicolor* (NT) Good looks at a couple at Isla Salamanca NP.
Rufous-browed Conebill ◊ *Conirostrum rufum* A few briefly at Sumapaz NP; much better views at Parque La Florida.
Blue-backed Conebill *Conirostrum sitticolor* Several seen well at Nevado del Ruiz [nominate].
Capped Conebill *Conirostrum albifrons* A few seen white-capped birds [*centralandium*] at Rio Blanco and Hotel Termales.



The endemic Rufous-browed Conebill and Black-chinned Mountain Tanager.

Rusty Flowerpiercer *Diglossa sittoides* Good looks at one low down in the Santa Martas [*hyperythra*].

Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer ◊ *Diglossa gloriosissima* (EN) A couple seen well high on the Montezuma Road [*boylei*].

Glossy Flowerpiercer *Diglossa lafresnayii* Plenty seen well, especially on the feeders at Hotel Termates.

Black Flowerpiercer *Diglossa humeralis* See note.

White-sided Flowerpiercer *Diglossa albilatera* Plenty seen after the first ones below the Hotel Termates [nominate].

Bluish Flowerpiercer *Diglossa caerulescens* Some great views along the Montezuma Road [*saturata*].

Masked Flowerpiercer *Diglossa cyanea* Quite a few seen, the first at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota [nominate].

Black-backed Bush Tanager ◊ *Urothraupis stolzmanni* Good views of a few at Nevado del Ruiz.

Tanager Finch ◊ *Oreothraupis arremonops* (VU) Excellent views of a stunner along the road below Los Ventanas.

Grey Pileated Finch *Coryphospingus pileatus* Great views of good numbers at Los Camarones [*brevicaudus*].

Plumbeous Sierra Finch *Phrygilus unicolor* Fairly common at Sumapaz NP and at Nevado del Ruiz [*geospizopsis*].

Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola* Common and widespread. First seen near to Payande [nominate].

Grassland Yellow Finch *Sicalis luteola* A few flushed at Tomine Gravel Pits, Guasca [*bogotensis*].

Slate-colored Grosbeak *Saltator grossus* Finally, some great views of a singing at Rio Claro [*saturatus*].

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* Plenty seen, especially around Rio Claro and Minca [nominate].

Black-winged Saltator ◊ *Saltator atripennis* Great views at Anori, especially at the feeders.

Greyish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens* A single near Bolombolo then several at Los Camarones [*plumbeus*].

Orinoco Saltator ◊ *Saltator orenocensis* Great views of several at Los Camarones [*rufescens*].

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus* Two forms: *perstriatus* first seen at Laguna Pedro Palo; nominate around Minca.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* Several, first at the marshes south of Puerto Berrio [*splendens*].

Grey Seedeater *Sporophila intermedia* A male seen well near to Payande [*bogotensis*].

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater *Sporophila minuta* A few seen in the Rio Claro area [nominate].

Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis* A couple of roadside birds briefly near to Guasca [*schistaceifrons*].

Plain-colored Seedeater *Catamenia inornata* Fairly common at Sumapaz NP and at Nevado del Ruiz [*minor*].

Paramo Seedeater ◊ *Catamenia homochroa* Excellent views of a striking male below the Hotel Termates [nominate].

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus* A few seen near to Payande [*pusillus*].

Dull-colored Grassquit *Tiaris obscurus* Good views of a few above Minca in the Santa Martas [*haplochroma*].

Black-faced Grassquit *Tiaris bicolor* Two forms: *huilae* at Finca El Palmar; *omissus* around Los Camarones.

Rosy Thrush-Tanager ◊ *Rhodinocichla rosea* Brilliant views of a stunning male above Minca [*harterti*].

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra* Small numbers seen, the first at Laguna Pedro Palo [nominate].

Sooty Ant Tanager ◊ *Habia gutturalis* (NT) Good views of a skulking male at Rio Claro.

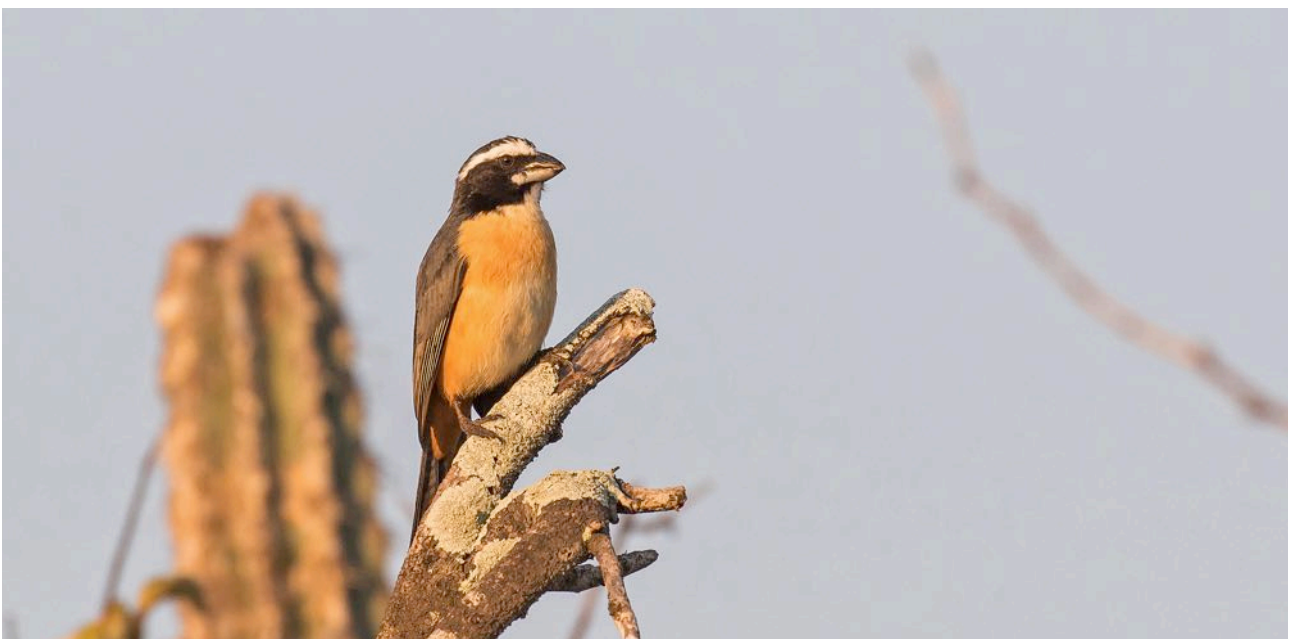
Crested Ant Tanager ◊ *Habia cristata* Great views at Otun Quimbaya NP and seen again along the Montezuma Road.

Ochre-breasted Tanager ◊ *Chlorothraupis stolzmanni* (H) Heard low down on the Montezuma Road [*dugandi*].

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus* A few seen, including some smart males, the first at La Romera.

Vermilion Cardinal ◊ *Cardinalis phoeniceus* Great views of several at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanocompsa cyanoides* One seen and others heard near the Oilbird Cave at Rio Claro [nominate].



Orinoco Saltator was a highlight of our day at La Guajira.



Wax palms at dawn at Los Ventanos

MAMMALS

Southern Opossum (Common O) *Didelphis marsupialis* One crossing the road in the north.

Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni* One seen at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Red-tailed Squirrel (Tropical Red S) *Sciurus granatensis* A few noted, the first at Laguna Padro Palo.

Western Dwarf Squirrel *Microsciurus minus* One thought to be this species at Rio Blanco.

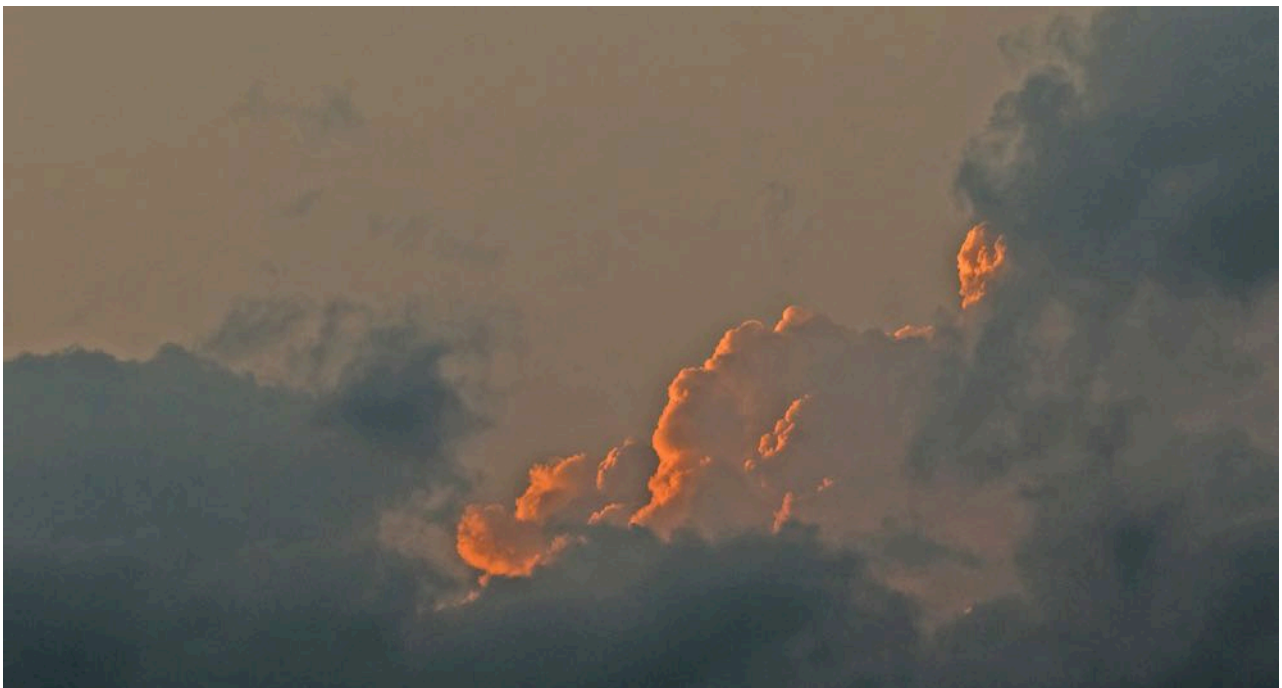
Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* One sighting at El Dorado Lodge.

Tayra *Eira barbara* One ran across at the Montezuma Road.

Crab-eating Raccoon *Procyon cancrivorus* An inquisitive individual was seen very well in the Santa Martas.

White-footed Tamarin *Saguinus leucopus* The tamarins seen by some at Rio Claro, and I believe, the monkeys at Anori.

Venezuelan Red Howler Monkey *Alouatta seniculus* (H) Heard only at a few sites.



Cloudscape at Rio Claro!



Another view of the lovely Santa Marta Screech Owl.

NOTES TO THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

The most up to date referenced taxonomic list referred to in the Tour Report is that of the IOC World Bird Names. (Gill, F and Donsker, D Eds). 2017. IOC World Bird Names v7.2. Available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>

Cabot's Tern *Thalasseus acuffavidus*

Good numbers were seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula. Most were nominate birds which appear almost identical to Sandwich Terns, but a few yellow-billed birds of the form *eurynathus*, colloquially known as Cayenne Tern, were picked out from the flocks.

Santa Marta Screech Owl *Megascops sp. nov.*

It took some effort, but with perseverance we saw a pair near to El Dorado Lodge, in the Santa Marta Mountains, that were ultimately very showy. This form has still not been described but may end up with the name *Megascops gilesi*.

White-chinned Swift *Cypseloides cryptus*

A large vocal wheeling flock were seen along the lower section of the Montezuma Road. They appeared large, indeed we initially thought they may be White-collared, but as they came closer, the strange calls (which appeared to match White-chinned) and all dark plumage became apparent. No white or chestnut was visible in the plumage... the large size and call indicate this species.

Long-billed (or Western Long-tailed) Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*

We saw two forms of this species. First we had good views of one of the form *cephalus* at Rio Claro, and then saw one of the form *susurrus* feeding in the garden at Palo Alto along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas.

White-booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*

Just a few seen, the first, including fine males, along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP. Note that the IOC now split the former Booted Racket-tail into three species, the other two species being Rufous-booted Racket-tail *O. addae* and Peruvian Racket-tail *O. peruanus*.

Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina*

Two quite different forms were seen. Several rufous-tailed nominate birds were seen well in the Bogota area and at Nevado del Ruiz, whilst in the Santa Marta Mountains the blue-tailed *districta* was common on the feeders at El Dorado Lodge. It would not be that surprising if these ended up as separate species!

White-throated Wedgebill *Schistes albogularis*

Great views of this smart hummer in the lodge garden at Otun Quimbaya NP. Note that the IOC has now split the former Wedge-billed Hummingbird in to this species and Geoffroy's Wedgebill *S. geoffroyi*.

Russet-throated Puffbird *Hypnelus ruficollis*

We saw two forms of this smart species. Several of the form *decolor* were seen well at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula, whilst the nominate form was seen well along the track into the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Montane Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis*

The nominate form was first seen at Laguna Pedro Palo. In the Santa Marta mountains, the form *anxia* was common on the San Lorenzo Ridge. This form is quite distinct, so keep an eye on it!

Lineated Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla subalaris*

Two forms were noted. Several of the form *striolata* were seen, the first seen very well at Laguna Pedro Palo. The nominate form was heard along the Montezuma Road.

Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*

Three forms of this widespread species were seen: nominate, a few seen, the first at Canon Combeima, Ibague; *sneiderni* for much of the tour, the first at Otun Quimbaya NP and *sanctaemartae* at El Dorado Lodge in the Santa Martas.

Bar-crested Antshrike *Thamnophilus multistriatus*

We saw two forms of this localized species. Initially we had excellent views of a male of the form *oecotonophilus* near to La Mesa and then an individual of the form *brachyurus* near Bolombolo on the journey to Jardin.

Tatama (or Alto Pisones) Tapaculo *Scytalopus alvarezlopezi*

This species has been formally described since our visit, but given the name Tatama Tapaculo (named after the park we were birding in) rather than the former colloquial name of Alto Pisones Tapaculo. We had excellent views of one along the Montezuma Road in Tatama NP, even perching out on a bear twig!

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys*

We saw three forms of this widespread species: *setophagoides* was first seen around Bogotá (common at Cerro Guadalupe); *notatus* was first seen at Nevado del Ruiz; *montensis* was common on the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer*

We saw two forms of this species. 'Magdalena' Tody-Tyrant, the form *septentrionalis* was seen well near to Payande whilst Active Tody-Tyrant the form *impiger* was common at Los Camarones, Guajira Peninsula.

Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*

We saw two very different looking forms. The form *pyrrhopterus* was regularly encountered in the Andes and was first seen at Canon Combeima, Ibague, whilst in the Santa Marta Mountains we regularly saw the endemic *assimilis*.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

We saw no fewer than four forms, all of which are part of the Southern House Wren *T. [aedon] musculus* group. The form *columbae* was seen around Bogota etc; the form *striatulus* was seen at Montezuma Lodge for example; the form *atopus* was seen at sites such as Rio Claro and the form *effutitus* was seen on the Guajira Peninsula.

Grey-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*

Grey-breasted Wood Wrens seem to be the new tapaculos, with cryptic species lurking within their ranks (Hermit Wood Wren and Munchique Wood Wren for example!). The three other forms we saw are as follows: nominate *leucophrys*, the form first seen at Laguna Pedro Palo; *brunneiceps*, the form seen along the Montezuma Road; and *bangsi* the lower elevation form in the Santa Marta Mountains, generally occurring below El Dorado Lodge. The later is sure to be split in the near future!

Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater*

We saw three forms of this widespread species: *gigas* was first seen at Sumapaz NP; *quindio* in the rest of the Andes; and *cacozelus* was common high on the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea*

We encountered two forms of this beautifully coloured species: *longipennis* was heard at Laguna Pedro Palo, *psittacina* was common in the garden at El Dorado Lodge, often visiting the bananas in numbers!

Golden-fronted Whitestart *Myioborus ornatus*

We saw two quite different forms of this lovely species. At Cerro Guadalupe we were treated to great views of several of the stunning white-faced race *ornatus*, while elsewhere (in the Central and Eastern Andes) we saw the yellow-faced *chrysops*. Future splits?

Yellow-hooded Blackbird *Chrysomus icterocephalus*

We saw two forms of this species. At Parque Florida we noted the form *bogotensis* whilst the nominate form was seen in marshes near to Puerto Berrio and again at the wetlands near to Barranquilla.

Flame-rumped Tanager *Ramphocelus flammigerus*

We saw a few in the Montezuma Road area and a couple around the Cock-of-the-Rock lek at Jardin. We also noted one apparent hybrid which was distinctly orange-rumped.

Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris*

We saw two forms of this quite stunning species. A few of the form *lunulatus* were seen well at Cerro Guadalupe above Bogota, whilst several of the form *erythrotus* were seen at Nevado del Ruiz.

Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis*

One of the most colourful tanagers – a real beauty. We saw at least two forms. The form *caeruleocephala* was first seen at Laguna Pedro Palo, while the form *granadensis* was first noted at the Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve, Anori.

Black Flowerpiercer *Diglossa humeralis*

We saw three forms of this widespread species. The confusing nominate form, with grey shoulders, was common at Sumapaz NP. We saw just one of the all black form *aterrima* at Los Ventanas, Jardin and saw a couple of the Santa Marta form *nocticolor* high along the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Santa Martas.



A Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant from La Guajira.



Not quite our top bird, the Andean Cock-of-the-Rock lek at Jardin was certainly a top experience.

APPENDIX 1

TOP 10 BIRDS OF THE TOUR

- 1st OCELLATED TAPACULO**
- 2nd WHITE-TIPPED QUETZAL**
- 3rd= HOODED ANTPITTA**
- 3rd= Tawny-breasted Tinamou**
- 5th= Andean Cock-of-the-Rock**
- 5th= Rosy Thrush-Tanager**
- 7th White-whiskered Spinetail**
- 8th Yellow-eared Parrot**
- 9th White-capped Tanager**
- 10th= Stygian Owl**
- 10th= Toucan Barbet**

A total of 32 species received at least one vote!