

Costa Rica

An Enchanting Eden

A Greentours Tour Report

12th – 28th November 2013

Led by Chris Gardner

Day 1 12th November UK to Costa Rica

The long but unavoidable journey got us to our hotel well past bedtime, but there was the compensation of seeing a Coyote standing in the road on the way to the lodge. All would be revealed tomorrow.

Day 2 13th November Bosque de Paz

Our first day in the field started well with good activity around the hummer feeders, Red-tailed Squirrels and Black Guans skulking about below the rooms. The guan numbers swelled further as feeding time approached and they were joined by handsome Chestnut-capped Brush-finches and a big male White-nosed Coati. Hummingbirds were very well represented this morning with seven species seen; Magnificent Hummingbird, Green-crowned Brilliant, shining purple Violet Sabrewings, Purple-throated Mountain-gem, Green Hermit, a stunning male Scintillant Hummingbird with shining red throat-patch and then the equally lovely Magenta-throated Woodstar with deep pink throat-patch. There were also Spangle-cheeked Tanagers, Wilson's Warbler, Black Phoebe and American Dipper.

After breakfast as we were about to depart two Long-tailed Silky-flycatchers were seen very well in a fruiting tree. The sun was out but this didn't last long and light rain temporarily slowed things down as we wandered into the forest seeing interesting plants such as *Solanum quitoensis*, *Calthea crocea*, lilac flowered *Poekilanthes*, delicate white *Tradescantia zanoniana* and various gingers in the very lush cloudforest which was bursting at the seams with ferns, mosses and bromeliads. There was American Dipper and then an Orange-bellied Trogon was seen well. As we progressed there were many Common Bush-tanagers, Yellow-thighed Finches and a female Silvery-fronted Tapaculo (LOB). One of our targets had been to see glasswings and at first we went higher up where we found a couple of these stunning insects. However, as we came down the better

weather was bringing glasswings out all over the place and we saw many on the way back down along with the rather fine *Godyris zavaleta* and rather skittish long-abdomened wasps. Back at the lodge there were several bright orange sickle-shaped Julias flying about and a dazzling iridescent blue Twin-barred Flasher was seen along with Torrent Tyrannulet.

After our siesta we had a look at the rich and varied array of orchids in the orchid garden and then set off along the main road soon seeing Yellowish Flycatcher, Spotted Barbtail and a gorgeous Black-throated Green Warbler as well as wonderful frothy masses of *Begonia* sp. We climbed slowly up past the verdant roadsides seeing a female Collared Trogon and then a brief view of the richly coloured Streak-breasted Treehunter. There were fine clear views across the landscape and unusual green-flowered climbers with crinkled seedpods armed with bristles. Back at the lodge we waited for the Pacas to arrive for their evening feed and as we chatted a Barred Forest Falcon flew in beside and perched on a slender branch giving me time to spotlight it and then we got a couple of great shots of a bird which is hard enough to see let alone photograph!

In due course a large well marked Paca ambled out and contentedly nibbled on its corn allowing us to get within five metres for good photos.

Day 3 14th Novmber Bosque de Paz and to Laguna Lagartos

A fine sunny morning. We wandered along the road before breakfast and although it was fairly quiet there were still Torrent Tyrannulets and Northern Waterthrushes on boulders in the river, Green Hermit feeding on the red tubular flowers of *Erythrina* and then a small flock with Golden-winged Warbler, Slate-throated Redstart and Red-faced Spinetail. Grey-breasted Wood-wren appeared briefly and we saw a Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush hopping across fallen tree trunks as a Silvery-fronted Tapaculo called from cover.

The warm morning meant good butterfly action and we spent time around the lodge catching up on the many Julias and *Heliconius clysonymus* as well as various skippers, red-winged damselflies and a stunning Common Morpho. American Dipper was seen and photographed in the stream and there was constant hummingbird activity. Some of us took a short walk in the forest finding some good displays of bracket fungi, glasswings, strangler figs and forest flowers before once again resuming with butterflies in the garden.

A shower of rain arrived after lunch and hinted we should move on so we did descending into the lowlands with a very different landscape of pasture, fields of pineapples and cassava around neat houses and flowery hedges of hibiscus. Stopping at a small wetland there were some good birds including very handsome Eastern Meadowlarks that were singing and displaying. There were also singing Red-winged Blackbirds and in the pasture and marshes Purple Gallinules and Northern Jacanas as groups of Social Flycatchers hawked insects. Further along was a band of

Collared Aracaris before we arrived at the lodge in time to see a few Scarlet Macaws fly across and two Short-tailed Nighthawks begin their acrobatic flight across the lake and around the trees moving at stunning speed and agility without disturbing a leaf, occasionally uttering bubbly squeaks as they went.

Day 4 15th November Laguna de Lagartos

There was activity throughout the morning beginning with three Great Curassows, Ringed Kingfisher, Chestnut-coloured and Black-cheeked Woodpeckers. Keel-billed and Chestnut-mandibled Toucans as well as Collared Aracaris were queuing up waiting for breakfast and in due course the bananas arrived and we were treated to superb close views of these gorgeous birds. Montezuma's Oropendula arrived soon after and a male also gave us the full display song, hanging out of a tree as he reached the finale. Various small birds arrived once the fruits had been opened including stunning Golden-hooded Tanagers, Red-legged Honeycreepers and a male Shining Honeycreeper, along with male Passerini's Tanagers, orange Northern Orioles and the more subtle Blue-grey and Palm Tanagers. A few dapper little Brown-hooded Parrots arrived and we had stellar views of these slowly climbing along the branches to the food.

Four of us went on a forest walk after breakfast and almost immediately we could hear the chirruping of Strawberry Poison Frogs. In due course we found many of these vivid little amphibians and photographed some in various poses. There was also a pair of Crested Guans, White-collared Manakin, various wasps, bugs and substantial Bullet Ants as we wound our way through the luxuriant and wet forest. Little Ground Anoles were common springing from leaf to leaf and then reaching a junction there were two lovely *Heliconius sappho* floating about between flowers. A stunning male Red-capped Manakin was seen next and then as we descended a slope a Central American Whiptail was seen, whilst climbing up the other side there was a handsome Mexican Cicadian butterfly and a Grey Hawk took off from a hidden perch. Back at the lodge others had seen Purple-crowned Fairy, Wedge-billed Woodcreeper and White-nosed Coatis climbing up to the bananas.

Just after lunch four more Collared Aracaris came in and they were one of the last birds at the feeders in the late afternoon too. In between we walked to the marsh near the village, which was rather quiet with only Social Flycatcher and abundant Variable Seed eaters, but there was a lovely passion flower along the way, then a brief view of two Great Green Macaws and we saw three Slender Anoles squabbling on a vine. Back at the lodge there was a relentless chorus of Chestnut-mandibled Toucans, joined at times by Keel-billed Toucans and oropendulas. We waited on the veranda to watch the Scarlet Macaws flying in to roost counting twenty five in all as well as three Great Green Macaws seen rather better than earlier as Great Tinamou whistled mournfully from the forest.

Day 5 16th November Laguna de Lagartos

Morning rain did little to dampen the toucans with three species turning up along with the now familiar selection of colourful birds. On the nearby trees were Streak-headed Woodcreeper and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (LOB), whilst a Bare-throated Tiger-heron was feeding on the lakeshore nearest us. A Great Blue Heron arrived shortly after on the opposite side of the lake. Two Green Ibis were seen drying their wings as the rain eased off and we took the chance to photograph the beautiful young Boa Constrictor that had been found in the garden and with a bit of corralling we got good photos of this exquisitely pattern snake.

The rain returned but it didn't matter much to us as we spent the morning at Adolfo's (the lodge manager) garden in which he'd set up various feeders. Within minutes of putting out the bananas there was a confusion of dazzling honeycreepers with at least ten male Red-legged, three Shining and the odd Green thrown in. During the course of the colourful morning Blue Dacnis, Passerini's and Golden-hooded Tanagers, Olive-backed Euphonia, Northern Oriole and a couple of Collared Aracaris arrived to feed. On the heliconias and hummer feeders were Long-billed Hermit, Rufous-tailed and Scaly-breasted Hummingbirds. Two Scarlet Macaws flew across and then a Buff-throated Saltator arrived briefly before the highlight of the morning when a large flock of Orange-chinned Parakeets arrived, gradually at first then many with at one point thirty five birds crowded into the garden, every so often erupting in a flurry of wings as they flew away from real or imagined danger, only to return a few minutes later. There was plenty of squabbling, hanging upside down and other parrotty things.

Pat, Keith and I walked back from the garden seeing an Owl Butterfly *Caligo eurilochus* on the way and then flushing the Bare-throated Tiger-heron near the lodge after it had just caught a fish (cichlid sp).

Later in the afternoon some of us went for a forest walk soon seeing an agouti and then three Crested Guans really quite close in a small tree, with several others moving about elsewhere in the canopies. Next was a Ground Anole that was displaying its bright red and yellow dewlap to a rival male and he was so intent on this he was oblivious to us watching. Several Strawberry Poison Frogs were seen as we went and then its lesser known and scarce cousin *Colostethus nubicola* a species of Rocket Frog followed by a well camouflaged little Bransford's Litter Frog. Telltale squawking from the canopy revealed the presence of a Great Green macaw and we managed some decent views of this handsome big parrot as almendra fruits rained down from above, the staple food of the bird. A winged stick insect was found before the rain began to fall and this stayed with us for the rest of the walk, but it was warm rain and we had seen many interesting things already so it rather completed the 'rainforest' experience.

Day 6 17th November To La Ensenada

We took a wander around the grounds before breakfast finding a couple of sleek Long-tailed Tyrants along with Plain Brown Woodcreeper, Red-lored Parrots, Lesser Greenlet, Eastern Wood-pewee and several *Heliconius hecale* feeding on hotlips bushes. As we returned to the lodge for breakfast there were two Grey-necked Wood-rails.

Today was a transfer day and we had to cross the mountain spine of the country from the Caribbean slope to the Pacific. Driving out on a clear sunny day there were Black Vultures sat on posts like chickens, Green Iguanas of various sizes and colours, as well as a Gray Hawk, lots of big white cattle and Common Morpho. After buying some needed bits and pieces we continued on to a cafe where many huge male Green Iguanas were congregated for a close up look of these impressive reptiles, some of which were being handfed and seemed to have a fondness for cauliflower. Good coffee drunk we carried on towards Volcan Arenal (which sadly had its top wrapped in cloud) and a large party of cyclists slowed us down a bit, not helped by the chaotic support vehicles – it was a wonder no cyclists were injured by their own teams!

During lunch Rufous-collared Sparrow, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, Gray Hawk and a superb camouflaged cricket (the latter by the ladies loo) were seen. We moved the cricket to a more suitable location for photos and then set off for the long drive around Lago Arenal. However, we didn't get very far as a large group of coatis brought us (and plenty of other traffic) to a halt. There were at least twenty with many cute little ones all rooting about in the verges and crashing about in the undergrowth or fighting in the middle of the road. After a view of the nearly clear volcano we drove for a while before stopping for a view of the lake and some *Sobralia* orchids growing on a high bank. From here we descended into Guanacaste with a different landscape of wide spreading trees with large epiphytic cacti hanging from their boughs and pasture.

Turning off to the lodge there were several Stripe-headed Sparrows and then a small flock of Blue-black Grassquits. As we watched the latter an Owl Butterfly *Caligo memnon* arrived and was joined a short time after by a second one creating an instant conflict and a dramatic whirring tustle resulting in one departing the scene. In this instance the second one ousted the first.

Day 7 18th November Rio Tempisque

During the night there was a blood-curdling scream of a mammal of some sort in pain, perhaps the victim of another bigger mammal, we never found out what. We had an early departure for our boat trip but in the short time before breakfast there were still a few Rufous-naped Wrens, Hoffman's Woodpecker and Orange-chinned Parakeets.

Conditions on the water were calm and today the boatman gave us an extended tour with a full five hours out on the water searching the mangroves and mudflats. We began at a small bird colony on a rocky island where Brown Pelicans, Magnificent Frigatebirds, White Ibis and Black-

crowned Night-herons were in residence. On a nearby mudflat was a flock of Black Skimmers with birds slowly drifting to the water's edge to bathe or even skim a bit and these were joined by Royal Terns, Laughing Gulls, Willets and a Whimbrel. Other waders during the trip included Western Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Turnstone and Grey Plover. Herons were also numerous as would be expected with Little Blue, Tricoloured and Great Blue Herons along with Snowy and Great Egrets. However, perhaps the finest species we saw was Bare-throated Tiger-heron with first a handsomely barred juvenile and then a full adult with much finer barring.

Belted and Ringed Kingfishers appeared from time to time, the former the most numerous and there was a constant scattering of little Spotted Sandpipers along the shore. Impressive columnar cacti sprouted from the raw limestone rocks, with other species tumbling down instead and on one slope a more colourful hanging display was provided by abundant *Ipomaea* Morning Glory and a rich yellow daisy. A couple of fresh green and black Malachites flew out over the water and there was a stunning intense red and black *Siderone marthesia* that flew across the water to the mangroves. Further along the coast we came across a rather tame Mangrove Black Hawk which hung around for the fish our boatman presented it with, eager to tuck in, but a touch nervous of us. However, we got amazing close views of the bird and it in turn got a decent meal. Yellow-crowned Night-herons and a rather scarcely seen Northern Scrub Flycatcher were next before we reached the big bridge built by the Taiwanese that crossed over the Rio Tempisque and beneath this were a few deep pink Roseate Spoonbills and somewhat less attractive Wood Storks. The low water meant we couldn't proceed any further but it was time to turn back anyway stopping for good wader groups and then fishermen hauling in their nets, which attracted pelicans and frigatebirds after an easy meal.

During lunch four hungry White-crested Magpie-jays joined us eager for titbits and in the garden were Cinnamon Hummingbird and long-tailed skippers whilst the jetty below was filling up with Royal Terns and a Cinnamon Hummingbird was buzzing about the *Stachytarpheta* bushes. After our siesta we drove the short distance to the Salinas (salt pans) seeing a large Black Spiny Iguana on a tree as we went. At the pans many waders were gathering to roost with hundreds of Western Sandpipers, many Willets and Whimbrel as well as a few Yellow-crowned Night-herons and immaculate Black-necked Stilts of which we had some stellar views. Roseate Spoonbill and Wood Stork were also seen well as they perched on a dead tree and Mangrove Black-hawks screamed to each other as they flew overhead. There was a stunning *Junonia everete* butterfly and a Banded Peacock. White-fronted Parrots flew over, Scrub Euphonia sang from a tall tree and there were three Least Sandpipers as we made our way back to the bus. A flock of Orange-fronted Parakeets had gathered near the cabins when we returned.

Day 8 19th November To Savegre

A productive early morning bird-watching session began with a flock of Orange-fronted Parakeets and then we found two beautiful Streaked Orioles and three equally fine Spot-breasted

Orioles. A Black-headed Trogon followed and we could hear others as we looked at our one through the scope close to where a pair of Rose-throated Becards was feeding. A movement above drew attention to a gorgeous Scissor-tailed Flycatcher as a Hoffmann's Woodpecker sat quietly in the tree before it was joined by another trogon and a pair of Yellow-naped Parrots flew over. Walking back there was a Green-breasted Mango and Rufous-naped Wrens.

Today was essentially a travel day and we had to travel along the Pacific coast before climbing into the mountains. As we drove out from the lodge we stopped a few times enjoying a wonderful view of a Yellow-naped Parrot as it swept past quite low and landed in what was probably its nest tree. Then there was the very sleek and refined Scissor-tailed Flycatcher which sat well for photos, followed not long after by the incomparable Turquoise-browed Motmot, with two birds showing very well. From here we drove onto the Tarcoles River where a short break gave us time to look at the thirty American Crocodiles hauled out there including a truly brutish big male. A Bat Falcon was also here perched on a pylon and swooping out to catch dragonflies every so often.

We had to cover some ground afterwards driving straight onto lunch where a number of Banded Peacocks and various skippers were buzzing about the verbena bushes. Carrying on we began to climb but hadn't gone any distance when we spotted a fuzzy green lump hanging from a tree. It was a Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth and he was busy munching on a cecropia leaf. After a while he moved along the branch and then settled into another smaller cecropia to snooze but we had had superb views of the animal. Now we had to drive climbing up into the foothills where a Blue-crowned Motmot flashed across in front of the bus and then up onto Cerro de la Muerte past flowery stands of the immense *Dahlia imperialis* with both white and pink forms as mists drifted across the forested ridges. Reach the high point of the road at 3300 metres the mists took on an ethereal glow as the sinking sun punched through then illuminating the paramo. We descended the last few kilometres to the lodge flushing out the odd Sooty Robin along the way.

Day 9 20th November Savegre & Providencia Road

There was plenty of bird noise first thing with twittering Green Violet-ears and Magnificent Hummingbirds. We had breakfast and then left straight afterwards driving to a recent hotspot for a very special bird the Resplendent Quetzal, one of the world's great birds and one which can only survive in healthy cloudforest with plenty of avocado trees. Climbing up to our vantage overlooking such a tree a long-tailed male bird was already on show although he moved off soon afterwards, returning every so often for another fruit. However there were two more juvenile males and a female and in between waiting for them to reposition themselves for better views we saw Acorn Woodpecker very well and Long-tailed Silky-flycatchers flew overhead. Among the fruit trees our guide, Marino, located a pair of gorgeous Golden-browed Chlorophonia feeding on ripe plums. It was a glorious sunny day and really quite warm and it stayed this way all morning. Wandering along the road for a bit there were Tufted Flycatchers, Flame-coloured Warblers, with

persistence a Rufous-browed Peppershrike was seen as well as Black-throated Green Warblers and an Alfaro's Dwarf Squirrel.

The rest of the morning was spent wandering slowly down the verdant Providencia Road in the Los Quetzales National Park. The roadside banks were swathed in interesting plants with clubmosses, *Centropogon spp*, *Halenia sp*, *Gunnera insignis* and on the trees were abundant showy bromeliads. Sooty-capped Bush-tanagers and Black-capped Flycatchers were common and we also soon found Fiery-throated and Volcano Hummingbirds. A pair of Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatchers proved harder to see in the canopy of an *Oreopanax* tree but we got both these and Black-billed Nightingale-thrush. The butterfly *Cyllopsis philodice* was quite common in the sun and we found a dead Highland Alligator Lizard, the victim of a strimmer. New plants included the attractive scrambling *Tropaeolum emarginatum* and tubular orange-red *Bomarea talamancensis* and there were superb views out across the vast tracts of virgin forest as the first clouds began to drift in around midday.

After lunch there were Flame-coloured Tanagers, Yellow-bellied Siskins and a Tennessee Warbler around the feeders, no doubt wondering why nobody had put any food out! Four of us took a wander into the apple orchard above where we'd seen Sulphur-winged Parakeets arriving and we got wonderful views of these colourful parrots in a taller adjacent tree. After a while they flew down and began to feed on the apples only to be flushed away by a soaring Red-tailed Hawk. Later we returned to the quetzal tree to try for the long-tailed male again, but alas he didn't show although there were four females present and the Golden-browed Chlorophonias showed well again. Marino knew of a good place to see Bare-shanked Screech Owl so we returned to the Providencia Road in the late afternoon first of all finding another female quetzal and then hearing various birds such as Barred Forest Falcon, Silvery-fronted Tapaculo and Yellow-billed Cacique. However, our main target was the owl and as soon as it was dusk a little calling brought a bird to within five metres for excellent views and it seemed quite unperturbed by all the fuss and more interested in calling to another owl in the distance. Rufous Nightjar was also glimpsed but try as we might we couldn't get a better view of one either here or at any of the well-known spots. Nonetheless we had seen plenty today.

The stars were incredible in a crystal clear black sky.

Day 10 21st November Cerro de la Muerte & Savegre

Another fine sunny day and we wasted little time climbing up to the high paramo at around 3500 metres with crystal clear views towards the Pacific and Atlantic slopes. We searched the bamboo thickets where there was a brief appearance of a male Peg-billed Finch and then an equally brief (uncharacteristically so) view of Volcano Junco, which despite much searching we were unable to relocate. Slaty Flowerpiercer was seen a couple of times and Volcano Hummingbirds were very common this morning revelling in the warmth, feeding and display flying around us as we

walked slowly downhill. The pretty lilac-flowered *Lobelia irazuensis* was very common speckling the turf and there was the dwarf shrublet *Hypericum strictum*, *Valeriana prionophylla*, abundant *Alchemilla* sp and the odd boletus among the rocks where we also glimpsed a couple of Green Spiny Lizards. Tall yellow *Senecio cinereophylla* (ed – I've added species) with silvery leaves lined the roadside and the even taller in fact decidedly huge *Cirsium subcoriaceum* was in flower too, a fabulous thistle. Also nearby was the tree parsnip *Myrridendron donnellsmithii*. On the mossy banks were abundant club mosses, the slender fern *Jamesonia alstonii* and spreading mats of orange-berried *Nertera granadensis*. Nestled among the latter were some tiny soft blue *Gentianopsis* and even tiny bird's-nest fungi.

Further down we encountered a mixed flock the contained a couple of Ruddy Treerunners, Black-cheeked Warblers and Sooty-capped Bush-tanagers and at one point they were joined by a pair of Timberline Wrens. We drove onto a cafe where there were hummingbird feeders and of course cups of coffee. Here we enjoyed an hour watching the hummers and with some patience we waited long enough to see the stunning Fiery-throated Hummingbird come in and reveal its remarkable array of glistening colours. Driving back to the hotel we took a detour to try again for the Volcano Junco but today it was not meant to be.

Long-tailed Silky-flycatchers were feeding in a berry-laden tree along with Silvery-throated Tanagers and Clay-coloured Robins as we walked back to the rooms for a break. At 3pm when we reconvened there was a Flame-coloured Tanager and a Yellow-thighed Finch at the feeders. We returned once again to the quetzal tree to await the return of the long-tailed male and enjoyed a superb flypast of a Red-tailed Hawk which swooped across the road in front of the bus. While we waited for the quetzal Chestnut-collared Swifts flew overhead with Blue-and-white Swallows and it seemed as though nothing was going to arrive and then suddenly the much desired male arrived with glossy tail in tow perching obligingly in the open and we enjoyed a few minutes with him before he departed. Two females arrived a bit later and Black-throated Green Warbler flitted among the bare twigs as a Green Violetear sang its incessant and repetitive chirrup.

Day 11 22nd November To Bosque del Cabo

Clear skies again on a decidedly cool morning but the sun soon began to warm the air as we climbed out of the Savegre Valley and drove along the continental divide with fine views either side including that of Cerro Chirripo, Costa Rica's highest peak. We stopped to photograph this before reaching San Isidro and then descending all the way to the Pacific coast a drop of three thousand three hundred metres in total from the pass of Cerro de la Muerte! We drove the remaining miles to the airstrip and took the short flight to Puerto Jimenez. There wasn't room for all of us at once so Margaret and I waited for the second flight and while we waited there was lots of activity in a fruiting tree with Palm, Cherrie's and Blue-gray Tanagers, as well as many Clay-coloured Robins. A Yellow-headed Caracara flew into a coconut palm and there was a Green Iguana in a nearby tree too.

The scenic flight went across plantations and then the rainforest of Piedras Blanca to the Golfo Dulce where the first plane had been lucky enough to see dolphins in the water below. After some quick retail therapy in a souvenir shop we drove to the lodge stopping only for a sleeping Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth.

After lunch and settling into the ocean view cabins we took a short walk around the grounds seeing a male coati, Great Curassow and then a Pale-billed Woodpecker which had emerged from its nest hole beside the road. Elsewhere was a peculiar gathering of caterpillars and another caterpillar that was superbly camouflaged as a bird dropping. Ochre-bellied Flycatchers were in the forest and when we reached the tropical garden an army ant column was crossing the path close to the immaculate routes used by leafcutter ants. Chestnut-mandibled Toucans were feeding on palm fruits near the pond near bushes of red flowered *Erythrina* and an agouti trotted out across the grass. Walking back over the bridge and to the lodge a White-lipped Peccary crossed the path and slipped into the forest. It needed to look over its shoulder as a Puma had been seen this morning (not by us unfortunately) near the cabins!

While we ate dinner two adult Northern Racoons wandered past the dining area along with a youngster.

Day 12 23rd November Bosque del Cabo

Our pre-breakfast session didn't see us get beyond the cabins as big troops of both White-faced Capuchin and Central American Spider Monkey were very active in the fruiting figs with plenty of swinging about, mutual grooming, the occasional dramatic leap and a wonderful reclined in a palm tree pose from one of the latter. As well as this Mantled Howlers had been seen by Richard and Marie and there was a female Black-hooded Antshrike, Spot-crowned Euphonia, Cherrie's Tanager and Lesser Greenlets.

We took a walk in an area of advanced secondary forest with lots of vines and fruiting trees. Not far along the path and we had great views of a Cocoa Woodcreeper and a pair of Black-throated Trogons with the male displaying in full view for a while. There were large leafcutter ant nests, the saprophytic plant *Helosia cayennensis*, red *Passiflora vitifolia*, a Confused Tigerwing butterfly and then some excitement when I managed to aggravate a stingless bee nest and had to remove the annoyed critters from various places as they nipped me! Once this had all calmed down we looked at the extraordinary flowers of *Aristolochia goudotii* that were sprouting from corky vines and then found two more trogons. However, the event of the morning came soon after when we detected a movement in the undergrowth. It turned out to be a herd of Collared Peccaries. The first group moved off but then another trio were just a bit further on and we spent the next forty minutes watching these as they came closer and closer allowing good photos and wonderful observation of their behaviour as they gleaned all of the fruit falling from the howler troop above. Walking back along the drive we had excellent views of a stunning White Hawk when it landed

nearby and then soared out above us. Lastly, there was a yellow-tipped helicopter damselfly and Chestnut-mandibled Toucans before we arrived back at the lodge for lunch.

Later in the afternoon we set off for a shorter walk taking the back route to the tropical garden seeing Agouti along the way and then nearing the garden there were spider monkeys, toucans and a Ruddy Quail-dove. A loud squeaking drew attention to a group of coatis ahead but to our left were three lovely Black-striped Woodcreepers, which were part of a large mixed flock. There were plenty of other birds including White-shouldered Tanager, Ochre-bellied Flycatcher, a lovely Green Shrike-vireo and a rare Red-rumped Woodpecker. A spider monkey and baby were near the pond before we went back to the lodge via the bridge to search for frogs. However, before we managed that we had superb close views of a Golden-crowned Spadebill and even an better look at Chestnut-backed Antbird near the viewpoint. Continuing our search Marie glimpsed a Green-and-black Poison Frog, but no others were seen. There is always tomorrow. We hung around for fifteen minutes to let the light fade a bit and for the gloom to descend in the forest. This is the time owl butterflies take to the wing and sure enough we had good views of one that settled a couple of times on the path. To round things off we found a huge Black Witch Moth that was easily as big as an owl butterfly.

Day 13 24th November Bosque del Cabo

We had yet to all see Green-and-black Poison Frog so that was the main target pre-breakfast this morning. Coatis, agouti, capuchin, spider monkey, Red-tailed squirrel, eight toucans, Roadside Hawk and White-lipped Peccary had all been seen before we even left the veranda. Walking into the forest it took a while to locate the first frog, but then the second followed close behind and we found a third near the end of the path and they had all been good well-marked adults.

A Chestnut-mandibled Toucan was feeding on palm fruits as we left for our morning walk passing the lantana bushes with Banded Peacocks, *Heliconius erato*, *Heliconius hecale* and *Heliconius pachinus* as well as various unnamed skippers and a pair of Yellow-throated Vireos. A Blue-throated Goldentail was seen and the Pale-billed Woodpecker was at its nest hole. We followed the main drive up to the road seeing several shimmering Common and Blue Morphos, a mixed flock with White-shouldered Tanagers, Plain Xenops and Black-striped Woodcreeper, some fine dragonflies. Returning the same way there was a perched Green Heliconian, another mixed flock this time also with Plain Antvireo and female White-throated Shrike-tanager. Leaf-cutter Ants were seen in close up action actually cutting the leaves of a *Maranta* and further along was a helicopter damselfly. Then just as we wandering up towards the lodge there was a close encounter with a troop of howlers that had come down quite low and were showing very well. A pair of Crested Caracaras was stalking about on the lawn as we arrived back.

In the afternoon we drove out to where the forest edge meets the pasture and marshy fields. There was a dead tree with Cattle Egrets, Palm Tanagers and Red-crowned Woodpecker, a Blue-

black Grassquit was lurking in a bush and two Red-lored Parrots were feeding in a low open canopy with another troop of howlers close by. Walking on Keith suddenly called us back to a small isolated tree on the edge of the football field in which there was a Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth and we had magical close views of this endearing and somewhat odd mammal as it climbed slowly up but couldn't get more than a few metres away and seemed quite resigned to its fate or perhaps they only have the one expression. It wasn't over yet either for we had very good views of a pair of attractively barred Riverside Wrens shortly before getting a lift back and just as we neared the lodge there was an immaculate White Hawk perched beside the road waiting to be photographed.

Post-dinner we had a stroll down to the pond for some nocturnal frogging finding a calling Masked Tree Frog, little yellow Hourglass Frog, Giant Toad, even larger Savage's Thin-fingered Jungle Frog, a couple of Northern Cat-eyed Snakes, and some feisty spiders.

Day 14 25th November Bosque del Cabo

Our early walkabout was a little quieter than of late, possibly because of the heavy rain last night. However, there was a Little Hermit as we left and quite a few Banded Peacocks on the wing. Eventually we encountered a small flock of foraging birds with Black-hooded Antshrike, Gray-headed Tanager, Chestnut-back Antbird and a brief view of a Bright-rumped Attila.

Before we left for our main walk there was a pair of Red-crowned Woodpeckers and a Red-legged Honeycreeper. Entering the forest we almost immediately saw a Green-and-black Poison Frog, the first of many today and close to this were two female Blue-crowned Manakins. Our target though was a more elusive species of frog and we descended the Creek Trail and began to search the streamside and once again almost immediately a stunning little Golfo Dulce Poison Frog jumped out and then dived for cover in some leaves. Just then there was a cry from Marie of "There's a snake!" and we left the frog and went to see. Below the wooden deck carefully curled up on the opposite rocky bank was a large Fer-de-lance the exquisitely camouflaged no use against the grey rock. Back to the frog and I extracted a handful of leaves which hopefully had a frog in and sure enough when I took my hand away out popped a lovely little amphib. Having enjoyed this our next treat was the male Blue-crowned Manakin that flew across the stream and perched on the other side. We climbed back up seeing a very close troop of howlers on the way and then took to another trail that led up to a ridge where we saw a beautiful velvet ant, Central American Whiptails and a Black-throated Trogon. Reaching the large pond in the tropical garden there were shoals of tadpoles and several dragonflies as well as three species of hummingbird on the many *Erythrina* flowers, with Purple-crowned Fairy, Long-billed Hermit and Band-tailed Barbthroat. We arrived back and had a brief view of a Fiery-billed Aracari before heading off into the forest again minutes later when we heard of a big army ant swarm. Unfortunately we were too late and it had moved off, but these are rarely witnessed events and it was worth a try.

In the afternoon we took the steps down to the fine black sand beach where Charming Hummingbirds were feeding on the abundant red *Kohleria spicata* flowers on cliffs. Searching the rock pools there were many interesting creatures with sea slugs, sea urchins, a mini-pool with coral in, chunky chitons, hundreds of Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs and star of the show a beautiful white-spotted blue pufferfish.

Day 15 26th November Bosque de Rio Tigre and La Cusinga

An early departure had us arriving at Bosque del Rio Tigre by six seeing a Barn Owl near the oil palms on the way and a male Black-cheeked Ant-tanager (Costa Rica's only endemic bird) on arrival at the lodge. Unfortunately there had been heavy rain here last night and it made for a muddy walk up to the viewpoint with bird activity decidedly suppressed and it was enough for the Brown-throated three-toed Sloth we saw to stay sound asleep. However, there were a couple of Blue Morphos and the pretty lilac flowers of *Episcia lilacina*. From the viewpoint we could look over the forest and there was a White-necked Puffbird in a far tree, a pair of Olivaceous Piculets, a female Turquoise Cotinga flew over as well as a Double-toothed Kite. Walking back down to the wetland we had superb views of a Boat-billed Heron. There was also a Green Kingfisher, three small Spectacle Caimans and a few Common Sliders hauled out on a log. Heading back to the lodge for breakfast we had good views of the lovely Baird's Trogon, an orange *Emesis sp* and Golfo Dulce Anole. Over breakfast gorgeous little Blue Ground-doves came to the rice feeder as well as Orange-billed Sparrow and Gray-necked Wood-rail, whilst a solitary Great Sac-winged White-lined Bat was roosting upstairs.

Driving out of the Osa we stopped for a very obliging Laughing Falcon perched atop a telegraph pole and then carried on to La Cusinga where lunch was waiting overlooking the ocean. We spent the afternoon relaxing and doing our own thing, I went down to the beautiful beach seeing a Great Tinamou on the way and there was a flock of Gray-necked Chachalacas feeding on fruits near the car park.

Day 16 27th November To San Jose and flights

White-crowned Parrots, Gray-necked Chachalacas and toucans were seen before breakfast and afterwards we drove to the airport seeing a couple of Scarlet Macaws and lots of Roadside Hawks on the way. Airport formalities went smoothly and we all made it to where we were going.

Day 17 28th November Arrival home

Systematic List Number 1 **Birds**

A total of 271 taxa were seen (+5 heard). Species in parentheses have been seen on previous tours and are included to give a complete picture of the birds that may be seen on this tour. LOB = leader only bird

Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major</i>	At Laguna Lagartos its' mournful whistle was heard each evening and at Bosque del Cabo. One seen very well at La Cusinga (LOB)
Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>	[One feeding on rice by the kitchen at Bosque Rio Tigre – unparalleled views of this species 2012] Narrowly missed 2013
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Common along Pacific coasts
Neotropic Cormorant [Anhinga]	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i> <i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Common along Tempisque At Laguna Lagartos 2011, mangroves along the Tempisque (2009)
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Common along Pacific coast in general
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>	Stunning bird seen at Laguna Lagartos, along Tempisque and Osa
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Common along Tempisque and other waterways, also Laguna Lagartos
Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	Common along Tempisque, widespread in all waterways
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Common along Tempisque, wet fields, etc. Widespread
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Common along Tempisque, also Tarcoles river, Bosque del Cabo
Tricoloured Heron		Tempisque
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Common and widespread in open country, farms, etc
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Seen well along the Tempisque among mangroves and at the Salinas at La Ensenada
Black-crowned Night Heron		A few along the Tempisque
Boat-billed Heron		One at Rio Tigre. [Two or three in mangroves along the Tempisque 2012]
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Along the Tempisque and Osa
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>	Tempisque. [Also near Puerto Jimenez 2010]
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	A few soaring along the Tempisque, [also La Cusinga 2012]

Black-bellied Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Tarcoles River (LOB). [Widespread, Tempisque, near Palmar Sur as well as Boca Tapada area (2010 TTL tour), en route to Puerto Jimenez (2010)]
[Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Apparently rare in Costa Rica, but seemed to be this species at La Ensenada Salinas 2012]
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	One along the Tempisque
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Abundant and widespread
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Abundant and widespread
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	One soaring at Bosque Rio Tigre (Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo (2010)
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Very common along Tempisque, Pacific coast
[American Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Two as we left the Osa 2012]
[White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Formerly Black-shouldered. En route to Arenal 2012]
Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	Rio Tigre. [Seen daily on the Osa 2012]
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	One soaring above Savegre
White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	Bosque del Cabo, stunning views.
[Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	One at Bosque de Paz 2012]
[Black-chested Hawk	<i>Leucopternis princeps</i>	One near Lago Arenal 2011]
Mangrove Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus subtilis</i>	Along the Tempisque also frequent at Bosque del Cabo
Gray Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Pacific coast road
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	Widespread and common, especially obvious at Bosque del Cabo
[Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo 2012, a couple soaring en route to Laguna Lagartos 2010]
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Usually common but this year only one at La Ensenada
[Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	Possibly this species near Tilaran 2012]
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Fine views at San Gerardo
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Common along Pacific slope
Crested Caracara	<i>Polyborus plancus</i>	Widespread on Pacific slope
Laughing Falcon	<i>Hepetotheres cachinnans</i>	Laguna Lagartos, La Ensenada (2010), seen well as we left the Osa
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Near Canas (La Ensenada 2009)
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco rufigularis</i>	One hawking dragonflies at Tarcoles bridge (Laguna Lagartos 2012, one soaring at Bosque del Cabo 2011)
[Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrines</i>	One seen well along Tempisque 2011]
Black Guan	<i>Chamaepetes unicolor</i>	Seen very well at Bosque de Paz, also Savegre
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>	Laguna Lagartos (Lago Arenal 2010)

Great Currasow	<i>Crax rubra</i>	Impressive bird, seen very well at Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo
Gray-headed Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis cinereiceps</i>	Common at La Cusinga
[Crested Bobwhite	<i>Colinus cristatus</i>	A covey at La Ensenada 2009]
[Marbled Wood-quail	<i>Odontophorus gujanensis</i>	Six crossing the track at Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
White-throated Crake	<i>Laterallus albigularis</i>	Heard at Bosque Rio Tigre
Gray-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	Seen well at Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del; Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryula martinica</i>	En route to Laguna Lagartos
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	La Ensenada
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>	One as we left Laguna Lagartos, en route to Bosque del Cabo
[Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus xxx</i>	Near Quepos 2012]
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Common along Tempisque
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	A few on sand bars along Tempisque and near La Ensenada
[Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	One by Villas Rio Mar 2010]
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	La Ensenada
Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	Common along Tempisque
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Common along Tempisque and most waterways
Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Common on mudflats along the Tempisque
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Three at La Ensenada Salinas
[Stilt Sandpiper		La Ensenada Salinas]
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Very common along Tempisque
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	La Ensenada
[Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	A dozen at La Ensenada 2009]
[Double-striped Thick-knee		Two seen very well at La Ensenada 2012]
Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	Common along Tempisque, Pacific coast
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	Impressive tern, plentiful along Tempisque and perching on jetty at La Ensenada
[Elegant Tern	<i>Sterna elegans</i>	Similar to Royal Tern and mingled in with them, but more slender bill but not 2012]
[Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Very large with red bill, a few along Tempisque 2012.]
Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	Common along Tempisque
Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	A flock of 50 along Tempisque
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Scattered in towns
Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Columba fasciata</i>	Savegre
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Columba cayennensis</i>	Scattered in lowlands
Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Columba flavirostris</i>	Common in Central Valley, La Ensenada

Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Columba nigrirostris</i>	Laguna Lagartos. calling at Bosque del Cabo
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	En route to San Jose airport
Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	La Ensenada
Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	Common and widespread
Inca Dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>	Scattered but common at La Ensenada
Blue Ground-Dove	<i>Claravis pretiosa</i>	One of the birds of the trip – exquisite little dove with palest blue plumage and perfect views at Bosque Rio Tigre feeding on rice by the kitchen.
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Widespread.
Ruddy Quail-Dove	<i>Geotrygon montana</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo
[Buff-fronted Quail-Dove	<i>Geotrygon</i>	Seen three times at Villa Blanca 2010]
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>	Up to 25 a day at Laguna Lagartos, common too at Bosque del Cabo, Osa and two near Jaco
Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambiguous</i>	Laguna Lagartos, rare and local, a classy macaw with incredible colours.
Orange-fronted Parakeet	<i>Aratinga canicularis</i>	La Ensenada
[Crimson-fronted/Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga finschi</i>	This or Brown-throated, heard and previously never seen in good light in SW Pacific so could be either.]
Sulphur-winged Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura hoffmanni</i>	Seen and photographed at Savegre feeding in the orchards
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	Widespread small parrot
Brown-hooded Parrot	<i>Pionopsitta haematotis</i>	Laguna Lagartos where they were frequent around the lodge
White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>	A couple at La Cusinga (Laguna Lagartos 2011).
White-fronted Parrot	<i>Amazona albifrons</i>	Common at La Ensenada
Yellow-naped Parrot	<i>Amazona auropalliata</i>	Seen well at La Ensenada
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	Plenty at Laguna Lagartos, also Bosque del Cabo
[Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinose</i>	One at Bosque de Cabo 2011 TTL]
[Mangrove Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus minor</i>	Superb views of one outside my cabin at La Cusinga (LOB)]
[Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	Seen well at Laguna Lagartos 2011. Usually more widespread]
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Common in open country in S Pacific
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	Common in Guanacaste and much of northern CR
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Near Puerto Jimenez oil palms.
[Spectacled Owl	<i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo on night drive 2010]

[Black and white Owl	<i>Strix nigrolineata</i>	Seen well at dawn at Laguna Lagartos 2010 TTL]
Mottled Owl	<i>Strix virgata</i>	Savegre (Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo 2011)
Bare-shanked Screech Owl	<i>Otus clarkia</i>	Stunning views on Providencia road.
[Pacific Screech Owl	<i>Otus cooperi</i>	One seen flying as we pursued a Hooded Skunk at La Ensenada 2011]
[Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	One en route to La Ensenada 2010]
Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>	Laguna Lagartos with a mesmerising display of precision flying
[Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	Incredibly none 2013! Heard at La Ensenada, Bosque del Cabo 2012]
[Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2010 and La Ensenada 2011]
[Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo 2012]
[Chuck-will's Widow	<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>	La Ensenada 2010]
Dusky Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus saturatus</i>	A glimpse on Providencia road, heard well.
Chestnut-collared Swift	<i>Cypseloides rutilus</i>	Seen quite well at Savegre
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque Rio Tigre
[Gray-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>	Caribbean lowlands 2012]
[Costa Rican Swift	<i>Chaetura fumosa</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>	Seen well at Bosque de Paz
Long-tailed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis superciliosus</i>	Quite common at Bosque del Cabo, Laguna Lagartos
Band-tailed Barbthroat	<i>Threnetes ruckeri</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo
Little Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longuemareus</i>	Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre
[Green-fronted Lancebill	<i>Doryfera ludoviciae</i>	One bathing at Savegre 2012]
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeochroa cuvierii</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	Possible at Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos, Bosque Rio Tigre, also Bosque del Cabo 2011)
Green Violet-ear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>	Common at San Gerardo
Green-breasted Mango	<i>Anthracothorax prevostii</i>	La Ensenada (Bosque del Cabo 2012)
[White-crested Coquette	<i>Lophornis adorabilis</i>	One at La Cusinga 2012]
[Canivet's Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon canivetii</i>	Formely Fork-tailed Emerald. Lovely species one seen well at La Ensenada 2011]
Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>	Lovely species, but males not seen well this year Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo, Rio Tigre
Fiery-throated Hummingbird	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>	Wonderful species seen on Cerro de la Muerte
Blue-throated Goldentail	<i>Hylocharis eliciae</i>	Bosque del Cabo (La Cusinga 2012)

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	Common and widespread
Cinnamon Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rutila</i>	La Ensenada
Charming Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia decora</i>	Also known as Beryl-crowned, Bosque del Cabo
[Steely-vented Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia saucerrottei</i>	Common at La Ensenada feeding on mistletoe 2012]
Black-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa nigriventris</i>	A female at Bosque de Paz (also Villablanca 2010)
[Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa eximia</i>	Savegre 2012, Villablanca 2009]
[Coppery-headed Emerald	<i>Elvira cupreiceps</i>	Villablanca 2009, Bosque de Paz 2011 TTL]
[Red-footed Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffoni</i>	Also known as Bronze-tailed, Laguna de Lagartos 2012]
Purple-throated Mountain-Gem	<i>Lampornis calolema</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
White-throated Mountain-Gem	<i>Lampornis castaneiventris</i>	San Gerardo, male has blue-green head and white throat. Formerly called Gray-tailed Mountain-Gem
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 purple crown, blue throat, Bosque de Paz, Savegre
Purple-crowned Fairy	<i>Heliothryx barroti</i>	Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos 2009, 2011) a lovely species
[Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>	A lovely species seen well at Laguna Lagartos 2011]
[Plain-capped Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster constantii</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012, La Ensenada 2011]
[Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	La Ensenada 2009]
Scintillant Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>	Similar to the next species but lovely reddish-orange throat, Bosque de Paz
Volcano Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>	Little beauty with violet purple throat, San Gerardo
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus mocinno</i>	One of the world's great birds, seen well at Savegre (males seen at Bosque de Paz 2011 & 2012)
Baird's Trogon	<i>Trogon bairdii</i>	Seen well at Bosque Rio Tigre
Black-headed Trogon	<i>Trogon melancephalus</i>	La Ensenada
Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon rufus</i>	Laguna Lagartos and Bosque del Cabo where common
[Violaceous Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012, Lago Arenal 2010]
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>	Bosque de Paz
Orange-bellied Trogon	<i>Trogon aurantiiventris</i>	Bosque de Paz
[Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>	Males at Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Turquoise-browed Motmot	<i>Eumomota superciliosa</i>	The best motmot, La Ensenada

Blue-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus momota</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre (Two feeding with White-throated Thrushes near Bosque del Cabo 2011)
[Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	Two at Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>	Widespread, Laguna Lagartos, Tempisque
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	Commonest species along Tempisque
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	Rio Tigre (Bosque del Cabo 2012)
[Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Tempisque (2011) and Osa Peninsula (2010), Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
[Pied Puffbird	<i>Bucco tectus</i>	Near Laguna Lagartos 2009]
[White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Malactoptila panamensis</i>	A male at point blank range, Carara 2010]
White-necked Puffbird	<i>Bucco tectus</i>	Rio Tigre (Dominical 2010, Bosque del Cabo 2012 TTL)
[Prong-billed Barbet	<i>Smenornis frantzii</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz 2012]
[Emerald Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus</i>	Lovely little toucan. Two seen at Bosque de Paz, two photographed and seen exceptionally well at Savegre]
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>	Superb views at Laguna Lagartos feeding on the bananas
[Fiery-billed Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus frantzii</i>	One seen at Bosque del Cabo. (Rio Tigre 2012, Osa 2012 TTL]
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	A smasher, green and orange bill, Laguna Lagartos (and near Lago Arenal 2012)
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	<i>Ramphastos swainsonii</i>	Yellow and brown billed banana raider at Laguna Lagartos, also Osa, Pacific coast
Olivaceous Piculet	<i>Picumnus olivaceous</i>	Two at Rio Tigre
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Hoffmann's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>	Common in north-western Costa Rica and central valley
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	Osa
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Handsome species, seen well at San Gerardo
[Golden-naped Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes chrysauchen</i>	Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos, a rare bird in the lowlands (LOB).
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Seen at Bosque de Paz
[Rufous-winged Woodpecker	<i>Piculus simplex</i>	Bosque del Cabo where a male was excavating a nest hole 2012, Laguna Lagartos 2011]
Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Venilornis kirkii</i>	In mixed flock at Bosque del Cabo (LOB)
Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker		Attending the feeders at Laguna Lagartos
[Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	Classic woody (Laguna Lagartos 2010),two at La Ensenada 2012]

Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>	One in and around nest hole seen daily at Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos 2012 LOB),
Red-faced Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca erythroptera</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
Streak-breasted Treehunter	<i>Thriptadectes rufobrunneus</i>	Bosque de Paz
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
[Striped Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>	San Gerardo 2011]
Spotted Barbtail	<i>Premnoplex brunnescens</i>	Bosque de Paz
Ruddy Treerunner	<i>Margarornis rubiginosus</i>	San Gerardo (Bosque de Paz 2011) with mixed flocks
[Buffy Tuftedcheek	<i>Pseudocolaptes lawrenci</i>	Superbly named and handsome bromeliad searcher seen well on Providencia road 2011]
[Lineated Foliage-gleaner	<i>Syndactyla subularis</i>	Bosque de Paz 2012, Providencia road 2011]
[Striped Woodhaunter		Bosque de Paz, although this seems a bit high, but seen well (LOB), heard at Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Plain Brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosus</i>	Laguna Lagartos
[Tawny-winged Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla anabatina</i>	One with army ant swarm at Bosque del Cabo 2011]
[Ruddy Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla homochroa</i>	With army ant swarm at Bosque del Cabo 2011]
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	Laguna Lagartos also Bosque del Cabo
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	Laguna Lagartos, La Ensenada, Bosque del Cabo
[Spot-crowned Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes affinis</i>	One at San Gerardo also Bosque de Paz 2012]
Black-striped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus</i>	Handsome species seen daily at Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>	Bosque del Cabo (Bosque Rio Tigre 2012, La Ensenada 2010)
[Spotted Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus erythropygius</i>	Bosque del Cabo 2011]
[Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	Heard at La Ensenada 2009]
Black-hooded Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus bridgesi</i>	Bosque del Cabo where common
Streak-crowned Antwreio	<i>Dysithamnus striaticeps</i>	Heard at Laguna Lagartos
Plain Antwreio	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>	Bosque del Cabo
[Dusky Antbird	<i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i>	Bosque del Cabo 2009]
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza exsul</i>	Widespread e.g. Laguna Lagartos, common at Bosque del Cabo
[Bicolored Antbird	<i>Gymnopithys leucaspis</i>	A few attending army ant swarms at Laguna Lagartos 2012, Bosque del Cabo 2011]

[Spotted Antbird	<i>Hylophylax naevioides</i>	Wonderful markings – a classic understorey bird, Laguna Lagartos, seen well 2009]
[Ocellated Antbird	<i>Phaenostictus mcleannani</i>	The big one! Two seen well attending army ant swarm at Laguna Lagartos 2012, also 2009]
Silvery-fronted Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus argentifrons</i>	Female seen (LOB) and calling Bosque de Paz and Providencia (seen at San Gerardo LOB 2011)
Barred Becard	<i>Pachyramphus versicolor</i>	Providencia road]
[White-winged Becard	<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Rose-throated Becard	<i>Pachyramphus aglaiae</i>	La Ensenada, Rio Tigre
[Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	Bosque del Cabo (Laguna Lagartos, Bosque Rio Tigre 2012)
[Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2009, Bosque del Cabo 2010]
[Rufous Piha	<i>Lipaugus unirufus</i>	Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Turquoise Cotinga	<i>Cotinga ridgwayi</i>	A female at Bosque Rio Tigre
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>	Male seen very briefly Laguna Lagartos
Orange-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus aurantiacus</i>	A female at Bosque Rio Tigre
Blue-crowned Manakin	<i>Pipra coronate</i>	Seen quite well at Bosque del Cabo
Red-capped Manakin	<i>Pipra mentalis</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
Torrent Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga cinerea</i>	Bosque de Paz (San Gerardo 2012)
[Mountain Elaenia	<i>Elaenia frantzii</i>	Savegre 2010]
[Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	Near Laguna Lagartos 2012, mangroves at La Ensenada 2011]
Northern Scrub Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus modestus</i>	Tempisque mangroves
Mistletoe Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius vilissimus</i>	Bosque del Cabo (Bosque de Paz, Bosque Rio Tigre 2012)
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, common at Bosque del Cabo 2011
Olive-striped Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes olivaceus</i>	Bosque de Paz, Providencia road
[Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum sylvia</i>	Villablanca 2009]
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	Laguna Lagartos (Bosque Rio Tigre 2012)
Golden-crowned Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus coronatus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
[Royal Flycatcher	<i>Onychorhynchus coronatus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2009]
[Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Terenotriccus erythrus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2011]
[Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher	<i>Myiobius sulphureipygius</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>	San Gerardo
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus borealis</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre (Bosque del Cabo 2011)
Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Rio Tigre
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Laguna Lagartos (La Ensenada 2012)
[Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012 but usually widespread]

[Willow/Alder Flycatcher Yellowish Flycatcher Black-capped Flycatcher Bright-rumped Attila [Dusky-capped Flycatcher [Nutting's Flycatcher Brown-crested Flycatcher Great-crested Flycatcher Great Kiskadee	<i>Empidonax sp</i> <i>Empidonax flavescens</i> <i>Empidonax atriceps</i> <i>Attila spadiceus</i> <i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i> <i>Myiarchus nuttingii</i> <i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i> <i>Myiarchus crinitus</i> <i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	One these two species at Savegre 2012] Bosque de Paz Providencia road Bosque del Cabo (LOB) Bosque del Cabo 2012] La Ensenada mangroves 2012] La Ensenada Bosque del Cabo, Rio Tigre Widespread, characteristic and vocal species of CR
[White-ringed Flycatcher	<i>Coryphotriccus albobittatus</i>	A couple on the way out of Laguna Lagartos 2009]
[Gray-capped Flycatcher Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i> <i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	Villas Rio Mar 2010] Laguna Lagartos, La Ensenada, Bosque Rio Tigre
Streaked Flycatcher Western Kingbird	<i>Myiodynastes maculates</i> <i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	Bosque del Cabo Widespread. Easily overlooked infavour of next species – we must have seen it!
Tropical Kingbird Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i> <i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	Very common and widespread Seen superbly at La Ensenada (also near Bosque del Cabo 2011)
Long-tailed Tyrant Black Phoebe Blue-and-white Swallow Gray-breasted Martin Mangrove Swallow	<i>Colonia colonus</i> <i>Sayornis nigricans</i> <i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i> <i>Progne chalybea</i> <i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	Two at Laguna Lagartos Bosque de Paz and San Gerardo Common in highlands Frequent in lowlands Scattered, near Laguna Lagartos, Tempisque, Osa
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	Scarce
[Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	One near Bosque del Cabo 2011]
Barn Swallow [Cliff Swallow [Brown Jay	<i>Hirundo rustica</i> <i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i> <i>Cyanocorax morio</i>	La Ensenada La Ensenada 2012] Seen well at Bosque de Paz, also La Ensenada 2012]
White-throated Magpie-Jay	<i>Calocitta Formosa</i>	Lovely bird, habituated and highly visible at La Ensenada
[Azure-hooded Jay American Dipper	<i>Cyanolyca argenticula</i> <i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>	Heard at Bosque de Paz 2011] Streams at Bosque de Paz and San Gerardo
Rufous-naped Wren	<i>Camplyorhynchus rufinucha</i>	Common and vocal in north-west CR as far south as Carara
Riverside Wren [Ochraceous Wren House Wren	<i>Thryothorus semibadius</i> <i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i> <i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Seen well near Bosque del Cabo Bosque de Paz 2011] Common and widespread

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>	Bosque de Paz, Savegre, heard commonly in highlands
Bay Wren	<i>Thyrothorus nigicapillus</i>	One heard at Laguna Lagartos [seen 2011], explosive song
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	Heard at Laguna Lagartos
Timberline Wren	<i>Thryorchilus browni</i>	Two seen quite well on Cerro de la Muerte paramo
[Scaly-breasted Wren	<i>Microcerculus Philomela</i>	Formerly Southern Nightingale Wren, a terrestrial species seen well near an army at swarm at Bosque del Cabo 2011]
[Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
[White-lored Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila albiloris</i>	La Ensenada 2012]
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Laguna Lagartos (Bosque de Paz 2012)
[Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	Scattered 2012]
[Gray-cheeked Thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	Laguna Lagartos (LOB) 2010]
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>	Bosque de Paz (LOB)
Ruddy-capped Nightingale Thrush	<i>Catharus frantzii</i>	San Gerardo
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus gracilirostris</i>	San Gerardo
Sooty Robin	<i>Turdus nigrescens</i>	Bosque de Paz, Cerro de la Muerte and San Gerardo
[White-throated Robin	<i>Turdus assimilis</i>	Possible at Bosque del Cabo 2012, seen 2011]
Mountain Robin	<i>Turdus plebejus</i>	Savegre
Clay-colored Robin	<i>Turdus grayi</i>	Common and widespread, national bird of Costa Rica
Black-faced Solitaire	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>	One at Bosque de Paz (San Gerardo 2012)
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumatella carolinensis</i>	Heard at Bosque de Paz
Black-and-yellow Silky Flycatcher	<i>Phainoptila melanoxantha</i>	Providencia road
Long-tailed Silky Flycatcher	<i>Phainoptila caudatus</i>	A stunner Bosque de Paz, Savegre
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	La Ensenada, Bosque del Cabo
[Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	Bosque de Paz 2012]
[Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Bosque de Paz 2012]
Yellow-winged Vireo	<i>Vireo carmioli</i>	Savegre (Marino only bird)
Green Shrike Vireo	<i>Vierolanius pulchellus</i>	Bosque del Cabo with mixed flock (LOB)
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus ochraceiceps</i>	Bosque del Cabo
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus decuratus</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	Savegre (La Ensenada 2009)
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Bosque de Paz
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>	Common and widespread
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	La Ensenada mangroves, Bosque del Cabo
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	Widespread
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	Bosque de Paz, San Gerardo

[Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	Savegre 2012, Bosque de Paz 2011]
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Bosque de Paz, Bosque del Cabo
[American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	La Ensenada 2011]
Collared Redstart	<i>Myioborus torquatus</i>	San Gerardo, (Bosque de Paz 2012)
Slate-throated Redstart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>	Bosque de Paz
Three-striped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus tristriatus</i>	Bosque de Paz
[Rufous-capped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus rufifrons</i>	Handsome species seen en route to San Jose 2009]
Black-cheeked Warbler	<i>Basileuterus melanogenys</i>	Cerro de la Muerte (San Gerardo 2012, Providencia road 2011)
[Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	One at Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	La Ensenada among mangroves, Bosque de Paz, Bosque del Cabo.
[Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiuris motacilla</i>	Savegre 2010]
[Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo 2012]
[Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Gorgeous lemon-yellow warbler, La Ensenada mangroves 2012]
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	Highlands
[Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Phaeothlypis fulvicauda</i>	Around Lago Arenal, Seen well accompanying an army ant swarm at Bosque del Cabo 2011]
[Wrenthrush	<i>Zeladonia coronata</i>	Also known as Zeladonia. Providencia road 2010]
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola caboti</i>	Widespread
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	Little blue stunner. Laguna Lagartos, Bosque del Cabo
Shining Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes lucidus</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	Laguna Lagartos, also Rio Tigre
[Scarlet-thighed Dacnis	<i>Dacnis venusta</i>	Seen at Laguna Lagartos 2011, also Puerto Jimenez 2010]
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Laguna Lagartos
[Elegant Euphonia	<i>Euphonia elegantissima</i>	5 at Savegre 2012]
Scrub Euphonia	<i>Euphonia affinis</i>	Two at La Ensenada
Spotted-crowned Euphonia	<i>Euphonia imitans</i>	Bosque del Cabo, Bosque Rio Tigre
[White-vented Euphonia	<i>Euphonia minuta</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
[Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirundinacea</i>	La Ensenada 2009, Bosque del Cabo 2010]
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia gouldii</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Golden-browed Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia</i>	Simply stunning. Savegre
Blue-Gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common and widespread
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Widespread
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>	Lovely species seen at Bosque de Paz and Savegre
Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Tangara larvata</i>	A beauty, widespread
Spangle-cheeked Tanager	<i>Tangara dowii</i>	Bosque de Paz (LOB)
[Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	Villablanca 2009, Bosque del Cabo 2010]

Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus</i>	Common at Bosque de Paz
Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>	San Gerardo, Cerro de la Muerte
Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>	Bosque del Cabo
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	Laguna Lagartos
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctosus</i>	Bosque del Cabo
[Tawny-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus delatirii</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Black-cheeked Ant-tanager	<i>Habia atrimaxillaris</i>	The big one, Costa Rica's only endemic, handsome male seen at Bosque Rio Tigre
[Olive Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus carmioli</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Widespread
Flame-coloured Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>	A beauty, San Gerardo
Passerini's Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>	Laguna Lagartos
Cherries Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus</i>	Bosque del Cabo – males identical to previous species – females differ, mmmmm.
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	Laguna Lagartos
[Black-faced Grosbeak	<i>Caryothraustes poliogaster</i>	Flocks at Laguna Lagartos 2012]
[Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Widespread in Costa Rica. But only a glimpse at Savegre 2011. 2010 at Bosque del Cabo]
Black-thighed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus tibialis</i>	Stunning yellow, one in flight Providencia road
[Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>	Stunning little bird in mangroves at La Ensenada 2012]
[Olive Sparrow	<i>Arremonops rufivirgatus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2011]
[Black-striped Sparrow	<i>Arremonops conirostris</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre 2012]
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	La Ensenada, Osa
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila aurita</i>	Pastureland, grassy areas e.g. Laguna Lagartos all black, Pacific coast black and white
White-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila torqueola</i>	La Ensenada, Osa.
Peg-billed Finch	<i>Acanthidops bairdii</i>	Cerro de la Muerte
Slaty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>	San Gerardo, Cerro de la Muerte
Yellow-thighed Finch	<i>Pselliophorus tibialis</i>	San Gerardo and Bosque de Paz
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes brunneinucha</i>	Bosque de Paz
[Yellow-throated Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes gutturalis</i>	Savegre at the bird feeder 2012]
Large-footed Finch	<i>Pezopetes capitalis</i>	Providencia, Cerro de la Muerte
Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>	Bosque Rio Tigre (Bosque del Cabo 2009)
Striped-headed Sparrow	<i>Aimophila ruficauda</i>	Common around La Ensenada
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotricha capensis</i>	Highlands
Volcano Junco	<i>Junco vulcani</i>	Cerro de la Muerte paramo, just a glimpse but usually easy and confiding.
[Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	La Ensenada 2011]
[Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Strunella militaris</i>	En route to Puerto Jimenez 2012]
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Common in rural Caribbean lowlands

Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Near Laguna Lagartos, where displaying
Melodius Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>	Savegre, La Ensenada
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Very common and widespread in open areas and towns in Costa Rica
Black-cowled Oriole	<i>Icterus dominicensis</i>	Adolfo's garden
Streak-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus pustulatus</i>	La Ensenada
Spot-breasted Oriole	<i>Icterus pectoralis</i>	La Ensenada with Streak-backed Oriole for instant comparison.
Northern Oriole	<i>Icterus pustulatus</i>	Widespread in Costa Rica
[Scarlet-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus uropygialis</i>	Laguna Lagartos (LOB), Bosque del Cabo 2011]
Montezuma Oropendula	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>	Laguna Lagartos, Caribbean lowlands and La Ensenada
[Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>	Honduras 2009]
Yellow-bellied Siskin	<i>Carduelis xanthogastra</i>	Savegre
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domestica</i>	Towns

Systematic List Number 2

Mammals

Northern Tamandua	<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	Roadkill along Pacific coastal road. (Seen live at Bosque del Cabo 2012, TTL 2013)
[Common Opossum	<i>Didelphus marsupialis</i>	Bosque del Cabo]
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth	<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>	Seen superbly near Dominical and Osa.
Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>	One en route to Bosque del Cabo
[Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>	Bosque del Cabo TTL 2012]
Greater White-lined Sac-winged Bat	<i>Saccopteryx bilineata</i>	Rio Tigre prominent lines on the back
[Common Tent-making Bats	<i>Uroderma bilobatus</i>	Rio Tigre 2012]
[Spix's Disc-winged Bat	<i>Thyroptera tricolor</i>	Bosque del Cabo 2010]
White-throated Capuchin	<i>Cebus capuchinus</i>	Bosque del Cabo where seen daily
Central American Spider Monkey		Common at Bosque del Cabo
Mantled Howler	<i>Alouatta palliate</i>	Bosque del Cabo daily sightings and vocal. Heard La Ensenada, Bosque de Paz, Laguna Lagartos.
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>	Bosque del Cabo, Bosque de Paz, etc
Variiegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides</i>	La Ensenada, lowlands
[Deppe's Squirrel	<i>Sciurus deppei</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2011]
Central American Dwarf Squirrel	<i>Microsciurus alfari</i>	Bosque de Paz, Savegre (Bosque del Cabo 2011)
Spiny Mouse species		One in cabin at Bosque del Cabo
[Common Spiny Rat	<i>Proechimys semispinosus</i>	Laguna Lagartos 2012]
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>	Widespread
Paca	<i>Agouti paca</i>	Seen very well at Bosque de Paz
[Brazilian Rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus brasiliensis</i>	La Ensenada]
Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Three at Bosque del Cabo
Tayra	<i>Eira barbara</i>	Three at Bosque del Cabo
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>	Widespread
Coyote		One en route to Bosque de Paz
Baird's Tapir	<i>Tapirus bairdii</i>	Tracks along Providencia road
White-lipped Peccary	<i>Dicotyles pecari</i>	One at Bosque del Cabo
Collared Peccary	<i>Tayassu tajacu</i>	Close views at Playa Nicuesa

Systematic List Number 3

Reptiles and Amphibians

A fantastic haul of 38 species was seen during the tour.

Four-lined Whiptail Lizard	<i>Ameiva ameiva</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Central American Whiptail	<i>Ameiva festiva</i>	Widespread
Black Spiny Iguana	<i>Ctenosaura similis</i>	Guanacaste
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	Cano Negro and en route to Tirimbina
Yellow-headed Gecko	<i>Gonatodes albogularis</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Asian House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	Widespread
Turnip-tailed Gecko	<i>Thecadactylus rapicauda</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Common Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus basiliscus</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Green Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>	Cano Negro
Striped Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>	Small one near Buena Vista
Green Tree Anole	<i>Norops biporcatus</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Slender Anole	<i>Norops lemurinus</i>	Tirimbina
Pug-nosed Anole	<i>Norops capito</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Golfo Dulce Anole	<i>Norops polytlpeis</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Litter Skink	<i>Sphenomorphus cherrei</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Helmeted Iguana	<i>Corytophanes cristatus</i>	Near Las Heliconias
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodiles</i>	Cano Negro
American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Common Slider	<i>Trachemys scripta</i>	Cano Negro
Barred Forest Racer	<i>Dendrophidion vinitor</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Northern Cat-eyed Snake	<i>Leptodeira septentriomalis</i>	Playa Nicuesa
[Eyelash Pitviper]	<i>Botriechis schegelii</i>	Las Heliconias, Playa Nicuesa 2012
Giant Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>	Widespread, a monster at Playa Nicuesa
Smooth-skinned Toad	<i>Bufo haematiticus</i>	Near Las Heliconias, also Tirimbina
Gulf Coast Toad	<i>Bufo melanochlorus</i>	Playa Nicuesa
[Valliant's Frog]	<i>Rana valliantii</i>	Near Las Heliconias 2012
Red-eyed Leaf Frog	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>	Near Las Heliconias, Playa Nicuesa
Savage's Thin-fingered Jungle Frog	<i>Leptodactylus savagei</i>	Big frog! Playa Nicuesa
Emerald Glass Frog	<i>Centronella prosoblepon</i>	Near Las Heliconias,
Gladiator Tree Frog	<i>Hyla rosenbergii</i>	Playa Nicuesa
Masked Tree frog	<i>Smilisca phaeota</i>	Near Las Heliconias,
Drab Tree Frog	<i>Smilisca sordid</i>	Playa Nicuesa
	<i>[Phrynadryas venulosa]</i>	Playa Nicuesa 2012
	<i>Scinax elaeochroas</i>	Near Las Heliconias,
Clay-coloured Frog	<i>Eleutherodactylus sp</i>	
Rain Frogs	<i>Eleutherodactylus spp</i>	Various.
Fitzinger's Rain Frog	<i>Eleutherodactylus fitzingeri</i>	Las Heliconias, prominent dorsal stripe
	<i>Pristimantis cerasinus</i>	Rancho Naturalista
Strawberry Poison Frog	<i>Oophaga (Dendrobates) pumilio</i>	Near Las Heliconias,
Green-and-black Poison Frog	<i>Dendrobates auratus</i>	Rio Tigre, Playa Nicuesa
Hourglass tree Frog	<i>Hyla ebracteata</i>	Near Las Heliconias,

