Guyana

Golden Frogs & Crimson Topaz

A Greentours Tour Report

2nd - 19th February 2014

Led by Chris Gardner

Day 1 To Guyana

We all met up in the airport in Trinidad for the flight to Georgetown where our transport was waiting to take us straight to the hotel.

Day 2 Abary River and Mahaica River

An early start has us driving along the coast as the last of the night herons came in to roost. Arriving at the Abary River we had a quick coffee and sandwich seeing Rufous-crab Hawk and Greater Ani as we ate. Walking along the track there were many butterflies including White Peacock, Tropical Buck-eye and the stunning large blue Marysas Hairstreak, as well as dragonflies galore. Birds included Blood-coloured and Spot-breasted Woodpeckers, Black-crested Antshrike, Grey-headed Greenlet, Spot-throated Tody-Flycatcher, Pied Water-tyrant and the diminutive American Pygmy Kingfisher. Various flowers lined the track with a variety of fabaceae, bignoniaceae and Lantana sp. Nearing the coast a storm swept in and we hid underneath a building for a while until in cleared. Three bedraggled Brown-throated Parakeets were huddled in the mangroves.

Walking back there were good views of Blood-coloured Woodpecker, two White Woodpeckers (a recent additional to the Guyana bird list) flew over, Straight-billed Woodcreeper, Crane Hawk and Pale-tipped Tyrannulet.

From here we drove back towards Georgetown and then turned off following the road through rice fields where Wattled Jacanas scuttled about. After a while the road became a track and the track a swamp which the van got stuck in. No problem for us as it was only a short distance to walk to the boat landing, where as we waited a Long-winged Harrier drifted across. We took a short boat ride to a house where we had lunch as the rain lashed down again. The weather

cleared again and we took a short walk, but long enough for me to stand in an ant hill - ouch! The Wing-barred Seedeater and flowering bladderwort were scant reward for the pain.

Life improved on the boat ride where after huddling under brollies for a brief shower the sun came out and so too did the Hoatzins, remarkable gangly birds with punky-crests and we had excellent views of a pair perched in full view. Sulphury Flycatcher was seen as we returned and arriving back at the landing there was a Green-tailed Jacamar with a dragonfly in its beak.

There was still time to stop by coast where the exposed mud had brought several vivid Scarlet Ibises out of the mangroves along with Yellow-crowned Night-herons and Tricoloured Herons and various waders including Willet and Greater Yellowlegs. On the top of the seawall was yet another unknown yellow legume.

Day 3 Kaieteur Falls

As we waited to leave this morning there was a Plain-bellied Emerald and five Brown-throated Parakeets. There was a sort of delay at the airstrip when they realised they needed a bigger plane to fit us all in but then we were off soaring up above the sugar cane fields and then on over vast tracts of pristine rainforest only occasionally blighted by small but messy gold mines. Suddenly rocky ramparts began to appear with cliffs of pinkish sandstone rising out of the emerald carpet below and these became more rugged as we neared the falls entering a long valley first and then setting eyes on the majestic curtain waters crashing over the tallest single-drop fall in the world. Our captain circled around so we could all see the falls from the air and then we set down.

The next five hours were spent in the unique environment of the Guianan Shield with large flat expanses of raw stone over which rivulets ran providing enough moisture for clusters of *Drosera roraimaensis* (?) and a tiny yellow *Utricularia* sp. Elsewhere peculiar brown 'cones' with rings of yellow flowers on tall stems (member of the iris family), parasitic bromeliads, a huge grasshopper, a species of litter frog that preferred wet rocks and then a pair of handsome Cliff Flycatchers and all around were the immense green vases of the tank bromeliad *Glomeropitcarnia erectiflora*. Moving on we found a fine pink *Sobralia* sp, a lilac gesneriad akin to *Episcia* and the tall blue campanula-like bells of what I think was actually a gentian.

A pair of stunning Paradise Jacamars were seen very well and then the big one - a male Guianan Cock-of-the-rock in an area of huge blocky boulders were roots dangled down like stalactites and we had to bend down to get under before emerging at a magnificent viewpoint with the full glory of the falls. Spending time here we found many things with a creamy gentian-relative, a turquoise and red jumping spider, the impressive purple flowers of *Utricularia humboldtii* growing in the water of a tank bromeliad as White-tipped Swifts swept across the face of the thundering curtain of water. Walking back we found a couple of the tiny Golden Rocket Frogs, a couple of Forest Whiptails and enjoyed more stunning views. The last leg back to the centre for lunch yielded the Greentours Natural History Holidays www.greentours.co.uk 2

peculiar bromeliad *Brocchinia reducta* which is considered a primitive carnivorous plant that passively digests the creatures that fall into its elongated narrow 'vases'.

Our plane took us on over the rain forest to Iwokrama where we had a couple of hours to settle in seeing displaying Giant Cowbird, Grey-lined Hawk, Bat Falcon and Orange-winged Parrots. There was a nocturnal foray on the river after dinner which proved a bit quiet with only Amazon tree Boa, Gladiator Frog and the glowing eyes of several Black Caiman.

Day 4 Iwokrama

Early breakfast and then away on the boats seeing first a little gathering of Black-collared Swallows warming themselves on sunny black rocks midstream and then a pair of Capped Herons, three calling Red-billed Toucans, a pair of Blue-and-yellow Macaws flew across the river further downstream followed by a couple of baby Spectacled Caimans in the shallows and a Squirrel Cuckoo. Working our way downstream we saw Plumbeous Kite and then three Green Aracaris in a bare tree top and after a while these flew over us. We caught up with the lead boat which had already seen Red Howlers and had now stopped for a Black Nunbird and as we watched this together a Screaming Piha flew into view.

Stepping ashore we entered a tract of varzea forest with many superb buttressed trees and some colossal vines including one further up which was estimated at 800 years old! The dominant sound in the forest was the reverberating sound of the Screaming Piha and during the course of the morning walk we all managed a look at this vocal bird. Other bird life was strangely quiet, but such is the way with tropical forest. Butterflies included several cryptically marked *Taygetis* spp, and the finely marked *Bia actorion* as well as fleeting views of *Pierella lena* and the odd heliconid. Bullet Ants were found, a species with a potent sting, along with the more placid Leafcutter Ants. On our return through the satellite camp we found many more butterflies and insects congregating on a creamy-flowered bush with red banded *Riodina lysippus*, spider-hunting wasps, assassin bugs and a brief flash of a *Archaeoprepona demophon*.

Back on the water we made our way back stopping only for Swallow-winged Puffbirds and a couple more Plumbeous Kites.

A Red-rumped Agouti was mooching about on the lawn in the shade of a small tree after lunch and later in the afternoon we spent an hour along the main drive. There were many butterflies including *Heliconius wallacei*, *sara* and *erato* as well as many flashing blue hairstreaks *Strephonoton sterpon* and skippers as well as a couple of stunning big *Morpho helenor*. White-capped Manakins were calling and we had a glimpse, and Little Chachalacas flew across the road too. Walking back and we had a flock in a fruiting tree with Purple Honeycreeper, Palm Tanager and Turquoise Tanager. Walking down to the boats we were greeted by the sight of an eight-foot Black Caiman floating next to the pier an animal with a sizeable head and broad powerful body, but one which

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had been showing up at the lodge for eleven years and was 'habituated' – impressive nonetheless. A short boat ride took us to some 6000 year-old petroglyphs carved on the river boulders and then to the rushing low Kurupukari Falls with dense patches of vegetation clung to the rocks and both Large-billed and Yellow-billed Terns hunted over the water and on the way back there was a Red-billed Toucan.

The plan had been to drive out for an hour or so and then return in darkness and spotlight on the way. Alas although we saw Black Curassow on the way rain arrived and rather spoilt things. Despite much effort with the spotlights we couldn't find any nocturnal mammals and indeed the only creature seen was rather appropriately a frog – a nice one though - a chunky Smoky Jungle Frog *Leptodactylus pentadactlyus*. As we ate dinner later on a number of large praying mantises were flying about and settling in the dining room.

Day 5 Iwokrama – Indian House Island, trails and Turtle beach

We had a pre-dawn start heralded by two Red-and-green Macaws which flew in and landed in tree next to the lodge. Gliding out onto the calm waters at 6am we began our slow circumnavigation of the long Indian House Island that lay offshore. Large-billed Tern and a nesting Black Skimmer were on a sand bar and then a fruiting tree held several Red-billed Toucans and Spix's Guans eagerly gobbling up the orange fruit. Channel-billed Toucan and Green Aracari were also seen and the former appeared two or three times more with pairs sitting in tall trees as we progressed, the rich egg-yolk yellow throated an obvious distinction from the white-throated Red-billed Toucans. Dusky Parrot was seen, a Ringed Kingfisher sped past and boat two saw a Black Caracara too. Many Black-throated and White-winged Swallows were hawking insects as the sun came up and enriched the reflections in the calm water.

After breakfast we set off on a forest trail seeing a male Amazonian Violaceous Trogon before we entered the cool of the forest. Inside we came across many more trees and vines with particular uses for the Amerindians from malaria cures to warfare poisons or fire-lighting resins. All was fairly quiet at first and then we found some impressive starburst seedpods of a vine and underneath one of the seedpods we found a peculiar bug with enlarged forelimbs, rather akin to an insect body-builder and perhaps best named as an Arnie Bug? Close to this were a good-sized snail with a tapered, handsomely marbled shell and then three striking red-eyed Reticulate Planthoppers *Pterodictya reticularis* with long waxy appendages curling out of the end of their abdomens. Pheromones are released from the appendages to attract mates. Continuing on a White-crowned Manakin was seen briefly and then as Tichy and I tried to find it again he somehow aced a Great Jacamar perched quietly on a vine. A stunning bird and we all managed a good look at it before it flew. A female Red Howler and baby were seen well next to round off the walk, watching us quietly from the canopy.

In the afternoon we again followed the main trail seeing good butterflies as well as a couple of day-roosting tree frogs that were stuck fast to leaves and had turned a ghostly pale green. A small Forest Turtle was in a pool and as we walked there was a White-chested or Guianan Puffbird, Dusky Parrot, Black Nunbird and with some persistence a Cinereous Mourner before we turned back. The fading afternoon light had encouraged a rush of *Opsiphanes cassiae* which chased up and down the track settling every so often.

At this season the Giant River Turtles haul out to nest and we wanted to try and see these so at 5.30 we sped up river to a sand bank they frequented and settled down to wait. A Ladder-tailed Nightjar was sallying out for insects just opposite us and two Spix's Guans flew across the channel. I even saw a crepuscular Black Skimmer skimming, something I'd not witnessed before. Sadly the turtles didn't show but as we set off back to the lodge there was the eye-shine of an Amazon Tree Boa and then a Spectacled Owl flew out and across the water. We picked the latter up in a tall tree at the same time as boat two had found a Mottled Owl in a low bush. A couple of Boat-billed Herons were seen as we rode back along with a startled Rufescent Tiger Heron on a midstream boulder.

Day 6 Atta

Main road was quite productive for the drive to Atta. Soon after we had left two Tayra came rushing down from a vine-clad tree and then a bit further on was a large band of Black-necked Aracari numbering at least thirty birds. These were joined by the stunning Crimson Fruitcrow and we had good views of this wonderful bird along with Black-bellied Cuckoo. A colony of Green Oropendula came next and there were several elegant Swallow-tailed Kites in the air, White-chested Puffbird, the iridescent green and black day-flying moth *Urania fulgens*, stunning blue *Morpho menelaus* and some interesting roadside flora including a Monkey Brush *Combretum rotundifolium* that bristled with orange-red stamens.

Lunch was taken and then we hit the trails where among the many different trees was the famed Greenheart. A small Guianan Fer-de-lance was at the base of another tree. As we walked there were red assassin bugs that seemed attracted to egg-like white fruits and reaching the main road there were quite a few butterflies such as orange Lucinaus Metalmark. In the scrub along the road were Guianan Streaked Antwren and Rose-breasted Chat and then Leon showed as a day roost of Blackish Nightjars with three birds settled on the bare soil. Further along and there were Scarlet Macaws which showed well near their nest hole, Blue Dacnis and Roadside Hawk in the trees. We waited awhile for the light to fade to see if any mammals would come out onto the road but only a solitary Red-rumped Agouti appeared. However, there were a few long Electric Eels in the waters beneath a bridge and a small *Hypsiboas* frog was found in the marshy edges of the road.

Day 7 Atta

The early morning visit to the walkway was quiet, although we did see Tiny Tyrant-manakin, Slate-coloured Grosbeak and Red-and-green Macaws and upon our return for breakfast Caesar presented us with three extraordinary woolly yellow caterpillars. The rest of the morning was spent on the trails where there was a Great Tinamou, another amazing bristly caterpillar and a pair of stunning Great Jacamars as well as a variety of butterflies along the road including orange *Calospila lucianus*, *Adelpha cytherea*, *Synargus gela* and white banded *Autochon longipennis/zarex*. Moving back into the forest there was black and white banded *Paraeuptychia metaleuca*, two big morphs (probably *rhetenor*) and then *Pierella lena* with bluish hindwings. We took a seldom used forest track getting great views of Grey-winged Trumpeters along the way. Waved Woodpecker was in a tree when we reached the main path also seeing an orange and black *Methone cecilia*.

The afternoon session took us back to the walkway seeing some beautifully crafted wasp-nests on the way. Among the canopy it was much more productive than this morning with birds in evidence immediately and Jeff and I saw three Black-necked Aracaris on the first platform. From platform three there were many more birds with Paradise Jacamar, Black-tailed Tityra, Black-headed Parrots, Greyish Mourner, a female Spangled Cotinga, Guianan Tyrannulet and a Black-eared Fairy gleaning insects. Another tree held a Guianan Toucanet, Purple and Red-legged Honeycreepers, Lineated Woodcreeper and the wonderfully named Dusky Purpletuft. We stayed on until the golden sunset had begun to fade and then walked back down and returned for dinner seeing yet another impressive caterpillar on the way.

Despite his best efforts Martin's moth trap was still firing blanks!

Day 8 To Rock View

A transport hiccup meant a later departure than intended and we were rather playing catch up. Driving out of Iwokrama we stopped a few minutes to look for Zigzag Heron, finding the bird quite quickly, then losing it again and then finding it again so as at least some of us saw this elusive little heron. Further along we stopped and took a short walk into the forest to a Guinian Cock-of-the-rock lek and there was one splendid male when we arrived with good close views for everyone.

Our next stop was less successful to try and locate the recently fledged Harpy eagle near its nest site and although we met two gleeful birders on the way in who had just seen it, there was no sign when we arrived. Continuing onto Rock View we saw a Double-striped thick-knee in the savanna along with Savanna Hawk, six flying Jabirus and Fork-tailed Flycatcher.

A late lunch was followed by a relaxed afternoon looking around Rock View and the watching traditional cashew-nut roasting which involved lots of fire and smoke, whilst in the background

final rehearsals were underway for the coming music festival. Pale-breasted Thrush and Glittering-throated Emerald provided the natural history.

Rum and lime juice all round at 7pm watched by three Spear-nosed Bats who looked down from the rafters above.

Day 9 Woweta

An early start was needed for the walk to Woweta where there was a larger Guianan Cock-of-the-rock lek. Early rain had faded by the time we arrived with our guide Dexter and it was a pleasant and informative walk through forest. On the way we heard several Yellow-and-black Poison Frogs calling (none could be located – they call from within their burrows at this season) and then we saw Capuchin Bird, followed by Purple-throated Fruitcrows and then the star turn of two vivid Guianan Red Cotingas, which we saw very well. They are a scarce bird and even our guide was getting excited by them. Amazonian Violaceous Trogon, Long-billed Gnatwrens and Pectoral Sparrow followed before we reached the lek where one bird was seen close up on arrival. Unfortunately for whatever reason the birds were not performing today! Perhaps it was the late rains, the overcast skies or even the annoying monkey, for as we waited a Black Spider Monkey arrived with her baby and crashed around the lek, complaining loudly at us. Nonetheless four males were seen and we managed some photographs of them too before leaving.

On the way back there was the striped *Arawacus aetolus*, another (male) Black Spider Monkey, a lek of Eastern long-tailed Hermits and some other butterflies with a *Euselasia* sp and then a superb *Catoblepia soranus*. Driving back onto the savanna there was an impressive 'wasp' spider and striking cream and red flower.

After a late lunch we took a walk onto the savanna surrounding the lodge where we saw first the stunning red Vermillion Flycatcher and then Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Eastern Meadowlark and lastly for most an endearing Burrowing Owl standing sentry next to its burrow with a fluffy chick hiding in the grass nearby. Hendrix, David and I took our time coming back and also saw Finsch's Euphonia, Burnished-buff Tanager and Lesser Nighthawk.

Day 10 To Rewa

There was morning rain which was not all bad as it gave us a chance of finding Yellow-and-black Poison Frog and it stopped by the time we set off. Golden-crowned Warbler appeared as we walked but then a heavy shower put paid to the birding. Eastern Slaty Antshrike was seen as we walked back down and the rain stopped after a while. There were pretty *Passiflora* sp flowers and an attractive purple-marked white legume at the bottom of the hill.

After breakfast we drove across the savanna to the Rupununi River and took the boat to Rewa seeing many Ringed, Amazon and Green Kingfishers as well as Lesser Kiskadee, Drab water-tyrant and Crimson-crested Woodpecker and boat two saw two Guianan Sakis.

The afternoon trip took us to the peaceful Grass Pond and as we walked from the river to the pond there was a flock of Painted Parakeets and then White-flanked Antwren and briefly White-browed Antbird. Arriving at the pond we were soon gliding across the waters in our dugout canoes. Boat one managed to see a couple of Arapaimas surfacing, whilst boat two found an impressive pink orchid *Cattleya violacea* in a lakeside tree. Two Laughing Falcons were seen and then we arrived at the first giant water lilies *Victoria amazonica*, still in bud, but already starting to open. My boat hung back a while seeing two Rufescent Tiger-herons as the light faded and when we found another lily flower it was well open - a stunning pure white bowl of petals set among enormous ribbed leaves.

It was dark when we reached the shore but the moon was nearly full so there was enough light to paddle in. Walking back through the forest we found a scorpion on a tree before reaching the boats and then a Capybara on the way downstream.

Day 11 Rewa

Rain first thing but this quickly passed and the boat ride to Arawarmie was dry seeing Channelbilled Toucans, Crested Oropendulas, Amazon Kingfishers, Black Skimmer, Large-billed Terns and then a lone Black Spider Monkey sitting on top of a tree. As we watched this two Red-fan Parrots flew across the river and both Red-and-green and Scarlet Macaws were also in the air. Turning into a large ox-bow lake there were two Anhingas before we put ashore. Another shower arrived and we took shelter in a small camp where the local people prepare their cassava – an involved process of grating, washing, straining and heating. The rain soon stopped and we set off along the trail which ran alongside the clearing and through forest patches. It was productive with first Green-tailed Jacamar and Golden-collared Woodpecker, followed by Guianan Streaked Antwren, Buff-breasted Wren (which was building a nest), Painted Tody-flycatcher and Whitebellied Antbird. The butterfly Cissia penelope was seen along with more colourful form of *Heliconius hecale* and the similarly coloured but smaller *Hypothyris* sp and a white-tailed skipper. Whilst we photographed these, a White-crowned Manakin was found and perched obligingly on a branch for ten minutes for all to see. Reaching another clearing there were a few Green Aracari in a tall tree but a glance to the left found a stunning male Spangled Cotinga perched conveniently on a dead cecropia snag. After a time he flew to the 'aracari tree' and perched only three feet from a Green Aracari on another bare branch.

Entering the forest again our sharp-eyed guide Ken then located a beautiful Crested Owl at roost and we had superb views of this striking bird. Just beyond we took a break and as we ate out

banana chips there was a female Red Howler with a baby showing quite well in the trees beyond. Blue-and-yellow Macaws were next up although we had to work hard for good views. A *Pierella lena* was settled on the leaf litter nearby and the last forest creature of note was another well camouflaged butterfly *Taygetis thamyra*. Arriving back at the boats a fresh shower swept in and we were huddled in waterproofs for a time, but again it soon passed and along the riverside was a cryptically-marked Sunbittern to round off the morning.

After a rest we set off again following the local forest trail where we found Black-chinned Antbird, Spotted Puffbird and Green-tailed Jacamar along with various butterflies including Leucomelas Skipper, yellow and black Procas Skipper and various satyrs. Walking up to village there was a lurid turquoise weevil and after a look around the school, etc we walked to the marsh where there was a Lineated Woodpecker on a dead tree. Among the tall grasses were many small seed-eating birds, with Blue-black Grassquit, Yellow-bellied and Ruddy-bellied Seed-eaters. The delicate yellow flowers of hibiscus relative were common along the path side too. Circumnavigating the marsh Ken pointed out a charming little Golden-spangled Piculet and then there was a large indigenous white and pink lily-relative. We walked back and began talking about how we hoped to see Blue-throated Piping-guan when suddenly sitting in plain view in a tree was said bird and we had excellent views of this bird and then a second which arrived soon after.

Day 12 Rewa

A Guianan Squirrel was seen before breakfast overlooking the river. We took a short boat ride afterwards to a different forest trail seeing Amazonian Barred Woodcreeper and then two beautiful Spotted Puffbirds very close. The trail led to a wider track where there were many butterflies especially *Heliconius wallacei*, which was avidly feeding on an orange-flowered shrub. Other butterflies included *Morpho rhetenor*, *Heliconius erato* and another selection of tricky satyrs. Green-tailed Jacamars were rather common especially where we exited the forest onto the savanna. Walking across the more open landscape there was a fine plant of *Cattleya violacea* in flower and then Golden-winged Parakeets and an Amazonian White-tailed Trogon. Refreshments arrived and revitalised we walked back finding Little Woodpecker, Yellow-green Grosbeaks, Blue-backed Tanagers, another fleeting Guianan Squirrel, Jeff saw a Mussurana slipping away and there was a perched *Morpho helenor*.

Another attempt was to be made to see Giant River Turtles laying their eggs so we left the lodge in the afternoon and motored upriver seeing the now familiar Ospreys, herons and kingfishers. A Boat-billed Heron was found at roost and then a troop of Red Howlers caught our eye and as we stopped to look at these a distinctive squeak drew out attention to five Giant Otters and we had reasonable views of their heads at least as they slipped past us and went downstream.

Reaching a large sandbank we disembarked and waited for the night to come although it wasn't going to get very dark as a huge full moon was rising fast. Tea and coffee were served as Pauraques began to call and Lesser Nighthawks fluttered by. Martin found a couple of decent sized spiders on the bank behind us. We started back cutting the engines after a while to paddle, but the blazing moon had almost certainly kept all nocturnal folk out of sight and there was nothing to be seen! Nevertheless we reached the turtle nesting area and got out to wait for the turtles, one or two of us dozing off for a while too. Alas it was not meant to be and we left after an hour turtle-less and returned to the lodge empty-handed.

Day 13 To Karanambu

Setting off at 6.30 we made our way back downstream towards Kwatamang seeing a Wedge-capped or Weepy Capuchin and then a succession of birds including Bare-necked Fruitcrow. It was quiet for a time and then there was a vine tangle with White-fringed Antwrens, Black-crested Antshrike and Southern Beardless Tyrannulet. Watching these we became aware of some curious shapes on the trunk of a large tree and these began to fly around and settle once again in the tree – they were Long-nosed Bats - na species that roosts in the open, typically on trees where they form a line of little bats, much as these were trying to do. Photogenic Large-billed Tern and Fork-tailed Flycatcher followed before we made the landing. Driving towards Annai we stopped for a striking white lily-like flower (which apparently occurs by the thousand just before the heavy rains).

After lunch we drove to a second landing seeing White-headed Marsh-tyrants on the way. It was only an hour and a half to Karanambu and there was not much activity in this hottest part of the day although Green Iguanas, nesting Jabirus and Zone-tailed Hawk were seen. A pick-me-up in the form of rum punch was welcome and before we set off for our afternoon stroll Diane McTurk's latest project was gallivanting about the grounds squeaking loudly. In the woods were several vivid orange *Stalactis calliope* which always settled under leaves (hence their generic epithet) as well as Yellow-olive Flycatcher and Common Tody-flycatcher.

More rum punch was waiting on our return!

Day 14 Karanambu

A pre sunrise start was necessary so a quick coffee and we were off in search of a remarkable mammal the Giant Anteater. The savanna was pleasantly cool first thing as we motored across meeting with three horsemen who had already located an anteater and were marshalling it our way. Getting out of the vehicles we walked a bit closer and had excellent views as the anteater trotted about with surprising speed, crossing the road a couple of times and giving all of us a

good chance to get a photo. Leaving long nose to go on his way we got back in the cars and drove on seeing Vermillion Flycatchers, Limpkin and then in drying marsh there was a Pinnated Bittern in open view. Our next target was a bit trickier as we searched the taller vegetation around the drying pools for Bearded Tachuri. A Black-collared Hawk flew off and among the marsh were pretty fringed waterlilies and a diminutive relative of water plantain, whist both Green-tailed and White-tailed Goldenthroats fed on orange-flowered shrubs round about. Plumbeous Seed-eater was seen and then finally we found a Bearded Tachuri and everyone managed to see this tiny bird well.

Leaving the lodge after breakfast Diane had brought her latest charge to the river for a swim and we were treated to a wonderful show of the Giant Otter cub retrieving and eating a red piranha before we left. There followed a short river trip to a lagoon with many Victoria water-lilies and masses of *Eichornia azurea* with soft lilac flowers. Black-capped Donacobius, Hooded Tanager and some fine dragonflies were seen and boat one also got to see a Yellow-spotted Turtle on way back – just to prove they do exist.

In the afternoon we set off up river for a visit to another lily pond. Walking from the boat through the forest there was a small roost of Variable Crackers and then reaching the pond the surface was covered in thousands of huge round leaves, on some of which were Black-crowned Nightherons. We waited by a viewpoint for dusk enjoying a rum punch and then as the night came the amazing pure white flowers quickly opened (in minutes not seconds!).

Back on the boats we rendezvoused with the research scientists from Yupakari who have been studying Black Caiman on the river for some years now. After explaining the plan of the night they then set off and luckily for us caught a big eleven and a half foot beast in a few minutes. It took a lot longer to land with much thrashing about and boat biting, but eventually it was landed and hauled ashore. We now got the chance to get up close and personal (some of us more personal than others) with the now docile animal, touching, stroking and poking wherever appealed. Measurements were taken and we partook in lifting, weighing and then hauling the 140kg caiman on to a bench for the final operation - a stomach pump. However, despite his size (we knew it was a male by now) his stomach was empty. Finally released into the wild he swam off to sulk from his undignified evening and we went back for dinner.

Day 15 Karanambu

There was a pre-breakfast walk to the Capuchinbird lek with a bird there when we arrived. He disappeared but we'd seen a couple of others flying around and they had been vocalising earlier so we waited. After half a hour the bird returned and then a second joined him and they started to posture and then utter their singular sound. We had a good view of proceedings and it was good to see and hear one of the unique bird performances from the neotropics. Walking back for

breakfast we saw *Stalachtis calliope* and *Itaballia demophile*, followed by Amazonian White-tailed Trogon and a stunning orange-banded *Catonephele antinoe* butterfly.

Our final boat trip of the tour scored excellent views of a Sunbittern, which flew across the river and then posed well in the shade of the shrubs. Three good-sized Green Iguanas were seen along with Grey-lined Hawk and then some tell-tale movement drew attention to a troop of Brown Capuchin although they remained somewhat hidden from view. To round things off there was a family of Giant Otters with six to eight animals (it's hard to count all the bobbing heads!).

An afternoon drive onto the savanna found two American Kestrels, a striking golden *Oncidium* sp orchid and surprisingly perhaps also a small troop of Red Howlers working through the forest patches and the partially leafless trees meant decent views of the animals. Maguari Storks were in the marshy areas, Fork-tailed Flycatchers were common and a couple of Crested Bobwhites were flushed. However, these were easy to find compared to our target bird of which only a glimpse was had by the ever alert Jeffrey - the Crested Doradito. Despite seeing where the bird landed we still couldn't relocate it. A quick snack and rum punch and we drove back beneath the wide savanna sky as dusk settled seeing a roosting White-tailed Hawk, Pauraque, White-tailed Nightjar and a decent view of a Grey Fox on the way.

Day 16 To Georgetown

We had a relaxed final morning at Karanambu before we drove to the airstrip for our plane to Georgetown. Guyana being Guyana we took the scenic route seeing most of the Rupununi on the way flying via Lethem and Annai before reaching our destination.

After lunch we had a quick city tour and then finished at the botanical garden, which apart from a rambling unlabelled collection of trees and shrubs has also recorded two hundred species of birds and we spent an hour and a half slowly walking through seeing many Red-shouldered Macaws as well as Grey Kingbrid, Violaceous Euphonia a distant Peregrine, and a superb roost of Great Egrets that were in full breeding pomp and displaying to one another with great spreading plumes. A Crimson-crested Woodpecker was seen on a leafless palm trunk and then a juvenile bird appeared calling loudly. Two Black-necked Aracaris were in the same tree and this prompted the parents to fly across and a sort of Mexican 'beak' stand-off took place, with the woodpeckers eventually giving way, although the aracaris left soon after. However, stars of the show were the resident West Indian Manatees that live in large ponds in the garden and we found half a dozen munching through grass cuttings thrown in for them. Great bristly mouths slurped out of the water and we had a go at feeding them fresh grass and scratching their rough skinned noses.

Day 17 To Trinidad and UK

We flew to Trinidad in the morning and met up with transport to the Asa Wright centre in the hills, where we had a good lunch and took a look at the renowned bird feeders there before catching our evening flight to the UK.

Day 18 Arrive UK

Systematic List Number 1 Birds

A total of 286 taxa were seen. Even more could be encountered during a tour as 40 species seen in 2012 (kept here in parentheses for a complete record of what has been recorded on the tour) were not recorded this year! LOB denotes leader only bird, JOB Jeff only bird!

Great Tinamou Tinamus major Rewa, Maipama

[Undulated Tinamou Crypturellus undulates Heard at Yupakari 2012]

Spix's Guan Penelope jacquacu Atta

[Marail Guan Penelope marail Atta, Iwokrama 2012]

Black Curassow Crax alector Widespread, habituated group at Atta

Blue-throated Piping-guan Pipile cumanensis Rewa Lesser Razor-billed Curassow Mitu tomentosum Rewa

Little Chachalaca Surama, Rewa Ortalis motmot Crested Bobwhite Colinus cristatus Karanambu Muscovy Duck Cairina moschata Rewa, Yupakari White-faced Whistling Duck Dendrocygna dendroica Karabambu Brown Pelican Pelicanus occindentalis Abary coast **Neotropical Cormorant** Phalocracorax brasilianus Scattered

Anhinga Anhinga anhinga Scattered along rivers

Capped HeronPilherodius pileatusKaranambuTricoloured HeronEgretta tricolorCoasts

Little Blue Heron Egretta caerulea Coasts and rivers
Snowy Egret Egretta thula Widespread

Cocoi Heron Ardea cocoi Rivers mainly, common

Great Egret Ardea alba Widespread Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis Savanna

Rufescent Tiger Heron Tigrisoma lineatum Quite common around oxbow lakes

Striated Heron

Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Butroides striata

Nyctanassa violacea

Nyctanassa violacea

Black-crowned Night Heron

Nycticorax nyticorax

Lily-pond at Karanambu

Cochlearius cochlearius

Surama, Yupakari

Zigzag Heron

Zebrilus undulatus

Iwokrama

[Agami Heron Agamia agami Stunning, seen very well at

gaini Heroit 2184mia ugami Starining, seen very werr at

Karanambu 2012]

Pinnated BitternBotaurus pinnatusKaranambuMaguari StorkCiconia maguariKaranambuWood StorkMycteria americanaKaranambu

Jabiru Jabiru mycteria Scattered, Iwokrama, Karanambu

Green Ibis Mesembrinibis cayennensis Scattered along rivers

Buff-necked Ibis Theristicus caudatus Rock View gardens, Karabambu

Limpkin Aramus guarana Karanambu Greater Yellow-headed Vulture Cathartes melambrotus Widespread Black Vulture Coragyps atratus Widespread Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura Widespread Crane Hawk Geranospiza caerulescens Abary Pandion haliaetus Waterways Osprey

Swallow-tailed Kite Elanoides forficatus

Snail Kite Rostrhamus sociabilis Georgetown
Double-toothed Kite Harpagus bidentatus Rewa

Greentours Natural History Holidays www.greentours.co.uk 14

Plumbeous Kite Ictinia plumbea Widespread along rivers

Long-winged HarrierCircus buffoniMahaica RiverBlack-faced HawkLeucopternis melanopsIwokramaRufous Crab HawkButeogallus aequinoctialisAbary

[Common Black Hawk Buteogallus anthracinus Baganara Resort 2012]

Great Black Hawk Buteogallus urubitinga Widespread

Savanna Hawk Buteogallus meridionalis Savanna, open areas

Black-collared Hawk Buteogallus nigricollis Karanambu White-tailed Hawk Buteo albicaudatus Surama Morphnus guianensis Surama 2012] [Crested Eagle Buteo magnirostris Widespread Roadside Hawk Scattered Grey-lined Hawk Buteo nitidus American Kestrel Falco sparverius Karanambu Northern Caracara Caracara cheriway Widespread Ibycter americanus Red-throated Caracara Iwokrama Black Caracara Daptrius ater Rewa

Yellow-headed Caracara Milvago chimachima Widespread, open areas

Laughing Falcon Herpetotheres cachinnans

Bat FalconFalco rufigularisWidespread and commonPeregrineFalco peregrinesMahaica and Georgetown

Aplomado Falcon Falco femoralis Karanambu

Grey-necked Wood Rail Aramides cajanea Rewa (Surama 2012)
Sunbittern Eurypyga helias Beautiful bird, seen well at Karanambu, also Rewa

[Sungrebe Heliornis fulica Ox-bow lake at Yupakari 2012]

Ocellated Crake

Micropygia schomburgkii

Grey-winged Trumpeter

Psophia crepitans

Widespread in tall forest

Widespread in tall forest

Mudflats near Georgetown

Semipalmated Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus

Mudflats near Georgetown

Pied Lapwing Vanellus cayanus Alongside rivers

Southern Lapwing Vanellus chilensis Widespread, open areas Whimbrel Numenius phaeopus Mudflats near Georgetown [Short-billed Dowitcher Limnodromus griseus Mudflats near Georgetown 2012] **Greater Yellowlegs** Tringa melanoleuca Mudflats near Georgetown White-rumped Sandpiper Calidris fuscicollis Mudflats near Georgetown [Baird's Sandpiper Calidris bairdii Mudflats near Georgetown 2012] [Semipalmated Sandpiper Calidris pusilla Mudflats near Georgetown 2012] [Least Sandpiper Calidris minutilla Mudflats near Georgetown 2012]

Willet Catoptophorus semipalmatus Mudflats near Georgetown

Spotted Sandpiper Actitius macularius Widespread
[Solitary Sandpiper Tringa solitaria Karanambu 2012]
Double-striped Thick-knee Burhinus bistriatus Near Rock View
South American Snipe Gallinago paraguiaiae Karanambu
[Laughing Gull Larus atricilla Coasts 2012]

[Gull-billed Tern Gelochelidon nilotica Near Georgetown 2012]

[Least Tern Sternula antillarum Mudflats near Georgetown 2012]

Large-billed TernPhaetusa simplexRiversYellow-billed TernSternula superciliarisRewaBlack SkimmerRynchops nigerRivers

Scaled Pigeon Patagioenas speciosa Karanambu (scattered 2012)

Pale-vented Pigeon Patagioenas cayennensis Widespread Ruddy Pigeon Patagioenas subvinacea Widespread Plumbeous Pigeon Patagoienas plumbea Savanna Leptotila verreauxi White-tipped Dove Widespread Grey-fronted Dove Leptotila rufaxilla Iwokrama **Eared Dove** Zenaida auriculata Savanna Ruddy Ground Dove Columbina talpacoti Widespread Common Ground Dove Columbina passerine Savanna

Red-and-green Macaw Ara chloropterus Locally common Iwokrama, also

Rewa

Scarlet Macaw Ara macao A stunning bird, seen well at Atta

and Rewa, sadly declining fast because of pet trade which is still rife

in Guyana

Blue-and-yellow Macaw Ara ararauna Rewa

[Red-bellied MacawAra manilitaTwo flew over Demerera River 2012]Red-shouldered MacawDiopsittaca nobilisCommon in Georgetown Botanic

Garden

Golden-winged Parakeet Brotogeris chrysoptera Rewa savanna Brown-throated Parakeet Aratinga pertinax Widespread

Painted Parakeet Pyrrhura picta Seen well at Rewa and Wowetta

Caica Parrot Pionopsitta caica Atta, Rewa Blue-headed Parrot Pionius mentruus Atta, Rewa

Orange-winged Amazon Widespread in forest

Blue-cheeked Amazon Amazonus dufresniana Heard at Atta (seen 2012)

Mealy Parrot Amazonus farinose Atta

Yellow-crowned Amazon Amazonus ochrocephala (Rock View 2012), Karabambu

Red Fan Parrot Deroptyus accipitrinus Rewa

Hoatzin Opisthocomus hoazin Seen well on Mahaica River

Squirrel CuckooPiaya cayanaAttaLittle CuckooPiaya minutaAbaryBlack-bellied CuckooPiaya melanogasterIwokrama

Smooth-billed Ani Crotophaga ani Widespread in open areas

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major* Riversides
[Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* Surama 2012]

Crested Owl Lophostrix cristata Superb views at Rewa

Spectacled OwlPulsatrix perspicillataIwokramaMottled OwlIwokramaBurrowing OwlAthene cuniculariaRock ViewPauraqueNyctidromus albicollisWidespread

Least NighthawkChordeiles pusillusSandbanks along riversLesser NighthawkChordeiles acutipennisCommon along rivers

Short-tailed Nighthawk Lurocalis semitorquatus Rewa

White-tailed Nightjar Caprimulgus cayennensis Along rivers, savanna
Ladder-tailed Nightjar Hydropsalis climacocera Iwokrama, (also Rewa 2012)

Blackish Nightjar Caprimulgus nigrescens Atta White-tipped Swift Aeronautes montivagus Kaieteur

[White-collared Swift Streptoprocne zonaris Iwokrama 2012]

Short-tailed Swift Chaetura brachyura Atta

Band-rumped Swift Chaetrua spinicaudis Widespread

Fork-tailed Palm-swift Tachornis squamata Abary, Rock View, Rewa [Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift Panyptila cayennensis Atta 2012] Nest found near Rewa Rufous-breasted Hermit Glaucis hirsutus Iwokrama (LOB) [Reddish Hermit Phaethornis ruber Atta 2012] Eastern Long-tailed Hermit Phaethornis superciliosus Atta, Wowetta [Grey-breasted Sabrewing Campylopterus largipennis Maipama 2012] Black-throated Mango Anthracothorax nigricollis Mahaica River (Yupakari 2012) Blue-tailed Emerald Chlorostilbon mellisugus Karanambu Plain-bellied Emerald Amazilia leucogaster Georgetown White-chested Emerald Amazilia brevirostris Rewa Fork-tailed Woodnymph Thaluriana furcata Atta White-chinned Sapphire Hylocharis cyanus Karanambu Glittering-throated Emerald Amazilia fimbriata Karanambu Black-eared Fairy Heliothryx auritus Atta Trogon violaceus Amazonian Violaceous Trogon Iwokrama, Atta Trogon melanurus [Black-tailed Trogon Atta 20121 Amazonian White-tailed Trogon viridis Sene at Karanambu, Rewa and heard Trogon at Atta Ringed Kingfisher Megaceryle torquata Widespread Chloroceryle Americana Rivers Green Kingfisher Amazon Kingfisher Chloroceryle amazona Rivers Green-and-rufous Kingfisher Chloroceryle inda One at Karanambu (LOB) American Pygmy Kingfisher Chloroceryle aenea Abary Blue-crowned Motmot Momotus momota Iwokrama (LOB) Paradise Jacamar Galbula dea Kaieteur, Iwokrama, Atta Green-tailed Jacamar Galbula galbula Mahaica, Atta, Rewa quite common and widespread Great Jacamar Jacamerops aureus Seen very well at Atta, also seen well at Iwokrama Guianan Puffbird Notharchus macrorhynchos Iwokrama. Also known as Whitenecked Puffbird Spotted Puffbird Bucco tamatia Excellent views at Rewa Black Nunbird Monasa atra Widespread, Iwokrama, Rewa, etc Swallow-winged Puffbird Chelidoptera tenebrosa Very common along rivers Guianan Toucanet Selenidera piperivora Atta (Rewa 2012) Green Aracari Pteroglossus viridis Widespread, Atta, Iwokrama, Rewa Black-necked Aracari Pteroglossus aracari Widespread, Iwokrama, Rewa, Georgetown. Iwokrama Channel-billed Toucan Ramphastos vitellinus Red-billed Toucan Ramphastos tucanus Iwokrama, Atta White Woodpecker Melanerpes candidus Two at Abary - a recent addition to the Guyana list [Yellow-tufted Woodpecker Wowetta 2012] Melanerpes cruentatus Little Woodpecker Veniliornis passerinus Rewa Blood-coloured Woodpecker Veniliornis sanguineus Seen well at Abary Golden-collared Woodpecker Venilornis cassini Rewa (Atta 2012) Spot-breasted Woodpecker Colaptes punctigula Abary Waved Woodpecker Celeus undatus Iwokrama, Atta [Ringed Woodpecker Celeus torquatus Iwokrama 2012]

Iwokrama, Atta 2012]

Celeus elegans

[Chestnut Woodpecker

Crimson-crested Woodpecker Campephilus melanoleucos Widespread, Georgetown, Iwokrama, Rewa Red-necked Woodpecker Campephilus rubricollis Atta Lineated Woodpecker Drycopus lineatus Mahaica, Rewa Red-necked Woodpecker Campephilus rubricollis Surama, Rewa Golden-spangled Piculet Picumnus exilis Rewa village [White-bellied Piculet Picumnus spilogaster Abary 2012] Yellow-chinned Spinetail Certhiaxis cinnamomeus Abary, Georgetown, Karanambu Wedge-billed Woodcreeper Widespread Glyphorynchus spirurus [Plain Brown Woodcreeper Dendrocincla fuliginosa Atta 2012] Dendrocolaptes certhia Amazonian Barred Rewa Woodcreeper **Buff-throated Woodcreeper** Xiphorhynchus guttatus Rewa. (Widespread 2012) Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper Xiphorhynchus pardalotus Atta Straight-billed Woodcreeper Xiphorhynchus picus Abary, Iwokrama, Rewa, Karanambu Lineated Woodcreeper Lepidocolaptes albolineatus Sakesphorus canadensis Black-crested Antshrike Abary, Rewa, Karanambu Fasciated Antshrike Cymbilaimus lineatus Rewa (Atta 2012) Mouse-coloured Antshrike Thamnophilus murinus Wowetta (LOB) (Iwokrama 2012) Thamnopilus punctatus Rock View trail Eastern Slaty Antshrike Myrmotherula guttata [Rufous-bellied Antwren Iwokrama, Atta 2012] White-flanked Antwren Myrmotherula axillaris Wowetta, Rewa Long-winged Antwren Myrmotherula longipennis Rewa Rewa White-fringed Antwren Formicivora grisea [Todd's Antwren Herpsilochmus stictocephalus Surama 2012] [Dusky Antbird Cercomacra tyrannina Iwokrama 2012] [Grey Antbird Cercomacra cinerascens Surama 2012] White-browed Antbird Myrmoborus leucophrys Rewa Black-chinned Antbird Hypocnemoides melanopogon Rewa White-bellied Antbird Myrmeciza longipes Rewa (Karanambu 2012) [White-plumed Antbird Pithys albifrons Stunning bird seen very well around ant swarm at Atta 2012] [Ferruginous-backed Antbird Myrmeciza ferruginea Atta, a beauty 2012] White-bellied Antbird Myrmeciza longipes Seen well at Karanambu [Rufous-throated Antbird Gymnopythis rufigula With ant swarm at Atta 2012] Yellow-bellied Elaenia Elaenia flavogaster Atta, etc Myiopagis gaimardii Forest Eleania Atta Bearded Tachuri *Polystictus* pectoralis Karanambu Spotted Tody-Flycatcher Todirostrum maculatum Abary 2012 Common Tody-flycatcher Todirostrum cinereum Karanambu (LOB) Painted Tody-flycatcher Todirostrum pictum Rewa Yellow-olive Flycactcher Tolmomyias sulphurescens Karanambu, Rewa [Boat-billed Tody-Tyrant Hemitriccus josephinae Abary 2012] Guianan Tyrannulet Zimmerius gracilipes Also known as Slender-footed. Atta Ochre-bellied Flycatcher Mionectes oleagineus Rewa (LOB)

Abary 2012]

Rewa

Abary, Karanambu

Heard at Karanambu

Rock View 2012]

Sublegatus arenarum

Lophotriccus galeatus

Atalotriccus pilaris

Inezia caudata

Myiarchus ferox

[Northern Scrub Flycatcher

Pale-tipped Tyrannulet

Short-crested Flycatcher

Helmeted Pygmy-tyrant

[Pale-eyed Pygmy-tyrant

Cliff FlycatcherHirundinea ferrugineaKaieteurVermillion FlycatcherPyrocephalus rubinusKaranambuDrab Water TyrantOchthornis littoralisRewa

Pied Water Tyrant Fluvicola pica Abary, Karanambu White-headed Marsh Tyrant Arundinicola leucocephala Rewa, Karanambu

Fork-tailed Flycatcher

Tyrannus savana

Grey Kingbird

Tyrannus dominicensis

Abary

Tropical Kingbird

Tyrannus melanocholicus

Widespread

[Streaked Flycatcher

Myiodynastes maculates

Atta 2012]

Lesser Kiskadee Philohydor lector Widespread along rivers

[Boat-billed Flycatcher Megarhynchus pitangua Iwokrama 2012]

Social Flycatcher Myiozetetes similis Iwokrama, Karanambu

Rusty-margined Flycatcher Myiozetetes cayanensis Widespread
Great Kiskadee Pitangus sulphuratus Widespread
Brown-crested Flycatcher Myiarchus tyrannulus Abary
Short-crested Flycatcher Myiarchus ferox Rewa

Greyish Mourner Rhytipterna simplex Atta
Cinereous Mourner Laniocera hypopyrra Iwokrama

Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock Rupicola rupicola A bird wonder, seen well near

Surama, Woweta and Kaieteur
Guianan Red Cotinga Phoenicircus carnifex Stunner, seen well at Woweta
Spangled Cotinga Cotinga Atta (female), Rewa (male)
[White Bellbird Procnias albus En route to Atta 2012]

Capuchinbird Perissocephalus tircolor Scattered, Atta (2012), Iwokrama

(LOB), Woweta, Karanambu where

there is a lek

Crimson Fruitcrow *Haematoderus militaris* Seen well en route to Atta

Screaming Piha Lipaugus vociferans Abundant heard constantly, seen

rarely

Purple-throated Fruitcrow Querula purpurata Wowetta (Atta 2012)
Bare-necked Fruitcrow Gymnoderus foetidus Flying over at Rewa

Tiny Tyrant-manakin Tyranneutes virescens Atta

Blue-backed Manakin Chiroxiphia pareola Heard 2014 (seen Rock View 2012)
Golden-headed Manakin Pipra erythrocephala Heard 2014 (seen Atta, Wowetta

2014)

White-crowned Manakin Dixiphia pipra Iwokrama, Rewa (Wowetta 2012)

[Red-eyed VireoVireo olivaceousAtta 2012][Ashy-headed GreenletHylophilus pectoralisAbary 2012]Cayenne JayCyanocorax cayanusAtta (Rewa 2012)White winged SwellowTachycineta alkinostar

White-winged Swallow Tachycineta albiventer Common Grey-breasted Martin Progne chalybea Common Stelgidopteryx ruficollis Southern Roughwing Swallow Scattered Black-banded Swallow Atticora melanoleuca Iwokrama White-banded Swallow Atticora fasciata Rewa Buff-breasted Wren Thyrothorus leucotis Rewa

Southern House Wren Troglodytes musculus Georgetown
Long-billed Gnatwren Ramphocaenus melanurus Woweta
Tropical Gnatcatcher Polioptila plumbea Karanambu

Black-capped Donacobius Donacobius atricapillus Mahaica, Karanambu

Tropical Mockingbird Mimus gilvus Savanna

Pale-breasted Thrush Turdus leucomelas Rock View, Georgetown

Hooded Tanager Nemosia pileata Karanambu [Flame-crested Tanager Tachyphnus cristatus Atta 2012] Silver-beaked Tanager Ramphocelus carbo Iwokrama, etc Palm Tanager Thraupis palmarum Widespread Blue-grey Tanager Thraupis episcopus Widespread Blue-backed Tanager Cyanicterus cyanicterus Rewa Turquoise Tanager Tangara Mexicana Iwokrama [Spotted Tanager Tangara punctata Atta 2012] Tangara cayana Burnished-buff Tanager Savanna

Swallow Tanager Tersina viridis Rewa
Bicoloured Conebill Conirostrum bicolour Abary (LOB)

Blue Dacnis Dacnis cayana Atta

Purple Honyecreeper Cyanerpes caeruleus Iwokrama, Atta [Green Honeycreeper Chlorophanes spiza Iwokrama 2012] Bananaquit Coereba flaveola Widespread

Grassland Sparrow Ammodramus humeralis Karanambu savanna Blue-black Grassquit Volatina jacarina Abary, Rewa savanna

Plumbeous Seedeater Sporophila plumbea Karanambu Wing-barred Seedeater Sporophila americana Mahaica

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater Sporophila castaneiventris Rewa (Atta 2012)

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater Sporophila minuta Rewa savanna (Rock View 2012)

Pectoral Sparrow Catamenia homochroa Woweta

Pectoral SparrowCatamenia homochroaWowetaRed-capped CardinalParoaria gularisWidespread

Yellow-green Grosbeak Caryothraustes canadensis Rewa (heard Kaieteur)

Slate-coloured Grosbeak Saltator grossus Atta

Greyish Saltator Saltator coerulescens Georgetown botanics

Blue-black Grosbeak Cyanocompsa cyanoides Rewa (LOB)

Yellow Warbler Dendroica petechia Abary, Georgetown Golden-crowned Warbler Basileuterus culicivorus Rock View trail

Rose-breasted Chat Granatellus pelzelni Atta

Yellow Oriole Icterus nigrogularis Abary, Georgetown Red-rumped Cacique Cacicus haemorrhous Iwokrama, Atta Yellow-rumped Cacique Cacicus cela Widespread Crested Oropendula Psarocolius decumanus Quite widespread

Green Oropendula Psarocolius viridis Iwokrama Shining Cowbird Molothrus bonariensis Abary

Giant Cowbird Molothrus oryzivorus Iwokrama (where displaying), Rewa

Red-breasted Blackbird Sturnella militaris Karanambu [White-vented Euphonia Euphonia minuta Surama 2012] Finsch's Euphonia Euphonia finschi Savanna

Violaceous Euphonia Euphonia violacea Georgetown (Surama 2012)

Systematic List Number 2 Mammals

[Common Four-eyed Opossum Philander opossum Surama 2012] [Pale-throated Three-toed Sloth Bradypus tridactylus Iwokrama 2012]

Giant Anteater Myrmecophaga tridactyla Amazing mammal seen very well at

Karanambu

Long-nosed Bat Rhynchonycteris naso Nine on a tree below Rewa

Spear-nosed bat Phyllostomus sp Rock View

Greater Bulldog Bat Noctilio leporinus Over rivers at night, very common at

Karanambu

Free-tailed Bat Tadarida sp Karanambu Brown Capuchin Cebus paella Karanambu

Wedge-capped Capuchin Cebus olivaceus (Iwokrama 2012), Rewa

Guianan Saki Monkey Pithecia pithecia Fast moving but reasonable views near

Rewa (Atta 2012)

[Brown Bearded Saki MonkeyChiropotes satanasRewa 2012]Red Howler MonkeyAlouatta seniculusWidespreadBlack Spider MonkeyAteles paniscusWidespread

Common Squirrel Monkey Saimiri sciureus Heard at Karanambu (seen 2012)

Guianan Squirrel Sciurus aestuans Fast-moving! Rewa

Red-rumped Agouti Dasyprocta agouti Widespread, but only occasionally seen Paca Agouti paca Seen on John's camera trap at Atta

[Crab-eating FoxCerdocyon thousIwokrama 2012][KinkajouPotos flavusAtta 2012]TayraEira BarbaraTwo at Iwokrama

Giant Otter Pteronura brasiliensis Rewa

[Puma Puma concolor One dashed across the road at

Iwokrama 2012]

Jaguar Panther onca Tracks seen at Rewa

Brazilian Tapir Tapirus terrestris Tracks seen at Atta and Karanambu

Red Brocket DeerMazama AmericanaIwokrama (Atta 2012)White-tailed DeerOdocoileus virginianusDroppings at KaranambuWest Indian ManateeTrichechus manatusPonds in Georgetown botanics

Systematic List Number 3 Reptiles & Amphibians

[Three-striped Poison Frog Epipedobates trivittatus A couple at Maipama, shy and as with

most populations only two lateral

green stripes 2012]

Dendrobates leucomelas Yellow-banded Poison Frog Not actually seen but heard, hard to

find during the dry season

Kaieteur Falls in huge tank bromeliads Golden Rocket Frog Anomaloglossus beebei

[Jewelled Tree Frog Hyla miyatai One at Iwokrama 2012]

Gladiator Tree Frog Hyla boans Loud and large, Iwokrama, etc

Tree frogs Hysiboas spp At least two species of unidentifiable

> tree frogs seen, one camouflaged as a bird dropping on a leaf during the day

Eleutherodactylus spp Several similar species seen Rain Frog

Litter Frog Specialised species on rocky seeps at

Kaieteur

Smoky Jungle Frog Iwokrama Leptodactylus pentadactylus

Wet Forest Toad Incilius sp Atta Giant Toad Bufo marinus Iwokrama Spectacled Caiman Iwokrama Caiman crocodylus

Black Caiman Caiman niger Widespread, Rewa, Karanambu

Yellow-spotted River Turtle Podocnemis unifies Rewa Amazon Whiptail Ameiva ameiva Iwokrama Forest Whiptail Widespread Kentropyx pelviceps [Mophead Lizard

Yupakari 2012]

Black Tegu Tupinambis nigropunctatus Scattered, Abary, Iwokrama – locally

called the 'bush motorbike'

Green Iguana Iguana iguana Karanambu

Mussurana

Anole Norops spp Widespread in forest Geckos At least two species seen

Corallus hortulanus Amazon Tree Boa Common at night along rivers

Green Anaconda Eunectes murinus Dead one at Mahaica (big one choking

an iguana at Karanambu 2012)

Guianan Fer-de-lance Botrops atrox One at Atta

[Amazonian Bushmaster Lachesis muta A seven-footer at Atta 2012]

Systematic List Number 4 Butterflies

A good number of species were seen during the trip with anywhere between 80 and 90 species although a fair number eluded identification. Late rains probably reduced the number of in forest species we saw and some of those seen previously in September are included to give a more complete picture.

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I al	mu	nidae	
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[Battus polydamas Near Rewa 2012] [Heraclides thoas Miapama 2012] Atta 2012] [Protesilaus glaucolaus

Pieridae

Glutophrissa drusilla Scattered Black-banded White Itaballia demophile Karanambu

Statira Sulphur Aphrissa statira Only one large congregation seen en

> route to Rock View, but abundant along rivers, big congregations on

sandbanks 2012

Eurema albula Widespread Widespread Eurema spp Eurema diara Rewa Moschoneura pinthous Iwokrama

Pyrista venusta Atta

Apricot Sulphur Pheobis argante Widespread in small numbers Cloudless Sulphur

Phoebis sennae Widespread large clear yellow butterfly

Danainae

Soldier Danaus eresimus Abary 2012]

Tiger Mimic Queen Lycorea halia Iwokrama – seemed to be mixed with

various heliconids, easily passed off as

Heliconius hecale.

Ithomiinae

Tigerwing Hypothyris gemela Scattered, Iwokrama, etc [Disturbed Tigerwing Mechanitis polymnia Widespread 2012] Lenea Clearwing Callithomia lenea Iwokrama

Morphinae

Helenor Morpho Morpho helenor Widespread in forest Menelaus Morpho Morpho menelaus Widespread in forest

Rhetenor Morpho Morpho rhetenor Probably seen at Atta, several at Rewa Forest Giant Owl Caligo eurilochus Widespread 2012, owl butterflies were seen on the wing but were not found

settled so we were unable to determine

which was present.

Idomeneus Giant Owl Caligo idomeneus Iwokrama, etc, possibly 2014 Ilioneus Giant Owl Caligo ilioneus Wowetta, etc, possibly 2014

Xanthicles Giant Owl Catoblepia xanthicles Iwokrama 2012] Catoblepia soranus Soranus Giant Owl Woweta, Rewa

[Giant Owl species Eryphanis sp Fine species at Wowetta 2012]

Cassiae Owlet Opsiphanes cassiae Iwokrama

> Near Wowetta 2012] [Caorois chorinalus

Bia Owl Bia actorion Scattered, Iwokrama, Woweta Satyrinae

Lena Pierella Pierella lena Widespread, always close to ground.

Blue hindwing

[Piera Satyr Haetera piera Iwokrama 2012] Laches Satyr Taygetis laches Iwokrama

Thamyra Satyr Taygetis thamyra Rewa

> Cissia spp Various species seen

Caeruleuptychia caerulea Stunning shining pale blue, Atta Magneuptychia sp

Various unidentified species in this

genus

Rewa

Iwokrama

Pareuptychia hesionides Atta

Pareuptychia metaleuca Atta may be con-specific with the

former species

Chloreuptychia marica Celia Satyr Taygetomorpha celia

Cassia Penelope

Charaxinidae

Archaeoprepona demophon Brief view at Iwokrama

Nymphalinae

Anartia jatropha Widespread ruderal species

Bia actorion Widespread [Colobura dirce 2012]

Iunonia evarete Abary, Karanambu Karanambu lily pond Hamadryas feronia

Adelpha cytherea Widespread.

Siproeta stelenes Iwokrama, easily confused with

Philethria dido

Catonephele antinoe Stunning dark brown butterfly with

broad bright orange band, Karanambu

Heliconiinae

[Banded Longwing Dryadula phaetusa Widespread 2012]

> Dione juno Karanambu, smaller with darker

> > underwing than iulia

Widespread Dryas iulia

Heliconius erato Widespread and common

Heliconius sara Widespread Heliconius wallacei Common at Rewa

Neruda methane Iwokrama, much more red on

hindwing underside than Heliconius

species.

Philaethria dido Widespread

Riodininae

Common at Karanambu also Lyssipus Metalmark Riodina lysippus

Iwokrama, Woweta

Stunning orange species that always Calliope Metalmark Stalachtis calliope

settles under leaves, scattered

especially at Karanambu

[Phaedusa Metalmark Stalachtis phaedusa Clearwing species with orange band,

always settles under leaves, Iwokrama

2012]

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Mantus Nymphidium Nymphidium mantus Dazzling blue marked species that

always settles under leaves, Atta

Gela Metalmark Synargus gela Atta Cecelia Metalmark Methone cecilia Atta Lusianus Metalmark Calopspila lucianus Atta

Euselasia spp Two unidentified species seen

[Mesosemia nycteaWhite on hindwings, Iwokrama 2012][Mesosemia generisBlue on hindwings, extending into

forewings, Iwokrama 2012]

[Mesosemia philocles Blue forewing, white hindwings 2012]

Euselasia sp Maipama

Lycaeninae

Various pretty species seen but not yet

identified

Electrostrymon endymionIwokramaArawacus aetolusWowetaStrephonota strephonIwokrama

Strymon bubastus Tiny species with pronounced dark

spots on upperwing

Marysas Hairstreak *Hesperinae*

Pseudolycaena marysas

Large blue seen at Abary and Rewa

Several species seen but not identified

[Paches sp Shining blue species 2012]

Tarsoctenus corytus Stunning species with deep blue wings

and orange body, Kaieteur

Quadrus contubernalis Handsome blue species, Atta

Cabirus procas Pretty yellow and black species, settles

under leaves, Rewa

Autochon longipennis/zarex Prominent white bands and hindwing

fringe, Atta

Leucomelas Skipper Hyalothyrus leucomelas Silvery species that settled underneath

leaves, Rewa

Assorted insects;

Hooded mantis = Choeradodis rhombicollis

Yellow katydid = *Orophus tessellates/conspersus*

Plant hopper – family = Derbidae

Leaf-footed bug

Tiger moth = Anaxita sp

Bee moth = wasp moth = Phoenicoprocta sp

Owl fly = Colombia antlion

Dobsonfly = Antlion panama

Pleasing fungus beetle – blue – Gibbifer gibbosus

Tortoise beetle (black & red spots) = Stolas sp

Lichen katydid = *Markia hystrix*

Monkey grasshopper

Bullet ant – Paraponera clavata