

Costa Rica – A Wildlife Photography Tour

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th March – 10th April 2022



King Vulture



White-necked Jacobins



Yellow-throated Toucan



Red-eyed Tree Frog

Report and images by Kevin Elsby



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Tour participants: Kevin Elsby (leader) and Lenin Eduarte (Local Guide) with 8 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Thursday 24th March

Gatwick to San Jose

The trip began with a flight via British Airways, direct from London Gatwick to San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica. After an uneventful journey, the group gathered together at the San Jose airport and we met up with one client who had flown in from another trip in the USA. We soon passed through immigration formalities and were greeted by our local tour leader, Lenin Eduarte, and our driver for the entire trip, Roger. Both proved to be perfect in their roles in helping us enjoy this trip to the maximum, with expert guiding from Lenin and careful and safe driving from Roger. We then had a drive through the busy rush hour traffic (made busier by crowds driving to the World Cup qualifier football match between Costa Rica and Canada later this evening in San Jose) to the delightful Hotel Bougainvillea. We were tired after our long journey so it was straight to bed for a rest after checking in.

Day 2

Friday 25th March

Depart San Jose for Savegre Mountain Lodge calling at Paraiso Quetzales on the way.

Weather: dry but cloudy most of the day, with low cloud / mist in the higher elevations as at Paraiso Quetzales and Savegre.

Most of the group enjoyed a pre-breakfast stroll around the lovely, well-manicured gardens at the rear of the hotel. We soon got to grips with some of the birds to be found in this country which has a long list of birds. A Lesson's Motmot was one of the first seen and photographed. Then a couple of Baltimore Orioles were spotted, followed by several Clay-coloured Thrushes (perhaps surprisingly in a country of so many stunning birds, this is Costa Rica's national bird). Most obliging for the cameras we found a nest of Hoffman's Woodpecker on the low branch of a tree. Many images were taken of the adults which regularly returned to the nest to feed the hungry chicks inside. A single Red-billed Pigeon was seen and then a noisy group of three Brown Jays.

Soon, though, we had to leave the gardens and take our breakfast in order to keep up with our schedule for today. We looked forward for a more prolonged examination of the hotel grounds at the end of our tour, when we return for two nights before our return to the UK.

We boarded our coach and departed at 8am for the long drive to our next hotel in the highlands of Talamanca. The traffic in the city was a bit slow going, but soon we left San Jose behind. Calling for a comfort break near Cartago, we found a single Eastern Meadowlark and a nesting Great Kiskadee. We had excellent views of two White-tailed Kites which hovered as they hunted. A flock of 20 or so Swainson's Hawks was next on the list, together with about a dozen Black Vultures.

Continuing our journey, we reached Paraiso Quetzales in the Talamanca mountains late morning. We set up with our cameras on the patio area to photograph the numerous hummingbirds of five species coming to the feeders there. Talamanca, Lesser Violetear, Volcano, Grey-tailed Mountain-gem and, best of all, Fiery-throated were all

performing for us at just a few feet away. At the same spot we saw our first Long-tailed Silky Flycatchers. A single Swallow-tailed Kite circled over us and the slightly bizarre Large-footed Finch scratched away on the ground for morsels.

After a lovely lunch, we took a short walk to see and photograph a pair of Golden-browed Chlorophonias – surely one of Costa Rica's most colourful bird species – and that is saying much.

We then spent an hour or two near a Resplendent Qutezal nest. Although we saw the male two or three times, he never came to the nest (which we were informed had chicks in) and the weather had deteriorated with much mist and fog. We cut our losses and drove the last 30 minutes or so reaching our hotel at Savegre by late afternoon.

It had been an exciting start to our trip with many images taken and everyone was delighted with the experience.

Day 3

Saturday 26th March

Savegre Mountain Lodge at hummingbird feeders.

Weather: warm in the morning with some sun. Gradually increasing cloud with heavy shower at lunchtime. Cloudy but dry and cooler in the afternoon.

We spent the whole day today at the Batsua hummingbird photography / bird feeding station, up the hillside on the opposite side of the valley from the hotel. We left the hotel at 8am and returned for lunch before enjoying a second photographic session in the afternoon.

The set-up is extremely well organised with comfortable chairs, toilet facilities and even tea and coffee making and a fridge! There are two main areas for photography. Kevin got busy with arranging the equipment for multi-flash hummingbird photography while the group busied themselves photographing birds visiting the feeder station nearby which overlooks the valley and hotel below.

Hummingbird multi-flash photography involves the use of several flash guns to effectively freeze the wing movements of a hummingbird in flight. It is not harmful to the birds which seem to not notice or bother about the flashes.

Once set up, all the group in turn were able to take photos of hummingbirds in flight as the birds came to the nectar feeders. We had great fun photographing several species – Volcano, Stripe-tailed, Talamanca and Lesser Violetear.

Meanwhile, the other site was just as entertaining, as the fruit feeder brought in a succession of birds for the lenses. Gaudy orange Baltimore Orioles, a splendid Blue-throated Toucanet, Silver-throated and Flame-coloured Tanagers, Chestnut-capped Brush Finch, Tennessee Warblers, Blue-grey Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeak were just some of the species performing right in front of us. We were able to position ourselves so that the metal structure to which natural perches were attached were not visible on our images.

A couple of Turkey Vultures soared low overhead, and a couple of confiding Spotted Wood-quails were other birds we got great shots of. A single Green Spiny Lizard was seen and photographed using macro equipment.

After a break for lunch which gave us time to download the many images and recharge the batteries for our cameras (as well as ourselves), we resumed our most enjoyable photography in the afternoon. All the group were exceedingly pleased with their results, and it had been another splendid day's work.

Day 4

Sunday 27th March

4 x 4 excursion to oak forest above hotel and walk along trail. Later walk along Savegre river

Weather: warm and sunny in the morning then cloudy with heavy rain by mid afternoon.

This morning the group went on a 4 x 4 safari which took us to a 2km trail above the hotel. From there it was a pleasant walk along a ridge in an environment of moss-festooned trees, many of them oaks.

It was a new habitat to explore and there was a variety of bird life seen as well as a small troop of Central American Spider Monkeys, making their way through the canopy.

Among the birds seen was a single male Resplendent Quetzal. Although he was perched high in the canopy, and one had to look almost vertically upwards to see him, with the help of a telescope all clients got great views and many photographs were taken.

A single Ruddy Treerunner was spotted, appropriately running on a tree branch. In the same general area, a Spot-crowned Woodcreeper needed analysis of a photograph to identify it – the woodcreepers can present an ID challenge! Even more challenging are the flycatcher family. However, a Yellowish Flycatcher was positively identified, as was a Black-capped Vireo.

Flying overhead was a Western Osprey, another species we recorded digitally.

At the end of the walk we were met by the 4x4 vehicles which drove us back down to the hotel.

After lunch we took a stroll downstream from the road outside the hotel. One of our target birds was another member of the flycatcher family, the Torrent Tyrannulet. This bird, though, catches insects at the water's edge and in many ways behaves like a Dipper – except that unlike that species, the flycatcher does not go under the water. We soon located three individuals and we all aimed our lenses at these birds and came away with good images.

We carried on our walk further down, eventually arriving at a newly excavated Quetzal nest hole in a tree. However after forty five minutes waiting, no Quetzal appeared and it began to rain heavily so we made our way back to the hotel for the rest of the day.

Day 5

Monday 28th March

Drive to Selva Verde Lodge, via Cerro de la Muerte and visit to paramo.

Weather: clear sky at dawn, with excellent views at Cerro de la Muerte, then as we descended from Talamanca mountains increasing cloud and showers. Very obviously warmer when we arrived at Selva Verde.

We departed from the Savegre valley today for the long drive to Selva Verde lodge, situated at a much lower elevation. However, our first destination was to the highest level of the Pan-American highway. Turning off at that point we went even higher on a rough track to the transmitter aerials at a height of 11,680 feet. This was to experience the unique habitat of the paramo. Only a few species are adapted to life in this relatively extreme environment where night temperatures can reach zero Celsius or even lower.

One of the bird species living here was Volcano Junco, and in short order we were watching a group of three birds at very close quarters. In the same general area we found a pair of Sooty Thrushes, the male looking for all the world like a European Blackbird.

One of the group then spotted a Green Spiny Lizard basking on a rock. It proved to be very co-operative and we all got nice images of this individual. We then began our descent from the Talamanca highlands and, via San Jose, reached our next accommodation at Selva Verde lodge near Sarapiquí in time for lunch.

In the mid-afternoon we took a short walk to an area to do some photography of a couple of Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs. This gave everyone an opportunity to hone our collective skills at macro photography. In spite of the rather active subjects, we all managed to rise to the challenge and get very good shots. We then had fun photographing a male Hercules Beetle – a huge insect indeed!

After dinner several of the group wandered around the hotel grounds looking for subjects coming out for the 'night shift' and we came across a couple of Golden Orb Spiders, a large Millipede, a single Bullet Ant and a couple of Crickets. All good fun, and we were able to share in the experience helping each other in turn by illuminating the subjects in order to focus our lenses on them.

Day 6

Tuesday 29th March

Full day at La Selva OTS. Walked different trails in morning and afternoon

Weather: dry and sunny in the morning.

Today we had the first of two full days exploring the habitat of the La Selva conservation area, a site of great interest to naturalists and researchers based at the OTS – Organisation of Tropical Studies. The reserve covers a very large area and is composed of both secondary and primary rainforest.

We left our hotel at 8am and were met by our two OTS guides and proceeded to walk a trail through an area of secondary forest. Pretty soon we were encountering the heat and humidity of the rainforest in the lowlands of this country.

During the course of our morning walk we saw a range of birds, and the photography varied from the straightforward to the downright challenging – the dense vegetation making things more than a little difficult at times to see, let alone photograph our subjects. However with persistence images were recorded of Crested Guans (including one bird actively feeding), Broad-billed Motmot, Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker, Fasciated Antwren and, best of all, an obliging White-whiskered Puffbird which sat on a convenient branch not far off the trail.

Flash was often the order of the day due to the low light levels under the canopy, and Kevin gave clients advice as to the best settings to use on the camera for this.

It wasn't all birds, though. A couple of young Central American Agoutis proved elusive on the forest floor. The sound of Mantled Howler Monkeys pervaded the air, even if they were not seen. One of the particular highlights was to see and photograph a group of four white Tent-making Bats which were roosting under a frond of a Heliconia.

More Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs were seen and photographed as well as some fungi and a large paper wasp nest, the size and shape of a large tennis ball. Many of the wasps were present on the outside.

We returned to the car park where we were shown a Pauraque which was nesting on the ground. It was extremely well concealed but most of us managed some shots before we drove the short distance back to our hotel for lunch and some down time, with the plan of returning later in the day.

When we returned to La Selva and disembarked from the coach we were entertained by two Black-cheeked Woodpeckers feeding on a fruiting bush at head height. Nearby there was a beautiful male Shining Honeycreeper whilst a House Wren, looking very similar to Northern Wren of Europe was also present.

The afternoon session continued in much the same way as the morning one. This time, though, we crossed the bridge into the primary forest area.

After crossing the bridge, we found a fruiting fig tree which was being visited by several species – Red-capped Manakin and Yellow-crowned Euphonia; Tennessee Warbler and Chestnut-sided Warbler.

We walked along one of the trails, taking our time and taking photos as we went. We came across a nest of Leafcutter Ants, then a little further on an Army Ant swarm. They were ruthless with how they were dealing with insects which couldn't escape their attack.

We found a Bicoloured Antbird and a Plain-brown Woodcreeper waiting to take advantage of the presence of the ant swarm.

Soon it was time to head back over the bridge to the bus and back to the hotel for dinner. Afterwards, several of the clients were successful in photographing one of the iconic animals of Costa Rica – Red-eyed Tree Frog, in the grounds of the hotel.

It had been another successful day's photography.

Day 7

Wednesday 30th March

Visit to Cope's garden and nearby forest. Free time in afternoon

Weather: hot, humid and dry all day. Sunny at times.

Today we spent the morning in the company of Cope, a Costa Rican with an excellent reputation for finding birds for photographers. We started in his garden where he has set up a bird feeder and hide. We soon had views of American Pygmy Kingfisher which unfortunately was not cooperative in terms of photography. However, compensation came in the form of three new hummingbirds – White-necked Jacobin, Stripe-tailed Hermit and Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer. A single Pale-vented Pigeon and Hoffman's Woodpecker as well as three Red-winged Blackbirds were also in attendance.

We then left, with Cope on our bus, to drive to a nearby forest where, after a walk of about 300 metres, we were shown a Black-throated Trogon sitting on a nest – a great example of his amazing bird-finding skills. It proved a popular bird for us. Then we walked a little further where we were able to photograph a Crested Owl perched on the branch of a tree at its daytime roost. Nearby we photographed the nests of White-necked Jacobin and White-collared Manakin, both of which had two chicks in them.

We then re-boarded the bus for a drive to a tree in a field which had a roosting Great Potoo on it. The light was excellent, making it a delight to photograph this hard-to-find bird. Cope had really come up trumps for us and we thanked him by buying some of his art-work when we dropped him off at his house.

Then it was back to the Selva Verde lodge for lunch before some free time. In the evening we were able to photograph some Red-eyed Tree Frogs in the grounds of the lodge. It had been a busy day but a rewarding one with lots of good photographs taken.

Day 8

Thursday 31st March

Full day La Selva OTS. Walk down approach in morning, then football pitch trail in afternoon.

Weather: dry, sunny spells, hot and humid. Heavy overnight showers later.

We had our second full day at La Selva OTS again today. In the morning we walked along the approach road to the reception centre, and there was plenty to keep us occupied, so it was slow progress. Among the species seen and photographed, were Broad-billed Motmot, White-necked Puffbird, Squirrel Cuckoo and Blue-grey Tanager. We also spent some time photographing an Owl Butterfly which rested, conveniently, on an accessible tree trunk.

Moving down the road, we came across a pair of Common Tody Flycatchers, busily nest building. The process was in the very early stages and it was fun to watch as well as photograph the action provided by these two individuals, which at times did 'loop the loops' over the twig they were building their nest on.

At the reception centre there was an opportunity to photograph Shining Honeycreeper, Black-throated Grosbeak, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Great Kiskadee.

By now it was approaching 34 degrees Celsius and we returned to Selva Verde Lodge for some down time and lunch.

At 2:30, we returned to La Selva, this time taking the trail at the football pitch to the small bridge. We heard noisy calls of Yellow-throated Toucan and eventually saw them as well as Keel-billed Toucan perched in the same tree. However the highlight was Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth, a mother and baby which our guide from La Selva found. We spent about half an hour watching as the mother gradually made her way up a tree trunk and became lost in the leaves of the tree.

On our way back to Selva Verde, Lenin showed us a Rufous-tailed Jacamar, as well as a much rarer Keel-billed Motmot. We were not done yet though, as one of the clients later re-found a Nine-banded Armadillo which he had found the previous night, in the grounds of our hotel. Thus ended another excellent day.

Day 9

Friday 1st April

Drive from Selva Verde lodge to Laguna del Lagarto Lodge

Weather: dry, sunny and hot.

We left Selva Verde this morning after our stay, to drive for 2 ½ hours to our next lodge, at Laguna del Lagarto, close to the border with Nicaragua, on the Caribbean side of the country. We stopped a couple of times on the way, including to see a Nicaraguan Seed Finch which caused great excitement with our guide Lenin due to its rarity in Costa Rica.

Arriving at lunchtime we spent the next few hours on the superbly appointed photography deck with a feeding station in front. Pretty soon we were photographing a good selection of tropical birds – Black-cheeked Woodpecker, Blue-grey Tanager, Montezuma's Oropendola, Great Kiskadee, Collared Aracari and those two magnetic species for the camera, Yellow-throated and Keel-billed Toucans!

Later, before dinner, we walked a short way into the rainforest where Kevin set up a multi-flash camera system for photographing bats coming to feed on 'nectar' in a flower which our guide at Lagarto had found. Photographing the bats was a similar process to Hummingbird multi-flash photography and it proved just as popular with the group, who all had a go at this 'outdoor studio'.

A few hardy souls then got up at 3am to join Kevin to photograph the core of the Milky Way which was high in the sky at this latitude and Kevin was once again on hand to give expert advice about camera settings for this genre of photography.

Day 10

Saturday 2nd April

Morning in King Vulture hide, afternoon forest walk and bat photography

Weather: dry, sunny, hot.

This morning, after breakfast, we drove the short distance to two purpose-built hides to see and photograph, up close, numerous Black Vultures together with their larger, rarer and more spectacular 'cousin' the King Vulture. It is a real privilege to be able to visit these hides, possibly the only place in the world where King Vultures come so close to the camera. On our arrival in the hides the birds were already present and there were at least a dozen birds scattered among the 50 or more Black Vultures, all lured by the presence of a cattle carcass laid out in front of the hide.

For the next three hours or so we were regally entertained by the behaviour of these magnificent birds of prey and camera shutter buttons went into overdrive. When we and the vultures had had their fill, we drove back to the lodge for a well-earned rest and lunch.

We then spent the hottest part of the day in the shade at the bird feeder platform, enjoying the photography – both Keel-billed and Yellow-throated Toucans were regular visitors. In addition, there was a good selection of other species to occupy us.

After another delicious lunch we took a walk in the nearby rainforest and although generally quiet we were rewarded with the views of a single Mottled Owl which was playing very hard to get but responding to calls.

We then had a session of multi-flash bat photography, and on our way to the 'studio' we were shown a Black-and-White Owl which the security guard had just found!

And so ended yet another delightful day.

Day 11

Sunday 3rd April

King Vulture hide in morning. Walk in forest then reptile and amphibian photography workshop

Weather: dry most of the time, with some cloud. Intermittent light showers.

Pre-breakfast we enjoyed some photography from the balcony at Laguna del Lagarto. Later we spent the morning in the two King Vulture hides. Although not so many birds were present as yesterday, we nonetheless were delighted at the antics of the feeding birds in front of us which proved very entertaining.

Later, some of the group took a walk in the nearby rainforest with Kevin and Lenin where we were shown the lek site of the Red-capped Manakin. We saw a total of four of these gorgeous red and black apparitions, complete with their yellow upper thighs – most fetching. We were able to get images and even video of the males as they posed and sang on their favourite perch.

Later, after lunch, we drove the short distance from the lodge to the garden of the manager of Laguno del Lagarto, Adolfo. He had agreed to set up a studio in his garden where, with the help of his colleagues, we were able to photograph a variety of reptiles and amphibians, in controlled conditions.

Subjects included Eyelash Palm Pit-viper and the Fer de Lance snake. Amphibians included Red-eyed Tree Frog and Strawberry and Green-and-black Poison Dart Frogs, and all clients were able to get excellent shots of these difficult or dangerous species in a controlled, safe setting.

After a two-hour session we were ready for the return to our lodge for a little down time before dinner.

Day 12

Monday 4th April

San Carlos river Then walk in rainforest followed by hummingbird photography workshop and bird photography

Weather: cloudy, humid and with a heavy shower mid-morning.

Today we drove a short distance from the lodge for a boat trip on the San Carlos river. We joined the boat at about 9am and for the next couple of hours we photographed the wildlife along this stretch of river which is near to the border with Nicaragua. Among the first of these were a group of Western Cattle Egrets, shortly followed by Snowy Egret and Little Blue Heron. A large American Crocodile was resting in the shallows near some wood which had beached due to the low water level in the river. An Anhinga was also photographed in the same area.

Continuing our way north we found a very pretty female Emerald Basilisk which proved very popular, as did a couple of Mangrove Swallows which posed for our cameras on sticks submerged in the river bed.

A fine Bare-throated Tiger Heron was successfully fishing in the shallows and a single Osprey flew over the boat.

A couple of Green Ibis and two Southern Lapwing were next on the list.

The water level was low and our driver had to skilfully negotiate the shallow water, making continuous changes of course to stay clear of underwater obstructions.

The weather then became threatening, the wind got up and the sky darkened so we turned round and headed back to shore as a heavy shower came upon us.

We arrived back at our lodge in time for lunch, after which we departed to Adolfo's garden where this time Kevin set up the hummingbird multi-flash photography system – all clients were delighted with their shots. When not having 'their go' group participants were able to photograph the great variety of birds coming into the garden for the food put out for them. These birds included Shining Honeycreeper and a Blue Dacnis as well as Pale-billed Woodpecker and Chestnut-headed Oropendola.

After dinner some of the group photographed a Black-and-white Owl next to the dining area.

Day 13

Tuesday 5th April

Lagarto to Bosque de Paz

Weather: cloudy, and hot at Laguna del Lagarto. Cooler, low cloud and rain at Bosque de Paz.

After four exceptional days at Laguna del Lagarto we drove up into the hills to the Bosque de Paz lodge which lies at a much higher elevation. Before departure we took our last images on the deck at Laguna. We left on our journey at about 10am and stopped when we saw anything of interest as we went on our way. Birds we stopped for included Nicaraguan Seed Finch, Red-billed Pigeon, Purple Gallinule and, as we got nearer to our destination, a pair of gorgeous Scarlet Macaws which were engaged in prolonged mutual preening.

We stopped for lunch at a roadside restaurant and all the party agreed the food was delicious.

As we climbed the hills towards Bosque, the mist came down and we got to see why this habitat is known as cloud forest – we very much felt we were in the clouds.

It was late afternoon when we stopped, and soon we were in the garden looking at new hummingbirds - Violet Sabrewing, Green-crowned Brilliant, Black-chested Hummingbird and Magenta-throated Woodstar – all new for the trip.

Nearby we could see at least four Central American Agouti as well as some Variegated Squirrels.

However, after dark we were enthralled by the assemblage of moths at lights on the buildings. But, best of all, were two Paca (a large rodent, otherwise known as royal rat) and a single Margay, a rare cat of this part of the world. All were coming to food put out for them.

And so ended yet another day with lots of good memories.

Day 14

Wednesday 6th April

Day at Bosque de Paz. Walk in grounds and hummingbird multi-flash

Weather: grey, dull, mild. Stayed dry all day.

We spent the day at Bosque de Paz today. We walked around the grounds before breakfast, still marvelling at the large number of very large moths the lights on the property attracted last night. We were able to see and photograph a small troop of White-faced Capuchins as they worked through the adjacent forest, investigating the bromeliads for food.

After breakfast we had a short walk along a trail which followed a small mountain stream and were able to see birds including Rufous Mourner, but in reality, the trail was rather quiet so we retraced our steps and spent the rest of the morning photographing the myriad of hummingbirds coming to the feeders in the garden. This time, since the sun was shining, we were able to use high shutter speeds and ambient light and there was no need for flash. The Agoutis and Variegated Squirrels also provided subjects for us.

After lunch we took a walk along the road outside the property and saw Northern Tufted Flycatcher, heard Rufous-browed Pepper Shrike, and photographed Northern Tufted Flycatcher and Speckled-cheeked Tanager. Overhead wheeled several White-collared Swifts.

Returning to the lodge we had another session of hummingbird multi-flash photography before dinner. After which, we saw three Pacas but alas no more Margay. There was compensation in the form of many spectacular large moths around lights on the building.

Day 15

Thursday 7th April

Bosque de Paz to Hotel Bougainvillea in San Jose

Weather: beautiful clear sky at first then progressive cloud and heavy shower in San Jose.

We spent the morning photographing the birds in the garden at Bosque de Paz, which also included another multi-flash hummingbird session.

The three main species of hummingbirds were Green-crowned Brilliant, Violet Sabrewing and Black-bellied; it was great fun to watch and photograph them in such a lovely setting as Bosque. A few other small birds were present in the form of Slate-throated Whitestart, Common Chlorospingus, Blue-grey Tanager, Wilson's Warbler and Spangle-cheeked Tanager.

After a delicious lunch at Bosque we departed for the drive back to our hotel Bougainvillea in San Jose.

Two of the group were leaving tomorrow for a return journey to the UK via Miami and we said our farewells after what had been a very enjoyable trip with numerous exciting photography opportunities and encounters with wildlife.

The rest of the group had two nights at San Jose before their flight home.

Day 16

Friday 8th April

Hotel Bougainvillea

Weather: dry and hot with cloudy skies much of the day.

Before breakfast we were able to see (just!) two Mottled Owls which were in their day-time roost in a dense stand of tall bamboo in the hotel grounds. It was certainly a struggle to see them and even more of one to photograph them.

After saying farewell to the two clients who returned to the UK today, the rest of the group drove to the La Paz waterfall gardens near the Poas volcano. At an altitude of about 7,000 feet, this site gave us new birds again. These included Green Thorntail hummingbird, Costa Rican Warbler, Slaty-backed Nightingale Thrush and American Dipper (on the stream which runs through the grounds). The latter was nest-building, as it was carrying nesting material in its beak.

The hummingbird feeders again had many Green-crowned Brilliants as well as Violet Sabrewing but most exciting of all were a couple of Coppery-headed Emeralds, a Costa Rican endemic species, again new for our trip.

Two of the group went with Lenin for a walk down the various cascades or waterfalls, whilst the rest accompanied Kevin in the grounds to photograph birds.

After meeting up again, we drove the short distance to a small café overlooking a canyon, at Cinchoa. Here we saw again, briefly, a male Green Thorntail as well as Green Hermit and a spectacular Crimson-collared Tanager, as well as several Blue-grey Tanagers and Baltimore Orioles.

The low cloud and mist came rolling in, obscuring the wonderful view over an impressive waterfall on the other side of the valley, so we decided to return to the Hotel Bougainvillea in San Jose.

Day 17

Saturday 9th April

Hotel Bougainvillea

Weather: rain from first light, gradually easing.

Today we returned to the UK on a mid-afternoon flight. Before then however, we wanted to take a last walk in the gardens, but the weather hindered this as it was raining heavily this morning. A couple of our team did, though, succeed in seeing a single Mottled Owl between the downpours.

After that, it was a 40-minute drive to the airport where we said our goodbyes to Lenin and Roger who had both looked after us so well over the course of our trip.

Day 18

Sunday 10th April

Arrival back in the UK.

We arrived back at London Gatwick on time this morning and, after meeting at baggage reclaim, went our separate ways, having congratulated ourselves on a highly successful and very enjoyable holiday to Costa Rica. It had been a trip where we saw a wide variety of the wildlife this wonderful country has to offer – birds, mammals, insects, reptiles, amphibians, plants and scenery – and we had all had great fun recording it all on digital film.

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Species list

Birds

E = Endemic / N = Near Endemic / I = Introduced		March/April 2022															
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major</i>								✓	✓	✓						
Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>								✓			✓	✓				
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>							✓									
Black Guan - N	<i>Chamaepetes unicolor</i>	✓				✓											
Great Curassow	<i>Crax rubra</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Spotted Wood Quail	<i>Odontophorus guttatus</i>	✓	✓		✓												
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>									✓			✓				
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Bare-throated Tiger Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>					✓	✓	✓				✓					
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>											✓					
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓		✓					✓					
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>						✓					✓					
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>											✓					
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>								✓	✓	✓		✓				
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		✓	✓								✓					
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	✓													✓		
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	✓	✓														
Ornate Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus ornatus</i>					✓								✓			
Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>														✓		
Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>											✓					
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>						✓						✓				
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	✓						✓				✓					
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	✓	✓														

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White-throated Crane	<i>Laterallus albigularis</i>										✓						
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>												✓				
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>					✓	✓					✓					
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>						✓					✓	✓				
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>					✓	✓					✓					
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>						✓										
Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris</i>	✓											✓				
Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas nigrirostris</i>					✓		✓									
Inca Dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>															✓	
Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓			
Blue Ground Dove	<i>Claravis pretiosa</i>							✓									
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>												✓	✓	✓		
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	✓			✓										✓	✓	
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>							✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>							✓		✓						✓	
Black-and-white Owl	<i>Strix nigrolineata</i>									✓			✓				
Mottled Owl	<i>Ciccaba virgata</i>	✓													✓	✓	
Central American Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium griseiceps</i>											✓					
Crested Owl	<i>Lophotrix cristata</i>						✓			✓							
Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>						✓										
Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>		✓											✓			
Band-tailed Barbthroat	<i>Threnetes ruckeri</i>							✓									
Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>															✓	
Long-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longirostris</i>											✓					
Stripe-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>						✓	✓									
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus</i>												✓		✓	✓	
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>										✓	✓					
Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>															✓	
Lesser Violetear	<i>Colibri cyanotus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Green-breasted Mango	<i>Anthracothonax prevostii</i>											✓					
Green Thorntail	<i>Discosura conversii</i>															✓	

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Fiery-throated Hummingbird - N	<i>Panterpe insignis</i>	✓															
Coppery-headed Emerald - E	<i>Elvira cupreiceps</i>															✓	
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa eximia</i>		✓														
Black-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Eupherusa nigriventris</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓	
Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>											✓					
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Blue-chested Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amabilis</i>					✓											
Talamanca Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes spectabilis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓			
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura urochrysa</i>						✓										
Purple-throated Mountaingem	<i>Lampornis calolaemus</i>												✓			✓	
Grey-tailed Mountaingem - E	<i>Lampornis cinereicauda</i>	✓	✓											✓	✓		
Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓	
Magenta-throated Woodstar - N	<i>Calliphlox bryantae</i>												✓	✓			
Volcano Hummingbird - N	<i>Selasphorus flammula</i>	✓	✓		✓												
Scintillant Hummingbird - N	<i>Selasphorus scintilla</i>		✓	✓													
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus mocinno</i>	✓		✓													
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i>					✓		✓									
Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>							✓									
Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon rufus</i>						✓	✓									
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>														✓		
American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>						✓										
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>						✓	✓									
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>				✓		✓					✓					
Lesson's Motmot	<i>Momotus lessonii</i>	✓													✓	✓	
Rufous Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus martii</i>					✓	✓										
Keel-billed Motmot	<i>Electron carinatum</i>							✓									
Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>							✓									
White-necked Puffbird	<i>Notharchus hyperrhynchus</i>							✓									
Pied Puffbird	<i>Notharchus tectus</i>									✓							
White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Malacoptila panamensis</i>					✓				✓							
Prong-billed Barbet - N	<i>Semnornis frantzii</i>													✓			

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Blue-throated Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus caeruleogularis</i>		✓														
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Yellow-throated Toucan	<i>Ramphastos ambiguus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Hoffmann's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes hoffmannii</i>	✓					✓									✓	
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Leuconotopicus villosus</i>	✓															
Rufous-winged Woodpecker	<i>Piculus simplex</i>							✓									
Chestnut-colored Woodpecker	<i>Celeus castaneus</i>					✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>							✓									
Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>								✓			✓					
Northern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	✓							✓	✓			✓				
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>							✓									
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>					✓						✓					
Brown-hooded Parrot	<i>Pyrilia haematotis</i>					✓			✓	✓		✓	✓				
White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>									✓	✓	✓					
Red-lored Amazon	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	✓							✓		✓	✓	✓				
Northern Mealy Amazon	<i>Amazona guatemalae</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Sulphur-winged Parakeet - N	<i>Pyrrhura hoffmanni</i>		✓	✓													
Great Green Macaw	<i>Ara ambiguus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>								✓				✓				
Finsch's Parakeet	<i>Psittacara finschi</i>	✓														✓	
Ruddy Treerunner - N	<i>Margarornis rubiginosus</i>			✓													
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>							✓									
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>					✓		✓									
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>					✓											
Northern Barred Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae</i>						✓		✓								
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>									✓		✓					
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes affinis</i>			✓	✓												
Fasciated Antshrike	<i>Cymbilaimus lineatus</i>					✓											
Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>											✓					

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Black-crowned Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus atrinucha</i>					✓											
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza exsul</i>					✓											
Bicolored Antbird	<i>Gymnopithys bicolor</i>					✓											
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>									✓							
Mountain Elaenia	<i>Elaenia frantzii</i>		✓														
Torrent Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga cinerea</i>			✓													
Mistletoe Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius parvus</i>										✓						
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>							✓		✓							
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum nigriceps</i>					✓											
Yellow-margined Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias flavotectus</i>							✓									
Yellow-margined Flycatcher	<i>Tolomyias assimilis</i>													✓			
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>					✓			✓					✓	✓		
Northern Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>													✓			
Yellowish Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flavescens</i>			✓										✓			
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>							✓				✓	✓				
Grey-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>				✓		✓	✓				✓	✓				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>															✓	
Dark Pewee	<i>Contopus lugubris</i>													✓			
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
White-ringed Flycatcher	<i>Conopias albobittatus</i>					✓											
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes luteiventris</i>														✓		
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>					✓		✓		✓				✓			
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	✓		✓									✓				
Rufous Mourner	<i>Rhytipterna holerythra</i>					✓								✓			
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>					✓	✓				✓						
Red-capped Manakin	<i>Ceratopipra mentalis</i>				✓	✓					✓						
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>								✓								
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>					✓							✓				
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>													✓			
Yellow-winged Vireo	<i>Vireo carmioli</i>			✓													
Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>			✓										✓			

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Brown Jay	<i>Psilorhinus morio</i>	✓													✓		
Black-and-yellow Phainoptila - N	<i>Phainoptila melanoxantha</i>	✓															
Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher - N	<i>Ptiliogonys caudatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓			
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>											✓					
Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>														✓	✓	
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓			
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>												✓				
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				
Rufous-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus capistratus</i>	✓													✓	✓	✓
Black-throated Wren	<i>Pheugopedius atrogularis</i>							✓									
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>					✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ochraceous Wren	<i>Troglodytes ochraceus</i>													✓			
White-breasted Wood Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>					✓	✓										
Grey-breasted Wood Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>												✓				
Canebrake Wren	<i>Centorchilus zeledoni</i>											✓					
White-browed Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila bilineata</i>						✓	✓									
Black-faced Solitaire - N	<i>Myadestes melanops</i>													✓			
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush - N	<i>Catharus gracilirostris</i>	✓	✓										✓				
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>															✓	
Sooty Thrush	<i>Turdus nigrescens</i>	✓			✓												
Clay-colored Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
American Dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>															✓	
House Sparrow - I	<i>Passer domesticus</i>				✓	✓		✓									
Yellow-crowned Euphonia	<i>Euphonia luteicapilla</i>					✓											
Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirundinacea</i>											✓					
Olive-backed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia gouldi</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Golden-browed Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia callophrys</i>	✓												✓			
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>		✓			✓		✓				✓				✓	
Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitaiayumi</i>															✓	
American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>	✓							✓								
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓				
Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis fulvicauda</i>				✓				✓								

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Black-cheeked Warbler	<i>Basileuterus melanogenys</i>			✓												✓	
Canada Warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>													✓			
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>			✓											✓	✓	
Slate-throated Whitestart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>													✓	✓		
Collared Whitestart	<i>Myioborus torquatus</i>		✓	✓													
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	✓															
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>											✓					
Montezuma Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Streak-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus pustulatus</i>							✓									
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Black-cowled Oriole	<i>Icterus prosthemelas</i>					✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>						✓					✓	✓				
Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>		✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓	
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>							✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓										✓	✓	
Volcano Junco	<i>Junco vulcani</i>				✓												
Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>				✓		✓		✓								
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	<i>Arremon brunneinucha</i>		✓										✓	✓		✓	
Sooty-faced Finch	<i>Arremon crassirostris</i>															✓	
Peg-billed Finch	<i>Acanthidops bairdi</i>				✓									✓			
Large-footed Finch	<i>Pezopetes capitalis</i>	✓	✓														
White-naped Brushfinch	<i>Atlapetes albinucha</i>		✓														
Yellow-thighed Finch	<i>Pselliophorus tibialis</i>		✓	✓													
Common Bush Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus flavopectus</i>				✓								✓	✓	✓		
Sooty-capped Bush Tanager - N	<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>			✓													
Crimson-collared Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus sanguinolentus</i>							✓								✓	
Passerini's Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus passerinii</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Plain-colored Tanager	<i>Tangara inornata</i>						✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				
Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>		✓										✓	✓	✓	✓	

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Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Tangara larvata</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Spangle-cheeked Tanager	<i>Tangara dowii</i>													✓	✓		
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>											✓					
Shining Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes lucidus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>									✓	✓	✓					
Slaty Flowerpiercer - N	<i>Diglossa plumbea</i>	✓	✓	✓										✓			
Graysh Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>																✓
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
White-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila torqueola</i>								✓			✓					
Nicaraguan Seed Finch	<i>Oryzoborus nuttingi</i>								✓				✓				
Flame-colored Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>		✓	✓										✓	✓		
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>						✓										
Red-throated Ant Tanager	<i>Habia fuscicauda</i>						✓	✓									
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>		✓														
Black-faced Grosbeak	<i>Caryothraustes poliogaster</i>					✓		✓									

Other

E = Endemic / N = Near Endemic / I = Introduced		March/April 2022															
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mammals																	
Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>							✓									
Honduran White Bat	<i>Ectophylla alba</i>					✓											
White-faced Capuchin	<i>Cebus capuchinus</i>												✓	✓			
Mantled Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Central American Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>			✓						✓	✓						
Variegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>		✓	✓													
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>					✓							✓	✓	✓		

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Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>				✓							✓		✓	✓	✓	
Collared Peccary	<i>Tayassu tajacu</i>					✓											
Tayra	<i>Eira barbara</i>				✓												
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>						✓										
9-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>						✓	✓									
Pallas's Long-tongued Bat	<i>Glossophaga soricina</i>								✓	✓							
Paca	<i>Cuniculus paca</i>												✓	✓			
Margay	<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>												✓				
Reptiles & Amphibians																	
Marine Toad	<i>Rhinella marina</i>				✓		✓		✓	✓	✓						
Red-eyed Leaf Frog	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>							✓	✓	✓							
Green & Black Poison Arrow Frog	<i>Dendrobates auratus</i>				✓	✓			✓								
Strawberry Poison Arrow Frog	<i>Oophaga pumilio</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
Black River Turtle	<i>Rhinoclemmys funerea</i>					✓	✓		✓								
Painted Wood Turtle	<i>Rh. pulcherrima</i>					✓											
Emerald Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓					
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
Green Spiny Lizard	<i>Sceloporus malachitus</i>		✓	✓	✓												
Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Central American Ameiva (Whiptail)	<i>Ameiva festiva</i>					✓											
American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>											✓					
Leopard Frog	<i>Litjobates pipiens</i>	✓															
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodylus</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓					
Golden-eyed Tree Frog	<i>Trachycephalus resinifictrix</i>														✓		
Butterflies																	
Peleides Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho peleides</i>					✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
Yellow-eyed Giant Owl	<i>Caligo atreus</i>							✓	✓								
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	✓															
Automeris moth	<i>Automeris sp.</i>			✓								✓					
Banded Owl Butterfly	<i>Caligo eurilochos</i>							✓									

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Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dragonflies																	
Megaloprepus species						✓											
Army Ants species						✓											
Bullet Ant	<i>Paraponera clavata</i>				✓												