

# Go Slow... in Trinidad (Asa Wright)

Naturetrek Tour Report

9 - 17 April 2017



Male Silver-beaked Tanager



Yellow Oriole on the feeders



Linnaeus's Mouse Opossum



Leatherback Turtle egg laying

Report and images by Peter Dunn



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour participants: Peter Dunn (leader) with 12 Naturetrek clients  
Dave & Roodal Ramlal and Boyie (local guides) and Asa Wright staff & guides

## Summary

This was a 'Go Slow' birdwatching and natural history holiday to the beautiful Caribbean island of Trinidad, where we stayed at the world-renowned Asa Wright Centre. Located only 15 kilometres from the coast of Venezuela, the small island of Trinidad boasts an incredible variety of wildlife, and a good proportion of it could be seen from the amazing veranda at the centre. Each morning some would greet the dawn and watch the procession of tanagers, hummingbirds and thrushes visit the feeders. During the week we supplemented this excitement with visits to Caroni Swamp for the amazing Scarlet Ibis, Wallerfield for lowland birds and Matura beach to watch Leatherback Turtles lay their eggs.

## Day 1

Sunday 9th April

### In flight - Gatwick to Port of Spain, Trinidad via St Lucia

After flying from the UK, the group arrived at Trinidad at 3.40pm and were quickly through airport formalities. We were met by Peter, who had been leading the previous tour on Trinidad, along with Roodal and Dave, our guides for the week. Bags were quickly packed and we negotiated the low Sunday traffic, soon passing through Arima and heading north into the rain forest. We saw a few Great Kiskadees, Tropical Mockingbirds, Turkey Vultures and Carib Crackles on the way, but the aim was to get to Asa Wright as soon as possible after the long flight.

On arrival we were greeted by the staff and allocated rooms before meeting Peter on the veranda to talk over the 'does and don'ts' over a rum punch, so enabling everyone to have an enjoyable holiday. We even got to see the Pink-toed Tarantula living in the drawing room flowers and a nesting Green Hermit.

Dinner was served around 7pm and after, all headed for their rooms to get some long awaited sleep.

## Day 2

Monday 10th April

### Asa Wright Centre

Following a long travelling day, it was surprising to see so many of the group arrive early for their first morning veranda visit – although body clocks were still probably five hours ahead. We started the process of separating the various coloured Tanagers: Blue-grey and Palm were blue and green respectively; Silver-beaked had just that with mahogany purple plumage; but White-lined males were black and females ginger! There were various species of hummingbirds to separate including a tiny female Tufted Coquet, and then oropendolas, toucans, bellbirds and pigeon! It was a lot to take in but mightily enjoyable, and all before breakfast.

After breakfast Roodal joined us and we went on a familiarisation walk along the entrance roads in search of wildlife. Most people now felt the humidity and, so it seemed, did the wildlife as it was initially quiet. We found a solitary Forest Elaenia high in a tree and a little further a Tropical Peewee. A slight sprinkling of rain seemed to wake up the butterflies and dragonflies and we saw Blue Morpho, Cattle Heart, Tiger Stripe and Forest Giant Owl Butterfly, and some nice examples of Rubyspot dragonfly. Suddenly a Trinidad Motmot appeared for a few

seconds in the tree above us, then a pair of Lined Woodpeckers performed well. A bird call had us looking into the sky to see a Black Hawk-Eagle displaying, with both Band-rumped and Grey-rumped Swifts flying back and forth above the trees.

The return journey was quiet apart from a nice Tarantula Wasp and a some small Trinidad Stream Frogs, and we had time for some drinks before dinner back at the veranda.

After lunch and a siesta, Peter took some of the group along the discovery trail to visit three lekking areas. The first was only occupied by a single male Golden-headed Manakin, who only half-heartedly jumped when a female passed by. The next, however, was full of action as male White-bearded Manakins 'cracked' and whistled around their favourite dancing stems. There was quite a lot of action here which was very much enjoyed by the photographers.

A little further down the trail we had nice views of a White-necked Thrush and a brief Grey-fronted Dove before we arrive at the bellbird lek. Close by a male Bearded Bellbird was calling, which seemed to be at head height and with a little searching, Don spied it and we had some nice views as it repeatedly called. As afternoon tea time approached we headed back to the veranda, with Keith and Peter finding a Golden-olive Woodpecker en route. We enjoyed some savouries and sweets with our afternoon drink.

At 6pm the rum punch arrived and we completed our first checklist whilst the thoughts of all the colourful wildlife was still in our memories. This was followed by dinner and then bed!

## Day 3

Tuesday 11th April

### Blanchisseuse Road, Brasso Seco and Morne La Crix

'Going slow' is ideal for Trinidad and in particular the Asa Wright Centre, as there is always something to see when sitting on the veranda, such as Turquoise Tanagers and close toucans this morning. Peter introduced Martyn Kenefick to the group, who is the co-author of the current Birds of Trinidad and Tobago, which most people have, and he signed quite a few. Martyn is now on the board of Asa Wright and has led for Naturetrek in the past, so always tries to personally meet our groups each year.

After breakfast Roodal and Dave loaded the maxi-taxis with our lunch and drinks and we headed north, up along the Blanchisseuse Road in search of wildlife. Our first stop produced good raptors: two Black Hawk-Eagles, White Hawk, Common Black Hawk and Double-toothed Kite. A little further on and there was a Plumbeous Kite to add to our raptor count, and a bit further brief views of Black-faced Antthrush and Stripe-throated Spinetail. We stopped to look for tanagers but found two nice Collared Trogons instead, and a short walk along Las Lapass Trace was very successful with both Red-rumped and Golden-olive Woodpeckers and a small mixed flock of White-flanked Antwrens, Long-billed Gnatwren and a Streaked Xenops. A call overhead alerted us to an Ornate Hawk-Eagle which flew through a small window in the trees for all to see.

We started downhill towards our picnic spot, unsuccessfully trying to tempt a calling Ferruginous Pygmy Owl out of a tree, but found yet another raptor when Andy saw a Zone-tailed Hawk below us! We lunched at the community centre at Brasso Seco, where there were clean rest rooms and shade. With a lunch of chicken, pasta and salad, we also saw a Green Kingfisher and Carib Grackles!

The afternoon was spent checking open areas en route to Morne La Croix. One in particular held a pair of Speckled Tanagers, three Red-legged Honeycreepers and a showy Cocoa Woodcreeper.

We met up with a group led by another member of the Ramlal family, Mahaise, at Morne La Croix where we waited for the Blue-headed Parrots. They were late but eventually arrived for all to see. The Yellow-rumped Caciques were also active here, and eventually the resident Rufous-tailed Jacamar appeared. A great end was celebrated with juice and cake.

We headed back to the centre, seeing Grey Kingbird, Green-backed Toucan and Slaty-backed Flycatcher on the way. We arrived in time to shower before rum punch was served and we completed our checklist. The dinner was noisy affair as much of the talk was about the successful day and fingers crossed for turtles tomorrow.

## Day 4

Wednesday 12th April

AM - Asa Wright Centre; PM - Matura Turtle Beach

The morning was free time to be spent around the centre. Peter arranged for two of the centre guides to take some of the group around the gardens to talk about the plants and their importance in the forest environment, whilst he took two on a photo hunt for hummingbirds. The guides, Caleb and Elizabeth, did an excellent job and even took the group to the roasting shed where a new batch of Asa Wright coffee was being roasted. Peter's group found two male Trinidad Euphonias and were led a merry photographic dance by two female Tufted Coquettes.

It was very hot after lunch so most took some time to keep cool and relax prior to our trip to the east coast to look for turtles. All but two left the centre at 4pm and headed for Matura Turtle Sanctuary beach where they were met by Francis, one of the turtle monitors. Francis gave us a short talk on the biology of the Leatherback Turtle whilst we finished our picnic dinners and then led us to the beach. We waited by the beach entrance whilst Francis and his helpers checked the beach, and just as the moon started to rise at 7.30pm, we got the message that a turtle had come ashore.

We must have walked about a mile on soft sand before arriving at a huge female Leatherback which was busily digging her nest hole. We had to watch with red lights whilst she did this, but as soon as she started laying her ping-pong shaped eggs she went into a trance and we were permitted to take photographs and video. It was a moving moment to see this huge reptile completely ignore people touching her to place tags on her flippers for identification as she laid eggs. Once she had finished laying, all white lights and flash were turned off and we watched her bury the eggs and compact the sand, and then camouflaged the nest site by smoothing out the sand. Eventually, looking completely exhausted, she made her way back into the sea.

While all this was going on, two others had come ashore up and down the beach and were laying, and a fourth was seen close by in the surf but it turned back. We were led back to the vehicles on a dirt track behind the beach and arrived hot and weary, but absolutely honoured at having witnessed such a marvellous event.

Dave and Roodal drove us safely back to the centre, arriving before 11pm and we retired for a well earned sleep with the turtle adventure still replaying in our minds.

## Day 5

Thursday 13th April

### Asa Wright Centre AM and night birding; PM - Wallerfield

After the late finish last night, most arrived on the veranda just before the breakfast bell. However as we lined up, Caleb told Peter that there was a Fer-de-lance on the drive not far from the centre. Word was passed around and those who wanted to headed out, armed with cameras. The snake had been seen in the centre of the road but had been moved to the edge for safety from incoming vehicles. We were able to photograph it as it initially curled up and then did a lazy 'strike' before moving away and eventually disappearing into the forest. A fantastic start to the day!

After breakfast, we gathered at 9am for a walk along the entrance road with Caleb and Peter. In humid conditions we had good views of Slaty-capped Flycatcher, Golden-olive Woodpecker, a Grey-lined Hawk and two Plumbeous Kites. Insects were also fascinating with a nice Blue Transparent butterfly which stayed long enough for photographs, and two species of damselfly: Racquet-tipped Rubyspot and *Argia oculata*. A large forest cricket scurried through the undergrowth, and Trinidad Stream Frogs and Common Ameiva lizard were noted.

After lunch we had some down time to relax, take photos and siesta until 4pm when we boarded the maxi-taxis with Dave and Roodal and headed to the old Wallerfield airfield to do some night birding. Driving through the old airfield, we saw a large flock of Black Vultures near to the university and we then headed for a stand of Moriche Palms where we set up 'camp'. From here we had great views of Sulphury Flycatchers and Epaulette (Moriche) Orioles and some had brief views of a Ruby Topaz Hummingbird. The Red-bellied Macaws started to arrive as we had our rum punch, followed by a chicken dinner. As the cicadas serenaded us (or more likely drowned out our conversation) the light dropped and the first Pauraque called. Over the other side of the Palms a Common Potoo started its mournful call and Peter started emulating it. Suddenly it was over our heads and flew around before landing in full view and started calling. It was one of the best Potoo sightings for a long time and after many photographs, it flew off. We also had brief views of a Pauraque on the road.

We re-boarded the maxi-taxis and patrolled the airfield, using powerful lights to trace the Pauraque and nightjars. First a nice male White-tailed Nightjar showed well on the ground and in flight, then further down the road we enjoyed similar views of Pauraque. A pair of Southern Lapwing were nesting here and we could see the spur on the wing of the male. This had been a good night but the late turtle viewing the night before started to tell on us so we headed back to the centre and to bed.

## Day 6

Friday 14th April

### Waterloo and Caroni Swamp

We met on the veranda for tea and coffee and took the spare time before breakfast to complete the last two days of our checklists.

After breakfast we loaded into Roodal and today Boyie's maxi-taxis for a full day trip to Waterloo and Caroni Swamp. We drove through the back roads to Waterloo, checking the rice fields for harriers but could only find Cattle Egrets and Black Vultures. On arrival at Brickfields, Waterloo the air was filled with the sound of Laughing Gulls. Over the next hour we went through the flock of gulls, picking out Black Skimmers, Long-billed Terns and a juvenile Lesser Black-backed Gull. Herons and egrets included Little Blue and Tricolored Herons,

Snowy and Great Egrets, Cocoli Heron and Yellow-crowned Night Heron, and a gaudy adult Scarlet Ibis lit the scene. We checked waders where Black-necked Stilts dominated the numbers and two Osprey were seen, one with a fish.

We then called at the temple in the sea where a cremation was to take place, and in between photographing the temple we found Semipalmated Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Western Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone and a pair of Yellow-hooded Orioles. Then, followed a brief stop at the monkey muti (an 85 feet tall Hanuman statue) and the pink temple for photographs where both Grey-breasted Martin and Short-tailed Swift were seen, we headed north, back to Caroni for lunch.

We used the shade of Lester Nannan's customer waiting area for lunch whilst Lester prepared the boats. At the visitors centre we had a comfort stop and saw the fantastic Masked Cardinals. Keith also identified two dragonflies here: Great Pondhawk and Band-winged Dragonlet.

It was then time to board Lester's boat and we had plenty of room as we sailed down the channel towards the swamp, seeing Four-eyed Fish and Green-throated Mangos within a few hundred metres. Sailing between the red and black mangroves, we saw plenty of heron species such as Little Blue and Tricolored Herons, but a special sighting was a roosting Boat-billed Heron. Brief views of Straight-billed Woodcreeper and American Pygmy Kingfisher were frustrating, but we had better views of Bicolored Conebill.

As the light began to fade we turned into a large area of open water, to be faced by a small flock of American Flamingoes which almost immediately took off and flew over our boat, having been disturbed by other boats ahead of us. We then took our place, tied to some mangroves facing a small island, where we drank our rum punches and ate our cake while watching flocks of Scarlet Ibis, Snowy Egrets and Tricolored Herons come in to roost. What a perfect end to the day.

It did not quite end there. As we were heading back to the landing stages, a large Short-tailed Nightjar flew over us a few times and Lester found a sleeping Silky Anteater which we viewed and photographed by torch light!

We arrive back at Asa Wright about 7.30pm to find dinner waiting for us, followed by a relaxing drink and bed.

## Day 7

Saturday 15th April

### Asa Wright - at leisure and Oilbirds

The last full day in Trinidad was spent at the centre as it was Easter and outside the centre would be busy. We met to do yesterday's checklist with one eye on the feeders before a sumptuous breakfast.

After breakfast we visited Dunston Cave, famous for its Oilbirds. Our guide was Randolph and we were joined by Ann Sealy, the centre manager. Randolph briefed us on the history and biology of the Oilbirds before we headed down the trail. Although the main aim was the Oilbirds, the trail is less disturbed than others around the grounds (only two visits a week) so can produce surprises. Today was no exception as a diminutive Mouse Opossum was seen on a log; probably as interested in us as we of him. Pat managed an excellent photograph of a White-throated Spadebill and a large red spider, unidentified at the time but it certainly looked venomous. The Oilbirds,

however, were the prize at the end of the walk and everyone was amazing at these huge fruit eating 'nightjars'. Photographs taken, we walked back to the veranda for a well deserved drink as the humidity was high.

After lunch, Peter took some of the group on the Chaconia trail. It was very warm and quiet, apart from a nice view of a Golden-headed Manakin, until we came to the White-Bearded Manakin lek when, along with the lek owners, we had views of Long-billed Antwren, White-necked Thrush and Cocoa Woodcreeper.

The rest of the afternoon was spent at leisure until 5.30pm when we checked in for our forthcoming flight and the final full day's checklist was completed with the aid of a rum punch.

After dinner, some of the group went on a night walk along the driveway with one of the centre's staff. Two large Trinidad Chevron Tarantulas put in an appearance as well as a few other species. A bonus on this walk and a very rare sighting was an Oilbird, feeding around a palm tree. Even the staff member was excited.

## Day 8

Sunday 16th April

### Asa Wright and flight back to the UK

It was pleasantly mild this morning with an overcast sky, almost trying to get us acclimatised for the journey home, however the heat had returned by mid-morning. The morning was spent on the veranda enjoying the last sights and sounds of the rain forest. All the usual suspects were around the feeders, and in addition an Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen. Lunch was different today as it was Easter Sunday and there were many visitors. We had a good choice of meats, vegetables, breads and salads with juices and fruits for dessert.

It was soon 2pm and time to say goodbye to all the centre staff who had served, guided and helped during the week. Bags were loaded and we said a fond farewell to Roodal, who had driven and guided us throughout the week with the help of Dave and Boyie. Our thanks were given in the usual way. The last drive down the hill was fairly quiet as we pondered leaving this magical valley. However Peter made sure it did not stop there. As we approached the airport he persuaded Roodal and the convoy to go around again and stop at a bridge and there, on the mud, were two Spectacled Cayman. While watching them we also added Black-crowned Night Heron, Greater Yellowlegs and American Purple Gallinule to the week's list.

The airport was fairly quiet and we quickly passed through check in and security to await our flight, which arrived on time and left ahead of time, collecting more passengers on St Lucia before the full flight headed out over the Atlantic, still ahead of time.

## Day 9

Monday 17th April

### Return to London

We landed at 8.30am, some 25 minutes ahead of time. We met for the last time in the baggage reclaim, having made new friends and hoping to meet again on future tours.

## Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	April							
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>					H			
2	American Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>						24		
3	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>						500		
4	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>						1		
5	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>								1
6	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>						4		
7	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>						1		1
8	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓				1	✓		
9	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>						1		
10	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>						10		
11	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>						✓		
12	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>						✓		
13	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>						✓		3
14	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>				4		✓		
15	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>						✓		
16	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>						2		
17	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>						3		
20	Black Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i>		1	2					
21	Ornate Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus ornatus</i>			1					
22	Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>			1					
23	Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>			1		2			
24	Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>		3	1			2	1	
25	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>				1				
26	White Hawk	<i>Pseudastur albicollis</i>			2				2	
27	Grey-lined Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>					1			
28	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>		1						
29	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>			2				1	
30	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>			1				1	
31	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>								1
32	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>						8		4
33	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>					2	15		
34	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						1		
35	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>						2		
36	Whimbrel (American)	<i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i>						1		
37	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>						1		1
38	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>						1		
39	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>						40		1
40	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>						✓		
41	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>						✓		
42	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>						1		
43	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>						✓		
44	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>						✓		
45	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>						1		
46	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>						20		
47	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>					✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	April							
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
48	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>		2			1		1	1
49	Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>				1				
50	Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>			✓			✓		
51	Grey-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>		1	1		1	1	1	1
52	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>						4		
53	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>					✓	4		
54	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>		1	1		1		1	1
55	Tropical Screech Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>						1		
56	Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	H		H					
57	Oilbird	<i>Steatornis caripensis</i>							4	
58	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>					1			
59	Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>						1		
60	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>				1	4			
61	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Hydropsalis cayennensis</i>					1			
62	Chestnut-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne rutila</i>			1					
63	Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>						5		
66	Neotropical Palm Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata</i>					1	1		
67	Rufous-breasted Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsutus</i>		1	1					
68	Green Hermit	<i>Phaethornis guy</i>	1	1	1		2	1	1	1
69	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
70	Green-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax viridigula</i>						3		
71	Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	✓	4	✓	✓	4	4	✓	✓
72	Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	<i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i>					2			
73	Tufted Coquette	<i>Lophornis ornatus</i>		2	2	3	2	2	2	2
74	Blue-chinned Sapphire	<i>Chlorestes notata</i>		1	2	1	1	1		1
75	White-chested Emerald	<i>Amazilia brevirostris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Copper-rumped Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tobaci</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>		1	1			1		
78	Green-backed Trogon	<i>Trogon viridis</i>			1					
79	Guianan Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>		H	1				2	1
80	Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>		H	2					
81	American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>						1		
82	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>			1					
83	Trinidad Motmot	<i>Momotus bahamensis</i>		1	1				H	
84	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>			1					
85	Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>		5		3	2	3	2	2
86	Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis kirkii</i>			1		H	H		
87	Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus</i>		1	2		1		H	
88	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>		2			H			
89	Lilac-tailed Parrotlet	<i>Touit batavicus</i>					2			
90	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>			12					
91	Orange-winged Amazon	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Red-bellied Macaw	<i>Orthopsittaca manilatus</i>					18			
93	Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>			2					
94	Streaked Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>			2					
95	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Dendroplex picus</i>						1		
96	Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>		H	1				1	
97	Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>		1	2			H		
98	Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>		1	1		2		2	1

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
99	White-flanked Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i>			4					1	
100	White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>			H						H
101	Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>			1						
102	Forest Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>		1							
103	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>							1		
104	Slaty-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon superciliaris</i>			1		1				
105	Yellow-olive Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias sulphureus</i>			1						
106	Ochre-ored Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>			1						
107	White-throated Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i>								1	
108	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>									1
109	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>		1			1				
110	Pied Water Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>							2		
111	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>		1	2	2	1	1	1	2	2
112	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>			2						
114	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>		2	1		2				2
115	Sulphury Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannopsis sulphurea</i>					4				
116	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>		2	✓	2	✓	✓			✓
117	Grey Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>			1						
118	Bearded Bellbird	<i>Procnias averano</i>		2	H		1	1	1	1	1
119	White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>		12	✓		2			✓	2
120	Golden-headed Manakin	<i>Ceratopipra erythrocephala</i>		1	H					1	
121	Black-tailed Tityra	<i>Tityra cayana</i>			1				1		1
122	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>							H		
123	Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>		H	2		H			H	
124	White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>				1	1	1			
125	Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>			✓			2			
126	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>		1	✓	✓	✓				
127	Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Phegopedius rutilus</i>			1		2			H	
128	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>		2	2					2	2
129	Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>		H	1		H			1	H
130	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	2	✓	2	2	2
131	Cocoa Thrush	<i>Turdus fumigatus</i>		1	✓	✓	1	2	2		
132	Spectacled Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
133	White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>		2						2	
134	Trinidad Euphonia	<i>Euphonia trinitatis</i>		H						H	H
135	Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
136	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>			1				1		
137	Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>			H						
138	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
139	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>			✓						
140	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>		2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1
141	Epaulet (Moriche) Oriole	<i>Icterus cayanensis chrysocephalus</i>					2				
142	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>			3						
143	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>			✓			✓			
144	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
145	Masked Cardinal	<i>Paroaria nigrogenis</i>						2			
146	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
147	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
148	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
149	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
150	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>		2	2					1	
151	Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>			2						
152	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>			3					1	
153	Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
154	Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>			3						
155	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
156	Bicolored Conebill	<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>							2		

## Other Taxa (with thanks to Keith Powrie for his help in compiling the following)

### Dragonflies

Racquet-tipped Rubyspot, *Hetaerina occisa*  
 Great Pondhawk, *Erythemis vesiculosa*  
 Orange-bellied Skimmer, *Orthemis discolour*

Pin-tailed Pondhawk, *Erythemis plebeja*  
 Band-winged Dragonlet, *Erythrodiplax umbrata*  
*Argia oculata*

### Reptiles & Amphibians

Caribbean Tree Runner, *Plica caribea*  
 Beachrunner, *Cnemidophorus lemniscatus*  
 Leatherback Turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*  
 Common Lancehead (aka Fer-de-lance), *Bothrops atrox*  
 Trinidad Stream Frog, *Mannophryne trinitatis*

Common Ameiva, *Ameiva atrigularis*  
 Golden Tegu, *Tupinambis teguixin*  
 Ruschenberger's Tree Boa, *Corallus ruschenbergerii*  
 Spectacled Caiman, *Caiman crocodiles*

### Mammals

Silky Anteater, *Cyclopes didactylus*  
 Lesser Long-tongued Bat, *Choeroniscus minor*  
 Red-rumped Agouti, *Dasyprocta leporine*

Red-tailed Squirrel, *Sciurus granatensis*  
 Curacaoan Long-nosed Bat, *Leptonycteris curasoae*  
 Linnaeus's Mouse Opossum, *Marmosa murina*

### Butterflies & Moths

Long-tailed Skipper, *Urbanus proteus*  
 Postman, *Heliconius melpomene*  
 White Peacock, *Anartia jatrophe*,  
 Blue Morpho, *Morpho peleides*  
 Brown Longtail, *Urbanus procyne*  
 Cloudless Sulphur, *Phoebis sennae*  
 Cattle Heart, *Parides anchises*  
 Staphylus Skipper, *Staphylus kayei*  
 Forest Giant Owl Butterfly, *Caligo eurilochus*  
 Orange-barred Sulphur, *Phoebis philea*  
 Anius Metalmark, *Charius anius*  
 Butler's Satyr, *Cissia palladia*

Whirlabout, *Polites vibex*  
 Flambeau (aka Julia Butterfly), *Dryas iulia*,  
 Scarlet Peacock (aka Coolie), *Anartia amathea*  
 Cabbage White, *Ascia monuste*  
 Hermes Satyr, *Hermeuptychia hermes*  
 Blue Transparent, *Ithomia pellucida*  
 Gold-Rim, *Battus polydamas*  
 Terrestrial Satyr, *Cissia terrestria*  
 Tiger Stripe, *Mechanitis polymnia*  
 Bullseye Moth, *Automeris liberia*  
 Perching Saliana, *Saliana esperi*

### Other invertebrates

Leaf Cutter Ant, *Atta cephalotes*  
 Trinidad Chevron Tarantula, *Psalmopoeus cambridgei*  
 Golden Orb Weaver, *Nephila clavipes*.  
 Fiddler Crab, *Uca maracoani*

Army Ant, *Eciton burchellii*  
 Pink-toed Tarantula, *Avicularia versicolor*  
 Mangrove Crab, *Ucides cordatus*  
 Tarantula Hawk Wasp sp.

Various Cicadas sp. with different calls  
Carolina Mantis, *Stagomantis carolina*

Various unidentified forest cricket sp.

## Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



American Flamingos at Caroni



White-necked Jacobin



Common Lancehead (aka Fer-de-lance)



Speckled Tanager