

Costa Rica

Through the Lens

A Greentours Tour Report

1st – 14th September 2013

Led by Chris Gardner

Day 1 1st Sept To Costa Rica

The long but necessary flight to San Jose was followed by a drive into the volcanoes north of the city and our comfortable lodge tucked in between two of them.

Day 2 2nd Sept Bosque de Paz

A very productive first day began with the buzz around the hummingbird feeders and it didn't take long for us to see six species with the vivid purple Violet Sabrewing the most obvious supported by Purple-throated Mountain-gem, Green-crowned Brilliant, Green Hermit and Magnificent Hummingbird as well as Black-bellied feeding on the abundant *Stachytarpheta frantzii* blooms. A couple of Black Guans were also eating leftover water melon and Chestnut-capped Brush-finches hopped about along the forest edge and in another open area were more guans and a couple of Central American Agoutis. The sun was warming the air and we drifted across to a large patch where butterflies were really getting going and spent quite some time photographing the stunning iridescent blue Two-barred Flashers, and blue black *Creonopyge creon* and a second stunning species *Pyrrhopyge chalybea chloris*; the same metallic blue-black but with a fringe of orange on the hindwing. There must have been ten species of skipper about and as things warmed up all of these were joined lovely *Heliconius clysonymus*, sickle-shaped orange *Dione julia* and *Hypanartia lethe*. A bee-like Scintillant Hummingbird also came by a couple of times.

We had to tear ourselves away to have breakfast but afterwards as were about to set off for our walk there was a lovely '88' *Diaethria gabaza*. Beautiful red-marked damselflies *Haeterina sempronia*(?) were common by streams and a pond, erupting in swirling groups from leaves. There where we also a couple of shining blue-barred *Mesosemia grandis*, various cloud forest flora such as red *Razisea spicata*, gingers, *Calathea crocata*, little hairy caterpillars hanging in midair on unseen threads and woven among all of this the regular flocks of Common Bush-tanagers, Three-striped Warblers, Spotted Barbtails, Hairy Woodpecker and a good view of Ruddy-capped

Nightingale-thrush. The latter was as we had begun our walk up to the waterfall and not long after we began to see many glasswings *Oleria vicina* along with the odd *Greta oto*, lovely transparent butterflies that fluttered along the trail and disappeared when they settled. There were superb tree ferns, clubmoss and an extraordinary red fungus that burst from a pustule into a ragged curved fruiting body before we reached the picturesque falls nestled among the forest. We were running a touch late so from here walked straight back stopped for the odd glasswing on the way.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in the orchid garden or photographing hummingbirds. In the orchid collection we found many weird, wonderful and beautiful species. There was greenish-grey *Scaphyglottis* sp, long racemes of *Oncidium bracteatum*, many *Pleurothallis* species including the fringed *segiviensis*, *ruscifolia* with dense clusters of yellow flowers, and broad greenish *cardiothallus*. Some species were plain odd such as the pouched *Scaphocephalum anchoriferum*, whilst the stunning pink *Trichopilia suavis* was flamboyant and showy, and for me pick of the bunch the remarkable big, creamy yellow *Stanhopea warszewiczii*, which was both odd and showy. The light was starting to wane and we waited until after dusk for the Pacas to show but they chose to wait until dinner so we had to delay our own feeding to go and watch theirs with good close views of two of these ungainly hippo-like rodents.

A huge *Rothschildia orizaba* had flown in and settled, a truly striking insect with a six-inch wingspan and after dinner we searched around the lights finding many more moths including the green and pink hawkmoth *Adhemarius ypsilon*, plainer but still handsome *Eumorpha* sp, there were the vivid bull's-eyes of *Automeris zugana* and a number of lumbering green beetles that looked like shiny broad beans with legs.

Day 3 3rd Sept Bosque de Paz to Laguna de Lagartos

It was a bit cloudier first thing but this didn't dissuade the hummers busying around the feeders and a couple of coatis joined the agoutis and Black Guans feeding on the far side of the river. And the river proved attractive to an American Dipper that arrived to feed and swim in the water, returning several times during the morning. After breakfast the sun was breaking through and butterflies were starting to emerge but we would come back to these later in the morning after another foray into the forest. We hadn't gone far at all when a movement on the other side of the river turned out to be a Northern Tamandua, a splendid anteater with golden and black fur, which was clambering slowly along the rocky bank and we had very good views.

Nothing was going to top this today, but nonetheless we still saw more good things including the outlandish *Aseroe rubra* red star fungus that burst from the ground with wayward red limbs and a central disc of slimy brown goo that proved irresistible to flies. There were also a few *Leptophobia caesia* that had pale blue and black uppersides and yellow undersides, the reddish *Godyris zavaleta*, a few broad-bodied millipedes, Collared Trogon, Ochraceous Wren and Spotted Barbtail.

Butterflies were in full swing back at the lodge and Ian had even aced a Common Morpho with wings fully spread - an uncommon sight and one which had never been photographed before on any of my dozen previous Costa Rica trips! More time was spent enjoying butterflies around the bushes before we had lunch and then sadly had to say farewell and leave for the lowlands.

We drove down through the typical Costa Rican rural landscape of small houses with flowery hedges of hibiscus, pastures with hump-backed cows and then extensive pineapple plantations. There was little about to delay as although we stopped a couple of times before nearing the lodge where in the small marsh both Amazon and larger Ringed Kingfishers were perched together on an overhead wire. Then just shy of the lodge a flock of Collared Aracaris and two Keel-billed Toucans flew across.

Dumping our bags in the room we spent time on the large veranda slowly but surely amassing many new birds with Chestnut-coloured and Black-cheeked Woodpeckers, both Orange-chinned Parakeet and Brown-hooded Parrot, Palm, Blue-grey and Golden-hooded Tanagers as well as the bright scarlet rumped Passerini's Tanager and blue-green male Green Honeycreepers. A male Montezuma's Oropendula was spitting out its peculiar call from above and a couple of times he flew down to the feeders before two Collared Aracaris arrived to feed and we had great views of these too. Red-ored Parrots were flying to roost in pairs and a pair of much larger Scarlet Macaws flew across (although usually I see many more than this) before arguably the most impressive show of all, the incredible acrobatic flight of two (or three it was hard to tell they were so fast) Short-tailed Nighthawks that swept around the gardens and over the lake slaloming between trees, turning and gliding with breathtaking grace and speed sometimes emitting pleasant bubbly calls – all in all quite magical.

The group rounded off the day with Henry the nightwatchman's Spectacled Caiman tour.

Day 4 4th Sept Laguna del Lagartos

An atmospheric misty dawn saw ten Scarlet Macaws flying across the lagoon squawking loudly as they headed for their feeding grounds, most probably in neighbouring Nicaragua. The Great Curassow family was stalking about and by a pile of rotting bananas were two handsome Grey-necked Woodrails, whilst although the feeders were quiet at first slowly showy species arrived with first a gathering of Golden-headed Tanagers, Black-cheeked and Chestnut-coloured Woodpeckers, followed by Red-legged and Shining Honeycreepers, including a stunning male, and then a superb Chestnut-mandibled Toucan. The latter fed for a while before it was ousted by a big male Montezuma's Oropendula who after feeding went up into the tree to perform his bizarre song once more.

After breakfast we went into the forest seeing many new plants such as Hotlips *Psychotria sp* and showy *Passiflora sp*, fine red-bracted *Heliconius sp* and the red theme continued when we finally tracked down our first Strawberry Poison Frogs. These amazing little amphibians were fairly

common and their loud cricket-like call could be heard throughout the forest. Near to a particularly huge tree, and there had been a number of impressive buttress-rooted giants already, there were a number of the poison frogs but also a peculiar bubbling that call drew our attention to the canopy where after a bit of searching we found two White-faced Nunbirds and got good views as they perched quietly awaiting the next juicy insect to pass by. There were huge leafcutter ant nests, little Field's Groundstreaks, the worrisome Bullet Ant, and then a spectacular Blue Helicopter Damselfly *Megaloprepus caeruleus* with its unique whirring wing motion, the tips of each wing blotched with two tone blue. There were a few other butterflies as we continued including *Pierella helvetia* and the stunning white-spotted black Mexican Cicadian as well as Streaked Antvireos and then nearing the end a well-camouflage little mantid, a Confused Tigerwing, and then a big curassow in a tree.

Post siesta we went for another shorter forest walk and saw another interesting array of flora and fauna with laden leafcutter ants, an army ant column, Plain Woodcreeper, wasp nests, poison frogs, the delicate butterfly *Actinote guatemalensis* that always settled beneath a leaf before I frustratingly flushed an *Opsiphanes tamarindi* before we could photograph it. Last up was a pair of Mealy Parrots that showed well feeding quietly in a relatively short tree, eating what seemed to be mini sweet chestnuts. Back at the lodge we watched the afternoon fade with at least ten Scarlet Macaws flying across, a couple of Crested Guans leaping about in distant trees and then a fabulous sunset with a huge cumulus cloud coloured peachy-orange. The Short-tailed Nighthawks put on another aerial master class before it was time for showers and dinner.

Day 5 5th Sept Laguna del Lagartos

Today was a day filled with colourful birds and it began as usual with the feeder near the veranda where a Brown-hooded Parrot and Black-cheeked Woodpecker were on attendance. Activity was a bit muted here this morning although there were nine Keel-billed Toucans seen moving along the trees behind the lake, eventually flying across the lake and away. Red-lore Parrots were as vocal as ever too and then two Olive-fronted Parakeets settled in a tree for a bit. After breakfast we went to Adolfo's garden and settled into our chairs in front of the feeders there. A few more photogenic branches were put in place and then we spent two and a half hours watching and photographing the procession of often colourful birds that came in such as Golden-hooded, Blue-grey and Passerini's Tanagers, the stunning male Shining Honeycreeper, occasional visits from Black-cheeked and Chestnut-coloured Woodpeckers, Green Honeycreepers, noisy Great Kiskadees, dapper little Olive-backed Euphonias and even a brief visit from a Greyish Saltator with a Buff-throated Saltator lurking in the shrubs too shy to come in. Whilst all this was happening Scaly-breasted and Rufous-tailed Hummingbirds paid regular visits to the flowers around us and Long-billed Hermits whisked about the heliconias (there were also White-necked Jacobins on the feeders around the corner). All in all there were twenty one species of bird in the

garden, twenty-two if you count the Orange-chinned Parakeets that we could hear but which never arrived.

We drove back to the lodge for lunch and then as we ate a slightly different squawk drew our attention to large almendra tree in which there had to be Great Green Macaws. With some persistence Tony found one and we got reasonable views in the scope, with a second bird joining the first. These then flew off but as they did they called loudly and this was answered by a second group. These we managed to find with a little help from Adolfo and we enjoyed excellent scope views of three of these stunning parrots, even managing some distant photos before they flew away (after at least half an hour) revealing their full technicolour livery. Whilst we'd been watching these two White-faced Nunbirds and a Boat-billed Flycatcher had been feeding unobtrusively around us.

Tony opted to stay on the veranda and see what would come along, Ian and Peta came with me for a stroll down the road where we saw White-shouldered Tanagers, Crowned Woodnymph, a female Slaty-tailed Trogon and six Keel-billed Toucans. After reaching the marsh where a Ringed Kingfisher was watching overhead on a wire we turned back and arrived at the lodge where a happy Tony had just spent twenty minutes photographing the same toucans that had flown down to the feeders from where we'd seen them! A Collared Aracari had arrived just after them too.

We took a nightwalk after dinner finding a few rain frogs, many crickets, golden orb-web spiders, a Striped Basilisk and then as we walked up the road there were half a dozen big Spectacled Caimans lounging on the lawn.

Day 6 6th Sept Braulio Carillio

The day began clear and sunny for our short morning session before the long drive south to the highlands of Cerro de la Muerte. Various honeycreepers and tanagers were about and three Brown-hooded Parrots arrived and we got decent photos of these and then a Turkey Vulture sunning itself in a tree. It was sad to leave but new things beckoned so we drove out stopping only to photograph the pineapple plantations and then for fuel and some essentials in Pital town.

From here we followed the road through undulating hills to the main road where a good roadside diner served some good ceviche and tres leches (cake soaked in cream) for lunch. The main road continued all the way to San Jose through the magnificent tract of rainforest comprising Braulio Carillio national park and we stopped first just short of this to visit a rather rundown hummingbird garden. However, despite appearances this place is a favoured haunt of one of Costa Ricas most beautiful hummingbirds and it didn't disappoint this time either with at least three male Snowcaps feeding on the *Stachytarpheta* bushes. Along with these were also Violet-headed Hummingbird and Green Hermit, many skippers and apricot-orange *Phoebis argante*. Not much further on was the park entrance where we stopped to take a walk in the

wonderfully verdant forest, bursting with palms, heliconias and ferns. It was midday so wildlife was quiet but we still saw a number of fine new butterflies including the stunning *Tigridia acesta*. Birdlife was confined to a Crested Guan and although I examined many palm tents I couldn't locate any Tent-making Bats this year and the Honduran White Bat house was empty too!

Now we had to drive first up through the greenery lined road to San Jose then negotiating the slow traffic we began the long climb up onto the spine of the mountain, with roadsides plastered with big-leaved *Gunnera insignis* and flowery bushes of *Senecio sp* before turning off for the Savegre Valley and descending to the lodge. A slap-up dinner was the reward for our journey and then looking around the lights after our meal we found a number of interesting moths including the large hawkmoth *Adhemarius dariensis*.

Day 7 7th Sept Savegre & Cerro de la Muerte

The morning was clear with blue skies that boded well and soon the deep valley was bathed in warm sunshine. There were many Green Violetears feeding around the garden along with Magnificent and Volcano Hummingbirds and the odd White-throated Mountain-gem. A Stripe-tailed Hummingbird was feeding on the abundant *Canna indica* flowers as was a Slaty-flowerpiercer although as the latter's name suggests he was going about things in a sly manner, nicking a hole at the base of the long flowers and pinching the nectar without pollinating. Sooty-capped Brush-finch, Flame-coloured Tanager, Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush, Short-tailed Hawk and Rufous-collared Sparrows were also all seen before breakfast. A little while later Tony and I watched a Montane Squirrel.

Of course there is one very special bird that all visitors to this area want to see the Resplendent Quetzal and we drove out to where they had been seen recently. It didn't take long at all to find a couple of birds with one handsome juvenile male (sadly with only short rump feathers) was photographed passably well through the scope. Three Large-footed Finches were mooching about in the road as we watched the glamour. The weather was already changing and clouds had obscured the blue skies so we didn't delay and drove straight up to the high paramo at 3500 metres an altogether different world of dwarf bamboo, tree parsnips *Myrrhidendron donnellsmithii* and big shrubby hypericums. Here we set about looking at the flora such as *Eryngium humile*, *Castilleja talamancensis*, *Hypericum strictum*, lilac *Lobelia irazuensis* and the peculiar green gentian-relative *Halenia sp*. Another target was a near-endemic bird, the Volcano Junco and eventually we all got decent views of these along the road down. The weather was deteriorating so we walked back and got the car then collected Ian and Peta who had just finished admiring the unusual fern *Jamesonia scammanae* and the amazing clubmosses that grow up here.

I knew just the place to get out of the rain and still get our photography moving and we drove to a nearby cafe with hummer feeders where we were able to enjoy over two hours photographing these amazing birds as well as have a warming cuppa. Star amongst the hummers was the

rainbow coloured Fiery-throated Hummingbird whose dazzling throat colours took some work to capture. Volcano and Magnificent Hummingbirds were also common here and we all managed some good photos before heading back down to the lodge for a latish lunch.

Sadly the rain followed us and by mid-afternoon our planned quetzal return had to be cancelled and we settled instead for photographing what we could at the lodge feeders. However, the mornings enjoyment more than made up for this and hopefully we could revisit the quetzal early tomorrow.

Day 8 8th Sept To Bosque del Cabo

We made an early return to the quetzal site and although we found a female and had glimpses of two males we couldn't match the good views of yesterday. The weather was fine and the views from Cerro de la Muerte were crystal clear down to the Pacific on one side and the somewhat clouded Caribbean on the other, both across tracts of virgin forest. Descending onto the Pacific versant we stopped to look at the outsize herb *Dahlia imperialis* with large pink flowers and then drove directly down through fine rolling scenery with green valleys and viewpoints to the ocean, which we reached in due course then followed for a while until we reached the airstrip. A Thoas Swallowtail flew past as we waited for our little plane which once stuffed with us and our luggage took off for the fifteen minute flight to Puerto Jimenez.

Our car was waiting and whisked us on the newly improved road to the lodge via lush secondary forest with the odd White-faced Cappuchin looking on and as we arrived at the lodge a Crested Caracara was strutting across the lawn and a coati snuffling about. We had lunch and then settled in to our ocean front cabins before an afternoon walk to the tropical garden.

Scarlet Macaws had been vocal since we arrived and Tony had had a troop of Central American Spider Monkeys feeding near his cabin already and we saw a few more of these not far into our walk swinging over the road. There had been coati, agouti and Crested Caracara too with macaws flying overhead, but the birding was about to hot up more. Climbing the short slope through the forest we saw a magnificent Blue Morpho as we went we arrived in the tropical garden where a Roadside Hawk was seen almost straight away. But then a flash of red drew attention to a stunning Fiery-billed Aracari that flew into a low tree and was closely followed by a second bird. There followed an intense volley of photographic shots of these striking colourful little toucan-relatives for about ten minutes before they departed for less accessible trees. The wildlife kept coming as we got a better view of the Roadside Hawk and then glancing across from the pond we saw four Collared Peccaries ambling into the forest. Walking quietly across we were able to get a decent look at the lead boar before he snorted his disapproval and trotted away. Scarlet Macaws could be heard calling quietly and we soon tracked a pair down to a tree in the garden that was exposed and allowed some passable photos of one of the birds in the sunshine.

Leaving the garden Red-lored Parrots flew over and then there were two juvenile Great Curassows mooching about near a dense column of Leafcutter Ants that formed a virtual motorway of scuttling legs and waving green leaves.

Day 9 9th Sept Bosque del Cabo

Pre-breakfast was spent watching a troop of spider monkeys and trying to get some shots, followed by a flock of Chestnut-mandibled Toucans and then a White-faced Capuchin in a palm tree with a White-nosed Coati. Mantled Howlers could be heard in the background and we caught up with these later. But before that Phillip the resident naturalist had acquired a Barred Forest Racer and with a little coaxing it settled beneath a plastic cover. Gently removing the cover the snake barely moved and stayed frozen in the same place for at least ten minutes as we slowly vied for the best angle to photograph (apologies as I got the prime spot and couldn't move once I'd got there) the snake. A good start and climbing to the top of the slope we found the howler troop and although they were rather high for great photos we had great views through the binoculars. Entering the Titi Trail there were fine buttress-rooted trees, tangles of corkscrewing vines, golden ants, the peculiar parasitic plant *Helosia cayennensis*, red cup fungi and great numbers of leafcutter ants.

Further along the track there was a blue helicopter damselfly, a mixed flock with White-throated Shrike-tanager, Plain Xenops, Black-striped Woodcreeper and White-shouldered Tanagers, a stunning *Heliconius ismenius* feeding on an orange ginger flowers, a young Central American Whiptail which posed obligingly for photos and then a Golfo Dulce Anole that was sloughing its skin and pulling off bits with its jaws and eating them. At various times Blue Morphos had flown past and there were the black and cream *Heliconius pachinus* but neither of these settled.

Reaching the access road it didn't take long to see Red-tailed Squirrel and then the gorgeous Red-capped Manakin with a male feeding on fruits next to the road. The rest of the walk back was quiet, but there were a few butterflies around the lantana patch and Common Basilisks on the edge of the small pond as blue-eyed dragonflies zipped about.

Just as it seemed things might be quietening down Tony reported a breaching Humpback Whale from his balcony and we all got to see this huge mammal leaping from the water many times. The good weather couldn't last though and afternoon downpours are actually very much the norm so when it arrived at 2.30 it was no surprise. It eased off by 3.45 when a Green-and-black Poison Frog appeared on the path and then I found a large *Coryphaeschna* dragonfly ovipositing. Given the rain we decided to stay close to base and we set off down the creek trail to find more frogs and with a bit of searching (with a torch no less as it was already very gloomy in the forest) we found four fine specimens and got some good photos. Not long after we had exited the forest the rain came down in a true tropical downpour and all ocean views were cancelled as thunder

rattled the cabins including one crack directly overhead which had to be the loudest I've ever heard – exhilarating.

The plus side of the rain of course was that nocturnal frogging should be good after dinner. Surprisingly it was quiet, perhaps we were a bit late, but it took some time to get going although we saw three Northern Cat-eyed Snakes, Hourglass Frog and Giant Toad quickly enough. We could hear plenty of frogs but they weren't coming down from the trees, so we tried a different area finding another very photogenic cat-eyed snake and then a Masked Tree Frog on a heliconia flower. I couldn't conceive of not finding the charismatic Red-eyed Tree Frog (or golum) so we returned to the pond for a second pass finding a huge Savage's Thin-fingered Jungle Frog we had somehow missed before and then finally acing a red-eye in a decent position for photographs – mission accomplished. Arriving back at the cabins some fine moths had arrived at my light including a huge Black Witch Moth.

Day 10 10th Sept Bosque del Cabo

Another gorgeous morning got off to a flying start when the second I stepped out of the door a Central American Squirrel Monkey appeared on a branch and it was soon obvious there were many more. I alerted the group and soon we were watching the incredible agility of these endearing little monkeys, but the same agility meant getting a photo became a challenge as we followed the troop along the forest edge or at least tried too. They were moving at breathtaking speed leaping across openings many times their own body length, crashing down on the other side and then scampering along the branches, giving us brief looks over their shoulders as they went. Fortunately there were a few trees they loitered in for a while searching for insects or fruit and with persistence a few good images were had. There were also many coatis wandering about, with big males and family groups as well as a few howlers. Nearing the lodge for breakfast a Chestnut-mandibled Toucan landed just above and posed beautifully for natural shots and the same individual landed on convenient palm leaf during breakfast again allowing many good photos. Returning to the cabins to get ready the Humpback Whale had reappeared and surfaced a few times, even breaching occasionally but not quite the show of yesterday. As we watched this a small troop of spider monkeys swung through the trees below.

We spent the rest of the morning walking along the teak plantation trail seeing butterflies on the heliconias as we went, walking up a little to where the road had many large puddles which were attractive to shocking pink *Orthemis ferruginea*. Stopping at a small clearing we could see up towards some tall dead trees where a superb *Prepona omphale* was settling in between sallying out to intercept rivals. *Heliconius erato* and *Heliconius pachinus* were also on the wing and there was a troop of noisy howlers climbing lianas and feeding in nearby trees. A Crowned Woodnymph fed on a heliconia, sometimes perching on the long orange bracts (as they are designed for) and a Rufous Mourner flew across and landed beneath the canopy.

Returning along the same track there was ovipositing female dragonfly which seemed to be deliberately flicking water onto the bank and I assume laying eggs into the drops simultaneously. Further along one of the impressive black bodied gompids was hanging motionless on a low perch. We now descended past attractive clubmosses and big buttressed trees with brown *Pierella luna* fluttering along the path and Central American Whiptails scuttling about the leaf litter. A morpho had been caught in a spider web and there were the bright red *Erythrina sp* flowers, a male Black-hooded Antshrike and another look at a Rufous Mourner before we reached the big pond. Here many dragonflies were cruising about including *Orthemis ferruginea* and blue-eyed *Dythemis multipunctata* and a large troop of coatis was mooching about. Crossing the bridge again we looked for poison frogs but found none but there were some close encounters with spider monkeys and we narrowly missed an early shower from one of them – never stand under monkeys!

Mid-afternoon eight Scarlet Macaws flew across just below the cabins and we curse our luck for not getting flight shots. If only we knew what was to come. Driving out to an area where the forest meets pasture and marsh we looked ahead and couldn't believe our eyes for one of the palm trees ahead was technicolour with one of the huge bunches of fruits encased in a swirl of scarlet, yellow and blue as up to eight macaws clung to it at a time. There was a constant toing and froing of birds back and forth from the palm nuts, a constant swirl of colour that was totally mesmerising and had cameras firing non-stop. The birds were squabbling and arguing and at times pairs hung upside down to settle disputes. Then at some unknown signal a flock of around forty birds erupted from the trees and flew away. We had had no idea there had been so many hidden in trees but if this wasn't enough a couple of minutes later and another twenty of more burst out and flew away. There were still a number of birds around but the nuts were now deserted and we were firmly congratulating ourselves on our good fortune. Taking a breath we started to wander back still seeing many new things with Grey-capped Flycatcher, a Great Kiskadee nest with busy builders, Cherries Tanager, Crimson-fronted Parakeets and a Bare-throated Tiger Heron popped up onto a log and was surprised to see us standing there. And feeding in the shallow river was a small flock of White Ibises.

We managed to cross the river and stay dry and then walked to the next creek where as we climbed up the other side we noticed our second troop of Squirrel Monkeys for the day and these amazingly were joined by both Spider and Howler Monkeys to make a remarkable triumvirate of primates. However, our luck was about to run out as fast falling light levels suggested the imminent arrival of rain and sure enough an intense downpour was unleashed but fortunately after we'd got the brollies up. The lodge being the efficient people they are had quickly sent the car to get us once the rain had arrived and we didn't have to wait long for a lift back after an exhilarating afternoon.

Day 11 11th Sept Bosque del Cabo

In the morning torn leaves and twigs were scattered everywhere but the wind and rain had ended and all was calm. We went to the tropical garden first thing seeing Green-and-black Poison Frogs on the way and a decent view of Roadside Hawk in the garden, but there was little else except for the peculiar swiss cheese fungus and no doubt many creatures were still coming to after last night.

After breakfast we decided to try and find Golfo Dulce Poison Frog and crossed the bridge once more and descended into a rock stream gully. We searched long and hard for an hour both here and in another gully but no frogs. Instead we returned to the garden and went our own separate ways until lunchtime with Ian and Peta finding spider monkeys and glimpsing a tamandua before they went down to the black sand beach. There was a troop of capuchins when they returned and these seemed to spread all over the garden during the afternoon. I had meanwhile explored a different creek and located a few poison frogs so after lunch we all returned to this spot to see this beautiful little frog, the legs bluish and the body black with two prominent orange stripes.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent productively in the garden where several Chestnut-mandibled Toucans were gathering on huge bunches of red palm fruits, capuchins were everywhere, a pod of unidentified dolphins went by and a White Hawk perched outside my cabin only six metres away for at least half an hour allowing cracking shots. As well as these there were preening Scarlet Macaws, Crested Caracaras and the constant presence of bands of coatis.

Activity around the pond was noisy and produced a Gladiator Tree Frog as different from previous visits.

Day 12 12th Sept To La Cusinga

A last pre-breakfast wander around the grounds began with Brown-hooded Parrots and Short-billed Pigeons in a tree next to the veranda then a couple of orchids in flower. Only a hundred yards away and as we admired some of the palm collection a Squirrel Monkey scampered along a branch and soon we were aware of many more heading our way and quickly into the trees. A morpho bounced across the clearing too. Tony meanwhile had had macaws right next to his balcony.

Sadly we had to leave the excellent Bosque del Cabo so we said our farewells and drove to the Golfo Dulce following the road around its edge and stopping at a fine viewpoint. From here it was just an hour and a half to the next lodge where we arrived in good time. Time enough in fact to get a brief view of the surfacing Humpback Whale from the viewpoint. There was a stunning view of the ocean and a few rocky islets where Magnificent Frigatebirds were nesting with birds drifting over and there was a wonderful line of ten Brown Pelicans that flew across. Butterflies

were active with occasional Thoas Swallowtails, many skippers, *Heliconius ismenius* and *Phoebis rurina*.

We had a break during the hottest part of the afternoon and then took a walk in a pocket of primary forest finding a gathering of half a dozen cryptic Owl Butterflies *Caligo eurilochus* posing motionless on tree trunks or vines. This trail took in some truly huge Garlic Trees with incredible spreading roots and immense two metre wide trunks, whilst in the understory the butterfly *Eurybia lysica* was quite common although reluctant to settle conveniently and we had decent views of a secretive Great Tinamou as it moved quietly about the forest floor. Walking back to the cabins I lucked out and caught a Degenhardt's Scorpion Eater a charming little snake with a reddish-brown body marked with black that everyone was able to see the wee beastie and get photos of. The sunset across the Pacific from the viewpoint was a stunning ever-changing pageant of colours blending from yellow to orange to pink, effectively framed between Cecropia trees.

Day 13 13th Sept To San Jose and beyond

An early start had us away by 6am and progress was smooth and quick with no traffic to slow us down. There were a few Black-bellied Whistling Ducks flying over, Amazon Kingfisher and then several Scarlet Macaws as we neared Jaco and our good progress meant we had just enough time for a quick look at the huge American Crocodiles that haul out below the Tarcoles River bridge with eighteen of the big reptiles visible and even a brief skirmish between two to add a little drama (they usually just lay there and do nothing). A closer Scarlet Macaw and a soaring King Vulture completed the wildlife and from here we were at the airport in good time for our onward flights.

Day 14 14th Sept Arrival UK

To the best of my knowledge we all got home safely.

Systematic List Number 1 Birds

Although only taxa were seen and heard, this holiday was primarily aimed at photography, so the total really represents the incidental birds seen during the course of taking pictures of other things! Those in parentheses were seen in previous years but not this year. LOB = leader only bird

Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major</i>	One observed at La Cusinga, but its' mournful whistle was heard every evening at Laguna de Largato and Bosque de Cabo.
(Brown Booby)	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	Occasional birds flying well off the coast at Bosque del Cabo and La Cusinga
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Common along Pacific coasts
(Neotropic Cormorant)	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Seen occasionally along rivers while driving over bridges in our bus
(Anhinga)	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Common along Pacific coast
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>	One observed on the Osa (Laguna Lagartos 2012)
(Reddish Egret)	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	2012
Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	A few observed in wet areas along roadsides
(Little Blue Heron)	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	A few flying over Laguna Lagartos, also en route back to San Jose
(Great Blue Heron)	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2011
(Green Heron)	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	In wetlands outside Bosque del Cabo (seen while driving)
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Open country, farms, etc, mostly on Pacific slope
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus alba</i>	In wetlands outside Bosque del Cabo
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	Laguna Lagartos
(Roseate Spoonbill)	<i>Ajaia ajaia</i>	Seen while driving back to San Jose 2012
(Wood Stork)	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Seen while driving back to San Jose 2012
(Black-bellied Whistling Duck)	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Small numbers near Pacific coast while en route back to San Jose 2012
(Muscovey Duck)	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	One free-flying individual observed at Laguna Lagartos (possible escapee) 2012
(King Vulture)	<i>Sarcopamphus papa</i>	LOB - in transit to Osa Peninsula
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Abundant and widespread
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Abundant and widespread
(Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture)	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	One juvenile photographed flying low over Laguna Lagartos (photos sent to raptor specialists for verification - still awaiting response)

(Osprey)	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	One seen en route back to San Jose. Also LOB outside Bosque del Cabo
American Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	A few over Bosque del Cabo (also Laguna Lagartos 2012)
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Pastureland near Laguna Lagartos
(Mississippi Kite)	<i>Ictina mississippiensis</i>	Spectacular movement of more than 2500 birds Laguna Lagartos 2012
White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	Seen superbly well and photographed at Bosque del Cabo
Mangrove Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus subtilis</i>	Seen near the cabins at Bosque del Cabo
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	Seen daily at Bosque del Cabo. Also a few along roadside en route to San Jose
(Swainson's Hawk)	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	
Gray Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	Seen while driving from Laguna Lagartos.
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	One seen flying over Savegre Lodge
(Pearl Kite)	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	
(Double-toothed Kite)	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Seen daily at Bosque del Cabo
Crested Caracara	<i>Polyborus plancus</i>	Seen daily around Bosque del Cabo.
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinmans</i>	Heard only at Laguna Lagartos (and at Bosque del Cabo 2012)
(Bat Falcon)	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	One on utility wires above rest-stop en route to San Jose. LOB at Bosque del Cabo.
(Grey-headed Chacalaca)	<i>Ortalis cinericeps</i>	La Cusinga
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>	Flying to roost at Laguna Lagartos, also Braulio Carillio, heard at Bosque del Cabo
Black Guan	<i>Chamaepetes unicolor</i>	Coming to feeders at Bosque de Paz
Great Currasow	<i>Crax rubra</i>	Impressive bird - frequently seen at Laguna Lagartos and at Bosque del Cabo
(Black-breasted Wood-Quail)	<i>Odontophorus leucolaemus</i>	Heard only along trail at Bosque de Paz
(White-throated Crane)	<i>Laterallus albigularis</i>	Heard only in wetland near Laguna Lagartos
Gray-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	Seen well and photographed at Laguna Lagartos
(Purple Gallinule)	<i>Porphyryula martinica</i>	One in wetland (seen from bus) en route to Laguna Lagartos
(Common Moorhen)	<i>Gallinule chloropus</i>	
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>	Laguna Lagartos

(Semipalmated Plover)	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	One on Pacific coast at Bosque del Cabo
(Greater Yellowlegs)	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	
(Willet)	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	One on Pacific coast at Bosque del Cabo
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	One en route to Bosque del Cabo
(Western Sandpiper)	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	
(Ruddy Turnstone)	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	One on Pacific coast at Bosque del Cabo
(Laughing Gull)	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	Seen at distance along Pacific coast at Bosque del Cabo and La Cusinga
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Scattered in towns
(Band-tailed Pigeon)	<i>Columba fasciata</i>	Seen flying high over Savegre Lodge – like a wood pigeon
(Pale-vented Pigeon)	<i>Columba cayennensis</i>	Seen while en route to San Jose
Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Columba flavirostris</i>	Seen while driving to Laguna Lagartos
(Ruddy Pigeon)	<i>Columba subvinacea</i>	
Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Columba nigrirostris</i>	Laguna Lagartos, seen well at Bosque del Cabo
(White-winged Dove)	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	Seen while en route to San Jose
Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	Common in lowlands, small fast flying little dove
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Common large dove seen at all locations except Savegre, usually on ground
(Gray-chested Dove)	<i>Leptotila cassinii</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo
(Ruddy Quail-Dove)	<i>Geotrygon montana</i>	
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>	Up to 10 a day at Laguna Lagartos, very common at Bosque del Cabo where seen very close, outrageous gathering on palm nuts outside Bosque del Cabo where c70 birds gathered, magnificent bird
Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambigua</i>	Seen well and at length Laguna Lagartos
Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga nana</i>	Around Laguna Lagartos and surrounding area
Crimson-fronted Parakeet	<i>Aratinga finschi</i>	A couple outside Bosque del Cabo
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	Seen well at Laguna Lagartos. Also a few sightings on Osa Peninsula
Brown-hooded Parrot	<i>Pionopsitta haematotis</i>	Laguna Lagartos around lodge and feeders, also Bosque del Cabo
(White-crowned Parrot)	<i>Pionus senilis</i>	
(Sulphur-winged Parakeet)	<i>Pyrrhura hoffmanni</i>	Large flock seen 2010
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	Plenty at Laguna Lagartos, also Bosque del Cabo where large flock c70 birds this year
Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazana farinosa</i>	Two at Laguna Lagartos.
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Seen only while driving through open areas outside Bosque del Cabo

Groove-billed Ani (Bare-shanked Screech-Owl) (Spectacled Owl)	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i> <i>Otus clarkii</i>	Common in lowlands of northern CR Heard at night at Bosque de Paz 2012
(Ferruginous Pygmy- Owl)	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	Heard only during evenings at Laguna Lagartos 2012
Black-and-white Owl	<i>Strix nigrolineata</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos heard loudly during the first night (seen well 2010)
Lesser Nighthawk Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i> <i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>	One or two over forest at Laguna Lagartos 2 or 3 flying around veranda at dusk, like an enormous bat - Laguna Lagartos
Pauraque	<i>Nyctodromus albicollis</i>	Seen once, and heard occasionally at Laguna Lagartos (dawn and dusk)
(Gray-rumped Swift)	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>	
Costa Rican Swift	<i>Chaetura fumosa</i>	Osa
(Lesser Swallow- tailed Swift)	<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>	LOB - Bosque del Cabo
(White-collared Swift)	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	A few of these large swifts seen at Bosque de Paz and Laguna Lagartos
Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>	Several at Bosque de Paz feeders (a few at Savegre 2012)
Long-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longirostris</i>	Large, brown hermit seen often at Laguna Lagartos, and once at Bosque del Cabo
(Band-tailed Barbthroat)	<i>Threnetes ruckeri</i>	One coming to heliconia flowers outside head office of Bosque del Cabo in village of Jimenez
Little Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>	Laguna Lagartos (Braulio Carrillo 2012) and often around Bosque del Cabo
(Green-fronted Lancebill)	<i>Doryfera ludoviciae</i>	Seen along waterway below Savegre Lodge
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopetrus</i> <i>hemileucurus</i>	Very common at Bosque de Paz
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	A few around Laguna Lagartos area
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeocroa cuvierii</i>	In garden of Laguna Lagartos
Green Violet-ear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>	Common at Savegre (also Bosque de Paz 2012)
Snowcap	<i>Microchera albocoronata</i>	A little stunner, purple with a white cap, seen only at the roadside garden near Braulio Carrillo
(Red-footed Plumeleteer)	<i>Chalybura urochrysis</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012
Violet-crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Fiery-throated Hummingbird	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>	Wonderful species seen on Cerro de la Muerte

Blue-throated Goldentail	<i>Hylocharis eliciae</i>	La Cusinga
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	Common and widespread except at Savegre
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa eximia</i>	Uncommon at Savegre
Black-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa nigriventris</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
(Coppery-headed Emerald)	<i>Elvira cupreiceps</i>	Bosque de Paz 2011
Purple-throated Mountain-Gem	<i>Lampornis calolaema</i>	Bosque de Paz
White-throated Mountain-Gem	<i>Lampornis castaneiventris</i>	Savegre, male has blue-green head and white throat
Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>	Bosque de Paz, large green, white spot behind the eye, small purple throat patch
Magnificent Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes fulgens</i>	Another large green hummer with purple crown, blue throat, Bosque de Paz and Savegre
(Purple-crowned Fairy)	<i>Heliothryx barroti</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012 and one at Bosque del Cabo - a lovely, delicate species with a short bill
(Charming Hummingbird)	<i>Amazilia decora</i>	Bosque del Cabo
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>	Laguna Lagartos, near Braulio Carillio
Blue-throated Goldentail		La Cusinga
(White-crested Coquette)	<i>Lophornis adorabilis</i>	
(Magenta-throated Woodstar)	<i>Calliphlox bryantaeae</i>	One long-tailed male seen briefly hovering around feeders at Bosque de Paz
Scintillant Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>	Bosque de Paz
Volcano Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>	Little beauty with violet purple throat, Savegre
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus mocinno</i>	One of the world's great birds, seen well deep in woods along roadside at Savegre
(Black-throated Trogon)	<i>Trogon rufus</i>	Both males and females seen regularly around Bosque del Cabo and La Cusinga
(Violaceous Trogon)	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon</i>	Bosque de Paz
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>	A female at Laguna Lagartos
(Blue-crowned Motmot)	<i>Eumomota superciliosa</i>	A pair at Bosque del Cabo
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>	Regularly seen around Laguna Lagartos
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	Seen a couple of times near Laguna Lagartos

(Green Kingfisher)	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	One outside, and one inside Bosque del Cabo
(American Pygmy Kingfisher)	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2011
(White-necked Puffbird)	<i>Bucco macrorhynchos</i>	One in the trees around cabins at Bosque del Cabo
(White-whiskered Puffbird)	<i>Malacoptila panamensis</i>	One seen along trail in Braulio Carrillo 2012
White-fronted Nunbird	<i>Monasa morphoeus</i>	Photographed in the gardens at Laguna Lagartos, also in forest there
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>	Superb views at Laguna Lagartos feeding on the bananas
Fiery-billed Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus frantzii</i>	Three seen superbly well at Bosque del Cabo (also at La Cusinga 2012) and photographed
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	Another handsome creature seen frequently around Laguna Lagartos, with three visiting the feeders
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	<i>Ramphastos swainsonii</i>	The largest Toucan, seen often at Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	Superb views at Laguna Lagartos feeding on the bananas
(Hoffmann's Woodpecker)	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>	
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	Outside Bosque del Cabo
(Golden-naped Woodpecker)	<i>Melanerpes chrysauchen</i>	
(Acorn Woodpecker)	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Seen beautifully at Savegre 2012, strangely absent this year
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Bosque de Paz, Savegre
(Smoky-brown Woodpecker)	<i>Veniliornis fumigatus</i>	
Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker	<i>Celeus castaneus</i>	Seen in gardens at Laguna Lagartos
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	One heard at Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos 2012)
(Pale-billed Woodpecker)	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>	
(Red-faced Spinetail)	<i>Cranioleuca erythrops</i>	LOB - a shy individual in the vegetation around the feeders at Bosque de Paz
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
Spotted Barbtail	<i>Premnoplex brunnescens</i>	Sporadic sightings in the forest of Bosque de Paz
(Ruddy Treerunner)	<i>Margarornis rubiginosus</i>	Bosque de Paz 2012
(Long-tailed Woodcreeper)	<i>Deconychura longicauda</i>	One bird with a mixed feeding flock along trail at Bosque del Cabo
(Wedge-billed Woodcreeper)	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	Reasonably common at Bosque del Cabo

Barred Woodcreeper (Streak-breasted Treehunter)	<i>Dendrocolaptes certhia</i> <i>Thripadectes</i> <i>rufobrunneus</i>	One bird seen in forest at Laguan Lagartos
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	A few around Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes affinis</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
Black-striped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus</i> <i>lachrymosus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>	One bird seen and heard at Bosque del Cabo
Plain Brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Black-hooded Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus bridgesi</i>	Bosque del Cabo (and Laguna Lagartos heard)
Streaked-crowned Antvireo	<i>Dysithamnus striaticeps</i>	Seen well at Laguna Lagartos
(Plain Antvireo)	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>	LOB at Bosque del Cabo
(Dot-winged Antwren)	<i>Microrhopias quixensis</i>	One cooperative pair with a mixed flock along trail at Bosque del Cabo
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza exsul</i>	Shy but vocal at Laguna Lagartos at Bosque del Cabo where seen
Ocellated Antbird (Checker-throated Antwren)	<i>Phaenostictus mcleannani</i> <i>Mymotherula fulviventris</i>	Heard only at Laguna Lagartos
(Silvery-fronted Tapaculo)	<i>Scytalopus argentifrons</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
(Cinnamon Becard)	<i>Pachyramphus</i> <i>cinnamomeus</i>	
(Masked Tityra)	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	Common at Laguna Lagartos and occasional at Bosque del Cabo - usually in pairs
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>	LOB at Laguna Lagartos
(Blue-crowned Manakin)	<i>Pipra coronata</i>	Female observed at at Bosque del Cabo
Red-capped Manakin	<i>Pipra mentalis</i>	A pair seen quite well at Bosque del Cabo
(Common Tody- Flycatcher)	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	A small yellow bird with BIG eyes - seen en route to Laguna Lagartos and at Bosque del Cabo
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
(White-throated Spadebill)	<i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i>	
Golden-crowned Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus coronatus</i>	Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
(Mountain Elaenia)	<i>Elaenia frantzii</i>	One at Savegre Mountain Lodge

Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>	Along roadside wires at Savegre as we watched quetzals
(Olive-sided Flycatcher)	<i>Contopus borealis</i>	Perched high in the open at Bosque de Paz and Savegre Mountain Lodge
Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	A silent pewee at Bosque del Cabo that was likely this species
(Dark Pewee)	<i>Contopus lugubris</i>	
(Black-capped Flycatcher)	<i>Empidonax atriceps</i>	Along roadsides – Savegre
Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	Heard daily at Bosque del Cabo
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	Often heard at Laguna Lagartos, seldom seen, also at Bosque del Cabo
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	Widespread, characteristic and vocal species of CR - seen every day
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchos pitangua</i>	Seen at Laguna Lagartos (similar to Great Kiskadee) - often heard at Bosque del Cabo
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	Laguna Lagartos area
Gray-capped flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>	Outside Bosque del Cabo (also seen en route to Laguna Lagartos 2012)
(Streaked Flycatcher)	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	
(Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher)	<i>Myodynastes lutiventris</i>	Laguna Lagartos
(Long-tailed Tyrant)	<i>Colonia colonus</i>	
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Very common and widespread , especially along roadside wires. Not present at Bosque del Cabo.
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	Seen while driving, especially around villages
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
(Mangrove Swallow)	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	Seen while driving through lowlands - white rump conspicuous
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	A small number observed migrating along Pacific coast at La Cusinga
(Southern Rough-winged Swallow)	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	LOB - A few seen en route from airport to Bosque del Cabo
(Sand Martin)	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	A few picked out of flocks of migrating swallows along Pacific coast
Cliff Swallow	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>	Abundant migrant along coast
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common migrant in open areas
(Brown Jay)	<i>Cyanocorax morio</i>	Mostly heard in mornings at Bosque de Paz, rarely seen. Amazingly not seen 2013
American Dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>	One seen very well at Bosque de Paz feeding at length in the pool next to the lodge

(Rufous-naped Wren)	<i>Camplyorhynchus rufinucha</i>	
Stripe-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus thoracicus</i>	LOB - Braulio Carrillo
Riverside Wren	<i>Thryothorus semibadius</i>	Loud, musical and shy, a striking bird occasionally seen at Bosque del Cabo
Ochraceous Wren	<i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i>	Bosque de Paz
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Widespread in gardens
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>	Seen at Savegre and Bosque de Paz, frequently heard
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos
(Tropical Gnatcatcher)	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	Occasional at Bosque del Cabo
(Swainson's Thrush)	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	LOB along trail at Bosque de Paz
Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus mexicanus</i>	Seen at Bosque de Paz - beautiful mournful song often heard there
Ruddy-capped Nightingale Thrush	<i>Cathartus frantzii</i>	Savegre and Bosque de Paz
(Black-billed Nightingale Thrush)	<i>Cathartus gracilirostris</i>	Savegre
Sooty Robin	<i>Turdus nigrescens</i>	Cerro de la Muerte and Savegre
Clay-colored Robin	<i>Turdus grayi</i>	Common in north, national bird of Costa Rica
Black-faced Solitaire	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>	One at Savegre
Long-tailed Silky Flycatcher	<i>Phainoptila caudatus</i>	A couple high in a tree at Savegre
(Red-eyed Vireo)	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	A few seen at Bosque de Paz - migrants
(Yellow-green Vireo)	<i>Vireo flavoviridis</i>	A few seen at Bosque del Cabo
(Yellow-throated Vireo)	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	
(Brown-capped Vireo)	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>	
(Yellow-winged Vireo)	<i>Vireo carmioli</i>	
(Green Shrike Vireo)	<i>Vireolanius pulchellus</i>	A difficult canopy bird seen at Laguna Lagartos
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus ochraceiceps</i>	Bosque del Cabo
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus decuratus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
(Tennessee Warbler)	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>	LOB at La Cusinga. All warblers seem to have arrived late this year as virtually none were seen!
(Flame-throated Warbler)	<i>Parula gutturalis</i>	A few lucky people got to see this stunner at Bosque de Paz
(Tropical Parula)	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	
(Yellow Warbler)	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Common migrant in Bosque del Cabo and La Cusinga
(Yellow-rumped Warbler)	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	

(Bay-breasted Warbler)	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>	
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Bosque de Paz only
(American Redstart)	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	A few migrants at Bosque del Cabo
Slate-throated Redstart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>	A colourful New World Warbler seen on the property of Bosque de Paz
Collared Redstart	<i>Myioborus torquatus</i>	Another colourful New World Warbler - common around cabins at Savegre
(Wilson's Warbler)	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	
Three-striped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus tristiratus</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
(Louisiana Waterthrush)	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	Along stream at Bosque de Paz
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	Bosque de Paz
Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Phaeothlypis fulvicauda</i>	One in Adolfo's garden when we arrived. (Seen along stream while having breakfast at Bosque de Paz 2012)
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	Common little honeycreeper seen at Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
(Blue Dacnis Red-legged Honeycreeper)	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Occasionally at Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
Shining Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, seen superbly at the feeders
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes lucidus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, seen superbly at the feeders
(White-vented Euphonia)	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia minuta</i>	A small flock resting in tree near porch of Laguna Lagartos
Blue-Gray Tanager	<i>Euphonia gouldii</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common and widespread
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Widespread
Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>	Bosque de Paz, Savegre
(Bay-headed Tanager)	<i>Tangara larvata</i>	A stunning beauty, seen at Laguna Lagartos and at Bosque del Cabo
(Spangle-cheeked Tanager)	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	
Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Tangara dowii</i>	LOB at Bosque de Paz
Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>	Savegre

White-throated Shrike-Tanager	<i>Lanio leucothorax</i>	With a mixed flock at Bosque del Cabo
(Gray-headed Tanager)	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>	Occasional at Bosque del Cabo
(White-lined Tanager)	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
Flame-coloured Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>	An aptly named beauty, Savegre
Passerini's Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>	Common at Laguna Lagartos
Cherries Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus</i>	Bosque del Cabo and La Cusinga - males identical to Passerini's, but females differ slightly
(Black-headed Saltator)	<i>Saltator atriceps</i>	One seen en route to Laguna Lagartos
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	Common at Laguna Lagartos (Bosque del Cabo 2012)
Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	One photographed in Adolfo's garden
(Slate-coloured Grosbeak)	<i>Pitylus grossus</i>	
(Blue-Black Grosbeak)	<i>Cyanocompsa cyanooides</i>	Heard only at Laguna Lagartos
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila aurita</i>	Pastureland, grassy areas while driving. Mainly open gardens around Laguna Lagartos - all black on Caribbean slope, Black & white on Pacific side
(Ruddy-breasted Seedeater)	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	
Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaras olivacea</i>	LOB - Bosque de Paz
(Saffron Finch)	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	
Slaty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>	Savegre
Large-footed Finch	<i>Pezopetes capitalis</i>	Cerro de la Muerte and Savegre, curious feeding action, sweeping leaves, etc behind it with both feet simultaneously and vaulting over at the same time!
Yellow-thighed Finch	<i>Pselliophorus tibialis</i>	Savegre, Bosque de Paz
White-naped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes albinucha</i>	One around lower cabins at Savegre Mountain Lodge
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes brunneinucha</i>	Bosque de Paz, common around the feeders, also at Savegre
(Orange-billed Sparrow)	<i>Arremon aurantiirostris</i>	
Volcano Junco	<i>Junco vulcani</i>	Seen well on the paramo on Cerro de la Muerte
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotricha capensis</i>	Bosque de Paz and Savegre
(Red-winged Blackbird)	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	En route to/from Laguna Lagartos

(Red-breasted Blackbird)	<i>Strunella militaris</i>	En route to Laguna Lagartos
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Very common and widespread in open areas and towns in Costa Rica
(Bronzed Cowbird)	<i>Molothrus aeneus</i>	Seen while driving to San Jose
Black-cowled Oriole	<i>Icterus dominicensis</i>	Feeding Station near Laguna Lagartos
(Baltimore Oriole)	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Feeding Station near Laguna Lagartos
(Orchard Oriole)	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	
Montezuma Oropendula	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>	Common at Laguna Lagartos
(Scarlet-rumped Cacique)	<i>Cacicus uropygialis</i>	A few at Bosque del Cabo
Yellow-bellied Siskin	<i>Carduelis xanthogastra</i>	Feeders at Savegre
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	A few around small villages seen on travel days

Systematic List Number 2 Mammals

Species in parentheses have been seen at the locations visited during previous trips at this season.

Common Opossum	<i>Didelphis marsupialis</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos (Bosque del Cabo 2011)
[Grey Four-eyed Opossum	<i>Philander opossum</i>	Possible sighting at Bosque del Cabo 2011. Seen well during 2010 TTL]
[Central American Woolly Opossum	<i>Caluromys derbianus</i>	One in my cabin! 2010]
Northern Tamandua	<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	Great views along river at Bosque de Paz during daytime. Seen at Bosque del Cabo 2012.
[Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth]	<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>	Bosque del Cabo 2011
[Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>	One on lawn at Bosque del Cabo 2011 TTL]
Greater White-lined Sac-winged Bat		Bosque Rio Tigre
Common Tent-making Bat	<i>Uroderma bilobatum</i>	Braulio Carillio 2011. Many 'tents' found 2013.
Honduran White Bat	<i>Ectophylla alba</i>	Seven of these lovely little bats under a heliconia leaf at Braulio Carillio 2012. Only empty homes 2013.
[Spix's Sucker-footed Bat	<i>Thyroptera tricolour</i>	Two pairs in separate leaves at Bosque del Cabo 2010] Deserted leaves only 2011
White-throated Capuchin	<i>Cebus capuchinus</i>	Common at Bosque del Cabo 2011, also Laguna Lagartos 2010
Mantled Howler	<i>Alouatta palliate</i>	Seen and heard very well at La Ensenada, Bosque del Cabo, also Laguna Lagartos
Central American Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>	Very common at Bosque del Cabo and also some at Laguna Lagartos
Central American Squirrel Monkey	<i>Saimiri oerstedii</i>	Excellent sightings and some photos on three occasions at Bosque del Cabo and around
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>	Common and widespread
Central American Dwarf Squirrel	<i>Microsciurus alfari</i>	Bosque de Paz 2013. Superb view at Bosque del Cabo 2011
[Deppe's Squirrel	<i>Sciurus deppei</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos 2011]
Montane Squirrel	<i>Syntheosciurus brochus</i>	Savegre
[Spiny Rat]		Laguna Lagartos 2012

Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>	Widespread and common, seen well almost everywhere we stayed
Paca	<i>Agouti paca</i>	Two seen well at Bosque de Paz
[Brazilian Rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus brasiliensis</i>	Bosque de Paz also near Savegre 2009]
[Kinkajou	<i>Potos flavus</i>	Semi-habituated one at Laguna Lagartos, seen very close 2010]
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>	Widespread seen well at Laguna Lagartos and abundant this year at Bosque del Cabo
Collared Peccary	<i>Tayassu tajacu</i>	At herd of a dozen at Bosque del Cabo on a couple of occasions.

Systematic List Number 3 Reptiles

List includes species seen on previous tours in parentheses.

White-lipped Mud Turtle	<i>Kinosternon leucostomum</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Green Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	One seen from the air as we flew to Puerto Jimenez 2012, by pilot 2013.
House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	Widespread in buildings, an Asian import
(Turnip-tailed Gecko)	<i>Thecadactylus rapicauda</i>	A large one at Bosque del Cabo 2012
Common Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus basiliscus</i>	Sleek and swift lizard capable of sprinting across water. Bosque del Cabo
(Green Basilisk)	<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>	Juvenile at Laguna Lagartos 2012
Striped Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>	Seen at Laguna Lagartos
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	Magnificent lizard with both bright green juveniles along Pacific road (and larger older specimens at Laguna Lagartos 2012).
	(<i>Norops pentaprion</i>)	Broad-bodied species with deep red dewlap at La Cusinga 2012
Anoles	<i>Norops spp</i>	Several other species seen but not identified, the genus as a whole are difficult and individuals need to be carefully examined
Ground Anole	<i>Norops humilis</i>	Bosque del Cabo, well marked species generally seen on or near the ground
Slender Anole	<i>Norops limifrons</i>	Scattered
Golfo Dulce Anole	<i>Norops polylepis</i>	Common at Bosque del Cabo, orange dewlap, one male photographed well in full display
[Pug-nosed Anole	<i>Norops capito</i>	Bosque del Cabo, a juvenile, lovely camouflage. Not 2013]
Litter Skink	<i>Sphenomorphus cherrei</i>	Small critter with red tail Bosque del Cabo
Central American Whip-tailed Lizard	<i>Ameiva festiva</i>	Widespread, but most notable at Bosque del Cabo
Four-striped Whip-tailed Lizard	<i>Ameiva quadrilineata</i>	Easily overlooked in favour of festiva, but common along coast at Bosque del Cabo, also Laguna Lagartos
(Green Spiny Lizard)	<i>Sceloporus malachiticus</i>	One glimpsed on the high (3500m) paramo of Cerro de la Muerte 2012
(Central American Coral Snake)	<i>Micrurus nigrocinctus</i>	One presented to us by gardening team at Laguna Lagartos 2012
(Tiger Rat Snake)	<i>Spilotes pullatus</i>	A fine large specimen captured by Philip at Bosque del Cabo 2012

Northern Cat-eyed Snake	<i>Leptodeira septentrionalis</i>	Common around ponds at Bosque del Cabo. Special guest in Tony's cabin too – a harmless snake.
Barred Forest Racer	<i>Dendrophidion vinitor</i>	One photographed well at Bosque del Cabo
(Speckled Racer)	<i>Drymobius margaritiferus</i>	One photographed at La Cusinga 2012
Degenhardt's Scorpion-eater	<i>Stenorrhina degenhardti</i>	An uncommon species, a juvenile photographed well at La Cusinga
(Fer-de-lance)	<i>Bothrops asper</i>	A beauty at Bosque del Cabo 2012
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	Seen very well at Laguna Lagartos
American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus americanus</i>	18 big crocs on the Tarcoles river

Systematic List Number 4

Amphibians

Giant Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>	The infamous Cane Toad, here in its' native habitat but no less rare or huge, Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo Bosque de Paz 2011. Not 2012]
[Emerald Glass Frog	<i>Centrolenella prosoblepon</i>	
Green-and-black Poison Frog	<i>Dendrobates auratus</i>	What a beauty! (Laguna Lagartos 2012) and Bosque del Cabo where many seen
Strawberry Poison Frog	<i>Dendrobates pumilio</i>	Gorgeous little red frog common at Laguna Lagartos
Golfo Dulce Poison Frog	<i>Phyllobates vittatus</i>	One in the forest at Bosque del Cabo, a stunner with orange stripes on black and bluish legs
Red-eyed Tree Frog	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>	The quintessential Costa Rican frog seen at close quarters in the frog pond at Bosque del Cabo
[Parachuting Red-eyed Frog	<i>Agalychnis spurellii</i>	2010 TTL and incredible mating masses on 2011 TTL. Not 2012]
[Brilliant Forest Frog]	<i>Rana warszewitschii</i>	Brown frog with some colourful markings, Laguna Lagartos 2011, Braulio Carillio 2012
Hourglass Tree Frog	<i>Hyla ebraccata</i>	Pretty little frog at Bosque del Cabo variable markings
[Red-toed Tree Frog]	<i>Hyla rufitela</i>	A lovely species, one found 'stuck' to a leaf during the day at Laguna Lagartos 2012.
Gladiator Tree Frog	<i>Hyla rosenbergii</i>	Handsome large tan-coloured species at Bosque del Cabo, one by the pond!
Masked Tree Frog	<i>Smilisca phaeota</i>	Medium-sized frog, but with an immense loud call, Bosque del Cabo (with colony in tarpaulin pool 2012)
[Dull Tree Frog]	<i>Smilisca sordida</i>	Possibly this species at Bosque de Paz 2012
Bransford's Litter Frog	<i>Eleutherodactylus bransfordii</i>	Common at Bosque del Cabo
Rain Frogs	<i>Eleutherodactylus spp</i>	Various species of this difficult genus seen.
Smoky Jungle Frog	<i>Leptodactylus pentadactylus</i>	Truly huge frog (four times the bulk of a giant toad!) with red eyeshine. Bosque del Cabo, (also Laguna Lagartos 2010)
[Vailliant's Frog]	<i>Rana vaillantii</i>	Probably this variable species at Braulio Carillio 2012

Systematic List Number 5 Butterflies

List includes species in parentheses that have been seen on previous tours, but not this year, to give a full picture of diversity.

<i>Papilionidae</i>		
<i>Parides iphidamas</i>		Bosque del Cabo, large pale red hindwing patch
<i>Parides arcas?</i>	Cattleheart	A species of Cattleheart was seen briefly at Laguna Lagartos
[<i>Parides euryleon</i>]		Laguna Lagartos 2011
<i>Papilio thoas</i>	Phoas Swallowtail	Hummingbird garden near Braulio Carillio, Bosque del Cabo, large swallowtail
<i>Pieridae</i>		
<i>Eurema salome</i>		Bosque de Paz
<i>Eurema xanthochlora</i>		Laguna Lagartos
<i>Phoebis argante</i>	Apricot Sulphur	Bosque de Paz, Laguna Lagartos, large orange-yellow species
<i>Phoebis rurina</i>		Laguna Lagartos, large yellow species
<i>Phoebis sennae</i>	Cloudless Sulphur	Widespread, female much paler. Both heavily speckled brown on underside
[<i>Catantix strigosa</i>]		Bosque de Paz, stunning underside markings 2011
<i>Leodonta dysoni</i>		Handsome white upperside, striking underside, Bosque de Paz 2011
<i>Leptophobia caesia</i>		Pale blue upperside, with broad black margin, yellow hindwing underside, Bosque de Paz
<i>Charaxidae</i>		
<i>Prepona omphale</i>		Handsome species with blue-green band on upperwign, seen perching on tree trunks high up and chasing other butterflies. Bosque del Cabo.
<i>Nymphalidae</i>		
<i>Nymphalinae</i>		
<i>Diaethria gabaza</i>		Lovely '88' at Bosque de Paz
[<i>Doxocopa laurentia</i>]		A dead one at Bosque de Paz, electric blue bands 2012
<i>Historis odius</i>	Orion Cecropian	Laguna Lagartos feeding on bananas
<i>Hamadryas feronia</i>	Variable Cracker	Laguna Lagartos
[<i>Hamadryas amphinome</i>]	Red Cracker	Laguna Lagartos 2010
[<i>Marpesia merops</i>]	Daggerwing	Laguna Lagartos 2010
[[<i>Marpesia iole</i>]		Bosque de Paz 2011

<i>[Marpesia berrania]</i>	Guatemalan Daggerwing	Bosque del Cabo, several narrow brown bands, long tails
<i>[Marpesia marcella]</i>		Striking orange species with large blue marking on hindwing, Bosque del Cabo
<i>Anartia fatima</i>	Banded Peacock	Widespread
<i>Anartia jatrophae</i>	White Peacock	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
<i>[Hypanartia arcaei/dione]</i>		Higher altitudes. Bosque de Paz 2011, Cerro de la Muerte 2010, S avegre 2012.
<i>[Hypanartia kefersteinii]</i>		Bosque de Paz 2011
<i>[Adelpha cytherea]</i>		Laguna Lagartos 2010
<i>Adelpha iphicla</i>	Confusing sister	Laguna Lagartos
<i>Adelpha basiloides</i>		Bosque del Cabo. All brown with white band and small orange spot on forewing.
<i>Tigridia acesa</i>		Lovely species at Braulio Carillio
Heliconiinae		
<i>Dione juno</i>		Bright orange, sickle-shaped wings with distinctive silver and brown spotted underwing. Laguna Lagartos
<i>Dione moneta</i>		Handsome orange species, akin to a monarch but distinctly bi-coloured orange with pale band
<i>[Dryadula phaetusa]</i>	Banded Orange Heliconian	Handsome orange and black striped species at Laguna Lagartos
<i>Dryas iulia ssp.moderata</i>	Julia Heliconian	Widespread, orange sickle-shaped wings
<i>Heliconius ismenius ssp.clarescens</i>	Tiger Heliconian	Quite common at Bosque del Cabo
<i>Heliconius hecale ssp.zuleika</i>	Heart-spotted Heliconian	(Laguna Lagartos 2011), Bosque del Cabo
<i>Heliconius pachinus</i>		Black and cream banded species Bosque del Cabo
<i>Heliconius erato ssp.petiverana</i>	Erato Heliconian	Smallish black with red (vertical) barred forewing and cream banded hindwing, Bosque del Cabo
<i>Heliconius charitonius</i>	Zebra Heliconian	Laguna Lagartos, horizontal black and cream stripes
<i>Heliconius clysonymus</i>		Black, red (horizontal) band and cream Bosque de Paz
<i>[Heliconius sapho]</i>		Laguna Lagartos, black with white on forewing and blue hindwing, no red bars on hindwing underside
<i>Heliconius cydno</i>		Similar to the above except red bands on hindwing, more widespread. Braulio Carillio 2013
<i>[Philaethria dido]</i>	Green Heliconian	A beauty. Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo

Miletaeninae		
<i>Chlosyne lacinia</i>		One at Bosque del Cabo
Acraeinae		
<i>Actinote guatemalana</i>		Fluttery little grey species, somewhat moth-like, common in forest at Laguna Lagartos, Braulio Carillio
Ithomiinae		
<i>Godyriz zavaleta</i>		Reddish glasswing with pronounced yellow antennae at Bosque de Paz 2011
<i>Greta anette</i>		Glasswing. Bosque de Paz 2011
<i>Oleria vicina</i>		The common glasswing at Bosque de Paz
<i>Mechanitis polymnia</i>		Bosque del Cabo, like a small heliconid
Brassolinae		
[<i>Caligo atreus</i>]	Giant Owl Butterfly	Bosque de Paz (also caterpillar 2011 and Bosque del Cabo 2010)
<i>Caligo eurilochus</i>		La Cusinga where at least six gathered. Previous years seen often at Bosque del Cbo.
Morphinae		
[<i>Catoblepia orgetorix</i>]		Handsome owl butterfly at Laguna Lagartos 2011
<i>Morpho amathonte</i>	Blue Morpho	Common at Bosque del Cabo, magnificent species, the male lacks a black margin, females a broad brown margin
<i>Morpho peleides</i>	Common Morpho	Widespread, the both sexes have a dark blackish margin. Laguna Lagartos
[<i>Morpho granadensis</i>]		Rare species, photographed well at Laguna Lagartos. Stunning underside markings. 2010
<i>Antirrhoea mltiades</i>		One in the understorey at Laguna Lagartos, prominent white band on underwing.
Satyrinae		
<i>Cissia spp</i> <i>various</i>		Various little brown satyrids were seen but not identified
<i>Cissia confusa</i>		Laguna Lagartos, white and red bands, yellow patch on forewing
<i>Cissia pseudoconfusa</i>		Bosque del Cabo. Very similar to confusa but has two small red stripes at tip of hindwing
<i>Cissia hesione</i>		Laguna Lagartos
<i>Hermenptychia hermes</i>		Bosque del Cabo, common small species along verges.
<i>Manataria hercyna maculata</i>		One at Bosque del Cabo, cryptic underwing
[<i>Cithaereas pireta</i>]		Stunning clearwing with pink flushed hindwing at Braulio Carillio 2011]

<i>Pierella luna</i>	Quiet Diaph	Well camouflaged species that flies close to forest floor. Bosque del Cabo
<i>Pierella helvetica</i>		Similar to above but has reddish area on hind wing Braulio Carillio, Bosque del Cabo
<i>Paraptychia ocirrhoe</i>	White Satyr	Quite common white and brown striped understorey species, Bosque del Cabo
<i>Taygetis adromeda/thamyra</i>		Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos 2011)
<i>Lycaenidae</i>		
<i>Arawacus togarna</i>		Pretty striped species with typical false head markings on rear wing that wiggle constantly. Bosque del Cabo
[<i>Theritas sp</i>]		Stunning deep metallic blue, Laguna Lagartos
<i>Eumaeus toxea.</i>	Mexican Cycadian	Intriguing black winged species with red flash and white dots, hovering around bromeliads at Laguna Lagartos 2011
[<i>Strymon rufofusca</i>]	Red-crescent Scrub-Hairstreak	One at Bosque del Cabo, very pale almost white with red markings 2012
<i>Calycopis drusilla</i>	Field's Groundstreak	Small brown species with red hindwing spot, very common this year at Laguna Lagartos
<i>Riodinidae</i>		
<i>Eurybia lysica</i>		Shining blue hindwing, Laguna Lagartos, Braulio Carillio, Bosque del Cabo. Has habit of settling underneath leaves
<i>Mesosemia carissima</i>		Shiny blue patches on upperside, perched underneath leaves, Laguna Lagartos – very similar to previous species – identification may be unsound?
<i>Mesosemia zonalis</i>		White bars on brown, Bosque del Cabo (Braulio Carillio 2012)
<i>Mesosemia grandis</i>		Prominent iridescent blue bands, Bosque de Paz
[<i>Rhetus periander</i>		Stunning blue species with red spots on hind wing, Laguna Lagartos 2010]
<i>Hesperiidae</i>		
<i>Astraptes fulgerator</i>		Two distinct forms of this species seen one at Bosque de Paz the other at Bosque del Cabo. Shining blue upperwing, prominent white bars
<i>Urbanus teleus</i>		Long-tailed Skipper, widespread in lowlands
<i>Urbanus procne</i>		A brown long tailed skipper
[<i>Urbanus dorantes</i>		Laguna Lagartos 2011]
[<i>Urbanus pronus</i>]		Bosque de Paz, long-tailed blue skipper 2011

<i>Pyrgus oileus</i>	Tropical Checkered Skipper	Widespread in lowlands
[<i>Poares zabulori</i>]		Yellow and brown skipper, Bosque de Paz 2011
<i>Coreopyge creon</i>		Iridescent blue-black skipper with two red dots at Bosque de Paz
<i>Pyrrhopyge chalybea chloris</i>	Orange-rimmed Firetip	Iridescent blue-black with orange rim to hindwing, Bosque de Paz
Other significant invertebrates		Some outstanding moths, odonata and other invertebrates were also seen
[<i>Copaxa troetschi</i>]		Large reddish leaf moth at Bosque de Paz 2011]
[<i>Rhodochlora brunneipalpis</i>]		Stunning green moth at Bosque de Paz
[<i>Gonodonta holosericea</i>]		Bosque de Paz
[<i>Neopreptos marathusa</i>]		Amazing woolly caterpillar at Bosque de Paz
<i>Rothschidia triloba</i>		Huge moth at Bosque de Paz (and La Cusinga 2011)
[<i>Antheraea godmani</i>]		Immense orange-pink moth at Savegre
[<i>Copaxa syntheratoides</i>]		Very large greyish moth at Savegre
<i>Automeris zugana</i>		Stunning bull-eyes hidden on underwing, quite a few at Bosque de Paz
[<i>Automeris phrynon</i>]		Laguna Lagartos, another 'eyed' species
<i>Eumorpha sp</i>		Common hawkmoth at Bosque de Paz
<i>Adhemarius sp</i>		Bosque de Paz
[<i>Adhemarius ypsilon</i>]		Huge hawkmoth at Bosque de Paz
<i>Adhemarius dariensis</i>		Savegre, greenish, prominent pink hindwing
[<i>Protambulyx sp</i>]		A huge hawkmoth at Laguna Lagartos
[<i>Hypocrite aletta</i>]		Blue moth at Braulio Carillio
[<i>Epimecis fraternaria</i>]		Cryptic species seen in daytime at Braulio Carillio
<i>Ascalapha odorata</i>	Black Witch Moth	Widespread large moth with variable markings, seen and photographed Bosque del Cabo
<i>Micrathena sp</i>	Thorn-backed Spider	Bizarre little spider with black and yellow abdomens with prominent long thorn-like appendages
	[Red and Green Jumping Spider]	Amazing little spider at Bosque del Cabo
	Hunter Spider	Bosque del Cabo, some large ones seen
<i>Nephila clavipes</i>	Orb-web Spider	Laguna Lagartos and very common at Bosque del Cabo, but other similar species may be involved. Other species have quite different and superb web designs

<i>Argiope savigyne</i>	Orb-web Spider	Pretty little white bull-eye web centre (or stabilimentum), overall white abdomen and dark legs, Bosque del Cabo
	[Red-knobbed Orb-web]	Bosque del Cabo
<i>[Deinopis longipes]</i>	Net-casting Spider	Slender species holding wrap of webbing in its forelegs to throw at prey. Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos 2010)
<i>Araneus sp</i>	Golden Orb-web Spider	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
<i>Haeterina sempronina</i>		Handsome damselfly with large red wing patch, Bosque de Paz
<i>Orthemis ferrugineus</i>		Stunning pink bodied dragonfly at Bosque del Cabo
<i>Libellula herculea</i>		Red bodied dragonfly at Bosque del Cabo
<i>Dythemis multipunctata</i>		Blue-eyed dragonfly at Bosque del Cabo
<i>Perithemis mooma</i>		Small orange species at Bosque del Cabo
<i>Coryphaeschna sp</i>		Large slender-abdomened dark dragonfly at Bosque del Cabo.