

Trinidad & Tobago

Naturetrek Tour Report

11 - 24 March 2018



Leaf Cutter Ant by Gianpiero Ferrari



Ochre-bellied Flycatcher by Terry Goble



Red-billed Tropicbird by Gianpiero Ferrari



Scarlet Peacock (coolie) by Gianpiero Ferrari

Report compiled by Terry Goble
Images courtesy of Gianpiero Ferrari, Caroline Hucklesby & Terry Goble



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With 15 Naturetrek clients

Summary

This was a two-week trip focusing on the birdlife of Trinidad and Tobago. Although politically seen as the same country these are two contrasting islands. Our tour started in the hills of the Arima Valley at the Asa Wright Centre. This has perhaps the world's most famous veranda and it didn't disappoint. An array of iridescent and colourful birds were seen every day as the hummingbirds, honeycreepers and tanagers called in to feed on the fruit and sugar water laid out for them. However, the dazzling and resplendent birds may steal the limelight, but there were lots of other interesting birds and wildlife to entertain and amaze us. Some enjoyed the spectacle of the enormous Leatherback Turtles laying eggs or the sight of bats swooping in to take the sugar water at night. The 'Firework' display of the Scarlet Ibis at the end of our stay on Trinidad brought us back to full circle of stunning birds, but memories of many hawks, kites and falcons, owls, parrots, potoos and nightjars all added to the spectacle of Trinidad.

On Tobago life seemed much more serene and the group seemed to relax into their new surroundings. The Island is much smaller and a very green and beautiful island with many scenic and beautiful bays and coves washed in the sparkling Caribbean Sea. However, it was the wildlife we had come to see and once we were settled in we enjoyed a few excursions to see some of the birds not found on Trinidad or at least harder to see. The first was the White-tailed Sabrewing which gave superb views, but the group were very taken with the Trinidad Motmot, Rufus-tailed Jacamar and the superb Ruby Topaz and these were sought out on a daily basis. The trip to Little Tobago added a few more seabirds to our sightings, but the Red-billed Tropic bird was the star of the show and gave excellent sightings from the viewpoint. This trip certainly lives up to its billing for beautiful birdlife and fascinating wildlife, I hope the group enjoyed the adventure as much as I did. They were a relaxed and easy going group who were a pleasure to work with.

Day 1

Sunday 11th March

Gatwick to Port of Spain

After a slightly delayed flight all the group set off from Gatwick's South Terminal heading for Port of Spain via St Lucia. The flight was reasonably smooth with a little turbulence as we neared the tropics. We touched down in St Lucia and waited on board as the passengers and crew swapped over. A technical hitch meant another delay of about twenty minutes before we set off again into the cobalt blue Caribbean skies in total contrast to the leaden sky over Gatwick. The flight was just a short hop of around forty minutes until we touched down in Trinidad's international airport.

After negotiating passport control we were met by Asa Wright staff at the airport and the group boarded the taxis, whilst the luggage went by separate minibus. As we were a little late arriving it was nearly dark as we set off with only sightings of Caribbean Crackle and a medium size bat to record as we left the airport. After wending our way through Port of Spain we began to climb up into the highlands and the roads became narrow and winding as we progressed.

We were welcomed at the Asa Wright Centre with a refreshing rum punch and warm smiles from our hosts. We were quickly despatched to our rooms to reconvene for dinner. There was a buffet of local meat dishes, rice and fresh buttered vegetables, which we sat down to enjoy in the bustling dining room. We had a chance to chat and introduce ourselves again before most retired to their rooms after a long days travelling. Some keen to start the bird fest in the morning others keen to get some sleep!

Day 2

Monday 12th March

AWC/Discovery Trail

A few of the group gathered at first light on the veranda to watch the emerging bird display unfold. Firstly a few Tanagers, mostly Palm and White-lined, came in to feed, but before long there was a bewildering array of hummingbirds, honeycreepers, tanagers and Violaceous Euphonia all vying for attention.

We spent some time unravelling some of the different species, the White-necked Jacobins were the most numerous hummingbird followed by Copper-rumped and White-chested Emerald. There were a few others in smaller numbers including Blue-chinned Sapphire, Black-throated Mango, immature Tufted Coquette and single Brown Violetear, Rufus-breasted Hermit and a nesting Green Hermit in the lodge! Of the non-hummingbird species there were many White-lined and Palm Tanagers with a few Blue-Grey and Silver-beaked Tanagers. There was also a lovely, if brief sighting of two Turquoise Tanagers. Also on the ground were Cocoa and Spectacled Thrushes, but these soon disappeared as the veranda got busy.

Overhead and in the canopy yet more stunning birds were seen, including distant Bearded Bellbirds, Channel-billed Toucan and Orange-winged Amazons. A swift species was probably Grey-rumped, but unfortunately not seen well. Amongst all this frenzied activity there were a few Red-rumped Agoutis loping around feeding on fallen fruit. A couple of hours sped by and the bell sounded for breakfast and people gradually made their way to the dining hall for a buffet breakfast of fruit, omelette and toast. We sat down excitedly chatting about the bird spectacle we had witnessed. After breakfast we met with David our local guide who outlined the plans for the week and gave a few safety tips. We dispersed to our rooms to get various equipment and a heavy shower reminded us to bring our jackets.

We all eventually gathered together and David led us on a guide tour of the Discovery Trail. David talked about the importance of some of the flowering plants as nectar sources for the birds and pointed out other useful plants including coffee beans. Dave pointed out the flowering *Mimosa* tree known as 'Powder Puff', the Purple Verbena shrubs, the Jade Vine with blue-green claw-shaped flowers, and *Sanchezia*. The trees were full of epiphytes, plants that grow on the tree branches including mistletoe, orchids and a purple coloured plant called Wandering Jew or *Tradescantia*.

Soon we were also spotting some birdlife in the primary rainforest. They came thick and fast and progress was slow. We saw all three Trogons, Euler's and Olive Green Flycatchers, White-Bearded Manakins, whilst over-head we saw soaring Common Black Hawk and a Zone-tailed Hawk and in the distance were Turkey and Black Vultures gathering. A Double-toothed Kite was a welcome surprise and we enjoyed excellent views as it perched on the top of a near-by tree. Other smaller birds included Golden-fronted Greenlet, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, Plain Brown Woodcreeper and Streaked Xenops.

We eventually pressed on and the warmer weather began to bring out the butterflies. The gorgeous Morpho was seen by a few, but others that we recognised included Yellow Apricot, Small White, Tiger Stripes, Monarch and Small Postman although many more went unrecognised. One of the main target birds of this morning was the Bearded Bellbird, which we had seen distantly. After a bit of patience, we finally saw a brilliant looking male calling from inside the canopy and eventually all got good views. We slowly made our way back seeing the last of the Trogon species (Green-backed) on route. We then relaxed at the lodge watching a large Golden Tegu and the feast of bird species.

The bell went for our meal and we all made our way to the dining area for lunch. We decided that as we had some free time now we would meet again after lunch to look for some birds along the access road, before we retired to our rooms for a while. During this period a few light showers broke out, but when we met again at 2pm it was warm but a little overcast. We searched for a Ruby Topaz Hummingbird that had been seen, but without any luck. We then set off in search of the male Tufted Coquette at the car park near-by. After a little searching we were lucky enough to find a few glorious and tiny Coquettes feeding in the flower garden. Whilst watching these we had a few other birds new for the trip such as Piratic Flycatcher, Boat-billed Flycatcher and Tropical Kingbird. We then made our way up the exit road which was fairly quiet for birds, but noisy for frogs! We managed another Green-back Trogon and watched a pair of Violaceous Euphonia building a nest. A few Golden-headed Manakins were whizzing overhead, but unfortunately missed by the group.

We returned back a little after 3:30pm and relaxed around the veranda enjoying the spectacle and even managed to add a new bird with a splendid Bay-headed Tanager seen feeding in the trees. It soon started to get a little dark and with rum punches promised most went to freshen up before the evening meal and drinks.

At 8pm a few of the group met for a night walk with Elsa leading us. We had a great start with a lovely brown Tree Boa, just before we set off along the access road. Along the way we enjoyed a number of invertebrate species and an evening chorus from the cicadas and various frogs. Highlights included brown stick insects, a number of Trinidad Chevron Tarantulas, harvestmen and a nice little treat of glow-worms. We also saw a few large bats and land crabs along the route. Back at the lodge the House Geckos were out hunting down insects, but now was time to retire and get some rest for a full day in the morning.

Day 3

Tuesday 13th March

Blanchisseuse and Brasso Seco

The morning started with a few of the group meeting on the veranda and watching out for the usual suspects. As the morning wore on a few new species were spotted. The Great Antshrike was a handsome bird to see and we eventually had good views of the male and female. The blood red eye of the male was particularly striking. Whilst following the antshrike we heard a Motmot 'whooping' and followed the noise, but only getting a glimpse of two birds as they were lurking in the dark bamboo thickets. Some of the group also spotted a Barred Antshrike pair and also of note was a lovely Little Hermit in amongst a feeding group of Copper-rumped Hummingbirds.

The sound of the breakfast bell halted proceedings for a while, whilst we enjoyed a lovely buffet breakfast with fresh Papaya and omelettes on the menu. After breakfast David arrived with our driver Boyie. After a little organising we loaded the minivans and set off up into the higher elevations of the Arima Valley looking and

listening out for birds as we went. It was a slow winding road and we stopped often for a variety of birds adding a number of new species to our list.

On one of the earlier stops we had a stunning and unexpected view of the beautiful Speckled Tanager feeding a few feet away. This was perhaps the highlight but good views of Tropical Parula were also very much appreciated. Throughout the morning we enjoyed a good selection of forest birds and raptors enjoying the thermals. David's exceptional keen ear and experience meant that we missed little as we made our way to Brasso Seco for lunch. Perhaps the highlights were the raptors, enjoying Grey-headed Kite, Common Black Hawk, Short-tailed Hawk, both Black and Turkey Vultures and a Broad-winged Hawk. The Rufus-tailed Jacamars, Lineated Woodpecker and Channel-billed Toucans were also much admired.

Lunch was taken in a spacious hut and was a relaxing affair, complete with a little 'Caribbean' music and a description of the local area. There were still a few birds to be seen and a brief view of a Yellow-rumped Cacique was a hint at birds to come. After lunch and suitably refreshed we returned on the road back to the lodge and again stopping frequently on route. A Plumbeous Kite was a good find by David and we enjoyed some cracking 'scoped views of the bird. We saw more Jacamars and antshrikes on the way and new for the trip was a White-flanked Antwren, as were a pair of White Hawks overhead. Our final stop was on a hillside over-looking a Yellow-rumped Cacique colonial nesting site, reminiscent of their cousins Crested Oropendolas, which were also around. Whilst admiring the caciques coming and going to their nests we also had some great views of Blue-headed Parrots. The group was all feeling a little weary after a long hot day in the field and so we made our way back to the lodge with only a brief pause for a Grey-fronted Pigeon. We arrived back at the lodge and relaxed and unwound in preparation for 'Rum punch hour' and dinner. It had been a productive day with some fabulous birds. At times rainforest birding can be tough and frustrating as the birds can easily hide from view, however David's skills and knowledge gave us all the best chances of finding some difficult birds and we all enjoyed the day in the Arima Valley uplands.

We met again at 7pm for a buffet dinner and chatted amicably. After dinner we met on the veranda to finally catch up with our checklist. We had two full days to catch up so it took a little longer than usual, but with the list complete we all retired for another full day tomorrow.

Day 4

Wednesday 14th March

Drive to Nariva swamp

As was now customary a few of the group met on the veranda to see the usual species and if anything new turned up. Others drifted around the grounds seeing Great and Barred Antshrike between them and some had a more leisurely approach to their breakfast routine. When the bell for breakfast chimed all of the group made their way for buffet breakfast of fresh fruits and traditional foods. The omelette queue seemed to be getting longer as the days go by!

After breakfast we met with David and Boyie before heading out for our trip to the Nariva Swamp area, as always including a number of stops on route. Our first was not long after we left as there was a good site among the bamboo stands for Trinidad Motmot, which only a few had seen. Eventually we had excellent views of three birds with their exquisite iridescent blue brows and long spatula tails, looking every inch the tropical exotic species. Flushed with success with moved on to a more difficult target a few kilometres further down the valley.

We stopped by the roadside attempting to lure a White-bellied Antbird out to see. Despite a valiant effort we could only manage a glimpse of the male and only slightly better views of the female, despite hearing them frustratingly close. We did have a superb consolation in the form of a stunning adult White Hawk perched on an exposed branch about 50 feet up. It eventually flew further up the side of the valley, but remained in view for all to enjoy.

The route was adorned with Turkey and Black Vultures, hirundines and Kingbirds as we made our way down to the lowlands and on to Cattle Station on the Aripo Savannah. Here we encountered a few speciality birds, with the main target being the startling crimson, Red-breasted Meadowlark. One duly obliged and stayed around giving views down to about twenty feet. We also saw our first Savanna Hawk, with its long legs and the Pied Water Tyrant. A Yellow-bellied Elaenia showed briefly but was elusive.

We made our way through Sangre Grande and then drove down to our lunch site at Manzanilla Beach. Here we enjoyed a mini-buffet and relaxed to the sight of Magnificent Frigatebirds drifting overhead. Other raptors included a Short-tailed Hawk and a pair of Savanna Hawks give nice views. After a filling lunch we drove along the coast road stopping for a few nice raptors as we had two Yellow-headed Caracaras, happily on either side of the road for the people in the car. An adult Grey-lined Hawk also flew across the road as did later on a Peregrine. We had a more official stop at some Red Mangroves, but despite hearing a few birds only managed a few glimpses of distant birds deep in vegetation. We did however enjoy the tree walking crabs!

A little further we pulled in at some promising exposed muddy areas in a little mangrove brackish swamp. Here we had three different herons with a lovely Striated and adult Tricoloured with a Snowy Egret. As predicted there were also a few waders and among the more familiar Grey Plover and Sanderlings there were a few Semi-palmated Plovers.

Our next stop was in the hope of finding Black-crested Antshrikes by a mangrove lined river. We did eventually see these handsome birds, both male and female, however sustained views were difficult as the birds were very restless and flitted about continuously. The show was stolen by two mating Pearl Kites, giving superb 'scope views. Alerted by their calling we soon found the pair and watched for a while as they mated and sat together on an exposed branch. They are delightful small raptors and we were very pleased to discover them. Other birds around included a Giant Cowbird, Brown Crested Flycatcher and a Streak-headed Woodcreeper among some of the more common birds.

Time was pressing as it was a good two-hour return drive and we wanted to avoid the Sangre Grande traffic. However, we couldn't pass up the opportunity of a Tropical Screech Owl sitting in its nest hole with an adorable chick by its side. Seeing these in daylight was a special treat and in the 'scope the fine details of its exquisite plumage could be discerned.

We had now reached the Nariva Swamp area and in the roadside ditches we frequently spotted Wattled Jacanas, but they usually became nervous and flew off when we stopped. As we entered the main swamp area there was evidence of burning the fields attracting scores of Cattle Egret, but a worrying sign of the pressure this rich habitat is under. As we drove around and back to our starting point we had few different birds but plenty of Short-tailed Swifts, Southern Rough-winged Swallows and Grey-breasted Martins. A good view of an immature Grey-lined Hawk was a bonus. It was now time to head back to the lodge, however our final stop was very

welcome as Dave had brought cinnamon cake and more importantly cold rum punch, which went down particularly well after a long hot day.

Our return journey went without any further stops and we reached the lodge by 6:15pm. This gave the group just about enough time to get ready for dinner. We thanked Dave and Boyie for their hard work and assistance before setting off to our rooms. Like 'Pavlov's Dogs' we all met again at 7pm as the dinner bell went. After our usual buffet lunch, we retired to the veranda to complete the daily checklist and after a long hot but enjoyable day we all trooped off to our rooms.

Day 5

Thursday 15th March

Dunston Caves and night walk at Waller's Field

Some of the group met at 6am for our now familiar routine of picking through the birds at the feeders. A few others were in various parts of the grounds. At the feeders a Green Hermit and Brown Violetear were lovely finds and the Bellbird was in its usual tree. After breakfast we met with Caleb, who gave us a talk about the trail and the Oilbirds we were going to visit. The trail is about 30 minutes long and is quite slippery and steep in places. There are also a number of steps up and down some of the steeper parts, however with moderate fitness it was perfectly passable. We set off just after 8:30am and as with rainforest birding there were birds around but not easy to see. A Forest Elaenia was a new bird and a Tropical Pewee was also seen. Eventually we made our way to the caves and were able to see one Oilbird very clearly near the entrance. Several of the group managed decent photographs of this unusual crow size, fruit-eating bird. Being nocturnal it was roosting through the day and the large eyes and rictal bristles gave an indication of its night time lifestyle. After we had spent some time with the bird we retraced our steps. A Tarantula Hawk was an interesting find, this large iridescent wasp paralyzes these large spiders which then become dormant hosts for their young to feed on, not a great way to go! A White-flanked Antwren and some lovely butterflies (Postman, Tiger Pierid and hairstreak sp) were seen on the way along the path. Back at the lodge we thanked Caleb and enjoyed some free time for the rest of the morning.

We all met back at 3:30pm on what had been a hot afternoon making the forest very quiet although some enjoyed the Manikins at their lek doing their elaborate dance routines! Dave and Boyie duly arrived on time and we set off to the disused airfield on the Aripo Savannah. We wound down the road down into the lowlands and at the airbase we stopped at a line of Moriche Palms to search for our target species. Just prior to reaching our stopping point we had paused to look at a Grey-lined Hawk nest complete with parent feeding the rather plump chick! Whilst setting up for our picnic dinner we finally manage to see our three target species, although no one really got good views of the Epaulet (Moriche) Oriole, which was distant and fleeting. The Fork-tailed Palm swifts flew overhead and the Sulphury Flycatcher was restless but eventually one settled to give good views. A bonus was a large Pink-footed Tarantula seen resting on a palm tree allowing close approach. After a few rum punches we were ready to look, now in the near dark for our nocturnal species and soon heard a Pauraque calling. We found it and had a partial view before it flitted away. We drove on a while and began hearing both White-tailed Nightjar and Pauraque calling, however both species were difficult to view in the darkness. Finally, a White-tailed nightjar settled on a fallen log and were able to enjoy great views and even get some photographs. On our return journey out of the airbase, David spotted a Common Potoo and despite looking a little nervous allowed close approach and excellent views of this enigmatic bird. It was now time to return and we drove straight back as some wanted an early night in preparation for the early start. Some had a little tour of the lit outbuilding where a Tree Boa had been seen. Unfortunately, tonight it was not around, but we did see an

enormous beetle with imposing mandibles, a large Katydid and a few fascinating moth species, quite a nice end to a relaxing and enjoyable day.

Day 6

Friday 16th March

Aripo Savannah and Forest

This morning we started early and met for breakfast at 6am for a 6:30am departure. The Savannah becomes hot later in the morning and bird activity becomes very quiet hence the early start. On our way down the Arima Valley we had a couple of stops. On the first David heard a Bright-rumped Attila, but it was very elusive and only brief glimpses were had of this bird. We did fare better with the Grey throated Leaf-tosser, which after some initial difficulty in seeing it clearly, it sat still on an exposed log for some cracking views. There was a lot of activity in the tree by the roadside on another stop. There were a lot of agitated small birds, then David saw the source of their agitation a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl was out in the open. This diminutive owl is normally roosting by now but this one eventually gave some cracking views.

We then made our way down to the Aripo Savannah and we visited a number of different sites in this locality, with mixed results. We dipped on the Yellow-throated Seedeater and could not find any cuckoo species. We did however, have a daytime Pauraque! A smart Rufus-breasted Wren and a very handsome Yellow Masked Yellothroat. We saw some nice flycatchers with Bran Coloured and Yellow Breasted Flycatchers both new, we also managed a better view of the Forest Elaenia. There were a few raptors around, Black Vultures were ubiquitous, but the Savannah Hawk was seen very well, a Pearl Kite and Zone-tailed hawk were also enjoyed. The warm sunny weather meant a lot of butterflies were around, such as Caribbean Buckeye, Coolie, White Peacock and a Blue Morpho among many others.

We stopped for lunch at the edge of the Arena Forest reserve and saw a number of common birds such as the Ruddy Ground Dove and Tropical Kingbirds. We had some views of Green-rumped Parrotlet. After a picnic lunch we had one more try for cuckoos without any luck and then headed for the lodge.

Back at the lodge we had a free afternoon so many went and did their own thing. For those that stayed on the veranda we saw a new bird which was an impressive Crimson-headed Woodpecker distant but showing well. A couple of nice tanagers both Turquoise and Bay Headed were seen. We all met up again for rum punch at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. After completing our checklist for the last couple of days most drifted off to their rooms. However, calling Spectacled Owls (four!!) and an array of impressive moths enticed a couple to hang around to see the owls and photograph some enormous and intricate moths.

Day 7

Saturday 17th March

Free Day around AWC

We met up as usual on the veranda, although some have taken to stalking the Barred Antshrikes in the ground. The Bay-headed and Turquoise Tanagers were a fleeting delight and a distant Channel-billed Toucan was spotted. We all then went in for breakfast enjoying the usual omelette and buffet. After breakfast we arranged a walk with Caleb, primarily to see the elusive Black-faced Ant-thrush. We walked along the access road as Caleb had heard their distinct calls the previous day.

Along the walk we managed to see mostly familiar birds, but it was great to get better views of the Golden-headed Manakin. There were a couple of new birds, but the Rufus-breasted Hummingbird was too quick to get good views and after whizzing to and fro sped off out of sight. We got to the end of the road without any sign of the ant-thrush and by now it was becoming very hot. It was nice to sit in the shade and watch a soaring White Hawk for a while. On the return journey we saw Cattle Heart butterflies and managed some good views of the Red-crowned Ant-tanager, another new bird to our list.

We then returned to the lodge to relax in the heat of the mid-morning sun and spent some time watching the feeders, spotting a female Shiny Cowbird looking somewhat out of place in the rainforest! Now it was time to drink lots and stay out of the heat of the day.

As the afternoon wore on and the day began to cool some ventured out to see the White-bearded Manakin lek. Despite the heat the valiant males were still clicking and hoping around. A pair of Great Antshrikes caught a few people's attention and the Plain Brown Woodcreepers were also active. At 4pm two of our group left for an optional trip to see Leatherback Turtles laying eggs. They later reported that they had excellent sightings and after the initial crowd dispersed the beach was really quiet with only a few others staying to enjoy the turtles. It was soon time to meet up for sundowners at 6pm and soon after the dinner buffet bell sounded.

After dinner we completed the checklist and had a search for bugs, moths and a listen out for owls. There were some nice moths around but the owls stayed stubbornly silent. After a little while the thought of a long day trip tomorrow sent people to bed to get some rest.

Day 8

Sunday 18th March

Waterloo and Caroni Swamp

After the usual routine of sitting and having tea and coffee on the veranda, watching the dazzling birdlife, we went for our breakfast at the sound of the bell. After breakfast we met with David and Boyie, paid up our hotel bills and then left for our first destination the Waterloo coast. On route we had a few stops as ever and watched a pair of Pied Tyrants around their nest at one site and a number of wader species at another, including Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitcher and Black-necked Stilt to name a few. However, David got most excited about a rare bird for him, a Little Egret, but a familiar bird to the UK visitors! Our last stop before we moved on to Waterloo was along a stream a short distance from the main road. Here a large flock of the gorgeous Yellow Hooded Blackbirds were dropping into the grassland and then swirling back up to the trees, a glorious sight.

We then arrived at Waterloo coast after a brief comfort stop. The tide was far out and most of the birds were quite distant. A Yellow-crowned Night Heron was reasonably close and this smart bird gave good 'scope views. The main birds present were Laughing Gulls, Brown Pelican, Royal and Large Billed Terns, and an assortment of herons and waders. On the theme of familiar British birds, a Lesser Black-backed Gull and Grey Heron wouldn't have looked out of place on a British seafront. A few Ospreys, Black Skimmers and Great Blue Heron concluded our birds at this site. We drove to another location in the same area and saw even greater concentrations of Gulls, Terns and Herons, but we did add White-winged Swallows, Ruddy Turnstones, Bicoloured Conebill and some more waders to our growing list.

We went to a local fishing beach for our lunch and relaxed in the shade with some much needed drinks and a nice lunch. We watched the fishing boats being hauled in and their catches being loaded aboard the waiting trucks. Soon it was time to head off to Caroni, but David could not resist another stop at some humming feeders. The owners were very welcoming and we went to get some great views and photos of some difficult 'hummers, namely Green Mango and Ruby Topaz Hummingbirds. Both were successfully seen and photographed.

We then arrived at Caroni Swamp for the highlight of the day and arguably the whole trip. First we attended to the small matter of getting excellent views of Masked Cardinals and a glimpse of a Pygmy Kingfisher. We then drove down to the boarding area and met our driver and naturalist Lester, who was taking us to the roost site. We said goodbye to Boyie, who elected to stay to look after the vans. David sat up front and with Lester in the back I was sure we were not going to be missing much. Lester talked about the history and ecology of the swamp, but also paused to show us some fascinating and beautiful wildlife. A pair of Tropical Screech Owls could barely be seen even though they were a few feet away such was the effectiveness of their cryptic patterns. A delightful Pygmy Kingfisher was eventually tracked down and enjoyed by all. Red-crowned and Lineated Woodpeckers were not so co-operative as they gave brief glimpses. Another bird famed for its cryptic plumage was also found, the Common Potoo was a challenge even when you knew where it was. Cook's Tree Boas were a regular sight, with one found that had freshly sloughed his skin. The Juvenile Boat-billed Heron was another fascinating looking bird with that enormous bill! The mammals were represented by a Proboscis Bat and a Silky Anteater, unfortunately the anteater was curled into a ball and looked like a 'bored coconut', but still good to see.

Nearing the roost site, we were delighted to come across a flock of American Flamingos. Lester informed us that they were a recent addition to the avifauna and are now suspected of breeding, which would be an extra attraction for this fantastic mangrove swamp. We eventually reached the mooring point opposite a mangrove island and waited. It wasn't long before the first of the stunningly coloured Scarlet Ibises arrived with the evening sun accentuating their dazzling plumage. Lester had shown us the carotene rich crabs that they feed on to obtain such a rich colour and we marvelled as they came down to roost there was a supporting cast of other herons, but the Ibises stole the show. It was sadly time to return as we had a long drive to get back to the lodge in time for dinner. Thanks to the heroics of David and Boyie we made it back in time for our evening meal and thanked them for such an enthralling day. After such a long day dinner was enjoyed, but most soon retired to their rooms to close a fantastic last day on Trinidad, now a different adventure awaited us on Tobago.

Day 9

Monday 19th March

Flight to Tobago and drive to Blue Waters Inn

After an early breakfast we set off (eventually!) for the airport, with the traffic reasonably light we made good time. At the airport we said goodbye to David and Boyie and thanked them for doing a great job in looking after us and helping to find some great birds. We then checked in and waited a while before going through security as there were no cafes or facilities on the other side. Eventually we drifted through and it was soon time to board and in fact we left a few minutes early on the twin prop. The flight was very short (20 mins) and we landed two minutes after the scheduled departure time! Once we had collected our bags we went out to meet Jason and our new driver. We had to wait a little while as we had arrived early, so made use of the bathrooms prior to our birding tour of the lowlands.

Jason duly turned up and we boarded the minibus and made our way to the first stop, Bon Accord Treatment Works. This is usually a good spot for ducks, waders and herons, however on this occasion there were a number of people strimming and cutting the verges. With it also being a very warm day the bird life was not as diverse as we had hoped. On the approach road some of the ditches held Lesser and Great Yellowlegs and a few sandpipers. In the actual treatment works there were a number of Wattled Jacanas and Moorhens, new for us were the Least Grebes, but alas no duck species. Around the edges there were lots of Grey and Tropical Kingbirds and abundant Tropical Mockingbirds. There were also a few species of hirundines with Caribbean Martin and Barn swallow both being new. In the shrubs and mangroves around the ponds we also picked up Scrub Greenlet and Black-faced Grassquit along with more familiar species. We decided to leave the ponds as they were not particularly productive and moved on to the Tobago Plantation. As with Bon Accord birdlife seemed quieter than expected. We did see a variety of water birds including Anhinga, Black-crowned Night Heron and Neotropical Cormorant. A Spectacled Caiman was a good addition to the reptiles list. We ate our sandwiches under a shady tree before walking around the lakes. A Red-crowned Woodpecker gave us some fantastic views as it perched a few feet away in a near-by tree. That was probably the highlight as we moved on to The Grafton Estate. Here we found a new reptile (*Anole richardii*) and a fleeting glimpse of the Blue-backed Manakins. We were also treated to an introduction to the national bird, the Chachalaca! I'm sure we are likely to see a few more of these. A Rufus-tailed Jacamar was a nice find and another glimpse of the Manakin tantalising.

We drove on to The Blue Waters Inn as it was getting late for lunch, we arrived later than planned at around 3pm. There was a little confusion about lunch and checking in, but eventually it was decided to sit everyone down and order lunch and check in later as some of the group hadn't eaten since breakfast. The late arrival seemed to have 'thrown' the hotel as lunch took quite a long time to arrive. When it did arrive the food was delicious and very well prepared. After our late lunch we ordered dinner for 7:30pm and went to check in and relax around the hotel until dinner time. A few birds were noted at lunch, mostly a flock of Ruddy Turnstones that scuttled around our feet.

At 7:30pm we meet for dinner in a room prepared for the group the food was very good and served promptly. We were due to complete the checklist after dinner but after a long day most of the group wanted an early night so we postponed this until the next day.

Day 10

Tuesday 20th March

Gilpin Trace

Most of the group met around 7am to board the minibus to the Gilpin Trace, a few had decided to stay behind and relax at the hotel. Some of the other guests opted for a walk around the hotel nature trails, finding Motmots, Jacamars and Black-faced Grassquits. Before we left we saw a few White-tipped Doves and found the resident Belted Kingfisher, not a bad start to have two new species! The day was cool and overcast, which we hoped would be good for the bird activity.

Firstly, there was the small matter of breakfast, so we stopped at the High Ridge Reserve Visitor Centre to eat our sandwiches and use the facilities. After we had eaten up and admired the White-tailed Page butterflies we headed back down to the start of the trail.

As hoped the trace was very active and we began to see familiar birds and new species. A stunning male White-tailed Sabrewing appeared from seemingly nowhere and sat on a branch a few feet away, giving excellent views and photograph opportunities. We decided to walk the whole trace and meet the minibus at the other end. The trace was mostly dry and easy conditions underfoot. There were a couple of places where the trace was either wet or rocky and tricky to negotiate, but we all made it around with little difficulty. The highlights were perhaps the Jacamars and Motmots, but we enjoyed some good views (eventually) of Striped-bellied Spinetail, Rufus-breasted Hermit and both Yellow-legged and White-necked Thrushes. The Blue-backed Manakins were frustratingly difficult to get good views, but were seen hopping around foliage. A Great Black Hawk was also new for the trip as it soared overhead.

All-in-all it was a very enjoyable walk in cool conditions, although the day began to warm as we approached midday.

It was now time to return to the Inn and meet up with the other members of the group. We had lunch and then dispersed around the hotel for free time. Some photographing the birds around the grounds, others relaxing in their rooms or the loungers as it was now beginning to become a warm afternoon.

In the evening we met up for our dinner in the 'fridge'! The atmosphere was relaxed and we chatted happily through an enjoyable meal before tiredness got the better of some who went to bed early, whilst others toughed it out through the dessert course before we all retired to our rooms.

Day 11

Wednesday 21st March

Little Tobago

We all met for breakfast at 8am, some had already been around the grounds photographing Motmots and Jacamars. Breakfast was a fruit and cereal buffet with a cooked breakfast option. After we went out and explored the hotel trails, which led over the hills into the next bay. There was supposed to be another trail that branches off towards the 'Iron Wheel', but this has not been maintained and can only be accessed from the wheel end. We walked a couple of kilometres along the trail and enjoyed the stunning views of the coast, forest and beautiful unspoilt bay below. The sea looked very inviting and we could make out some rocks and coral, which would be excellent for snorkelling. The birds weren't bad either as we picked up a number of species with the highlights being White-flanked Antwren, Fuscous Flycatcher, Black-throated Mango, Red-crowned Woodpecker and Barred Antshrike. On the return journey a Ruby Topaz was a lovely find, but not very co-operative unlike the Rufus-tailed Jacamar that sat quietly for a while.

A quick exploration of the 'Iron Wheel' trail produced a lovely Rufus-breasted Hermit, some more Barred Antshrikes and Jacamars. A stunning little Guava Skipper was an unexpected delight. Whilst in the grounds there were plenty of White-tipped Ground Doves, Tropical Kingbirds and a Trinidad Motmot among others.

After a brief time getting ready we all met for lunch around 1pm and got ready for our boat ride to Little Tobago at 2pm. We met our guide for the day 'Zee' and our crew. The swell was a little high so getting on the boat was a little tricky but all made it safely. We crossed over seeing Magnificent Frigatebirds and distant booby species. We had another tricky disembarking on Little Tobago jetty, but all made it without concern. We walked to a shelter and Zee gave a talk about the islands history and recounted the story of the resident Birds of Paradise that are

now extirpated from the island following a fierce storm. After the talk we continued up some steps and track until we came to a small lodge. Here we stopped for a while to watch a water feeder and to see the Miller's Long-tongue Bats. On the feeder we saw a few Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Blue-grey Tanagers, Bananaquit and a few 'Chivi' Vireos speeding around the trees.

It was time to push on and we continued to the viewing platform on top of a hill over-looking a small inlet. Here we had excellent views of the elegant Red-billed Tropic Birds and a bit more distant Red-footed and Brown Booby. We spent about thirty minutes enjoying the spectacle. Photography wasn't easy as the birds often dipped below the hill and out of sight or were simply too quick! A parent bird on a nest by the platform was a little easier to get some pictures. Zee found a roosting nightjar and picked out a pair of Peregrines, whilst we watched the tropic birds. The light began to get a little dim, which was a signal to begin our return journey. Due to the high swell we came straight back, but did have a great view of frigate birds coming to eat scrapes from the back of the boat before we docked. We thanked our guides and crew before dispersing to our rooms to get ready for dinner.

We met for dinner at 7:30am, due to our pre-ordering dinner was promptly served and enjoyed in a relaxed atmosphere. The air conditioning was still making the diner area cold, but now wise to the issue most wore their jumpers and cardigans! After dinner some went out to look at the huge Tarpon fish that were congregating around the dock. They were fascinating to watch, coming up out of the water displaying their large silvery scales. We then drifted off to our rooms to get some sleep.

Day 12

Thursday 22nd March

Island Tour

As it was our last full day our thoughts were to take a more relaxed approach to our birding. With this in mind we met for breakfast at 8am (although a few couldn't resist an early morning walk around the trails), Jason arrived just after. When we had finished our breakfast we all boarded the bus and set off on Jason's improvised tour of the Island.

We didn't get far when just outside the hotel grounds we stopped to look at a Red-crowned Woodpecker coming to their nest hole. We also noted a juvenile Yellow-crowned Night Heron and Caribbean Martins zipping around over-head. We set off again exploring the Atlantic coast. This side tends to be more developed and certainly appeared to be much more urbanisation and industry. We checked out a few streams and walked a beach around Roxborough area. We didn't see anything new but had reasonable views of Southern Lapwings, Semi-palmated Plovers and out to sea many Laughing Gulls, a few Royal Terns and masses of Magnificent Frigatebirds.

We made our way up to King George's Fort and spent a while in the grounds and used their facilities. The views over the coast were exceptional (also the reason why the fort was build there!). There were a few birds with three Yellow-bellied Elaenia excitedly displaying their crest and a Chivi Vireo seen briefly. We next stopped at a reliable site for Blue-backed Manakin as few had seen this species well. On this occasion we eventually were able to watch a male springing over a female in his mating display. Most people got good views of this very active bird but others found it difficult to locate in the understory and moving so quickly. Still we watched the action until the male and female both flew on.

Our next stop was at the lovely Cuffie River Lodge, here we were able to watch the feeders as White-tailed Sabrewing, White-necked Jacobin and Ruby Topaz all dazzled and delighted. A Red-crowned Woodpecker also came in and 'hogged' one of the feeders. We enjoyed seeing the hummingbirds, but had to get a move on to stay on schedule. We were now heading over to the Caribbean side, where it was full of delightful little bays and green forest swathes. We passed places with evocative names: Englishman Bay, Bloody Bay among others. We paused at one bay (Bloody Bay) to watch the fisherman haul in their 'Steine' nets. The net was brimming with Herring and they were surrounded by Magnificent Frigatebirds, but a Brown Booby, Royal Tern and a flotilla of Laughing Gulls were also present. It was now getting late for lunch so we pressed on and noticed a few Giant Cowbirds erupting from the roadside verges, finally a new bird for the day!

We got back to the hotel just before 3pm and sat down to catch up on some much needed lunch. After lunch we ordered dinner for 8pm as we had such a late lunch. We then relaxed around the hotel.

Day 13

Friday 23rd March

Walk around the trails and vicinity of Blue Waters Inn, Flight home

Daybreak greeted us with a heavy shower, but that soon cleared and the cool morning meant that there was a lot of bird activity as compensation! We saw nothing new but there were some lovely birds around. In the grounds there were Trinidad Motmots, flycatchers, White-tipped and Pale-vented Doves and all the usual suspects. A few Red Squirrels were the only mammal contingent. Out on the paths and trails Rufus-tailed Jacamars, Red-crowned Woodpecker, Ruby Topaz and Copper Rumped Hummingbirds were seen and a favourite of the group Barred Antshrike were plentiful, including two cracking males with their black crests flared. Over-head Caribbean Martins were swooping about and a bonus Great Black Hawk lazily drifted over. Out at sea we could make out a large number of seabirds feeding. They were mostly frigate birds and Red-footed Booby (White and Brown morph), but there were probably tropic birds, but too distant to be sure.

It was now time to head back for breakfast, get ready to vacate our rooms and begin our journey back home. We left the hotel at 12:40pm and headed for 'Krackers' just over an hour's drive away. We arrived with the journey taking a little longer than expected, however we had plenty of time. Krackers was not the usual establishment for a Naturetrek group, but despite its appearance served tasty food and made a change from eating at the hotel. We then made our way over to the airport and waited for the baggage drop to open to check in our luggage. This complete we found a coffee shop to relax in for a while before going through security with no issues and finally boarding the flight to Antigua and eventually on to Gatwick.

Day 14

Saturday 24th March

Landing in Gatwick

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Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only; N = Near Endemic; I = Introduced)

	Common name	Scientific name	March													
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1	Rufous-vented Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis ruficauda</i>										✓	✓		✓	
2	Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>										✓				
3	American Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>									✓					
4	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>												✓		
5	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>									✓					
6	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>									✓					
7	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>									✓	✓				
8	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>									✓	✓			✓	
9	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>										✓			✓	✓
10	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>				✓					✓					
11	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Little Egret	<i>Egretta Garzetta</i>									✓					
13	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea Cinerea</i>									✓					
14	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>									✓					
15	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>										✓				
16	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				
17	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>				✓					✓	✓				
18	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>									✓	✓				
19	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	✓			✓					✓	✓				
20	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>										✓				
21	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Red-footed Booby	<i>Sula sula</i>												✓		
23	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>												✓	✓	
24	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>										✓				
25	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>				✓						✓				
26	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
27	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				
28	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>									✓	✓				
29	Pearl Kite	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>				✓		✓								

	Common name	Scientific name	March													
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
30	Grey-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>			✓											
31	Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>		✓												
32	Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>			✓											
33	Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓						
34	Savannah Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>				✓			✓							
35	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>										✓				✓
36	White Hawk	<i>Pseudastur albicollis</i>			✓	✓				✓						
37	Grey-lined Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>				✓	✓									
38	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>			✓											
39	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>			✓	✓			✓							
40	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>		✓												
41	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>										✓				
42	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>									✓					
43	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>				✓			✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
44	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>				✓										
45	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>				✓					✓				✓	
46	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>				✓					✓					
47	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>									✓					
48	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>									✓					
49	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>									✓	✓				
50	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>									✓	✓				
51	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>									✓	✓				
52	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>									✓			✓		
53	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>				✓						✓			✓	
54	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				✓										
56	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>									✓					
57	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>									✓					
58	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>									✓				✓	
59	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>									✓					
60	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>									✓				✓	
61	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>									✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	March													
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
62	Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
63	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>			✓	✓										
64	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>										✓			✓	✓
65	Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>							✓							
66	Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	
67	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Grey-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓									
69	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>									✓	✓			✓	
70	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	
71	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>		✓												
72	Tropical Screech Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>				✓					✓					
73	Spectacled Owl	<i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>							✓							
74	Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>		H		H	H	✓								
75	Oilbird	<i>Steatornis caripensis</i>						✓								
76	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>						✓								
77	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>						✓	✓							
78	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Hydropsalis cayennensis</i>						✓								✓
79	Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus</i>									✓					
80	Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
81	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>				✓	✓				✓					
82	Neotropical Palm Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata</i>						✓								
83	Rufous-breasted Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsutus</i>								✓		✓	✓			
84	Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
85	Little Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longuemareus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
86	White-tailed Sabrewing - N	<i>Campylopterus ensipennis</i>										✓			✓	
87	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
88	Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>			✓	✓	✓									
89	Green-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax viridigula</i>									✓					
90	Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
91	Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	<i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i>		✓				✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
92	Tufted Coquette	<i>Lophornis ornatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
93	Blue-chinned Sapphire	<i>Chlorestes notata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	March												
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
94	White-chested Emerald	<i>Amazilia brevirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
95	Copper-rumped Hummingbird - N	<i>Amazilia tobaci</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
96	Green-backed Trogon	<i>Trogon viridis</i>		✓					✓						
97	Guianan Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓					
98	Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>		✓											
99	American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>									✓				
100	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>							H						
101	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Trinidad Motmot - E	<i>Momotus bahamensis</i>			✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	
103	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>			✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
104	Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓					
105	Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>									✓		✓	✓	✓
106	Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis kirkii</i>									✓				
107	Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>			✓				✓			✓			
108	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>			✓						✓				
109	Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>							✓						
110	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>				✓	✓							✓	
111	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				✓							✓		
112	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>			✓										
113	Orange-winged Amazon	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
114	Green-rumped Parrotlet	<i>Forpus passerinus</i>				✓			✓						
115	Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>										✓			
116	Grey-throated Leaf-tosser	<i>Sclerurus albigularis</i>							✓						
117	Streaked Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>		✓											
118	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>		✓						✓		✓			✓
119	Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>		✓					✓	✓					
120	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>				✓									
121	Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>			✓	✓				✓					
122	Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>				✓									
123	Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	White-flanked Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i>			✓		✓			✓					
125	White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>		✓		✓									

	Common name	Scientific name	March												
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
126	Forest Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>					✓	✓							
127	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>				✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
128	Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus</i>		✓				✓		✓	✓			✓	
129	Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>								✓					
130	Yellow-olive Flatbill (Flycatcher)	<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i>		✓											
131	Yellow-breasted Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>								✓		✓			
132	Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>		✓	✓										
133	Fuscous Flycatcher	<i>Cnemotriccus fuscatus</i>										✓	✓		
134	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>			✓										
135	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>			✓			✓		✓					
136	Pied Water Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>				✓					✓				
137	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>		✓	✓		✓								
138	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
139	Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>						✓							
140	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>		✓	✓			✓							
141	Sulphury Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannopsis sulphurea</i>						✓							
142	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Grey Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>									✓		✓		
144	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>				✓					✓			✓	
145	Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>							H						
146	Bearded Bellbird	<i>Procnias averano</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
147	Blue-backed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia pareola</i>										✓		✓	
148	White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓					
149	Golden-headed Manakin	<i>Ceratopipra erythrocephala</i>		L/O	✓			✓	✓						
150	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>			✓			✓							
151	Red-eyed Vireo (Chivi)	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>												✓	✓
152	Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>		✓						✓					
153	Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
154	White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>									✓	✓			
155	Caribbean Martin	<i>Progne dominicensis</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
156	Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>			✓	✓		✓		✓					
157	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	March												
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
158	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>									✓				
159	Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius rutilus</i>			✓			✓	✓			✓			
160	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
161	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
162	Yellow-legged Thrush	<i>Turdus flavipes</i>										✓			
163	Cocoa Thrush	<i>Turdus fumigatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
164	Spectacled Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
165	White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓				
166	Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
167	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>			✓										
168	Masked Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis</i>						✓							
169	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>										✓			
170	Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitiayumi</i>			✓										
171	American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>				✓									
172	Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>						✓							
173	Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>				✓					✓				
174	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
175	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>			✓	✓									
176	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
177	Epaulet Oriole	<i>Icterus cayanensis</i>					✓								
178	Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>												✓	
179	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
180	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	✓			✓				✓			✓		
181	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus icterocephalus</i>								✓					
182	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
183	Masked Cardinal	<i>Paroaria nigrogenis</i>								✓					
184	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
185	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
186	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
187	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
188	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓						
189	Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>				✓									

	Common name	Scientific name	March												
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
190	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓						
191	Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
192	Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>			✓				✓						
193	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
194	Bicolored Conebill	<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>									✓				
195	Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>									✓				
196	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓					
197	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>						✓				✓			
198	Black-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris bicolor</i>									✓		✓	✓	
199	Red-crowned Ant Tanager	<i>Habia rubica</i>							✓						

Mammals

1	Red-rumped Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta leporina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
2	Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>											✓	✓	
3	Silky Anteater	<i>Cyclopes didactyla</i>									✓				
4	White-lined Sack wing Bat	<i>Saccopteryx bilineata</i>			✓		✓								
5	Common Long-tongued Bat	<i>Glossophaga soricina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
6	Tent Bat sp	<i>Uroderma bilobatum</i>					✓								
7	Proboscis Bat	<i>Rhynchonycteris naso</i>									✓				
8	Miller's Long-tongue Bat	<i>Glossophaga longirostris</i>										✓			
9	Small Asian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes palustris</i>			✓										

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Tegu Lizard	<i>Tupinambis teguixin</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
2	Common Ameiva,	<i>Ameiva ameiva</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
3	House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
4	Cook's Tree Boa	<i>Corallus cookii</i>		✓	✓						✓				
5	Spectacled Cayman	<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>									✓				
6	Leatherback Turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>							✓						
7	Collared Tree Lizard	<i>Plica plica</i>			✓										
8	Rattle-voiced tree frog	<i>Hyla crepitans</i>					✓								
9	Trinidad Stream Frog	<i>Mannophryne trinitatis</i>		✓				✓							
10	Richard's Anole	<i>Anole Richardi</i>											✓		

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			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
11	Ocellated Gecko	<i>Gonatodes ocellatus</i>											✓		
12	Dwarf Gecko	<i>Gonaodes vittatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
13	Rainbow Whiptail	<i>Cnemidophorus lemniscatus</i>													✓

Butterflies

Postman, <i>Heliconius melpomene</i>	Monarch, <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Flambeau or Julia Butterfly, <i>Dryas julia</i> ,
White Peacock, <i>Anartia jatrophae</i> ,	West Indian Buckeye, <i>Junonia evarete</i>	Blue Morpho, <i>Morpho peleides</i>
Cabbage White, <i>Ascia monuste</i>	Brown Longtail, <i>Urbanus procne</i>	Hermes Satyr, <i>Hermeuptychia hermes</i>
Cloudless Sulphur, <i>Phoebis sennae</i>	Tiger-striped Butterfly, <i>Heliconius ismenius</i>	Blue Transparent, <i>Ithomia pellucida</i>
King Page, <i>Papilio thoas</i>	Cattle Heart, <i>Parides anchises</i>	Gold-Rim, <i>Battus polydamas</i>
White-tailed Page, <i>Urania leilus</i>	Caligo, <i>California urilichus</i>	Jaune D'abricot, <i>Phoebis argante</i>
Five Continents, <i>Adelpha cytherea insularis</i>	Guava Skipper, <i>Phocides polybius</i>	Hankerchief sp, <i>Dynamine</i> sp
Blue-tinted Hankerchief, <i>Dynamine theseus</i>	Soldier/Monarch, <i>Danaus eresimus</i>	Scarlet Peacock (Coolie), <i>Anartia amathea</i>
Tiger Pierid, <i>Dismorphia amphione</i>	Malachite, <i>Siproeta stelenes</i>	Grey Hankerchief, <i>Mestra hypermestra cana</i>

Other Invertebrates

Trinidad Chevron Tarantula, <i>Psalmopoeus cambridgei</i>	Pink-toed Tarantula, <i>Avicularia versicolor</i>	Carmine Skimmer, <i>Orthemis discolour</i>
Great Pondhawk, <i>Emytheris versiculosa</i>	Stick Insect sp, <i>Creoxylus</i> sp	Bachac Leaf-cutter ants, <i>Atta cephalotes</i>
Katydid sp, <i>Cnemidophyllum</i> sp	Ghost Crab, <i>Ocypode quadrata</i>	Tree Climbing Crab, <i>Aratus pisonii</i>
Blue Land Crab, <i>Cardisoma guanhumii</i>	Harvestman, <i>Santinezia serratotibialis</i>	Glow Worm sp

Moths

Giant Silkmoth sp, <i>Copaxa marona</i>	Imperial Moth, <i>Eacles imperialis</i>	Saturniidae sp, <i>Automeris liberia</i>
Giant Silkmoth sp, <i>Rhescyntis hermes</i>	Saturniidae sp, <i>Syssphinx molina</i>	Saturniidae sp, <i>Psuedo dirphia agandensis</i>
Saturniidae sp, <i>Arsenura beebei</i>	<i>Castnia</i> sp	

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Juvenile male Tufted Coquette by Caroline Hucklesby



Male Barred Antshrike by Gianpiero Ferrari



Copper Rumped Hummingbird by Caroline Hucklesby