

Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula – Maya, Monkeys & Turtles

Naturetrek Tour Report

21 March – 30 March 2015



Bare-throated Tiger Heron by Peter Spillett



Green Turtle by Peter Spillett



American Crocodile by Carol Barnett



Las Villas Akumal by Mike Youdale

Report compiled by Mike Youdale
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Karel Beets Tour Manager and Local Guide
Fernando Roma Driver and Local Guide
With seven Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Saturday 21st March

We departed London Gatwick shortly after 1pm on our direct flight with British Airways to Cancun, Mexico, arriving just after 7pm local time. After quickly negotiating the formalities of passport control and baggage reclaim, the group assembled at arrivals to await our local guides, Karel and Fernando.

On meeting up with them we boarded our minibus which took us one hour south to our first hotel, the breathtaking beachside resort of Las Villas Akumal. Situated right on the edge of the beach, we were greeted by a clear starlit sky and the sound of waves breaking. This would be our home for the next three nights. After the long journey, everyone was rather tired and having checked in, made our way to our rooms for a good sleep before starting our exploration of the magnificent Yucatan Peninsula the following morning.

Day 2

Sunday 22nd March

Some of the group rose early, probably being gently awoken by the impressive array of sounds from the resident Great-tailed Grackle, a bird which we would become very familiar with throughout our stay in the Yucatan. We met at the pool at 7am for a look around the hotel grounds, hoping to get our first full day's bird list off to a flying start. Good numbers of Brown Pelican flew over the hotel in small flocks giving fantastic close views as they drifted lazily by. Looking towards the beach we could see an Osprey searching for its own breakfast. In the hotel grounds Tropical Mockingbird was a common sight along with Tropical Kingbird, Hooded Oriole and Yellow-backed Oriole, with our first and only Grey Kingbird also being seen. Peregrine Falcon and Turkey Vulture all put in an appearance before we headed upstairs to have breakfast. On the way some of the group came across our first endemic species of the tour, a Yucatan Woodpecker.

After breakfast our plan for the morning was to head towards Tulum, a Mayan walled City which served as the major port for Coba, a town that we would be visiting later in the week. Tulum was one of the last cities inhabited and built by the Mayas but old world disease is thought to have caused the demise of this city, with over 1,000 citizens residing here until the arrival of the Spanish. Tulum is now one of the best protected Mayan ruins on the Peninsula and due to this it is a very popular tourist attraction. From our hotel the ruins are only a short drive away and we were able to get there before the large numbers of tourists arrived, enabling us to enjoy the area and spend some time birdwatching around the site. As we were walking up to the ruins from the car park we stopped to admire the Elephant Ear tree, realising why it has such an unusual name. It was here that we came across our first Spiny-tailed Iguana which would prove to be a very common sight around the ruins and indeed for the rest of the trip. A single Common Basilisk, known locally at Jesus Christ Lizard (due to its running style), was also present although very cryptic in its camouflage in the leaf litter.

Whilst walking up to the ruins the second endemic bird species of the tour came into view, and not just one but a whole flock of them: the stunning Yucatan Jay, a magnificent black and blue bird, with a striking yellow bill, legs and bright yellow eye ring. In total around 30 individuals flew alongside the group and headed off in front of

us posing in the morning sunshine, perfect for a photograph. Whilst photographing these birds our first mammal of the tour strolled up to us. A very obliging White-nosed Coati wandered up to the area where we were stood and casually strolled through the group before heading back into the undergrowth.

More views of Yellow-backed, Orange and Hooded Orioles around the ruins kept us occupied, as did a beautiful Ruddy Ground Dove before our attention was led away by a small number of warblers feeding nearby. The first warbler we managed to see was a Palm Warbler, feeding on the short grass near the path. Yellow-rumped and Blackburnian Warblers also showed well, enabling us good views of their diagnostic features and great photographic opportunities. Later, a Yellow Warbler also gave us the same show, bouncing around the trees adjacent to the path. A lucky few also managed to see an Ovenbird feeding



Las Villas Akumal by Mike Youdale

on the short grasses near to the path. Magnificent Frigatebird, Osprey, Black Vulture, Caspian Tern and Royal Tern all showed well from the top of the 12ft cliff overlooking the Caribbean Sea. We then headed back to the hotel for lunch and away from the increasing crowds arriving into Tulum.

After lunch we took a short walk along the beach to Akumal where our main target was to snorkel with Green Turtles. Those who wanted to snorkel got geared up and headed out into the sea. To everybody's pure delight, within ten minutes we glimpsed our first of at least four Green Turtles feeding underneath us on the sea grass below. After watching these amazing creatures we headed further out to explore the reef. In the deeper water we were all treated to a huge array of marine fish with the highlights being two Cuttlefish, Coral Fish, Wrasse, Boxfish, and whilst returning to the shore, a beautiful Stingray.

We headed back along the beach towards the hotel spotting Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Laughing Gull, Little Blue Heron, Spotted Flycatcher and Social Flycatcher which all added to the day's bird list. Overall, it had been a fantastic first day exploring what the Yucatan Peninsula has to offer in glorious sunshine, and a great day's wildlife watching!

Day 3

Monday 23rd March

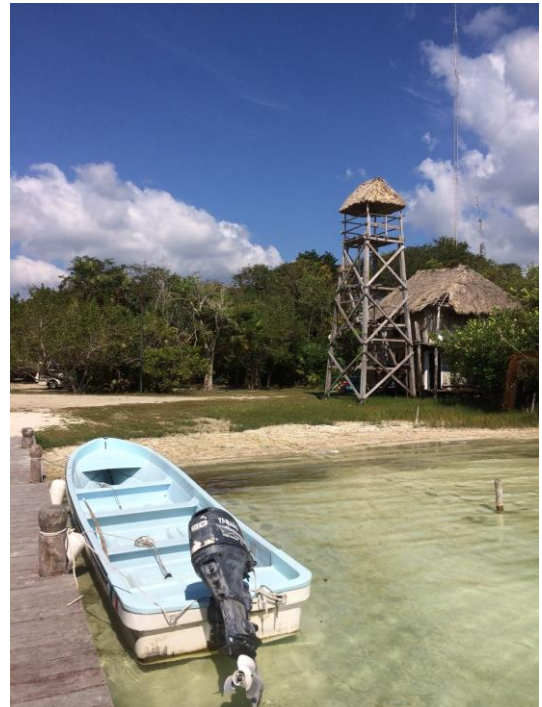
It was an early start this morning with the group meeting for breakfast at 6.30am before heading south to the magnificent Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve for a trip out into the lagoons to explore the mangroves. Just as we were getting into the minibus our first Plain Chachalaca of the tour flew into the tree above the us, calling loudly 'Chac,a lak'.

A 30 minute bus journey brought us to the first stop of the day, a small kiosk by the side of the main road where we needed to buy our tickets to enter the reserve. Whilst waiting for the tickets, the group took this opportunity

to stretch their legs and was rewarded with good views of Grey-crowned Yellowthroat feeding in the scrub, and high above the bus on a radio mast, two Blue-grey Tanagers.

We then drove to the dock where we met our boats for our two hour boat tour. On driving into the car park we were greeted by a Grey-necked Wood Rail which casually strolled out in front of the bus and across the car park. We headed out onto the lagoons, exploring the mangrove edges, and soon saw our first Green Heron of the tour. Other birds out on the lagoon were Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, Lesser Scaup, Lesser Yellowlegs, Neotropical Cormorant, Bronzed Cowbird and a stunning Hook-billed Kite.

We headed on through the Mayan-dug channels to an area of water where we were able to have a swim. The channel where we stopped led out into the sea and due to this had a very gentle current. Most of the group happily jumped in and allowed the current to take them along, whilst the remaining members of the group walked along the boardwalk in pursuit of more bird species. Common Yellowthroat and a brief Grey-crowned Yellowthroat were recorded with the mechanical rattling call of Belted Kingfisher all around us. We had good flight views of the Kingfishers as we continued along the boardwalk to meet the rest of the group at the end. From here we saw our first Wood Stork in the distance as it flew away from us, and also our first Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture amongst the more numerous Turkey Vultures. Another new bird for the tour list came in the form of a Squirrel Cuckoo which flew across whilst the group walked back to the boats to make the return trip to land.



Dock at Sian Ka'an by Mike Youdale

After landing we headed into the forest in search of more birds and were immediately greeted with our first and only Black-billed Cuckoo and the more numerous Brown Jays before turning our attention to some of the smaller passerines. A pair of Northern Waterthrush showed occasionally well whilst skulking in the undergrowth, and an American Redstart was seen before a Wedge-tailed Sabrewing flew in and stole the show, sitting happily above us on a small branch. Along the boardwalk we added another endemic species, the Yucatan Flycatcher which showed well albeit briefly in the trees above. We continued to follow the trail through the forest and came to an area which was a hive of activity. Here we managed to add Blue Bunting, Red-throated Ant Tanager, Hooded Warbler, Grey-headed Tanager and Ruddy Woodcreeper to our list, all of which posed really well for the photographers in the group to get some wonderful photographs of these brightly coloured birds. A Yucatan Squirrel then came through the trees and posed before heading deeper into the forest.

In search of more birds, we continued along the boardwalk and found Yellow-billed Cacique and Worm-eating Warbler before ending the trail and exiting the forest at a small Mayan Ruin. Whilst waiting for the minibus to arrive we explored the trees around the ruins and found an Ovenbird which showed really well for the group, and a Black-and-white Warbler. The bus then took us to the nearby town of Tulum for lunch.

Whilst eating, we were joined by a Blackburnian Warbler which sat on the handrails of the balcony and also a Yucatan Squirrel.

After lunch we drove back towards the north of Sian Ka'an in search of more shorebirds but sadly many of the access routes were closed and we couldn't get down onto the shore. We did however, have great views of a Common Black Hawk which posed for photographs near the roadside before drifting off in search of some lunch itself. We also drove past a local fisherman who stood out in the sea with his nets and was attracting the attention of the Brown Pelicans. They put on a real show for us by diving, catching fish and then following the fisherman back to the shore as he dragged in his laden nets. The fish also attracted the attention of nearby Magnificent Frigatebirds, Royal Tern and lastly an Osprey.



Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve by Mike Youdale

On the journey back to the hotel, we stopped to admire our first Grey Hawk of the trip, which was sitting on the electrical wires along the side of the road.

Day 4

Tuesday 24th March

After breakfast we left the coast and our wonderful beachside hotel and headed inland, but not before adding a new bird to our list: a Double-crested Cormorant which was fishing just offshore.

When the minibus was packed we headed towards Coba where we would be staying the night in Hotel Sac Be. We stopped a few times to photograph Turkey Vulture, Indigo Bunting and a female Hook-billed Kite, with some of the group also seeing a Rose-throated Becard. On reaching the hotel and waiting for our luggage to be unloaded, we looked around the trees surrounding the hotel and found three more new birds for the tour: Altamira Oriole, Northern Cardinal and Melodious Blackbird.

Our next destination was the ruins at Coba which is a large Mayan city located around two lagoons with a series of roads and trails branching off. At its peak, around 50,000 citizens inhabited this city and gradually built across the area. The ruins consist of ballgame courts and various pyramid structures, with the largest being the impressive Lxmoja Pyramid standing 42 metres high; the largest in the Yucatan Peninsula. Whilst exploring the ruins we also kept an eye open for the birds which were using the surrounding woodland. As soon as we entered the ruins we could hear a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl calling high in one of the trees, sadly though we couldn't locate it. Circling high above the ruins, Black Vultures kept watch whilst American Redstart and Social Flycatchers flitting around the trees nearby. We then heard the loud buzzing call of a small number of Masked Tityra which worked their way through the trees above us, and also a small flock of Olive-throated Parakeets flew over calling loudly as they went.

Further along the track we stopped to view Black-throated Green Warbler and Ruddy Woodcreeper. An Olivaceous Woodcreeper flew in, enabled us to add this to our growing tour list. On the ground two Spot-throated Wrens, Worm-eating Warblers and an Ovenbird were also present; all giving good views.

Finally we reached the Lxmoja pyramid and some of the group took on the challenge of climbing to the top of this impressive structure. The view from the top was well worth the climb, with uninterrupted views of the surrounding forests and the two lagoons of Coba. Vultures were seen circling on the thermals as far as the eye could see and after catching our breath from the climb and taking in the sights, we headed back down the pyramid to join up with the rest of the group. The temperature was really climbing now, but a Yucatan Flycatcher and Magnolia Warbler showed well for the group before we went in for some cold refreshments.



Pied-billed Grebe by Mike Youdale

Going back to the bus some of the group opted to take the tricycle pedicabs back to the entrance whilst the rest of the group had just about enough energy to walk back, finding Black-headed Trogon and Violaceous Trogon near the ruins. Ruddy Ground Doves were also a common sight as we headed back to a nearby restaurant to have our lunch on the side of Lake Coba. There we added Pied-billed Grebe, Blue-winged Teal and Neotropical Cormorants to our list.

The afternoon was a chance for the group to visit and enjoy the Cenotes which cover the Yucatan Peninsula. These Cenotes are large underground sink holes, formed by the collapse of the limestone bedrock above. They were used in the past by the Mayan civilization as one of the main sources of water. As we entered the Cenotes, bats were seen flying above us and roosting in the number of fissures and ledges on the Cenote roof. Group members who preferred to stay above ground were treated to fantastic views of Eastern Wood Peewee and the stunning Black-crowned Tityra. We walked a short distance to another nearby Cenote for another swim and after looking around the surrounding woodlands we found Olive-throated Parakeet and Clay-colored Thrush. We also had a very brief view of a Buff-bellied Hummingbird feeding on the flowers.

We started back to the hotel and came alongside Lake Coba again. Right in front of the bus stood our first Northern Jacana: a trip tick! As the temperature was dropping we decided to stop and explore the water edges to see what else we could find. A few new birds were recorded: Black-collared Seedeater, Orchard Oriole and Cinnamon Hummingbird. We also managed to see a roosting flock of Bronzed Cowbird, Palm Warbler and Common Yellowthroat along with the ever present grackles and kingbirds.

We boarded the bus and headed back to the hotel but only managed 400 metres when we stopped again to watch a family of Limpkin, two beautiful adults and two juveniles, being taught how to find food for themselves and being fed by the parents. On the wires above was a Blue Grosbeak whilst a small party of Chimney Swift flew overhead.

Day 5

Wednesday 25th March

We had a 6am start today to ensure we got to Punta Laguna as early as possible to try and see Spider Monkeys and possibly the much more elusive Howler Monkeys. Whilst waiting to leave the hotel the silhouette of a motmot appeared on the overhead wires just above the bus, the diagnostic tail flags showing well in the dark. The bird then flew across the road and under a light where we managed to see the striking plumage of the Turquoise-browed Motmot. We all enjoyed great views of this bird before we headed on off to Punta Laguna before it got too late.

We stopped a few times en route to add Roadside Hawk, Lineated Woodpecker and Pale-billed Woodpecker to our tour list, before arriving at Punta Laguna where we sat and enjoyed our breakfast whilst watching Squirrel Cuckoo, Greyish Saltator and our first White-fronted Parrots. A few Masked Tityra were easy to see in the trees and were a very welcome sight for those who missed them at the ruins in Coba the day before.



Punta Laguna by Mike Youdale

Punta Laguna is a 5,000 hectare reserve protected by the government but run by the local communities. It's known locally as Ma'ax

Yetel Kooh, which in Mayan means 'House of the spider monkey and the jaguar'. We were hoping for exactly that and met up with our local guide who would lead us around the trails of Punta Laguna in search of Spider Monkeys. Along the woodland trails we all managed to have good views of Indigo Bunting, Yellow-billed Cacique, Red-crowned Ant Tanager and some more White-fronted Parrots which posed perfectly in the tree above enabling the entire group to enjoy these birds and take photographs.

Whilst checking a Cenote for Mottled Owl, a Blue-crowned Motmot came into view and showed well for all the group to take photographs and enjoy this wonderful species; our second Motmot in only a few hours!

Other than Yucatan Squirrels we didn't manage to catch up with the Spider Monkeys, so we crossed the lagoon to explore another trail. Whilst walking along the trails we came across two ground-feeding birds which were showing their striking head markings thus identifying them as Green-backed Sparrows. On reaching the lagoon, two Least Grebes were showing well on the water, and as we were enjoying these our local guide managed to see three Howler Monkeys in the distant trees.

We followed a lower trail around the lagoon to the area where we had seen the Howler Monkeys, managing to see Black-headed Trogon beside the water and another pair of Spot-throated Wrens on the way. Reaching the area where the Howler Monkeys were seen, we tried hard to achieve closer views of this elusive animal but sadly we couldn't find them again. With the heat rising, we headed back to the bus but not before enjoying nice views of Yellow-throated Euphonia. We then returned to Coba to pack our luggage ready to move on to our next hotel.

With the luggage loaded we headed into Coba for our lunch and then on to the city of Valladolid where we spent a hour looking around. We even managed to find a Yucatan Woodpecker nesting in the main central park 'Francisco Cantón Rosado', enabling all to enjoy great views of this species.

We headed on to our next hotel, the beautiful Hacienda Chichen & Yaxkin Spa. After we had unloaded the bus and got settled into our rooms, we took a walk around the hotel grounds. Good numbers of Clay-colored Thrushes and White-winged Doves were present along with the regular grackles, kingbirds and Social Flycatchers. A Black Vulture soared low overhead, and whilst watching, it land in a tree. A Turquoise-browed Motmot came into view and showed well for some excellent photographs in the afternoon sunshine. Exploring the trails we came across another eight of these perfectly plumaged species with their call echoing through the surrounding forest. We also managed to find our first and only Thicket Tinamu which scurried off into the undergrowth, and a small number of Plain Chachalaca. It was here we also saw our first views of Green Jay sitting in a tree overhanging the path, and in the hotel grounds our first Yellow-winged Tanager was recorded. As the temperature dropped, more White-fronted Parrots flew overhead. The swifts were feeding much lower, enabling us to see both Chimney and Vaux's Swifts, and giving us chance to discuss the similar plumage features. Masked Tityra, Hooded Oriole and Altamira Oriole all showed well around the gardens with Ferruginous Pygmy Owl calling from the car park, but sadly we couldn't see it.

Day 6

Thursday 26th March

The plan for today was to head into Chichen Itza before it got too busy. By staying at Hacienda Chichen we only had a short walk to the site enabling us to beat the crowds. Before breakfast we took a walk through the wildlife refuge attached to the hotel grounds and found a few new birds for the trip list in the form of White-tipped Dove, Bright-rumped Attila, Black-headed Saltator and Least Flycatcher.



Temple of Kukulcan at Chichen Itza by Mike Youdale

After breakfast we were joined by a local archaeology guide who would be leading us to Chichen Itza and talking to us about the ruins. By staying at this hotel we were able to access the site at a quieter entrance reserved for hotel guests. Getting to Chichen Itza early meant that everyone managed great photographs of this Wonder of the World. Although this trip was mainly focusing on the history and archaeology of the site, we did manage to add Boat-billed Flycatcher to our tour list, and also had good views of Greyish Saltator and Turquoise-browed Motmot.

After lunch the group had some free time until we met in the evening for dinner. Some chose to relax around the pool where they had good views of Cave Swallow dropping down for a drink. Others chose to head into Chichen Itza to watch the Serpent of Light. This spectacle is seen down the north-western side of the main pyramid known as the Temple of Kukulcan during

the March and September equinox. During this time, a shadow cast by the angle of the sun and edges of the nine steps of the pyramid, combined with the northern stairway and the stone serpent head carvings, create the illusion of a massive serpent descending the pyramid. It is said to represent the Mayan creator god Kukulcan coming down from the heavens.

The rest of the group decided to explore the hotel's wildlife refuge further and were rewarded with another new bird for the trip: White-bellied Wren. Also in the refuge we had good views of Rose-throated Ant Tanager, Black-and-white Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Blue Bunting, Indigo Bunting, Rose-throated Becard and Green Jay.

After dinner some of the group remained in the lobby area, and for a second evening in a row we heard the prominent call of Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, this time calling from a tree right in front of the hotel. After lots of searching we finally managed to pick out this tiny owl sitting in the open; a fantastic end to the day!

Day 7

Friday 27th March

This morning we did some birdwatching around the hotel grounds, working our way through the gardens and into the Wildlife Refuge. During breakfast we had good views of Black-headed Saltator and a Grey Catbird in with the more numerous Clay-coloured Thrushes and Social Flycatchers which were busy building their nests near the lobby.

After breakfast we headed out through the various trails. Before we even managed to get to the hotel carpark we heard the Ferruginous Pygmy Owl calling, and added Scrub Euphonia and Rufous-browed Peppershrike to our tour list. This was the last day we would be inland so we tried to find as many species as possible which we probably would not see after we headed north.

Good numbers of White-fronted Parrots were showing well this morning in the trees as they left the morning roosts and headed out to feed. Some of the group who missed Rose-throated Becard earlier



Mayan palace gateway in the wildlife refuge by Mike Youdale

in the week were treated to fantastic views of this bird, allowing good photographs to be taken before it headed off. We continued our walk with Blue Bunting showing, and our first Blue-grey Gnatcatcher along with Golden-crowned Woodpecker. We were all brought to a halt by a loud drumming coming from a nearby tree, and although we couldn't locate it, we did manage a fleeting glimpse of a female Yellow-breasted Chat which worked its way through the undergrowth.

We took a track through some thick vegetation, obviously not regularly used, and came across some Mayan ruins which were being restored. With no public visiting this site it was a haven for birds, with over ten Turquoise-browed Motmots, White-lored Gnatcatcher, Tropical Pewee, Yellow-backed Oriole, Altamira Oriole and a couple of Squirrel Cuckoos. As we left the ruins we also saw our first Ivory-billed Woodcreeper, another tick to the tour list.

We started to head back towards the hotel, but before long heard a very close call from a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl. On hearing this bird so close, we started searching all the trees around us as the bird moved from perch to perch calling. Finally the Owl flew out of the trees and right over our heads and we all managed to have flight views of a bird which we had been struggling to see since arriving here. It flew towards us again but this time settled in a tree above us and those quick enough managed to see this owl perched, before it flew off responding to another owl calling further away. As we got closer to the hotel we again heard the loud repeated hoot of another close owl and looking directly above our head there it was, posing perfectly for everyone to have great views and take photographs. Just before we reached the hotel we again heard the drumming from a woodpecker close by and this time managed to locate a Lineated Woodpecker drumming away on a tree.

It was time to move on to our final hotel of the tour at Rio Lagartos in the north of the Yucatan Peninsula, so after we had packed the bus, we headed north, stopping at the city of Valladolid which we had visited a few days before. This time, however, it was only a stop for lunch before continuing north. The drive was very quiet with two species added to the tour list; a Cattle Egret seen feeding in the agricultural fields and an American Swallow-tailed Kite sitting in a tree near the roadside.

We arrived at our final hotel, Villa Pescadores by the shore of Rio Lagartos and after unpacking we made the most of the final hours of sunlight by walking along the shoreline. Hundreds of Laughing Gulls gathered on the fishing boats and piers along the water's edge and were joined by Brown Pelicans and Magnificent Frigatebirds.



Brown Pelicans at Rio Lagartos by Mike Youdale

Ruddy Turnstone was the latest addition to the tour list with ten sat on the fishing nets in some of the boats. Across the main road a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds swept into a tree calling loudly after they landed, one individual showing the bright red markings on its wing.

Whilst watching these blackbirds, a Vulture swept down and landed on the middle of the road, something we hadn't seen - a vulture J-walking! We raised our binoculars and much to our surprise, this bird showed a yellow head. The entire group managed to see the Lesser-yellow headed Vulture well as it took to the sky, soaring around us. We

continue down the shore road and while checking through the Laughing Gulls a juvenile Ring-billed Gull appeared; again a new bird for the tour list. By this time, birds were starting to head to their evening roosts with Tricolored Heron, Snowy Egret and Great White Egret flying over us and heading into the nearby trees.

We stopped to get a coffee at a bar which had nectar feeders hanging and immediately we were greeted by our first Mexican Sheartail which was subsequently chased off by a Cinnamon Hummingbird. We sat and enjoyed the hummingbirds, and just as we were about to leave, a Ruby-throated Hummingbird came in and joined the other two species. The group was able to get fantastic views and photographic opportunities. Whilst we sat and enjoyed our coffees and hummingbirds, flocks of American Flamingo started to fly in with small numbers of White Ibis. We headed back to the hotel to get ready for dinner, but not before enjoying good views of a Rosette Spoonbill which hopefully we would see much better the following day.

Day 8

Saturday 28th March

Our morning trip was out into Rio Lagartos on boats, trying to find all the birds which call this area their home, and hopefully managing to add a few new birds to our lists in the process. We set off from the hotel just after 7am and it was evident we were going to be in for a real treat, as we immediately added Black Skimmer, Marbled Godwit and Willet to our lists. With the Laughing Gulls, small numbers of Cabot Terns and two Ring-billed Gulls were present. As we slowly worked our way through the mangrove-lined channel, Reddish Egret, Great-blue Heron and Little Blue Heron were in good numbers. Our first American White Pelicans came into view with a small number of Brown Pelicans, all sitting on an exposed sand bar. Whimbrel and Long-billed Curlew were also added to the list before we turned to explore the other end of Rio Lagartos reserve. Good numbers of egrets and herons continued to be seen, and also one large flock of both White Ibis and Rosette Spoonbill were listed.

Birds of prey numbers also increased with Osprey being the most numerous followed by Black Vulture and Turkey Vulture. Common Black Hawk was also present with one showing only a few feet away as it enjoyed its freshly caught fish breakfast. Shortly after, whilst watching a Belted Kingfisher, we had a brief view of a Raccoon. On turning the boat around, we eventually managed good views of this generally elusive mammal. Whilst one boat was enjoying watching the Raccoon the other boat had stopped and was watching an American Crocodile which delighted the group as it caught a fish before disappearing.

Further down the river, whilst watching a mixed flock of egrets, a Black-crowned Night Heron was seen showing well in the bottom of the mangroves. Our attention was then taken by another heron, this time a Yellow-crowned Night Heron. One of the highlights of the morning trip was a Bare-throated Tiger Heron, generally a very elusive bird to find, but this individual stood still and posed for photographs enabling everyone to enjoy this magnificent species. We then headed up towards the salt lakes to see the large numbers of American Flamingoes that the reserve is so well known for. We were not disappointed. As we rounded the corner, large flocks of flamingoes with their rich pink colour were seen feeding further up the lagoon. But we stopped first to search a tree which was known to have roosting Boat-billed Heron. Luckily we timed it just right, and as we were approaching, a heron hopped between branches, and with a little more searching we managed to find three in total. Good numbers of Terns: Caspian, Royal, Forster's, Common, Least and Gull-billed, were also present, resting on a small island and this helped when comparing the different species. Some ducks were also seen with Fulvous Whistling Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Redhead and Northern Shoveler all being recorded as we started on our way back to shore. Our last new birds for the morning were Anhinga and Merlin.

After lunch we headed back towards the salt lakes, this time on land. We drove up the road from the hotel for a quick look at the hummingbird feeders, but they were being cleaned and changed so we had a look around the

mangrove areas near the bar and managed to find a Crested Caracara. This was our first of the trip and showed really well as it flew low over our heads. We also added Couch Kingbird to the list. Whilst heading to the salt lakes we passed a large lagoon which was full of egrets, and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs. At the very back of the lagoon we found our first Black-necked Stilts - a small flock of 37. We arrived at the salt lakes and immediately came across good numbers of American Flamingoes, and in amongst the Laughing Gulls and Cabot's Terns we managed to pick out two Kelp Gulls, again a new addition to the tour list. Good numbers of waders were also feeding in the shallow water: Semipalmated Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Sanderling, Wilson's Plover and Semipalmated Plover. Driving along the roads adjacent to the salt lakes an Eastern Kingbird landed on the fence and posed well for the group who all took photographs, and then an American Kestrel perched briefly, before flying off and eventually being lost from sight. We then headed back to the hotel.

Before reaching the hotel, we stopped by some scrubland just outside the town where a bright flash of red lit up the brown scrubland and shot up into a small bush. This was our first Vermillion Flycatcher of the tour and later a female flew in and joined it. Also around the scrubland Blue-grey Gnatcatcher was present with a couple of Lark Sparrows.

Day 9

Sunday 29th March

Today would be our last full day wildlife watching in the Yucatan Peninsula. We wanted to explore a little more of the surrounding area of Rio Lagartos and try to find some more of the endemic species which could be seen in this area of the state. We left the hotel early and went just outside of the town. Here we got out of the bus and walked along the road verges in search of birds in the scrublands on either side of the road. The sun was rising and the Red-winged Blackbirds were finding their voice along with the Great-tailed Grackles which made it harder to listen for the quieter Yucatan Wren. As we walked along the road, we soon came across our first Blue-black Grassquit of the tour and a small number of White-collared Seedeaters. Common Yellowthroats were numerous in the scrubland and whilst watching one individual we heard the call of the Yucatan Wren. Sadly we were unable to find where this bird had called from so we continued our walk.

Further up the road we came across a small pool of water which held a single Green Heron and two Northern Jacanas. Our attention was then quickly taken by a flash of bright red, blue and green which we managed to relocate on a fence just up the road: our first Painted Bunting! Whilst watching the bird the female also popped up and we watched the pair whilst they worked their way through the vegetation. Further along the road we had a moment of déjà vu, when a vulture landed on the road up ahead. Recalling what we had seen a few days before, we lifted our binoculars and yes, it was another Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture. It soon lifted off the road by an oncoming bus, moving the bird in our direction where it flew right over our heads. As we continued to walk along the road we heard the call of a few more Yucatan Wrens but they were being extremely elusive, although whilst scanning the verges, we



Brown Pelican by Mike Youdale

came across our first Groove-billed Ani. When we stopped at another water body, our attention draw to a small number of birds perched on the barbed wire adjacent to it. Here we watched Louisiana Waterthrush, Northern Waterthrush and Lark Sparrow amongst other species. All of a sudden we heard the call of another Yucatan Wren, this time in the vegetation just behind the barbed wire. Our first Yucatan Wren popped up into view before heading off through the vegetation and into a denser thicket where it was lost from view.

It was breakfast time so we headed down the road to park up to eat. Whilst we sat in the bus enjoying our breakfast, a Turquoise-browed Motmot, Brown-crested Flycatcher and Couch Kingbird kept us entertained along with a Northern Cardinal which sat on the telegraph post adjacent to the bus.

Breakfast finished, we headed off to a trail through mangroves at Teven Tuche. Whilst walking down the paths, American Restart, Mangrove Vireo, Northern Waterthrush and an Ovenbird were all seen. We worked our way down the track and stopped on a boardwalk as the mangrove started to burst into life with Yellow Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Yucatan Vireo and our first Scarlet Tanager of the trip. We followed the boardwalk around until we came to a small Cenote. In the trees around the Cenote, four Boat-billed Heron, a Cattle Egret and also a juvenile Bare-throated Tiger Heron showed well from the viewing platform. A Short-tailed Hawk flew over sending all the passerines into alert mode; Common Yellowthroat, Grey-crowned Yellowthroat, Magnolia Warbler and Northern Parula all showing well around the pond. In the Cenote two Crocodiles were present and we all managed to get good views of American Crocodile and Morelet's Crocodile.

The heat was starting to rise so we headed off, but not before seeing a Hooded Warbler sitting on the path ahead and then a Prothonotary Warbler flying in and sitting out in the open for everyone to see. On reaching the bus we drove over to San Fillipe where we had some lunch before heading back to the hotel to rest for the afternoon.

After the group was suitably rested, we headed out once again onto the water to enjoy an evening boat trip along the coast. Just like the first night when we arrived at Rio Lagartos, we watched flocks of flamingoes, herons, egrets and ibis all flying across the water, heading for their evening roosts. Most unfortunately, however, an accident between the two boats ended our trip early, and so we headed back to our hotel for the rest of our final evening in the Yucatan.

Day 10

Monday 30th March

Today was our last day in the amazing Yucatan Peninsula. For those wanting some last minute birding we headed out for a pre breakfast walk. We went out of town and stopped on the side of the road to try and find an American Swallow-tailed Kite. Sadly we couldn't locate one, but we did enjoy Northern Crested Caracara, Common Yellowthroat, Vermillion Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler and our first and only Botteri's Sparrow. We headed back to the lagoon that we had visited a few days previously, and then further up the road we glimpsed through the trees the bright white of egrets. We stopped and went quietly through the trees. This opened into another large lagoon bustling with birds. Good numbers of Wood Stork, Great White Egret, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Wood Ibis, Tricoloured Heron, American Coot, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Jacana and Black-necked Stilt were seen. It was a fantastic end to the morning's birdwatching and to the tour.

We headed back to the hotel for breakfast, and then packed our bags into the minibus and headed to Cancun airport to catch our afternoon flight back to London Gatwick.

All in all it had been a fantastic trip, helped enormously by Karel and Fernando, and thanks to everyone else on the tour whose good company, sense of humour and lively conversation made this thoroughly enjoyable from start to finish.

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Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; Pr = a pair; M = male; F = Female; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	Thicket Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus cinnamomeus</i>				1					
2	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>			14	2					
3	Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>				2					
4	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	✓	6	2	2		1			
5	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	✓		1			✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>							1		
7	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>							✓	✓	✓
8	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	30+	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	5	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>							✓		
11	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>						5	✓	1	2+
12	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	2					1	✓	✓	5
13	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	1	✓				30	✓	✓	40+
14	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>		1					✓	✓	
15	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>		4	2			20	✓	✓	20+
16	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>						1	✓	✓	5
17	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>		2						2	
18	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>						1	1		
19	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>							1		
20	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearia</i>							3	4	
21	Bare-throated Tiger-heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>							1	1	
22	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		1							18+
23	White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>						30	✓	✓	15
24	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>						1	1		
25	American Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>						15	185+	✓	✓
26	Fulvous Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>							20		
27	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>			1 (m)				180		25
28	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>							5		
29	Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>							2		

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>		2 (pr)							
31	American Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>		1				2		1	
34	Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>		1(M)	1(F)						
35	American Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>						1			
36	Common Black-hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>		1					3+	1	
37	Gray Hawk	<i>Asturina plagiata</i>		1		2		1			
38	Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>				1					
39	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>		1						1	
40	Northern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>							1		2
41	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	5	✓					12+	2	
42	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>							1		
43	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>							1		
44	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1						1		
45	Plain Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis vetula</i>		1	H	4					
46	Ruddy Crake	<i>Laterallus ruber</i>			1						
47	Gray-necked Wood-rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>		1							
48	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>						3			2
49	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>			5	4					
50	Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>			1					2	3
51	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>		1					2		
52	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>							33		25
53	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>							✓		
54	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>							20+		
55	Wilson's Plover	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>							5+		
56	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>							✓		
57	Whimbrel [Hudsonian Curlew]	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>							✓		
58	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>							5+		
59	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>							✓	✓	
60	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>							✓	✓	
61	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	1	1	1				1	2+	

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
62	Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>							✓		10
63	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>						10	✓	6+	
64	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>							✓		
65	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>							5+		
66	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>							✓		
67	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>		6							
68	Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>		1							
69	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>						1	2		
70	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>							5		
71	American Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus smithsonianus</i>							1		
72	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	1	1				✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>							✓		
74	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	✓	✓					✓		✓
75	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	✓	1	1			3	✓		✓
76	Cabot's Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis acutiflida</i>							✓		
77	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>							15		
78	Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>							5		
79	Least Tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>							8		
80	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>							10		
81	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris</i>		1							
83	White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
84	Common Ground-dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>								2	2
85	Ruddy Ground-dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	1	1	✓	✓	✓	✓			2
86	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	2				2			1	
87	Zenaida Dove	<i>Zenaida aurita</i>							5		
88	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga nana</i>			8	✓				✓	15
90	White-fronted Parrot	<i>Amazona albifrons</i>				8	15	✓	2	✓	2
91	Black-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>		1							
92	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>		1		2		2			
93	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>								20+	10

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
94	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>					H				
95	Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>			H	H	1+1H	3	H		
96	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>									1 dead
97	Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>			2		✓	✓			
98	Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>			2+		✓	✓			
99	Wedge-tailed Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus curvipennis</i>		2							
100	Cinnamon Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rutila</i>			1	2		2	✓	✓	
101	Buff-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia yucatanensis</i>			1						
102	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>						✓		✓	
103	Mexican Sheartail	<i>Doricha eliza</i>						✓	✓	✓	
104	Black-headed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanocephalus</i>			1	2		1			
105	Violaceous Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>			1						
106	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>		2	1				✓	1	
107	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>							1		
108	Turquoise-browed Motmot	<i>Eumomota superciliosa</i>				15	8	7	H	1	
109	Blue-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus momota</i> [Lesson's]				1					
110	Red-vented Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pygmaeus</i> [Yucatan]	1	1	✓	✓	✓	✓			
111	Golden-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes aurifrons</i>						2			
112	Smoky-brown Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis fumigatus</i>	1								
113	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>				1		1			
114	Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>				1					
115	Ruddy Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla homochroa</i>		1	1						
116	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>			1						
117	Ivory-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus flavigaster</i>		1				1			
118	Eastern Wood-pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>			1					1	
119	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>						1			
120	Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virens</i>				1					
121	Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>					1				
122	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>							2+	2	2
123	Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>					2				
124	Yucatan Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus yucatanensis</i>		3	✓			1			
125	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>			1						

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
126	Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>								1	
127	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
128	Couch's Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus couchii</i>							✓	✓	
129	Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>							1		
130	Gray Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	1								
131	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>					1				
132	Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	1		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
133	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>									
134	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	H	4+	✓	2	2	✓			
135	Rose-throated Becard	<i>Pachyramphus aglaiae</i>			✓		1	2			
136	Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>			4	7	2	2			
137	Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>			2						
138	Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>							6		
139	Cave Swallow	<i>Progne subis</i>					1				
140	Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>					6		✓	✓	
141	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
142	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica erythrogaster</i>	1	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Cliff Swallow	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>	1			✓					
144	Yucatan Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus yucatanicus</i>								1 (2H)	
145	Spot-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus maculipectus</i>			2	2					
146	White-bellied Wren	<i>Uropsila leucogastra</i>					1				
147	Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>						2			
148	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
149	Clay-coloured Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi</i>			4	✓	✓	✓			
150	Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>						3	2		
151	White-lored Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila albiloris</i>						2			
152	Yucatan Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yucatanicus</i>	30	✓	2			2		1	
153	Green Jay	<i>Cyanocorax luxuosus</i>				4+	2	1			
154	Brown Jay	<i>Psilorhinus morio</i>		3		✓					
155	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>						2			
156	Mangrove Vireo	<i>Vireo pallens</i>		1						3	
157	Yucatan Vireo	<i>Vireo magister</i>								1	

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
158	Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>		1							
159	Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>								5	
160	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia aestiva</i>	1 (F)	✓	✓				2	2	2
161	Mangrove Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia erithachorides</i>		✓			2+				
162	Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>		1							
163	Magnolia Warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>			1	2		1		2	
164	Cape May Warbler	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	1								
165	Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata [Myrtle]</i>	1 (F)								
166	Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Setophaga virens</i>			2						
167	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>	1	1	1		1	1			
168	Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Setophaga dominica</i>								1	
169	Palm Warbler	<i>Setophaga palmarum</i>	1		1						
170	Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>		1			2			1	
171	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>		✓	✓				1 (F)	1	
172	Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>								1	
173	Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorus</i>		1	1						
174	Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	1	2	1	1				1	
175	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>		2						✓	
176	Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>								✓	
177	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>		1	2	2			1	4+	2
178	Grey-crowned Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis poliocephala</i>		2							1
179	Hooded Warbler	<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>		1						1	
180	Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>						1 (F)			
181	Grey-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>		1							
182	Red-crowned Ant-tanager	<i>Habia rubica</i>		2+		1		1			
183	Red-throated Ant-tanager	<i>Habia fuscicauda</i>					1				
184	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>			1						
185	Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>								1	
186	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>		2							
187	Yellow-winged Tanager	<i>Thraupis abbas</i>				2	1	2			
188	Scrub Euphonia	<i>Euphonia affinis</i>						2			
189	Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirundinacea</i>				2					

	Common name	Scientific name	March								
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
190	Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>							1	1	
191	Botteri's Sparrow	<i>Aimophila botterii</i>									1
192	Green-backed Sparrow	<i>Arremonops chloronotus</i>				2					
193	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>								✓	
194	White-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila torqueola moreletii</i>			4					✓	
195	Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>			1				2	2	
196	Black-headed Saltator	<i>Saltator atriceps</i>					4	2			
197	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>				1	1	2			
198	Blue Bunting	<i>Cyanocompsa parellina</i>		1		1	2		1	1	
199	Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>			1			1	1		
200	Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>			4	1	6		2	1	
201	Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>								2	
202	Yellow-billed Cacique	<i>Amblycercus holosericeus</i>		2		4+					
203	Yellow-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysater</i>	✓			✓		2			
204	Orange Oriole	<i>Icterus auratus</i>	✓	2	✓			✓	4		
205	Altamira Oriole	<i>Icterus gularis</i>			1	1	2	✓		2	
206	Hooded Oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	✓	1	✓	✓	✓			✓	
207	Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>			1				2		
208	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>						15	✓	✓	
209	Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>			2	✓		✓		✓	
210	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
211	Bronzed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus aeneus</i>	2	✓	✓		✓				

Reptiles & Amphibians

Green Turtle, *Chelonia mydas*

Morelet's Crocodile, *Crocodylus moreletii*

American Crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*

Black (Spine-tailed) Iguana, *Ctenosaura similis*

Green Iguana, *Iguana iguana*

Brown Basilisk, *Basiliscus vittatus*

Tropical Rat Snake, *Spilotes pullatus*

House Gecko, *Hemidactylus frenatus*

Mammals

Yucatan Black Howler Monkey, *Alouatta pigra*

White-nosed Coati, *Nasua narica*

Yucatan Squirrel, *Sciurus yucatanensis*

Northern Raccoon, *Procyon lotor*

Mexican Agouti, *Dasyprocta mexicana*