



The gem of the Yungas forest rivers is the stunning Rufous-throated Dipper (Pirjo Laakso, tour participant)

NORTHERN ARGENTINA

13 OCTOBER – 5 NOVEMBER 2018

LEADER: MARK PEARMAN

This year's Northern Argentina tour was split into two, with a new itinerary in the north-east and proved to be another great success in a long line of tours to this scenic region. The north-west produced all the expected goodies with a clean sweep of all the available endemics among which Sandy Gallito and White-browed Tapaculo stood out. Highlights included Diademed Sandpiper-Plover (now a regular on this tour), Puna Plover, Andean and James Flamingos, Black-legged Seriema, Horned Coot, Red-faced Guan, Lyre-tailed Nightjar, Wedge-tailed Hillstar, superb Slender-tailed Woodstar, Golden-collared Macaw, Olive-crowned Crescentchest, point blank views of Giant Antshrike, scope views of White-throated Antpitta after a prolonged search, Yungas Manakin, the iconic Rufous-throated Dipper and the localized, rock-loving Short-tailed Finch. Highlights in the north-east included Black-fronted Piping Guan down to 10 foot, Ash-colored and Pearly-breasted Cuckoos, Sickle-winged and Long-trained Nightjars, Buff-bellied Puffbird, Vinaceous-breasted

Amazon, Mottled Piculet, Blond-crested Woodpecker, Canebrake Groundcreeper, Straight-billed Reedhaunter, bizarre Strange-tailed Tyrant, White-naped Xenopsaris, Ochre-breasted Pipit, Glaucous-blue Grosbeak, stunning Yellow Cardinal as well as seven species of seedeaters. In all we recorded 541 species of birds. Additionally some 27 species of mammal were seen with highlights of Jaguarundi in the north-west and Plains Viscacha in the north-east.

The tour began in Tucumán where we swiftly left the plains and headed into the verdant, bromeliad-laden, Yungas forest. With plenty of activity we were soon watching Sayaca Tanager, Common Bush Tanager, Rufous-bellied and Creamy-bellied Thrushes, Chivi Vireo, Tropical Parula and Golden-billed Saltator. A flock of thirty Band-tailed Pigeons were scoped and proved to be the only ones of the tour. A Hook-billed Kite cruised by, followed by a Buff-necked Ibis and suddenly we flushed a Great Black Hawk across the river. Higher in the cloud forest we scrutinized our first pair of Dusky-legged Guans and began a search for the enigmatic Rufous-throated Dipper. Torrent Ducks graced the river along with Cream-winged Cinclodes and we soon added Mitred Parakeet, White-throated Tyrannulet and the smart endemic Yellow-striped Brushfinch but the dipper was proving tricky with unusually high water levels.

The Angostura reservoir ensured numerous waterbirds including Andean Goose, Red Shoveler, Cinnamon Teal, Yellow-billed Pintail, highland and lowland Speckled Teals (acting like different species) as well as White-tufted Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Andean Gull and three species of coot; White-winged, Andean and even a Red-fronted Coot. Venturing onto the lower slopes of the Aconquija mountain range we soon added Variable Hawk, Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Black-winged and endemic Moreno's Ground Doves, a pair of Burrowing Owls and an unprecedented twenty-five Andean Lapwings. Chiguanco Thrushes were common and we quickly connected with Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant and White-browed Chat-Tyrant. Our main targets here were two magnificent endemics. First we scored the gorgeous Tucuman Mountain Finch in record time and were simultaneously treated to a pair of White-browed Tapaculos dancing among some boulders. Finally we lucked in with great views of an Andean Tinamou to round off a memorable first day.



White-browed Chat-Tyrant is a regular in the Andes of Tucuman (Mark Pearman).

Up at 3000 metres in the morning, a hike produced a good variety of ovenbirds including Buff-breasted and Scale-throated Eathcreepers, White-winged Cinclodes, Cordilleran and Puna Canasteros and many Streak-fronted Thornbirds. The supported cast included obliging Ornate Tinamou, Plumbeous, Mourning and Ash-breasted Sierra Finches, Plain-colored Seedeater, Andean Flicker and our first Andean Condor. Lower down we added Andean Swift and scoped a pair of Grey-hooded Parakeets.

With unfinished business in the Yungas forest we headed back in the afternoon where Terry got us on to the stunning Rufous-throated Dipper as we enjoyed numerous protracted views. Here too we added Black Phoebe, Mountain Wren and Highland Elaenia plus three Yungas forest endemics; Brown-capped Whitestart, Buff-banded Tyrannulet and the smart Rusty-browed Warbling Finch.

Back at El Infiernillo (*Little Hell*) Pass, the first birds of the morning included Greenish Yellow Finch and after a short search, a male Band-tailed Sierra Finch. The arid west slope provided us with Aplomado Falcon, Giant Hummingbird, Rufous-banded Miner, Rusty-vented Canastero, Grey-hooded Sierra Finch and Patagonian Mockingbird. A superb male Red-tailed Comet would be the first of many. Now in the monte desert; a habitat unique to Argentina, we were soon on the case of two endemics. A Sandy Gallito ran across the desert to climb song perches and gave us great scope studies. Not so obliging was White-throated Cacholote. It's huge stick nests were everywhere, yet after much searching only a few of the group managed a brief view of a bird that did a quick disappearing act. Cliff Flycatcher, Spectacled Tyrant, White Monjita, Greater Wagtail-Tyrant, Common Diuca Finch and Ringed Warbling Finch were soon noted and we even managed a pair of White-tipped Plancutters from our lunch table. In taller monte woodland we added Spot-winged Pigeon, White-fronted and Green-barred Woodpeckers, Chaco Earthcreeper and White-winged Black Tyrant. A Collared Plover showed well at a regular spot and it was here that Barbara got us onto a Lesser Shrike-Tyrant; a late Patagonian migrant. With increasing numbers of macaw-like Burrowing Parrots lining the roadside, we continued through picturesque vineyards and into some eye-opening badlands. After a short walk we managed scope studies of the recently split and endemic Monte Yellow Finch to cap off a fine day's birding.

A first stop in the morning produced the expected Grass Wren, Sharp-billed Canastero, Long-tailed Meadowlark and Great Pampa Finch. Soon after, we were back on the case of the White-throated Cacholote, finding an active nest and securing point blank views of this elusive endemic. The San Carlos reservoir is always a great birding venue that turns up the unexpected. This morning's prize would be an Andean Avocet, typically found almost 2000 m. higher on altiplano lakes. The reservoir was heaving with birdlife and we able to scrutinize Andean Ruddy Duck, Great Grebe, Chilean Flamingo and Red-gartered Coot as well as Baird's and Pectoral Sandpipers. The surrounding woodlands held Glittering-bellied Emerald, Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant, Tufted Tit-Spinetail and White-bellied Tyrannulet while Southern Martins circled overhead. Heading into more desolate desert we walked into a valley in search of the endemic Steinbach's Canastero. There were next to no birds and we spent a good hour before flushing a likely candidate out of a bush. After many looks at this poorly known endemic it disappeared over a hillside, while a Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail put in an appearance on the walk back to the vehicles. Other stops produced Red (Hepatic) Tanager, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, Southern Scrub Flycatcher and Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail; the first time we have ever seen three species of tit-spinetail in a day..... period!



Moonscape in the badlands; where's Captain Kirk? (Mark Pearman)

It was a short drive into Los Cardones National Park in the morning where we quickly found several groups of Elegant Crested Tinamous and a herd of guanacos. The sheer numbers of columnar cactii stretching to the horizon was mind-boggling. Soon we were watching many superb Tawny-throated Dotterels and a pair of Least Seedsnipe. Mountain Caracara and Cinereous Harrier flew past while Hellmayr's Pipit was seen displaying. The spiralling Cuesta del Obispo road took us back down the Andes where stops produced Andean Hillstar, White-bellied Hummingbird, and Rock Earthcreeper. Only Nico and Pirjo managed a brief view of Maquis Canastero which was unresponsive and disappeared immediately.

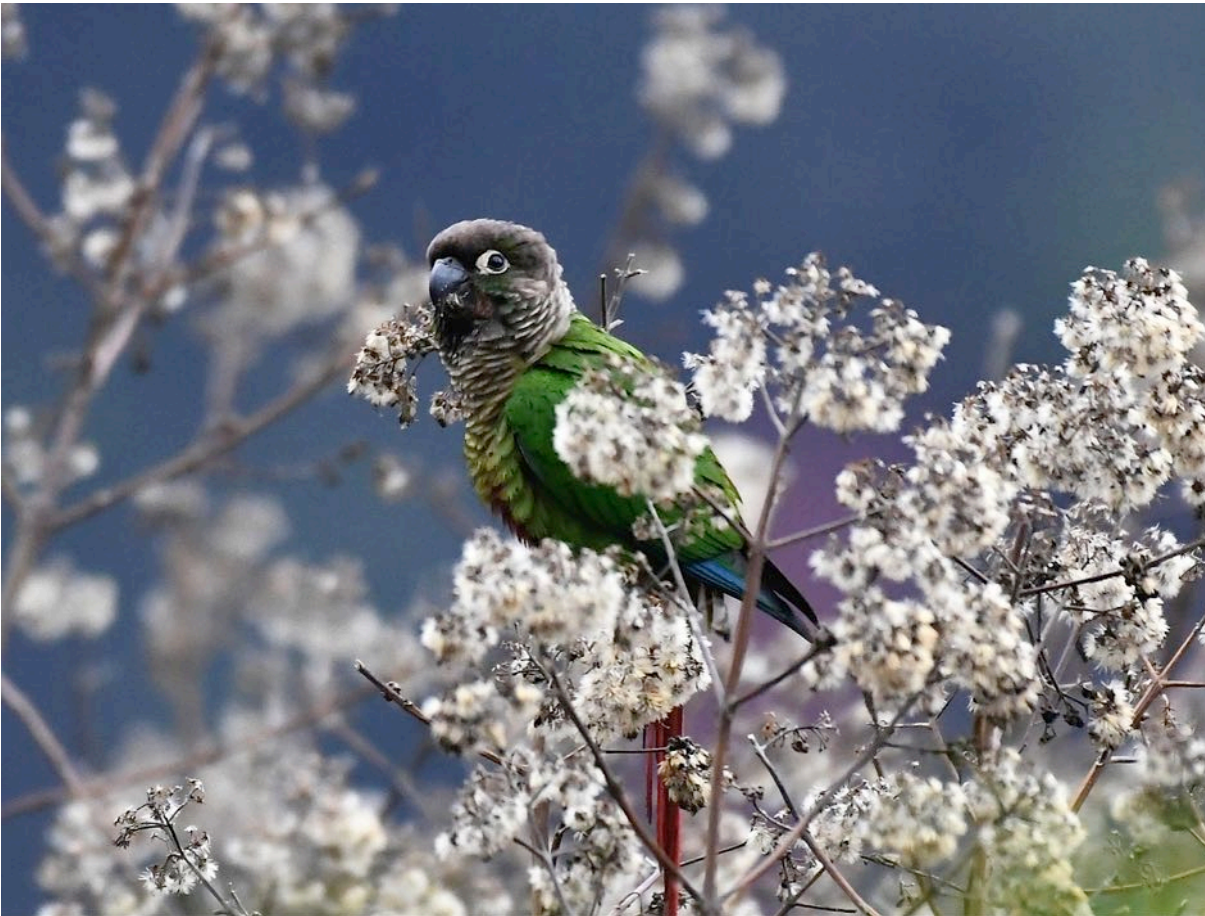
On the outskirts of Salta we added Stripe-capped Sparrow, Black-and-chestnut and Black-capped Warbling Finches and a singing White-vented Violetear holding the same territory as in 2015. A nearby park provided us with many widespread common species such as Southern Screamer, Coscoroba Swan, Brazilian Teal, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Common Gallinule, Picazuro Pigeon, Cattle Tyrant, White-rumped Swallow, White-browed Blackbird and Screaming Cowbird while four Ringed Teal here was an unexpected and welcome surprise. At night, and back in the Yungas forest, we managed great views of Yungas Screech Owl.

In the morning we visited another reservoir and quickly found many Fulvous Whistling Duck as well as Rosy-billed Pochard, Snail Kite, Stripe-crowned Spinetail, Variable Antshrike, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, Brown-chested Martin, Yellowish Pipit and Saffron Finch. Eight Toco Toucans flew high over the road and the forest beckoned. There were hoards of Dusky-legged Guans in a clearing and great bird activity as we walked different sections of forest producing White-barred Piculet, stunning Cream-backed Woodpecker, Scaly-headed Parrot, Azara's Spinetail, Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner, Rufous-capped Antshrike, Sclater's Tyrannulet, Small-billed and Slaty Elaenias, Sclater's, Southern Beardless and Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulets, Euler's Flycatcher, Plumbeous Tyrant, Piratic and Streaked Flycatchers, Masked Gnatcatcher, Andean Slaty

Thrush after hearing so many, stunning Fulvous-headed Brushfinch, Golden-winged Cacique, Two-banded Warbler and Black-backed Grosbeak. Our first Swallow-tailed Kite circled overhead. Out of the forest in nearby farmland we added Yellow-browed Tyrant and stopped to look at a pair of Rufous-fronted Thornbirds by their active nest. Here too we bumped into Green-cheeked Parakeet and Chaco Puffbird.



The striking Cream-backed Woodpecker is a regular of the chaco and yungas forest (Pirjo Laakso).



Green-cheeked Parakeet; a Yungas forest endemic (Pirjo Laakso)

In the afternoon we visited a high altitude alder forest for a few specialties. Spot-breasted Thornbirds gave us a merry dance and it took an eternity to finally get a good look at them. A Tufted Tit-Tyrant made an appearance and we also enjoyed our first Plush-crested Jays. At dusk we managed distant scope views of two Red-faced Guans coming in to roost, and finally an awesome pair of Lyre-tailed Nightjars.

Hungry for more views of the guans we returned at dawn and were treated to point blank roadside views of a somewhat bedraggled pair of Red-faced Guans; a highly range-restricted Yungas forest endemic. The drive up the Humahuaca valley (a UNESCO World Heritage site) not only provided a scenic orgasm but some great birding. The first stops produced Mountain Parakeet, Straight-billed Earthcreeper, Brown-backed Mockingbird, Yellow-rumped Siskin and Black-hooded Sierra Finch before we reached the altiplano with its Indian towns lost in time. Several lakes produced good numbers of all three flamingos in all possible plumages including the outstanding and almost glowing magenta of the nuptial Andean Flamingos. There were hundreds of Andean Geese as well as Silvery Grebe, Crested Duck, White-cheeked Pintail (unusual here), Giant and Andean Coots, Common and Puna Miners, Wren-like Rushbird, Andean Negrito, Rufous-naped Ground Tyrant and Bright-rumped Yellow Finch.



The secretive Red-faced Guan is tough to see close-up in its very restricted range (Mark Pearman).

With a day to explore some more remote parts of the altiplano, our main target was the extraordinary Horned Coot. Back at Abra Pampa, Jim got us onto the only Puna Ibis of the tour. Our next stop ensured us Puna Yellow Finch as well as the bizarre Mountain Viscacha, a giant chinchilla. By now we were seeing more Ornate Tinamous than people, while Golden-spotted Ground Doves were abundant once we reached Lago Pozuelos. The lake was teeming with waterfowl and waders, and in particular eight Puna Plovers made the walk very worthwhile. Eventually we arrived at a remote lake which promised the king of all coots. Scanning repeatedly through over fifty widely spread Giant Coots with a few Andean Coots, it was looking grim until Nico spotted a lone Horned Coot in all its glory. After prolonged scope studies and watching our first Grey-breasted Seedsnipe we made the dusty drive back to La Quiaca.



4000 metres altitude in Jujuy; you know you're on a different planet and you've just seen a Horned Coot; a jewel that the altiplano does not give up easily.

Next on the agenda was a visit to the "ever higher" Andes and some *Polylepis* woodland along the jaw-dropping Santa Victoria road. We departed at night and drove over three high passes to our first stake-out for Short-tailed Finch. The fog was thick and we only managed to see D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant. Moving on, our next stop provided the now long-awaited, and delightful Zimmer's Tapaculo while Andean Swallows zapped up and down the valley. Tawny Tit-Spinetails put on a great performance in the *Polylepis* and here too three Slender-billed Miners showed well. Closer to Santa Victoria we added Bare-faced Ground Dove, Sparkling Violetear, Greyish Baywing and Band-tailed Seedeater. Back at the boulder slopes, Juan Carlos pointed at a bird which proved to be a Short-tailed Finch allowing brief and crucial scope studies for those present. Eventually we reached one of the high passes where Red-backed Sierra Finches showed well, along with Puna Ground Tyrant as we set out up the valley. It was here that Pirjo had the perfect birthday present finding a pair of long-awaited Diademed Sandpiper-Plovers which, as usual, allowed close approach. Ornate Tinamous were common on the way back with sixteen seen, while Nico, Jim and Terry managed brief views of a Puna Tinamou.



The localized Straight-billed Miner looks like an earthcreeper but wags its body like any miner (Pirjo Laakso).



The Red-backed Sierra-Finch is most likely to be seen at over 4500 metres altitude in Argentina; no mistaking this ones favourite rock (Mark Pearman).



No mistaking this gem of the high Andes, the magnificent DSP (Pirjio Laakso)

At dawn, we visited the hamlet of Yavi, bagging the wonderful Wedge-tailed Hillstar as well as many Citron-headed Yellow Finches plus Grey-bellied Shrike-Tyrant which had been seen by some of the group on the previous day. It was a fairly long drive to Calilegua, adding Great Antshrike and Red Pileated Finch en route plus protracted views of Black-and-chestnut Warbling Finch. A dark morph Short-tailed Hawk was perched by the national park entrance and here we added Pale-vented Pigeon, White-tipped Dove, Squirrel Cuckoo, Sick's Swift, smart Ochre-cheeked Spinetail, Sooty-fronted Spinetail and Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher as well as a pair of Golden-collared Macaws.



Superb and extremely local Wedge-tailed Hillstar used to be considered a difficult Bolivian endemic; now easy at just one site in Argentina (Pirjo Laakso).

With two full days to explore the national park we set about birding different altitudinal zones in search of a multitude of goodies. The bird of the first day was a male, jay-sized, Giant Antshrike jumping around in a roadside bush. Three Yungas endemics; Yungas Pygmy Owl, Yungas Dove and Blue-capped Pufflegs showed nicely while the supporting cast included White-collared Swift, Chilean Elaenia, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, Crested Becard, Glossy-black Thrush, White-browed Brushfinch, Pale-legged Warbler and Orange-headed Tanager. In the morning we were back on the case of the White-throated Antpitta which was uncooperative on the first day. After considerable effort we could finally see one foraging in a gap, even allowing some scope views which was a great result. Raptors were in good evidence today and we added a soaring adult Ornate Hawk-Eagle as well as Plumbeous Kite and King Vulture. Tucuman Amazons were proving tricky and we only managed some flight views, although a perched Golden-collared Macaw provided upgraded views. Many other top birds such as Blue-crowned Trogon, Amazonian Motmot, Black-banded and Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Black-capped Antwren, Yungas Manakin (a recent addition in Argentina), superb Sclater's Nightingale-Thrush, Purple-throated Euphonia, Saffron-billed Sparrow, Crested Oropendola and Rusty Flowerpiercer were memorable on the second day which we rounded off with a couple of Rufous Nightjars.

Onwards to the dry chaco and a first stop provided such widespread species as Comb Duck, Wood Stork, Whistling Heron, Cooi Heron, Snail Kite, Blue-crowned Parakeet, Sooty Tyrannulet, Bran-colored Flycatcher, Crowned Slaty Flycatcher, Chestnut-capped Blackbird and Ultramarine Grosbeak. Hoards of noisy Chaco Chachalacas added to the atmosphere. Our main target here was Black-legged Seriema and, after twelve Red-legged Seriemas, Pirjo spotted a Black-legged under some trees which quickly ran off, allowing brief

views for most everyone. A consolation prize here was unexpected close-ups of Brushland Tinamou. Moving on, Veronica got us onto a pair of Lark-like Brushrunners at our lunch stop, providing entertainment for both us and the other customers. Then, in the late afternoon we caught up with Muscovy Duck, Turquoise-fronted Amazon, Olivaceous Woodcreeper, smart Rufous Casiornis, Swainson's Flycatcher and, unusually, White-banded Mockingbird, a late migrant from Patagonia.



Lark-like Brushrunners are often curious and sociable (Pirjo Laakso).

In the morning we bagged numerous dry chaco specials including stonking Blue-tufted Starthroat, Crested Hornero, Short-billed Canastero, Brown Cacholote, the amazing Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper, superb Great Rufous Woodcreeper and Crested Gallito. The supporting cast included Monk Parakeet, Red-billed Scythebill, Suiriri Flycatcher, Plain Inezia and Solitary Cacique while two Black-legged Seriemas gave protracted views much to the joy of Barbara who made some whooping noises. A nearby lake held six Ringed Teals, Bare-faced Ibis and Black-backed Water Tyrant when suddenly an Olive-crowned Crescentchest starting singing. In all there were three birds and after some careful manouevres eventually everyone managed great views of this stunning skulker. In the afternoon, another lake stop provided Rufescent Tiger Heron, Red-crested Cardinal, Greyish Saltator and Variegated Flycatcher, while at dusk we secured great looks at several Little Nightjars.

On our final day in the North-West, we still had some outstanding birds to deal with and quickly bagged the dry chaco endemic Cinereous Tyrant with an entertaining displaying male. Here too we nailed our first Checkered Woodpecker, Pale-breasted Spinetail, Tawny-crowned Pygmy Tyrant, Brown-crested Flycatcher, the small chaco form of Stripe-capped Sparrow and somewhat overdue Many-colored Chaco Finch. Returning to another stake-out we eventually caught up with Little Thornbird and a singing male Stripe-backed Antbird. With an hour to spare before the flight we lucked in with point blank views of a superb male and two female Slender-tailed Woodstars to round off a highly productive north-west tour.

Top 5 birds of the NORTH-WEST:-

- 1. Rufous-throated Dipper**
- 2. White-throated Antpitta**
- 3. Diademed Sandpiper-Plover**
- 4. Giant Antshrike**
- 5. Black-legged Seriema**

Our tour of the North-east began in Buenos Aires in the Pampas biogeographical zone where soon after dawn we visited Otamendi on the edge of the Parana Delta. Of top priority was the very localized Straight-billed Reedhaunter which duly performed well; what a snoz! Black-and-rufous Warbling Finch was common and after much effort we also managed to see a pair of Grey-throated Warbling Finch and Diademed Tanager. As our first Giant Wood Rails trotted along the track, a stunning Scarlet-headed Blackbird whistled from a high song perch. Heading north into Entre Rios province, with increasing numbers of egrets, Southern Screamers and Maguari Storks, we entered the espinal woodland and northern edge of the delta at Ceibas adding Spotted Nothura, White-faced Whistling Duck, Green and Ringed Kingfishers, Campo Flicker, Freckle-breasted Thornbird, Chotoy and Spix's Spinetails, Grey-breasted Martin, thousands of Cliff Swallows, Southern Yellowthroat and Yellow-billed Cardinal. The highlight was a pair of Ash-colored Cuckoos giving point blank views. Back at the vehicles Nico had located a Great Horned Owl with a chick while a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl showed nearby. Finally we reached the picturesque town of Gualeguaychu, close to the Rio Uruguay and set out in search of one of the Neotropics least known grosbeaks. In less than an hour we were treated to great close-ups of a stunning male Glaucous-blue Grosbeak and brief looks at the female to round off a productive day.



The scarce Ash-colored Cuckoo is a local breeder in north-east Argentina (Pirjo Laakso).

Today was mostly a driving day, yet we still managed many new birds. After numerous roadside Greater Rheas we entered Corrientes province and visited a private estancia bagging Plumbeous Ibis, Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, Smooth-billed Ani, Firewood-gatherer, Variable Oriole and both Brown-and-yellow Marshbird and

Yellow-rumped Marshbirds. Further north we added Short-billed Pipit, Double-collared and Tawny-bellied Seedeater while a Red-winged Tinamou showed well in the verge.

In the morning we had unfinished business with pipits and tracked down South America's scarcest species, a singing Ochre-breasted Pipit with Hellmayr's and Short-billed Pipits for comparison. A Nacunda Nighthawk was sitting on a clutch of two eggs while an Upland Sandpiper also showed well. Next on the agenda was the iconic Iberá marshes, home to many specialties and the hardest of gauchos. At one of our first stops we unexpectedly bumped into a singing White-naped Xenopsaris which we had expected to see in Entre Rios.



Smart White-naped Xenopsaris is a regular in north-east Argentina (Pirjio Laakso).

One bird on everyone's mind was the outlandish Strange-tailed Tyrant and it wasn't long before we secured fantastic looks at males and females with a total of eleven seen. The area is a magnet for seedeaters and the global number one spot for their diversity. Today we managed close up studies of three threatened species; Rufous-rumped, Chestnut and stunning Marsh Seedeaters. We soon added Striated Heron, South American Snipe, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Large-billed Tern, Ruddy Ground Dove, White-headed Marsh Tyrant, Lesser Grass Finch plus Large Elaenia and White-rimmed Warbler by the lodge. Our other major target, the endangered Yellow Cardinal was proving tricky, but at a third site we scored a magnificent male with great looks. In the evening we visited a site for Plains Viscacha and had great looks at this unusual crepuscular chinchilla.



A male Strange-tailed Tyrant showing off its streamers (Mark Pearman).



Endangered male Yellow Cardinal now has a totally fragmented distribution (Pirjo Laakso).

After heavy rainfall all night we were forced to take a different route out of the Ibera marshes but still managed to add Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Anhinga, Long-winged Harrier, Purple Gallinule, Striped Cuckoo, Amazon Kingfisher, Grey Monjita, Black-capped Donacobius, Unicolored Blackbird, Long-tailed Reed Finch, Wedge-tailed Grass Finch, Blue-black Grassquit and Rusty-collared Seedeater. Up by the Parana river we scoped a pair of Jabirus among hundreds of egrets and located a smart Sharp-tailed Tyrant before more rain set in, seemingly ruining our chances of Sickle-winged Nightjar, or would it!?

Pre-dawn saw us enjoying repeated looks at three male Sickle-winged Nightjars, a bizarre and poorly known tiny nightjar which lacks secondaries. Moving on to Misiones province we quickly found the recently split Pearly-bellied Seedeater as well as Yellow-headed Caracara, Dark-billed Cuckoo, a superb pair of Streamer-tailed Tyrant (the largest of all tyrant-flycatchers), Chopi Blackbird and a responsive Ash-throated Crake which crept up to the roadside. Moving over to the Uruguay river and back into Corrientes, our next target was the very local Mottled Piculet and within half an hour we secured great looks at a male of this distinctive and often tricky species. Heading into the Parana rainforest we added Slaty-breasted Wood Rail, Chestnut-eared Aracari and Pale-breasted Thrush close to our lodge.

Our first morning in the rainforest provided a nice selection of species including Great Dusky Swift, Surrucua Trogon, Green-billed Toucan, Ochre-collared Piculet, Rufous-capped and Grey-bellied Spinetails, Rufous-winged Antwren, Plain Antvireo, Bertoni's Antbird, Yellow Tyrannulet, Southern Antpipit, a nest-building Sepia-capped Flycatcher, Eared Pygmy Tyrant, Blue Manakin, Red-rumped Cacique, Golden-crowned Warbler, Red-crowned Ant Tanager, Chestnut-headed, Black-goggled and Ruby-crowned Tanagers and Green-winged Saltator. One of the highlights was a lekking male Purple-crowned Plovercrest. Back at the lodge we nailed down a pair of Rufous-breasted Leaf-tossers with protracted looks. In the afternoon, roadside stops produced White-eared Puffbird and, after hearing White Woodpecker, also produced White-spotted and Yellow-fronted Woodpeckers performing almost side by side with the pair of White Woodpeckers. Later, we added Thick-billed Saltator at the only site in Argentina as well as Scale-throated Hermit, Lineated Woodpecker, White-eyed Parakeet, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Long-tailed Tyrant and Greenish Schiffornis. The real action would begin at dusk with Short-tailed Nighthawks flying overhead, followed by Pauraque and then two magnificent male Long-trained Nightjars allowing scope views on the ground.

On a gloomy morning we reached the *Araucaria* (monkey-puzzle) forest and almost immediately secured some looks at Araucaria Tit-Spinetail and a pair of Rufous-capped Motmots. We had to work hard for Canebrake Groundcreeper in mostly very dense bamboo with brief views of two but finally had great perched-up views of another; a great result. Meanwhile, Vinaceous-breasted Amazons had been flying around and we managed some decent scope views of one. Another trail produced Guira Tanager, White-throated Hummingbird and protracted views of the poorly known Olivaceous Elaenia. Just near town we had brief views of a Cocoa Thrush, now an invading species in Misiones. It was time to drive to Iguazu where we immediately headed to the *Jardin de Picafloras* where we enjoyed the shockingly large Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, smart Black Jacobin, Black-throated Mango, Violet-capped Woodnymph, Gilded Sapphire and Versicolored Emerald as well as Thrush-like Wren, Violaceous Euphonia and the obligatory Bananaquit. In the afternoon we were rained-out but between downpours we did manage to squeeze in a Buff-bellied Puffbird.

Soon after dawn, we reached the Urugua-i Provincial Park and set out on the tourist-free trails. New birds included a pair of Bicoloured Hawks, stonking Blond-crested Woodpecker, White-eyed and Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaners, localized and obliging Planalto Tapaculo, Rufous-crowned Greenlet, Riverbank Warbler and Blackish-blue Seedeater while the star bird proved to be the poorly known Pearly-breasted Cuckoo with two eventually scoped at neck-breaking angles in the canopy. Back at Iguazu, we walked out to the *Garganta del Diablo* (Throat of the Devil) waterfall, admiring the breath-taking amounts of water plummeting into the abyss with Great Dusky Swifts flying through the curtains of water. The boardwalks also provided views of many Greater Anis and Toco Toucans, as well as White-winged Swallow, Blue Dacnis and Giant Cowbird but our ultimate goal was the endangered Black-fronted Piping Guan and this was our final chance. We got the word that a group of non-birders had seen one on a sector of boardwalk and rushed there to get fine views of the piping guan before it fled to another river island. Nothing could prepare us though, in finding a second bird on our walk back actually walking along the guard rails and providing protracted point blank views while feeding

on fruit right beside the boardwalk. These type of magical moments are few and far between and not surprisingly Black-fronted Piping Guan was voted the number one bird of the North-east tour.



A second attempt was decisive in securing point-blank views of the endangered and superb Black-fronted Piping Guan (Pirjio Laakso).

In such a birdy place, it was not surprising that we were still raking in new birds in a couple of hours on the final morning when we managed to add Blackish Rail, Blue-winged Parrotlet, Plain-winged Woodcreeper, a male Tufted Antshrike, Greenish Elaenia, Yellow-olive Flatbill, Fuscous Flycatcher, Green-headed Tanager and Swallow Tanager to round off yet another highly successful tour to north-east Argentina.

Top 5 birds of the NORTH-EAST:-

- 1. Black-fronted Piping Guan**
- 2. Yellow Cardinal**
- 3. Canebrake Groundcreeper**
- 3. Mottled Piculet**
- 5. Sickle-winged Nightjar**

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

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

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by (NL), while those seen only by the leader are indicated with (LO).

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. only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; 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).

The species and family sequence, taxonomy and species names follow the I.O.C. World Bird List which is available online at www.worldbirdnames.org/

Taxa in parenthesis indicate a possible future taxonomic change that could occur.

Conservation threat categories are taken from the BirdLife website: www.birdlife.org/datazone/home

EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened

BIRDS

Total of bird species recorded: 541

Greater Rhea *Rhea americana* Common in Corrientes province.

Brown Tinamou ◊ *Crypturellus obsoletus* (H) Regular aural records in Misiones.

Tataupa Tinamou ◊ *Crypturellus tataupa* (H) Occasional in the dry chaco and northern Misiones.

Red-winged Tinamou *Rhynchotus rufescens* One near Mercedes and two in the Iberá marshes.

Ornate Tinamou *Nothoprocta ornata* Regular looks in the NW Andes, with 16 out of La Quiaca.

Brushland Tinamou ◊ *Nothoprocta cinerascens* Seven seen in the dry chaco.

Andean Tinamou *Nothoprocta pentlandii* Great looks at one above Tafi del Valle. H at the Cornisa rd.

Spotted Nothura *Nothura maculosa* Small numbers daily from Buenos Aires to Corrientes.

Elegant Crested Tinamou *Eudromia elegans* Nine in Los Cardones National Park.

Quebracho Crested Tinamou *Eudromia formosa* (H) Two aural records deep inside chaco woodlands.

Puna Tinamou *Tinamotis pentlandii* (NL) One briefly in the Sierra de Santa Victoria. H at Azul Pampa.

Southern Screamer *Chauna torquata* One in Salta, two at Los Pozos, 15 at Ceibas and six at Iberá.

White-faced Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* Two at Dique La Cienaga. Common in the NE.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* Fourteen in the Iberá marshes.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* 150 or more above Salta.

Coscoroba Swan *Coscoroba coscoroba* Three in Salta, and 30 on a nearby reservoir.

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata* Eight over two days in the Andes of Tucumán.

Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos* Ten at Palomitas, and 3 (NL) near Taco Pozo.

Andean Goose *Chloephaga melanoptera* Four in Tucumán, and abundant in the altiplano.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* Six out of Las Lajitas.

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis* Three in Salta, three at Los Pozos, common in the NE.

Ringed Teal *Calloneta leucophrys* Four in Salta, six near Taco Pozo, and four at Ceibas.

Crested Duck *Lophonetta specularioides* Common in the altiplano.

Puna Teal *Anas puna* Four near Abra Pampa.

Red Shoveler *Anas platalea* Four at Dique La Angostura, Tucumán.

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera* Thirteen at reservoirs in Tucumán and Salta.

White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis* Two near Abra Pampa.

Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica* Ubiquitous in the NW.

Yellow-billed Teal (Speckled T) *Anas favirostris* Common in the NW; Ceibas (*oxyptera* & *flavirostris*).

Rosy-billed Pochard ◊ *Netta peposaca* A pair above Salta, and nine near Taco Pozo.

Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea* Ten at San Carlos, ten in Salta and twelve near Abra Pampa.

Chaco Chachalaca *Ortalis canicollis* Common in the dry and sierran chaco.

Red-faced Guan ◊ *Penelope dabbenei* Two pairs at Yala on different days with an amazing close-up!

Dusky-legged Guan *Penelope obscura* Common in Yungas forest (*bridgesi*); two at Otamendi (*obscura*).

Black-fronted Piping-Guan ◊ *Pipile jacutinga* EN Outstanding looks at two birds at Iguazú.

Spot-winged Wood Quail ◊ *Odontophorus capueira* (H) Several covies heard at Caá Yará.

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* Regular encounters in small numbers.

White-tufted Grebe *Rollandia rolland* A variety of encounters with up to ten on some lakes.

Great Grebe *Podiceps major* Two at San Carlos reservoir.

Silvery Grebe *Podiceps occipitalis* Fifty-five or more on altiplano lakes (*juninensis*).

Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis* Two at San Carlos, 60 at Abra Pampa, 30 at Pozuelos.

Andean Flamingo *Phoenicoparrus andinus* **VU** 50 at Abra Pampa and 50 at Pozuelos.

James's Flamingo ♦ *Phoenicoparrus jamesi* Over 100 at Abra Pampa.

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* Five in the dry chaco, one at Otamendi, and five at Iberá.

Maguari Stork *Ciconia maguari* Generally common from Buenos Aires to Iberá.

Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria* Two lone birds in the Iberá marshes.

Plumbeous Ibis *Theristicus caerulescens* Eight over three dates in Corrientes.

Buff-necked Ibis *Theristicus caudatus* Regular encounters of small numbers in the NW.

Bare-faced Ibis (Whispering I) *Phimosus infuscatus* Two near Taco Pozo, eight in E. Rios-Corrientes.

White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi* Regular encounters; often in numbers near Jujuy.

Puna Ibis *Plegadis ridgwayi* Only one at Abra Pampa.

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja* Five at a reservoir in Salta city, and five in the Iberá marshes.

Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum* One at Los Pozos, Salta; four in the Iberá marshes.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* Six at Seclanters, 14 at Iberá and one at Iguazú.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* Ten in Corrientes and one at Iguazú.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Regular encounters.

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi* One at Palomitas, seven from Buenos Aires to Corrientes.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* Regular encounters; abundant in the Iberá marshes.

Whistling Heron *Syrigma sibilatrix* Small numbers in the dry chaco, Otamendi and Iberá marshes.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* Numerous encounters.

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Mostly common.

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* One driving north through Entre Ríos (NL); two at Iberá and three at Iguazú.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* Ubiquitous (*ruficollis*).

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* Regular in the east.

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* Common and widespread in the lowlands and foothills.

King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa* One soaring at Calilegua NP found by Pirjo.

Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus* Eleven seen on six dates in the Andes.

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus* One south of Tucumán city, and one in the dry chaco.

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* One along the Rio Los Sosa, Tucumán.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* One along the Cornisa road, and eight daily at Calilegua.

Ornate Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus* A soaring adult at Calilegua.

Bicolored Hawk *Accipiter bicolor* A pair circling at Parque Prov. Uruguay-í.

Long-winged Harrier *Circus buffoni* Three lone males in the Iberá marshes.

Cinereous Harrier *Circus cinereus* Singles at Cuesta del Obispo, Humahuaca valley and Pozuelos.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* Two at Calilegua, three at Salto Encantado and two at Caá Yará.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* Four at reservoirs in Salta; common in the north-east.

Savanna Hawk *Heterospizias meridionalis* Two in the dry chaco, regular in the north-east.

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* One along the Rio Los Sosa, Tucumán.

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris* Regular encounters almost throughout.

Variable Hawk (Red-backed H) *Geranoaetus polyosoma* Regular sightings in the NW Andes.

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* Eleven in the Andes; 1 at Iberá.

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* A perched adult dark morph at Calilegua.

Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata* Twelve at Palomitas, one near Las Lajitas, and H at Lesser.

Black-legged Seriema ♦ *Chunga burmeisteri* One briefly nr Palomitas; great looks at two at Taco Pozo.

Giant Wood Rail ♦ *Aramides ypecaha* Common from Buenos Aires to Corrientes with over 25 one day.

Slaty-breasted Wood Rail ♦ *Aramides saracura* Two at Tacuapi lodge, and one at Caá Yará.

Ash-throated Crake ♦ *Porzana albicollis* One showed well near Candelaria. Several H at Iberá.

Blackish Rail *Pardirallus nigricans* Two at Iguazu gave protracted views.

Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus* (H) One at Candelaria.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinicus* Two in the Iberá marshes.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* Regular encounters in the north-west. One at Ceibas.

White-winged Coot *Fulica leucoptera* Notably common in the north-west.

Andean Coot (Slate-coloured C) *Fulica ardesiaca* Two in Tucumán; over two hundred in the altiplano.

Red-gartered Coot *Fulica armillata* Two at the San Carlos reservoir; four at a reservoir in Salta.

Red-fronted Coot *Fulica rufifrons* One at Tafí del Valle and one near Taco Pozo.

Giant Coot *Fulica gigantea* Seventy or more on altiplano lakes.

Horned Coot ♦ *Fulica cornuta* One at a remote lake by Pozuelos.

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* Two at Palomitas. Ten in the Iberá marshes.

White-backed Stilt *Himantopus melanurus* Regular encounters.

Andean Avocet *Recurvirostra andina* One at the San Carlos reservoir; over 35 in the altiplano.

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* Ubiquitous and widespread (*lampronotus*).

Andean Lapwing *Vanellus resplendens* Generally common in the altiplano and high Andes.

Puna Plover *Charadrius alticola* Eight or more at Pozuelos.

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris* One to the south of Cafayate.

Tawny-throated Dotterel *Oreopholus rufcollis* Over twenty at Los Cardones national park.

Diademed Sandpiper-Plover *Phegornis mitchellii* A pair at point blank range on the Sta Victoria rd.

Wattled Jaçana *Jacana jacana* Five at two Salta reservoirs; generally common in the east.

Grey-breasted Seedsnipe *Thinocorus orbignyianus* Six in the NW Andes.

Least Seedsnipe *Thinocorus rumicivorus* A pair at Los Cardones national park.

Upland Sandpiper *Bartramia longicauda* One low overhead near Mercedes; others heard.

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* Eight at San Carlos reservoir. Common at altiplano lakes.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* Two at San Carlos, two at Runtuyoc and one at Pozuelos.

South American Snipe ♦ *Gallinago paraguayae* One at Iberá, two displaying at Candelaria (*paraguayae*).

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* Twenty or more at Lago Pozuelos.

Andean Gull *Chroicocephalus serranus* Regular encounters in the NW Andes.

Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex* One over the lodge at Iberá.

Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) *Columba livia* The less said the better.

Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro* Common in the lowlands.

Spot-winged Pigeon *Patagioenas maculosa* Common in lowlands. 13 at Yavi-La Quica (*albipennis*).

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* A flock of 30 along the Río Los Sosa, Tucumán.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis* Small numbers daily at Calilegua and in Misiones.

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti* Small numbers in Corrientes and Misiones.

Picui Ground Dove *Columbina picui* Ubiquitous in the lowlands and foothills.

Bare-faced Ground Dove *Metriopelia ceciliae* Three at La Huerta; ten (NL) at Yavi.

Moreno's Ground Dove ♦ (Bare-eyed G D) *Metriopelia morenoi* 32 in the NW Andes.



Moreno's Ground Dove is a localized endemic of the NW Argentine Andes (Pirjo Laakso).

Black-winged Ground Dove *Metriopelia melanoptera* Common in the NW Andes.
Golden-spotted Ground Dove ♦ *Metriopelia ayмара* Three north of Azul Pampa; 90 at Lago Pozuelos.
White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* Regular encounters in the lowlands and foothills.
Yungas Dove ♦ (Large-tailed D) *Leptotila megalura* Two seen at Calilegua with many aural records.
White-throated Quail-Dove *Zentrygon frenata* (H) Several heard at Calilegua.
Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* Ubiquitous; the commonest bird in Argentina.
Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira* Seen almost throughout the tour.
Greater Ani *Crotophaga major* Ten at Iguazú.
Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* Regular encounters in the east.
Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* One seen at Iberá where several were heard.
Ash-colored Cuckoo ♦ *Coccyzua cinerea* Protracted views of a pair at Ceibas.
Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* Three singles at Calilegua; one at San Pedro, Misiones.
Dark-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus melacoryphus* Four at Candelaria; singles at Caa Yari and San Pedro.
Pearly-breasted Cuckoo ♦ *Coccyzus euleri* Two at Urugua-í and one at PN Iguazu.
Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* An adult and chick using a Monk Parakeet nest at Ceibas.



Great Horned Owl frequently uses active Monk Parakeet nests for multi-tasking;) (P. Laakso)

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* (H) Heard near Las Lajitas.
Yungas Screech Owl ♦ (Hoy's, Montane Forest SO) *Otus hoyi* Two seen at the Cornisa road.
Black-capped Screech Owl *Megascops atricapilla* (H) Two at Salto Encantado.
Yungas Pygmy Owl ♦ *Glaucidium bolivianum* One showed well at Calilegua.
Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia* Regular encounters except of course in forest.
Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* One at Lago Runtuyoc.
Common Potoo (Grey P) *Nyctibius griseus* (H) Aural records at La Cornisa, Las Lajitas and Caá Yari.
Nacunda Nighthawk *Chordeiles nacunda* Two seen out of Mercedes; one on eggs.
Short-tailed Nighthawk *Lurocalis semitorquatus* H at Calilegua. Two seen at Salto Encantado.
Pauraque (Common P) *Nyctidromus albicollis* A female near Tacuapi lodge; six at Iguazu.
Little Nightjar *Caprimulgus parvulus* Five seen near Las Lajitas.
Sickle-winged Nightjar *Eleothreptus anomalus* Multiple looks at three males near Ituzaingo.
Lyre-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis lyra* A male and female at Yala; with perched scope studies.

Long-trained Nightjar ◊ *Macropsalis forcipata* Scope views of two males at Caá Yari.
Rufous Nightjar *Antrostomus rufus* Two seen at Calilegua. H at La Cornisa
Great Dusky Swift ◊ *Cypseloides senex* Fifteen roosting at Salto Encantado; abundant at Iguazú.
White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* 30 at Calilegua, 4 at Las Lajitas, 20 at Salto Encantado.
Sick's Swift *Chaetura meridionalis* Fifteen over three days at Calilegua. Three at Iguazú.
Andean Swift *Aeronautes andecolus* Regular encounters in the NW Andes and nearby desert.
Scale-throated Hermit *Phaethornis eurynome* One (NL) at Tacuapi lodge; one at Salto Encantado.
Swallow-tailed Hummingbird ◊ *Eupetomena macroura* A pair at the Iguazú feeders.
Black Jacobin *Florisuga fusca* One at the Iguazú feeders.
Sparkling Violetear *Colibri coruscans* One on the Santa Victoria road.
White-eared Violetear *Colibri serrirostris* One singing near Salta city.
Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis* Four at the Iguazú feeders.
Purple-crowned Plovercrest ◊ *Stephanoxis loddigesii* A male at Salto Encantado, and another heard.
Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon lucidus* Regular encounters.
Violet-capped Woodnymph *Thalurania glaucopsis* A male at the Iguazú feeders.
Gilded Sapphire ◊ *Hylocharis chrysura* Five at the Iguazú feeders.
White-throated Hummingbird *Leucochloris albicollis* One at the Araucaria provincial park.
White-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia chionogaster* Regular in all Yungas forest.
Versicoloured Emerald ◊ *Amazilia versicolor* Four at the Iguazú feeders; one in the Nat. park.
Andean Hillstar *Oreotrochilus estella* A male at the Cuesta del Obispo.
Wedge-tailed Hilstar ◊ *Oreotrochilus adela* A superb male at Yavi, eventually chased off my two more.
Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas* Two near Amaicha del Valle. Two (NL) in the Salta badlands.
Blue-capped Puffeg ◊ *Eriocnemis glaucopoides* Two males and a female at Calilegua.
Red-tailed Comet *Sappho sparganura* Numerous in the NW Andes with many superb males.
Blue-tufted Starthroat ◊ *Heliomaster furcifer* Two males at Taco Pozo; seven at Salta Forestal.
Slender-tailed Woodstar ◊ *Microstilbon burmeisteri* A male and two females at Lesser.
Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui* A male at Calilegua.
Surucua Trogon *Trogon surrucura* A male at Salto Encantado; many aural records in Misiones.
Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus* (H) Heard at Salto Encantado and Iguazú.
Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* Singles at Ceibas and Iberá.
Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* Two at Iberá and one at Candelaria.
Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquatus* Regular encounters in the east.
Amazonian Motmot *Momotus momota* One at Calilegua.
Rufous-capped Motmot *Baryphthengus ruficapillus* Two at PP de la Araucaria; one at Iguazú.
Buff-bellied Puffbird *Notharcus swainsoni* Great looks at one at Iguazú inspite of the rain.
White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru* Two to the north of San Vicente.
Chaco Puffbird ◊ *Nystalus striatipectus* One on the Cornisa road; three (NL) at Palomitas.
Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis* Four at Tacuapi lodge.
Green-billed Toucan (Red-breasted T) *Ramphastos dicolorus* One at Salto Encantado; NL at S. Pedro.
Toco Toucan *Ramphastos toco* 17 in Yungas forest and 16 at Iguazu.
White-barred Piculet *Picumnus cirratus* Two at La Cornisa and two at Calilegua (*thamnophiloides*).
Ochre-collared Piculet ◊ *Picumnus temminckii* One at Salto Encantado and three at PP Uruguay-í.
Mottled Piculet *Picumnus nebulosus* Fantastics looks at a male in Corrientes.
White Woodpecker *Melanerpes candidus* Two at a roadside stop north of San Vicente.
Yellow-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes favifrons* Singles at Garavi, San Vicente and Iguazú.
White-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cactorum* Seven in the badlands and chaco; three at Ceibas.
Dot-fronted Woodpecker *Veniliornis frontalis* (H) Unresponsive on the Cornisa road.
White-spotted Woodpecker *Veniliornis spilogaster* Two north of San Vicente; one at San Pedro.
Checkered Woodpecker *Veniliornis mixtus* Singles at Salta Forestal and Mercedes.
Green-barred Woodpecker (G-b Flicker) *Colaptes melanochloros* Regular encounters.
Andean Flicker *Colaptes rupicola* Six on four dates in the NW Andes.
Campo Flicker (Field F) *Colaptes campestris* Common in the east.
Blond-crested Woodpecker ◊ *Celeus flavescens* One at PP Uruguay-i and two singles at Iguazú.
Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* Singles at Caá Yari and the Araucaria provincial park.
Cream-backed Woodpecker ◊ *Campephilus leucopogon* Pairs at La Cornisa, Yala and Calilegua.
Mountain Caracara *Phalcoboenus megalopterus* Two at the Cuesta del Obispo and two at Azul Pampa.

Southern Crested Caracara *Caracara plancus* Ubiquitous.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* Three near Garavi, singles at Caá Yari and Iguazú.

Chimango Caracara *Milvago chimango* Widespread and ubiquitous.

Barred Forest Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* (H) One at the Araucaria park while searching for bigger fry.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* Regular encounters throughout.

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis* Regular in the north-west with a total of eleven seen.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* Three out of Las Lajitas.

Grey-hooded Parakeet *Psilopsiagon aymara* A pair above Tafi and at San Carlos, eight nr Sta Victoria.

Mountain Parakeet *Psilopsiagon aurifrons* 70 at Azul Pampa, 6 at Lagunillas, and 40 at Yavi.

Monk Parakeet *Myiopsitta monachus* Ubiquitous in the lowlands.

Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani* Regular in all forest and woodland.

Vinaceous-breasted Amazon \diamond *Amazona vinacea* EN Five at the Araucaria provincial park.

Tucuman Amazon \diamond *Amazona tucumana* VU Four at Calilegua national park.

Turquoise-fronted Amazon *Amazona aestiva* A pair at Palomitas and Las Lajitas; 8 at Salta Forestal.

Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius* One scoped at Iguazú.

Maroon-bellied Parakeet (Reddish-b P) *Pyrrhura frontalis* (H) Heard in Misiones.

Green-cheeked Parakeet \diamond *Pyrrhura molinae* Four at La Cornisa; three and five at Calilegua.

Burrowing Parrot \diamond *Cyanoliseus patagonus* Well over 500 seen in the Salta vineyards and badlands.

Golden-collared Macaw \diamond *Primolius auricollis* A pair in flight, and finally a perched bird, at Calilegua.

Blue-crowned Parakeet *Thectocercus acuticauda* Common in the dry chaco.

Mitred Parakeet *Psittacara mitratus* Common to abundant in Yungas forest.

White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalmus* 15 at Caá Yari, and 70 or more at Iguazú.

Common Miner *Geositta cunicularia* Six seen in the altiplano (*titicacae*).

Puna Miner *Geositta punensis* 31 seen on three dates in the altiplano and high Andes.

Slender-billed Miner *Geositta tenuirostris* Great scope studies of three on the Santa Victoria road.

Rufous-banded Miner *Geositta rufipennis* Regular encounters in the NW Andes (*rufipennis*).

Straight-billed Earthcreeper *Ochetorhynchus ruficaudus* One at Azul Pampa; two nr Abra Lizoite.

Rock Earthcreeper *Ochetorhynchus andaecola* A total of nine seen in the high NW Andes.

Buff-breasted Earthcreeper \diamond *Upucerthia validirostris* Six at El Infiernillo.

Scale-throated Earthcreeper *Upucerthia dumetaria* Four in the Tucuman Andes.

Chaco Earthcreeper \diamond *Tarphonomus certhioides* Two in the monte desert nr Cafayate.

Cream-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes albiventris* Common in the NW Andes.

White-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes atacamensis* One at El Infiernillo; 10 in northern Jujuy.

Rufous Hornero *Furnarius rufus* Widespread and ubiquitous; the national bird of Argentina.

Crested Hornero \diamond *Furnarius cristatus* Two near Taco Pozo.

Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura fuliginiceps* One in the Salta badlands; four nr Sta Victoria.

Tawny Tit-Spinetail \diamond *Leptasthenura yanacensis* Three on the Santa Victoria road.

Tufted Tit-Spinetail \diamond *Leptasthenura platensis* One at San Carlos reservoir; one at Ceibas.

Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail \diamond *Leptasthenura yanacensis* Four singles in the NW Andes (*berlepschi*).

Araucaria Tit-Spinetail \diamond *Leptasthenura setaria* Two seen and many heard at the Araucaria prov. park.

Sharp-billed Canastero *Asthenes pyrrholeuca* One out of Cafayate.

Short-billed Canastero \diamond *Asthenes baeri* One nr Las Lajitas, two nr Mercedes, and one at Ibera.

Maquis Canastero *Asthenes heterura* (NL) One at the Cuesta del Obispo quickly disappeared.

Cordilleran Canastero *Asthenes modesta* At least eight seen in the NW Andes.

Rusty-vented Canastero *Asthenes dorbignyi* Regular encounters in the NW Andes.

Puna Canastero \diamond *Asthenes sclateri* Two at El Infiernillo (*jilloi*).

Steinbach's Canastero \diamond *Pseudasthenes steinbachi* One in the Salta badlands after quite a search.

Chotoy Spinetail *Schoeniophylax phryganophilus* Two at Ceibas; singles nr Mercedes and at Iberá.

Rufous-capped Spinetail *Synallaxis ruficapilla* Two at Salto Encantado, then commonly heard.

Grey-bellied Spinetail \diamond *Synallaxis cinerascens* One at Salto Encantado; two at Urugua-í.

Sooty-fronted Spinetail *Synallaxis frontalis* Three at Calilegua; numerous aural records.

Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae* One at La Cornisa, two at Calilegua. H commonly in Yungas forest.

Pale-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albescens* One at Salta Forestal.

Spix's Spinetail *Synallaxis spixi* One at Otamendi and two at Caá Yari.

Stripe-crowned Spinetail *Cranioleuca pyrrhophia* Singles at La Cornisa, Palomitas and Las Lajitas.

Straight-billed Reedhaunter *Limnortyx rectirostris* One showed very well at Otamendi.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* One at Iberá.
Rufous-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons* A total of seven in the NW foothills.
Little Thornbird ◊ *Phacellodomus sibilatrix* A pair at Palomitas.
Streak-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus striaticeps* Common in the NW Andes.
Freckle-breasted Thornbird ◊ *Phacellodomus striaticollis* Two at Ceibas.
Spot-breasted Thornbird ◊ *Phacellodomus maculipectus* Three seen at Yala after much effort.
Greater Thornbird *Phacellodomus ruber* Common in the Iberá marshes, almost to the Misiones border.
Canebrake Groundcreeper ◊ *Clibanornis dendrocolaptoides* Three at San Pedro with great looks.
Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops* One near Abra Pampa, and one at Ceibas.
Firewood-gatherer *Anumbius annumbi* A pair near Mercedes, Corrientes.
Lark-like Brushrunner ◊ *Coryphistera alaudina* Four in the dry chaco, five in the east.
Brown Cacholote ◊ *Pseudoseisura lophotes* Four in the dry chaco; H at Ceibas.
White-throated Cacholote ◊ *Pseudoseisura gutturalis* Singles near Amaicha and San Carlos.
Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata* Five seen in the Yungas forest.
Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner ◊ *Anabacerthia lichtensteini* One at Urugua-í; H at Iguazú
White-eyed Foliage-gleaner *Automolus leucophthalmus* Two seen at Urugua-í.
Rufous-breasted Leaf-tosser ◊ *Sclerurus scansor* Two at Tacuapi lodge; protracted views of one.
Plain-winged Woodcreeper ◊ (Thrush-like W) *Dendrocincla turdina* One at Iguazú.
Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus* One nr Las Lajitas; four in Misiones (*sylviellus*).
Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper ◊ *Drymornis bridgesii* Singles at Taco Pozo and Ceibas; other heard.
Great Rufous Woodcreeper ◊ *Xiphocolaptes major* One at Taco Pozo. NL at Palomitas.
Black-banded Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes picumnus* Great looks at one at Calilegua.
Planalto Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris* (H) Four heard in Misiones.
Lesser Woodcreeper ◊ *Xiphorhynchus fuscus* (H) Unresponsive at Salto Encantado.
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris* Small numbers in the dry chaco and east.
Red-billed Scythebill ◊ *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris* One at Taco Pozo.
Stripe-backed Antbird ◊ *Myrmorchilus strigilatus* A male scoped at Palomitas.
Black-capped Antwren *Herpsilochmus atricapillus* A pair at Calilegua.
Rufous-winged Antwren *Herpsilochmus rufmarginatus* A male at Salto Encantado.
Plain Antvireo *Dysithamnus mentalis* One at Salto Encantado; commonly heard.
Variable Antshrike *Thamnophilus caeruleus* Small numbers in the lowlands.
Rufous-capped Antshrike *Thamnophilus ruficapillus* One at La Cornisa; two at Otamendi.
Great Antshrike *Taraba major* A pair at a service station nr Jujuy; many heard in the dry chaco.
Large-tailed Antshrike ◊ *Mackenziaena leachii* (H) One heard at Caá Yari.
Tufted Antshrike ◊ *Mackenziaena severa* A male showed at Iguazú; H at Urugua-í.
Spot-backed Antshrike ◊ *Hypodaleus guttatus* (H) Heard at Salto Encantado, Urugua-í and Iguazú.
Giant Antshrike ◊ *Batara cinerea* Outstanding looks at a male in Calilegua.
Bertoni's Antbird ◊ *Drymophila rubricollis* One at Salto Encantado; others heard.
White-shouldered Fire-eye *Pyriglena leucoptera* A male at Salto Encantado and Urugua-í.
Short-tailed Antthrush ◊ *Chamaeza campanisona* Great looks at one at Salto Encantado.
Variegated Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria varia* (H) Aural records at Salto Encantado, Caá Yari and Urugua-í.
White-throated Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria albigula* Great looks at Calilegua of two birds.
Speckle-breasted Antpitta ◊ *Hylopezus nattereri* (H) One at Caá Yari.
Rufous Gnateater *Conopophaga lineata* (H) Heard at Salto Encantado and Urugua-í.
Crested Gallito ◊ *Rhinocrypta lanceolata* Two at Taco Pozo.
Sandy Gallito ◊ *Teledromas fuscus* Great looks at one near Amaicha del Valle.
Planalto Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus pachecoi* Nice looks at Urugua-í.
Zimmer's Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus zimmeri* Two showed well on the Santa Victoria road.
White-browed Tapaculo ◊ *Scytalopus superciliaris* Three seen and many heard at El Infernillo.
Olive-crowned Crescentchest ◊ *Melanopareia maximilliani* One showed well in the dry chaco (*pallida*).
Sclater's Tyrannulet ◊ *Phyllomyias sclateri* Three at La Cornisa and one at Calilegua; many heard.
Grey Elaenia *Myiopagis caniceps* (H) One at Salto Encantado.
Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata* One at Iguazú.
Large Elaenia *Elaenia spectabilis* One seen in the Iberá marshes.

Chilean Elaenia *Elaenia chilensis* Two at Calilegua.
 Small-billed Elaenia *Elaenia parvirostris* Regular encounters.
 Olivaceous Elaenia ◊ *Elaenia mesoleuca* One at the Araucaria provincial park.
 Slaty Elaenia ◊ *Elaenia strepera* One at La Cornisa and seven at Calilegua.
 Highland Elaenia *Elaenia obscura* One below Tafí del Valle, and two (NL) at Calilegua (*obscura*).
 Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* Regular encounters.
 Suiriri Flycatcher *Suiriri suiriri* Three in the dry chaco, one at Ceibas and another nr Mercedes.
 White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys* Regular encounters in the NW.
 Buff-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus hellmayri* One along the Rio Los Sosa; H at Calilegua.
 Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes favirostris* Singles at San Carlos reservoir and Cuesta del Obispo.
 Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus* One at Yala (*aequatorialis*).
 Sooty Tyrannulet *Serpophaga nigricans* Singles at Palomitas and Ceibas.
 White-crested Tyrannulet *Serpophaga subcristata* One seen at Ceibas.
 White-bellied Tyrannulet *Serpophaga subcristata* Three in the desert monte; one on the Cornisa road.
 Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis faveola* Singles at Salto Encantado, Urugua-í and Iguazú.
 Warbling Doradito ◊ *Pseudocolopteryx flaviventris* (H) Heard at Ceibas.
 Southern Antpipit ◊ *Corythopsis delalandi* Seen at Salto Encantado and Urugua-í, others heard.
 Tawny-crowned Pygmy Tyrant *Euscarthmus meloryphus* Singles at Salta Forestal, Ceibas, Mercedes.
 Greater Wagtail-Tyrant *Stigmatura budytoides* Six in the monte desert; two at Ceibas.
 Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis* One along the Cornisa road.
 Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* One nest-building at Salto Encantado.
 Southern Scrub Flycatcher ◊ *Sublegatus modestus* Singles at San Carlos, Taco Pozo and Ceibas.
 Plain Inezia (P Tyrannulet) *Inezia inornata* Common in the dry chaco.
 Bran-colored Flycatcher *Myiophobus fasciatus* Two at Palomitas, two at Ceibas, one at Iberá.
 Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant *Culicivora caudacuta* One near Ituzaingo.
 Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer* Regular encounters.
 Eared Pygmy Tyrant ◊ *Myiornis auricularis* One at Salto Encantado; heard elsewhere.
 Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher *Poecilatriccus plumbeiceps* Two at Calilegua with others heard.
 Yellow-olive Flatbill *Tolmomyias sulphurescens* One at Iguazú.
 Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea* Common in the badlands, and one near Santa Victoria.
 Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri* One on the Cornisa road; two at Urugua-í.
 Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus* One at Iguazú.
 Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans* Five on NW Andean rivers (*latirostris*).
 Scarlet Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* Twenty in open country.
 Andean Negrito ◊ *Lessonia oreas* Six at altiplano lake shores.
 Cinereous Tyrant ◊ *Knipolegus striaticeps* A male displaying in the dry chaco.
 Plumbeous Tyrant *Knipolegus cabanisi* Lone males along the Cornisa road and at Calilegua.
 White-winged Black Tyrant *Knipolegus aterrimus* Six in the Salta badlands; three nr Santa Victoria.
 Spectacled Tyrant *Hymenops perspicillata* Four at NW rivers and marshes; three at Ceibas.
 Yellow-browed Tyrant *Satrapa icterophrys* One along the lower Cornisa road.
 Spot-billed Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola favinucha* Singles at El Infiernillo and Lagunillas (LO).
 Puna Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola juninensis* Two on the Santa Vistoria road.
 Rufous-naped Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola rufivertex* One at Laguna Huancar.
 Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant *Agriornis montanus* One at El Infiernillo.
 Grey-bellied Shrike-Tyrant ◊ *Agriornis micropterus* Singles nr Cienaguillas and La Quiaca (*andecola*).
 Lesser Shrike-Tyrant *Agriornis murinus* A late migrant south of Cafayate.
 Grey Monjita *Xolmis cinereus* One near Mercedes (NL); eight in the Iberá marshes.
 White Monjita *Xolmis irupero* Regular encounters in the lowlands and foothills.
 Streamer-tailed Tyrant ◊ *Gubernetes yetapa* Two at Candelaria; three near Garavi.
 Black-backed Water Tyrant *Fluvicola albiventer* Three at a reservoir near Taco Pozo; two at Ceibas.
 White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala* Two in the Iberá marshes.
 Strange-tailed Tyrant ◊ *Alectrurus risora* VU At least 13 of these stunning tyrants in the Iberá marshes.
 D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca oenanthoides* Two on the Santa Victoria road.
 White-browed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca leucophrys* Regular encounters in the NW Andes.
 Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus* Two at Caá Yarí.
 Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* Regular encounters.
 Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucocephalus* Small numbers in Yungas and Paraná forest.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* One (NL) at Iguazú.
Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* Ubiquitous and widespread, even at high altitude.
Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus* Regular encounters.
Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* Two at Salto Encantado; one at Caá Yari.
Variegated Flycatcher *Empidonomus varius* Three in the dry chaco; two at Garavi.
Crowned Slaty Flycatcher *Empidonomus aurantioatrocristatus* Common in the dry chaco and east.
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* Ubiquitous except in the high Andes.
Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* Generally abundant.
Rufous Casiornis *Casiornis rufa* Two at Calilegua.
Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* Two at Calilegua; others heard.
Swainson's Flycatcher *Myiarchus swainsoni* Seen nr Lajitas, Mercedes, Iberá (*ferocior*); and Iguazú.
Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannus* One at Salta Forestal.
White-tipped Plantcutter *Phytotoma rutila* Three in the badlands; two at Salta Forestal.
Yungas Manakin *Chiroxiphia boliviana* Two males and a female lekking at Calilegua.
Blue Manakin *Chiroxiphia caudata* A pair seen at Salto Encantado and four at Urugua-i.
Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana* One (NL) at Salto Encantado (*braziliensis*).
Greenish Schiffornis *Schiffornis virescens* One seen at Caá Yari; others heard.
White-naped Xenopsaris *Xenopsaris albinucha* One in the Iberá marshes.
Crested Becard *Pachyramphus validus* A pair at Calilegua.
Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* Ubiquitous; seven seen in Yungas forest.
Chivi Vireo *Vireo chivi* Regular encounters.
Rufous-crowned Greenlet ♦ *Hylophilus poicilotis* One showed well at Urugua-i; (H) at Iguazú.
Plush-crested Jay *Cyanocorax chrysops* Ubiquitous.
White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* Two at Iguazú.
White-rumped Swallow *Tachycineta leucorrhoa* Regular encounters.
Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* Regular in the east.
Southern Martin *Progne elegans* Regular in the NW deserts and badlands.
Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera* Regular encounters; mostly in the NE.
Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca* Recorded throughout; most numerous in the NW.
Andean Swallow *Orochelidon andecola* 15 or more along the Santa Victoria road.
Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* Two in the NW, and five in the NE.
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Small numbers in the NW; over 100 at Iberá.
American Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Over 3000 at Ceibas; 10 at the Iberá marshes.
Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla* Two in the Iberá marshes.
Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* Two at Iguazú.
Grass Wren *Cistothorus platensis* Two out of Cafayate, and one at Azul Pampa (*tucumanus*).
House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* Ubiquitous (*bonariae*, *rex*, *musculus*).
Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis* One below Tafí del Valle (*auricularis*); heard elsewhere.
Masked Gnatcatcher *Polioptila dumicola* Small numbers in the NW; common in the NE.
Chalk-browed Mockingbird *Mimus saturninus* Four in the upper Humahuaca valley; common in the NE.
Patagonian Mockingbird ♦ *Mimus patagonicus* Common in the salta badlands and monte desert.
White-banded Mockingbird ♦ *Mimus triurus* One out of Las Lajitas; one (NL) en route to Mercedes.
Brown-backed Mockingbird *Mimus dorsalis* Seven in the high NW Andes.
Sclater's Nightingale-Thrush ♦ *Catharus maculatus* One seen and four others heard at Calilegua.
Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco* Ubiquitous in the NW Andes (*anthracinus*).
Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus* Two males seen at Calilegua.
Andean Slaty Thrush ♦ *Turdus nigriceps* Six seen eventually, and many heard in Yungas forest.
Rufous-bellied Thrush *Turdus rufiventris* Regular encounters.
Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas* Small numbers daily in Misiones.
Creamy-bellied Thrush *Turdus amaurochalinus* Regular encounters except in the high Andes.
Cocoa Thrush *Turdus fumigatus* One seen by some at San Pedro.
White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis* One scoped at the Araucaria prov. park, San Pedro.
Rufous-throated Dipper ♦ *Cinclus schulzi* VU Great looks at one below Tafí del Valle.
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Common in towns including those in the altiplano.
Yellowish Pipit *Anthus lutescens* One on the Cornisa road; several aural records including Ceibas.
Short-billed Pipit *Anthus furcatus* Two or more in the Iberá marshes.
Ochre-breasted Pipit ♦ *Anthus nattereri* One in the Iberá marshes.

Hellmayr's Pipit *◊ Anthus hellmayri* Three at Los Cardones national park and one in the Iberá marshes.

Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica* Widespread encounters.

Black Siskin *Carduelis atrata* Thirteen seen over four dates in the NW Andes.

Yellow-rumped Siskin *◊ Carduelis uropygialis* Singles at Azul Pampa and along the Sta Victoria road.

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica* Five at Calilegua; various encounters in Misiones.

Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea* A pair at the Iguazú feeders, and at the national park.

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* Ubiquitous almost throughout.

Grassland Sparrow *Ammodramus humeralis* One at Palomitas, common in the east.

Stripe-capped Sparrow *◊ Rhynchospiza strigiceps* 8 nr Salta (*dabbenei*); 2 in the dry chaco (*strigiceps*)

Saffron-billed Sparrow *Arremon favirostris* Two at Calilegua (*dorbignyi*).

White-browed Brush Finch *Arremon torquatus* Six at Calilegua.

Fulvous-headed Brush Finch *◊ Atlapetes fulviceps* One on the Cornisa road; four at Calilegua.

Yellow-striped Brush Finch *◊ Atlapetes citrinellus* Two below Tafí del Valle.

Common Bush Tanager *Chlorospingus flavopectus* Common in all yungas forest (*argentinus*).

White-browed Blackbird *Sturnella superciliaris* Three near Salta; common in the east.

Long-tailed Meadowlark *Sturnella loyca* Two near Cafayate.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* One at Yala and two or more at Calilegua.

Solitary Cacique *Procacicus solitaries* Five in the dry chaco; three in the Iberá marshes.

Golden-winged Cacique *Cacicus chrysopterus* Two on the Cornisa road; five at Calilegua, one at Iberá.

Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous* Abundant in Misiones.

Variable Oriole *Icterus pyrrhopterus* Four nr Mercedes, singles the Iguazú feeders and national park.

Screaming Cowbird *Molothrus rufoaxillaris* One nr Salta; four at Ceibas and three nr Mercedes.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus* Four close to the Garganta del Diablo waterfall, Iguazú.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* Ubiquitous.

Scarlet-headed Blackbird *Amblyramphus holosericeus* One at Otamendi; two in the Iberá marshes.

Chopi Blackbird *Gnorimopsar chopi* Eight at Candelaria, two at Caá Yará, one at the Araucaria park.

Greyish Baywing *Agelaioides badius* Regular encounters.

Yellow-winged Blackbird *Agelasticus thilius* (H) at a marsh nr Taco Pozo; 1 (NL) at Ceibas.

Unicoloured Blackbird *Agelasticus cyanopus* Four in the Iberá marshes.

Chestnut-capped Blackbird *Chrysomus rufcapillus* Three at Palomitas; 100 at Ceibas; two at Iberá.

Brown-and-yellow Marshbird *Pseudoleistes virescens* At least 16 in the Iberá marshes.

Yellow-rumped Marshbird *◊ Pseudoleistes guirahuro* Over 40 at Iberá and Candelaria.

Southern Yellowthroat *Geothlypis velata* Singles at Palomitas, Candelaria and Iguazú; four at Ceibas.

Tropical Parula *Parula pitiaiyumi* Many encounters.

White-rimmed Warbler *Basileuterus leucoblepharus* One at Iberá; four at San Pedro, 12 at Urugua-í.

Pale-legged Warbler *Basileuterus signata* One showed well at Calilegua; others heard.

Riverbank Warbler *◊ Basileuterus rivularis* One at Urugua-í.

Two-banded Warbler *Basileuterus bivittatus* Four at La Cornisa road; common by voice at Calilegua.

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus* Common in Misiones.

Brown-capped Whitestart *Myioborus bruniceps* Common in all yungas forest areas visited.

Red Tanager (Hepatic T) *Piranga flava* Two in the Salta badlands and a male at Calilegua.

Red-crowned Ant Tanager *Habia rubica* A pair at Salto Encantado.

Black-backed Grosbeak *Pheucticus aureoventris* Twelve at four localities in the NW Andes.

Blackish-blue Seedeater *◊ Amaurospiza moesta* Two males seen and six heard at Urugua-í.

Glaucous-blue Grosbeak (Indigo G) *Cyanoloxia glaucocaerulea* A superb male near Gualeguaychu.

Ultramarine Grosbeak *◊ Cyanocompsa brissonii* Seven in dry and sierran chaco; one (NL) at Iberá.

Yellow Cardinal *◊ Gubernatrix cristata* EN A stunning male at Iberá after much effort.

Red-crested Cardinal *Paroaria coronata* One near Taco Pozo, then common in the east.

Yellow-billed Cardinal *Paroaria capitata* Two at Otamendi and one at Urugua-í.

Orange-headed Tanager *Thlypopsis sordida* A total of five at Calilegua.

Rust-and-yellow Tanager *Thlypopsis ruficeps* A male at Calilegua (LO).

Chestnut-headed Tanager *Pyrrhocomma ruficeps* Four seen in Misiones; others heard.

Black-goggled Tanager *Trichothraupis melanops* Two at Salto Encantado; two at Urugua-í.

Ruby-crowned Tanager *Tachyphonus coronatus* Small numbers daily in Misiones.

Sayaca Tanager *Thraupis sayaca* Common throughout.

Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Thraupis bonariensis* Regular encounters in the north-west.

Diademed Tanager *Stephanophorus diadematus* Two at Otamendi; two at the Araucaria prov. park.

Fawn-breasted Tanager *Pipraeidea melanonota* (NL) One at Calilegua by Pirjo.
Green-headed Tanager *Tangara seledon* (NL) Two at Iguazú.
Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis* Three (NL) at Caá Yari, and three at Iguazú.
Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* A pair at Iguazú.
Guira Tanager *Hemithraupis guira* A male at the Araucaria provincial park.
Rusty Flowerpiercer *Diglossa sittoides* A male at Calilegua.
Red Pileated Finch *Coryphospingus cucullatus* Over 20 in the dry and sierran chaco; one at Garavi.
Black-hooded Sierra Finch *Phrygilus atriceps* Thirteen in the high NW Andes.
Grey-hooded Sierra Finch *Phrygilus gayi* Thirty in the Andes of Tucumán; two at the Cuesta del Obispo.
Mourning Sierra Finch *Phrygilus fruticeti* Common in the NW Andes.
Plumbeous Sierra Finch *Phrygilus unicolor* Common in the NW Andes.
Red-backed Sierra Finch *Phrygilus dorsalis* Four on the Santa Victoria road.
Ash-breasted Sierra Finch *Phrygilus plebejus* Common to abundant in the NW Andes.
Band-tailed Sierra Finch *Phrygilus alaudinus* Singles at El Infiernillo and Pozuelos; NL at Sta Victoria.
Long-tailed Reed Finch *Donacospiza albifrons* Two near Ituzaingo.
Common Diuca Finch *Diuca diuca* 16 in the Salta badlands; 9 at Yavi and Santa Victorias (*crassirostris*).
Short-tailed Finch ◇ *Idiopsar brachyurus* One after much effort on the Santa Victoria road.
Rufous-sided Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza hypochondria* 10 at the Cuesta del Obispo; 4 nr Sta Victoria.
Rusty-browed Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza erythrophrys* Five at three sites in Yungas forest.
Black-and-rufous Warbling Finch *Poospiza nigrorufa* Five at Otamendi and Ceibas, one at Pto Boca.
Black-and-chestnut Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza whittii* Finally we found one near Jujuy.
Grey-throated Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza cabanisi* Three at Otamendi.
Ringed Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza pectoralis* Three at Amaicha del Valle; many heard.
Black-capped Warbling Finch *Poospiza melanoleuca* Sparse records of singles and pairs throughout.
Tucuman Mountain Finch ◇ *Compsospiza baeri* VU Four above Tafí del Valle; one nr Sta Victoria.
Puna Yellow Finch *Sicalis lutea* Ten or more out of Abra Pampa.
Bright-rumped Yellow Finch *Sicalis uropygialis* Forty in the altiplano and high NW Andes.
Citron-headed Yellow Finch ◇ *Sicalis luteocephala* Thirty at Yavi.
Greenish Yellow Finch *Sicalis olivascens* Regular encounters in the NW Andes.
Monte Yellow Finch ◇ *Sicalis mendozae* A male and a flock of three on two dates in the Salta badlands.
Saffron Finch *Sicalis faveola* Regular encounters except in the high Andes.
Grassland Yellow Finch *Sicalis luteola* Common from Ceibas to the Iberá marshes.
Wedge-tailed Grass Finch *Emberizoides herbicola* One in the Iberá marshes.
Lesser Grass Finch ◇ *Emberizoides ypiranganus* One seen and another heard in the Iberá marshes.
Pampa Finch *Embernagra platensis* Regular encounters.
Many-coloured Chaco-Finch *Saltatricula multicolor* Three at Salta Forestal.
Green-winged Saltator *Saltator similis* Singles at Salto Encantado and Caá Yari; others heard.
Greyish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens* Two in the dry chaco; one at Ceibas; three at Iberá.
Thick-billed Saltator ◇ *Saltator maxillosus* Two at Caá Yari.
Golden-billed Saltator *Saltator aurantirostris* Regular encounters.
Blue-black grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* A male in the Iberá marshes.
Rusty-collared Seedeater *Sporophila collaris* Two in the Iberá marshes.
Double-collared Seedeater *Sporophila caerulescens* Regular sightings in Corrientes.
Pearly-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila pileata* A male and female at Candelaria.
Tawny-bellied Seedeater ◇ *Sporophila hypoxantha* Over 30 in the Iberá marshes.
Rufous-rumped Seedeater ◇ *Sporophila hypochroma* Three males in the Iberá marshes.
Marsh Seedeater ◇ *Sporophila palustris* EN Eight smart males in the Iberá marshes.
Chestnut Seedeater ◇ *Sporophila cinnamomea* VU Six males in the Iberá marshes.
Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch *Oryzoborus angolensis* A male at Iguazú.
Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis* 15 on the Santa Victoria rd; two at Azul Pampa.
Plain-coloured Seedeater *Catamenia inornata* Eight at El Infiernillo; two on the Santa Victoria rd.
Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* Seven at the Iguazú feeders.

MAMMALS

Total of mammal species recorded: 27

- Black-eared Opossum** *Didelphis aurita* One near Wanda, Misiones.
Black-horned Capuchin *Cebus nigrilus* Two at Salto Encantado (LO?) and one at Iguazú.
European Hare *Lepus europaeus* Six or more in the north-west.
Tapati *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* One at Calilegua.
Brazilian Guinea Pig *Cavia aperea* Six in Tucuman. Common from Buenos Aires to southern Misiones.
Common Yellow-toothed Cavy *Galea musteloides* Two near Amaicha del Valle.
Chacoan Mara *Pediolagus salinicola* One near Taco Pozo.
Capybara *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris* Numerous in the Iberá marshes; 7 seen by Barbara to the south.
Mountain Viscacha *Lagidium viscacia* Singles at Abra Pampa and Cochinoco, 8 towards Sta Victoria.
Plains Viscacha *Lagostomus maximus* One out of Colonia Carlos Pellegrini.



The Plains Viscacha is a large, sociable, crepuscular chinchilla; lovable as well (Pirjo Laakso).

- Highland Tuco-tuco** *Ctenomys opinus* Twenty-five at Lago Pozuelos.
Azara's Agouti *Dasyprocta azarae* One at Salto Encantado and four at Iguazú.
Coypu (Nutria) *Myocastor coypus* One at the San Carlos reservoir. Two at Ceibas.
Bolivian Squirrel *Sciurus ignitus* One at Calilegua.
Jaguarundi *Herpailurus yagouaroundi* Some managed great looks at one out of Las Lajitas.
Crab-eating Fox *Cerdocyon thous* Singles on two dates in the Ibera marshes.
Culpeo *Dusycion culpaeus* Two singles above Tafi del Valle.
Argentine Grey Fox *Pseudalopex griseus* One in a vineyard north of Cafayate.
Pampas Fox *Lycalopex gymnocercus* Three in the Mercedes, Corrientes area over two dates.
Tayra *Eira barbata* (NL) One at Calilegua, seen only by Nico and Jim.
Neotropical Otter *Lontra longicaudis* One at Ceibas.
South American Coati *Nasua nasua* Common at Iguazú.
Guanaco *Lama guanicoe* Eleven at the Recta del Tin Tin, and two above Azul Pampa.
Vicuña *Vicugna vicugna* Numerous in the altiplano.
Marsh Deer *Blastocercus dichotomus* VU Twelve in the Iberá marshes.
Red Brocket *Mazama americana* (LO) A close up of one at Calilegua at night.
Grey Brocket *Mazama gouazoubira* One near Las Lajitas.



Highland Tuco-tuco is the "meercat" of the Andes; very active at this time of year (Mark Pearman)

REPTILES

Liolaemus quilmes Five of these small buffy lizards at Los Cardones NP.

Spiny Lava Lizard *Tropidurus spinulosus* A pair at Taco Pozo; alias Chaco Dragon.

Amazon Lava Lizard *Tropidurus torquatus* Four on the upper falls walkway at Iguazú NP.

Four-toed Whiptail *Teius teyou* Two in the dry chaco at a lunch stop.

Black Tegu *Tupinambis merianae* Five on three dates in eastern Misiones.

Black Caiman *Caiman yacare* Small numbers in the Iberá marshes.