

FALL AT PANAMA'S CANOPY TOWER

OCTOBER 20 – 27, 2007

LEADERS: BARRY ZIMMER & JOSE SOTO

COMPILED BY: BARRY ZIMMER

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Every trip to the famed Canopy Tower is different, but each offers its share of excitement and wonderful tropical birding highlights. Our October trip this fall was certainly one of the best ever. We saw just under 300 species of birds, and covered a wide variety of habitats from the foothills of Cerro Azul to the Caribbean lowlands forests of Achote to world-famous Pipeline Road.

Our morning on Cerro Azul was probably my favorite of the trip. At nearly 3,000 feet elevation, a number of foothill species can be found here that are not likely encountered elsewhere. Topping this list, perhaps, is the bizarre and rarely seen White-tipped Sicklebill—a large member of the hummingbird family with an absurdly decurved bill. We ventured to a large *Heliconia* patch which serves as a lekking area for this species, and, with some patience, were rewarded with magnificent views of a sicklebill literally six or seven feet away.

A short distance away at a private residence, where we spent much of our morning, we watched a parade of highly sought and colorful species. A pair of the very localized and uncommon Spot-crowned Barbets greeted us in a fruiting tree upon arrival. Shortly thereafter, they were joined by a pair of elegant and equally localized Yellow-eared Toucanets. Green Honeycreepers, Blue Dacnis, and Bay-headed Tanagers joined in the mix, creating an incredible kaleidoscope of color. Nearby fruiting vines yielded Emerald Tanager, Shining Honeycreeper, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, and Thick-billed Euphonias. Hummingbirds darted about the garden and feeders, with the likes of Purple-crowned Fairy, Green Hermit, Stripe-throated Hermit, White-necked Jacobin, Violet-capped Hummingbird, Violet-crowned Woodnymph, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, and Violet-headed Hummingbird all making appearances. At one point, two magnificent King Vultures and two equally impressive White Hawks circled in the valley just below us. Other visitors included three Swallow-tailed Kites, the always impressive Broad-billed Motmot, a group of Collared Aracaris, Chestnut-mandibled and Keel-billed toucans, Crimson-backed Tanager, and Fulvous-vented Euphonia. All these amazing highlights were packed into one morning of birding!

Other areas we visited proved equally productive. At Achote we enjoyed great views of Double-toothed Kite; White-tailed Trogon (one of five trogon species for the trip); American Pygmy Kingfisher; Black-breasted, Pied, and White-whiskered puffbirds; Black-faced Antthrush; and White-headed Wren. Nearby Gatun Dam produced

Savannah Hawk, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Golden-collared Manakins at a lek, Black-chested Jays, and Red-breasted Blackbird. An hour at Fort San Lorenzo was as good as any of the trip, with prolonged scope views of the rarely seen Green-and-rufous Kingfisher, two male Black-tailed Trogons, and a tamandua (lesser anteater) devouring termites at a nest almost overhead.

Pipeline Road never fails to produce exciting finds. Highlights of our day along that famous birding road included Little Tinamou (actually seen!), Black Hawk-Eagle, Blue-crowned Motmot, White-necked Puffbird, Great Jacamar, Cinnamon and Crimson-crested woodpeckers, Black-striped Woodcreeper, Spot-crowned Antwreio, Streak-chested Antpitta, Spotted Antbird, Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (literally 15 feet away in the scope!), and Purple-throated Fruitcrow among others.

Of course, we can't forget the area of the Canopy Tower itself. Our October tour is timed to coincide with the migration of raptors from the United States to South America. On our first day we witnessed a fantastic flight right over the tower with an estimated 23,900

Swainson's Hawks, 1,800 Broad-winged Hawks, and 15,700 Turkey Vultures passing over in about an hour-and-a-half! Other tower area sightings included Choco Screech-Owl, Blue Cotinga (female only this time), Green Shrike-Vireo, Slate-colored Grosbeak, Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Red-capped and Blue-crowned manakins, and Black-breasted Puffbird. Mammals included two-toed and three-toed sloths, mantled howler monkey, Geoffroy's tamarin, and white-nosed coatimundi.

I've barely scratched the surface of what was seen on our wonderful trip. The richness of the Canal Zone simply must be experienced by anyone interested in tropical birding, and no place provides a better base for doing so than the Canopy Tower.

Itinerary:

October 20 - arrival at the Canopy Tower

October 21 - Tower watch until 9:30 am, Semaphore Hill; Gamboa & Ammo Dump (107 species)

October 22 - Cerro Azul, Tocumen Marsh (mostly rained out) (82 species; 151 total)

October 23 - Pipeline Road until 3 pm; Ammo Dump Pond, Gamboa Resort area (130 species; 213 total)

October 24 - Achiote, Gatun Dam area, Fort Sherman and Fort San Lorenzo, train ride along Panama Canal (142 species; 250 total)

October 25 - tower watch, Old Gamboa Road, Police Academy Ponds, Semaphore Hill, Plantation Road; evening owling (127 species; 269 total)

October 26 - Metropolitan Park, Panama Viejo, Miraflores locks (95 species; 296 total)

October 27 - departures for home or on to Canopy Lodge extension (296 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

Birds:

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) heard most days and seen very briefly by some on Plantation Road

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soui*) very good views for most along Pipeline

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) distant flock from the train

Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*)

Black-eared Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus melanotis*) heard only at Cerro Azul

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) female over Pipeline

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) scarcer than normal

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) great views of three immatures

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

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*)

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) Tocumen & Police Academy ponds

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) one spotted by Clyde at train station; very uncommon

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) oddly only one seen

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) rare in Panama; a first for this tour; thanks to Clyde

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) reported by Barbara at Panama Viejo

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) one adult spotted by Clyde from the tower and another at Cerro Azul; very uncommon
 Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)
Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) three over Cerro Azul were very late and a tour first
Pearl Kite (*Gampsonyx swainsonii*) one at Panama Viejo was a bonus
 White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)
 Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) about 30 from the train around Gatun Lake
 Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*) scope views of perched adults at Achote & Metro Park (Clyde)
 Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) migrant flocks of 28 & 12 birds
Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*) by some en route to Gamboa
Semiplumbeous Hawk (*Leucopternis semiplumbeus*) distant scope views from tower
White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) an impressive seven seen; one of our closer ones found by Judy
 Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) five near Fort Sherman
 Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*) Gatun Dam
 Gray Hawk (*Asturina nitida*) scope study at Achote
 Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) **1800** on our first day alone!
 Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) both light and dark morphs
 Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) incredible flight the first day with an estimated **23,900** in about an hour and a half
Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) one from the tower thanks to Clyde
Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizastur melanoleucus*) over Pipeline
 Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)
 Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) scattered about open areas
 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*)
 Bat Falcon (*Falco rufigularis*) one at the Ammo Dump
 Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) a few migrants
 White-throated Crake (*Laterallus albigularis*) heard only, as is generally the case
 Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) nice views
 Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)
 Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*) numerous in all marshy areas
 Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) becoming very widespread in Panama
 Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)
Collared Plover (*Charadrius collaris*) a first for both Jose & I in Panama; the "purple trash bird"
Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) uncommon
 Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)
 Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)
 Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)
 Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) spotted by Sue at the train station
 Willet (*Tringa semipalmatus*)
 Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*)

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) accidental in Panama---we had two!
Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)
Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedora*) distant views at Panama Viejo
Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*)
Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) the most common shorebird at PV
Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) oddly only one
Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*)
Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)
Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*)
Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) several migrants seen along the canal
Royal Tern (*Sterna maxima*)
Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)
Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)
Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*)
Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) daily
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)
Gray-chested Dove (*Leptotila cassini*) heard at Achiote and seen by a few at Metro Park
Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*)
Brown-hooded Parrot (*Pionopsitta haematotis*) flock over Achiote briefly; uncommon
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*) in flight views only
Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)
Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) mostly heard
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) scope views on Pipeline
Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) always impressive
Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*)
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
Choco (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl (*Megascops chocoensis*) incredible views thanks to Leonie's spotting; recently split off from *M. guatemalae*; very hard to see
Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) heard only
Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) a few migrants
White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) flock over Achiote, plus two from the tower
Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) the most common swift seen
Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*) oddly scarce with only a couple seen
Band-rumped Swift (*Chaetura spinicaudus*) a few from the tower
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) a couple of nice views from the tower
Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) great views at Cerro Azul
Long-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis longirostris*) formerly Western Long-tailed
Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis strigularis*) formerly Little Hermit
White-tipped Sicklebill (*Eutoxeres aquila*) we were very fortunate to visit a recently discovered lek of this rarely seen species; it was a somewhat difficult hike but well worth it as we had great views in the heliconia thicket; tied for the favorite bird of the tour!
White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)

Violet-headed Hummingbird (*Klais guimeti*) two at Cerro Azul
Violet-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania colombica*) stunning male at Cerro Azul
Violet-bellied Hummingbird (*Damophila julie*) a very stunning species which is regular at the CT feeders
Violet-capped Hummingbird (*Goldmania violiceps*) one male & a few females at Cerro Azul
Blue-chested Hummingbird (*Polyerata amabilis*) common at CT feeders
Snowy-bellied Hummingbird (*Saucerottia edward*) Cerro Azul
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) common in more open areas
White-vented Plumeleteer (*Chalybura buffoni*) regular at CT feeders
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer (*Chalybura urochrysa*) common at Cerro Azul feeders
Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliathrix barroti*) Metro Park
White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) five at Achiote
Violaceous Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*) thanks to Leonie
Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*)
Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*) two stunning males near San Lorenzo; a bonus
Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*)
Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) Pipeline
Rufous Motmot (*Baryphengus martii*) heard only
Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*) several excellent views
Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*) spotted by Bill
Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle inda*) prolonged scope views of this rarity; only my second ever!
American Pygmy Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*) Tocumen & Achiote; good spotting by Judy
White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*) an impressive five seen
Black-breasted Puffbird (*Notharchus pectoralis*) nice views from the tower and at Achiote
Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*) great views at Achiote thanks to Jose
White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) six total
Great Jacamar (*Jacamerops aureus*) singing male on Pipeline; always a treat!
Spot-crowned Barbet (*Capito maculicoronatus*) pair at Cerro Azul where rarely seen
Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) many great views
Yellow-eared Toucanet (*Selenidera spectabilis*) wonderful pair of these uncommon birds at Cerro Azul
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*) first spotted by Wilbur
Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*)
Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Ceelus loricatus*) fantastic scope views along Pipeline
Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*) great pair at Metro Park
Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucus*) superbly along Pipeline
Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)

Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser (*Sclerurus guatemalensis*) heard only
Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)
Cocoa Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus susurrans*)
Black-striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*) stunning
Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*) surprisingly heard only
Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)
Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*) daily
Spot-crowned Antwren (*Dysithamnus puncticeps*) prolonged scope views of singing male; very uncommon
Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)
White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)
Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*) numerous
Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)
Jet Antbird (*Cercomacra nigricans*) heard only
White-bellied Antbird (*Myrmeciza longipes*) good views in Metro Park
Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*)
Spotted Antbird (*Hylophylax naeviodes*) nice views of this striking species
Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) good views of two at Achote; generally this species is heard only
Streak-chested Antpitta (*Hylopezus perspicillatus*) nice views of this special bird
Brown-capped Tyrannulet (*Ornithion brunneicapillus*)
Yellow Tyrannulet (*Capsiempis flaveola*) base of Pipeline
Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*) scope views at Achote
Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*) great study in Metro
Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)
Olive-striped Flycatcher (*Mionectes olivaceus*) seen well at Cerro Azul
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)
Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*)
Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*) unsurpassed scope views from 15 feet of the tiniest passerine in the world; tied for the favorite bird of the tour
Southern Bentbill (*Oncostoma olivaceum*)
Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum nigriceps*) one in a cecropia at the CT parking lot spotted by Sue; uncommon
Olivaceous Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*)
Yellow-margined flycatcher (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) heard only
Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terentriccus erythrurus*) several good views
Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)
Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) daily in numbers
Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*)
Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*)
Pied Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola pica*) spotted by David as the rains began; scarce
Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) several heard but only one seen by partial group
Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
Panama Flycatcher (*Myiarchus panamensis*) Achote

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)
 Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*)
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
 Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*) only one seen
 Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) abundant
 Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)
 Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)
Thrushlike Schiffornis (*Schiffornis turdinus*) a first for Jose & I at Metro Park
 Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) oddly scarce with only two seen
Blue Cotinga (*Cotinga nattererii*) good views of female from the tower
 Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*) seen best along Pipeline
 Golden-collared Manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*) wonderful males on a lek
 White-ruffed Manakin (*Corapipo altera*) female on Cerro Azul
 Lance-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) female in Metro Park
 Blue-crowned Manakin (*Pipra coronata*) stunning
 Red-capped Manakin (*Pipra mentalis*) ditto
 Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)
 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)
Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*) very late; a first for this tour
 Golden-fronted Greenlet (*Hylophilus aurantifrons*) Metro Park
 Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)
 Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*)
 Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*) near Gatun Dam
 Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) daily in numbers
 Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*)
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)
 Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) one from the tower
 Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
White-headed Wren (*Campylorhynchus albobrunneus*) good scope views at
 Achote; easily missed
 Black-bellied Wren (*Thryothorus fasciatoventris*) exceptional views of this skulker
 Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) Metro Park, Old Gamboa
 Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*) mostly heard
 Rufous-and-white Wren (*Thryothorus rufalbus*) heard only
 Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) good views at Achote park office
 Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*) Ammo Dump Pond
 House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)
 White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) great views along Plantation
 road
 Scaly-breasted Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*) heard only at Achote
 Song Wren (*Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*) seen by some at Achote

Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) elusive at times
 Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*) nice study on Cerro Azul
 Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) seen daily
Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) very uncommon migrant seen at Metro Park
Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) somewhat rare migrant
 Clay-colored Robin (*Turdus grayi*) common
Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) heard by Clyde; very uncommon to rare
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) thanks to Leonie; uncommon
 Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)
 Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) only one seen
 Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)
 Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria vermivorus*) two near Gamboa Resort spotted by Judy
 Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus novaboracensis*)
 Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)
Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) one female along Old gamboa Road; rare in Panama
 Rufous-capped Warbler (*Basileuterus rufifrons*) by a few along Old Gamboa Road
 Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) Cerro Azul, Achioté
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (*Rhodinocichla rosea*) very elusive this time
Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) seen by some along Pipeline
 White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*) generally numerous
 Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*)
 Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) Cerro Azul
 Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)
 Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)
 Crimson-backed Tanager (*Ramphocelus dimidiatus*) this stunning species was seen daily; "sangre del toro"
 Flame-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus flammigerus*) Gamboa; uncommon
 Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) common
 Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) common
 Plain-colored Tanager (*Tangara inornata*)
Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*) three at Rosabel's on Cerro Azul
 Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) Cerro Azul; stunning
 Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*)
 Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*)
 Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) many nice views of this beauty
 Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) several excellent views
 Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) Cerro Azul
 Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) gorgeous males at Gamboa; 15 in view at once!
 Variable Seed-eater (*Sporophila corvina*)

Thick-billed Seed-Finch (*Oryzoborus funereus*) scope views at Achiote
 Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) Cerro Azul
 Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) Gatun Locks thanks to Clyde
 Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantiirostris*) Metro Park
 Black-striped Sparrow (*Arremonops conirostris*)
 Streaked Saltator (*Saltator striatipectus*) Old Gamboa Road by some
 Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)
 Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*) pair from the Tower
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
 Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*) more often heard than seen
 Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) Fort San Lorenzo
 Red-breasted Blackbird (*Sturnella militaris*) Gatun Locks
 Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*)
 Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)
 Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*) Pipeline & Metro
 Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) Ammo Dump ponds
 Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)
 Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*)
 Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*)
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) displaying at Achiote; uncommon
 Chestnut-headed Oropendola (*Psarocolius wagleri*) Pipeline
 Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia lueicapilla*)
 Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)
 Fulvous-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia fulvicrissa*)
 Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*) spotted by Leonie in Gamboa
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) a thrill for everyone at Gatun Locks!

total species - 296

Leader only birds:

Gray-necked Wood-Rail
 Lesser Nighthawk
 Golden-crowned Spadebill---heard only
 Bay-breasted Warbler

Mammals:

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth---several seen very well
 Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth--- two on the night drive (mother & baby) plus one more
 along Plantation Road
 White-tailed Deer---not seen by all
 White-nosed Coatimundi---numerous
 Central American Agouti
Tamandua---nice views of two

Mantled Howler Monkey---great views at Achiote & from the tower
Geoffrey's Tamarin---adorable; best views at Achiote & Metro
Common Opossum
Red-tailed Squirrel
Variegated Squirrel
Forest Rabbit---a trip highlight for some!
White-lined Bat---roosting along Pipeline
various unidentified bat species---some very large ones and some small ones

total species - 14+

Reptiles & Amphibians:

Green Iguana
Slender Anole
Striped Basilisk
Mediterranean (House) Gecko
Yellow-headed Gecko
Central American Whip-tailed Lizard
Tungara Frog---heard only
Leaf Litter Toad
American Crocodile

total species -9

Butterflies:

Rhetus arcus---stunning blue/red/black butterfly with long tails seen from tower
Heliconius erato---Crimson-patched Longwing
Heliconius species---orange hindwing & orange/yellow/black forewing
Caligo eurilochus---Owl-eyed Butterfly
Morpho amathonte---Blue Morpho
Anartia fatima---Fatima
Philaethria dido---Malachite Mimic
Siproeta stelenes---Malachite
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"
Astrartes species---skipper with aqua blue above and elongated hindwing tails
large unidentified cloudless sulphur, possibly *Phoebis philea*
several unidentified glasswings on Cerro Azul
Dryas iulia---Orange Julia

***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 - 16+

Significant others:

Giant Damselfly

Leafcutter ants

watching a ship go through the canal at Miraflores Locks