

ORNITHOLIDAYS TOUR TO GUYANA
Rainforest, Watercourses & Wilderness

27 February – 13 March 2010



Harpy Eagle

© Ron Allicock

Leader: Richard Coomber

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A Personal Diary

Saturday 27 February

The 2010 Ornitholidays' party assembled at Heathrow's Terminal 4 for our Delta Airlines flight to Kennedy Airport, New York, en route to Guyana. With the prospect of a severe storm hitting southern England tomorrow, we were probably glad to be heading off to warmer climes, although earlier in the day New York had been closed after a heavy snowfall. We were only a few minutes late leaving at 5.25 p.m. and headed west into strong headwinds initially before beginning our Atlantic crossing just to the north of Galway Bay and into a long sunset.

Allowing for a five hour time difference we landed at 7.35 p.m. Coming in over the city we could see parks and parking lots covered with snow as were the open areas beside the runways. As it was dark by this time one might have been tempted to look for Snowy Owls! Our entry into the United States was speedy, for within 25 minutes of landing, we were through immigration and waiting for our bags. With the help of a porter we were quickly through Customs to the baggage drop area and then had to wait for our connecting flight. The only wildlife was an unidentified mouse scurrying across the floor of the cafeteria, where we passed some time before it closed.

Sunday 28 March

Hot and sunny in Guyana. 32°C.

Our onward flight to Georgetown, Guyana, left more or less on time just after midnight and although there was turbulence at times during the 5 ½ hour flight we landed just after 7 a.m. local time. We were four hours behind London. Those with window seats mentioned the miles of uninterrupted forest on our approach to the airport.

The formalities went smoothly and in arrivals we were met by the ground-agent's representative and escorted to a smart air-conditioned coach where the chilled bottles of water were much appreciated, as outside the bus the temperature was 30°C – hotter and more humid than most of us had experienced in months. The down side was that when we stopped to see a colony of Scarlet-rumped Caciques it was several minutes before our binocs were clear of condensation! By that time a pair of Piratic Flycatchers showed us that they had already commandeered one of the cacique nests as their own. Nearby we watched Ruddy Ground Dove and Greater Kiskadee. The first birds of the tour, however, had been the Brown-chested Martins, Pale-vented Pigeon and Palm Tanager back at the airport.

On the way into Georgetown we passed a number of egrets – Great, Snowy and Cattle, several Snail Kites, a couple of Roadside Hawks, but fewer Turkey Vultures than one might have expected. Wattled Jacanas fed along watery ditches where white and pink Lotus Flowers grew.

Check-in at our hotel was efficiently handled and although it was scarcely 10 a.m. most of the rooms were ready for occupation and the remainder of the morning allowed people to sort themselves out and recover from the journey. There were a few birds around the small garden area, which included a Yellow Oriole seen by Robin. After lunch and a siesta our guide for the next few days, Carlos, joined us for the first time as we boarded two minibuses and drove to the Botanic Gardens. Being Sunday, there were people and children everywhere. One of the larger lagoons held a captive group of West Indian Manatees that recognised that the cut grass a group of schoolgirls were throwing towards them was food, so as a result we had excellent views of these gentle creatures. Thankfully once we cleared the more popular areas we were in much quieter surroundings and saw many more birds.

Tyrant-flycatchers were everywhere – mainly Great and Lesser Kiskadees and a few pairs of the smaller-billed Rusty-margined Flycatcher. At the other end of the size scale was the diminutive Southern Beardless Tyrannulet and the perky Common and Spotted Tody-Flycatchers. Along the water-lily lined channels we came across several pairs of quite confiding Yellow-chinned Spinetails, whilst on the water-lily leaves and other water plants fed Wattled Jacanas. Two Spotted Sandpipers were down for the winter from North America – one of them was beginning to show the early stages of breeding plumage. We enjoyed good views of Striated Heron, Black-crowned Night Herons, Cattle, Snowy and Great Egrets and some of the party also saw a Little Blue Heron.

Toward the end of our exploration of the area we had good views of a tiny woodpecker, a White-bellied Piculet, as it chipped away at bark of branches in the tree above us. The same tree also held Yellow Oriole, Violaceous Euphonia and a Southern House Wren. Earlier near the Manatee lagoon we had seen one of the big black and white ones with a red crest - Lineated. It was a good area for birds of prey. Snail Kites, both adults and immatures, were frequently seen, whilst Northern and Yellow-headed Caracara and Zone-tailed Hawk passed overhead. Red-shouldered Macaws also flew over, we had a pair of Green-rumped Parrotlets in an equally green tree, two or three Brown-throated Parakeets and some rather noisy Yellow-crowned and Orange-winged Parrots, but sadly not the hoped for Festive ones.

Shortly before 6 p.m. we returned to the hotel and an hour later we did the first checklist of the tour after the waiter had taken our orders for dinner. Tonight we would sleep without rocking.

Monday 01 March

Very hot and sunny during the morning, but clouds built up during the afternoon with passing showers, 32°C.

A 4.30 a.m. start might seem cruel for the second day of the tour, but all in all it was well worth the effort. Just as a glow was spreading across the eastern horizon we stopped on a riverside road to view a large egret and heron roost in the mangroves, using the minibus's headlights to illuminate the large numbers of Cattle and fewer Great Egrets, amongst which we also discovered Snowy Egrets, Tricolored and Striated Herons. As the light improved a Barn Owl flew over and soon after several Snail Kites flew from the large trees where they had roosted overnight. Next on the list of raptors was Peregrine Falcon and we had one, if not two, fly over. One landed on the roof of a grain silo, where feral pigeons cowered in an open ventilator, obviously fully aware of the danger perched a couple of feet above them. The Rufous Crab Hawk was a new bird for most of the party, but we were to have much better views in good light during the morning walk.

Our next stop, and a major hike, was at the Abary Trail, where even before we set-off good views were enjoyed of an adult Rufous Crab Hawk and a Gray-lined Hawk, the latter is known as Gray Hawk in some books. The trail took us out to the coast and produced some good birds on the way, but as always there were some species seen better than others and some only glimpsed by a few of the party. Little Cuckoo and Lemon-chested Greenlet were amongst the latter. We heard Black-crested Antshrike many times before a female, and later a male were seen. The walk showed that Carlos knew his bird calls. We could hear a Striped Cuckoo calling from a tantalisingly small group of trees, but we only saw it when it flew out and further down the track, never to call again. A Northern Waterthrush was giving its Robin-like tick call from a small water channel hidden from view by the surrounding trees and bushes. There were excellent views of a pair of Turquoise Tanagers as they fed on the tiny red seeds of a fruiting vine and later as we returned some of the party watch a smart Tropical Gnatcatcher, which had been heard on the outward leg. It was a good area for tyrant-flycatchers. Great Kiskadees and Gray and Tropical Kingbirds were joined by Dusky-capped Flycatcher.

As the temperature soared, so did the vultures, but here they were not all Turkeys for a Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture soared over the trees along the track. We had distant views of perched or flying Ospreys in the direction of a lagoon, where the scopes revealed shorebirds, perhaps yellowlegs, but they were too far away. Maybe that was where the fly-over Muscovy Duck had come from.

As we neared the coast we crossed a creek by walking over the sluice gates. Here Green and Ringed Kingfishers were seen and in the waters below a party of Four-eyed Fish were watched as they cruised around with the upper part of their two eyes above the surface of the water. In trees and bushes adjacent to

the shoreline we had excellent views of a pair of White-bellied Piculet and a pair of Yellow Orioles that were engrossed in feeding on the same red-seeded vine as the tanagers were earlier.

The sea was miles away across vast mudflats, almost like Weston-Super-Mud. Shorebirds unfortunately were few and far between on the area we overlooked, with just a lone Greater Yellowlegs, a flock of Semipalmated Plovers and four Black-bellied Plover, or rather our Grey Plover, but we are in the Western Hemisphere. One or two Ospreys were dotted around on suitable perches out on the mudflats and another Rufous Crab Hawk was probably out there after its favourite food.

When we came to walk back there was relatively little about for the temperature was well into the 30s centigrade. Only butterflies and hundreds of dragonflies seemed to have the energy for any activity. We made our way back to Georgetown and crossed to the West Coast by the pontoon bridge where, as we began the crossing, a Black Skimmer and a distant adult Scarlet Ibis were seen. Several times as we drove along grassy verges small flocks of Carib Grackles were feeding, a species only found along the coastal region of Guyana.

Embarkation for our boat transfer up the Essequibo River to Baganara Lodge would have been easier if the tide had been higher, but we managed with the crew helping to load our luggage aboard. Before a torrential shower we had seen Large-billed Terns, but with sheets over the sides to keep out the rain, visibility was limited for a while. After about an hour and a half we passed the small town of Bartica and not far beyond was our destination, Baganara Resort. On arrival we went straight to lunch and afterwards those whose rooms were ready had a siesta, whilst the rest of us went birding until the rain returned. On the well manicured lawns we found South American Snipe and Southern Lapwing, whilst Collared Plover frequented the sandy beach.

At 4 30 p.m we joined Carlos for a birding walk. Thankfully the rain had passed and we were soon enjoying views of Pied Lapwing on the shore of an offshore islet. Around the edge of the lawns were Chestnut-bellied Seedeaters and smart Yellow-rumped Caciques attracted the unwanted attentions of Giant Cowbirds that parasitise their nests. In a group of tall trees behind the dining and bar area we discovered a female Crimson-crested Woodpecker and enjoyed good views through the scopes. Somewhat more distant was a Plumbeous Kite perched in a bare tree beyond the airfield and even further away was a pair of Swallow-wing Puffbirds, a bird that we were to see many times during the tour and at times very well.

After freshening up we had dinner and did the checklist. Hoping for insects around the lights outside our rooms, tree frogs waited, but here as well as most other places during the tour moths were at a premium.

Tuesday 02 March

A fine start, but clouds built up after breakfast to give a series of very heavy rain showers. 30°C

We met up for coffee soon after 5.30 a.m. this morning, but the water was barely tepid, so when hot water appeared around 6 a.m. a second cup was appreciated. By then the light had improved sufficiently for us to go birding, beginning at the southern end of the island. Two or three Northern Waterthrushes were calling and eventually one was seen briefly. Pam distracted us by finding a Pauraque perched on a bare branch near the river. The views through the scope were good and when it did fly no-one was looking in the right direction! However Carlos managed to relocate in on the next island, but the views added nothing to what we knew already.

We began to walk around the far side of the island, finding a Black-tailed Tityra in the trees where the Crimson-crested Woodpecker was still excavating its nest hole. Carlos noticed a Dusky Parrot perched in a tall tree ahead of us, but unfortunately it flew before everyone managed to have a look through the scopes. The next bird was perhaps less expected for Marie flushed a nighthawk. With a second view as it flew away completely we realised that it was a Band-tailed Nighthawk. We drifted towards the airstrip passing fruiting guava trees where a female Pauraque was flushed. Over the next five to ten minutes we had several more views.

The long grass bordering the airstrip yielded a male White-headed Marsh-tyrant and a singing male Red-breasted Blackbird. The temperature was rising steadily and by 8 a.m. we were ready for breakfast. In trees

near our rooms a Swallow-winged Puffbird had taken up residence and gave superb views to watchers and photographers alike as we assembled for a morning stroll into the forest beyond the airstrip.

In the forest birding was really hard work, with the heat and humidity it was perhaps not surprising. Even the air was still and although a Little Hermit was seen as it whizzed between bushes and creepers the views were not the greatest. That was the best of a poor show before the rains hit us hard for 20 minutes or more. As soon as the downpour ceased and the sun broke through a noisy gang of Channel-billed Toucans passed through the canopy above us, but none of them stopped in an opening for us to enjoy them! Marie found the next good bird and she was the only one to get anything like a view of a red-throated Spix's Guan. When some of us went off-piste in pursuit all we saw was something black in the distance moving leaves as it disappeared. Compensation came in the form of a troupe of Red Howler Monkeys, but they didn't hang around either. Before we left the trees a Reddish Hermit showed briefly.

We came back via a service area as a pair of Greater Yellow-headed Vultures cruised around overhead. Connie turned up the next goodie when she discovered a smart Yellow-tufted Woodpecker excavating its nest hole in a long dead tree. The scope views were excellent. Nearby the Plumbeous Kite, which we had been seeing on and off since yesterday afternoon, had its nest high in a riverside tree. As we made our way back to the airstrip a pair of Black Caracara circled over the river and that was the last new bird of the morning, for by then cool drinks from the bar and a well-earned lunch beckoned.

More showers passed through during lunch and just afterwards, but as our afternoon boat trip to Parrot Island was not until 5 p.m. an extended siesta break was appreciated by one and all. It turned out to be a bit longer than expected as we had to wait for the lodge boats to return from Bartica, the town five miles downstream, with supplies. Once our expedition started we wasted no time in heading downriver and as we neared the mangrove covered islands on the opposite side of the river from Bartica we began seeing parrots flying to and fro over the trees. The double notes call, slightly reminiscent of a Pink-footed Goose's "wink-wink", indicated that the great majority of the dozens we had flying over us were Orange-winged. The light might not have been very good towards the end, but it was a spectacle, both visual and audible. Just as we were about to leave every parrot fell silent and by the time we returned to Baganara Lodge darkness was complete.

After dinner we strolled down to the airstrip in the hope of seeing a nightjar or nighthawk or two, but it was not to be. The only birds seen were Southern Lapwings and the only insects were fireflies. The most abundant life form was Marine Toad, or as it is perhaps more widely known from its disastrous introduction to Australia – Cane Toad.

Wednesday 03 March

Hot and sunny, with torrential rain for a while before breakfast. 32°C.

We met up around 6 a.m. for a walk down to the staff area and boat yard beyond the airstrip. Birds were just beginning to appear when the rain started and forced us to seek shelter in the boat shed for half an hour or more. Before that we had all had good views of Spix's Guan and noted that the Yellow-tufted Woodpecker was still excavating its nest hole. Today there were at least six or seven in the area, mostly clinging to the pale-grey branches of the *Cecropia* trees that grew along the forested edge of the area. During the rain swifts appeared and occasionally some would fly in front of the trees enabling us to identify Gray-rumped, with them were a few of the distinctively shaped Short-tailed and more familiar Fork-tailed Palm Swift. The sun appeared soon after the rain ceased, causing a party of four Greater Yellow-headed Vultures to turned their backs to the warmth and spread their wings to dry off.

After breakfast we returned to our rooms and gathered our belongings for the short walk down to the airstrip's Terminal 3. Before long a Grand Caravan aircraft came in from Georgetown, 15 minutes flying time to the north and made a perfect landing on the tarmac strip. Luggage was quickly stowed and we were airborne, flying south to the magnificent Kaieteur Falls. After flying over unbroken forest for about 40 minutes the falls came into view and our pilot did two passes so that each side of aircraft had grandstand views. Soon we were on the ground and with a local guide as well as Carlos we headed into the surrounding bush, an area of exposed rock and shrubs that soon gave way to riverine forest as we neared the gorge cut by the Potaro, a tributary of the Essequibo River. The forest was quiet, although along the edge Marie found a small colourful foraging flock that certainly included Blue Dacnis. Our target bird was not small and blue,

but large and orange, so when we saw our first male Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock we were not disappointed! We saw two, if not three, birds in total, but they were always partially hidden by leaves and/or branches, which made it difficult to get the scopes set up properly on the narrow path.

We visited four overlooks, each providing a slightly different view out over the gorge and along to the falls, which were truly spectacular with their continuous 741 feet (226 metres) drop. From the rim at the first lookout White-tipped Swifts were wheeling around, but not seen subsequently. Another bird characteristic of Central and South America's waterfalls and caverns is Orange-breasted Falcon. One flew over calling loudly as we walked back along the trail, but unfortunately only Carlos and I had a window to the sky to see it pass over. A perfectly posed Gray-fronted Dove near the path was not quite in the same league! An interesting diversion came in the form of a tiny Golden Poison-Dart Frog, which is found in the water 'tanks' of the huge Giant Bromeliads *Brocchinia micrantha* that grew near the rim of the gorge below the falls.

The hike turned out to be somewhat further than we anticipated, so we were a little longer than we should have been. Lunch awaited our return to the small information centre. Although he was now behind schedule, the pilot seemed not to be bothered and after another 40 minute flight we landed on the dirt strip near Iwokrama Research Centre. Unfortunately he had not flown in over the centre to announce our arrival, so there was no transport to meet us at the airstrip. Of course it came eventually, thanks to a little man on a bicycle who had gone to tell the centre. Carlos left us here to return to another group in Georgetown. While the first half were transported by a Land Cruiser to the centre, those who remained had a magnificent flock of some 15 Blue-and-Yellow Macaws fly over!

The centre is in a clearing on the banks of the Essequibo River and as far as we were concerned consisted of a central building which included a spacious dining and lounge area as well as various rooms where researchers were at work. Our guide for the next three days was Wally and after he gave us an introductory briefing we set off to walk the Screaming Piha Trail, behind the staff quarters. It was a great habitat walk of a kilometre and a half through rain forest, even if the birds were thin on the ground. Variegated Tinamou, Plumbeous Pigeon and appropriately Screaming Piha were heard, but about the only bird seen was a Dusky-throated Antshrike. Back near the lodge a Blue-headed, a Red-and-Green and Orange-winged Parrots flew over.

At 7 p.m. we sat down to dinner and brought the checklist up to date.

Thursday 04 March

Torrential rain more or less continuously from 7 a.m. until 12 noon, brighter with some sunshine during the afternoon. 26°C.

The best birds during a brief pre-breakfast session before the rain arrived were a pair of Scarlet Macaws, Moriche Oriole and a dashing Bat Falcon. Once the rain arrived that was basically it for the morning, but by lunchtime the rain had eased and the day was beginning to look more promising.

Having had lunch we began a walk along the entrance road and had scarcely gone any distance when Marie noticed a Gray-winged Trumpeter crossing the road behind us, but it disappeared before anyone else could turn around in time. Thankfully it was not alone for moments later two more, then a fourth, followed it across. A brilliant start, for not only was it a new bird for everyone, it probably was a new family as well.

Wally used playback during the walk with mixed success. Gray Antbird was only seen flitting between vine tangles or across the road, whilst Buff-throated Woodcreeper and Waved Woodpecker performed very well. No doubt some species were taking advantage of the improvement in weather. A party of Black-necked Aracaris moving through the treetops were seen quite well, unlike the pair of Red-fan Parrots that landed long enough to be seen before flying on. Bird parties were few, but amongst a small flock that included Blue Dacnis Wally spotted what he described as a *really funky* warbler – black, white and yellow – it was a female Blackburnian Warbler, not a common species in Guyana, but one he'd seen before.

On reaching the entrance gate we hit a purple patch with a number of good birds in a relatively small area. Most conspicuous was a party of Black Nunbirds. A pair of Black-bellied Cuckoos required a bit more patience as did Yellow-throated Woodpecker. A Spangled Cotinga paused long enough in the top of a bare

tree for us to see its brilliant blue plumage and for some to see the purple throat. At the other end of the colourful scale was a tiny Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant that was seen in the large bushes beside the road.

We returned to the lodge in time for showers before dinner, although Wally, Rita and I took it slower than the rest of the party. The rewards were a few more birds as they passed through the tree tops on their way to roost – White-throated (Red-billed) Toucan, Green Aracari, Guianan Toucanet, the striking Black-headed Parrot and further views of Black-necked Aracari. Only heard were Wedge-billed Woodcreeper and White-breasted Wood-Wren.

We did the checklist before dinner rather than afterwards as Wally had laid on a spot-lighting boat trip on the river after the meal. It was a well-worthwhile exercise for we saw a distant Boat-billed Heron and had excellent views of Ladder-tailed Nightjars, the first hawking moths over the river and the second resting on sand between two large rocks. Otherwise the cast included several Black Caymans, Amazonian Tree Boas and both Greater and Lesser Fishing Bats. We were back on terra firma after an hour or so and to bed pretty soon afterwards in anticipation of an early-ish start tomorrow.

Friday 05 March

Showers at times, but not the serious rain of the last few days. Sunny periods developing. 29°C

A light shower delayed the departure of this morning's excursion, so it was just after 7 a.m. when we boarded two motor boats and headed downstream, although the first few hundred yards was actually upstream to enable us to round the sandspit at the end of the island opposite the lodge. There we found Collared Plover and Large-billed and Yellow-billed Terns – the latter being a freshwater equivalent of a Little Tern. A few Barn Swallows were flying around with the resident White-winged Swallows. Later, some way downstream, we added two more swallows to the list – Black-collared was the smart black and white one with browner juveniles, whereas White-banded was an elegant black swallow with a white cummerbund.

Surprisingly a lone Cooi Heron was the only heron of the trip. On a fallen tree trunk rested two Green Ibis, whilst a couple of times we came across small groups of Muscovy Ducks. How much smarter the wild birds look than the domesticated version. Otherwise the only other waterbirds were a couple of Anhingas and an Amazon Kingfisher.

Greater Yellow-headed Vultures were the only large birds of prey. We passed a couple of Roadside Hawks, saw a hunting Bat Falcon and watched a Tiny Hawk make somewhat heavy weather of crossing the wide river carrying a small bird, perhaps a tanager. There were a number of other interesting birds along the river banks, although most had been encountered before – the most noteworthy were Channel-billed and White-throated Toucans, Green and Black-necked Aracari, Painted Parakeets and a Squirrel Cuckoo.

Our destination was Indian House Island and as we disembarked so the first of the day's *Formicariidae* (antbirds to you and me!) was seen – a male Silvered Antbird. A few yards further on Black-chinned Antbird was calling, but at the crucial moment Marie spotted a large bird with a crest. It turned out to be the first adult Ornate Hawk-Eagle that Wally had ever seen and was carrying the corpse of a Plumbeous Pigeon in its talons as it flew away. Screaming Pihas kept us company for most of our walk through the forest, but none could be tracked down. The same might be said of Capuchinbird, for its distant calls were heard a number of times and when we closed in on one, some of the party saw a large chestnut blur leave the tree above us. But it was the antbirds, and later two species of jacamar, that really were the stars of the walk. In addition to those mentioned above there were Dusky-throated and Cinereous Antshrikes, a stunning Ferruginous-backed Antbird and two that we only heard, Pygmy Antwren and Gray Antbird. The two jacamars were the large Great Jacamar and the much smaller Yellow-billed. Also seen during the course of our time ashore were Plain-brown and Wedge-billed Woodcreepers, Chestnut and Waved Woodpeckers, Black Nunbird and a Gray Hawk that flew into the surrounding forest from the clearing at Turtle Mountain Camp carrying a snake that it had just caught. When we returned to the boats we relocated the Black-chinned Antbird and had good views. Little was seen on the journey back to the lodge except for a confiding immature Great Black Hawk found by the slower second boat.

We were late returning for our buffet lunch, but there was still time for a siesta afterwards. Shortly before the afternoon excursion we joined Wally for a quick walk along Screaming Piha Trail in the hope of seeing an

antpitta, which we did. In fact the first was seen briefly by some of the party, just as our target Spotted Antpitta responded to playback. Wally reckoned that it was Thrush-like Antpitta, which Hilty's *Birds of Venezuela* says should be in really dense habitat and not seen as easily as our bird. However, it melted away almost as soon as it was seen and could not be relocated. The Spotted Antpitta on the other hand flew right past Steve and Marie and started calling from the other side of the trail, which is where we all saw it perched up on low branches.

Just before 5 p.m. we were taken by motor boat the short distance upstream to the small settlement of Fair View, where Wally hoped to show us macaws and Red-fan Parrots coming to roost. As we walked ashore Blue-and-Yellow Macaws were feasting on palm fruits from the trees on the edge of a cultivated area. The main crop in the surrounding fields appeared to be cassava, which was not much good for birds except for a party of Smooth-billed Ani and a hidden singing Lesser Seed-finch. We did see more Blue-and-Yellow Macaws fly over, but otherwise just the usual Orange-winged and not the anticipated Red-fan Parrots. From the forest called Red-throated Caracaras and a Great Black Hawk was perched on a bare tree as we approached the airstrip where we had arrived a couple of days ago. The open ground of the runway was a good hunting area for a Bat Falcon to pursue dragonflies, which it caught and ate on the wing just like a Hobby at home.

By the time we returned to the lodge at 6.45 p.m. it was dark, Nightjars, presumably Ladder-tailed, were on the wing and after dinner there were more moths around the lights than most other evenings.

Saturday 06 March

Hot and mainly overcast during the morning, becoming sunny for the afternoon. 28°C

We were scheduled for an early start for the Canopy Walkway and Rock View after a 5.30 a.m. breakfast, but due to the Rock View truck having transmission problems, we didn't get away until about 10.20 a.m. The time wasn't wasted for although the skies threatened rain we only had a few spots as we birded along the entry road with Wally. It turned out to be quite productive in spite of one or two blank spells whenever the skies looked more ominous. Soon after passing through the car park area playback produced a positive response from a Dusky Antbird, further on another new member of the family was Mouse-colored Antshrike, but it tended to be heard more than seen. A Coraya Wren displayed its vocal prowess, which combined with a brilliant ability to remain hidden meant that it was another of the tour's challenges! This time we heard a Red-necked Woodpecker and saw a pair of Waved Woodpeckers and added Ringed Woodpecker to the list. Of the various parrots noted a well-marked Dusky Parrot presented a slight i.d. problem as neither the Northern South America guide, nor the Venezuelan one showed such a well-patterned example. Perhaps the highlight of the walk was the troupe of Red Howler Monkeys working their way through the trees.

By mid morning our transport arrived and we were on our way. Although we stopped for one brief forest walk, with Hendricks, a guide from Rock View, it produced just a calling Mouse-colored Antshrike. At Atta Lodge, the base for any walk on the Canopy Walkway, we met Ron Allicock, our main guide for the coming few days. After a refreshing round of lime or orange juice we had lunch, setting off for the walkway once the meal was over. By now the sun was out and as we walked the trail through the rain forest a Red-necked Woodpecker flew from one of the larger trees and a little further on we came upon a small mixed bird party with Dusky-throated Antshrike and Long-winged Antwren being noted. The most memorable bird however was the Screaming Piha singing close to the track. We had heard this species so many times on recent days and none had been in a suitable position to be seen previously. As we watched we commented on its exaggerated mouth movements as it makes its explosive call. In fact its vocal delivery is not dissimilar to the Wattled Bellbirds below Asa Wright in Trinidad. Both species are Cotingas, so perhaps it is not surprising.

The walkway itself was a major feat of construction, for with rope and steel walkways connecting three large platforms built around the trunks of three huge forest giants. From the platforms we could look out over the seemingly endless sea of rainforest. Mind you, the hill we climbed to reach the beginning of the walkway was quite a haul!

Having walked off lunch we returned towards Atta Lodge. On the way Guianan Warbling Antbird was heard by all, but only seen by one or two. From the clearing at the lodge we had a very productive session that produced a pair of Fulvous-crested Tanagers feeding with a pair of Pygmy Antwrens and a highly vocal

Lineated Woodcreeper that posed well for the telescopes. Before we left we walked down to the main highway and were soon having stunning views of a Rusty-capped Antthrush, better views of a Guianan Warbling Antbird and our third mammal of the day – a Pale-throated Three-toed Sloth. Near the road a Black-tailed Trogon was calling, but remained hidden. A bare tree across the main road was where a Spangled Cotinga perched, but the views tended to be into the light, so its true beauty could not be appreciated. As we concentrated on seeing that species some unfortunately missed the three Cayenne Jays that flopped across the road at the same time.

It was time to head on, but that was not the end of birding for before long we had a turkey-sized Black Curassow in the verge in front of the minibus, although better views were had of the next one which flew up and posed in a *Cecropia*. Further on another *Cecropia* held a magnificent Black Hawk-Eagle and during that stop Marie spotted a Variable or Little Chachalaca cross the road. From one of the numerous wooden bridges over a small stream two Gray-breasted Wood-Rails were seen by those on the right-hand side of the bus.

Eventually rainforest gave way to savannah. Southern Lapwing and Northern Caracaras appeared and as we neared Rock View a Buff-necked Ibis was seen in a paddock, for the area is farming country. We received a warm welcome from Colin Edwards and his staff. The well-appointed rooms were allocated and at 7 .p.m. we met in the lounge above the dining room for rum punches and the checklist. Dinner was delicious and we rounded off the evening with Leon, another of the lodge's guides, showing us a Tropical Screech Owl near the swimming pool. Despite the morning's delay, it turned out to be an excellent and most productive day.

Sunday 07 March

Hot and sunny throughout. 34°C

Following a 6 a.m. breakfast we set off on the fabled Bedford truck across the savannah towards Surama. Soon we had seen Plumbeous Seedeater, Eastern Meadowlark, Northern and Yellow-headed Caracaras, Savannah Hawk and a party of six Double-striped Thick-knees. Fork-tailed Flycatchers were frequently seen in flight and no doubt had we stopped and searched we might have found more than just one or two Red-breasted Blackbirds.

Savannah gave way to forest and along a broad and straight road we started birding. Green Aracari and Toco Toucans were amongst the first species we encountered. It was really excellent birding with new species appearing all the time. Two species gave us a really hard time in as much as it took quite a while to find them. A Painted Tody-Flycatcher was singing clearly and eventually we found it, discovering Forest Elaenia in the process. A female White-browed Antbird was calling from bushes by the road. We followed her for 75 metres or more before eventually getting a few glimpses before she returned to cover. We came across a female Golden-collared Woodpecker sharing the bare canopy of a tall tree with a Crimson-crested Woodpecker; whilst the only hummer was a smart and elegant male Black-eared Fairy. Other species seen in the area included Squirrel Cuckoo, Black-spotted Barbet, Yellow-tufted Woodpecker and Streaked Flycatcher.

When we came to drive on we turned off onto a side road, where we came upon a couple from Melbourne broken down beside the road, The husband had built the vehicle himself, from what he called 'junk', but it must have been good quality 'junk' for it was the first failure in three years and 120,000 miles since they had left home! They had sold their home and told the kids they were going on a trip, which began by shipping the vehicle to Korea. They then drove up into eastern Siberia and then westwards into Mongolia, through all the central Asian republics, including Afghanistan, to Georgia and on into Turkey; down through Iran and Iraq and into the Middle East, North Africa, most of Europe from western Russia to Iceland and all countries in between. They had then shipped the car across to Nova Scotia and travelled across Arctic Canada including driving the Dempster Highway up to the MacKenzie and the Dawson to Prudhoe Bay! Their journey south had taken them through Central America and then eastwards through Columbia, Venezuela and into Guiana! Now they thought it might need some new glowpugs (petrol engines have sparkplugs) that they could have sent down from Georgetown by bus! No worries! We left them to it. They were on a slope and had every confidence they could get it going again, which they did for they joined us for rum punches in the evening.

We still had birds to see and before long were enjoying good views of Rufous-throated and White-chinned Sapphires, Glittering-throated Emeralds and Fork-tailed Woodnymphs as they whizzed around the pale

salmon pink clusters of flowers that bloomed on roadside bushes. Passing high overhead was a Maguari Stork and a soaring Black Hawk-Eagle. As we entered the next stretch of forest Connie saw a Gray-necked Wood-Rail as it dashed away from the verge as our Bedford truck lumbered along.

On the far side of Surama village we reached the Eco-lodge run by Ron's mother and her helpers. This was where we were having lunch, but not before we had enjoyed excellent views of a pair of Finsch's Euphonias and their recently fledged chick. The seeding tree next to the main building attracted Brown-throated Parakeets, whilst across the vista of savannah and trees to some distant forested hills Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures soared. At times in the past Ron has seen Harpy Eagle from here, but sadly not today.

After an excellent lunch we did a short walk down into the forest below the lodge. On the way we discovered a group of Lesser Nighthawks roosting on the branches of a clump of trees set in the grasslands. The forest was pretty quiet with a smart male White-crowned Manakin and a Chestnut Woodpecker being the best.

On the way back the excitement switched to mammals for a Giant Anteater crossed the road and disappeared into the jungle and we had views of Red Howler Monkeys resting in a large tree. Birdwise we came across Jabiru, the huge South American stork, a lone Solitary Sandpiper, a male Vermilion Flycatcher and a pair of Lowland Hepatic Tanagers.

After a refreshment break back at Rock View, during which some photographed a pair of Buff-necked Ibis, we were taken around the immediate area by Hendricks and shown the wonderful view of the savannah stretching for miles to the distant horizon beyond the small dirt airstrip at the foot of our rocky vantage point. A singing Rufous-browed Peppershrike flew as we searched for it in the nearby treetops, whilst further down the hill a male Black-crested Antshrike sang. The well-laid out vegetable garden was next on our route and there we added a Burnish-buff Tanager to the list. And so ended another splendid day in the field.

Monday 08 March

Hot and sultry building up to heavy rain in late morning and again during the lunch/siesta period when there was also a clap or two of thunder. 29°C

After the customary 6 a.m. breakfast we headed out beyond the Surama turning in the Bedford truck. Early success came with Marail Guan and at last good views of the splendid Red-fan Parrot, some of the group even seeing the neck feathers spread in display. We then started to walk the road, with Ron suggesting we walked as far as possible. However there were times when rain looked imminent, so it was reassuring to see that our driver was never far behind us with the transport. Unlike yesterday, birds were quiet and also seemed few and far between.

Without doubt the best bird of the walk along the road was a stunning Crimson Fruitcrow, which posed and gave prolonged views to those watching through the scopes - a large cotinga with a crimson body and brown wings. Plumbeous Kites were nesting in one of the tall trees beside the road and we watched one come in with leaves to decorate the nest. Swallow-tailed Kites performed an aerial ballet, captivating as always, and one even landed on a bare tree just above us. Woodpeckers were represented by Golden-collared, Chestnut, Waved and Lineated. Green Aracari was the commonest of its tribe, with just the Red-billed or White-bellied being the only other. Antbirds were at a premium today, with Dusky being the only representative. Regular sightings of parrots include Red-and-Green Macaw, Caica Parrot and Golden-winged Parakeet. One colourful area produced Spangled Cotinga, Green Aracari and three Paradise Jacamars. A Bicolored Hawk flew across the road, too large and too heavily barred on the underwing for a Tiny Hawk.

Ron suggested that we might be interested in seeing an old Harpy Eagle's nest about an hour's walk away through the forest. One didn't have to be a mathematician to realise that if we did we would be back late for lunch. What the heck! This time next week we would probably give anything just to be able to walk in rain forest again! There was always the chance that we might come across a mixed feeding party or an ant swarm, but in reality we saw neither. We did, however, have excellent views of a perched Great Jacamar in good light and local guide Leon pointed out the call of a Purple-throated Fruitcrow somewhere in the canopy above us. As we passed the half way marker some doubted the wisdom of the enterprise and wondered if they should turn back. Inspired by Rita's resilience, however, the waiverers carried on, for it is not every day that one gets the chance to see even an old Harpy Eagle's nest. As we approached the area we had strict

instructions to be very quiet. It certainly raised the tension, but was it necessary when one was looking at an old nest? Ron indicated that we were coming up to the tree. The path around the tree gave a wide berth to the far side. He set up Steve and Marie's scope, but it wasn't the sight of an old nest that got them grinning from ear to ear, but a real live adult HARPY EAGLE perched on a thick horizontal branch near the top of a massive tree some 30 metres away from us!! It was a great birding moment – on a par with one such as the first Shoebill! It had a look of disdain, for we were just earth-bound mortals. One could see how it became so intrinsically entwined in the pre-Spanish cultures of Central and South Americas. A bird of a lifetime! The views through the scope were fantastic and Ron was able to take some digiscoped images through Steve and Marie's scope, whilst Kay and Pam were delighted with the results from their Panasonic cameras.

After some five or ten minutes we left the eagle to the peace and quiet of the surrounding forest. We hoped its lofty perch was a dry one for within five minutes of leaving the heavens opened. The shower had finished by the time we reached the Bedford almost an hour later, so we had a dry run back to Rock View. We were late for lunch, but not the next shower!

The afternoon drive took us a few kilometres along the savannah road towards Surama. One of the first birds we stopped for was a small covey of Crested Bobwhites. Then Ron became really excited for he thought he saw a White-naped Xenopsaris, a small black, grey and white tyrant-flycatcher that given a poor view resembled a Tropical Gnatcatcher, but if correct it would be a lifer for him. There were Tropical Gnatcatchers in the area as it turned out, but playback came into its own and soon we were having great views of the White-naped Xenopsaris. The next goodie was a pair of Capuchinbirds that also responded to playback. They came swooping in with an undulating flight looking like fat chestnut woodpeckers as they landed in trees across a shallow lagoon. It was another bird that had been seen earlier on the tour, but not well enough for some of the party to count.

As dusky settled around us a Great Horned Owl emerged from its roost and gave good views, both perched and in flight. Lesser Nighthawks swooped over the surrounding open savannah and when a Common Potoo started calling from nearby woodland a dose of playback brought it out into the open and flying around! What a day!

Tuesday 9 March

Overcast first thing with passing showers. Hot and sunny from mid-morning onwards. 34°C.

After breakfast this morning we loaded our luggage and boarded the Bedford truck to transfer to Ginép, about an hour's drive to the south, where two boats waited to take us further along the Essequibo River, before turning into the Rupununi River. We had built in time to bird in the savannah on the way and were delighted with the views we had of Orange-backed Troupial. The species is missing from Restall's book, but shown to be in the area in Ridgely & Tudor's *The Birds of South America Vol 1*, but only as a race of Troupial, which was subsequently split into three species – the others being Venezuelan Troupial and Campo Troupial. We also flushed several coveys of Crested Bobwhites as we drove along and at our final stop saw Zone-tailed Hawk and some really smart Turkey Vultures that showed the white nape of the region's subspecies to good effect.

Ginép is just a few steps cut into the bank of a bend in the river. There we said farewell to Hendricks and Leon. Kenneth and Emmanuel were the local guides for the final leg of our tour. Along the river we passed Black Cayman and saw several Ospreys, a magnificent pair of Jabirus, Cocoli Herons and kingfishers.

We reached Karanambu Ranch to find Diane McTurk and her two assistants exercising Buddy, an eighteen month old Giant Otter in the shallows of the river. Buddy would never be allowed back into the wild as the unfortunate fellow was blind, but in spite of the handicap we did see him catch his own fish! Diane, a charming and gracious hostess, has been rehabilitating Giant Otters for over 30 years. The lodge area was only a few hundred yards from the river and once there rooms were allocated and we had lunch before a siesta.

The afternoon excursion was a boat trip further along the Rupununi. The second boat saw two Boat-billed Herons at their daytime roost and soon after Kay was lucky to see a Giant Otter emerge from the water at a rate of knots and disappear up the bank into the surrounding bush. Further on quiet inlet produced a

Sunbittern, Green Ibis and a Solitary Sandpiper. We landed on a sandy beach and took a trail across to a lagoon, where there were Victoria Waterlilies *Victoria amazonica*. The circular leaves may reach up to three metres in diameter, but I don't think we saw any quite as large as that. On the way we added Green-tailed Jacamar, Pale-tipped Tyrannulet (or Inezia as it is sometimes called) and Ashy-headed Greenlet. The lagoon was home to Wattled Jacanas and Black Caimans, one of which ignored the Arapaima fish that were surfacing every ten minutes to breath, and set off in a half-hearted pursuit of a Yellow-bellied Snake swimming across from the huge Victoria Waterlilies. The waterlilies were splendid with large football sized flowers.

As the light began to fade we walked back to our landing beach, seeing a fly-over Aplomado Falcon and hearing nighthawks on the way. Lesser and Band-tailed Nighthawks swooped over the river after moths and other insects before we boarded the boats and from the trees at the back of the beach a Collared Forest-falcon called, but remained unseen. The eyes of caimans glowed like hot coals in the lights of our torches, most were Black, but one hauled out on a sandbar was clearly a Spectacled Caiman. Several more Boat-billed Herons were seen along the river bank as we made our way back to ranch. We met up in the dining area for pre-dinner rum punches and locally produced cashew nuts and did the checklist after the meal.

Wednesday 10 March

Overcast in the morning with showers at times. Sunny afternoon. 29°C

Pre-breakfast walk through gallery forest eventually led us to a lagoon where the Victoria Waterlilies grew. On the way we had a good haul of antshrikes - Eastern Slaty was the first, followed by Black-crested and a Great Antshrike that was seen by a few as it sang in thick cover beside the trail. We didn't even get a glimpse of a very secretive Barred Antshrike, which is interesting as both the last two can be seen with relatively little effort on the Trinidad & Tobago tour. We had a few antbirds as well – Dusky and Gray were heard and a male White-browed showed brilliantly for a few seconds before it disappeared. On the outward leg a male Blue-backed Manakin played hard to get, but on our return the views were brilliant.

Marie's run of good fortune continued when she saw a curassow moving away through the understorey, which was identified from another brief view by Emmanuel as a Crestless Curassow. A party of Little Chachalachas made their way through the middle elevation of the trees and at one time we had two Undulated Tinamous walking along the trail ahead of us.

Eventually gallery forest gave way to a large oxbow lake with more Victoria Waterlilies in some of the bays. As we neared the water a small party of Muscovy Ducks flew away and Sunbittern gave a good flyby showing the sunbursts in its wings that give the species its name. Dotted around were Wattled Jacanas and more careful searching produced a Gray-necked Wood-Rail on the far side. Also seen in the area were Wood Stork, Plumbeous Kite, Osprey and Lineated Woodpecker. We returned to breakfast on a shorter and more open route. Afterwards Steve and Marie discovered the Tayra, a omnivorous *Mustilid*, feeding in the mango trees near the cottages.

We piled into a Land Rover and headed out across the surrounding savannah for a morning's walk along another trail through gallery forest. It led us to a large marshy area where once again the lagoons held more waterlilies. As we began the walk Kenneth found a Blue-crowned Motmot in the top of a large tree and along the trail were the foot prints of a Giant Anteater and an extraordinary lime-green and brown caterpillar.

The lagoons in the marsh had more of the Victoria Waterlilies and of course the inevitable Wattled Jacanas. A new bird here was Purple Gallinule and we saw several both feeding around the edge of the lagoon or clambering around bushes growing in slightly drier areas. A heavy shower put the dampeners on things for a while, but it would have been worse if one of the guides not produced some colourful ponchos. After the rain ceased we walked the short distance to another lagoon. While we were scanning the familiar call of a Giant Otter was heard and in open water not far away there was one looking at us with two more amongst the waterlilies behind. They remained in view for several minutes calling to one another and diving, only to reappear a little further away in a ring of bright ripples. Then as abruptly as they arrived we realised they had gone – just silence and smooth water once again. It was magical and all the better for they were the first wild Giant Otters seen by most of the party. It was a good moment to leave and we returned to the lodge and

lunch, which was followed by hammock time before the late afternoon boat trip. Once again the Tayra raided the mango tree and this time we all saw the shaggy fruit robber.

At 4 p.m. we set out on the water and this time went downstream on what was turning out to be a good day for mammals, for we soon came across a group of Capybara on the river's edge with a large male sitting on his haunches in the river. Adults may grow to 130 cms (4.3 ft.) in length, and weigh up to 65 kg (140 lb).

As we continued we saw Black-collared Hawk, Amazon and Ringed Kingfishers, but without doubt the best bird was a Bare-necked Fruit-Crow perched in a bare tree that allowed good views as we cruised along. Much of the other wildlife was as on our previous cruise, including the dusk time turn out of Band-tailed and Lesser Nighthawks.

Thursday 11 March

Overcast first thing after overnight showers. Hot and sunny later. 30°C

After coffee with Pat we piled into the Land Rover and headed out to the savannah area around the main airstrip, an excursion that produced several new birds, the first being a splendid Laughing Falcon perched in a *Cecropia*. Moving away from the forest edge our next stop produced one of the areas sought-after species – a chat-like tyrant-flycatcher – Bearded Tachuri, a bird far more attractive than its name suggests. The same area turned up Grassland Yellow Finch, another first, Wedge-tailed Grass-finch – better views than at Rock View, and finally Grassland Sparrow. Perhaps the biggest surprise was the fly-over by a gloriously pink Roseate Spoonbill. Not far away was quite an extensive wetland that certainly offered potential, although as it turned out we failed to relocate the spoonbill again. We saw Muscovy Ducks flying into the area and around the margins were Pied Water-Tyrants and White-headed Marsh-Tyrants. They were fairly easy to locate, but Kenneth did very well to spot a distant Pinnated Bittern as it walked through rushes between small bushes. We managed scope views before it disappeared for good. One or two Limpkins showed somewhat better.

It seemed a shame not to be able to get closer and thankfully Emmanuel, who was driving, found a track that took us much closer to the water's-edge. Wattled Jacanas were plentiful and conspicuous with flirtatious females trying to seduce the males. A Least Grebe was far more secretive and was watched as it swam behind a clump of rushes before disappearing into the emergent vegetation beyond. As we walked along the shore in the vain hope of perhaps flushing a South American or even a Giant Snipe we discovered the remains of Apple Snails, no doubt the food of Limpkins and of Snail Kites, although we didn't see the latter today. The only thing we flushed was Crested Bobwhite and the farm dog that had latched onto us made a better job of doing that than we did!

As we returned towards Karanambu for breakfast there was still one bit of excitement in store, for when a Giant Anteater was spotted ambling along near the airstrip, Kenneth gave chase on foot. He easily outran the strange looking creature, which allowed itself to be herded back towards us, giving wonderful views as it passed. We were a little late for breakfast, although our hostess didn't mind. Afterwards there was time to sort out our luggage and to photograph the masses of Red-capped Cardinals at the feeding stations. For some there was even time to pay a last visit to the boat area and see the staff exercising Buddy, the blind Giant Otter. There was an unexpected bonus to that expedition – a party of at least four *wild* Giant Otters crossing the river further downstream – a fitting farewell indeed!

Word came through that our flight back to Georgetown was coming in half an hour early, so we returned to the lodge area and waited. In reality we left at the original time, having gone out to the airstrip in the Land Rover with the luggage and Diane, who was also going to Georgetown.

Our flight took us further south-west to drop off and collect other passengers at the small town of Lethem, close to the border with Brazil. Then we headed north once more, crossing miles of savannah before even more miles over the vast rainforests, that make Guyana so special. Much of the flight was actually above or amongst the clouds, so we didn't have the uninterrupted views we had enjoyed on the flights down to Iwokrama via Kaieteur the other day.

By mid-afternoon we landed at Ogle, a small airport closer to the city than the large international one. A minibus was there to meet us and before long we were checking into Cara Lodge again. Because of the potential vagaries of the flight nothing was arranged for the latter part of the afternoon, so we were able to pack at leisure. Our agents had offered to take us to a restaurant in town for dinner this evening, but with a very early start tomorrow we opted to dine in and enjoy a couple of bottles of wine courtesy of Ornitholidays. A bottle of Chilean Sauvignon Blanc and a bottle of Merlot from the same producer were ordered. The Sauvignon Blanc was out of stock, so what did they give us? A bottle of Sauvignon Cabernet arrived instead and the waitress was quite taken aback when we pointed out that it was another red and not a white. But the name was almost the same she insisted! Eventually a bottle of white appeared, but one thing is for certain – there'll never be a Birds and Wine tour to Guyana!

Friday 12 March

Hot, sunny and no doubt humid in Georgetown.

We left Cara Lodge just after 5 a.m. having had a continental breakfast delivered to our rooms about half an hour earlier. The international airport was about an hour's drive away and once we had checked-in for our Delta Airlines flight to New York the remaining formalities went smoothly. The scheduled departure was 8.30 a.m., but we were loaded quickly and rolled back from the gate some 10 minutes early. The flying time to New York was about six hours and with an hour's time change to Eastern Standard Time we arrived more or less on schedule after a somewhat turbulent flight. The captain was actually at the door saying goodbye to the passengers and apologising for the bumpy ride!

We cleared immigration and recovered our luggage and then deposited it at the transfer desk before going through to the terminal's departure area to while away the hours before our flight to London. The snow of two weeks ago had well and truly gone. Grey, grotty and wet was all we saw looking out across the airport, but there were a few birds around – feral pigeons, Common Starlings and House Sparrows were introduced from the Old World, whilst American Herring and Ring-billed Gulls cruised passed the windows. Our scheduled departure time was 7.50 p.m. but with congestion at JFK due to a combination of the inclement weather and runway reconstruction we were late departing.

Saturday 13 March

Our flight didn't make up as much time during the night as hoped. We were amazed that we were almost the only people to pass through the UK passport section of immigration, but any time gained was lost with a long wait for luggage, but it did come eventually, farewells were said and we headed for home on the last leg of our journeys.

Acknowledgements

We had a great time - Guyana has much to offer and in spite of not having the most up-to-date tourist facilities our locals guides and hosts did their utmost to show the best that their country had to offer. Okay we didn't see a Jaguar, but we did see Harpy Eagle, Giant Otters, Giant Anteaters and lots more besides. Thanks to our local guides – Carlos, Wally, Ron, Hendricks, Leon, Emmanuel and Kenneth and their helpers as well as our hosts and their staff, in particular Colin, Diane and Pat. Thank you all for coming and being such good company to a country that is off the main tourist route. There were lots of new birds and animals for us to enjoy. I hope you are pleased with your photos and thanks to Kay, Pam, Ron and Steve for letting me use some of their images. I hope it won't be too long before we met up again for another Ornitholidays trip to another exciting part of the world – there are plenty to choose from in the brochure!

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April 2010

Itinerary and Weather

- 27 February** London to New York
- 28 February** New York to Georgetown. After lunch siesta and afternoon excursion to local botanic gardens. Hot and sunny. 30°C
- 01 March** Morning birding east of Georgetown to Abary. Back to Georgetown and river transfer to Baganara for late lunch. Siesta and afternoon birding around Baganara.
Very hot and sunny during the morning, but clouds built up during the afternoon with passing showers, 32°C
- 02 March** Pre-breakfast birding around lodge. Morning session interrupted by rain, Lunch, siesta and p.m. boat trip to Parrot Island.
A fine start, but clouds built up after breakfast to give a series of very heavy rain showers. 30°C
- 03 March** Pre-breakfast birding interrupted by rain. Morning to flight to Kaieteur Falls for birding, sight-seeing and lunch. Onward flight to Iwokrama. Late afternoon bird walk.
Hot and sunny, with torrential rain for a while before breakfast. 32°C.
- 04 March** Walk along entrance road during afternoon
Torrential rain more or less continuously from 7 a.m. until 12 noon. Afternoon brighter with some sunshine. 26°C.
- 05 March** Morning boat excursion to Indian House Island and walk. Afternoon local birding and visit to Fair View area.
Showers at times, but not the serious rain of the last few days. Sunny periods developing. 29°C
- 06 March** Local birding before mid-morning transfer to Atta Lodge. Canopy Walkway and birding around lodge before onward to Rock View birding en route.
Hot and mainly overcast during the morning, becoming sunny for the afternoon. 28°C
- 07 March** Morning birding en route to Surama. Lunch and return during afternoon. Local birding late p.m. Hot and sunny throughout. 34°C
- 08 March** Morning birding in Rock View/Surama area. Return for lunch and siesta. Afternoon birding a few kilometres from Rock View.
Hot and sultry with heavy rain in late morning and again during early afternoon with a clap or two of thunder. 29°C
- 09 March** Morning road transfer to Ginep and then boat to Karanamabu Ranch. Lunch, afternoon boat trip and birding walk.
Hot and sunny from mid-morning onwards. 34°C
- 10 March** Pre-breakfast walk locally. Morning excursion by road to lagoon. Lunch, siesta and afternoon boat trip.
Overcast in the morning with showers at times. Sunny afternoon. 29°C
- 11 March** Pre-breakfast excursion to savannah and lagoon beyond airstrip. Late morning flight to Georgetown via Lethem.
Overcast first thing after overnight showers. Hot and sunny later. 30°C
- 12 March** Georgetown to New York and onward to London
- 13 March** Arrival London

CHECKLIST OF BIRDS SEEN DURING TOUR

| No of days recorded | Locations | Abundance Scale (max. seen on 1 day) |
|--|--|--|
| 1 2h means seen on 1 day and heard on 2 other days | G = Georgetown and coastal area B = Baganara Island and area KF = Kaieteur Falls I = Iwokrama Research Centre to Atta Lodge AL = Atta Lodge R = Rock View and Surama south to Ginep K = Karanambu Ranch and the river south from Ginep | 1 = 1 - 4 2 = 5 - 9 3 = 10 - 99 4 = 100 - 999 5 = 1,000+ |

| Species | No of Days Recorded | Locations | Abundance Scale | Scientific Name |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Undulated Tinamou | 2 | | K 1 | <i>Crypturellus undulatus</i> |
| Variiegated Tinamou | - 1h | I | 1 | <i>Crypturellus variegates</i> |
| White-faced Whistling-Duck | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> |
| Muscovy Duck | 5 | G I | K 3 | <i>Cairina moschata</i> |
| Crested Bobwhite | 3 | | R K 3 | <i>Colinus cristatus</i> |
| Variable Chachalaca | 3 1h | | R K 1 | <i>Ortalis motmot</i> |
| Marail Guan | 1 | | R 1 | <i>Penelope marail</i> |
| Spix's Guan | 3 1h | B | R 1 | <i>Penelope jacquacu</i> |
| Crestless Curassow | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Mitu tomentosum</i> |
| Black Curassow | 1 | | R 1 | <i>Crax alector</i> |
| Least Grebe | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i> |
| Neotropic Cormorant | 2 | | K 3 | <i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i> |
| Anhinga | 3 | I | K 2 | <i>Anhinga anhinga</i> |
| Rufescent Tiger-Heron | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i> |
| Boat-billed Heron | 3 | I | K 2 | <i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i> |
| Pinnated Bittern | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Botaurus pinnatus</i> |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | 1 | G | 2 | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> |
| Cocoi Heron | 7 | G I | R K 3 | <i>Ardea cocoi</i> |
| Great Egret | 7 | G | R K 4 | <i>Ardea alba</i> |
| Tricolored Heron | 1 | G | 3 | <i>Egretta tricolor</i> |
| Snowy Egret | 7 | G B | K 3 | <i>Egretta thula</i> |
| Little Blue Heron | 4 | G | K 1 | <i>Egretta caerulea</i> |
| Scarlet Ibis | 1 | G | 1 | <i>Eudocimus ruber</i> |
| Green Ibis | 2 | I | K 1 | <i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i> |
| Buff-necked Ibis | 5 | | R K 1 | <i>Theristicus caudatus</i> |
| Roseate Spoonbill | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Platalea ajaja</i> |
| Maguari Stork | 2 | | R K 1 | <i>Ciconia maguari</i> |
| Jabiru | 4 | | R K 1 | <i>Jabiru mycteria</i> |
| Wood Stork | 1 | | K 3 | <i>Mycteria americana</i> |
| Greater Yellow-headed Vulture | 5 | B I | 1 | <i>Cathartes melambrotus</i> |
| Turkey Vulture | 8 | G B | R K 3 | <i>Cathartes aura</i> |
| Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture | 5 | G | R K 3 | <i>Cathartes burrovianus</i> |
| Black Vulture | 10 | G B I | R K 3 | <i>Coragyps atratus</i> |
| Osprey | 5 | G B | K 2 | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> |
| Pearl Kite | 1 | | K 1 | <i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i> |
| Snail Kite | 2 | G | 3 | <i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i> |
| Tiny Hawk | 2 | I | R 2 | <i>Accipiter superciliosus</i> |
| Bicolored Hawk | 1 | | R 1 | <i>Accipiter bicolor</i> |
| Gray(-lined) Hawk | 4 | G I | R K 1 | <i>Asturina nitida</i> |
| Common Black-Hawk | 1 | G | 1 | <i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i> |
| Rufous Crab-Hawk | 1 | G | 2 | <i>Buteogallus aequinoctialis</i> |
| Great Black-Hawk | 5 | I | R K 1 | <i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i> |
| Savanna Hawk | 4 | | R K 1 | <i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i> |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Black-collared Hawk | 4 | G | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Busarellus nigricollis</i> |
| Roadside Hawk | 3 | G | I | | R | | 1 | <i>Buteo magnirostris</i> |
| White-tailed Hawk | 3 | | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Buteo albicaudatus</i> |
| Zone-tailed Hawk | 3 | G | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Buteo albonotatus</i> |
| Harpy Eagle | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Harpia harpyja</i> |
| Black Hawk-Eagle | 2 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i> |
| Ornate Hawk-Eagle | 1 | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Spizaetus ornatus</i> |
| Black Caracara | 1 | | B | | | | 1 | <i>Daptrius ater</i> |
| Red-throated Caracara | 1 | 2h | I | | | | 1 | <i>Ibycter americanus</i> |
| Northern (Crested) Caracara | 6 | G | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Caracara cheriway</i> |
| Yellow-headed Caracara | 9 | G | B | KF | R | K | 2 | <i>Milvago chimachima</i> |
| Laughing Falcon | 1 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i> |
| Collared Forest-Falcon | 1 | 1h | | | | K | h | <i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i> |
| American Kestrel | 2 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Falco sparverius</i> |
| Bat Falcon | 2 | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Falco ruficularis</i> |
| Orange-breasted Falcon | 1 | 1h | | KF | | | h | <i>Falco deiroleucus</i> |
| Aplomado Falcon | 1 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Falco femoralis</i> |
| Peregrine Falcon | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Falco peregrinus</i> |
| Limpkin | 4 | G | | | | K | 1 | <i>Aramus guarauna</i> |
| Gray-winged Trumpeter | 2 | | I | | R | | 1 | <i>Psophia crepitans</i> |
| Gray-necked Wood-Rail | 3 | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Aramides cajanea</i> |
| Purple Gallinule | 1 | | | | | K | 2 | <i>Porphyrio martinica</i> |
| Sunbittern | 2 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Eurypyga helias</i> |
| Pied Lapwing | 7 | | B | I | | K | 3 | <i>Vanellus cayanus</i> |
| Southern Lapwing | 7 | | B | | R | K | 3 | <i>Vanellus chilensis</i> |
| Black-bellied Plover | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> |
| Semipalmated Plover | 1 | G | | | | | 3 | <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i> |
| Collared Plover | 4 | | B | I | | | 2 | <i>Charadrius collaris</i> |
| Double-striped Thick-knee | 2 | | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Burhinus bistriatus</i> |
| South American Snipe | 3 | | B | | | | 1 | <i>Gallinago paraguayiae</i> |
| Greater Yellowlegs | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i> |
| Solitary Sandpiper | 3 | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Tringa solitaria</i> |
| Spotted Sandpiper | 9 | G | B | I | R | K | 2 | <i>Actitis macularia</i> |
| Wattled Jacana | 5 | G | | | | K | 3 | <i>Jacana jacana</i> |
| Yellow-billed Tern | 1 | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Sterna superciliaris</i> |
| Large-billed Tern | 4 | | B | I | | | 1 | <i>Phaetusa simplex</i> |
| Black Skimmer | 4 | G | I | | | K | 1 | <i>Rynchops niger</i> |
| Common Ground-Dove | 7 | G | B | | R | K | 3 | <i>Columbina passerine</i> |
| Ruddy Ground-Dove | 3 | G | | | | | 3 | <i>Columbina talpacoti</i> |
| Rock (Feral) Pigeon | 2 | G | | | | | 3 | <i>Columba livia</i> |
| Pale-vented Pigeon | 8 | G | B | | R | K | 3 | <i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i> |
| Plumbeous Pigeon | 1 | 1h | | I | | | h | <i>Patagioenas plumbea</i> |
| Ruddy Pigeon | 1 | 1h | | | | K | h | <i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i> |
| Eared Dove | 2 | | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Zenaida auriculata</i> |
| White-tipped Dove | 5 | | B | | | K | 1 | <i>Leptotila verreauxi</i> |
| Gray-fronted Dove | 2 | | KF | I | | | 1 | <i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i> |
| Blue-and-yellow Macaw | 2 | | | I | | | 3 | <i>Ara ararauna</i> |
| Scarlet Macaw | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Ara macao</i> |
| Red-and-green Macaw | 5 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Ara chloropterus</i> |
| Red-shouldered Macaw | 2 | G | | | R | | 2 | <i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i> |
| Brown-throated Parakeet | 5 | G | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Aratinga pertinax</i> |
| Painted Parakeet | 2 | | | I | | | 3 | <i>Pyrrhura picta</i> |
| Green-rumped Parrotlet | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Forpus passerinus</i> |
| Golden-winged Parakeet | 2 | | B | | R | | 2 | <i>Brotogeris chrysoptera</i> |
| Sapphire-rumped Parrotlet | 1 | | | | R | | 2 | <i>Touit purpuratus</i> |
| Black-headed Parrot | 2 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Pionites melanocephalus</i> |
| Caica Parrot | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Gypopsitta caica</i> |
| Blue-headed Parrot | 5 | | B | I | R | | 3 | <i>Pionus menstruus</i> |
| Dusky Parrot | 3 | | B | I | | | 1 | <i>Pionus fuscus</i> |
| Blue-cheeked Parrot | - | 1h | | | R | | 1 | <i>Amazona dufresniana</i> |
| Yellow-crowned Parrot | 2 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> |
| Orange-winged Parrot | 9 | G | B | I | R | K | 4 | <i>Amazona amazonica</i> |
| Mealy Parrot | 3 | G | | I | R | | 2 | <i>Amazona farinose</i> |

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|------------------------------------|----|----|---|----|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Red-fan Parrot | 2 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Derophtyus accipitrinus</i> |
| Squirrel Cuckoo | 5 | | | I | R | K | 1 | <i>Piaya cayana</i> |
| Black-bellied Cuckoo | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Piaya melanogaster</i> |
| Little Cuckoo | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Piaya minuta</i> |
| Greater Ani | 3 | G | B | | | | 1 | <i>Crotophaga major</i> |
| Smooth-billed Ani | 10 | | B | I | R | K | 2 | <i>Crotophaga ani</i> |
| Striped Cuckoo | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Tapera naevia</i> |
| Barn Owl | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Tyto alba</i> |
| Tropical Screech-Owl | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Megascops choliba</i> |
| Great Horned Owl | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Bubo virginianus</i> |
| Common Potoo | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Nyctibius griseus</i> |
| Lesser Nighthawk | 3 | | | | R | K | 3 | <i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i> |
| Band-tailed Nighthawk | 3 | | B | | | K | 3 | <i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i> |
| Common Pauraque | 1 | | B | | | | 1 | <i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i> |
| Ladder-tailed Nightjar | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Hydropsalis climacocerca</i> |
| Gray-rumped Swift | 1 | | B | | | | 2 | <i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i> |
| Short-tailed Swift | 6 | | B | I | | K | 2 | <i>Chaetura brachyura</i> |
| White-tipped Swift | 1 | | | KF | | | 2 | <i>Aeronautes montivagus</i> |
| Fork-tailed Palm-Swift | 4 | | B | | R | | 2 | <i>Tachornis squamata</i> |
| Little Hermit | 1 | | B | | | | 1 | <i>Phaethornis longuemareus</i> |
| Reddish Hermit | 1 | | B | | | | 1 | <i>Phaethornis ruber</i> |
| (Eastern) Long-tailed Hermit | 2 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Phaethornis superciliosus</i> |
| Gray-breasted Sabrewing | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Campylopterus largipennis</i> |
| Black-throated Mango | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i> |
| Fork-tailed Woodnymph | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Thalurania furcata</i> |
| Rufous-throated Sapphire | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Hylocharis sapphirina</i> |
| White-chinned Sapphire | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Hylocharis cyanus</i> |
| White-tailed Goldenthrroat | 1 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Polytmus guainumbi</i> |
| Glittering-throated Emerald | 5 | G | B | | R | | 1 | <i>Amazilia fimbriata</i> |
| White-chested Emerald | 1 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Amazilia chionopectus</i> |
| Black-eared Fairy | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Heliothryx aurita</i> |
| (Amazonian) White-tailed Trogon | 2 | 2h | | I | R | K | 1 | <i>Trogon viridis</i> |
| Black-tailed Trogon | - | 2h | | | R | | 1 | <i>Trogon melanurus</i> |
| Ringed Kingfisher | 3 | | B | | | K | 2 | <i>Megaceryle torquata</i> |
| Amazon Kingfisher | 2 | | | I | | K | 1 | <i>Chloroceryle amazona</i> |
| Green Kingfisher | 4 | G | B | | | K | 1 | <i>Chloroceryle americana</i> |
| Blue-crowned Motmot | 1 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Momotus momota</i> |
| Yellow-billed Jacamar | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Galbula albirostris</i> |
| Green-tailed Jacamar | 3 | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Galbula galbula</i> |
| Paradise Jacamar | 2 | | | | R | | 2 | <i>Galbula dea</i> |
| Great Jacamar | 2 | 1h | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Jacamerops aureus</i> |
| Black Nunbird | 4 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Monasa atra</i> |
| Swallow-winged Puffbird | 10 | | B | I | R | K | 3 | <i>Chelidoptera tenebrosa</i> |
| Black-spotted Barbet | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Capito niger</i> |
| Toco Toucan | 1 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Ramphastos toco</i> |
| White-throated (Red-billed) Toucan | 4 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Ramphastos tucanus</i> |
| Channel-billed Toucan | 4 | | B | I | | | 2 | <i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i> |
| Guianan Toucanet | 2 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Selenidera culik</i> |
| Green Aracari | 5 | | | I | R | | 2 | <i>Pteroglossus viridis</i> |
| Black-necked Aracari | 3 | | | I | R | | 2 | <i>Pteroglossus aracari</i> |
| Golden-spangled Piculet | - | 1h | | | | K | 1 | <i>Picumnus exilis</i> |
| White-bellied Piculet | 2 | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Picumnus spilogaster</i> |
| Yellow-tufted Woodpecker | 3 | | B | | R | | 2 | <i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i> |
| Golden-collared Woodpecker | 2 | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Veniliornis cassini</i> |
| Yellow-throated Woodpecker | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Piculus flavigula</i> |
| Waved Woodpecker | 3 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Celeus undatus</i> |
| Chestnut Woodpecker | 3 | | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Celeus elegans</i> |
| Ringed Woodpecker | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Celeus torquatus</i> |
| Lineated Woodpecker | 5 | 1h | G | I | R | K | 1 | <i>Dryocopus lineatus</i> |
| Red-necked Woodpecker | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Campephilus rubricollis</i> |
| Crimson-crested Woodpecker | 6 | | B | I | R | K | 1 | <i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i> |
| Pale-legged Hornero | 1 | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Furnarius leucopus</i> |
| Yellow-chinned Spinetail | 2 | 2h | G | | | K | 3 | <i>Certhiaxis cinnamomeus</i> |

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|---------------------------------|----|----|---|---|----|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Plain-brown Woodcreeper | 1 | 1h | | I | AL | | 1 | <i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i> |
| Wedge-billed Woodcreeper | 3 | 1h | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i> |
| Straight-billed Woodcreeper | 1 | | G | | | | 1 | <i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i> |
| Striped Woodcreeper | - | 1h | | | | R | 1 | <i>Xiphorhynchus obsoletus</i> |
| Buff-throated Woodcreeper | 1 | 3h | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i> |
| Lineated Woodcreeper | 1 | | | | AL | | 1 | <i>Lepidocolaptes albolineatus</i> |
| Great Antshrike | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Taraba major</i> |
| Black-crested Antshrike | 4 | 1h | G | | | | 1 | <i>Sakesphorus Canadensis</i> |
| Barred Antshrike | - | 1h | | | | | K | <i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i> |
| Eastern Slaty-Antshrike | 1 | | | | | | 1 | <i>Thamnophilus punctatus</i> |
| Mouse-coloured Antshrike | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Thamnophilus murinus</i> |
| Dusky-throated Antshrike | 3 | | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Thamnophilus ardesiacus</i> |
| Cinereous Antshrike | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Thamnomanes caesius</i> |
| Pygmy Antwren | 1 | 1h | | I | AL | | 1 | <i>Myrmotherula brachyuran</i> |
| Long-winged Antwren | 1 | | | | AL | | 1 | <i>Myrmotherula longipennis</i> |
| White-fringed Antwren | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Formicivora grisea</i> |
| Gray Antbird | 2 | 3h | | I | | R | K | <i>Cercomacra cinerascens</i> |
| Dusky Antbird | 2 | | | I | | R | | <i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i> |
| White-browed Antbird | 2 | | | | | R | K | <i>Myrmoborus leucophrys</i> |
| Guianan Warbling Antbird | 1 | | | | AL | | 1 | <i>Hypocnemis cantator</i> |
| Black-chinned Antbird | 2 | | | 1 | | | K | <i>Hypocnemoides melanopogon</i> |
| Silvered Antbird | 1 | 1h | B | I | | | 1 | <i>Sclateria naevia</i> |
| Ferruginous-backed Antbird | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Myrmeciza ferruginea</i> |
| Rufous-capped Antthrush | 1 | | | | AL | | 1 | <i>Formicarius colma</i> |
| Spotted Antpitta | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Hylopezus macularius</i> |
| Thrush-like Antpitta | 1 | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Myrmothera campanisona</i> |
| Forest Elaenia | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i> |
| Yellow-bellied Elaenia | 2 | | G | I | | | 1 | <i>Elaenia flavogaster</i> |
| Southern Beardless Tyrannulet | 2 | | G | | | | 1 | <i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i> |
| Bearded Tachuri | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Polystictus pectoralis</i> |
| Pale-tipped Tyrannulet (Inezia) | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Inezia caudate</i> |
| Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant | 2 | 1h | | I | | | 1 | <i>Lophotriccus galeatus</i> |
| Spotted Tody-Flycatcher | 2 | | G | | | | 1 | <i>Todirostrum maculatum</i> |
| Common Tody-Flycatcher | 3 | | G | | | R | 1 | <i>Todirostrum cinereum</i> |
| Painted Tody-Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Todirostrum pictum</i> |
| Yellow-breasted Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i> |
| Vermilion Flycatcher | 2 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> |
| Pied Water-Tyrant | 5 | | G | | | R | K | <i>Fluvicola pica</i> |
| White-headed Marsh-Tyrant | 5 | | | B | | R | K | <i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i> |
| Piratic Flycatcher | 3 | | G | | | R | 1 | <i>Legatus leucophaius</i> |
| Rusty-margined Flycatcher | 9 | | G | B | I | R | K | <i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i> |
| Great Kiskadee | 12 | | G | B | I | R | K | <i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i> |
| Lesser Kiskadee | 5 | | G | B | | | K | <i>Philohydor lector</i> |
| Streaked Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i> |
| Tropical Kingbird | 11 | | G | B | I | R | K | <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i> |
| Fork-tailed Flycatcher | 7 | | | B | 1 | R | K | <i>Tyrannus savana</i> |
| Gray Kingbird | 4 | | G | B | | | 1 | <i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i> |
| Dusky-capped Flycatcher | 2 | | G | B | | | 1 | <i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i> |
| Short-crested Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Myiarchus ferox</i> |
| Cinnamon Attila | - | 1h | | B | | | 1 | <i>Attila cinnamomeus</i> |
| Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock | 1 | | | | KF | | 1 | <i>Rupicola rupicola</i> |
| Spangled Cotinga | 4 | | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Cotinga cayana</i> |
| Screaming Piha | 1 | 4h | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Lipaugus vociferans</i> |
| Bare-necked Fruitcrow | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Gymnoderus foetidus</i> |
| Purple-throated Fruitcrow | - | 1h | | | | R | 1 | <i>Querula purpurata</i> |
| Crimson Fruitcrow | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Haematoderus militaris</i> |
| Capuchinbird | 2 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Perissocephalus tricolor</i> |
| Tiny Tyrant-Manakin | - | 2h | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Tyrannetes virescens</i> |
| Blue-backed Manakin | 1 | | | | | | K | <i>Chiroxiphia pareola</i> |
| White-crowned Manakin | 2 | | | I | | R | 1 | <i>Pipra pipra</i> |
| Golden-headed Manakin | - | 1h | | B | | | 1 | <i>Pipra erythrocephala</i> |
| Black-tailed Tityra | 2 | 1h | | B | | R | 1 | <i>Tityra cayana</i> |
| White-naped Xenopsaris | 1 | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Xenopsaris albinucha</i> |

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|-------------------------------|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Rufous-browed Peppershrike | 1 | 1h | | | | | R | 1 | <i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i> | |
| Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo | - | 1h | | | I | | | 1 | <i>Vireolanius leucotis</i> | |
| Lemon-chested Greenlet | 1 | | G | | | | | 1 | <i>Hylophilus thoracicus</i> | |
| Ashy-headed Greenlet | 1 | | | | | | | K | <i>Hylophilus pectoralis</i> | |
| Cayenne Jay | 1 | 1h | | | | AL | R | 1 | <i>Cyanocorax cayanus</i> | |
| White-winged Swallow | 11 | | G | B | I | | R | K | 3 | <i>Tachycineta albiventer</i> |
| Brown-chested Martin | 8 | | G | B | | | R | K | 3 | <i>Progne tapera</i> |
| Gray-breasted Martin | 1 | | | B | | | | | 2 | <i>Progne chalybea</i> |
| White-banded Swallow | 1 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Atticora fasciata</i> |
| Black-collared Swallow | 1 | | | | I | | | | 3 | <i>Atticora melanoleuca</i> |
| Southern Rough-winged Swallow | 3 | | | | | | R | | 2 | <i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i> |
| Barn Swallow | 10 | | | B | I | | R | K | 3 | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> |
| White-breasted Wood-Wren | - | 1h | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i> |
| Southern House-Wren | 2 | | G | | | | | | 1 | <i>Troglodytes musculus</i> |
| Coraya Wren | 1 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Thryothorus coraya</i> |
| Buff-breasted Wren | 1 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Thryothorus leucotis</i> |
| Long-billed Gnatwren | 1 | 1h | | | I | | R | | 1 | <i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i> |
| Tropical Gnatcatcher | 2 | | G | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Polioptila plumbea</i> |
| Black-capped Donacobius | 1 | | | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Donacobius atricapillus</i> |
| Pale-breasted Thrush | 7 | | G | B | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Turdus leucomelas</i> |
| Tropical Mockingbird | 9 | | G | B | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Mimus gilvus</i> |
| Fulvous-crested Tanager | 1 | | | | | AL | | | 1 | <i>Tachyphonus surinamus</i> |
| White-lined Tanager | 1 | | | B | | | | | 1 | <i>Tachyphonus rufus</i> |
| Silver-beaked Tanager | 10 | | G | B | I | | R | K | 1 | <i>Ramphocelus carbo</i> |
| Blue-gray Tanager | 10 | | G | B | I | | R | K | 2 | <i>Thraupis episcopus</i> |
| Palm Tanager | 12 | | G | B | I | AL | R | K | 3 | <i>Thraupis palmarum</i> |
| Turquoise Tanager | 2 | | G | B | | | | | 2 | <i>Tangara mexicana</i> |
| Burnished-buff Tanager | 1 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Tangara cayana</i> |
| Blue Dacnis | 3 | | | KF | I | | R | | 2 | <i>Dacnis cayana</i> |
| Red-legged Honeycreeper | 1 | 1h | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i> |
| Lowland Hepatic Tanager | 2 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Piranga flava</i> |
| Grassland Sparrow | 4 | | | | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Ammodramus humeralis</i> |
| Grassland Yellow-Finch | 1 | | | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Sicalis luteola</i> |
| Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch | 2 | | | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Emberizoides herbicola</i> |
| Blue-black Grassquit | 1 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Volatinia jacarina</i> |
| Gray Seedeater | 2 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Sporophila intermedia</i> |
| Plumbeous Seedeater | 3 | | | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Sporophila plumbea</i> |
| Ruddy-breasted Seedeater | 3 | | | | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Sporophila minuta</i> |
| Chestnut-bellied Seedeater | 3 | | | B | | | | | 1 | <i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i> |
| Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch | - | 1h | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i> |
| Red-capped Cardinal | 6 | | G | B | | | | K | 3 | <i>Paroaria gularis</i> |
| Slate-colored Grosbeak | 1 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Saltator grossus</i> |
| Buff-throated Saltator | 1 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Saltator maximus</i> |
| Blue-black Grosbeak | - | 1h | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Cyanocompsa cyanoides</i> |
| Yellow Warbler | 4 | | G | B | | | R | | 1 | <i>Dendroica petechia</i> |
| Blackburnian Warbler | 1 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Dendroica fusca</i> |
| Northern Waterthrush | 2 | 1h | G | B | | | | | 1 | <i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i> |
| Green Oropendola | 2 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Psarocolius viridis</i> |
| Crested Oropendola | 8 | | | B | I | | R | K | 3 | <i>Psarocolius decumanus</i> |
| Yellow-rumped Cacique | 11 | | | B | I | | R | K | 3 | <i>Cacicus cela</i> |
| Red-rumped Cacique | 4 | | G | B | | | R | | 2 | <i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i> |
| Orange-backed Troupial | 1 | | | | | | | K | 1 | <i>Icterus coronotus</i> |
| Yellow Oriole | 5 | | G | | | | R | | 2 | <i>Icterus nigrogularis</i> |
| Moriche Oriole | 2 | | | | I | | | | 1 | <i>Icterus chrysiocephalus</i> |
| Giant Cowbird | 12 | | G | B | I | | R | K | 3 | <i>Molothrus oryzivora</i> |
| Shiny Cowbird | 3 | | G | | | | | K | 2 | <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i> |
| Carib Grackle | 1 | | G | | | | | | 3 | <i>Quiscalus lugubris</i> |
| Red-breasted Blackbird | 7 | | | B | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Sturnella militaris</i> |
| Eastern Meadowlark | 2 | | | | | | R | K | 2 | <i>Sturnella magna</i> |
| Finsch's Euphonia | 1 | | | | | | R | | 1 | <i>Euphonia finschi</i> |
| Violaceous Euphonia | 1 | | G | | | | | | 1 | <i>Euphonia violacea</i> |

MAMMALS

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|----------------------------------|
| Giant Anteater | 3 | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Myrmecophaga tetradactyla</i> |
| Pale-throated Three-toed Sloth | 1 | | | | AL | 1 | <i>Bradypus tridactylus</i> |
| Bulldog (Fishing) Bat | 3 | | I | | | 2 | <i>Noctilio albiventris</i> |
| Lesser Fishing Bat | 1 | | I | | | 1 | <i>Noctilio leporinus</i> |
| Free-tailed Bat sp | 1 | | | | | K | <i>Nyctinomops sp</i> |
| Weeping Capuchin | 2 | | | R | | 1 | <i>Cebus olivaceus</i> |
| Brown Capuchin | 1 | | | | | K | <i>Cebus apella</i> |
| Guianan Saki | 1 | | | R | | 1 | <i>Pithecia pithecia</i> |
| Red Howler Monkey | 4 | B | I | R | | 2 | <i>Alouatta seniculus</i> |
| Squirrel Monkey | 1 | | | | | K | <i>Saimiri sciureus</i> |
| Black Spider Monkey | 2 | | I | R | | 1 | <i>Ateles paniscus</i> |
| Tayra | 1 | | | | | K | <i>Eira barbara</i> |
| Giant Otter | 3 | | | | | K | <i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i> |
| Capybara | 1 | | | | | K | <i>Hydrochaerus hydrochaeris</i> |
| Red-rumped Agouti | 2 | | | R | K | 1 | <i>Dasyprocta leporina</i> |

SCIENTIFIC NAME**REPTILES**

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Black Cayman | <i>Melanosuchus niger</i> |
| Spectacled Cayman | <i>Caiman crocodilus</i> |
| Green Iguana | <i>Iguana iguana</i> |
| Golden Dart-poison Frog | <i>Colostethus beebei</i> |
| Marine Toad | <i>Bufo marinus</i> |

This list represents those birds and other animals seen by party members of this tour.



Yellow Oriole, Abary
© Richard Coomber



Common Tody-Flycatcher, Baganara
© Richard Coomber



Yellow-crowned Parrot,
Georgetown
© Richard Coomber



Yellow-tufted Woodpecker
Baganara
© Richard Coomber



South American Snipe,
Baganara
© Richard Coomber



Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock
Kaieteur Falls
© Richard Coomber



Great Black-Hawk - immature
Iwokrama
© Richard Coomber



Rita at speed - Iwokrama

© Pam Symes



120,000 miles and still waltzing Matilda

© Richard Coomber



Kaieteur Falls

© Richard Coomber



Golden Poison-dart Frog

Kaieteur

© Richard Coomber



Tropical Screech-Owl,

Rock View

© Richard Coomber



Wild Giant Otter and Victoria Water-lilies

© Kay Sayers



Giant Ant-eater, Karanamabu

© Richard Coomber