

Ecuador – On the Trail of the Jocotoco Antpitta

Client Tour Report

9th – 20th February 2020



Report compiled by tour participants Nathaniel Dargue, Phil Dargue and Geoff Iceton. Images by Nathaniel Dargue.



Blue-necked Tanager



Spangled Coquette



Masked Flowerpiercer



Ecuadorian Hillstar



Mottle-backed Elaenia



Rufous-Headed Chacalaca



Inca Jay



Strong-billed Woodcreeper



Plumbeous Kite



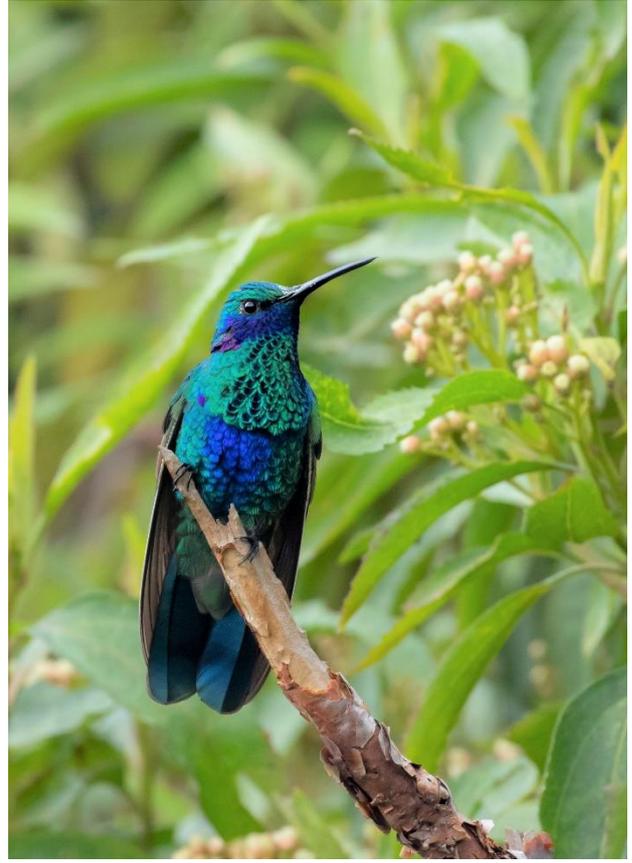
Giant Hummingbird



Peruvian Pygmy-Owl



Andean Tit-Spinetail



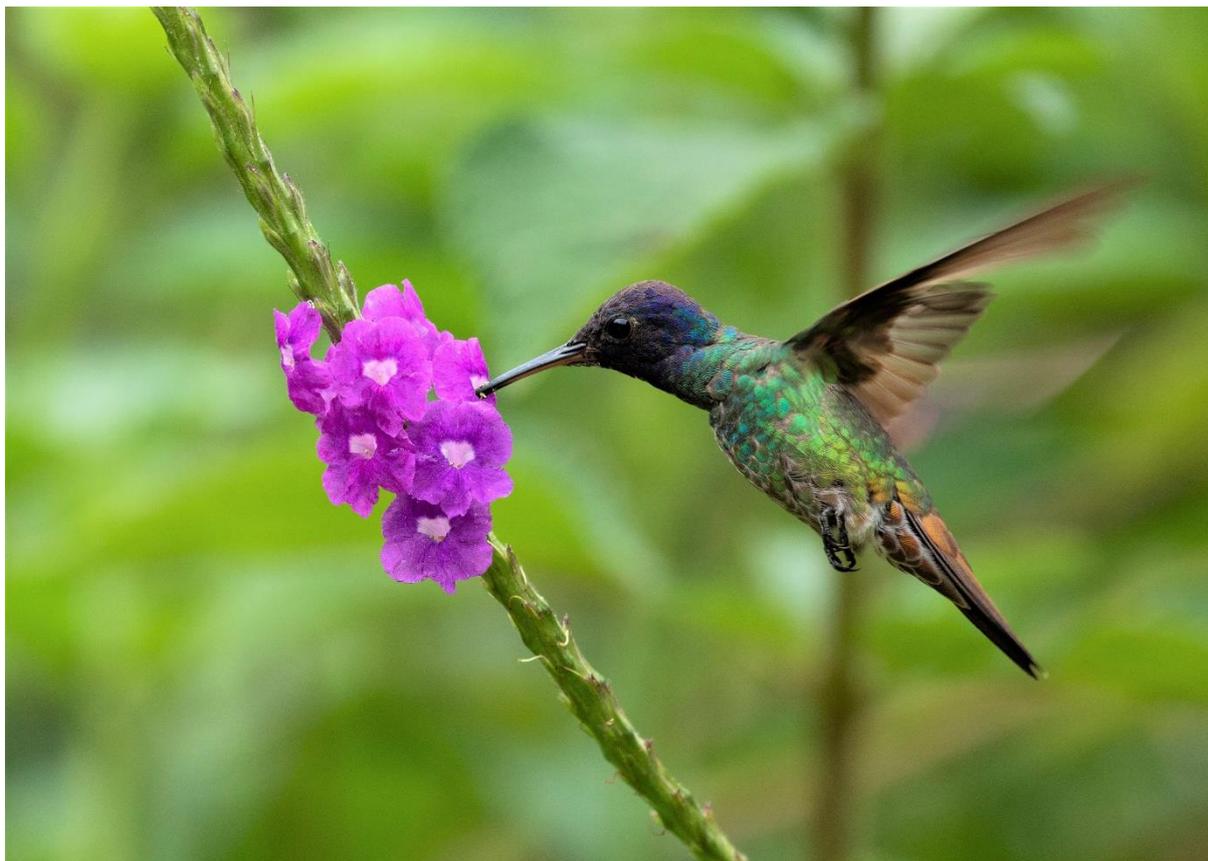
Sparkling Violetear



Little Sunangel



Amethyst-throated Sunangel



Golden-tailed Sapphire



Orange-billed Sparrow

Introduction

Leaders:

Bird Guide – Andrea Molina

Drivers - Francisco Zhunaula (who also turned out to be an enthusiastic birder) and Chris Luna (who looked after us on our last day at Antisana)

Participants:

Nathaniel Dargue, Phil Dargue, Geoff Icton and six other Naturetrek clients.

This report was compiled by tour participant Phil Dargue with editing assistance from Geoff Icton (who also wrote the day two account) and Nathaniel Dargue. The trip list was provided by Nathaniel using eBird and he also took the photographs (unless marked otherwise). The report is an attempt to summarise the superb birding and sheer delights of touring some of the fabulous birding sites of Southern Ecuador on the trail of the Jocotoco Antpitta.

Day 1 – Flight from UK

The day of our much anticipated departure dawned to the sounds of Storm Ciara battering the UK. All of our tour party were due to meet at Schiphol airport after our connecting KLM flights from various UK airports. Unfortunately for Nathaniel and I, having been called to the departure gate at Leeds/Bradford we were told to stand down and inevitably with winds getting ever stronger our flight was cancelled. Our adventure felt like it was over before it had even started. However, with the help of Andy Tucker and the airport staff at Leeds we were transferred to Manchester to catch a later flight to Amsterdam and pick up the flight 24 hours later.

On a more positive note, despite close calls for Sharon and Rob, everyone else made the connection in Amsterdam and were on their way to Guayaquil and their first night in the Grand Hotel in the city centre.

Day 2 – Manglares Churute Reserve, Aulladores Trail, Lagartera, Santa Rosa shrimp pond

An early start saw the team heading to the Manglares Churute Ecological Reserve in the Guayas Province, about 25 miles from [Guayaquil](#). It contains approximately 50,000 hectares of mangroves and dry tropical forests. The reserve is east of the mouth of the Guayas River and has a large area of protected mangrove at the mouth. The plan was to bird all day on the journey to Buenaventura, the group base for the next three nights. Soon after turning off the main road the group encountered their first Pacific Pygmy Owls perched on power cables beside the track giving great views. The first real stop was in a section of dry forest to look for Pacific Royal Flycatcher but other notable species in this tract, known as the Howler Monkey Trail, included Ecuadorian Trogon, Grey and Gold Warbler and loads of 'finger-snapping' White-bearded Manakins. The Pacific Royal Flycatcher (which has now been reclassified as a member of the Tityra family) gave everyone the run around but good views were eventually obtained by all. Driving further, we visited a small breeding colony of Grey-cheeked Parakeets, picking up a group of Black-cheeked Woodpeckers nearby and a fly -by immature Grey-headed Kite. Another stop located a calling Jet Antbird which after some play-back gave great views along with Pacific Elaenia.

As a break from driving the group boarded a motorised canoe on the Churute River touring emergent mangroves and forest along the edge of this broad river. Most of the commoner water birds were abundant here with loads of Cocoi Herons, Great Egrets, Roseate Spoonbills, Muscovy Duck and Ospreys, as well as a few Mangrove Black Hawks.



After getting back to dry land the next site was La Gartera and a drive along a farm track following a sparse, stony river through rice fields in various states of drying out. A couple of Horned Screemers were found in the river bed and a few more at a small pool. This pool also held the only Comb Duck of the trip, loads of Whistling Ducks and the surrounding fields provided distractions from lunch in the form of a variety of Ground-doves, Chestnut-throated Seedeaters and Peruvian Meadowlarks.

Heading towards Umbrellabird Lodge before turning inland the road reaches the town of Santa Rosa. Here there are a number of large shrimp pools beside the road. A quick look added a number of Gulls, White-cheeked Pintail, Large-billed Tern and a few Brown Pelicans amongst others.

The group arrived at the Buenaventura Umbrellabird Lodge in the early evening, although the 5 km entrance track took almost 45 minutes to drive due to Francisco's careful treatment of the bus on the bumpy track!

Moths abounded at this location and Rob and Sharon set up an illuminated white sheet overnight to sample the variety. Although it rained quite a bit a good number of large bugs came in including a lot of Cicadas (very noisy here at night) and some huge Atlas-type moths.

In the meantime we finally left Schiphol (an hour late waiting for late inward UK flights containing other Naturetrek customers!) and eventually arrived in Guayaquil 25 hours late. Andy Tucker had been busy with the team in Ecuador and texted me on the plane (wi-fi on aircraft can be very useful!) to advise us of our arrangements on arrival. A night at the Grand Hotel followed by a 4 am departure to catch up with the rest of the group. Finally our adventure could begin at last.

Day 3 – Umbrellabird Lodge and Buenaventura National Park

Our taxi arrived at 0345 and we were on the road by 0350 heading south pretty much following the same route as everyone else but at a slightly higher speed! As the daylight arrived we were birding from the taxi trying to pick up some of the birds we missed on day two. These included masses of Scrub Blackbirds and as we sped past the Santa Rosa shrimp pools we clocked up many herons, egrets and Roseate Spoonbills. Nathaniel also picked out a sizeable group of Chilean Flamingos (a species he had seen lots of in southern Peru) that clearly weren't there the day before. Our driver managed the entrance road to Umbrellabird Lodge in about 15 minutes (slightly quicker than Francisco!) and we arrived at 0730 to finally meet Andrea, Francisco and the rest of the group. We were slightly concerned how the group would take to us and our late arrival but everyone was very welcoming and we very quickly felt at home.



Violet-bellied Hummingbird

We rapidly ate breakfast and then joined everyone else enjoying the feeders on the balcony at the main lodge. The hummingbird feeders were literally buzzing with activity. These included White-necked Jacobins, Green-crowned Brilliants, Crowned Woodnymphs, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, Green Thorntail and the stunning Violet-bellied Hummingbirds. The trees around the main lodge were also active and one surprise was a Plumbeous Kite perched very close by. It soon became clear it was collecting nesting materials and we actually saw two birds regularly throughout our stay. Regular flights of Bronze-winged

Parrots flew over before a Red-masked Parakeet landed in a nearby tree giving fantastic views through the scope.

Having moved everything into our comfortable bungalow we all set off for a walk down the entrance road birding the forest and scrub habitats. We were soon collecting new species and for us the long journey was fading into the background as we got to know our fellow travellers. We picked up our first Chestnut-mandibled Toucan right outside our lodge along with Yellow-throated Chlorospingus and Guira Tanager. As we progressed we had great views of Chestnut-backed Antbird, Black-crowned Ant-Shrike and Bay Wrens before coming across a fabulous pair of Song Wrens. The weather was surprisingly hot and sunny by this point and the sky was full of Swallow-tailed Kites and in amongst the other birds of prey we picked out a Grey-backed Hawk and a very distant Hook-billed Kite. As the forest thinned out we began to see some different species. Near to a house we found a beautiful pair of Ochraceous Attilas by the roadside and a number of seedeaters including Black-and-white and Yellow-Bellied. Shortly before we headed back for lunch a fabulous Purple-crowned Fairy suddenly appeared giving us all great views before Andrea spotted a female Gartered Trogon sitting quietly in the roadside hedge. By now it was getting hot as Francisco picked us up and we headed back to the lodge for lunch.



Gartered Trogon



Chestnut-mandibled Toucan

and as we got deeper into the forest the light levels dropped as the canopy closed in. Our luck was in and we found two males both close to the track with one showing incredibly well. These really are very strange members of the Cotinga family and are truly spectacular birds. We eventually moved off and walked back up the path we had good views of a pair of Slaty Antwrens and then managed reasonable views of a Club winged Manakin and a Choco Toucan back on the main road. We walked back down the road to the lodge and were joined by a small group of Buff-rumped Warblers, a charismatic ground loving warbler. Back at the lodge we enjoyed the feeders again where we were surprised to see a gorgeous male Velvet-purple Coronet in amongst the other species, not normally seen at the lodge. We then completed our daily bird list and before settling down for a superb dinner.

However, we weren't yet finished birding. After dinner we could clearly hear Black-and-White Owl nearby and Andrea and the lodge team quickly found one in a bare tree near the restaurant before a second one was found in the tree above room 6. They were hunting the huge number of large insects around the lodge. These included loads of very big cicadas, one of which got into our room unbeknown to me and made an incredible noise just as I was dropping off to sleep!



Long-wattled Umbrellabird

This was our first introduction to an Ecuadorian lunch which was substantial with three courses starting with a very hearty soup with optional hot sauce. It was clear we were in no danger of starving! The only problem is it is hard to eat when there are birds to watch and as we headed back to our bungalow we found a small group of Rufous-headed Chacalacas.

After a short rest we headed up the road to try our luck at the Umbrellabird Lek for which the lodge is named. Leaving the road we set off down the narrow track to the lek site

Day 4 - Umbrellabird Lodge (Jardin de Colibries) - Ecological Reserve Arenillas

Having removed the offending Cicada from our room it was a 0545 start for breakfast and then a drive on the road above the lodge beyond the large shrine where we reached a car park at the top entrance

to Buenaventura NP. We set off up the hill in search of one of the rarest parakeets in the world but were kept entertained by numerous species as we walked. A noisy Roadside Hawk flew by before we found a Plain Xenops on the sparsely vegetated hillside which are now recovering from years of deforestation as the Jocotoco Foundation acquires more land in the area. An Azara's Spinetail called from the dense vegetation next to the track and eventually gave everyone fleeting views before a mixed Tanager flock came through some nearby trees. Included in the flock were Golden, Beryl-spangled, Silver-throated and Golden-naped Tanagers as well as three Common Bush Tanagers. We suddenly heard distant parakeets and five landed in a distant tree; our first sighting of El-Oro Parakeet - a true Ecuadorian endemic and only found in this area. Andrea suggested we push on further where we were rewarded with superb views of the same birds on a nearby dead tree. Truly beautiful members of the parrot family, they number around 300 left in the wild. The Jocotoco foundation manages this area specifically to protect this tiny population which use nest boxes as their preferred nest site, Wax Palms are now so rare.



El Oro Parakeets

Whilst we watched the parakeets two Red-Billed Parrots flew in to another tree and a Boat-billed Flycatcher sat calling on the edge of the forest, the only one of the trip.

We walked back down the hill to stop at the Jardin de Colibries to check out the hummingbird feeders and to collect more new species. We found Velvet-purple Coronet in their more usual haunt and these



Orange-bellied Euphonia

of the stream which gave us great views.

were joined by White - booted Racket-tail, Brown Inca and Violet-tailed Sylph along with some of the species seen at the lodge. A real hummer treat (but then we were to become spoilt by these during the trip!). It was then on to the tanager feeders which the ranger had topped up for us and we were joined by numerous Blue-grey, Palm and Lemon-rumped Tanagers, Orange-bellied and Thick-billed Euphonias and Buff-throated Saltator. On the way back to the car park Geoff spotted a Grey-breasted Wood Wren by the side



Black-tailed Myiobius

We drove back down the road towards the lodge and were soon back in deep forest. We had a couple of stops to check for birds on the way back for lunch and this gave us a chance to look down on the canopy. We were rewarded with superb views of a pair of Barred Hawks flying below us, the bright yellow bill contrasting strongly with the dark grey plumage. As we carried on walking I found my favourite personal find of the trip, an obliging Black-tailed Myiobius sitting unobtrusively close to the road with everyone else walking past it. This slightly confusing family were flycatchers but now find themselves in the Tityra family. So confusing the Ridgley phone app missed it completely! We did however manage great views of our first Ornate Flycatchers (and still a tyrant flycatcher!) to redress the balance. Andrea was determined to get better views of a Club-winged Manakin and we were rewarded with fabulous views of a male using its wings to produce the totally unique sound. Whilst he has seen them before Rob listed this bird as one of his favourites of the whole trip.

After Lunch Andrea offered us the opportunity to visit a completely different dry forest very close to the border with Peru called Arenillas Ecological Reserve. It was about a 90 minute drive away but it was well worth it. Turning off the Pan-American highway we drove down a long entrance track through dry scrub with some amazing trees and it was hard to believe we were in the same country. We were in fact now in the Tumbesian region, most of which is in Peru but it stretches into Ecuador and is home to several specialities.

We had tantalising glimpses of birds in the trees before Andrea spotted a raptor near the road perched in a tree. It turned out to be a Hook-Billed Kite, probably the closest all of us have ever been to one. We arrived at the central ranger point to be greeted with an incredible cacophony of birds. There seemed to be Pacific Horneros, Long-tailed Mockingbirds and Fasciated Wrens everywhere and they seemed to be constantly squabbling with each other. In one of the trees there were lots of Yellow-rumped Caciques making their unique sound and Shiny Cowbirds



Hook-billed Kite

joined them in the puddles on the track. A short walk and with the aid of a Pygmy Owl call we quickly picked up a number of new species including Amazillia Hummingbird, Tropical Gnatcatcher and both

*Slaty Becard*

stopped. Somehow he had spotted a Common Potoo perched in a roadside tree! As we were watching the Potoo a Great Black Hawk flew by and perched conveniently in a nearby tree. A fitting farewell to a great reserve where we probably only scratched the surface. The drive back was pretty uneventful but dusk was falling as we started up the entrance road to the lodge and a Common Parakeet was sat right in the middle, although unbeknown to us poor John was asleep and was somewhat surprised to hear it called when we did our bird list that evening!

White-edged and Yellow-tailed Orioles. A Crimson-breasted Finch and a Snowy-throated Kingbird sat at the top of a tree and a Pacific Pygmy Owl came in to see what was happening. Rob then found our main target in the area, a White-tailed Jay, a very attractive and range restricted bird and not a bird I expected to see on this trip.

We retraced our steps to the open area near the ranger station where a family of Slaty Becards were very active in one of the trees and a Streaked Flycatcher showed well as we headed into a different area of scrub. Species found here included Collared Antshrike, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Ecuadorian Ground Dove and Streaked Saltator. As we headed back to the bus it looked like we had missed out on one of our targets, Ecuadorian Piculet, but Nathaniel latched on to some movement in the Becard tree as we were about to board and there it was! Happy, we all boarded the bus back to the lodge but as we drove down the track to the main road Francisco suddenly

*Ecuadorian Piculet*

Day 5 Umbrellabird Lodge, Catamayo, Loja - Zamora Old Road, Copalinga Lodge

Breakfast at 0545, as was now our custom, as we awoke for our final morning at Umbrellabird Lodge before heading east and a long drive ahead.



Guayaquil Woodpecker

However, we had a few things to tick off beforehand and as we were about to set off on a walk Francisco found one of our targets, four Pale-billed Aracaris in the trees above our room. One target down, we headed up the road and amazingly two Guayaquil Woodpeckers arrived to order with the male drumming from the top of a dead tree, fabulous!

Given the distance to travel we were soon on our way driving up into the Andes on what was another sunny, hot day. Not quite what I expected in the wet season. The sky was full of Turkey and Black Vultures and we got a great view of a soaring Grey-backed Hawk. We had a *banos* stop after about three hours of spectacular driving and a chance to buy snacks and ice creams, much to John's delight. The drive was an opportunity for much conversation with Liz and Nathaniel exchanging many football stories and John regaled us with tales of his life as a sports commentator. Birders do have other interests as well! We pushed on to Catamayo, a place we would become familiar with later in the trip, and

drove up to an area of open scrub on a hillside overlooking the airport and local rubbish tip – who said birding isn't glamorous!

We quickly picked up Tumbes Sparrow and Ash-breasted Sierra Finch but then started on what became one of the most challenging quests of the trip, the gorgeous arch skulker, Elegant Crescent-chest. They could clearly be heard calling in the dense low scrub but seeing them was a different matter. Andrea called one very close to us but a fleeting glimpse was too quick for nearly all of us but gave a clue on how difficult this was going to be. A couple of Tawny-crowned Pygmy Tyrants were a bit more obliging but the quest went on until another bird came in close and suddenly Nathaniel shouted out he had it in view on the ground calling. Some of us managed to get on it but it rarely sat still for long and the strong winds meant every time it was found, it went before we could get everyone on it. Frustratingly by the time we had to leave, having had a picnic lunch up there, half the group still hadn't seen it, although Andrea assured everyone we would get another chance later in the trip – more to come on this saga then!



Tumbes Sparrow

We pushed on through Loja and soon found ourselves at much higher altitudes and entering the huge Podocarpus National Park for the first time, where the agricultural clearance was replaced by dense forests. As we descended on the eastern slope a whole new cast of species awaited us. Our first stop was at the top of the Old Loja – Zamora road and the chance to finally put a bogey bird to rest for me and it turned out for Chris as well. We parked near a bridge and there below us were two Torrent Ducks! If there is a more charismatic member of the duck family I have yet to see it and watching them swimming in the rapid flow of the Zamora river was fantastic. We actually saw six in the end so that is one itch well and truly scratched! We also found White-capped Dipper and Torrent Tyrannulet as well so ticked off all three of the classic fast river species.



Torrent Duck

It was pretty clear that the trees around the river abounded with birds and a number of mixed flocks came through.

It was tricky to try and pick them all out in the dense foilage and impossible to photograph them. Those we did see clearly included Silver-beaked, Summer, Blue-necked, Green and Gold and White-lined Tanagers, Olivaceous Siskin, Blackburnian Warbler and Geoff and Nathaniel picked out a Little Woodpecker. An Inca Jay calling from a nearby tree was joined by several others and a female Cock-of-the-Rock was seen across the river. It was hard to tear ourselves away, particularly as Geoff kept finding new things just as he was about to board the bus, but Andrea was keen we got to Copalinga before dark, so we reluctantly left this fabulous spot with a promise of revisiting the south end of this road in a few days' time.

We were soon in Copalinga and checking in to our rooms. Nathaniel and I were put in the highest bungalow at the lodge, a stunning location but boy was it steep getting there! The car park is planted with Verbena and the area in front of the bar/restaurant has a number of feeders. The hummingbird cast was completely different here and gave us an opportunity to collect a whole new set of species. On the first evening this included Greenish Puffleg, Chestnut-breasted Coronet, Black-throated and Violet-fronted Brilliants, Many-spotted Hummingbird and Golden-tailed Sapphire. As the light was fading fast a Sickle-winged Guan came down to the feeders to bring down the curtain on a day that involved a fair bit of travelling but the chance to enjoy a rich variety of birds.

Day 6 Copalinga Lodge and Podocarpus NP (Bombuscaro entrance)

After the mainly dry weather to date it rained very heavily overnight, hammering down on the roof of our bungalow and after a short respite again whilst we had breakfast. Fortunately, the rain stopped



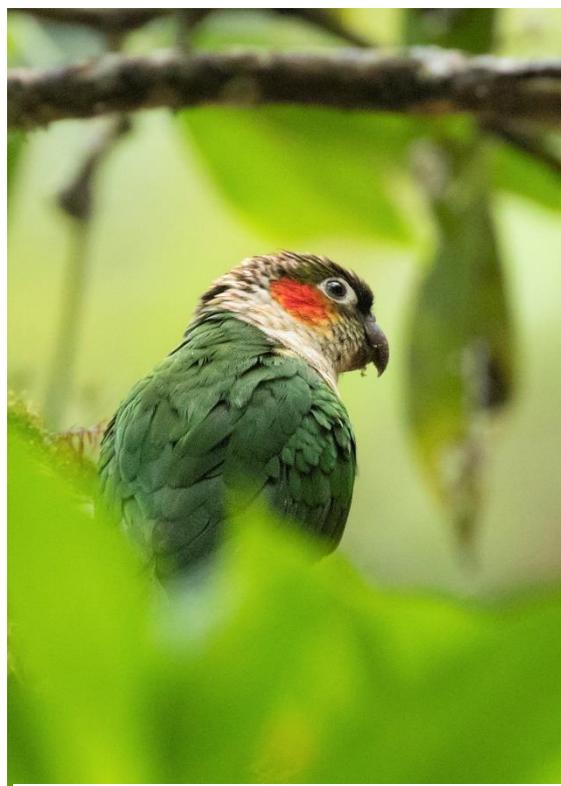
Podocarpus NP - Bombuscaro River (Phil Dargue)

as dawn broke so we boarded the bus to drive down the road to the Bombuscaro entrance of Podocarpus NP. It is a fairly short drive but Francisco was forced to stop as part of the road had washed away in the overnight storm so we had no option but to walk along the road above the river. The scenery is truly spectacular here with the forest plunging right down to the river on both sides and there was a truly primeval feel to it. The birds were beginning to stir, not least a large flock of Swifts including Chestnut-collared, White-collared and Short-tailed flying over the river. The riverside trees proved good hunting ground for new species with a very obliging Lefresnaye's Piculet amongst them. Tanagers began to appear with Spotted and Yellow-bellied the first of the day along with a Greyish Saltator.

We eventually reached the car park at the proper entrance to the national park and started the trail towards the administration centre. The track was steep and slippery so we took it at a steady rate to

ensure everyone was together and looking out for a lot of species. In many areas it is possible to look down on the treeline which made a pleasant change from staring into the canopy from below. One vantage point rewarded us with views of both Blue and Black-faced Dacnis and Yellow-throated Chlorospingus. As we approached a parrot lick a White-necked Parakeet flew into a nearby tree before joining a group in a bare tree by the side of the path. These really are truly beautiful birds and gave us fantastic views before finally deciding to fly off showing off their gorgeous wing feathers. Continuing on we eventually came to the administration centre to be greeted by the unmistakable sound of Crested and Russet-backed Oropendolas calling from a tree festooned with nests. We also met our only primates of the trip, two White-fronted Capuchins.

The forest around the clearing proved to be particularly rewarding with our first Paradise Tanager dazzling us with frustratingly glimpsed views as well as Saffron Crowned, Green-and-gold and Golden-eared and a very obliging Swallow Tanager. Ornate Flycatchers seemed to be everywhere and we also picked up Ochre-bellied Flycatcher and the rare Foothill Elaenia amongst others in the same area. A little further on we found Blue-rumped and White-crowned



White-necked Parakeet

Manakins, the latter displaying but incredibly high above us. However, our efforts to find Coppery-chested Jacamar proved to be in vain as we headed back to the bus for lunch. Fortunately Francisco had managed to get the minibus through to the car park so we boarded and we were quickly back at Copalinga.

The plan after lunch was to bird the area around the lodge itself which proved to be very productive. The lodge staff topped up the fruit feeders and we quickly had a stunning Green-and-gold Tanager right in front of us, once the Coati had decided to go and sleep off his lunch in a nearby tree! A male Green Honeycreeper came in as well as White-lined Tanagers and Buff-throated Saltators. We also had a visit from three Speckled Chacalacas who proved easier to photograph than the local Guans! The hummers of last night were joined by Wire-crested Thorntail, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Sparkling Violetear and a spectacular Black-eared Fairy. The trees in the area were dripping with Tanagers with Paradise and Blue-necked particularly common and Olivaceous Woodcreepers and Ash-browed Spinetails lower down the driveway. In the car park area a surprisingly attractive Yellow-browed Sparrow was present along with a very obliging pair of Red-crested Finch. The old owner's house across the road proved equally fruitful with Olive-striped and Piratic Flycatchers plus a Pale-eyed Thrush being particular highlights.



Green-and-gold Tanager



Red-crested Finch

At 4 o'clock we set off on a double quest. Firstly we went in search of the Jacamar. In short no luck and this was beginning to feel like another bogey bird scenario. We then headed off to the Grey Tinamou feeder, surely a nailed-on certainty. We arrived at the due time and all stood patiently waiting near the small screen after the maize was put out for them. A very noisy flock of Inca Jays descended, followed by three Grey-fronted Dove and Orange-billed Sparrows (both attractive birds by the way)

but the star bird refused to show. We could hear them and Little Tinamou as well but they refused to show so after an hour we gave up and headed back down the trail.

As dusk descended, we had one last treat. We drove a short way back towards the national park to catch pretty good views of Blackish Nightjar on an open hillside, initially against the skyline but later

in torch light. A good end to a decent day but we had missed out on the Jacamar and Amazonian Umbrellabird had also eluded us. Tomorrow was another day!

Day 7 Podocarpus NP (Bombuscaro entrance), Mi Paradise and Zamora



Amazonian Umbrellabird

After our usual early breakfast we headed straight to the entrance to Podocarpus with a clear objective. It was only just light as we set off to the administration centre on a direct walk without stops. On arrival we could clearly hear our first quarry calling and Andrea set off to track it down with instructions to stay where we were. Within minutes she was back and asked us to hurry up to the top of a very long set of steps where suddenly in the tree were two male Amazonian Umbrellabirds displaying. To see these large birds (apparently the largest passerine in South America) at a lek was a real treat and something Andrea had never seen before. The two males seemed to be very tolerant of each other and happily called alongside whilst inflating their throat pouches. It was very hard to tear ourselves away but as we got to the bottom of the hill one of them landed on a bare tree top and continued to give us a show. A real trip highlight.

Having nailed our first target we then turned our attention to the second, our old nemesis the Coppery-chested Jacamar. As we retraced our steps to the car park Andrea tried the call until near the parrot lick site one finally responded. It gradually came closer but was seemingly out of sight until Nathaniel found it in the dense foliage above us. Seeing it meant balancing on a small mound and us all shuffling around, not easy. It didn't stay long before flying above us and into the dense vegetation once more. Just as we were about to leave the area I realised a flock had started to come through and the first bird I saw was a Red-headed Barbet. I called everybody back for the Barbet and set about trying to see what the other birds were. At that moment Nathaniel called out that the Jacamar was back and sitting out in the open. Finally we all got unobstructed views thanks to the Barbet. I still wonder what else we missed in that flock!

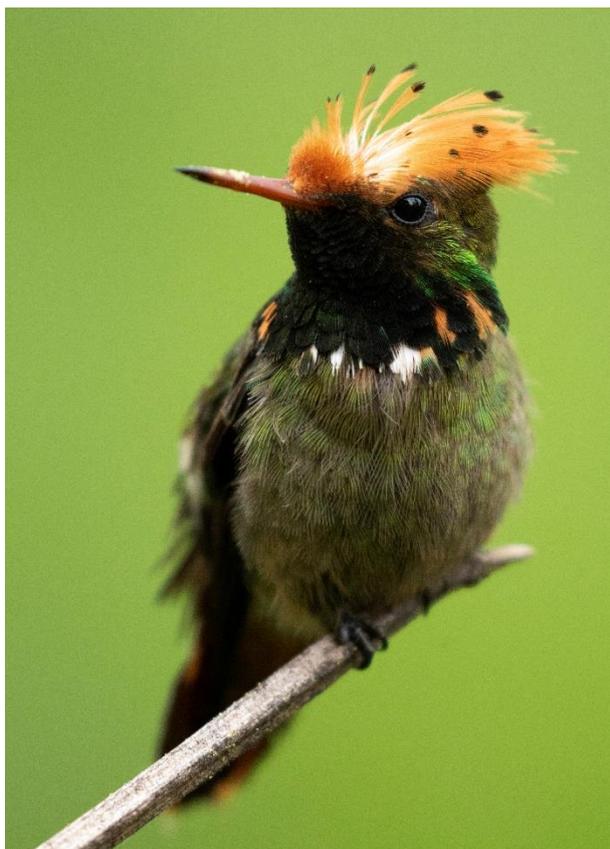
In buoyant mood we boarded the bus for a new site that had only recently opened which was about an hour away. Mi Paradise has one particular species

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Coppery-chested Jacamar



Spangled Coquette

down on to get great views. These included Paradise, Blue-necked, Palm, Blue-grey (here it is the very attractive eastern sub-species with white wing patches) and a real treat, Turquoise Tanager which came up close. One real highlight for Rob was a Yellow-bellied Dacnis sitting right out in the open, a good view of a difficult to see bird. Other highlights included a White-eyed Parakeet, Scaled Pigeon, Masked Tityra and a fabulous male Gilded Barbet. Reluctantly the time to leave came and Christian the owner was keen to get our feedback on how to develop his project. It definitely needs toilets but the real trick will be to restrict the improvements to maintain the habitat and improve the viewing facilities to cover more than just the hummer areas. It really is a gem and we all wished him success in making a go of his new venture.

We headed to a nearby gas station for a quick comfort stop where we saw another Gilded Barbet to add to our growing fuel station bird list but sadly for John no ice creams! We then set off back towards Zamora and pulled off to try our luck in a

that used to be seen at Copalinga and was a personal target, Spangled Coquette, but it turned out to be so much more than that. The good roads soon got us to the Yantzaza area but the next problem was finding Mi Paradise. Fortunately the owner met us on the road and led us through a completely anonymous gate and up a muddy track. So far not so promising but as we reached the top of the hill we could see an extensive area of Verbena buzzing with hummers and immediately we had male Spangled Coquettes in front of us. What followed was several hours of magical birding. For the record the hummers included Blue-tailed Emerald, Glittering-throated Emerald, Golden-tailed Sapphire and the miniscule Little Woodstar that is not much bigger than a bumble bee.

Away from the Verbena the birds just kept coming. A very noisy family of Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers kept us entertained whilst a pair of Long-tailed Tyrants came very close. Tanagers seemed to abound making particular use of an open bare-branched tree which we could look



Blue-tailed Emerald



Turquoise Tanager

neglected land can produce so many species in a way we rarely see back in the UK now outside reserves.

Our final call of the day was by the river in Zamora town centre where we got a few odd looks from the local teenagers who were gathered on a Saturday afternoon. We soon found our target, Mottled Eleania, a striking member of this normally fairly drab group, giving great views. We headed back down to Copalinga, getting very close up views of a male Swallow Tanager on the way. We got back in time to try again for the Grey Tinamou but unfortunately with the same result, so that had to go down as one that got away (another guest said he had come across them on the path earlier in the day just to add to the frustration). However, that couldn't put a dampener on what had been a fantastic day's birding and on reflection my favourite day of the whole trip.

Day 8 Copalinga lodge, Old Loja Zamora Road, Podocarpus NP – Cajanuma entrance, Loja Botanical Gardens, Tapichalaca



Paradise Tanager

series of wet fields to see what was around. They didn't disappoint with Black-capped Donacobious calling from the long grass found straight away. There were a number of Chestnut-bellied Seedeaters, lots of Striated Herons, Great Kiskadee, Black Caracaras, Violaceous Jay, Blue-headed Parrots and both Amazon and Ringed Kingfishers to name just a few. We also found a Magpie Tanager, a sizeable bird and very conspicuous on its perch. I love birding these

sorts of areas where a piece of

The next morning, we left early from Copalinga as it was very quiet at the lodge and we had a long journey to Tapichalaca. with the promise of some great locations on the way. It was sad to leave my favourite lodge (hard choice in reality) but the promise of more birds always helps. Our first stop wasn't too far. As promised, we stopped at the lower end of the Old Loja-Zamora road by a bridge over the Zamora river. We instantly



Cock-of-the-Rock

of frustration at the lack of other Tanagers or anything else apart from Great Thrushes and a solitary Purple-throated Sunangel. We got back to the ranger station to find all the cyclists we drove past now at the top so it was pretty busy and devoid of birds so we started to walk down the mountain hoping our luck would change. However, apart from a Plain-breasted Hawk that nearly flew in to us the birds were still mainly absent. We also had to avoid suicidal cyclists now hurtling down the hill! We tried a couple of other stops without too much success although we did see a fabulous male Glowing Puffleg and Francisco found a White-banded Tyrannulet. Whether it was the cyclists or the weather was hard to tell but this was a slight disappointment compared to the goodies we knew the site held.

We headed back towards Loja to visit the Botanical Gardens which hold a couple of local specialities. First we had to wait for the gate to open at 1 o'clock so we ate lunch at the gate. Once inside we didn't have to venture too far to find the birds. On the way in Liz found a Rose-breasted Grosbeak but the rest of us managed to miss it as we weren't listening; a lesson learnt there, as we were too busy looking for the Rainbow Starfrontlet that we all did see. We also found the very local Loja Hummingbird which is

found two Cliff Flycatchers on the wires over the river before strolling up the road birding the roadside trees. There were good numbers of Tanagers including Guira, Bay-headed, Blue-necked and our best views of Paradise Tanagers of the trip. We also found Chestnut-vented Conebills but a call on the radio told us that Francisco had found a male Cock-of-the-Rock. After a bit of chasing around we all got fabulous views of it, plus some females, before it flew off up river. I could have stayed here for hours but Andrea kept us on the move with the promise of more birds to come.

A quick fuel stop in Loja added Golden-Olive Woodpecker to our fuel station list before we headed south towards another entrance to Podocarpus NP at Cajanuma. It was Sunday morning and we shared the 7Km steep entrance road with the Loja mountain bike club, who seemed to be everywhere on the way up. We drove right to the ranger station at the top but when we got there it was cold, wet, misty and very windy. We got out of the bus and immediately saw a Lacrimose Mountain Tanager but shed our own tears



Rainbow Starfrontlet



Three-banded Warbler

The town centre was buzzing on a busy Sunday afternoon with busy restaurants and bars and numerous ice cream sellers. With everyone having grabbed their snack of choice we pushed on further south to Tapichalaca. This meant leaving the sunshine behind and climbing slowly into the cloud covered mountains.

We arrived at Casa Simpson, our home for the next two nights, to find a welcome wood burning stove to combat the distinctly chilly temperatures outside. Having quickly checked in we were soon back outside watching another new cast of hummingbirds. Chestnut-breasted Coronets were incredibly numerous and dominated the feeders. These were joined by Collared Incas, Speckled Hummingbird, Fawn-breasted Brilliant and both Amethyst-throated and Little Sunangels. Masked Flowerpiecer was also a frequent visitor to the nectar feeders. We walked back down onto the road to bird the forest on either side where we located a mixed flock descending the hill below the lodge. This contained a number of Lacrimose Mountain Tanagers, Pearled Treerunner, Grey-headed Bush Tanager, Blue-and-black Tanager and Cinnamon Flycatcher amongst others. Sadly before we could check out more birds the cloud literally rolled up the hill and we were down to virtually nil visibility. We had no option but to give up and head back to the lodge where we saw Bearded Guan and Yellow-breasted Brushfinch on the corn



Chestnut-breasted Coronet

either a sub species of *Amazilia* or a separate species depending on which authority you prefer. A number of Silvery Tanagers appeared high above us before we found our other main objective, a very obliging Three-banded Warbler. Mission accomplished, we headed south to a promised ice cream stop at Vilcabamba where suddenly we were back in warm weather and sunshine. This is a really vibrant town surrounded by affluent houses famous for the longevity of its citizens and a large expat US population.

feeders. The cloud showed no sign of lifting so we were forced to retreat to the bar, grab a beer and dream of Antpittas tomorrow!

Day 9 Casa Simpson and Vallodolid



Chestnut-naped Antpitta

lodge a Rufous Antpitta hopped out onto the path and was also happy to come for the food put out for him and I suspect he will soon be habituated as well.

After a quick comfort break back at the lodge we headed off to look for the undoubted star turn of the day (and trip for most of us). This meant driving up the road and then the start of a tricky trail to reach the feeding site. Visibility was poor and we passed several good birding locations with virtually no visibility, so pushed on. The path got wetter and more challenging but everyone was determined to get there. We came across a small group of Golden-crowned Tanagers, which are real stunners but sadly the mist drained the colours out of them. A noisy group of Yellow-billed Caciques were joined by some Rufous Wrens before we eventually got to the feeding site and sat down for a nervous wait,

Today was the day we would search for the fabled Jocotoco Antpitta, the headline bird of this tour and still a recent discovery. We had our usual early breakfast with the weather outside looking distinctly unpromising. Dawn was struggling to break through the clouds and the recent very wet weather meant the wellingtons were finally needed. Our first appointment was with a Chestnut-naped Antpitta at a feeder site quite close to the lodge. We set off along the wet track and despite the weather there seemed to be birdsong everywhere. As we got to the feeder station, Andrea picked up calling White-capped Tanagers very close by. The light was terrible as they took flight right above our heads. Sadly this proved to be the best view of the trip for one of my personal targets but there was no mistaking them. No sooner had they flown through than the Antpitta appeared feeding on the worms put out by Diego from the lodge. The first reaction was wow, it is huge! It hopped about happily posing on the perches although the photographers were struggling with the lack of light. As we walked back to the



Jocotoco Antpitta



Orange-banded Flycatcher

Andrea's best efforts it stubbornly refused to reappear. A Chusquea Tapaculo called from the undergrowth and Geoff and a few of the group managed to see it before it disappeared into the murk. We retraced our steps to another feeding area where a White-throated Quail-Dove came in quickly, strutting about in front of us on the path, before we carried on through the rain back to the bus. We did get one final treat when a Hooded Mountain Tanager landed right in front of us feeding on a small fruiting bush.

Once back at the lodge we watched the rain pour down as we had lunch. It did ease off but the mist clung on. We tried to bird the road outside the lodge again and again picked up a mixed flock including Black-crested Warbler and Black-throated Tody-Tyrant amongst species we had seen previously. However, the mist rolled in even more so we decided to head down the valley to look for better weather. Diego joined us and we hadn't gone very far before we stopped. A Turquoise Jay was in the roadside trees below us giving what

especially after our Tinamou experience. We were told that 0830 was the key time and suddenly at 0829 the Jocotoco Antpitta appeared to a mixture of relief and delight. It really is a remarkable looking bird which fed and preened right in front of us. Pancho (the name this male has been given) continued to display and it was the sound of other birds nearby that led us to leave him reluctantly rather than the other way round.

We walked a little beyond the feeding site and quickly found the source of the call - a Grey-breasted Mountain Toucan, a real favourite of mine. A small flock of Orange-banded Flycatchers were then found and came very close which was just as well in the mist. As the mist rolled back and forth it was a matter of luck if we could spot the birds. We did manage to see both Barred and Green-and-black Fruiteaters (taking us up to five Cotingas for the trip) and a White-sided Flowerpiercer before we heard another Antpitta calling. Unfortunately only Helen and Nathaniel got a view of it crossing the path and despite



Hooded Mountain Tanager

would have been unbelievable views had the visibility not been down to a few metres! Still, a beautiful bird.



Golden-eared Tanager

We dropped down into a small town called Valladolid which took us into an area known as the Maranon Drainage. The Maranon river is actually in Peru and flows into the Amazon and some of the birds here are on the northern limits of their areas. The weather in the valley was completely different and we had a couple of hours of warm weather birding just checking the fields and gardens on the edge of the town.

We parked near the river and were soon onto new species or in a couple of cases much better views of birds we had already seen. The latter included Silvery Tanager and a fabulous Golden-eared Tanager in an orchard. The former included two Black-faced Tanager, a really attractive but subdued member of this often gaudy family. Further into the village we found Yellow-bellied Eleania and a Rufous-fronted Thornbird amongst the commoner Tanagers. A roosting Pacific Pygmy-Owl attracted a lot of attention from other birds including a Long-tailed Sylph and a Black-eared Fairy amongst others. After a bit of searching we found a key speciality, Maranon Thrush, with several birds in the top of a dead tree. We did get a few odd looks from some of the locals as we wandered around the town staring into bushes through expensive optics!

We started to head back up the mountain road towards Tapichala with Diego and Andrea listening and watching the forest as we progressed. We stopped and disgorged from the bus when they spotted an Andean Solitaire in the open. This was a bird I had only heard before so was keen to see. Everyone else seemed to pick it up but just as I finally worked out where it was it flew! Oh well, I will just have to visit South America again! A Broad-winged Hawk was calling from a nearby tree as we walked a little way up the steep road. Diego was clearly looking for something in



Maranon Thrush

the roadside scrub and Andrea mentioned there could be Paynter's Brushfinch around and was trying the call. We found a Blackburnian Warbler in the bushes to our right before something shot over our heads and perched in the open and there it was! This is listed by many as a separate species (including Ridgley which is good enough for me!) but by others as a sub species of White-winged Brushfinch. It looks



Paynter's Brushfinch

completely different in reality, is separated by a distance and mountains, and is itself very range restricted. It sang happily in front of us for a long time and we got video footage of it as well as photographs and later discovered this was a lifer for Andrea! A real tour highlight for all of us.



Yellow-breasted Brushfinch

We continued up the mountain hoping it would be clearer at Casa Simpson but this was a forlorn hope so it was time to grab a beer and watch the feeders in the last of the light. This did bring both Chestnut-capped and Yellow-breasted Brushfinch as well as the Bearded Guans before we retired for dinner and a group photo with the enormous wooden Pancho in the lounge area!

Day 10 Casa Simpson, Cerro Toledo, Vilcabamba, Catamayo

As was now familiar at Casa Simpson we awoke to another damp, misty and cold morning. The weather here really does have a very different feel to it to everywhere else we went but it is clearly attractive to many birds and especially Antpittas! After breakfast we tried our luck on the road again but despite hearing White-capped Tanagers we couldn't see them and the rain started to pour down

so Andrea decided we should go and look for better weather elsewhere and a better chance of new birds.



Amazilia Hummingbird

possibilities which was a bit frustrating. A little more time here, better weather (cold and windy again) and the chance to go higher would have been great but you can't have everything.

We headed into Vilcabamba again and pulled over by some overgrown fields on the edge of town where Andrea called in a Plumbeous Rail right by the side of the road. It took a while for everyone to see it given it never stood in the open but everyone saw it in the end. The fields had a fair number of birds around including *Amazilia* Hummingbird, Rufous-browed Peppershrike and Hooded Siskin. We headed into the town centre for snacks and ice-creams and to enjoy again the lively atmosphere in the town which seemed to be full of school children. We left heading north to Catamayo but before we got there we stopped off in the small town of Malacatos to check out the swallows nesting on the pretty blue and white church. It didn't take too long to spot Chestnut-collared Swallows flying from their quite distinctive nests high up on one of the towers.

It didn't take that long to leave the mist behind as we headed north retracing our steps from Sunday. We turned off onto the dirt track heading up towards Cerro Toledo. The road actually goes right up to the paramo but Andrea was concerned about going too high after recent landslips had left birders stranded 15 km from the main road and no way through! As we climbed higher we left the cultivated land behind and entered some really beautiful forests. We found a Tyrian Metaltail alongside the road but the forests seemed very quiet until Andrea spotted a lot of birds moving through the trees. We quickly climbed out of the bus just as a Grass-green Tanager was disappearing into the distance but other birds were still around including a pair of Streaked Tufted-cheeks, Blue-and-black Tanager and Black-capped Hemispingus. We suspected we had just arrived a bit too late for much of the flock before they dropped into the valley below and so we drove a bit further up before time constraints meant we had to turn around. Sadly we didn't find our target species, Masked Mountain Tanager or any of several other



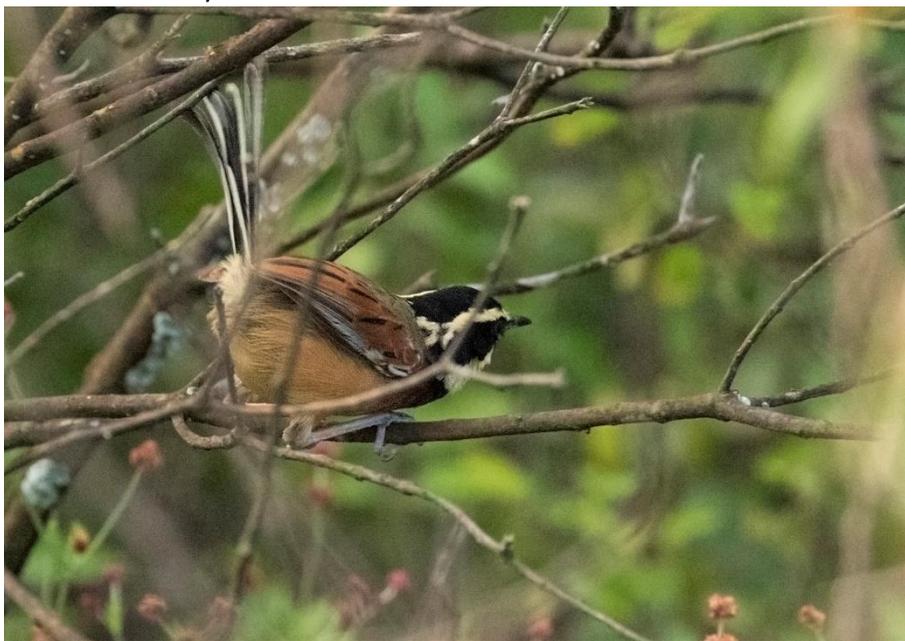
Long-tailed Mockingbird and Pacific Pygmy Owl

Mission completed we then continued on until we turned down a dusty track towards a chicken farm and pulled over for lunch. We were close to Catamayo in what was dry scrubby habitat and amongst the calling Long-tailed Mocking Birds and Pacific Horneros you could hear our nemesis, the Elegant Crescentchest calling. Lunch over we set off looking for the arch skulker but despite Andrea's best efforts they refused to come anywhere near us. We walked down the road and Nathaniel caught sight of an unexpected White-tailed Jay disappearing round the corner. Geoff spotted a Peregrine Falcon on a nearby ridge before we found no less than five Jays much to Nathaniel's relief as we all thought he was stringing us along! Alongside the jay a Collared Antshrike was in the same tree before a Southern Yellow Grosbeak appeared very close by. A Pacific Pygmy Owl sat in a tree close to the track and attracted the usual cast of birds mobbing it including a Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet. We kept trying for the Crescentchest without success but we did find a number of Plumbeous-backed Thrushes to add to the trip list.



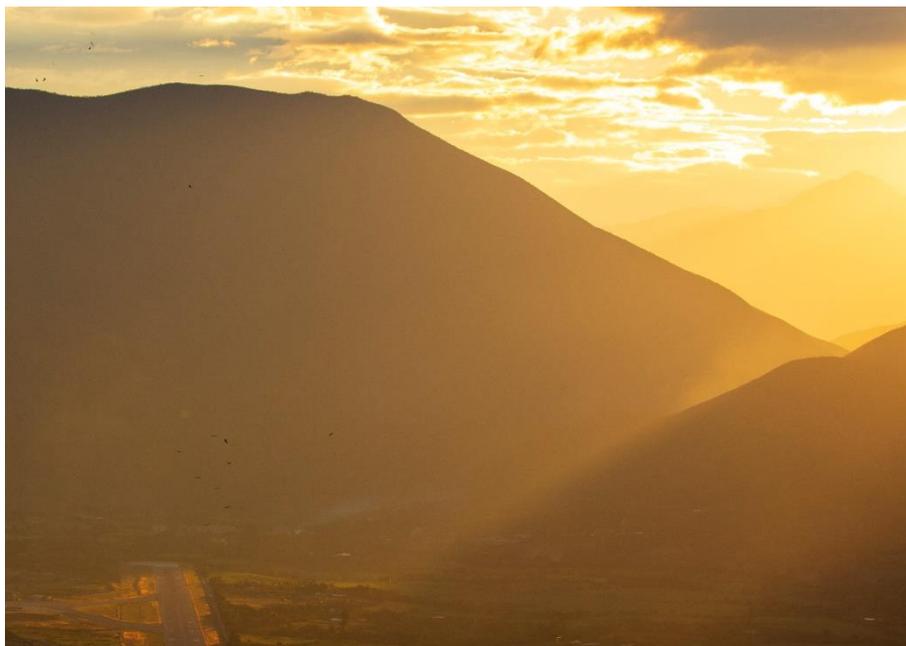
Southern Yellow Grosbeak

Having had no success Andrea took us to another site with pretty similar results sadly. We did see the splendour that was Drab Seedeater though – what an inspiring name! Finally Andrea decided to head back to the site we tried several days ago to see if the rest of the group could finally nail the Crescentchest. However, in the meantime I had a species I was determined to see having missed it on Day Two whilst still travelling out. As we drove past the flat open fields near Catamayo Airport Geoff spotted a Peruvian Meadowlark on a post but I missed it! Francisco swung the bus round in a fuel station and finally I saw not one but two of the colourful beauties. Job done, we headed through the



Elegant Crescentchest - a typical view!

town and back up past the rubbish tip. We got out of the bus to check out a few birds flying around and found a flock of Grassland Yellow-Finch as well as Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch we had seen before. Croaking Ground Doves were everywhere and yet again we could hear Elegant Crescentchests calling from numerous spots. It was now



Black Vultures circle in the sunset above Catamayo Airport

pretty late in the day and we watched the 1730 flight take off from the airport below but the birds were at last responding. One called very close to us and again some of the group saw it but John, Sharon and Liz missed it. At one point I walked up the hill to collect my scope as I came back I looked down and there it was in the open looking at me! I didn't have my camera and by the time I called everyone over it had

dived back into the bushes. In the end and after a lot more effort from Andrea I believe everyone saw it but it certainly proved the most frustrating, if one of the most striking, birds of the trip.

We headed back into Catamayo for our final night of the trip at the Gran Hotel Marcjohns which is a slightly odd place right in the centre of town with a fast food place as its restaurant. Still we were able to buy cheap beer from the shop over the road even if the food wasn't the best we ate on the trip.

Day 11 Catamayo, Antisana and flight back to the UK



Andean Condor

Our final day dawned and we checked out of the hotel and headed five minutes down the road to the airport. The flight was just over an hour and we arrived into Quito airport where we said goodbye to Chris and Geoff. They had been to Antisana before so were heading to Papallacta Pass instead where they were staying for an extra night. The rest of us were met by Chris and we were soon heading up the road to our highest point of the whole trip.

As we got beyond the suburbs of Quito and climbed above the quarry we suddenly saw six Andean Condors on the ridge ahead of us. We pulled over to the view point at Antisanilla (owned by the Jocotoco Foundation) where we had three Condors right in front of us giving fantastic views. We also had Black Flowerpiercer, Tyrian Metaltail and Shining Sunbeam in the flowers below us. We didn't have much time so we moved on quickly to the cold, windy and cloudy plateau. The snow clad peaks were unfortunately

covered today but it is still a magnificent place. As we progressed up the road we collected the local specialities including Chestnut-winged and Stout-billed Cinclodes and Plain-capped Ground-Tyrant. As we went higher we stopped to check out a small herd of White-tailed Deer, Nathaniel spotted a superb male Cinereous Harrier quartering over the grassland – my bird of the day.



Stout-billed Cinclodes

We carried on higher and had close up views of Black-chested Buzzard Eagle, more Condors before we found good numbers of Carunculated Caracaras and Andean Ibis. We eventually came to the ranger station beyond which is a large reservoir. You are at over 4,000 metres here and it was cold, windy and drizzling as we walked to the water's edge. Fortunately, all our target species were close together so we quickly picked up Silvery Grebe, Yellow-billed Pintail, Andean Teal, Andean Duck and Slate-coloured Coot. As we walked back to the ranger station we saw several Andean Lapwings to add to the list. At the ranger station itself we quickly found our other key targets , namely Tawny Antpitta,

Ecuadorian

Hillstar, Many Striped Canastero and Andean Tit-Spintail. Just before we boarded the bus a couple of Black-winged Ground Doves landed but time was pushing on so we headed for lunch at Tambo Condor and our final birding of the trip.



Andean Ibis

The hummingbird feeders offered us a couple of



Shining Sunbeam

new species. We soon found the Black-tailed Train Bearer in amongst the Sparkling Violetears and Shining Sunbeams but we couldn't find our other target. We had a superb lunch whilst keeping an eye out through the windows but still no joy. We therefore headed down the hill to another set of hummer feeders on the ridge. These were laden with Shining Sunbeams glowing in the brief period of sunshine before our quarry appeared, a Giant Hummingbird! Quest over we set off back up the hillside and now really felt the effect of the altitude as we climbed back to the bus. We all made it back and then it was off to the airport.

We passed through a town where the kids seemed to be covering each other in mud, flour and water. Andrea explained it was part of the upcoming Mardi Gras season. Before long we were at the airport where we said our farewells to Chris and particularly Andrea who had led our tour

really well combining her tremendous knowledge of the Ecuadorian avifauna with her considerable organisation skills. We checked in for the long flight home and I am pleased to report that everything went to plan and we all got our connections at Schiphol to end a fantastic Naturetrek adventure.

Day 12 Flight to UK

Home!



Andean Condor



Geoff, Chris, Helen, Andrea, Nathaniel, Pancho the Jocotoco Antpitta, Liz, John, Sharon, Rob, Phil. Francisco

Trip List

In total the group saw 404 species, although no one saw every single species. We recorded a further 10 heard only in the list below.

List order follows eBird:

	Common name	Scientific name	Comments
1.	Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>	Heard only (Day 1 plus Copalinga)
2.	Grey Tinamou	<i>Tinamus tao</i>	Heard only (Copalinga)
3.	Pale-browed Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus transfasciatus</i>	Heard only (Arenillas)
4.	Horned Screamer	<i>Anhima cornuta</i>	10 at La Gartera
5.	Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Circa 400 at Manglares / Churute plus 2 at Arenillas IBA
6.	Fulvous Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	350 at Manglares / Churute
7.	Comb Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis sylvicola</i>	Single female on pool near La Gartera
8.	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	Couple seen during boat trip

9.	White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>	25 on roadside pools near Santa Rosa
10.	Torrent Duck	<i>Merganetta armata</i>	6 + Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
11.	Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>	1 at Laguna la Mica, Antisana
12.	Andean Teal	<i>Anas andium</i>	2 at Laguna la Mica, Antisana
13.	Andean Duck	<i>Oxyura ferruginea</i>	3 at Laguna la Mica, Antisana
14.	Rufous-headed Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis erythroptera</i>	3 at Umbrellabird Lodge
15.	Speckled Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis guttata</i>	3 at Copalinga Lodge + Zamora area
16.	Bearded Guan	<i>Penelope barbata</i>	3 at Casa Simpson
17.	Sickle-winged Guan	<i>Chamaepetes goudotii</i>	1 at Copalinga Lodge
18.	Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	Small flock at Santa Rosa on taxi drive to Buenaventura by Nathaniel/Phil only
19.	Silvery Grebe	<i>Podiceps occipitalis</i>	6 at Laguna la Mica, Antisana
20.	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Every sizeable town!
21.	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	Fairly common
22.	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	Distant bird at Mi Paradise
23.	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	Very common around Tapichalaca
24.	Plumbeous Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas plumbea</i>	3 at Buenaventura on the old road between lodge and shrine
25.	Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>	3 at Buenaventura on the old road between lodge and shrine
26.	Ecuadorian Ground Dove	<i>Columbina buckleyi</i>	7 at Arenillas IBA also La Gartera (4+)
27.	Croaking Ground Dove	<i>Columbina cruziana</i>	Seen at Arenillas IBA and Catamayo area also La Gartera
28.	Blue Ground Dove	<i>Claravis petriosa</i>	3 at La Gartera
29.	Black-winged Ground Dove	<i>Metriopelia melanoptera</i>	3 at Antisana, near the ranger station
30.	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	2 at Arenillas IBA
31.	Grey-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>	3 at the Tinamou feeder, Copalinga Lodge
32.	White-throated Quail-Dove	<i>Zentrygon frenata</i>	1 at the Tapichalaca feeder area
33.	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	Widespread at many locations
34.	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Fairly widespread
35.	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	Arenillas IBA and Vilcabamba
36.	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve + 1 at Copalinga
37.	Blackish Nightjar	<i>Nyctipolus nigrescens</i>	1 on the Bombuscaro Road
38.	Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	1 on the lower Buenaventura Reserve road

39.	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
40.	Chestnut-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne rutila</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and Copalinga areas
41.	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and Copalinga areas
42.	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	1 in amongst other swifts on the Bombuscaro Road
43.	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	Very common at Umbrellabird Lodge feeders
44.	Band-tailed Barbthroat	<i>Threnetes ruckeri</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve
45.	White-whiskered Hermit	<i>Phaethornis yaruqui</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve
46.	Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>	Regular at the Copalinga Lodge bar feeder!
47.	Long tailed Hermit (Barons Hermit)	<i>Phaethornis longirostris baroni</i>	Manglares/ Churute+ Umbrellabird Lodge
48.	Stripe-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve
49.	Green-fronted Lancebill	<i>Doryfera ludovicae</i>	1 on Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
50.	Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>	Common at Buenaventura Reserve
51.	Sparkling Violetear	<i>Colibri coruscans</i>	Ruled the roost at Copalinga Lodge!
52.	Purple-crowned Fairy	<i>Heliothryx barroti</i>	1 on the road below Umbrellabird Lodge
53.	Black-eared Fairy	<i>Heliothryx auritus</i>	1 on the feeders at Copalinga Lodge
54.	Amethyst-throated Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus amethysticollis</i>	Regular on the feeders at Casa Simpson
55.	Little Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus micraster</i>	Regular on the feeders at Casa Simpson
56.	Purple-throated Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus viola</i>	1 at the Cajanuma entrance to Podocarpus
57.	Wire-crested Thorntail	<i>Discosura popelairii</i>	3 in the car park at Copalinga Lodge
58.	Green Thorntail	<i>Discosura conversii</i>	Common at Buenaventura Reserve
59.	Spangled Coquette	<i>Lophornis stictolophus</i>	At least 6 of this stunning hummer at Mi Paradise
60.	Speckled Hummingbird	<i>Adelomyia melanogenys</i>	Feeders at Casa Simpson
61.	Long-tailed Sylph	<i>Agelaiocercus kingii</i>	A single bird in Valladolid
62.	Violet-tailed Sylph	<i>Agelaiocercus coelestis</i>	Upper feeder station at Buenaventura
63.	Ecuadorian Hillstar	<i>Oreotrochilus chimborazo</i>	Antisana
64.	Black-tailed Trainbearer	<i>Lesbia victoriae</i>	3 at Tambo Condor, Antisana
65.	Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>	1 at Cerro Toledo
66.	Greenish Puffleg	<i>Haplophaedia aureliae</i>	1 on the feeders at Copalinga Lodge

67.	Glowing Puffleg	<i>Eriocnemis vestita</i>	1 superb male at Cajanuma
68.	Shining Sunbeam	<i>Aglaeactis cupripennis</i>	Common at Tambo Condor
69.	Brown Inca	<i>Coeligena wilsoni</i>	3 at upper feeders, Buenaventura
70.	Collared Inca	<i>Coeligena torquata</i>	Regular at the feeders at Casa Simpson
71.	Rainbow Starfrontlet -	<i>Coeligena iris</i>	1 at Loja Botanic Gardens
72.	Chestnut-breasted Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua matthewsii</i>	Prolific at Casa Simpson, also at Copalinga
73.	Velvet-purple Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua jardini</i>	Umbrellabird Lodge and upper feeders at Buenaventura
74.	White Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i>	3 on the upper feeders at Buenaventura
75.	Peruvian Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus peruanus</i>	Copalinga feeders and Old Loja-Zamora Road
76.	Black-throated Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa schreibersii</i>	Feeders at Copalinga Lodge
77.	Fawn-breasted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa rubinoides</i>	Upper feeders at Buenaventura, + Copalinga and Casa Simpson
78.	Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>	Feeders at Umbrellabird Lodge
79.	Violet-fronted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa leadbeateri</i>	Common at Copalinga Lodge
80.	Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>	1 at Tambo Condor
81.	Little Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus bombus</i>	Several of this bumble bee size hummer at Mi Paradise
82.	Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>	A male and female at Mi Paradise
83.	Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>	Regular visitor at Copalinga Lodge
84.	Crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>	Common at the feeders at Umbrellabird Lodge
85.	Fork-tailed Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania furcata</i>	Feeders at Copalinga Lodge
86.	Many-spotted Hummingbird	<i>Taphrospilus hypostictus</i>	1 on the feeders at Copalinga Lodge
87.	Amazilia Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amazilia</i>	Arenillas area and other locations
88.	Loja Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amazilia alticola</i>	1 at Loja Botanic Gardens
89.	Andean Emerald	<i>Amazilia franciae</i>	Feeders at Umbrellabird Lodge
90.	Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>	2 on the feeders at Mi Paradise
91.	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	Reasonably common around Buenaventura
92.	Golden-tailed Sapphire	<i>Chrysuronia oenone</i>	On the feeders at Copalinga Lodge
93.	Violet-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Juliomyia julie</i>	Common on the feeders at Umbrellabird Lodge

94.	Rufous-sided Crake	<i>Laterallus melanophaius</i>	Heard only (near Zamora)
95.	White-throated Crake	<i>Laterallus albigularis</i>	Heard only (Buenaventura)
96.	Plumbeous Rail	<i>Pardirallus sanguinolentus</i>	A single bird in a roadside ditch in Vilcabamba
97.	Slate-coloured Coot	<i>Fulica ardesiaca</i>	12 at Laguna la Mica, Antisana
98.	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	A juvenile in a flooded field near Zamora
99.	Andean Lapwing	<i>Vanellus resplendens</i>	5 near Laguna la Mica, Antisana
100.	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	1 in a flooded field near Zamora
101.	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	2 near Santa Rosa
102.	Limpkin	<i>Aramus Guarauna</i>	15+ en route to Manglares/Churute
103.	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Present at La Gartera and near Santa Rosa
104.	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	25 at La Gartera
105.	Andean Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus serranus</i>	Large numbers at Antisana
106.	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	Near Santa Rosa
107.	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>	3 near Santa Rosa
108.	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Santa Rosa Shrimp pools
109.	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	2 on boat trip
110.	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	45 near Santa Rosa
111.	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	30 from boat trip
112.	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	6 at Santa Rosa
113.	Fasciated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma fasciatum</i>	A single adult by the Bombuscaro road
114.	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	Good numbers from boat trip and Santa Rosa Shrimp pools
115.	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Common Manglares/ Churute and Santa Rosa Shrimp pools
116.	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Santa Rosa Shrimp pools + near Zamora
117.	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Widespread
118.	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Small numbers seen on boat trip
119.	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3 in Guayaquil at dawn
120.	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Single on boat trip
121.	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	Santa Rosa Shrimp pools and flooded fields near Zamora
122.	Andean Ibis	<i>Theristicus branickii</i>	At least 5 at Antisana
123.	White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	50+ around Manglares/Churute
124.	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	Santa Rosa shrimp pools

125.	Andean Condor	<i>Vultur gryphus</i>	At least 6 of these magnificent birds at Reserva Antisanilla viewpoint
126.	American Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Seen every day of the trip
127.	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Seen every day of the trip
128.	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	15 or so from boat trip
129.	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	At a petrol station stop near Santa Rosa
130.	Grey-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>	1 immature near Manglares / Churute Res before Howler Monkey Trail
131.	Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>	Buenaventura Reserve flying plus an unbelievably close perched bird at Arenillas
132.	Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Large numbers around Buenaventura Reserve
133.	Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	Common on the coast road
134.	Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	Nest building pair around Umbrellabird Lodge
135.	Cinereous Harrier	<i>Circus cinereus</i>	Stunning male at Antisana
136.	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	1 on the path to see the Jocotoco Antpitta at Casa Simpson
137.	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
138.	Mangrove-Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus subtilis</i>	4 seen on boat trip
139.	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionali</i>	3 near La Gartera
140.	Barred Hawk	<i>Morphnarchus princeps</i>	2 flying below us at Buenaventura on the road between lodge and shrine
141.	Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>	Seen reasonably frequently
142.	Variable Hawk	<i>Geranoaetus polyosoma</i>	2 at Antisana
143.	Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>	2 above Catamayo and 4 at Antisana
144.	Grey-backed Hawk	<i>Pseudastur occidentalis</i>	Good views of this rarity at Buenaventura plus one on the road to Catamayo
145.	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	1 on the road between Casa Simpson and Vallodolid
146.	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	1 at Buenaventura on the old road between lodge and shrine
147.	Grey-lined Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	A single fly-by at Manglares /Churute
148.	Peruvian Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium peruanum</i>	Great views at several locations
149.	Black-and-white Owl	<i>Ciccaba nigrolineata</i>	2 birds at Umbrellabird Lodge giving great views

150.	Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>	1 female on the lower road at Buenaventura Reserve
151.	Ecuadorian Trogon	<i>Trogon mesurus</i>	Female from the Howler Monkey Trail Manglares / Churute
152.	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	1 near Zamora, 1 in Valladolid and also 5 at Manglares/Churute
153.	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	Brief views of 3 around Manglares/Churute
154.	Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	1 in wet fields near Zamora
155.	Coppery-chested Jacamar	<i>Galbula pastazae</i>	Great views (in the end!) of one at Podocarpus park at the Bombuscaro entrance
156.	White-faced Nunbird	<i>Hapaloptila castanea</i>	Heard only (Bombuscaro Road)
157.	Gilded Barbet	<i>Capito auratus</i>	Stunning male at Mi Paradise plus another at the fuel station in Yantzaza
158.	Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>	Male at Podocarpus NP
159.	Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucan	<i>Andigena hypoglauca</i>	1 at Tapichalaca in the mist
160.	Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>	Up to 4 at Umbrellabird Lodge
161.	Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	<i>Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii</i>	Several at Buenaventura (also shown as Yellow-throated in what is a very confusing taxonomy)
162.	Choco Toucan	<i>Ramphastos brevis</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve on the upper road
163.	Lafresnaye's Piculet	<i>Picumnus lafresnayi</i>	1 on the Bombuscaro entrance road to Podocarpus NP
164.	Ecuadorian Piculet	<i>Picumnus sclateri</i>	1 showed really well at Arenillas IBA
165.	Olivaceous Piculet	<i>Picumnus olivaceus</i>	2 at Buenaventura
166.	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>	6 very noisy birds at Mi Paradise
167.	Little Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates passerinus</i>	1 seen by a couple of the group on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
168.	Guayaquil Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus gayaquilensis</i>	A fantastic pair near Umbrellabird Lodge
169.	Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	2 on a broken palm stump near the Grey-cheeked Parakeets in Manglares/Churute
170.	Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>	Seen in Manglares/Churute and at the fuel station in Loja
171.	Black Caracara	<i>Daptrius ater</i>	Several in the trees in the wet fields near Zamora
172.	Carunculated Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus carunculatus</i>	Good numbers at Antisana

173.	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	On the wires around Quito and on the road up to Antisana
174.	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1 near Catamayo
175.	Grey-cheeked Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris pyrrhoptera</i>	Seen at a small colony in Manglares/Churute and on the road between Buenaventura and Catamayo
176.	Red-billed Parrot	<i>Brotogeris pyrrhoptera</i>	First seen at the El Oro parakeet site and then a flock of around 13 in Vallodolid
177.	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	Small flocks in the Zamora area
178.	Bronze-winged Parrot	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i>	Quite common in the Buenaventura Reserve area
179.	El Oro Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura orcesi</i>	Superb views of 5 birds near the nest boxes at Buenaventura
180.	Pacific Parrotlet	<i>Forpus coelestis</i>	About 15 around Manglares/Churute
181.	White-necked Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura albipectus</i>	Great views of this stunning parakeet at Podocarpus
182.	Golden-plumed Parakeet	<i>Leptosittaca branickii</i>	Misty views of up to 10 birds at Casa Simpson
183.	Red-masked Parakeet	<i>Psittacara erythrogenys</i>	Seen well from the veranda at Umbrellabird Lodge
184.	White-eyed Parakeet	<i>Psittacara leucophthalmus</i>	1 at Mi Paradise
185.	Collared Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus bernardi</i>	Seen at Arenillas IBA and then later around Catamayo
186.	Black-crowned Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus atrinucha</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve
187.	Lined Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus tenuepunctatus</i>	Heard only (Bombuscaro)
188.	Jet Antbird	<i>Cercomacra nigricans</i>	Single seen well in Manglares/Churute
189.	Slaty Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula schisticolor</i>	Several seen at Buenaventura Reserve
190.	Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Poliocrania exsul</i>	2 sightings in Buenaventura Reserve
191.	Black-headed Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>	Heard Only
192.	Elegant Crescentchest	<i>Melanopareia elegans</i>	Fabulous bird seen above Catamayo – what a challenge it was too!
193.	Plain-backed Antpitta	<i>Grallaria Haplanota</i>	Heard only (Bombuscaro)
194.	Jocotoco Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ridgelyi</i>	The headline bird didn't disappoint at Casa Simpson
195.	Chestnut-naped Antpitta	<i>Grallaria nuchalis</i>	Great views in terrible light at Casa Simpson
196.	Rufous Antpitta	<i>Grallaria rufula</i>	Hopped out onto the footpath to give great views at Casa Simpson

197.	Tawny Antpitta	<i>Grallaria quitensis</i>	2 near the ranger station on Antisana
198.	Slate-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula nana</i>	Shot across the path near the Jocotoco site at Casa Simpson and seen by a lucky few
199.	Chusquea Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus parkeri</i>	Typical Tapaculo views on a couple of occasions at Casa Simpson
200.	Blackish Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus latrans</i>	Heard only (Cerro Toledo)
201.	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	Seen at Manglares/Churute, Arenillas and Copalinga (different sub-species)
202.	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	Seen on a couple of occasions at Buenaventura
203.	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	Seen at both Buenaventura and Copalinga Lodge
204.	Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>	2 seen by Phil and Nathaniel at Podocarpus whilst lagging behind
205.	Spotted Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus erythropygius</i>	Two seen at Buenaventura on the upper road
206.	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	3 at Arenillas IBA
207.	Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	1 on the walk to the El Oro Parakeet site
208.	Streaked Tuftedcheek	<i>Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii</i>	2 in a mixed flock on Cerro Toledo
209.	Pale-legged Hornero	<i>Furnarius leucopus</i>	Fairly widespread and charismatic bird
210.	Chestnut-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes albidiventris</i>	Common on Antisana
211.	Stout-billed Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes excelsior</i>	Also common on Antisana
212.	Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia variegaticeps</i>	2 sightings at Buenaventura
213.	Montane Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia striaticollis</i>	1 at Podocarpus, Bombuscaro area
214.	Pearled Treerunner	<i>Margarornis squamiger</i>	Several seen around Casa Simpson
215.	Andean Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura andicola</i>	2 at the Ranger station, Antisana
216.	Rufous-fronted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus rufifrons</i>	1 in scrub in Valladolid
217.	White-browed Spinetail	<i>Hellmayrea gularis</i>	1 at Casa Simpson
218.	Many-striped Canastero	<i>Asthenes flammulata</i>	1 at the Ranger station, Antisana
219.	Ash-browed Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca curtata</i>	1 on the driveway at Copalinga Lodge
220.	Azara's Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis azarae</i>	3 on the path up to the El Oro Parakeet site, Buenaventura
221.	Golden-winged Manakin	<i>Masius chrysopterus</i>	1 at Buenaventura
222.	Blue-rumped Manakin	<i>Lepidothrix isidorei</i>	2 at Podocarpus NP, Bombuscaro area

223.	White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>	1 at Buenaventura Reserve and on Day One
224.	Club-winged Manakin	<i>Machaeropterus deliciosus</i>	Several at Buenaventura Reserve including 1 stunning male
225.	White-crowned Manakin	<i>Dixiphia pipra</i>	3 very high up displaying at Podocarpus NP
226.	Green-and-black Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola riefferii</i>	Several seen at Tapichalaca around Casa Simpson
227.	Barred Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola arcuata</i>	1 seen near the Jocotoco site at Tapichalaca
228.	Andean Cock-of-the-rock	<i>Rupicola peruvianus</i>	A couple of sightings on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd including a stunning male
229.	Amazonian Umbrellabird	<i>Cephalopterus ornatus</i>	A stunning trip highlight to see two lekking males near the admin centre at the Bombuscaro entrance to Podocarpus
230.	Long-wattled Umbrellabird	<i>Cephalopterus penduliger</i>	Seen well at the lek site at Buenaventura Reserve as well as very close to the lodge
231.	Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	Seen around Copalinga Lodge and Mi Paradise
232.	Slaty Becard	<i>Pachyramphus spodiurus</i>	Good numbers at Arenillas IBA
233.	Black-tailed Myiobus	<i>Myiobius atricaudus</i>	One very attractive bird close to the upper road at Buenaventura Reserve
234.	Pacific Royal Flycatcher	<i>Onychorhynchus coronatus castelnaui</i>	Single from the Howler Monkey Trail, Manglares/Churute
235.	Olive-striped Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes olivaceus</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and Copalinga
236.	Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus</i>	PN Podocarpus--R�o Bombuscaro
237.	Slaty-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon superciliaris</i>	2 sightings at Podocarpus, Bombuscaro area
238.	Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant	<i>Phylloscartes ophthalmicus</i>	Sightings on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd and in Podocarpus NP
239.	Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Pseudotriccus ruficeps</i>	Great views of 2 birds near Casa Simpson
240.	Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus pileatus</i>	2 at Buenaventura Reserve
241.	Black-throated Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus granadensis</i>	1 near Casa Simpson
242.	Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and Vallodolid
243.	Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus</i>	Several seen near Casa Simpson
244.	Cliff Flycatcher	<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i>	2 on the wires over the river on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.

245.	Ornate Flycatcher	<i>Myiotriccus ornatus</i>	Seen at Buenaventura and very common in Podocarpus
246.	Orange-banded Flycatcher	<i>Nephelomyias lintoni</i>	A small flock seen at Tapichalaca
247.	Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	Seen reasonably frequently
248.	White-banded Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus stictopterus</i>	1 seen at the Cajanuma entrance to Podocarpus NP
249.	Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet	<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>	1 in the scrub near to Catamayo
250.	Yellow Tyrannulet	<i>Capsiempis flaveola</i>	2 at Buenaventura Reserve
251.	Foothill Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis olallai</i>	1 at the Bombuscaro entrance to Podocarpus NP
252.	Pacific Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis olallai</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
253.	Mottle-backed Elaenia	<i>Elaenia gigas</i>	1 of this striking bird in central Zamora
254.	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	1 in Valladolid
255.	White-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>	1 in Loja Botanic Gardens
256.	Torrent Tyrannulet	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>	Several on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd
257.	Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias griseiceps</i>	2 at Buenaventura Reserve
258.	Golden-faced Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius chrysops</i>	1 at Copalinga Lodge
259.	Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Euscarthmus meloryphus</i>	Seen at several locations
260.	Bran-coloured Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>	A couple of sightings at Buenaventura
261.	Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	2 at Buenaventura Reserve
262.	Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Several sightings near the Bombuscaro river
263.	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Common sighting
264.	Plain-capped Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola alpinus</i>	Present at Antisana
265.	Masked Water Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola nengeta</i>	4 near La Gartera
266.	Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>	2 at Mi Paradise
267.	Ochraceous Attila	<i>Attila torridus</i>	Nesting pair on the lower road at Buenaventura
268.	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	Several in the fields near Zamora
269.	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	1 close to the El Oro Parakeet site
270.	Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	Seen fairly frequently
271.	Golden-crowned Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes chrysocephalus</i>	1 at the Bombuscaro entrance to Podocarpus NP
272.	Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
273.	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	A couple of sightings near Copalinga Lodge

274.	Snowy-throated Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus niveigularis</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
275.	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Seen every day in Southern Ecuador
276.	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	3 at Arenillas IBA and also in Vilcabamba
277.	Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>	1 on the upper road at Buenaventura
278.	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Seen at Arenillas and Buenaventura
279.	Chivi Vireo	<i>Vireo chivi</i>	Seen in the scrub around Valladolid
280.	Turquoise Jay	<i>Cyanolyca turcosa</i>	Close views of 1 in the mist below Casa Simpson
281.	Green Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yncas</i>	Common on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd and around Copalinga Lodge
282.	Violaceous Jay	<i>Cyanocorax violaceus</i>	1 at Mi Paradise and in the fields near Zamora
283.	White-tailed Jay	<i>Cyanocorax mystacalis</i>	3 at Arenillas IBA and then surprisingly 5 near to Catamayo
284.	Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	At least 5 in the wet fields near to Zamora
285.	Blue-and-White Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	Widespread
286.	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	Fairly widespread
287.	Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	Widespread
288.	Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	10 at La Gartera
289.	Barn Swallow	<i>Riparia rustica</i>	30+ at La Gartera
290.	Chestnut-collared Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon rufocollaris</i>	Colony on the church in Malacatos
291.	Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	Frequently seen
292.	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Seen at Buenaventura and Copalinga
293.	Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>	Reserva Tapichalaca y Casa Simpson
294.	Fasciated Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus fasciatus</i>	Noisy flocks at Arenillas IBA and most towns, often squabbling with Horneros
295.	Bay Wren	<i>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</i>	Seen at Buenaventura
296.	Rufous Wren	<i>Cinnycerthia unirufa</i>	Large numbers on the Jocotoco trail at Casa Simpson
297.	Grey-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>	Seen near the El Oro Parakeet site and the upper road at Buenaventura
298.	Song Wren	<i>Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus</i>	2 of this stunning Wren at Buenaventura on the lower road
299.	White-capped Dipper	<i>Cinclus leucocephalus</i>	Several seen on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.

300.	Long-tailed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus longicaudatus</i>	Very common in the dry, scrub areas
301.	Andean Solitaire	<i>Myadestes ralloides</i>	1 on the road below Casa Simpson
302.	Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	A few sightings near the Bombuscaro Road
303.	White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>	Several seen at the Bombuscaro area of Podocarpus NP
304.	Ecuadorian Thrush	<i>Turdus maculirostris</i>	Seen at Buenaventura Reserve
305.	Pale-eyed Thrush	<i>Turdus leucops</i>	1 in the garden of the old owners house at Copalinga Lodge
306.	Plumbeous-backed Thrush	<i>Turdus reevei</i>	3 in the scrub area near to Catamayo
307.	Black-billed Thrush	<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>	Common around Copalinga Lodge and Zamora
308.	Maranon Thrush	<i>Turdus maranonicus</i>	3 in Valladolid
309.	Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>	Everywhere at higher altitudes
310.	Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia laniirostris</i>	Common around Buenaventura
311.	Orange-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>	Frequent at Buenaventura and Copalinga
312.	Yellow-bellied Siskin	<i>Spinus xanthogastrus</i>	1 at Buenaventura
313.	Hooded Siskin	<i>Spinus magellanicus</i>	3 on the wires at Vilcabamba
314.	Olivaceous Siskin	<i>Spinus olivaceus</i>	3 on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
315.	Yellow-throated Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus flavigularis</i>	Common at Buenaventura Reserve and Podocarpus NP
316.	Ashy-throated Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus canigularis</i>	4 at Buenaventura on the old road between lodge and shrine
317.	Common Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus flavopectus</i>	5+ at Buenaventura
318.	Tumbes Sparrow	<i>Rhynchospiza stolzmanni</i>	Seen in the scrubby hillsides above Catamayo
319.	Yellow-browed Sparrow	<i>Rhynchospiza stolzmanni</i>	Around Copalinga Lodge and Zamora
320.	Orange-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon aurantirostris</i>	3 seen at the Grey Tinamou feeder
321.	Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	<i>Arremon brunneinucha</i>	3 seen at Casa Simpson
322.	Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	Everywhere!
323.	Yellow-breasted Brushfinch	<i>Atlapetes latinuchus</i>	Seen at Podocarpus NP, Cajanuma area and common at Casa Simpson
324.	Paynter's (White-winged) Brushfinch	<i>Atlapetes paynteri</i>	1 gave superb views on the road below Casa Simpson
325.	Peruvian Meadowlark	<i>Leistes bellicosus</i>	Common at La Gartera plus several in the Catamayo area
326.	Yellow-billed Cacique	<i>Amblycercus holosericeus</i>	Small flock on the Jocotoco trail

327.	Russet-backed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i>	Common at Podocarpus NP, Bombuscaro area
328.	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	Common at Podocarpus NP, Bombuscaro area
329.	Scarlet-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus uropygialis</i>	1 on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
330.	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	Buenaventura and Arenillas
331.	White-edged Oriole	<i>Icterus graceannae</i>	2 at Arenillas IBA
332.	Yellow-tailed Oriole	<i>Icterus mesomelas</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
333.	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Seen at Arenillas IBA and the Catamayo area
334.	Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>	4 in the wet fields near Zamora
335.	Scrub Blackbird	<i>Dives waczewiczi</i>	Very common around the coast and Buenaventura
336.	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Small numbers seen from boat trip
337.	Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitiayumi</i>	Widespread
338.	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>	Several seen around Old Loja-Zamora Rd and Casa Simpson
339.	Mangrove Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia peruviana</i>	Single showed well near the boat ramp in Manglares/ Churute
340.	Three-banded Warbler	<i>Basileuterus trifasciatus</i>	1 at the Loja Botanic Gardens
341.	Citrine Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis luteoviridis</i>	1 in a mixed flock at Casa Simpson
342.	Black-crested Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis nigrocristata</i>	A couple of sightings near Casa Simpson
343.	Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis fulvicauda</i>	Several on the road above Umbrellabird Lodge
344.	Grey-and-gold Warbler	<i>Miothlpsis fraseri</i>	Couple on the Howler monkey Trail at Manglares / Churute
345.	Russet-crowned Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis coronata</i>	1 at Casa Simpson
346.	Canada Warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	2 seen at Copalinga Lodge
347.	Slate-throated Redstart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>	Widespread in the forests
348.	Spectacled Redstart	<i>Myioborus melanocephalus</i>	Several seen around Casa Simpson
349.	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	1 on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
350.	Golden Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus chrysogaster</i>	Several in the Catamayo area
351.	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Single at Loja Botanic Gardens
352.	Black-faced Tanager	<i>Schistochlamys melanopis</i>	2 near Valladolid
353.	Magpie Tanager	<i>Cissopis leverianus</i>	2 in the fields near Zamora
354.	White-capped Tanager	<i>Sericossypha albocristata</i>	3 flew over the Antpitta feeder in the mist at Casa Simpson

355.	Black-capped Hemispingus	<i>Kleinothraupis atropileus</i>	3 in a mixed flock on Cerro Toledo
356.	White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	1 on the old road between lodge and shrine at Buenaventura
357.	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	Fairly widespread
358.	Flame-rumped Tanager (Lemon Rumped)	<i>Ramphocelus flammigerus</i>	Common around Buenaventura Reserve
359.	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	Fairly common on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd. and around Copalinga
360.	Hooded Mountain-Tanager	<i>Buthraupis montana</i>	Seen well above Casa Simpson
361.	Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus lacrymosus</i>	First seen at the Cajanuma entrance to Podocarpus and then Casa Simpson
362.	Golden-crowned Tanager	<i>Iridosornis rufivertex</i>	Several seen near Casa Simpson
363.	Orange-eared Tanager	<i>Chlorochrysa calliparaea</i>	3 near the admin centre at the Podocarpus, Bombuscaro area
364.	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Widespread but varied sub species including the very attractive eastern white winged variant
365.	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Widespread
366.	Yellow-bellied Tanager	<i>Ixothraupis xanthogastra</i>	Several sightings around the Podocarpus, Bombuscaro Area
367.	Spotted Tanager	<i>Ixothraupis punctata</i>	Seen at several locations
368.	Golden-naped Tanager	<i>Chalcothraupis ruficervix</i>	1 seen at the upper Buenaventura area
369.	Silvery Tanager	<i>Stilpnia viridicollis</i>	3 at Loja Botanic Gardens and again in Valladolid
370.	Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Stilpnia cyanicollis</i>	Widespread sightings of this stunning Tanager
371.	Blue-and-black Tanager	<i>Tangara vassorii</i>	Seen at Podocarpus, Cajanuma entrance, Casa Simpson and Cerro Toledo
372.	Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>	1 seen at the upper Buenaventura area
373.	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	3 at Mi Paradise
374.	Paradise Tanager	<i>Tangara chilensis</i>	Seen regularly in the Zamora/Podocarpus area
375.	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	Numerous sightings across a number of sites
376.	Golden-eared Tanager	<i>Tangara chrysotis</i>	Seen on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd, Podocarpus and stunning views in Valladolid

377.	Saffron-crowned Tanager	<i>Tangara xanthocephala</i>	Seen in Podocarpus NP near the admin centre
378.	Green-and-gold Tanager	<i>Tangara schrankii</i>	Old Loja-Zamora Rd, Podocarpus and on the feeders at Copalinga
379.	Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>	Seen at Buenaventura and Copalinga area
380.	Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>	Several seen around Buenaventura
381.	Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>	Great views at several locations
382.	Black-faced Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata</i>	Several sightings around Podocarpus and the Zamora area
383.	Yellow-bellied Dacnis	<i>Dacnis flaviventer</i>	1 gave great, if distant, views at Mi Paradise
384.	Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Seen at Podocarpus, Bombuscaro and Mi Paradise
385.	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	Seen at Buenaventura Reserve and Copalinga Lodge
386.	Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and Copalinga Lodge
387.	Chestnut-vented Conebill	<i>Conirostrum speciosum</i>	3 seen on the Old Loja-Zamora Rd.
388.	Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>	1 at Podocarpus, Cajanuma area and also at Antisana
389.	White-sided Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa albilatera</i>	2 sightings near Casa Simpson
390.	Bluish Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa caerulescens</i>	1 on the top path at Casa Simpson
391.	Masked Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa cyanea</i>	Regular on the feeders at Casa Simpson
392.	Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	<i>Geospizopsis unicolor</i>	4+ at Antisana
393.	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	<i>Geospizopsis plebejus</i>	Scrubby areas around Catamayo
394.	Slaty Finch	<i>Spodiornis rusticus</i>	1 female at Casa Simpson
395.	Grey-hooded Bush Tanager	<i>Cnemoscopus rubrirostris</i>	6+ around Casa Simpson
396.	Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	Widespread
397.	Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	10+ in the scrub above Catamayo
398.	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	Fairly widespread
399.	Drab Seedeater	<i>Sporophila simplex</i>	1 near Catamayo
400.	Chestnut-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i>	Large numbers in the fields near Zamora
401.	Chestnut-throated Seedeater	<i>Sporophila telasco</i>	Common in fields around La Gartera
402.	Thick-billed Seed-Finch	<i>Sporophila funerea</i>	2 on the lower road at Buenaventura
403.	Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch	<i>Sporophila angolensis</i>	2 on the Bombuscaro Road and at Mi Paradise

404.	Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>	Seen on the lower road at Buenaventura and at Arenillas
405.	Black-and-white Seedeater	<i>Sporophila luctuosa</i>	2 on the lower road at Buenaventura plus at Mi Paradise
406.	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	Buenaventura Reserve and the fields at Vallodolid
407.	Red-crested Finch	<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>	Male and female at Copalinga Lodge
408.	Crimson-breasted Finch	<i>Rhodospingus cruentus</i>	Singles at La Gartera and again at Arenillas IBA
409.	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	Common and widespread
410.	Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	Widespread
411.	Black-winged Saltator	<i>Saltator atripennis</i>	1 at Buenaventura on the old road between lodge and shrine
412.	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	1 on the Bombuscaro Road and another at Mi Paradise
413.	Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>	1 at Arenillas IBA
414.	Tricolored Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Couple seen in flight over fields at La Gartera



Loja- Zamora Old Road - Torrent Duck area