

FIELD REPORT

BOLIVIA
ENDEMIC MACAWS & MORE!

**PART I: EASTERN LOWLANDS, CHACO, BENI
GRASSLANDS & INTER-ANDEAN VALLEYS**

AUGUST 29–SEPTEMBER 13, 2023



The endemic Blue-throated Macaw was one of many stunning highlights and one of five different macaw species seen on Part I. — Photo Andrew Whittaker

LEADERS: ANDREW WHITTAKER & J. QUILLÉN VIDOZ
LIST COMPILED BY: J. QUILLÉN VIDOZ & ANDREW WHITTAKER

VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM

One of South America's best-kept birding secrets, the delightful country of Bolivia demonstrated once again beyond question why this landlocked country is **TRULY A BIRDER'S PARADISE!** In fact, several of you kindly commented that these two Bolivia trips exceeded your wildest dreams, and that you considered Bolivia your best South American birding visit ever—even after many VENT trips to such other bird-rich South American destinations as Brazil, Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador. Yes, this year's magical tours were just as sensational as ever!



Bird-rich Chaco forest of southern Bolivia – Photo Andrew Whittaker

We enjoyed wonderful easy birding throughout both tours, visiting many totally different and exciting pristine biomes. **Bolivia Part I** ended with no fewer than **427 species**, while **Bolivia Part II** produced **341**. There was little overlap between the two lists, giving people who participated in both an incredible total of nearly 650 bird species in 23 days! Even a quick glance at our list of the top seven birds of Part I is guaranteed to make any birder drool: birding in Bolivia simply rocks! If there is still any doubt, reading through our trip highlights will convince anyone: Bolivia rocks! Among this year's highlights were a hunting Jaguarundi and mouthwatering studies of both rare endemic macaws. The Red-fronted Macaw is an artist's palette of colors, for me the most beautiful of all macaws. Our looks at endangered Blue-throated Macaws in their bird-rich island reserve were just as awesome!

We began birding in the enchanting Chaco south of Santa Cruz, with the likes of the greatly sought-after Black-legged Seriema and the wonderful Crested Gallito singing its cool song. We continued to the paradise of Refugio Los Volcanes, in a secluded valley offering gobsmacking 360-degree scenic views and flocks of huge and colorful Military Macaws. We finished up in the Pantanal with a camouflaged day-roosting Great Potoo and the incredibly rare Large-billed Seedfinch—plus an as yet undescribed new greenlet species!

First and foremost, we have to thank our awesome Bolivian crew and our two outstanding drivers, Marcus and Hugo. And thanks to all of you, too, for being such a fun group! It's a shame that the only group photo is missing several of you, but it's the only one we have.



Part of the group birding in the Bolivian Chaco- Photo Andrew Whittaker.

Despite its small size, delightful Bolivia offers a truly remarkable array of exciting habitats. More than 50% of this friendly country's 10 million inhabitants live in just three major cities, leaving considerable unspoiled countryside to enjoy. In an action-packed two weeks, we experienced that amazing diversity, from the wide-open dry Chaco, Chiquitania forest, semi-desert, inter-Andean valleys, Yungas cloud forest, grasslands, and rich gallery forest to the Bolivian Pantanal and vast marshes studded with palm islands, each with its own unique and fascinating birds.

Thanks to the great steps, social and economic, taken by the Bolivian government over the past two decades, a brand-new road system (thanks to the Chinese), improved accommodations, and good healthy food, Bolivia will very quickly become what it deserves to be, one of South America's TOP birding meccas.

Our birding explorations began in the botanical gardens of the bustling capital of Santa Cruz, where we were rewarded with stellar views of a pair of Great Rufous Woodcreepers, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, a displaying Scaly-headed Parrot, White-eyed Parakeet, Purplish Jay, Bolivian Slaty-Antshrike, Fawn-breasted Wren, a gorgeous male Guira Tanager, migrant Black-backed Grosbeaks, and hundreds of roosting egrets and Bare-faced Ibis. We will never forget our wonderful quick observation of the rarely seen Jaguarundi, a brown-morph individual, hunting squirrels! A neat group of Black Howlers and the endangered Broad-snouted Caiman were just as memorable.

The next morning saw us heading southwest, our destination the distinctive Chiquitania forest and the rolling thorny forests of the birdy Chaco with its ancient columnar cactus and secluded ponds. Along the way, we stumbled across one of our prime targets, the unusual Black-legged Seriema, as it circled the bus while we played its vocalizations.

We were dismayed to find our remote wetland hotspot almost dry, but our disappointment didn't last long, as we still found found White-tufted Grebe, Ringed and Silver Teal, Brazilian and Andean Ducks, Rosy-billed Pochard, an enormous Southern Screamer, and even a late and rare Black-headed Duck. Passerines here included Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, a spectacular pair of Barred Antshrikes, Suiriri and Vermilion Flycatchers (both austral migrants), Masked Gnatcatcher, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Red-crested Cardinal, and noisy groups of Black-capped Warbling Finches.

We continued southwest toward the distinctive Tucuman-Bolivian forest and the vast rolling Chaco. En route, we had excellent views of Andean Condors; a beautiful male Cream-backed Woodpecker on the roadside was a very pleasant surprise to the leaders.



Cream-backed Woodpecker – Photo Andrew Whittaker

Early the next day, we drove southeast to the Chaco area. At our very first stop, we encountered such Chaco specialties as the Crested Hornero, Short-billed Canastero, Little Thornbird, Lark-like Brushrunner, Cinereous Tyrants in flight display, the rare and endemic Gray-crested Finch, Many-colored Chaco Finch, Checkered Woodpecker, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, Golden-billed Saltator, and Greater Wagtail-Tyrants singing their charming duets. We also nailed one of our prime targets here, the unusual Black-legged Seriema, and after some effort, we finally had views of Crested Gallito, too. As always in the Chaco, highlights came thick and fast, among them crippling studies of White-fronted Woodpeckers and the near-endemic Chaco Earthcreeper.



The Chaco Earthcreeper gave great views – Photo Andrew Whittaker

Leaving Camiri, we drove to one of the most stunningly situated lodges I have ever visited, the Refugio Los Volcanes.



Refugio Los Volcanes – Photo Andrew Whittaker.

A paradise set in a national park, with a single dirt road winding in and out of a breathtaking valley, Los Volcanes is surrounded on three sides by majestic sandstone cliffs and a carpet of rich Yungas forest as far as the eye can see. Here we enjoyed ice-cold beers and the veranda's panoramic view as we watched birds appear in the clearing. The lush forest offered orchid-festooned trails, crystal-clear streams, and superb trails where we enjoyed stellar birding in utter tranquility. Here we had great looks at the very local Slaty Gnateater, along with other noteworthy species such as the Black-capped Antwren, Golden-crowned Flycatcher, Two-banded Warbler, Yungas Manakin, Guira Tanager, White-winged and Hepatic Tanagers, and exceptional studies of the rare Black-streaked Puffbird.



The rarely encountered Black-streaked Puffbird – Photo Andrew Whittaker

The clearing at our lodge rewarded us with a daily show of colorful Military Macaws flocks flying by. Common sights included noisy flocks of Mitred and Green-cheeked Parakeets, Blue-headed and Turquoise-fronted Parrots, many Blue-throated Piping-Guans in display, Channel-billed Toucan, and Plumbeous Pigeon. The feeders attracted Plush-crested and some Purplish Jays. A real treat was watching the Dusky-green Oropendolas display as they built their nests in a nearby colony.



Dusky-green Oropendola – Photo Andrew Whittaker

We were all sad to leave this paradise, but many more exciting birds awaited. After driving up a lush river valley lined with spectacular cliffs and forest, we found that the terrain grew drier and drier until we emerged into the stark inter-Andean valleys. The vegetation in this area of rain shadow is almost desert-like, with a corresponding dramatic change in the birdlife. We soon arrived at our destination, Samaipata, where our friendly hotel stands on a hill outside of town. In the afternoon, we were able to visit a recently opened flower garden, where the hummingbird feeders and spectacular flowers produced numbers of Planalto and Great-billed Hermits, White-vented and Sparkling Violetears, male Fork-tailed Woodnymphs, and abundant White-bellied Hummingbirds.

This time, after two attempts the year before, we were finally able to visit one of our favorite places along the Gold Road. A strong wind kept bird activity low, but we did manage to see the Blue-banded Toucanet, Masked Trogon, the endemic Bolivian Brushfinch, the noisy Gray-breasted Wood-Wren, Yungas Warbler, Slate-throated Redstart, and Black-eared Hemispingus. A White-throated Antpitta came in tantalizingly close, though only a couple of lucky folks got to see it. The Bolivian form of the Blue-winged Mountain Tanager is always a crowd-pleaser here.



Blue-winged Mountain Tanager – Photo Andrew Whittaker

After a tasty field lunch (thanks, Marcos), a newly finished road took us on to our conservation project at the wonderful Red-fronted Macaw Ecolodge, run by the conservation organization Armonia. This is home to one of the tour's most-wanted prizes, the endemic Red-fronted Macaw. Including this lodge on our itinerary, and the income our stay provides, supports Armonia in its continued efforts on behalf of this enigmatic parrot; the friendly local community benefits, too. VENT is always proud to encourage such a wonderful conservation effort.

As always, the views from the veranda were breathtaking as the eye swept across desert scrub and massive columnar cactus to spectacular red sandstone cliffs. Birds abound in the lodge garden. We enjoyed noisy endemic Cliff Parakeets at their huge nests, and our first studies of the macaws came in the late afternoon, when a single tree holding more than twenty-five whetted our appetite for the following day's birding.



Magical looks at the mouthwatering endemic Red-fronted Macaw – Photo Andrew Whittaker

As the sun struck the rimrock, we enjoyed a home-cooked dinner in the lodge before retiring for a well-earned rest.

After a great breakfast, we crossed the river early, taking up a position at the base of the cliffs as we waited in excited anticipation for the Red-fronted Macaws. WOW, did they ever put on an unforgettable show for us! Colorful Turquoise-fronted Parrots and Southern Martins were breeding on the cliffs, as were colonies of Cliff Parakeets, busy collecting thorny twigs for their nests. Returning to the lodge's shaded veranda and a nice cool drink, we had nonstop action at the feeders: gaudy Blue-and-yellow Tanagers, Golden-billed Saltator, endemic Bolivian Blackbirds, comical White-fronted Woodpeckers, and the near-endemic Gray-crested Finch.



The near-endemic Gray-crested Finch – Photo Andrew Whittaker

A brief walk around the lodge was rewarded with excellent close views of Striped Woodpecker—this isolated Bolivian subspecies is likely to be split—plus the rather odd-looking and odd-sounding White-tipped Plantcutter and a lovely quiet pair of Chaco Puffbirds. We explored the nearby cultivated valley on foot, where Glittering-bellied Emeralds, low-flying Andean Swifts, Ultramarine Grosbeak, flocks of Grayish Baywings, and Crowned Slaty Flycatchers (freshly arrived from the Amazon) were setting up territories.

After an early lunch, we headed to our next stop, San Isidro. The scent of the magnificent rose gardens welcomed us to Monte Blanco, where we enjoyed our first views of the highland form of Blue-crowned Parakeet.

The next morning, we set off very early for a favorite site of ours, Siberia. The contrast between our birding in stark desert habitats and the lush Yungas cloud forests of the Sierra de Siberia was incredible. One of the southernmost cloud forests in the Andes, this is a

remarkable birding paradise, dripping with orchids, bromeliads, and mosses. We enjoyed a field breakfast here, with an amazing view of the pristine ridge as the forest birds awoke.

It is always sheer bliss to bird the delightful forest along this lovely traffic-free road! Our first stop found us spinning around excitedly from one lifer to another. We quickly tracked down a singing endemic Rufous-faced Antpitta, one of our prime targets among the endemics; in spite of our hard work, neither this nor the Trilling Tapaculo would emerge to be seen. But there were still many highlights: dazzling Blue-winged and Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanagers, Tyrian Metaltails, a male Giant Antshrike, Mountain Wren, Light-crowned Spintail, the endemic Bolivian Brushfinch, and Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant. We even managed to bring out an incredibly responsive Bar-bellied Woodpecker and a Speckled Nightingale-Thrush, which hopped out right in front of us: WOW.



A male Bar-bellied Woodpecker – Photo Andrew Whittaker

After a great cooked breakfast prepared by Marcos, we continued walking in the forest, with excellent studies of a Crested Quetzal, closely followed by a lovely White-eared Solitaire and finishing off with a memorable Masked Trogon.



A male Masked Trogon – Photo Andrew Whittaker

On the way to Santa Cruz in the morning, we stopped at a bushy area with several lush lakes, where we had an incredible five species of warbling finch—Bolivian, Rufous-sided, Black-and-chestnut, Black-capped, and Ringed—as well as some other new species for the trip, including the Green-barred Woodpecker and lovely Rufous-capped Antshrike.

After a relaxing evening and night, the next morning would lead us to our next bird-rich biome, the world-famous Bolivian Pantanal. A short domestic flight took us to Beni Department and its bustling capital of Trinidad. Our quaint lodge was set in the countryside, beside an extremely rich lake fringed with flowering water hyacinths. Birds abound here, and we enjoyed a couple of action-packed days absorbing a mind-blowing variety of birds, often more than 120 species a day: simply staggering! Our first afternoon's birding right on the hotel grounds produced Striped Cuckoo, a spectacular flock of Toco Toucans, the tiny Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet, Peach-fronted Parakeet, a beautiful male Great Antshrike, and Plumbeous, Buff-necked, and Bare-faced Ibises. We also saw the near-endemic Gray-crested Cacholote, which was split in 2000 when Andy and Kevin Zimmer published proof that the disjunct form of NE Brazil was a distinct species, the Caatinga Cacholote. We tallied 90 species in just those few hours around the lodge!

Best of all, we located several wintering Hudson's Black-Tyrants. The road outside the lodge was as good as ever, with Black-collared Hawk, the prehistoric-looking Hoatzin, Limpkins, a very well-behaved Mato Grosso Antbird, Yellow-billed and Red-crested Cardinals, a wonderful look at the amazing Rufous-tailed Jacamar, almost fluorescent Orange-backed Troupials, and Blue-and-yellow Macaws. The flocks of Large-billed Seedfinches were fly-overs, but we would have much better views of them the next evening, perched at close range. And who could ever forget the Southern Screamers?



Southern Screamers – Photo Andrew Whittaker

On our first full morning here, we paid a visit to a private ranch, always a trip highlight, where we had the great privilege of quality time with the endemic Blue-throated Macaws. Here we were able to compare the differences in plumage and voice from the more common Blue-and-yellow Macaws, which breed here in good numbers. We were extremely blessed to see twelve to fifteen Blue-throateds so well, especially when we recall that there are only between 250 and 350 of these magnificent birds left.



Endemic Blue-throated Macaws feeding on their preferred motacú palm nuts – Photo Andrew Whittaker

It is encouraging to know that the significant fees VENT pays for our groups help the ranch owner conserve the vital breeding and feeding area of this truly iconic macaw. An enormous thanks must go to the Bolivian conservation organization Armonia for its essential conservation work in cooperation with local landowners. Their nest box program has been a great success.

A mammal highlight here was the endangered Rio Beni Titi. Cool birds included a pair of Great Rufous Woodcreepers, Chotoy Spinetail, Red-billed Scythebill (always a favorite), nesting Campo Flickers, and a family group of Hooded Tanagers. We ended the day with three species of large macaw, including a terrific Red-and-green Macaw pair that flew in and perched, giving great views.



Red-and-green Macaws – Photo Andrew Whittaker

Birds were also abundant along the dirt road to and from our hotel, with flocks of water birds among the fish-rich pools. This amazingly birdy road produced Whistling Heron, Green Ibis, the enormous Jabiru, Maguari Stork, flocks of Wood Storks, Snail Kites, Savanna Hawks, and Golden-green Woodpecker. The Black-capped Donacobius is always a crowd-pleaser, as is the black-backed form of the White-bellied Seedeater, a potential split. And the big surprise was a Scaled Dove, only the second record documented in Beni Department!



A Black-capped Donacobius duet – Photo Andrew Whittaker

Our morning trip to some nearby gallery forest yielded a lovely but brief sighting of Orinoco Goose, Chestnut-fronted Macaw, Blue-crowned and Black-tailed Trogons, Black-fronted Nunbird, White-wedged Piculet, Rusty-backed Spinetail, the endemic nominate subspecies of the Plain Softtail, Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher, Dull-capped Attila, and flocks of endemic Bolivian (Velvet-fronted) Grackles, plus the odd-sounding and extremely local Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin. Finally, after some effort, we managed great views of Band-tailed Manakin.

This super-diverse Pantanal region and its rich marshes really did us proud, producing in excess of 130 species on a single day. There were far too many highlights to list all of them here, but they included Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, pairs of Golden-collared Macaws, family groups of Greater Rheas, Great Pampa-Finch, Greater Thornbird, Black-backed Water-Tyrant, White-headed Marsh Tyrant, White-browed Meadowlark, Unicolored Blackbird, White-rumped Monjita, the stupendous Scarlet-headed Blackbird, Solitary Black Cacique, and Variable Oriole. We finished our last afternoon on a real high: an excellent encounter with a NEW, still undescribed species of greenlet!



Tapacare Resort, Trinidad – Photo Andrew Whittaker

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to this mega-rich biome and fly back to Cochabamba— but thankfully, all of us continued on our exciting Part II and further exploration of the rich birding country that is Bolivia.

ITINERARY

8/29: Fly from the US, Canada, or Europe to Brazil. Several folks arrived early today or even yesterday to rest up and bird the hotel grounds.

8/30: Arrive in Santa Cruz de la Sierra in the morning. Transfer to hotel, with mid-afternoon birding in the botanical gardens, a wonderful introduction to the rich avifauna. Night in Santa Cruz.

8/31: After a hearty breakfast, we headed south to the famously bird-rich Chaco, with some excellent birding en route. Night in our charming hotel on the outskirts of Camiri.

9/1: After a good early breakfast, we drove to the small settlement of Boyuibe to enjoy the rich avian pickings of the Gran Chaco, then out into the wilderness close to the Paraguayan border, nailing the elusive Black-legged Seriema and all the other Chaco specialties. Night in Camiri.

9/2: We left Santa Cruz after a good breakfast and began to drive up through lush Yungas forest into the Andean foothills, arriving at the magnificent Refugio Los Volcanes in the late afternoon. Military Macaws put on an incredible show to welcome us! Night at Refugio Los Volcanes.

9/3: All day was spent on the magnificent Yungas forest trails, dripping with orchids and colorful bromeliads. This place is truly magical, and we all drooled over what must be one of the most fantastic vistas ever—right off our verandas. Birding with cool drinks in our hands: WOW! Night at Refugio Los Volcanes.

9/4: After another morning of exciting birding, we had to bid a fond farewell to our paradise, as more lifers awaited us in the dry inter-Andean valleys. Working our way up a lush valley and through the important commercial center of Samaipata, we observed the abrupt change to desert-like scrub with cactus and other thorny vegetation. Night in Samaipata.

9/5: Strong winds made morning birding in the cloud forest along Gold Road challenging. In the afternoon, we traveled on to the wonderful Red-fronted Macaw Lodge, where birding against the backdrop of the spectacular cliffs was superb. Night at Red-fronted Macaw Lodge.

9/6: This morning we were all blown away by the show put on by the iconic endemic Red-fronted Macaws around our lodge, alongside the relaxed birding off the panoramic veranda with its active feeders. Before a great lunch, we explored nearby agricultural fields before driving the new road back to San Isidro. The rose gardens here never fail: WOW! Afternoon birding on higher ground nearby. Night in Monte Blanco.

9/7: In stark contrast to yesterday's arid inter-Andean valleys, today's destination, the Sierra de Siberia, featured lush Yungas cloud forest with flocks of colorful tanagers and several neat endemics, plus, of course, stunning orchids. Night in Monte Blanco.

9/8: Today we birded our way to Santa Cruz, with stops for some endemic birds and a visit to the paradise of the warbling finches. Night in Santa Cruz.

9/9: This morning we took the short flight to Trinidad and checked into our lovely lodge in the Bolivian Pantanal, with birds everywhere and pools covered in royal water lilies. The afternoon brought some exciting birding right around the lodge. Night in Trinidad.

9/10: After a super breakfast, we drove through rich wetlands to a private lodge for the endemic Blue-throated Macaw; we were pleased to hear that the nest box scheme there has been a great success. We birded our way through bird-rich marshes back to our hotel. As the afternoon temperatures dropped, we birded the lodge area and dirt road. Night in Trinidad.

9/11: Wonderful birding all day in the vast Pantanal marshes and rich gallery forests of the Rio Mamoré. Night in Trinidad.

9/12: This morning we had two hours of great birding around Tapacare before we caught our morning flight to Cochabamba. On arrival, we all continued to exciting Part II of our Bolivia tour, which officially began with the transfer to our new and very nice hotel. This afternoon we birded Laguna Alalay in Cochabamba. Night in Cochabamba.

Top 7 birds of Bolivia Part I (as voted by the group)

1. Blue-throated Macaw (ENDEMIC)
2. Red-fronted Macaw (ENDEMIC)
3. Red-billed Scythebill
4. Spot-backed (Chaco) Puffbird

5. Band-tailed Manakin
6. Andean Condor
7. Blue-winged Mountain Tanager

BIRDS:

* = heard only

(I) = introduced

RHEIDAE (Rheas)

Greater Rhea (*Rhea americana*) – Good studies in Beni grasslands.

TINAMIDAE (Tinamous)

Gray Tinamou (*Tinamus tao*) * – Not very vocal this year.

Brown Tinamou (*Crypturellus obsoletus*) *

Undulated Tinamou (*Crypturellus undulatus*) *

Tataupa Tinamou (*Crypturellus tataupa*) *

ANHIMIDAE (Screamers)

Southern Screamer (*Chauna torquata*) – Great looks at these vegetarian giants at Trinidad!

ANATIDAE (Ducks, Geese & Waterfowl)

White-faced Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)

Orinoco Goose *Oressochen jubatus* – Quick views of a female.

Comb Duck (*Sarkidiornis melanotos sylvicola*) – Guide only.

Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*)

[Ringed Teal \(*Callonetta leucophrys*\) – Great looks at several pairs of this uncommon and local species on lakes in Chaco; males are simply stunning.](#)

Brazilian Teal (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*)

Silver Teal (*Spatula versicolor*) – more common than in previous years.

White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis rubrirostris*)

[Black-headed Duck \(*Heteronetta atricapilla*\) – just one male. A wintering species here.](#)

Andean Duck (*Oxyura ferruginea*)

CRACIDAE (Guans, Chachalacas & Curassows)

Chaco Chachalaca (*Ortalis canicollis*)

Speckled Chachalaca (*Ortalis guttata*)

Andean Guan (*Penelope montagnii*)

[Yungas Guan \(*Penelope bridgesi*\) NEAR-ENDEMIC – Split from Dusky-legged Guan. Two individuals; we had had huge groups on our 2022 tour, but no luck this trip.](#)

Blue-throated Piping-Guan (*Pipile cumanensis grayi*) – nice studies; some authorities split the species, calling this the Gray's Piping-Guan.

ODONTOPHORIDAE (New World Quails)

Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus speciosus loricatus*) *

PODICIPEDIDAE (Grebes)

White-tufted Grebe (*Rollandia rolland*) – A cool looker
Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*)

COLUMBIDAE (Pigeons & Doves)

Rock Pigeon (I) (*Columba livia*)
Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)
Picazuro Pigeon (*Patagioenas picazuro*)
Spot-winged Pigeon (*Patagioenas maculosa albipennis*)
Plumbeous Pigeon (*Patagioenas plumbea*)
Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*)
Ruddy Ground Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)
Scaled Dove (*Columbina squammata*) – the second documented record for Beni Department!
Picui Ground Dove (*Columbina picui*)
Blue Ground Dove (*Claravis pretiosa*)
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)
Large-tailed (Yungas) Dove (*Leptotila megalura*) *
Gray-fronted Dove (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)
White-throated Quail-Dove (*Zentrygon frenata*) *
Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)

CUCULIDAE (Cuckoos)

Guira Cuckoo (*Guira guira*) – An interesting species; Brazilians call it the White Ani.
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*) – Good looks.
Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)

CAPRIMULGIDAE (Nightjars & Allies)

Nacunda Nighthawk (*Chordeiles nacunda*)
Scissor-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis torquata*) – Nice studies of a male beneath the lights of our lodge in the Bolivian Pantanal.
Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) *

APODIDAE (Swifts)

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)
Andean Swift (*Aeronautes andecolus*) – Great studies; low over agricultural fields near the Macaw Lodge.

TROCHILIDAE (Hummingbirds)

Great-billed (Amazonian) Hermit (*Phaethornis malaris bolivianus*) – Just one, at dawn in Samaipata.

Buff-bellied Hermit (*Phaethornis subochraceus*) – Rare species. Seen well feeding on flowers in Trinidad.

Planalto Hermit (*Phaethornis pretrei*)

White-vented Violetear (*Colibri serrirostris*)

Sparkling Violetear (*Colibri coruscans*)

White-tailed Goldenthrout (*Polytmus guainumbi*)

Black-throated Mango (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*)

Long-tailed Sylph (*Agelaiocercus kingii*) – Always stunning.

Tyrian Metaltail (*Metallura tyrianthina*) – Common.

Blue-capped Puffleg (*Eriocnemis glaucopoides*) NEAR ENDEMIC – Rare here at the northern edge of its range; we had a good view of a male.

Bronzy Inca (*Coeligena coeligena*)

Gould's Inca (*Coeligena inca*) – A good looker.

Violet-throated Starfrontlet (*Coeligena violifer*)

Rufous-booted Racket-tail (*Ocreatus addae*) – Stunning.

Blue-tufted Starthroat (*Heliomaster furcifer*)

Long-billed Starthroat (*Heliomaster longirostris*)

Blue-tailed Emerald (*Chlorostilbon mellisugus*)

Glittering-bellied Emerald (*Chlorostilbon aureoventris*)

Fork-tailed Woodnymph (*Thalurania furcata*)

Golden-tailed Sapphire (*Chrysuronia oenone*)

Glittering-throated Emerald (*Amazilia fimbriata*)

Gilded Hummingbird (*Hylocharis chrysur*)

White-bellied Hummingbird (*Elliomyia chionogaster hypoleuca*) – Common and very vocal.

White-chinned Sapphire (*Chlorestes cyanus*)

OPISTHOCOMIDAE (Hoatzin)

Hoatzin (*Opisthocomus hoazin*) – Great studies of this unusual, almost prehistoric species.

RALLIDAE (Rails, Gallinules & Coots)

Plumbeous Rail (*Pardirallus sanguinolentus*)

Gray-cowled Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajaneus*) – Wonderful repeated looks.

White-winged Coot (*Fulica leucoptera*) – Variable in abundance, and rare this year; an austral migrant in the south.

Rufous-sided Crake (*Laterallus melanophaius*) * – Would not show itself.

ARAMIDAE (Limpkin)

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

RECURVIROSTRIDAE (Stilts & Avocets)

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

CHARADRIIDAE (Plovers & Lapwings)

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) – Common.

JACANIDAE (Jacanas)

Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*)

SCOLOPACIDAE (Sandpipers & Allies)

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) – In groups; early this year.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*)

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*)

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

LARIDAE (Gulls, Terns & Skimmers)

Large-billed Tern (*Phaetusa simplex*)

CICONIIDAE (Storks)

Maguari Stork (*Ciconia maguari*) – Super studies.

Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*) – The 747 of the bird world; common in Trinidad marshlands.

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

ANHINGIDAE (Anhingas)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

PHALACROCORACIDAE (Cormorants & Shags)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

ARDEIDAE (Herons, Egrets & Bitterns)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) – Abundant at Trinidad.

Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Whistling Heron (*Syrigma sibilatrix*) – Always a good looker.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)

Western Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*)

THRESKIORNITHIDAE (Ibises & Spoonbills)

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)

Green Ibis (*Mesembrinibis cayennensis*)

Bare-faced Ibis (*Phimosus infuscatus*)

Plumbeous Ibis (*Theristicus caerulescens*) – The largest ibis, and almost prehistoric-looking.

Buff-necked Ibis (*Theristicus caudatus*)

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) – Always stunning; great studies from our lodge.

CATHARTIDAE (New World Vultures)

[Andean Condor \(*Vultur gryphus*\)](#) – Good looks at this flying monster.

King Vulture (*Sarcorampus papa*)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura ruficollis*) – This non-migratory and distinctive subspecies is already split by some authorities under the name Neotropical Turkey Vulture.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) – Trinidad area only.

ACCIPITRIDAE (Hawks, Eagles & Kites)

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) – Always super to see; a classy bird.

Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*) – Lovely studies of this fish specialist.

Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*)

Plumbeous Kite (*Ictinia plumbea*)

Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*)

Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*)

Great Black Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)

Roadside Hawk (*Rupornis magnirostris saturatus*)

[White-throated Hawk \(*Buteo albigula*\)](#) – Rare neotropical migrant; probably on the way back to the breeding grounds in Patagonia.

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) – Dark morphs.

STRIGIDAE (Owls)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)

TROGONIDAE (Trogons & Quetzals)

Crested Quetzal (*Pharomachrus antisianus*)

Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*)

Blue-crowned Trogon (*Trogon curucui*) – Lovely.

Masked Trogon (*Trogon personatus submontanus*) – Close views of a male.

MOMOTIDAE (Motmots)

Amazonian Motmot (*Momotus momota pilcomajensis*) *

ALCEDINIDAE (Kingfishers)

Ringed Kingfisher (*Megaceryle torquata*)

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)

BUCCONIDAE (Puffbirds)

[Spot-backed \(Chaco\) Puffbird \(*Nystalus \[maculatus\] striatipectus*\)](#) – Split by most from the Caatinga Puffbird; endemic to Brazil and Chaco.

[Black-streaked Puffbird \(*Malacoptila fulvogularis*\)](#) – Great find of this extremely difficult-to-see puffbird; seen well in the scope by all the group.

Black-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa nigrifrons*)

GALBULIDAE (Jacamars)

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula ruficauda*) – Stunning studies of this delightful species.

RAMPHASTIDAE (Toucans)

Chestnut-tipped Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus derbianus*)

Blue-banded Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus coeruleicinctis*)

Lettered Aracari (*Pteroglossus inscriptus*)

Chestnut-eared Aracari (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)

Toco Toucan (*Ramphastos toco*)

Channel-billed (Yellow-ridged) Toucan (*Ramphastos vitellinus culminatus*) – Wow!

PICIDAE (Woodpeckers)

White-barred Piculet (*Picumnus cirratus thamnophiliodes*) – * The taxonomy of this group is a true nightmare! The odd-looking unbarred form of the Chaco is distinctive and often thought to be a separate species.

Ocellated Piculet (*Picumnus dorbignyanus*) – Nice looks.

White-wedged Piculet (*Picumnus albosquamatus*)

White Woodpecker (*Melanerpes candidus*) *

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes cruentatus*) – Simply a stunner!

White-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes cactorum*) – Lovely looks at this beauty.

Checkered Woodpecker (*Dryobates mixtus*) – Nice studies of this easily overlooked species.

[Striped \(Bolivian\) Woodpecker \(*Dryobates lignarius puncticeps*\) NEAR ENDEMIC – Good views of this little-known taxon.](#)

Little Woodpecker (*Dryobates passerinus*)

[Dot-fronted Woodpecker \(*Dryobates frontalis*\) NEAR ENDEMIC – A wonderful study of a pair at close range.](#)

Bar-bellied Woodpecker (*Dryobates nigriceps*) – Prolonged great studies at close range.

Red-necked Woodpecker (*Campephilus rubricollis*) – Lovely looks at this beauty!

Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)

[Cream-backed Woodpecker \(*Campephilus leucopogon*\) – WOW: one of my trip highlights was a stunning male of this massive and striking bird. In the same genus as the Ivory-billed, which is sadly probably extinct.](#)

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

Golden-green Woodpecker (*Piculus chrysochloros*)

Green-barred Woodpecker (*Colaptes melanochloros melanolaimus*) – Some split this form as the Golden-breasted Woodpecker.

Campo Flicker (*Colaptes campestris*) – Always a crowd-pleaser.

CARIAMIDAE (Seriemas)

[Black-legged Seriema \(*Chunga burmeisteri*\) – Bolivia has to be the best country to see this secretive bird. We had fairly good looks as one circled the speaker and serenaded us with its wild voice.](#)

FALCONIDAE (Falcons & Caracaras)

Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*) * – Unresponsive to tape.

Crested (Southern) Caracara (*Caracara plancus plancus*)

Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*)

Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis pichincae*) – Two different sightings of this beauty.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)

PSITTACIDAE (New World and African Parrots)

Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*)

Gray-hooded Parakeet (*Psilopsiagon aymara*)

Cliff Parakeet (*Myiopsitta luschii*) ENDEMIC – We had super studies of this recent split (from the Monk Parakeet) at the breeding cliffs.

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*)

Cobalt-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris cyanopectera*)

Red-billed Parrot (*Pionus sordidus*)

Scaly-headed Parrot (*Pionus maximiliani*) – Good looks at this in rare display!

Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*) – Great looks around the lodge at Volcanes.

Turquoise-fronted Parrot (*Amazona aestiva*) – Lovely.

Scaly-naped Parrot (*Amazona mercenarius*) – Common in Siberia.

Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet (*Forpus xanthopterygius*) – Good looks at this tiny parrot; name recently changed from Blue-winged.

Green-cheeked Parakeet (*Pyrrhura molinae*)

Peach-fronted Parakeet (*Eupsittula aurea*)

Dusky-headed Parakeet (*Aratinga weddellii*)

Yellow-collared (Golden-collared) Macaw (*Primolius auricollis*) – Hate the new name for such a stunner.

Blue-and-yellow Macaw (*Ara ararauna*) – Magically close studies at our lodge.

Blue-throated Macaw (*Ara glaucogularis*) ENDEMIC – It cannot get much better than the five to seven birds seen so well in flight, then perched looking at us at the wonderful palm islands, several of them close to the road feeding on palm nuts! Our entrance fee helps protect the 250 to 300 remaining individuals of this endangered species. Breeds here in nest boxes. So nice to spend time with this ornithological great! Justly voted top species of the trip.

Chestnut-fronted Macaw (*Ara severus*)

Red-fronted Macaw (*Ara rubrogenys*) ENDEMIC – Another BIG WOW bird! For me, the top macaw species, with its simply mind-blowing combination of colors. The orange on the leading edge of the wing and the underwing is incredible in flight. Yet another breathtaking endemic macaw! Our visit to the lodge also benefits conservation efforts for this species.

Military Macaw (*Ara militaris*) – WOW: so many macaw highlights! Birds flying around our heads at the lodge.

Red-and-green Macaw (*Ara chloropterus*) – Stupendous studies also.

Blue-crowned Parakeet (*Thectocercus acuticaudatus*) – Interestingly, we saw both forms. The lowland form is the nominate subspecies; we also enjoyed good looks at the highland

form, *neumanni*, with its distinctive orange skin around the eye. That form is a Bolivian endemic, and an excellent candidate for a split!

Mitred Parakeet (*Psittacara mitratus*)

White-eyed Parakeet (*Psittacara leucophthalmus*)

THAMNOPHILIDAE (Typical Antbirds)

Giant Antshrike (*Batara cinerea*) – Great to see this real skulker; a striking male, so high up!

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*)

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)

Rufous-capped Antshrike (*Thamnophilus ruficapillus cochabambae*)

Chestnut-backed Antshrike (*Thamnophilus palliatus*) – Always a stunner, and what views! Bolivian Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus sticturus*) – Nice looks at this near-endemic.

Variable Antshrike (*Thamnophilus caerulescens aspersiventer*) – Multiple splits coming to this complex; stay tuned.

Pygmy Antwren (*Myrmotherula brachyura*)

Stripe-backed Antbird (*Myrmorchilus strigilatus*) *

Plain Antvireo (*Dysithamnus mentalis*)

Black-capped Antwren (*Herpsilochmus atricapillus*) – Good looks at this canopy species.

Black-bellied Antwren (*Formicivora melanogaster*)

Rusty-backed Antwren (*Formicivora rufa*) – Nice pair at Trinidad.

Mato Grosso Antbird (*Cercomacra melanaria*) – Good studies.

Common Scale-backed Antbird (*Willisornis poecilinotus*) *

Western Fire-eye (*Pyriglena maura*) *

CONOPOPHAGIDAE (Gnateaters)

Slaty Gnateater (*Conopophaga ardesiaca*) NEAR-ENDEMIC – Brief sightings of a responsive male of this local species.

GRALLARIIDAE (Antpittas)

White-throated Antpitta (*Grallaria albigula*) – It was close but elusive, seen by at least some.

Rufous-faced Antpitta (*Grallaria erythrotis*) ENDEMIC – WOW: so skulky this year! Little success in spite of multiple singing birds.

RHINOCRYPTIDAE (Tapaculos)

Crested Gallito (*Rhinocrypta lanceolata*) – Seen quickly by a window; this odd looker is such a great songster, too.

Trilling Tapaculo (*Scytalopus parvirostris*) – Seen hopping on the forest floor near the bluetooth speaker.

Bolivian Tapaculo (*Scytalopus bolivianus*) * – So close, but sadly behind that boulder!

FORMICARIIDAE (Antthrushes)

Short-tailed Antthrush (*Chamaeza campanisona boliviana*) – * Some future splits certain in this complex. Unresponsive this year.

FURNARIIDAE (Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus viridis*) – * As we discussed, many splits will come from this widespread species; stay tuned, as my colleagues and I are working on the complex.

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*) – great views.

Great Rufous Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes major*) – A true monster of a woodcreeper, and what a bill! We had superb studies.

Ocellated (Tschudi's) Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus chunchotambo*) *

Buff-throated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus dorbignyanus*) – This distinctive-sounding and distinctive-looking pale-billed form is probably to be split at some stage.

Olive-backed Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus triangularis bangsi*) *

Straight-billed Woodcreeper (*Dendroplex picus*)

Red-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus trochilirostris lafresnayanus*) – I just love scythebills, and what studies we had this year. Multiple splits are in the pipeline, and this is certainly one of them. The Curve-billed vs. Red-billed complex is a total mess!

Narrow-billed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes angustirostris*)

Montane Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*) *

Streaked Xenops (*Xenops rutilans*)

Bolivian Earthcreeper (*Tarphonomus harterti*) ENDEMIC * – Terrible at responding this year, sadly.

Chaco Earthcreeper (*Tarphonomus certhioides*) – Superbly responsive, with mega views after some work.

Rufous Hornero (*Furnarius rufus*) – Abundant.

Crested Hornero (*Furnarius cristatus*) – A small hornero of the Chaco.

Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner (*Syndactyla rufosuperciliata oleaginea*) – Vocally very different from nominate birds; splits expected.

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner (*Dendroma rufa*)

Rufous-fronted Thornbird (*Phacellodomus rufifrons*)

Little Thornbird (*Phacellodomus sibilatrix*) – Nice studies.

Spot-breasted Thornbird (*Phacellodomus maculipectus*) *

Greater Thornbird (*Phacellodomus ruber*)

Lark-like Brushrunner (*Coryphistera alaudina*) – Very odd: they are normally in family groups, but we had only one, just a few yards away in the open!

Short-billed Canastero (*Asthenes baeri*) – Chaco.

Plain Softtail (*Thripophaga fusciceps fusciceps*) ENDEMIC – We had several superb studies of this, the true Plain Softtail; the other two forms are distinctly different in voice and habitat. This will become an endemic!

Light-crowned Spinetail (*Cranioleuca albiceps discolor*) – We had wonderful looks at the *discolor* subspecies, a really lovely looker!

Rusty-backed Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpina*)

Stripe-crowned Spinetail (*Cranioleuca pyrrhophia*)

Rufous (Gray-crested) Cacholote (*Pseudoseisura unirufa*) – Split years ago by Kevin Zimmer and me; the disjunct Caatinga Cacholote is a social breeder, endemic to the caatinga of NE Brazil.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail (*Certhiaxis cinnamomeus*)

Chotoy Spinetail (*Schoeniophylax phryganophilus*) – Always cool to see this striking bird.

Ochre-cheeked Spinetail (*Synallaxis scutata*)

Plain-crowned Spinetail (*Synallaxis gujanensis*) – Several splits in this complex, too.

Sooty-fronted Spinetail (*Synallaxis frontalis*)

Azara's Spinetail (*Synallaxis azarae*) *

PIPRIDAE (Manakins)

Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma sulphureiventer*) – We had exceptional studies of this poorly-known, odd-sounding, very local species.

Yungas Manakin (*Chiroxiphia boliviana*) – Very smart-looking.

Band-tailed Manakin (*Pipra fasciicauda*) – An amazing male.

COTINGIDAE (Cotingas)

White-tipped Plantcutter (*Phytotoma rutila*) – Such an odd-sounding and different-looking cotinga. The males are really smart.

TITYRIDAE (Tityras & Allies)

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)

White-naped Xenopsaris (*Xenopsaris albinucha*)

Green-backed Becard (*Pachyramphus viridis*) – Nice.

Barred Becard (*Pachyramphus versicolor*)

TYRANNIDAE (Tyrant Flycatchers)

Sepia-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*)

Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes ventralis*)

Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis ecaudatus*) – Tiny, bee-like flycatcher; seen well.

Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer*)

Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher (*Poecilatriccus latirostris*)

Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)

Yellow-olive (Mato Grosso) Flatbill (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens pallescens*) – Many splits are about to be published. Nominate-race birds are found in coastal Atlantic rainforests. All *Tolmomyias* flycatchers are now known as flatbills.

Yellow-margined Flatbill (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) – Rare here; guide only.

Cliff (Swallow) Flycatcher (*Hirundinea ferruginea bellicosa*) – Seen well at the Red-fronted Macaw Lodge. This complex comprises at least two species.

Southern (Bolivian) Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum bolivianum*)

Suiriri Flycatcher (*Suiriri suiriri*)

Buff-banded Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus hellmayri*) – Very good studies.

White-throated Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus leucophrys*)

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet (*Phaeomyias murina*)

Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)
 Gray Elaenia (*Myiopagis caniceps*)
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)
 Large Elaenia (*Elaenia spectabilis*)
 Small-billed Elaenia (*Elaenia parvirostris*)
 White-crested Elaenia (*Elaenia albiceps*)
 Sierran Elaenia (*Elaenia pallatangae*)
 White-crested Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga subcristata*)
 Sclater's Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias sclateri*)
 Greater Wagtail-Tyrant (*Stigmatura budytoides budytoides*) – Split coming of this nominate form from birds in the NE Brazilian caatinga.
 Plain Tyrannulet (*Inezia inornata*)
 Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*)
 Euler's Flycatcher (*Lathrotriccus eulerei*) *
 Fuscous Flycatcher (*Cnemotriccus fuscatus*) *
 Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)
 Vermilion (Austral) Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus rubinus*)
 Cinereous Tyrant (*Knipolegus striaticeps*) – Nice studies of both sexes; even observed males in display flight.
 Hudson's Black-Tyrant (*Knipolegus hudsoni*) – Fairly common in the Pantanal this year. An Argentinian endemic breeder.
 Yellow-browed Tyrant (*Satrapa icterophrys*) – Always a beautiful looker.
 White-rumped Monjita (*Xolmis velatus*)
 White-headed Marsh Tyrant (*Arundinicola leucocephala*)
 Black-backed Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola albiventer*)
 Maroon-belted Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca thoracica*)
 Golden-browed Chat-Tyrant (*Silvicultrix pulchella*) *
 Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*) – Simply stunning studies.
 Dull-capped Attila (*Attila bolivianus*)
 Rufous Casiornis (*Casiornis rufus*) – Always a cool-looking flycatcher with distinctive colors.
 Short-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus ferox*)
 Pale-edged Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cephalotes*) *
 Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)
 Cattle Tyrant (*Machetornis rixosa*)
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
 Golden-crowned Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*) – Nice; around the lodge clearing at Volcanes.
 Streaked (Southern) Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus solitarius*)
 Piratic Flycatcher (*Legatus leucophaeus*)
 Variegated Flycatcher (*Empidonomus varius*)

Crowned Slaty Flycatcher (*Empidonomus aurantioatrocristatus*) – Freshly arrived from the Amazon and setting up territory.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savanna*)

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

VIREONIDAE (Vireos, Shrike-Babblers & Erpornis)

Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*)

Gray-eyed Greenlet (*Hylophilus amaurocephalus*) – This population, disjunct by thousands of miles, also occupies a completely different habitat from the Brazilian birds. Almost certainly a new taxon without even a name! We had exceptional views.

Gray-chested Greenlet (*Hylophilus semicinereus*) *

CORVIDAE (Crows, Jays & Magpies)

Purplish Jay (*Cyanocorax cyanomelas*) – Stunning in good light.

Plush-crested Jay (*Cyanocorax chrysops*) – A real neat looker; common even on the lodge feeders.

DONACOBIIDAE (Donacobius)

Black-capped Donacobius (*Donacobius atricapilla*) – Always a beautiful looker.

HIRUNDINIDAE (Martins & Swallows)

White-rumped Swallow (*Tachycineta leucorrhoa*)

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)

Southern Martin (*Progne elegans*) – Nice looks at the macaw cliffs, where breeding.

Brown-chested Martin (*Progne tapera*)

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*)

Tawny-headed Swallow (*Alopochelidon fucata*)

POLIOPTILIDAE (Gnatcatchers)

Masked Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila dumicola*)

TROGLODYTIDAE (Wrens)

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)

Mountain Wren (*Troglodytes solstitialis*) – Magnificent in-your-face looks.

Thrush-like Wren (*Campylorhynchus turdinus unicolor*) – A distinctive plain-creamy-breasted subspecies. Common.

Moustached Wren (*Pheugopedius genibarbis*)

Fawn-breasted Wren (*Cantorchilus guarayanus*) – Very nice studies of this rather range-restricted species.

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucophrys*)

MIMIDAE (Mockingbirds & Thrashers)

Chalk-browed Mockingbird (*Mimus saturninus*)

White-banded Mockingbird (*Mimus triurus*) – A nice find this late; an austral migrant seen by some in Santa Cruz.

TURDIDAE (Thrushes & Allies)

Speckled Nightingale-Thrush (*Catharus maculatus*) – What a nice-looking bird!

White-eared Solitaire (*Entomodestes leucotis*) – Strange song and spectacular bird.

Hauxwell's Thrush (*Turdus hauxwelli*) – Good looks at this shy forest thrush.

White-necked Thrush (*Turdus albicollis*)

Rufous-bellied Thrush (*Turdus rufiventris*)

Unicolored Thrush (*Turdus haplochrous*) ENDEMIC – * Sadly, we only heard this extremely rare endemic.

Creamy-bellied Thrush (*Turdus amaurochalinus*)

Black-billed Thrush (*Turdus ignobilis*)

Chiguanco Thrush (*Turdus chiguanco*)

Andean Slaty Thrush (*Turdus nigriceps*) *

Glossy-black Thrush (*Turdus serranus*)

PASSERIDAE (Old World Sparrows)

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

FRINGILLIDAE (Finches, Euphonias & Allies)

Blue-naped Chlorophonia (*Chlorophonia cyanea*)

Purple-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia chlorotica*)

Golden-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia chrysopasta*)

Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*) – Interestingly, in huge groups; some movements?

Bronze-green Euphonia (*Euphonia mesochrysa*) *

Hooded Siskin (*Spinus magellanicus*)

PASSERELLIDAE (New World Sparrows)

Common Chlorospingus (*Chlorospingus flavopectus fulvicularis*) – We observed this buffy-throated form. Many probable splits in this complex group, which currently comprises no fewer than 26 subspecies!

White-browed Brushfinch (*Arremon torquatus borellii*) – A split from the Stripe-headed Brushfinch; very well seen.

Moss-backed Sparrow (*Arremon dorbignii*) NEAR ENDEMIC – Wow: great studies of a delightful species that has recently been split. Near-endemic, and a good name from SACC!

Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*)

Bolivian Brushfinch (*Atlapetes rufinucha*) ENDEMIC – A split from the old Rufous-naped Brushfinch; a cool-looking bird.

ICTERIDAE (Troupials & Allies)

White-browed Meadowlark (*Leistes superciliaris*)

Dusky-green Oropendola (*Psarocolius atrovirens*) – We almost fell over laughing watching its crazy falling-forward-almost-off-the-perch song.

Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) – Great displays on the colony's nests.

Solitary Black Cacique (*Cacicus solitarius*)

Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*)

Mountain Cacique (*Cacicus chrysonotus*) *

Variable (Chestnut-shouldered) Oriole (*Icterus pyrrhopterus pyrrhopterus*) – We saw these in the Beni lowlands.

Orange-backed Troupial (*Icterus croconotus*) – Wow.

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)

Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)

Velvet-fronted (Bolivian) Grackle (*Lamprosar tanagrinus boliviensis*) – Surprisingly common in the Pantanal woodlands and scrub of Beni, and very unlike Amazonian populations. This is treated as the Bolivian Grackle by HBW and others, and is ENDEMIC!

Scarlet-headed Blackbird (*Amblyramphus holosericeus*) – Fluorescent-headed, wow. Always cool to see.

Chopi Blackbird (*Gnorimopsar chopi*)

Bolivian Blackbird (*Oreopsar bolivianus*) ENDEMIC – Common.

Grayish Baywing (Bay-winged Cowbird) (*Agelaioides badius*) – Not a true cowbird, as it makes its own nest (hence the name change). In fact, it's parasitized by Screaming Cowbirds!

Unicolored Blackbird (*Agelasticus cyanopus*)

PARULIDAE (New World Warblers)

Southern Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis velata*)

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*)

Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*)

Yungas Warbler (*Basileuterus punctipectus*) NEAR-ENDEMIC – Superb views and song.

Pale-legged Warbler (*Myiothlypis signata*)

Two-banded Warbler (*Myiothlypis bivittata*) – A wonderful songster; great studies.

Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart) (*Myioborus miniatus*)

Brown-capped Redstart (*Myioborus bruniceps*) NEAR-ENDEMIC – What a super cool-looking flock leader.

Spectacled Redstart (*Myioborus melanocephalus*)

CARDINALIDAE (Cardinals & Allies)

Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*)

White-winged Tanager (*Piranga leucoptera*)

Black-backed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus aureoventris*) – Always a startlingly pretty species when seen so well.

Ultramarine Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa brissonii*) – Never seen so many in parts of the Chaco.

THRAUPIDAE (Tanagers & Allies)

Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*) – Such a smart looker.

Red-capped (Bolivian) Cardinal (*Paroaria gularis cervicalis*) – A distinctive form of the Bolivian Pantanal, with black around the eye.

Hooded Tanager (*Nemosia pileata*)

Black-eared Hemispingus (*Sphenopsis melanotis*)

Orange-headed Tanager (*Thlypopsis sordida*)

Ringed Warbling Finch (*Microspingus torquatus*)

Black-capped Warbling Finch (*Microspingus melanoleucus*)

Black-goggled Tanager (*Trichothraupis melanops*)

Silver-beaked Tanager (*Ramphocelus carbo*)

Blue-capped Tanager (*Sporathraupis cyanocephala*)

Blue-winged Mountain Tanager (*Anisognathus somptuosus flavinucha*) – Simply a breathtaking bird, with such a superb song, too. Many studies cannot get enough of this wildly colorful Andean tanager. HBW now splits the Blue-winged Mountain Tanager and the Bolivian Mountain Tanager, *A. flavinucha*.

Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager (*Dubusia castaneiventris*) – Yet another crippler seen well!

Blue-and-yellow Tanager (*Rahuenia bonariensis*)

Sayaca Tanager (*Thraupis sayaca*)

Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)

Golden-naped Tanager (*Chalcothraupis ruficervix*)

Saffron-crowned Tanager (*Tangara xanthocephala*)

Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*)

Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*) – Really stunning and confiding male.

Chestnut-vented Conebill (*Conirostrum speciosum*)

Blue-backed Conebill (*Conirostrum sitticolor*) – Lovely looker.

Capped Conebill (*Conirostrum albifrons*)

Rusty Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa sittoides*)

Masked Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa cyanea*) – One sang its heart out for us.

Gray-crested Finch (*Lophospingus griseocristatus*) NEAR-ENDEMIC – Cool looker.

Bolivian Warbling Finch (*Poospiza boliviana*) ENDEMIC – Marvelous scope looks after some searching.

Black-and-chestnut Warbling Finch (*Poospiza whitii*) NEAR-ENDEMIC

Rufous-sided Warbling Finch (*Poospizopsis hypochondria*) NEAR-ENDEMIC

Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*)

Great Pampa-Finch (*Embernagra platensis*)

Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*)

White-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila leucoptera bicolor*) – This distinctive dark black-backed resident form is a possible future split and ENDEMIC.

Large-billed Seedeater (*Sporophila crassirostris*) – WOW: a highlight!

Rusty-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila collaris*) – Smart.

Red-crested Finch (*Coryphospingus cucullatus*)

Many-colored Chaco Finch (*Saltatricula multicolor*) – Yet another Chaco stunner.

Bluish-gray Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*) – Another Name changes!

Golden-billed Saltator (*Saltator aurantirostris*)

[Total bird species 427!](#)

MAMMALS:

FELIDAE (Cats, Jaguar)

[Jaguarondi \(*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*\)](#) – What an amazing moment, unsuccessfully hunting the Bolivian Red Squirrel!

CANIDAE (Foxes, Wolf)

Crab-eating Fox (*Cerdocyon thous*) – Running out of a house with a huge chicken!

Culpeo Fox (*Lycalopex culpaeus*) – One in the Chaco.

BRADYPODIDAE (Sloths)

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth (*Bradypus variegatus*) - Great studies in the Botanical Garden.

CEBIDAE (New World Monkeys)

[Rio Beni Titi Monkey \(*Callicebus modestus*\)](#) – A really cool ENDEMIC; we had great looks.

Hooded (Brown) Capuchin (*Cebus apela*)

ATELIDAE (Large New World Monkeys)

Black Howler Monkey (*Alouatta caraya*)

SCIURIDAE (Squirrels)

Bolivian Squirrel (*Sciurus ignitus*)

CAVIIDAE (Guinea Pigs)

Capybara (*Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*)