

Limosa

GUATEMALA

Highlands and Horned Guans

Main Tour: 6 – 18 February 2024

Extension: 17 -23 February 2024

Tour leader: Fernando Enrique

Photos: Fernando Enrique and Gareth Rees

Guatemala is a wonderful birding destination with an astonishing variety of habitats. From the driest place in the region to the highest mountains in Central America, the scenic Lake Atitlan, more than 30 volcanoes, some of them covered in untouched cloud forest, this small country has it all, including some amazing avian specialties, beautiful scenery, friendly people, colourful culture, and fantastic coffee!

With all these ingredients, our “well established” Guatemala tour was a great success once again. Recording more than 250 species, including most of the regional endemics and target species.

Top 5 bird as voted for by participants:

1. Horned Guan
2. Wine-throated Hummingbird
3. Resplendent Quetzal
4. Pink-headed Warbler
5. Russet-crowned Motmot



Day 1

After a long but uneventful flight from Madrid, the group arrived in La Aurora ahead of schedule. With luggage collection completed, we headed to the arrivals hall, where Maynor, our local guide, was waiting for us.

The heavy traffic in Guatemala City made us arrive after dark at our lovely hotel in the old part of Antigua with no time for birding except the occasional encounter along the road with the ubiquitous Great-tailed Grackle.

Day 2

We awoke to a clear day in Antigua, where we enjoyed a beautiful sunrise with fantastic views of the Agua, Fuego and Acatenango volcanoes. Breakfast was enlivened by a few Social Flycatchers, Western Kingbird, Velasquez's Woodpecker and the only Peregrine of the trip.

The wonderful breakfast was followed by a short drive to San Cristobal el Alto, an area of well-preserved pine-oak forest at 1,800 m.a.s.l. Birds were everywhere as we stepped out of the vehicle; Inca Dove, Azure-crowned Hummingbird, Lesson's Motmot, Acorn Woodpecker, "Guatemalan" Flicker (aka Watermelon Flicker by some members of the group), Hammond's Flycatcher, Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Bushy crested Jay, Black-capped Swallow, Band-backed Wren, Gray Silky-flycatcher, Elegant Euphonia, Bar-winged Oriole, Tennessee, Nashville, MacGillivray's, Townsend's, etc.

We then moved to the highest part of Finca El Pilar, a lovely private reserve on the outskirts of Antigua. The pine forest and open mountain meadows were teeming with birds too and here we added some new species such as Red-tailed Hawk, Mountain Elaenia, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Buff-breasted Flycatcher, a localized bird that hadn't been seen on any of our previous tours, the local race of Steller's Jay, Blue-and-white Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, or Slate-throated Redstart.

Then we descended into the lower part of El Pilar, which is famous for its hummingbird feeders. The first bird that we saw as we arrived was the sought-after Rufous Sabrewing, a regional endemic only found in a narrow band that goes from Chiapas to El Salvador.

Rivoli's Hummingbird, White-eared Hummingbird, Azure-crowned Hummingbird, Berylline Hummingbird and Green-throated Mountain-gem were other hummingbirds noted around the feeders.

As we walked deeper into the forest, we managed to find a few other interesting species such as Collared Trogon, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, Warbling Vireo and Indigo Bunting.

We drove back to Antigua where we enjoyed a delicious lunch next to the emblematic Arco de Santa Catalina.

Our last stop of the day was at Sendero de Alux, where a Golden-cheeked Warbler had been seen the day before. Although we didn't find the warbler, we saw lots of great birds

including fantastic views of Blue-throated Motmot, one of our main targets, plus Band-tailed Pigeons and a mixed flock with dozens of birds including Hutton's, Blue-headed, Warbling and Brown-capped Vireos plus several species of warblers including the first Crescent-chested Warbler of the trip.

After an action-packed day, we headed back to Antigua for another lovely dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 3

Today was a much-anticipated day, since we were about to visit the home of one of our main targets of the trip, the Pink-headed Warbler.

We loaded the bus and drove along the empty streets of Antigua in the dark and then took the Pan-American Highway towards our destination, the famous Rincon Suizo.

This area is covered by pine-oak-alder forest, resembling temperate area forest. But once you observe the composition of some of the mixed-species flocks, you realize that you are indeed in Central America.

Rincon Suizo is not only famous for its birds but also for its food. After a filling breakfast, we headed into the reserve in search of our main target here, the stunning Pink-headed Warbler. This near-endemic bird can only be found in Chiapas and Guatemala and Rincon Suizo is probably one of the best places in the world to see it.

We didn't have to wait very long for our first Pink-headed Warbler, they were part of a mixed flock with several species of Nearctic migrants, but also resident species. Birds seen included Townsend's Warbler, Hutton's Vireo, Slate-throated Redstart, Crescent-chested Warbler, Tufted Flycatcher, Bushtit and Brown Creeper.

Several hummingbird species were attracted to a big patch of thistles, including Mexican Violetear, Rivoli's Hummingbird or White-eared Hummingbird.

We spent the rest of the morning walking along some of the numerous tracks and racking up new birds like Blue-throated Motmot, Guatemalan Tyrannulet, Greater Pewee, Gray Silky-flycatcher and Rufous-browed Wren, a shy regional endemic that performed really well for us this time.

It had been a very successful morning so far, but we still hadn't seen a single Mountain Trogon, which is one of the main targets in this area. It was very evident that this part of the forest was drier than usual, probably due to a very strong El Niño, so we walked to a more humid area on the opposite side of the property. After a bit of searching, we managed to find the only Mountain Trogon of the trip, plus a couple of Yellow-eyed Juncos on the way back to the car park.

With all our target birds in our bags, we loaded the bus once again and covered the long drive to Huehuetenango, where a new array of birds would be waiting for us in the mountains.

Day 4

We loaded the bus early as the group was ready for another red-letter day in our calendar and drove up towards the Sierra Los Cuchumatanes, the highest non-volcanic mountain range in Central America, with peaks reaching 3.800 m. When we reached the plateau at first light, we were already above 3000 meters, the lowest we would be during the whole morning. We stopped at Chiabal where we picked up our local guide Esteban, had our breakfast and a revitalizing cup of coffee.

The landscape here is unlike any other in the whole country, beautiful alpine meadows surrounded by firs, pines and junipers interspersed with gigantic flowering agaves that attracted lots of birds.

We went for a walk around Esteban's house, and we soon found our first Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Meadowlark, Rufous-collared Robin and Pine Siskin.

The flowering agaves were teeming with "Yellow-rumped Warblers"; most of them were Audubon's with a few Myrtle also present. But suddenly an odd-looking oriole caught our attention. This bird had an obvious white wing bar, unlike all the Black-vented Oriole in the area, suddenly another bird joined the first one... Not one but two Scott's Orioles! A bird that should be wintering a few hundred kilometres north in Mexico.

Other birds in the area were the ubiquitous Rufous-collared Sparrow and the localized Pine Flycatcher and Buff-breasted Flycatcher.

We then drove a bit further up to 3.300m and reached an area of meadows and junipers where we quickly found the main reason to come up here. The absolutely stunning and range-restricted Goldman's Warbler. First a very cooperative male, then a female and later on as we climbed up the slope at least half a dozen individuals. We stopped at the edge of the forest where after a lot of searching we found a very vocal but distant Ocellated Quail, one of the hardest birds to see in Guatemala. Next on the list was another regional endemic only found in Chiapas and Guatemala, the Black-capped Siskin. This bird can be very nomadic and unreliable, but thanks to Esteban we found some alders with plenty of food available for these lovely little birds and we could enjoy great scope views for a few minutes.

Our last stop was at a rocky outcrop where after a bit of searching we found a cooperative pair of Rock Wrens of the distinctive *neglectus* subspecies.

We said goodbye to our friend Esteban and gave him some school material for his village kindly donated by Arthur and Sylvie and we moved on to lower elevations.

We arrived at our renovated hotel just in time to enjoy another wonderful dinner and discuss our plans for the next day, probably the most important day of the trip, since it would be our best chance to find the emblematic Horned Guan.

Day 5

Horned Guan Day had arrived! The day started with a very early 25-minute drive to Fuentes Georginas, with main target here being the Horned Guan, one of the most unique and bizarre-looking birds in the world. These turkey-sized birds, restricted to the highlands of Guatemala and Chiapas, live in cloud forest at an elevation of 2,000-3,000 meters. This habitat is severely fragmented, and most populations are isolated from each other. That's the reason why this bird is listed as Endangered.

We got there before sunrise since our first goal was to find some of the night birds that call this cloud forest home. Mexican Whip-poor-will were singing everywhere and we managed to find a couple of birds. But the best bird was a pair of Fulvous Owls that landed just a few meters away from us, allowing the group to have unbeatable views of this cloud forest specialist for more than 10 minutes.

We spent the first hour of light birding along the entrance road, where we found some interesting species such as Brown-backed Solitaire, Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush, Chestnut-capped Brushfinch and two displaying Wine-throated Hummingbirds. The birds performed incredibly well for us and the whole group agreed that this was one of the highlights of the trip.

We didn't have to wait very long for THE highlight of the trip though. Our driver, Darwin, had spotted a Horned Guan! We ran to his position and soon found the prehistoric-looking bird on the opposite slope, which was covered by Devil's Hand Trees, Horned Guan's favourite tree, allowing fantastic scope views.

We couldn't believe our luck, once again, we managed to find this sought-after species literally from the car park! Considering that you usually must climb 3,000m volcanoes in order to see this bird, you could understand the relief of both guides and group members.

Jubilant, we left Fuentes Georginas and we headed towards the Pacific lowlands, a completely different habitat with a new array of birds. Our destination, Los Tarrales, is one of the best birding destinations in the country, with over 350 species recorded inside this private reserve, which preserves primary rainforest and runs coffee and exotic flower plantations.

Along the way we made a quick lunch stop at an organic cocoa farm where we experienced an introduction to the birds of the lowlands, which delayed our lunch considerably. The main attraction here was the heronry around the lagoon, where we saw nesting Boat-billed Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Snowy Egret and Cattle Egret, but the whole place was full of new birds for the group such as Cinnamon Hummingbird, Amazon Kingfisher, Common Tody-Flycatcher, Tropical Kingbird, Rufous-backed Wren, Orchard Oriole, Magnolia Warbler, Blue-grey Tanager, Yellow-winged Tanager and Morelet's Seedeater.

After an excellent lunch that included some of the local cocoa products, we hit the road again towards Los Tarrales.

The check-in process was very quick, and we all met outside of our cabins for a relaxed walk along the San Pedro trail, which covers an area of secondary forest and coffee plantations.

There were so many birds around that we barely walked a few hundred metres, and we spent the rest of the evening trying to decide where to look! This incredible plethora of birds included White-bellied Chachalaca, dozens of Red-billed Pigeons, Squirrel Cuckoo, Orange-fronted, Orange-chinned and Pacific Parakeets, the endangered Yellow-naped Parrot, Lesson's Motmot, Collared Aracari, Cinnamon Hummingbird, Spot-breasted Wren, Yellow-breasted Chat, dozens of warblers of several species, Masked Tityra, Spot-breasted and Altamira Orioles and Northern Tropical Pewee among many others.

During dinner, we discussed the plan for the upcoming days, and we went to bed after what we all agreed was the best day of the trip so far.

Day 6

Today we all met at the lounge for a quick coffee, collected our packed breakfast and we boarded several 4x4 before dawn. The plan was to be at the right spot, an area of primary rain forest with fruiting Cecropia trees, at first light. This is the best strategy to find our target bird, the Azure-rumped Tanager. This localized tanager is only found in Chiapas and Guatemala and is typically found in higher parts of the reserve. Cecropia trees are their most important food source. We didn't connect with the tanager but did find a nice selection of other birds around this patch of Cecropias, birds such White-throated Thrush, Red-legged Honeycreeper, Painted Bunting, a pair of elusive White-eared Ground-Sparrows and Long-billed Starthroat, just to name a few.

We drove further into the reserve to an area of shade-grown coffee known as La Isla. Shade-grown coffee is the most important economic resource at Los Tarrales; nearly 60 Maya Kaqchiquel families work on these plantations.

Here we added a few new species, including Guatemalan Tyrannulet, White-bellied Emerald, Blue-tailed Hummingbird, Collared Trogon, Barred Antshrike, Long-tailed Manakin, Greater Pewee and Brown-crested Flycatcher. The sky was full of raptors with dozens of Black and Turkey Vultures, Grey, Short-tailed and Broad-winged Hawks. However, the best raptor of the day was a spectacular Black Hawk-Eagle that flew above our heads before disappearing into the forest.

As in previous years, we descended to a specific patch of flowering trees with very tiny flowers. These flowers were the feeding grounds of one of the smallest hummingbirds in Guatemala, the Emerald-chinned Hummingbird, a species endemic to northern Central America. The birds were very active today and we found several individuals right away.

After another lovely lunch and a short siesta, we went for a relaxed walk around the flower plantations and the secondary forest in the lowest part of the reserve. It was very quiet at first due to the high temperatures but suddenly the bird activity increased, and we were on track again. We first found the only Hooded Warbler of the trip, an uncommon bird in the western part of the country, followed by a brief encounter with a couple of Violet Sabrewings feeding on the abundant Heliconias. Other birds noted during this walk were Belted Kingfisher, Ivory-billed Woodcreeper, Rose-throated Becard and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, but perhaps the best sighting was a sleeping Kinkajou that we found while looking for roosting owls. This strange-looking mammal is related to raccoons and coatis and is strictly nocturnal, so finding one in the middle of the day was an unexpected and welcome addition to our mammal list.

After another lovely dinner, we were heading back to our cabins when we heard a couple of Mottled Owls. We managed to track them down and both male and female provided prolonged scope views for several minutes. We left them alone after a while and went back to our cabins for a good night of sleep.

Day 7

Today was our last morning at Los Tarrales and our plan was to make the best of it. Once again, we met in the lounge for an excellent cup of farm-produced coffee that preceded our morning walk along La Rinconada trail. This is an area of lowland forest; huge bamboo stands or “tarrales” and coffee plantations. Birding highlights were many with nearly 70 species recorded before breakfast, including Long-billed Starthroat, Blue-tailed Hummingbird, Gartered Trogon, Lineated Woodpecker, Yellow-naped Parrot, Long-tailed Manakin, Long-billed Gnatwren and Golden-crowned Warbler just to name a few.

We left Los Tarrales after breakfast and we took the scenic road towards our next destination, Lake Atitlan. Lake Atitlan is renowned as one of the most beautiful lakes in the world and is Guatemala's most important national and international tourist attraction.

We first stopped at San Lucas Toliman, where this time we seemed to have figured out the seasonal movements of one of the trickiest birds to see in Guatemala, the diminutive Slender Sheartail. Instead of going to the shore of the lake, we drove up to the slope of the volcano, where after a bit of searching we found a nice female Slender Sheartail posing in one of its favourite perches. After that, we went back to San Lucas where we enjoyed another great lunch at a nice restaurant overlooking the lake, from where we saw a nice selection of egrets, ducks and other waterbirds.

We arrived at our lovely hotel by the shore of the lake in good time for some extra birding.

The lake itself was very birdy with dozens of America Coot, Common Gallinule, Purple Gallinule, Blue-winged Teal and no less than four Soras, while the reeds and bushes around it, were home to several Common Yellowthroat, Black Phoebe, Common

Ground-Dove, Tropical Mockingbird, Morelet's Seedeater, Lincoln's Sparrow and Painted Bunting.

After solving a small incident involving a phone and a pier that nobody would mention again, we all went back to the terrace of the restaurant and enjoyed a lovely dinner after a very productive day.

Day 8

The day started with an owling session in the gardens of the hotel. We heard Mexican Whip-poor-will, Common Pauraque and Great Horned Owl in the first couple of minutes, but then a different call nearby caught our attention, we managed to track it down and found a very cooperative Whiskered Screech-Owl that landed right in front of us allowing fantastic views.

Then we drove to Rey Tepepul, a beautiful mirador overlooking the lake and surrounded by volcanoes that is home to the national bird of Guatemala, the spectacular Resplendent Quetzal.

We took the path that descends from the car park, into a wonderful area of humid montane forest, where our local guide knew a patch of fruiting trees where the quetzals have been seen recently. Making a few stops along the way we eventually got there and didn't have to wait too long when the dominant male in the area landed in front of us. The bird posed incredibly well for no less than 30 minutes, allowing great scope views for the group.

It's difficult to pay attention to any other bird when you have a quetzal in front of you, but we did see some other interesting species during the hike, including Northern Emerald Toucanet, Brown-backed Solitaire, Flame-coloured Tanager, Elegant Euphonia or the stunning Blue-crowned Chlorophonia.

One of the very few target birds missing was the Azure-rumped Tanager. So, after we came back from the Quetzal hike, we visited a patch of fruiting Cecropias along the road not far from there. We had to scan through multiple mixed flocks that contained Guatemalan Tyrannulet, Hooded Grosbeak, Tennessee Warbler, Western Tanager, White-winged Tanager and Red-legged Honeycreeper until we finally found at least three Azure-rumped Tanager, one of the most range-restricted birds in all Central America. Other birds seen along this productive stretch of road were Rufous Sabrewing, Cabanis's Wren, Chestnut-capped Warbler and a noisy Bat Falcon that flew above us.

After an early start and some "serious" hiking, we decided to spend the last few hours of the day relaxing at our lovely hotel and I can't think of a better place to do so than the shores of lake Atitlan!

And as a very anticipated event, we all had dinner at Maynor's favourite restaurant, which, to be honest, fulfilled all our expectations.

Day 9

We had a few hours before our long drive to the Motagua valley, so we loaded the bus once again and we headed towards Cerro Paquisis, an area of secondary forest, pine-oak forest and avocado plantations that offers some really exciting birding. On the way there, we made a quick stop near the lake where we found good numbers of Blue-winged Teal, American Wigeon, American Coot, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, a few Western Kingbirds and at least one Sora.

Thanks to the new paved road we arrived at Cerro Paquisis in a few minutes, which previously required a long and bumpy boat ride across the lake. Nearctic migrants are always very common in this area, and we noted several species of wintering warblers, vireos and orioles along with some interesting resident species such as Rivoli's Hummingbird, Blue-tailed Hummingbird, Bushy-crested Jay, Flame-coloured Tanager and a very vocal pair of Rusty Sparrow, which ended up being the only ones of the trip.

The rest of the day was spent on route with a memorable lunch stop at our favourite restaurant in Guatemala City where we had the opportunity to try one of the best chicken and avocado sandwiches in the country.

After a couple of hours, we arrived at our hotel in the dry valley and discussed the plans for the next day, where a completely different avifauna was waiting for us.

Day 10

The middle section of the Motagua valley is the driest region of Central America. Located on the "rain shadow" side of the Sierra de las Minas Mountain chain so very little precipitation reaches this part of the country.

We arrived early at the Reserva Heloderma, it was cloudy and cooler than usual which allowed us to bird comfortably the whole morning.

We walked along the dry riverbed looking for the unique birds that make this place so special. Amazing birds adapted to such extreme conditions such as Russet-crowned Motmot, one of the group's favourite, Turquoise-browed Motmot, several Elegant Trogons, Canivet's Emerald, the local race "aurantiacus" of Yellow Grosbeak, Nutting's Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, White-lored Gnatcatcher, Streak-backed Oriole, Varied Bunting or Stripe-headed Sparrow just to name a few.

This reserve was created to protect the last remaining individuals of the endangered and endemic Guatemalan Beaded Lizard. This close relative of the Gila Monster is one of the few venomous lizards in the world and is restricted to the Motagua valley.

In the visitor centre, our local guide showed us an adult lizard. He also told us about the biology and current population of the species and all the efforts that many people have put to protect these amazing creatures.

The rest of the day was spent on route and birding around the gardens of our hotel in the central highlands, which was located at the edge of the cloud forest, allowing us to add a few new species to our list, including Grey-breasted Wood Wren, Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, Common Chlorospingus, Chestnut-headed Oropendola and Golden-winged Warbler.

After a long day we went back to our cabins with anticipation high for the following day in the cloud forest.

Day 11

We left the hotel before sunrise and drove 5 minutes to get to our destination for the morning, a place called Ranchitos del Quetzal, a private reserve, family-owned in third generation. The reserve covers 40 hectares of cloud forest and a well-maintained network of trails. One of the first birds we saw was a Resplendent Quetzal that landed not far from our position for a couple of minutes, before disappearing into the forest. Then a flock of Unicoloured Jays came in to eat some of the old tortillas from the previous day.

We walked the first 200m of the trail and we found very interesting species' such as Violet Sabrewing, Black-headed Nightingale Thrush, Brown-capped Vireo, Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner, Spotted Woodcreeper, Spot-crowned Woodcreeper and a nice selection of warblers, including Golden-winged, Black-throated Green, Black-and-white and Slate-throated Redstart.

The visit to Biotopo del Quetzal didn't produce much, so we decided to go back to the hotel to get some rest ready for the second part of the day.

With everybody fuelled up and ready to go, we drove another 10 minutes down the road to a lovely restaurant where some of us enjoyed a delicious Kaq-ik, a traditional spicy Guatemalan stew. We then spent the rest of the day at Posada del Quetzal, a property with a fantastic network of trails traversing different habitats. It was very birdy when we arrived and birds such as Lesson's Motmot, Tufted Flycatcher, Greater Pewee, Black-headed Siskin, Bushy-crested Jay and Eastern Bluebirds were flying everywhere.

Then walked down towards the ponds and a small creek at the lower part of the reserve where we saw a Golden-olive Woodpecker, a bird that had eluded us until now, plus Guatemalan Tyrannulet, Grace's Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Olive Warbler, our first Yellowish Flycatcher and on the way to the car park we noted the only Yellow-backed Oriole of the trip.

After a long and productive day, we visited a local restaurant where we carried out the log and enjoyed a fantastic dinner, and a couple of good local beers to celebrate the last full day of a great trip.

Day 12

We had limited time this morning, so we didn't waste too much time driving around and decided to bird the hotel grounds instead. Here we were welcomed by a very obliging Green-throated Mountain-gem that had a territorial dispute with one of the local Azure-crowned Hummingbirds. As the air was warming up the bird activity increased, and a huge flock of White-collared Swift flew above our heads looking for food over the canopy. Then a mixed flock of at least a dozen Common Chlorospingus, and few Magnolia, Wilson's and Black-throated Green Warbler kept us entertained while both species of solitaires, Brown-backed and the Slate-coloured, filled the air with their beautiful songs.

After breakfast, it was time to say goodbye to this wonderful corner of the country. Packed and ready we loaded the bus for the drive back to Guatemala City.

We arrived at the airport in good time for the flight home for some or on to Flores for those who opted for the extension. And having said our goodbyes, we made our way to the departure gates.

Thanks to all party members for such good humour, enthusiasm, and some exceptional birding skills too! I look forward to seeing everyone on another Limosa tour in the very near future!

Annotated List of Birds Recorded

Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors*.

American Wigeon *Anas americana*.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*

White-bellied Chachalaca *Ortalis leucogastra*.

Highland Guan *Penelopina nigra*

Horned Guan *Oreophasis derbianus*

One of the highlights of the trip. We had great scope views of this endangered species at Fuentes Georginas.

Ocellated Quail *Cyrtonyx ocellatus*

Mexican Whip-poor-will *Antrostomus arizonae*

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*

Vaux's Swift *Chaetura vauxi*

White-throated Swift *Aeronautes saxatalis*

Mexican Violetear *Colibri thalassinus*

Rufous Sabrewing *Campylopterus rufus*

Violet Sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus*

Emerald-chinned Hummingbird *Abeillia abeillei*

Canivet's Emerald *Chlorostilbon canivetii*

Cinnamon Hummingbird *Amazilia rutila*

Azure-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanocephala*

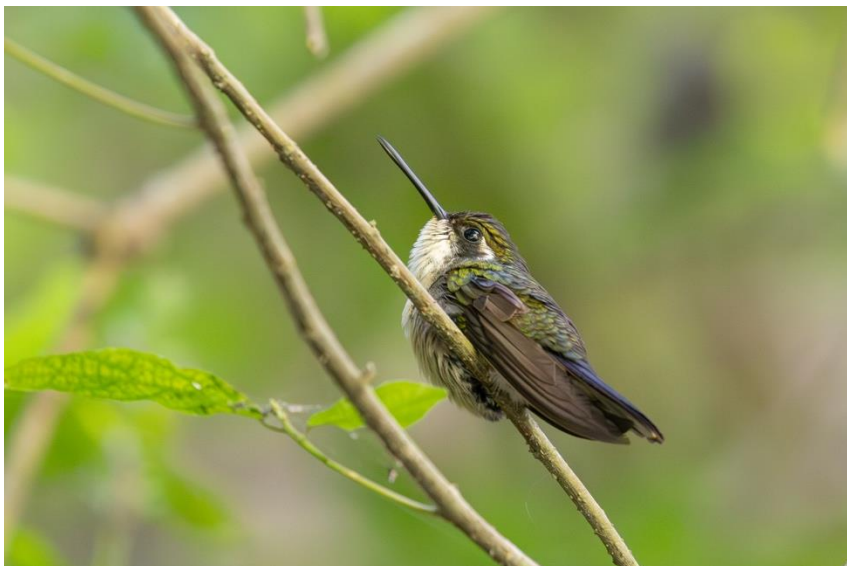


Berylline Hummingbird *Amazilia beryllina*

Blue-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanura*

White-bellied Emerald *Chlorestes candida*

Green-throated Mountaingem *Lampornis viridipallens*



White-eared Hummingbird *Basilinna leucotis*

Rivoli's Hummingbird *Eugenes fulgens*

Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris*

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*

Slender Sheartail *Dorica enichura*

Broad-tailed Hummingbird *Selasphorus platycercus*

Wine-throated Hummingbird *Selasphorus ellioti*



Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris*

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerine*

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*

Sora *Porzana carolina*

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinicus*

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*.

American Coot *Fulica americana*

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Green Heron *Butorides virescens*

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Tricoloured Heron *Egretta tricolor*

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*

Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*

Grey Hawk *Buteo plagiatus*

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

Fulvous Owl *Strix fulvescens*

We couldn't have asked for better views of this regional endemic. Amazing views of a bird at Fuentes Georginas.

Mottled Owl *Strix virgata*

Great views of two birds calling at Los Tarrales.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*

Whiskered Screech Owl *Megascops trichopsis*

Resplendent Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*

Another highlight of the trip. A male showed really well for over 30 minutes at Rey Tepepul. A male and a female at Ranchitos del Quetzal.

Gartered Trogon *Trogon caligatus*



Elegant Trogon *Trogon elegans*

Mountain Trogon *Trogon mexicanus*

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*

Blue-throated Motmot *Aspatha gularis*

Russet-crowned Motmot *Momotus mexicanus*



Lesson's Motmot *Momotus lessonii*

Turquoise-browed Motmot *Eumomota superciliosa*



Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*

Collared Araçari *Pteroglossus torquatus*

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus*

Velasquez's Woodpecker *Melanerpes santacruzi*



Hairy Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus villosus*

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus*

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Orange-chinned Parakeet *Brotogeris jugularis*

White-fronted Amazon *Amazona albifrons*

Yellow-naped Amazon *Amazona auropalliata*



Orange-fronted Parakeet *Eupsittula canicularis*

Pacific Parakeet *Psittacara strenuous*



Ivory-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*

Spotted Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*

Spot-crowned Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes affinis*

Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia variegaticeps*

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*.
Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzii*
Guatemalan Tyrannulet *Zimmerius vilissimus*
Northern Bentbill *Oncostoma cinereigulare*
Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*
Yellow-olive Flatbill *Tolmomyas sulphurescens*
Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*
Northern Tufted Flycatcher *Mitrephanes phaeocercus*
Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*
Greater Pewee *Contopus pertinax*
Northern Tropical Pewee *Contopus bogotensis*
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher *Empidonax flaviventris*
Least Flycatcher *Empidonax minimus*
Hammond's Flycatcher *Empidonax hammondii*.
Pine Flycatcher *Empidonax affinis*
Yellowish Flycatcher *Empidonax flavescens*
Buff-breasted Flycatcher *Empidonax fulvifrons*
Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*
Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*
Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus forficatus*
Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*
Ash-throated Flycatcher *Myiarchus cinerascens*
Nutting's Flycatcher *Myiarchus nuttingi*
Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus*
Long-tailed Manakin *Chiroxiphia linearis*
Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*
Rose-throated Becard *Pachyramphus aglaiae*

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons*

Plumbeous Vireo *Vireo plumbeus*

Blue-headed Vireo *Vireo solitarius*

Hutton's Vireo *Vireo huttoni*

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*

Brown-capped Vireo *Vireo leucophrys*

Black-throated Jay *Cyanolyca pumilio*

Bushy-crested Jay *Cyanocorax melanocyaneus*

White-throated Magpie-Jay *Calocitta Formosa*



Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*

Unicolored Jay *Aphelocoma unicolor*



Grey Silky-flycatcher *Ptiliogonys cinereus*
Violet-green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina*
Black-capped Swallow *Notiochelidon pileata*
Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
American Bushtit *Psaltriparus minimus*
Rock Wren *Salpinctes obsoletus*
Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus*
Rufous-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus*
Spot-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius maculipectus*
Cabanis's Wren *Cantorchilus modestus*
House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*
Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus*
Grey-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*
Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus*
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea*
White-lored Gnatcatcher *Polioptila albiloris*
Brown Creeper *Certhia Americana*
Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*
Blue-and-white Mockingbird *Melanotis hypoleucus*



Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis*.

Brown-backed Solitaire *Myadestes occidentalis*



Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus frantzii*

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus mexicanus*

Clay-coloured Thrush *Turdus grayi*

White-throated Thrush *Turdus assimilis*

Rufous-collared Thrush *Turdus rufitorques*

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus*

Hooded Grosbeak *Hesperiphona abeillei*

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria*

Pine Siskin *Spinus pinus*

Black-capped Siskin *Spinus atriceps*

Black-headed Siskin *Spinus notatus*

Elegant Euphonia *Chlorophonia elegantissima*

Blue-crowned Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia occipitalis*

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea*

Common Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavopectus*

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*

Stripe-headed Sparrow *Peucaea ruficauda*

Rusty Sparrow *Aimophila rufescens*

Spotted Towhee *Pipilo maculatus*

Yellow-eyed Junco *Junco phaeonotus*
Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolni*
White-eared Ground Sparrow *Melospiza leucotis*
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch *Arremon brunneinucha*
Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens*
Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna*
Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri*
Yellow-backed Oriole *Icterus chrysater*
Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis*
Streak-backed Oriole *Icterus pustulatus*
Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*
Spot-breasted Oriole *Icterus pectoralis*
Bar-winged Oriole *Icterus maculialatus*.
Black-vented Oriole *Icterus wagleri*
Scott's Oriole *Icterus parisorum*
Orchard Oriole *Icterus spurius*
Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus*
Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives*
Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*
Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*
Golden-winged Warbler *Vermivora chrysoptera*
Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*
Crescent-chested Warbler *Oreothlypis superciliosa*
Tennessee Warbler *Leiothlypis peregrine*
Nashville Warbler *Leiothlypis ruficapilla*
MacGillivray's Warbler *Geothlypis tolmiei*
Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas*
Magnolia Warbler *Setophaga magnolia*
American Yellow Warbler *Setophaga aestiva*
Hooded Warbler *Setophaga citrina*

Grace's Warbler *Setophaga graciae*

Myrtle Warbler *Setophaga coronata*

Audubon's Warbler *Setophaga auduboni*

Goldman's Warbler *Setophaga goldmani*

We enjoyed fantastic views of this "almost endemic" to Guatemala in the Cuchumatanes area.



Townsend's Warbler *Setophaga townsendi*

Hermit Warbler *Setophaga occidentalis*

Black-throated Green Warbler *Setophaga virens*

Chestnut-capped Warbler *Basileuterus delatirii*

Golden-browed Warbler *Basileuterus belli*



Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*

Pink-headed Warbler *Cardellina versicolor*

One of the group's favourites and one of the highlights of the trip. Several birds were seen at Rincon Suizo and a few more at Fuentes Georginas.



Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus*

Flame-colored Tanager *Piranga bidentata*

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*

White-winged Tanager *Piranga leucoptera*

Yellow Grosbeak *Pheucticus chrysopheplus*



Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*

Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea*

Varied Bunting *Passerina versicolor*

Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris*



Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

Yellow-winged Tanager *Thraupis abbas*

Cabanis's Tanager *Tangara cabanisi*

A very rare bird, restricted to Chiapas and Guatemala and another highlight of the trip. We had excellent and prolonged views of at least 2 birds preening and feeding in the Cecropia trees near Rey Tepepul.

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*

Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps*

Morelet's Seedeater *Sporophila moreletii*

Mammals

Deppe's Squirrel *Sciurus deppei*

Mexican Grey Squirrel *Sciurus aureogaster*

Variegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides*

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*

Velvety Free-tailed Bat *Molossus molossus*

Southern Yellow Bat *Lasiurus ega*

Northern Ghost Bat *Diclidurus albus*

Kinkajou *Potos flavus*

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus*

Reptiles & Amphibians

Brown Basilisk *Basiliscus vittatus*



Guatemalan Rough Spiny Lizard *Sceloporus acanthinus*

Serrano's Anole *Anolis serranoi*

*Guatemalan Beaded Lizard *Heloderma charlesbogerti*

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*