

Venezuela - Off the Beaten Track

Naturetrek Tour Report

18 - 25 February 2006

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Day 1

Saturday 18th February

Due to the delay in the Iberia flight leaving Madrid, we arrived four hours late into Caracas - too late to catch our connecting flight to Valencia. In the event, we were put up in a coastal hotel in Macuto just 20 minutes from the airport.

Day 2

Sunday 19th February

Localities: Valencia Airport, Tucacas roadside rivers, Morrocoy Mangroves and Cerro Chichiriviche.

Weather: sunny, mid-low 30sC

Today we took an early flight to Valencia, but our late arrival meant that we could not bird the Cerro Chichiriviche area in the morning as planned. Fortunately, our birthday girl Juline Rickwood found us a marvellous present right at Valencia Airport: a family group of 5 BURROWING OWLS (3 juvies and 2 adults). After getting great photos and video, and adding several common species, amongst them a WHITE-TAILED KITE, we continued towards our destination, Morrocoy National Park.

Due to the late departure from Valencia, we opted to drive straight to our posada, making just a short stop along the way as a brief introduction to birding this marvellous area. From the bus, we managed to add YELLOW-HOODED BLACKBIRD, by a small marsh, while a stop by the brackish waters of a small stream produced a lovely perched OSPREY, YELLOW ORIOLE and raucous YELLOW-RUMPED CACIQUES.

After catching some nice MAGNIFICENT FRIGATBIRDS, BROWN BOOBIES and ROYAL TERNS from the posada terrace, we enjoyed a quick lunch that would fuel us up for the afternoon. Upon arriving at the mangroves of the Morrocoy National Park, a side stop produced good numbers of waders: BLACK-NECKED STILTS and GREATER and LESSER YELLOWLEGS dominated, while a few STILT SANDPIPERS lurked here and there. A lone WHIMBREL (this American subspecies, hudsonicus, lacks the white rump of the Eurasian nominate) made an appearance, while a nice WILLET performed at close range. The numerous BLACK SKIMMERS proved a lovely contrast to the many SCARLET IBIS and AMERICAN FLAMINGOS wading around.

A second stop in the same habitat produced a lovely white phase REDDISH EGRET, TRICOLOURED AND LITTLE BLUE HERONS, as well as a truly bright male GOLDEN WARBLER (a mangrove obligate recently separated from Yellow Warbler). Responding to playback, we also managed to bring in a very uncooperative PLAIN-FLANKED RAIL, a recently rediscovered Venezuelan endemic that only briefly announced its presence vocally from a short distance inside an impenetrable mangrove tangle.

At the Cerro Morrocoy area, we got nice views of the common SCRUB GREENLET and COMMON TODY-FLYCATCHER right off the bus, before we were given a real dry coastal scrub treat. After whistled imitations of Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, we were fast onto a pair of NORTHERN WHITE-FRINGED ANTWERNS, the female being particularly obliging. Shortly after, we scored on a triad of Thamnophilid antbirds: answering to

playback a nice pair of BARRED ANTSHRIKES, followed by both sexes of the regional endemic BLACK-BACKED ANTSHRIKE that really made us work to get decent views, but definitely the show stealers were the lovely pair of BLACK-CRESTED ANTSHRIKES that foraged atop a roadside tree. Also briefly seen were SCALED PICULET and a pair of BUFF-BREASTED WRENS - all of this with the backdrop chorus of LANCE-TAILED MANAKINS lurking in the tangles and the haunting song of RED-LEGGED TINAMOUS on the hillside above us. This nice introductory afternoon ended with lovely views of the Morrocoy area from a lookout atop the Cerro Morrocoy, while ORANGE-WINGED PARROTS flew to roost and several hundred AMERICAN FLAMINGOS waded in the tidal flats below.

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 86

Day 3

Monday 20th February

Localities: Morning: Agualinda road; Afternoon: Chichiriviche marshes

Weather: overcast with light, intermittent showers

A single flying BARN OWL, as we drove in the dark to our birding destination, was the prelude to an amazing day in the pastures and gallery forests south of the city of Tucacas. Upon arriving we heard the weird song of HORNED SCREAMERS deep in the marshes. Immediately we had small flocks of CHESTNUT-FRONTED MACAWS, ORANGE-WINGED and YELLOW-CROWNED PARROTS, while a lone BLACK-COLLARED HAWK flew overhead. Other raptors seen early in the morning were nice perched GRAY and CRANE HAWKS.

Before getting to the marshy area, we added BURNISHED-BUFF and HOODED TANAGERS. The search for the endemic RUSTY-FLANKED CRAKE proved to be a challenge as usual, and we had only quick views of this tough Rallid, which unfortunately (at this time) did not come into view for everyone. Coming out of this marshy area, we had great views of a pair of the regional endemic RUSSET-THROATED PUFFBIRD (now often split as DOUBLE-BANDED PUFFBIRD). After this great sighting, we endured a couple of quick showers that fortunately gave way to nicer weather as the day progressed. Upon exiting this great grassland, we managed to add small family flocks of GREY SEEDEATERS and BLUE-BLACK GRASSQUITS.

Back on the dirt road, Alejandro found us a nice pair of HORNED SCREAMERS, perched in a tree overlooking an adjacent marshy area, and giving the extraordinary calls for which this species is famous. After soaking up the views of these interesting birds, we heard the calls of pair of BLACK-CAPPED DONACOBIOUS, another inhabitant of this marshy habitat, which responded beautifully to playback and displayed their handsome two-toned black and buff bodies, white undertails and supernatural golden eyes. To top this stop off, we had two soaring HOOK-BILLED KITES circling overhead and a handsome, perched male BLACK-THROATED MANGO.

Continuing along on this very birdy road, we had a perched SAVANNA HAWK, very obliging GLAUCOUS TANAGERS that allowed us to get a good morphological comparison between this near endemic species and the ubiquitous Blue-grey Tanagers. CINEROUS BECARDS were found nesting, seemingly well aware of our presence, while TRINIDAD EUPHONIA (a regional endemic also occurring in Colombia and Trinidad) and THICK-BILLED EUPHONIAS, skulking PALE-BREASTED SPINETAILS and the endemic sub-species

choice of the STRAIGHT-BILLED WOODCREEPER foraged in the roadside trees. Driving back to a nice patch of riparian forest, we got a nice mixed-species flock that contained, besides the more common NORTHERN WHITE-FRINGED ANTWERNS, SCRUB AND GOLDEN-FRONTED GREENLETS, both sexes of HOODED TANAGER (a species that is widely distributed, but nowhere numerous), the regional endemics SCALED PICULET and WHITE-EARED CONEBILL, this last species showing the nice black contrasting cap over the dark blue-grey upperparts, white auricular patch and chestnut-coloured vent in the male. Further along, we had a LESSER KISKADEE foraging over a flooded part of forest, while a nearby tree held a nice pair of Parulids: YELLOW and PROTHONOTARY WARBLERS, the latter being somewhat unusual inland, and definitely not a common warbler in Venezuela.

Continuing on, we heard an excited RUFOUS-BREASTED WREN calling from within the dense vines in the forest and managed to get a very responsive individual to show us just why this Thryothorus wren has that common English name.

After this memorable encounter, we decided we had more than earned our right to get into the air-conditioned bus and consume our packed lunches! Back on track, we continued down the dirt road, where we managed to watch a couple of Llaneros (the Venezuelan equivalent of cowboys) round up their cattle and catch a little something to add to the dinner plate. In this short walk, we managed to add a nice WOOD STORK and a lone GREAT BLACK HAWK, both perched in the shade, hiding from the inclement sun.

We then moved towards the tidal flats of the Chichiriviche area, not before making a couple of nice roadside stops that gave us some new species for the trip: large groups of GLOSSY IBISES, a small family group of PURPLE GALLINULES, a nice SOLITARY SANDPIPER, PALE-VENTED PIGEONS and a couple of COMMON BLACK-HAWKS perched at the roadside.

At the tidal flats, we got looks at some great groups of waterbirds: GREAT-BLUE and TRICOLORED HERONS, REDDISH EGRETS, SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS, LEAST SANDPIPERS, WILSON'S (COMMON) SNIPE, ROSEATE SPOONBILLS and a triad of terns: GULL-BILLED, ROYAL and LARGE-BILLED.

In the adjacent dry scrub areas, we also managed to get on a couple of RED-BREASTED BLACKBIRDS, a lone MERLIN, and incredible looks at a LESSER-YELLOW HEADED VULTURE, that pleased the crowd by perching on a fence post on the other side of the road to pose for some nice photos!

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 145

Day 4

Tuesday 21st February

Locality: Cerro Misión

Weather: partially cloudy

This morning we were out to bird the more humid forests of the Cerro Misión. On the drive in, we spotted a pair of WHISTLING HERONS, perched on a dead tree that also held a lone AMERICAN KESTREL. Right off the bus, we saw a nice family group of THICK-BILLED EUPHONIA and a lone FOREST ELAENIA,

sallying back and forth. Further along, a single RUFOUS-LORED TYRANNULET, a localized endemic well below its usual elevation, actively pursued insects in a Cecropia tree, while a lone RED-RUMPED WOODPECKER perched further below. Shortly afterwards, we were greeted by a lovely pair of RED-AND-GREEN MACAWS that flew close by and showed their spectacular red, green and blue colour.

Moving along, we spotted a pair of charming ORANGE-CROWNED ORIOLES, an uncommon species of Icterid, trying to chase off a CRANE HAWK from its perch.

Shortly after, mid-level on the edge of a large legume tree close by, we found a large hummingbird that turned out to be a handsome LONG-BILLED STARThroat, an uncommon species to see in Venezuela.

Adding to our long list of raptors, we had a pair of LAUGHING FALCONS, while yet another ZONE-TAILED HAWK gently glided overhead, mimicking almost to perfection the behaviour of a Cathartes Vulture. After seeing nice STREAK-HEADED WOODCREEPERS, a skulking pair of CRESTED SPINETAILS, OCHRE-LORED FLATBILLS, RUFOUS-BREASTED HERMIT and CARIBBEAN HORNERO; we moved along inside the forest, which was unfortunately very quiet, but that nevertheless had a nice surprise for us... Picking up some slight movement and persistently following the buzzy, insect-like calls, we managed to see a gorgeous little Tyrannid; the diminutive, almost tailless SHORT-TAILED PYGMY-TYRANT. A very hard bird to see, as it only occurs patchily north of the Orinoco River.

Back at the bus, our wonderful driver Franklin was waiting for us with hot coffee and our packed lunches, which we gratefully consumed en route to the mangroves for another bout with the elusive PLAIN-FLANKED RAIL, which was very uncooperative. We then left the Morrocoy area, starting the 4 hour drive that would take us to Sanare, at the entrance to the Yacambú National Park, a little known park that we have been regularly birding for years.

Upon arriving, we now were in the last hour of light, but still managed to get some of the great birds that inhabit the high and dry habitat below Yacambú: HIGHLAND HEPATIC-TANAGERS, LESSER GOLDFINCH, PLAIN-BREASTED HAWK and views of a female GREEN-TAILED EMERALD, a difficult endemic to see, due to its small size.

Our day ended looking at LEAST GREBES at a nearby pond, watching WHITE-TAILED KITES fly by and trying to get views of an active ORANGE-BILLED NIGHTINGALE THRUSH, which only gave glimpses. We were then ready to call it a day, and continued on to enjoy the delightful cuisine of our excellent family-run posada.

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 127

Day 5

Wednesday 22nd February

Locality: Yacambú National Park

Weather: cloudy until 3pm

Today, we rose early to try for the tough-to-see Cracids that lurk in the splendid cloud forests of this often neglected park. Unfortunately, none were to be seen. Neither was the Great Antpitta, which was completely silent, adding to the mystery surrounding this enigmatic species. General activity was slow as well, nevertheless, we managed to get onto a canopy mixed-species flock that contained BERYL-SPANGLED, SAFFRON-CROWNED, BLACK-CAPPED and BAY-HEADED TANAGERS, a lone male ORANGE-BELLIED EUPHONIA, PEARLED TREERUNNER, and a GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER that only a few of the group managed to see. Also around were a small group of EMERALD TOUCANETS (now often split as ANDEAN TOUCANET), two ANDEAN SOLITAIRES and couple of nice hummers: immature male LONG-TAILED SYLPH and female BOOTED RACKET-TAIL.

A subsequent stop at a gap in the forest produced MOUNTAIN ELAENIA, PALE-EDGED FLYCATCHER several COMMON BUSH-TANAGERS (definitely not the last we would see of this species in the park!) and great close-ups of a gaudy male MASKED TROGON - all this under the racket of several RUSSET-BACKED OROPENDOLAS and the distant calls of CHESTNUT-CROWNED ANTPITTAS and BLACK-FACED ANTTHRUSHES.

Close by to this open area, we found ourselves with another member of the Toucan family: a couple of YELLOW-BILLED TOUCANETS (a taxon sometimes merged with Groove-billed Toucanet), a restricted range species that only gets into Northern Colombia, were seen foraging above, showing the distinctive longer, more yellow bill that serve as field marks to separate this species from the more common and widely distributed Emerald or Andean Toucanet.

Further below, we added a lone OLIVE-BACKED WOODCREEPER, while moments later a couple of members of the group watched two fleeing NORTHERN HELMETED CURASSOWS. Fortunately, that would not be the last we would see of these endangered and very elusive birds...

Before descending to the El Blanquito lagoon for a nice lunch, we made one quick stop at a small roadside flock, that had a new tanager for us: WHITE-WINGED TANAGER, both female and male were seen by most of the group. Also at this spot, we had a nice troop of WEDGE-CAPPED (WEEPING) CAPUCHINS (*Cebus olivaceus*) that stole the show from the small group of birds.

Down by the lagoon, the birds were unkind to us – they practically did not let us eat! Coming in on the small, paved road that leads to this awesome picnic place, we had a stunning double shot of hummingbirds: first, a lone male VIOLET-CHESTED HUMMINGBIRD (Venezuelan endemic!) and, a bit further along, a male VIOLET-CROWNED WOODNYMPH perched eye-level in the open for our viewing pleasure. While we still had hummingbirds in our minds, in the trees above there were handsome YELLOW-BELLIED SISKINS and GOLDEN-FACED TYRANNULETS flitting tirelessly, trying to grab attention from their Trochilid counterparts.

By the time we did get down to the actual lunch area, we had to force ourselves only to look at the more tranquil scene on the waters where LEAST GREBES, NEOTROPICAL CORMORANTS and CARIBBEAN COOTS were to be seen. After all this, we only had to raise our heads to get into new, exciting birds! The trees were just teeming with life: incredible BLUE-NECKED, GOLDEN, BAY-HEADED, SPECKELED, BURNISHED-BUFF, BLACK-HEADED and female BLACK-CAPPED TANAGERS were all about and busy (yes, that's 7 Tangara tanager species!), while tons of migrants like AMERICAN REDSTART; TENNESSEE, BLACKBURNIAN, BLACK-AND-WHITE and the threatened CERULEAN WARBLER joined the native species. The nice loop trail behind the lagoon provided several of these nice species, plus a host of other great birds: the uncommon BLACK-HOODED THRUSH, RUDDY PIGEON, GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER, SMOKE-COLOURED PEWEE, WHITE-VENTED PLUMELETEER, COPPER-RUMPED HUMMINGBIRD (regional endemic) and CRESTED SPINETAIL (regional endemic).

Leaving this trail, by the water's edge, we added a nice female VIOLET-FRONTED BRILLIANT and a single STEELY-VENTED HUMMINGBIRD (here syntopic with the closely allied COPPER-RUMPED), while a SWALLOW-TANAGER perched on a tree along the far bank of the lagoon, amidst the incessant, frantic song of a BROWN TINAMOU.

After this incredible outing, we decided to give the small entrance road another try. Just beginning, we were fast onto a lone BUFF-THROATED SALTATOR, that served us up to a great sighting: a very bright, male FULVOUS-HEADED TANAGER (also a regional endemic), that proved right, once more, the very common affirmation that "the plates in the book just don't do it justice!". Elated after this sighting, we moved on to see a handsome male COLLARED TROGON, which responded nicely to playback and thus allowed us to study the slight plumage differences between this Trogon and its close relative, the Masked Trogon.

Driving back elated towards our posada, we encountered an obliging BROAD-WINGED HAWK, a migrant raptor that was hunting from the roadside. Also, a small flock of BAND-TAILED GUANS scurried out of sight quickly, into the depths of the canopy.

What a day!

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 116

Day 6

Thursday 23rd February

Locality: Yacambú National Park.

Weather: Morning overcast; afternoon clear.

On what was to be our last day of birding in the park, we started the morning by attempting to find a Great Antpitta, which did not seem to respond. Even so, while walking along the road, John Spalding managed to find one of the great birds Venezuela has to offer: a lone NORTHERN HELMETED CURASSOW, on a horizontal branch in plain view, some 10m (30ft) away. After getting unbeatable looks, the near endemic and endangered Cracid continued in the sub-canopy of the forest. What a way to kick off the morning!

We continued down the road, which showed promise for better activity than the previous day. Here, after getting good looks at several cloud forest birds like CINNAMON FLYCATCHER, GLOSSY and YELLOW-

LEGGED THRUSHES, we managed to add the near-endemic skulker (and almost surely, an as yet undescribed species), MERIDA TAPACULO, which gave extraordinary views, given the difficulty to see this tangle-dwelling inhabitant of the cloud forest understory. After seeing this great bird, and attempting to bring out an unresponsive SLATY-BACKED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH, we moved along the road.

On a stop further below, we got nice views of some more common species: a lone SLATE-THROATED WHITESTART, SPECKLED HUMMINGBIRD and a nice WHITE-THROATED TYRANNULET; we proceeded to bird the trails behind the Yacambú National Park Station.

After greeting the friendly and attentive park staff, we started off on the trail that seemed devoid of activity, except for the occasional call of a LINED QUAIL-DOVE and the booming calls of a NORTHERN HELMETED CURASSOW, far below us. After adding a nice GOLDEN-CROWNED FLYCATCHER and fleeting glimpses of a migrant OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, we stumbled upon a small flock that held several of the species we had already seen, but much closer: COLLARED TROGON, SAFFRON-CROWNED and BERYL-SPANGLED TANAGERS all hurried about, and were soon out of sight. These few sightings were just an appetizer for what was to come.

Walking further along, we started to see a couple of Tanagers come up in what appeared to be a nice flock coming in. In moments we were in the thick of a myriad of species: BERYL-SPANGLED, BAY-HEADED, SAFFRON-CROWNED and BLACK-CAPPED TANAGERS were around, while a stunning male RED-HEADED BARBET popped in and out of sight, giving us great looks of this spectacular bird! Also making an appearance was an immature male GOLDEN-WINGED MANAKIN, a striking bird that often forages in the mid-levels in trees and accompanies these mixed species flocks. The icing on the cake was the great views the whole group got of the handsome male ORANGE-EARED TANAGER, a Thraupid that has only recently been found in Venezuela, and for which no photographs or specimens exists – and a bird that we regularly find on our trips to Yacambú. To round things off, we had the addition of several less gaudy followers to the flocks: MONTANE WOODCREEPER and MONTANE FOLIAGE-GLEANER, SLATY ANTWREN and GREY-BREASTED WOODWREN which all showed nicely to the group. With this great experience, we moved back to the Station, where we were to have our lunches, not before adding another beauty: GOLDEN-RUMPED EUPHONIA, which unfortunately managed to elude most of the group.

After this marvellous morning of birding, we had our packed lunches at the Station, overhearing WHISKERED WRENS as they foraged in the tangles close by. Activity had started to drop, and so we decided to work our way back to the lagoon in search for some noon-time surprises. After seeing many of the great species we had caught on the day before, we managed to add some striking specialties! A lone BROWN VIOLETEAR looked for nectar amidst several Bromeliads that grew atop trees on the shore, while Alejandro found us a great GREY-NECKED WOOD-RAIL, on the far bank, working its way along the edge. On our way out, we had a catch-up for many of the group: a great pair of RUSTY-FLANKED CRAKES out in the open, showing all their features, just before they got pushed into the reeds by a CARIBBEAN COOT that was protecting its nesting grounds from these unwanted intruders.

Back on the main road, we decided to make a stop at place where we had heard and briefly seen the regional endemic GOLDEN-BREASTED FRUITEATER. After walking a ways, amidst the racket of a group of nesting RUSSET-BACKED OROPENDOLAS, we were onto a calling Fruiteater. After staring into the canopy, attempting to locate this silent, still, plump green and yellow bird in the sea of leaves (talk about a needle in a hay

stack!), we got onto movement and saw the bird fly high across the road. Now after some more looking, we finally spotted our bird - a nice male! It sat quietly for at least another 15 minutes abusing its excellent camouflage and allowing us to see just why these birds are notorious for being invisible.

After soaking up views of this last bird, we heard the calls of a CRESTED QUETZAL further above the mountain. Unfortunately, it did not respond to playback, and we were unable to localize it before it left.

Once again, after a hard day of enjoying the great scenery and the fabulous birds, we were set for some drinks at the cozy lounge area of our posada and the truly excellent gourmet meals that we were now used to.

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 104

Day 7

Friday 24th February

Locality: morning at Villa Rosa Quarry and Desert Scrub towards Barquisimeto. Afternoon: above Sanare.

Weather: clear skies.

We started bright and early towards the foothill desert scrub habitat. Here we were going to look for a completely different set of birds, the dry country specialists that are limited to similar habitat in other parts of Venezuela and into parts of Colombia.

Right off the bus we encountered the first of such specialists: BUFFY HUMMINGBIRD. Several individuals were seen, accompanied by a lone SOOTY-CAPPED HERMIT. Activity had not yet kicked off in this habitat, but that did not prevent us from catching nice BICOLORED WRENS foraging. Shortly afterwards, after hearing the enchanting calls of VENEZUELAN TROUPIAL, we were fast to a lone bird, perched atop a cactus. What a sighting!

Now we were onto other birds: SLENDER-BILLED INEZIAS were plentiful and responsive to our playback, while we had a nice assortment of other great birds close by: YELLOW ORIOLE, PALE-EYED PYGMY-TYRANT, HIGHLAND-HEPATIC TANAGER and a nice TROPICAL PARULA.

Working our way back, close to the bus, we were fast onto a perched HOOK-BILLED KITE, that glanced at us several times, but that otherwise seemed uninterested in our presence below. Here we also picked up a nice Tyrannid: PEARLY-VENTED PYGMY-TYRANT, a species complex that will surely be split into several new species.

Our next stop in the same area, took us to a small trail that had a little lagoon and opposite, a small marshy area. This last spot proved to be quite productive for the dry country endemics we were after. First up was a pair of very handsome GRAY PILEATED FINCHES, the male showing the bright red crest that gives this species its name. Second up was a small family group of BLACK-FACED GRASSQUITS, that flitted about in the shrubby vegetation by the small marsh. The third specialty bird that popped up was a real treat: a small flock of five (4 bright males and 1 female) ULTRAMARINE GROSSBEAKS that showed their bright, ultramarine coloured bodies to us in the bright desert sun. All the while, what seemed like a small hunting group of 4 HARRIS' HAWKS flew over, searching for prey.

Back on the trail, we attempted to start a response from the shy Tocuyo Sparrow by imitating the Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, which did not actually bring us in the sparrow, but did get a group of four ORINOCAN SALTATORS excited. These are definitely the most handsome members of the Saltator genus in our country. After searching some more for the ever elusive sparrow and adding the likes of GREEN KINGFISHER and a handsome BARRED ANTSHRIKE, we decided to head back and start our way down to the desert scrub habitat towards the capital city of Barquisimeto.

Our first stop in this drier, Acacia-Opuntia cactus dominated habitat produced more looks of some of the dry country specialties we had seen earlier in the day. Our next stop, however, got us a couple of new guys: a light-phase FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL (we would see a nice dark-phase bird later on) was finally seen very well and came right in to our whistled imitations, but even better was the WHITE-WHISKERED SPINETAIL, another regional endemic that stayed put for a while so that we got to see just why it is considered one of the nicest spinetails around.

After several encounters with other great desert inhabitants, we decided it was time for our lunch in our air-conditioned bus. Stopping by a small lake, we managed to see some common species that we had already encountered during our trip: OSPREY, LEAST SANDPIPERS, GREATER and LESSER YELLOWLEGS and BLUE-WINGED TEALS were all around.

By now, it was time to leave this amazing habitat. But our driver Franklin had yet another card up his sleeve: after giving the head out call, he insisted that we should just keep moving a bit forward, just in case we caught a Cardinal around... and indeed a handsome male VERMILION CARDINAL was spotted, and after some work, was seen perfectly by the entire group, crest raised and all! What a way to leave this superb habitat!

We now headed up towards our great posada, for an earlier arrival that would let us enjoy the great environment (and birds!) that this place has to offer, before our early departure the next day. Stopping by the road, some of the folks who had not been able to latch on to the endemic GREEN-TAILED EMERALD managed to get superb looks of a lone female, foraging low on low-nectar-reward flowers by the roadside. After hearing some distant calls of ROSY-THRUSH TANAGERS that seemed unresponsive to our playback, we had nice views of a new Icterid for the trip: YELLOW-BACKED ORIOLE, which showed nicely atop a high tree.

The afternoon ended with nice cold drinks and the sunset over the mountains of Southeastern Lara State. But, part of the group was anxious for the sun to disappear so they could try for a very difficult night bird, the RUFOUS NIGHTJAR. Once night fell, we went on to play some recordings of this elusive species to see close to an area where it had previously been heard. We managed to get a strong response from a lone individual that came very close to the edge of the forested habitat in which it dwells, but unfortunately, it would not be picked up by our lights, and soon apparently lost interest in the playback - and as abruptly as it had started, it was gone. A tough way to end this night, but with all the great birds, scenery, food and fun we had had on this trip, we felt as if Morrocoy and Yacambú National parks had been very good to all of us.

Total species for the day (seen and heard) = 98

Day 8

Saturday 25th February

Locality: On the road, a little birding at the Valencia Airport.

Weather: Clear skies most of the day, with a couple of light rains encountered close to the Morrocoy area.

After an early, SUPERB BREAKFAST, we were on the road back to the Valencia Airport, so most of the group could catch their local flights to Caracas and then continue onto their final destinations. Upon arrival, we had some time to kill, and even had the chance to add a couple of birds for the trip: a pair of PEREGRINE FALCONS (migrants from the North) flew close by for the viewing pleasure of a few members of the group, while a lone WHITE-TAILED HAWK soared amongst some Turkey and Black Vultures.

With this we officially put an end to this great trip that took us through the dry coastal scrub, savanna / riparian forests, tidal flats and mangroves of Morrocoy National Park to the desert scrub, montane deciduous forests and high cloud forests of Yacambú National Park. With over 300 species total (seen and heard only) and with over 25 of them being specialties, we can say that it was truly a very birdy trip.

Total species for the trip (seen and heard) = 302

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Morrocoy-Yacambú							Total
			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
1	Gray Tinamou	<i>Tinamus tao</i>			h					0
2	Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>	1		1	1	1	4		8
3	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>		2	2					4
4	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	14	6	2	1	1	4		28
5	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	8	3	4					15
6	Horned Screamer	<i>Anhima cornuta</i>		2						2
7	Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>		8	7					15
8	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	6	10	7			4		27
9	American Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	18	500	700					1218
10	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>		1						1
11	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>		4						4
12	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	6	6	7	1	1	2		23
13	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	7	1						8
14	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	7	4	2					13
15	Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolour</i>	7	3	2					12
16	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	7	6	9	1	1	2		26
17	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	2	2	7			1		12
18	Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>			4					4
19	Bare-faced Ibis	<i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>	8	10	7					25
20	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>	8	4	2					14
21	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegalis falcinellus</i>		1	1					1
22	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>		1						1
23	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		3						3
24	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	7	7	3	1	1	2		21
25	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>		7	3	1	1	2		14
26	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>		2	1					3
27	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	2	4				1		7
28	Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>		2				1		3
29	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	1		4	2	1	1		9
30	Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	4	3	2					9
31	Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>			1					1
32	Plain-breasted Hawk	<i>Accipiter ventralis</i>			1	1				2
33	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>		2	1					3
34	Common Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	4	3						7
35	Great Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>		1						1
36	Harris's Hawk	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>		2				4		6
37	Black-collared Hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>		1						1
38	Grey Hawk	<i>Asturina nitidus</i>		3						3
39	Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>		3	4	2	1			10
40	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>				3				3

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Morrocoy-Yacambú							Total
			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
41	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	2	1	1			1		5
42	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>		1	1					2
43	White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>							1	1
44	Northern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	2	3	7	1		1		14
45	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	2	3	2	1	1	1		10
46	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinans</i>			4			1		5
47	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>		1						1
48	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>		1	2			1		4
49	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>		2						2
50	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>							1	1
51	Rufous-vented Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis ruficauda</i>	h	h	1	1	4	1		7
52	Band-tailed Guan	<i>Penelope argyrotis</i>					3			3
53	Northern Helmeted Curassow	<i>Pauxi pauxi</i>				2	1			3
54	Rusty-flanked Crake	<i>Laterallus levraudi</i>		1		2		h		3
55	Grey-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>				1	1			2
56	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>		3						3
57	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			2	3		2		7
58	Caibbean Coot	<i>Fulica caribaea</i>			2	3	2	1		8
59	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>		2	7					9
60	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	2	3	3					8
61	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>		7						7
62	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	8	8	3					19
63	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>		4	4			1		9
64	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	8	4	4					16
65	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	8	1	3			1		13
66	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>		2						2
67	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	8		1			1		10
68	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	2							2
69	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	8							8
70	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>		4				1		5
71	Wilson's [Common] Snipe	<i>Gallinago [gallinago] delicata</i>		2						2
72	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>		2						2
73	Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	8	3						11
74	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>		4						4
75	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	8	8	7					23
76	Feral/Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	8	1						9
77	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Columba fasciata</i>				3	3			6
78	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Columba cayennensis</i>		4						4
79	Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Columba subvinacea</i>				2	3			5
80	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>		h				1		1
81	Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	8	2				1		11

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			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
82	Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	8	6	7			1		22
83	Scaled Dove	<i>Columbina squammata</i>	8	6	7			1		22
84	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>		1	1	2	2	1		7
85	Red-and-green Macaw	<i>Ara chloroptera</i>		3	4					7
86	Chestnut-fronted Macaw	<i>Ara severa</i>		7						7
87	Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>	8		2			1		11
88	Blood-eared Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura hoematotis</i>				1	3			4
89	Green-rumped Parrotlet	<i>Forpus passerinus</i>	1	8	7			1		17
90	Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>			3					3
91	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>		h						0
92	Red-billed Parrot	<i>Pionus sordidus</i>					h			0
93	Yellow-crowned Parrot	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>		8	8					16
94	Orange-winged Parrot	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	8	8	3					19
95	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>		4	1	h		1		6
96	Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>		1						1
97	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>						1		1
98	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	8	8	7	2				25
99	Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>		h	h					0
100	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		1			h			1
101	Tropical Screech-Owl	<i>Otus choliba</i>				h	h	h		0
102	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>						2		2
103	Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	5							5
104	Rufous Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufus</i>					h	h		0
105	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	4				20	1		25
106	Rufous-breasted Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsuta</i>			1					1
107	Sooty-capped Hermit	<i>Phaethornis augusti</i>			1		1	1		3
108	Stripe-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>			1					1
109	Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>					1			1
110	Green Violetear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>				1	1			2
111	Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>		1	1		1			3
112	Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>		1				1		2
113	Green-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon alice</i>			1			1		2
114	Violet-crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania colombica</i>					2			2
115	Buffy Hummingbird	<i>Leucippus fallax</i>						4		4
116	Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>		1	1					2
117	Steely-vented Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia saucerrottei</i>				1				1
118	Copper-rumped Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tobaci</i>				1		1		2
119	White-vented Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffonii</i>				1	1			2
120	Speckled Hummingbird	<i>Adelomyias melanogenys</i>				2	1			3
121	Violet-fronted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa leadbeateri</i>				2	1			3
122	Violet-chested Hummingbird	<i>Sternoclyta cyanopectus</i>				1				1

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			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
123	Bronzy Inca	<i>Coeligena coeligena</i>				1	1			2
124	Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i>				4				4
125	Long-tailed Sylph	<i>Agelaiocercus kingi</i>				3	1			4
126	Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>			1					1
127	Rufous-shafted Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus jourdanii</i>				1				1
128	Crested Quetzal	<i>Phaemachrus antisianus</i>					h			0
129	Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>				1				1
130	Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>				1	2			3
131	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	1	1	2	1		1		6
132	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>						1		1
133	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>						1		1
134	Russet-throated Puffbird	<i>Hypnelus ruficollis</i>		4						4
135	Red-headed Barbet	<i>Eubucco bourcierii</i>					1			1
136	Emerald Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus</i>				3	1			4
137	Yellow-billed Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus calorhynchus</i>				2	1			3
138	Scaled Piculet	<i>Picumnus squamulatus</i>	1	2		1	1			5
139	Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Piculus rubiginosus</i>				1	1			2
140	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>		1	1					2
141	Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	1	1	1	1		4		8
142	Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis kirkii</i>			1					1
143	Caribbean Hornero	<i>Fumarius longirostris</i>	1	2	1					4
144	Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>		3			1	h		4
145	Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>				h				0
146	White-whiskered Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis candei</i>						4		4
147	Crested Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca subcristata</i>			1	1	1			3
148	Plain Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus inornatus</i>		2						2
149	Pearled Treerunner	<i>Margarornis squamiger</i>				1				1
150	Montane Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia striaticollis</i>					1			1
151	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i>	h	2				1		3
152	Olive-backed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus triangularis</i>				1				1
153	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>			1					1
154	Montane Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger</i>					1			1
155	Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>	1	h						1
156	Black-backed Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus melanonotus</i>	1							1
157	Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	1	h				1		2
158	Slaty Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula schisticolor</i>					1			1
159	Northern White-fringed Antwren	<i>Formicivora intermedia</i>	2	3		1		1		7
160	White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	h							0
161	Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>				h	h			0
162	Chestnut-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ruficapilla</i>				h	h			0
163	Merida Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus meridanus</i>				h	2			2

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164	Golden-faced Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius chrysops</i>				2	2			4
165	Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>		1	h					1
166	Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet	<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>		1						1
167	Forest Elaenia	<i>Elaenia ruficeps</i>			2					2
168	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>		2						2
169	Mountain Elaenia	<i>Elaenia frantzii</i>				3	2			5
170	Northern Scrub-Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus arenarum</i>	1	1	1			1		4
171	White-throated Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus leucophrys</i>				1	1			2
172	Slender-billed Inezia	<i>Inezia tenuirostris</i>						5		5
173	Rufous-lore Tyrannulet	<i>Phylloscartes flaviventris</i>			1					1
174	Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Myiornis eucaudatus</i>			1					1
175	Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus pilaris</i>						1		1
176	Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer</i>						1		1
177	Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	1	10	7					18
178	Ochre-lore Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>	1	1						2
179	Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea</i>				1				1
180	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>			1					1
181	Smoke-coloured Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>				2	1			3
182	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>					1			1
183	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>		3	1			1		5
184	Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosus</i>		2	1					3
185	Pied Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	2	1	1	1		1		6
186	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>				1				1
187	Pale-edged Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cephalotes</i>				1				1
188	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	2					1		3
189	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	4	3	4	1	1	1		14
190	Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus [Philohydor] lictor</i>		2		1	1	1		5
191	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>		2	h	1		h		3
192	Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	1	6	9	1	1	1		19
193	Rusty-margined Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>		2	2	1		1		6
194	Golden-crowned Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes chrysocephalus</i>					1			1
195	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	16
196	Grey Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	2	4	4					10
197	Cinereous Becard	<i>Pachyramphus rufus</i>		4	1					5
198	Black-tailed Tityra	<i>Tityra cayana</i>		1						1
199	Golden-breasted Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola aureopectus</i>				1	1			2
200	Golden-winged Manakin	<i>Masius chrysopterus</i>				1	2			3
201	Lance-tailed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia lanceolata</i>	h		h					0
202	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>		h	h	h				0
203	Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>				1	1			2
204	Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>	2	4						6

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			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
205	Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>		3	1					4
206	Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	2		2	1				5
207	White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	2		7					9
208	Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>			4	1	3	1		9
209	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	2	2	3	1	3	1		12
210	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1					1		2
211	Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapillus</i>		2	h					2
212	Bicoloured Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>					1	1		2
213	Stripe-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus nuchalis</i>			h					0
214	Whiskered Wren	<i>Thryothorus mystacalis</i>					h			0
215	Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus rutilus</i>	h	1	h			h		1
216	Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus leucotis</i>	2		1					3
217	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	h	2	3	1	1	1		8
218	Grey-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>				1	1			2
219	Southern Nightingale Wren	<i>Microcerculus marginatus</i>			h					0
220	Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila plumbea</i>		2	2			4		8
221	Andean Solitaire	<i>Myadestes ralloides</i>				1	1			2
222	Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>					1			1
223	Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantirostris</i>			1	h				1
224	Yellow-legged Thrush	<i>Platycichla flavipes</i>				1				1
225	Glossy-black Thrush	<i>Turdus serranus</i>				1				1
226	Black-hooded Thrush	<i>Turdus olivater</i>				1	2			3
227	Bare-eyed Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>			h			1		1
228	Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>			1	1				2
229	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	4	6	6	1	1	1		19
230	Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>				1				1
231	Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>				1	1			2
232	Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>			1			1		2
233	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica aestiva</i>		1						1
234	Golden Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	1							1
235	Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>				1				1
236	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>				7	7			14
237	Cerulean Warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>				1				1
238	Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>			l	6	3			9
239	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>				3	3			6
240	Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>		1						1
241	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	h	1		1	1			3
242	Masked Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis</i>		1						1
243	Slate-throated Whitestart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>				1	2			3
244	Three-striped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus tristriatus</i>					1			1
245	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	1	1	3	1	1			7

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			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
246	White-eared Conebill	<i>Conirostrum leucogenys</i>		4						4
247	Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus</i>			1	1	1			3
248	Fulvous-headed Tanager	<i>Thlypopsis fulviceps</i>				2	1			3
249	Hooded Tanager	<i>Nemosia pileata</i>		4						4
250	Rosy Thrush-Tanager	<i>Rhodinocichla rosea</i>						h		0
251	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	2	4	3			1		10
252	Highland Hepatic Tanager	<i>Piranga lutea</i>			2			1		3
253	White-winged Tanager	<i>Piranga leucoptera</i>				2				2
254	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>		4	7	1	1			13
255	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	4	6	7	1	1	1		20
256	Glaucous Tanager	<i>Thraupis glaucocolpa</i>		2						2
257	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	4		2	1	1			8
258	Golden-rumped Euphonia	<i>Euphonia cyanocephala</i>					1			1
259	Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia lanirostris</i>		1	4	1	1			7
260	Orange-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>				1	1			2
261	Trinidad Euphonia	<i>Euphonia trinitatis</i>		2				1		3
262	Blue-naped Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i>					1			1
263	Orange-eared Tanager	<i>Chlorochrysa calliparaea</i>					1			1
264	Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>				1	1			2
265	Saffron-crowned Tanager	<i>Tangara xanthocephala</i>				1	1			2
266	Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>				2				2
267	Black-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanoptera</i>				1	1			2
268	Burnished-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>		2	1	1	1			5
269	Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanicollis</i>				7	1			8
270	Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>				1	1			2
271	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>				1	1			2
272	Swallow-Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>				1				1
273	Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>		2	4					6
274	Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>				1				1
275	Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>		2				1		3
276	Orinocan Saltator	<i>Saltator orenocensis</i>						7		7
277	Ultramarine Grosbeak	<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>						5		5
278	Vermilion Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis phoeniceus</i>						1		1
279	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>		8				1		9
280	Black-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris bicolor</i>						1		1
281	Grey Seed-eater	<i>Sporophila americana</i>		2	3					5
282	Yellow-bellied Seed-eater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>			1			1		2
283	Ruddy-breasted Seed-eater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	1	3	1			1		6
284	Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	6	3	3	1		1		14
285	Grey Pileated-Finch	<i>Coryphospingus pileatus</i>						1		1
286	Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>			1	1	1	1		4

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Morrocoy-Yacambú							Total
			19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	
287	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	<i>Agelaius icterocephalus</i>	1	2	2					5
288	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>		3			1			4
289	Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>		3						3
290	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	9	9	7	4	7	8		44
291	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	1	3	3			1		8
292	Giant Cowbird	<i>Scaphidura oryzivora</i>							1	1
293	Venezuelan Troupial	<i>Icterus icterus</i>						3		3
294	Yellow-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysater</i>						1		1
295	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	1	4	3			1		9
296	Orange-crowned Oriole	<i>Icterus auricapillus</i>			2					2
297	Oriole Blackbird	<i>Gymnomystax mexicanus</i>	1	4	2	1	1			9
298	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	4		2					6
299	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	1		h	1	1			3
300	Russet-backed oropendola	<i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i>				1	1			2
301	Yellow-bellied Siskin	<i>Carduelis xanthogastra</i>				1	1			2
302	Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>			1			1		2
		Daily species total	78	137	117	109	95	90	4	302
		Total (sp. seen + heard)		302						

Taxonomic order follows Hilty, 2002.

Checklist updated March 2004

* "h" denotes "heard only"

Mammals

Red-Howler Monkey
Weeping Capuchin
Red-tailed squirrel

Seniculus allouatta
Cebus olivaceus
Sciurus granatensis

Yacambú National Park
Yacambú National Park
Morrocoy/Yacambú National Parks