

# Fall at Panama's Canopy Tower

October 22-29, 2005

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## Itinerary:

October 22 - arrival at the Canopy Tower

October 23 - Tower watch until 9:45 am, Semaphore Hill; Gamboa (115 species)

October 24 - Pipeline Road most of day; Ammo Dump briefly in afternoon, tower watch (116 species; 162 total)

October 25 - Achote, Gatun Dam, train ride (157 species; 236 total)

October 26 - Cerro Azul, Tocumen Marsh (133 species; 276 total)

October 27 - tower watch, Old Gamboa Road, Police Academy Ponds, Summit Gardens; evening owling (123 species; 297 total)

October 28 - Metropolitan Park, Panama Viejo, Miraflores locks, tower watch (96 species; 314 total)

October 29 - one hour tower watch & visit to Costa del Este for some, departures for home (319 total species)

## Key:

**bold-faced species** indicate birds of rare, casual, or accidental occurrence  
underlined species indicate birds of very uncommon occurrence or species that occur regularly but in such low densities as to be easily missed

**Summary:** This was a fabulous week at the Canopy Tower. We tallied an amazing 319 species (five were added on the last morning by the later departing group) eclipsing the previous record by two. Highlights were almost too numerous to mention with hard to find species like Streak-chested Antpitta, Spot-crowned Antvireo, White-tipped Sicklebill, White-headed Wren, Spot-crowned Barbet, Great Tinamou, Spectacled Owl, Blue Ground-Dove, Yellow-eared Toucanet, Great Jacamar, Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker, and Rufous-winged Tanager all putting on great shows. In addition we had all four puffbirds, fabulous raptor flights (40,000 individuals in one day), and rarities like Black-eared Wood-Quail and Wood Thrush. We also smashed the Big Train record tallying 69 species en route from Colon to Panama City. Mammals were almost as good as birds with the very rarely seen Rothschild's Porcupine and other goodies like two Tamanduas, two Kinkajous, and three species of monkeys. All in all, a wonderful week!

## Birds:

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) heard most days and one actually seen very well along entrance road the first morning

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) from the train by some

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)  
 Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)  
 Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)  
Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) three at Tocumen; uncommon  
 Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)  
 Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*)  
 Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)  
 Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)  
 Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)  
 Striated Heron (*Butorides striatus*)  
 Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)  
 Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)  
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)  
Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) roosting birds at the Police Academy Ponds and Tocumen  
 Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) Ammo Dump, Achote, Old Gamboa  
 Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)  
 White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)  
 Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)  
 Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)  
 Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)  
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) two at Tocumen on the ground were a surprise  
King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) two adults spotted by Jackie from the tower; very uncommon  
 Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) almost daily  
Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) perched bird near Achote and another from the tower the last morning; very uncommon  
 White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)  
 Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) about 40 from the train around Gatun Lake  
 Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*) perched adult on entry road to tower  
 Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) a few over Old Gamboa road  
Semiplumbeous Hawk (*Leucopternis semiplumbeus*) perched adult spotted by Victor from the tower  
White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*)  
 Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) from the train  
Great Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) pair from the tower  
 Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*) seen by half the group at Tocumen  
 Gray Hawk (*Asturina nitida*)  
 Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*)  
 Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) seen daily with flights of several hundred on a few days  
 Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) both light and dark morphs  
 Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) an amazing 15,000+ our first day and another 4000 or so over the locks  
Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) one from the tower and another over Pipeline  
Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizastur melanoleucus*) one at Achote  
 Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)  
 Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) scattered about open areas  
Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) great scope views at Achote  
 Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mirandollei*) heard only from the Tower  
 Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) heard only from the Tower  
 American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)  
 Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)  
 Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*) three total  
 Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) almost daily with a nice show of three fighting over

Tocumen

Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*) not seen by all  
**Black-eared Wood-Quail** (*Odontophorus melanotis*) very unexpected; good views for most and a lifer for me!!!  
White-throated Crake (*Laterallus albigularis*) seen well at Achiote thanks to Leslie  
Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*) heard only  
Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*)  
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)  
Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*) numerous in all marshy areas  
Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)  
Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) becoming very widespread  
Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)  
Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)  
Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) seen only by those on later flight; Costa del Este  
Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) seen by Roy in Colon  
Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) Costa del Este by late departers  
Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)  
Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) Costa del Este  
Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*)  
Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*)  
Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)  
Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*)  
Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) by Sandra at Panama Viejo  
Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)  
Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) one identified in amongst the numerous Westerns  
Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) the most common shorebird at PV; 3000+  
Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) Costa del Este  
Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) two small flocks at Colon train station  
Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)  
Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*)  
Royal Tern (*Sterna maxima*)  
Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)  
Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) good views from the tower  
Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)  
Short-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas nigrirostris*) by some at Achiote  
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove (*Columbina minuta*) by some at Tocumen  
Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) daily  
**Blue Ground-Dove** (*Claravis pretiosa*) a nice find along Pipeline  
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)  
Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*) almost daily  
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)  
Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)  
Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) a few from the tower  
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)  
Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) this impressive species was seen almost daily  
Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*)  
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) widespread  
Choco Screech-Owl (*Megascops chocoensis*) heard only despite considerable effort  
Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) heard by some from the tower  
**Spectacled Owl** (*Pulsatrix perspicillata*) fantastic views of roosting birds along Old Gamboa Road; rarely seen; voted the favorite bird of the tour  
Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*) one was roosting below the tower; very uncommonly seen  
Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)  
Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) migrants several days, including flocks up to 40 individuals  
Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) excellent views near the Police Academy Ponds

Band-rumped Swift (*Chaetura spinicaudus*)  
 Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) the most common swift seen  
 Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*) seen best over Metro  
 Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) a couple of nice views from the tower  
**White-tipped Sicklebill** (*Eutoxeres aquila*) we were very fortunate to visit a recently discovered lek of this rarely seen species; it was a difficult hike but well worth it as we had great views of two birds in the heliconia thicket; voted the third favorite bird of the tour!  
 Rufous-breasted Hermit (*Glaucis hirsuta*) glimpses at Achioté  
 Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) great views at Cerro Azul  
 Western Long-tailed Hermit (*Phaethornis longirostris*) a regular visitor to the CT feeders  
 Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis strigularis*) formerly Little Hermit  
 White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) one of the most common CT hummers; stunning!  
Violet-headed Hummingbird (*Klais guimeti*) one at Cerro Azul  
Violet-capped Hummingbird (*Goldmania violiceps*) male & female at Cerro Azul  
 Violet-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania colombica*)  
 Violet-bellied Hummingbird (*Damophila julie*) a very stunning species which is common at the CT feeders  
Sapphire-throated Hummingbird (*Lepidopyga coeruleogularis*) seen by the late departers at Costa del Este  
 Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) common in more open areas  
 Blue-chested Hummingbird (*Polyerata amabilis*) common at CT feeders  
 Snowy-bellied Hummingbird (*Saucerottia edward*) fairly common at CT feeders  
 White-vented Plumeleteer (*Chalybura buffoni*) common at CT feeders  
 Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer (*Chalybura urochrysa*) common at Cerro Azul feeders  
 Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliothrix barroti*) a nice find from the tower  
 White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) spotted by Sandra at Achioté  
 Violaceous Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*) several great sightings  
 Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*)  
 Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*) scarcer than usual  
 Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*)  
 Amazon Kingfisher (*Chlooceryle amazona*)  
 Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)  
American Pygmy Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*) great views at Tocumen  
 Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) Metro  
 Rufous Motmot (*Barythengus martii*)  
 Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*) several excellent views  
White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*) one on Old Gamboa Road  
 Black-breasted Puffbird (*Notharchus pectoralis*) great views of five at Achioté plus one from the tower  
Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*) best ever views at Achioté; also on Pipeline  
 White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) five total, mostly at ant swarms  
Spot-crowned Barbet (*Capito maculicoronatus*) pair at Achioté spotted by Roy  
 Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) many great views  
Yellow-eared Toucanet (*Selenidera spectabilis*) a pair on Cerro Azul studied from fifteen feet for over ten minutes; voted the second favorite bird of the tour!  
 Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) seen daily in numbers  
 Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsoni*) less numerous than Keel-billed but still several good views  
 Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*)  
 Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*)  
**Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker** (*Piculus collopterus*) male on Cerro Azul; Panama endemic  
 Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Celeus loricatus*) Achioté & tower road  
 Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)  
 Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)  
 Pale-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albescens*) by half the group at Tocumen  
 Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*) great views at ant swarms  
 Northern Barred-Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*) ditto  
 Cocoa Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus susurrans*)  
 Black-striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*) stunning  
 Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*)  
 Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*) heard only  
 Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)  
 Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*) daily  
**Russet Antshrike** (*Thamnophilus anabatinus*) unexpected was one along Pipeline  
Spot-crowned Ant-Vireo (*Dysithamnus puncticeps*) male along Pipeline  
Mustached Antwren (*Myrmotherula ignota*) heard only; recently split from Pygmy Antwren  
 Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)  
 White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*) Pipeline  
 Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*) numerous  
 Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)  
Jet Antbird (*Cercomacra nigricans*) great views of pair along Old Gamboa Road  
Bare-crowned Antbird (*Gymnocichla nudiceps*) this uncommon skulker was seen by some at  
 Achote  
 White-bellied Antbird (*Myrmeciza longipes*) great study of this skulker  
 Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*) Achote & Pipeline  
 Bicolored Antbird (*Gymnophithys leucaspis*) exceptional views along Pipeline and below the  
 tower  
 Spotted Antbird (*Hylophylax naeviodes*) several nice views of this striking species  
 Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) heard only, as is often the case  
Streak-chested Antpitta (*Hylopezus perspicillatus*) the best show ever of this wonderful species!  
 Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*) wonderful displaying male  
 Golden-collared Manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*)  
 White-ruffed Manakin (Corapipo altera) male and female on Cerro Azul  
 Lance-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) full adult male at Metro  
 Blue-crowned Manakin (*Pipra coronata*) stunning  
 Red-capped Manakin (Pipra mentalis) ditto  
 Brown-capped Tyrannulet (*Ornithion brunneicapillus*) very good views of this tiny flycatcher,  
 especially from the tower  
 Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)  
 Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)  
 Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*) nice study at Metro especially  
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)  
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)  
 Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*)  
Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*) heard only along Pipeline  
 Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*) Cerro Azul  
 Southern Bentbill (*Oncostoma olivaceum*)  
 Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)  
 Brownish Flycatcher (Twistwing) (*Cnipodectes subbrunneus*) a very cooperative individual  
 along Pipeline  
 Olivaceous Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*) heard only  
 Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*) nice study at Metro  
 Yellow-margined Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) Pipeline  
 Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terenotriccus erythrus*) only one seen  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)  
 Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) daily in numbers; a group favorite for sure!  
 Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virens*) oddly only two were seen  
Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) one at Achote identified visually at least to the Traill's  
 complex  
Long-tailed Tyrant (*Colonia colonus*) great views at Achote  
 Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) superb study from the tower

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)  
Panama Flycatcher (*Myiarchus panamensis*) Achiote & Tocumen  
 Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)  
 Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*) Police Academy Ponds  
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)  
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)  
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*) great comparative views with following species including differing coronal patch colors!  
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)  
 Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*) only one seen  
 Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) abundant  
 Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)  
 Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) Tocumen  
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)  
 Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)  
Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*) several at Achiote; generally uncommon  
 Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) daily in numbers  
 Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*)  
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)  
 Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)  
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)  
White-headed Wren (*Campylorhynchus albobrunneus*) excellent views of two family groups at Achiote; easily missed  
 Black-bellied Wren (*Thryothorus fasciatoventris*) nice views on Pipeline (thanks to Nance) and at Metro  
 Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) Metro Park, Old Gamboa  
 Rufous-and-white Wren (*Thryothorus rufalbus*) only glimpsed by most  
 Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) at several more open areas  
 Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*)  
 House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)  
 White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) seen best along tower road  
 Song Wren (*Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*) Achiote, but not by all  
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)  
 Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) including one on our night drive  
**Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) a rare find at Metro Park  
 Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) Metro Park  
**Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) a rare migrant; Pipeline  
 Clay-colored Robin (*Turdus grayi*) common  
 Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) elusive at times  
 Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)  
 Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*)  
 House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) a "great find" at the Colon train station  
 Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)  
 Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) two at Rosabel's  
 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) migrants almost daily  
 Scrub Greenlet (*Hylophilus flavipes*) scope views at Metro  
 Golden-fronted Greenlet (*Hylophilus aurantifrons*) Tocumen, Metro Park  
 Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)  
 Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*) fantastic views from the tower including the blue nape!!!  
 Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)  
 Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)  
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)  
 Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) including a beautiful male at Rosabel's  
 Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*)

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)  
 Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria vermivorus*) several around swampy areas  
 Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus novaboracensis*)  
 Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) heard on Pipeline  
 Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)  
 Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) Achiote & Cerro Azul  
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (*Rhodinocichla rosea*) gorgeous pair at Metro Park  
Olive Tanager (*Chlorothraupis carmioli*) at an ant swarm along Pipeline  
Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) at ant swarms along entry road and at Old Gamboa  
 White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*) generally numerous  
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) a couple of females at Metro  
 Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*) much scarcer than usual  
 Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)  
 Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)  
 Crimson-backed Tanager (*Ramphocelus dimidiatus*) this stunning species was seen daily  
 Flame-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus flammigerus*) Achiote  
 Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) common  
 Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) common  
 Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia luteicapilla*) females at Cerro Azul & Metro  
 Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)  
 Fulvous-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia fulvicrissa*)  
 Plain-colored Tanager (*Tangara inornata*) seen daily  
Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*) Cerro Azul; stunning  
 Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) Cerro Azul; equally stunning  
Rufous-winged Tanager (*Tangara lavinia*) great views of this regional specialty at Cerro Azul; perhaps even more striking than the preceding two  
 Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*)  
 Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*) Pipeline & Cerro Azul  
 Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) daily  
 Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) daily; often from the tower  
 Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) Gamboa, Cerro Azul  
 Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) gorgeous males at Gamboa  
 Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*)  
 Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)  
Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*) uncommon  
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater (*Sporophila minuta*) great views of bathing birds at Tocumen; uncommon  
 Thick-billed Seed-Finch (*Oryzoborus funereus*) Achiote & Tocumen  
 Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) Cerro Azul  
 Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) Gatun Locks  
 Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantiirostris*) Achiote  
 Streaked Saltator (*Saltator striatipectus*) by some on Old Gamboa Road  
 Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)  
 Black-headed Saltator (*Saltator atriceps*) Achiote  
 Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*) stunning male from the Tower at 20 feet plus another at Rosabel's!  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)  
 Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*) heard only  
 Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) Tocumen  
 Red-breasted Blackbird (*Sturnella militaris*) Gatun Locks  
 Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) heard first by Leslie  
 Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)  
 Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)  
 Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)  
 Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*)

Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) Achote  
Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)  
Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)  
Yellow-billed Cacique (*Amblycercus holosericeus*) heard only  
Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*) great studies at Summit Gardens  
Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*)  
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) Achote; uncommon

total species - **319 (a new record!)**

### **Leader only birds:**

Marbled Godwit  
Surfbird---glimpsed by some but not identifiably  
Streak-headed Woodcreeper---heard only  
Ocellated Antbird  
White-winged Becard  
Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
Tawny-faced Gnatwren  
Mourning Warbler

### **Mammals:**

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth---several seen very well including from the tower  
Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth---three total including two on the night drive  
White-nosed Coatimundi---numerous  
**Rothschild's Porcupine**---a rarely seen mammal and we had superb views on the night drive!  
Central American Agouti  
Tamandua---great views of one on Pipeline and another at Achote  
Mantled Howler Monkey---great views from the tower  
White-faced Capuchin---seen very well near Achote  
Geoffrey's Tamarin---adorable; best views ever from the tower  
Red-tailed Squirrel  
Forest Rabbit---leader only  
Central American Woolly Opossum---one on the night drive  
Kinkajou---from the tower at dinner and another on the night drive  
various bat species---some very large ones and some small ones

total species - 14+

### **Reptiles & Amphibians:**

Green Iguana  
Stream Anole  
Striped Basilisk  
Mediterranean (House) Gecko  
Central American Whip-tailed Lizard  
Tungara Frog---heard only  
Talamanca Rocket Frog  
Rain Frog species  
Gladiator Tree Frog---very close!  
Giant (Cane) Toad---heard only  
Spectacled Caiman  
Common Slider  
Brown Wood Turtle

total species - 13

**Butterflies:**

*Heliconius erato*---Crimson-patched Longwing

*Heliconius charitonius*---Zebra Longwing

*Caligo eurilochus*---Owl-eyed Butterfly

*Morpho amathonte*---Blue Morpho

*Anartia fatima*---Fatima

*Philaethria dido*---Malachite Mimic

*Battus polydamus*---Polydamas Swallowtail

*Papilio* species (cresphontes or thoas)---Giant or Thoas Swallowtail

*Parides* species---large dark butterfly with red hind wing patch and buffy forewing patch

*Adelpha* species (very possibly *lerna*)---"Panama Sister"

*Thisbe irenia*---black, white, and blue butterfly on Pipeline

checkered skipper species

*Siderone marthesia*---red & black in canopy

*Zaretis itys*---orange leaf mimic

*Historius odus*---large orange & brown in canopy

large unidentified cloudless sulphur, possibly *Phoebis philea*

large unidentified white with black corners on forewing above and yellow, red, and black on hindwing below

\*\*\*All butterfly identifications are somewhat speculative but were based on [The Butterflies of Costa Rica](#). Many more that were seen were left unidentified (whites, sulphurs, skippers, glasswings, etc.). I have tried to include a common name when known.

total species - 17+

**Significant others:**

recorder theft

Giant Damselfly

watching a ship go through the canal at Miraflores Locks

Victor's birthday celebration

setting the record for the Big Train Hour at 69 (see below)

**Big Train Hour List (listed in order seen):**

Pectoral Sandpiper

Tropical Mockingbird

Lesser Yellowlegs

Great-tailed Grackle

Rock Pigeon

Neotropic Cormorant

Solitary Sandpiper

Spotted Sandpiper

Snowy Egret

Black-bellied Plover

Yellow-headed Caracara

Blue-gray Tanager

Great egret

Gray-breasted Martin

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Tropical Kingbird

Magnificent Frigatebird  
Southern Lapwing  
Glossy Ibis  
Black Vulture  
House Sparrow  
Social Flycatcher  
Barn Swallow  
Orange-chinned Parakeet  
Palm Tanager  
Baltimore Oriole  
Cattle egret  
Saffron Finch  
Red-legged Honeycreeper  
Blue-headed Parrot  
Summer Tanager  
Eastern Kingbird  
Wilson's Snipe  
Pale-vented Pigeon  
Wattled Jacana  
Osprey (last bird seen before train began moving)  
Green heron  
Anhinga  
Common Black-Hawk  
Great Kiskadee  
American Kestrel  
White-tailed Kite  
Smooth-billed Ani  
Clay-colored Robin  
Yellow Warbler  
Short-tailed Swift  
Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
Mangrove Swallow  
Tricolored Heron  
Turkey Vulture  
Little Blue Heron  
Gray-headed Chachalaca  
Red-ored Parrot  
Purple Gallinule  
Keel-billed Toucan  
Brown Pelican  
Common Nighthawk  
Snail Kite  
Ringed Kingfisher  
Royal Tern  
Common Moorhen  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Lesser Nighthawk  
Bat Falcon  
Great Blue Heron  
chaetura species  
Red-crowned Woodpecker  
Peregrine Falcon  
Broad-winged Hawk (seen from folks inside the train, sequential order unknown)

total species - **69** (smashing the old record of 64)