

FALL AT PANAMA'S CANOPY TOWER

OCTOBER 17 – 24, 2009

LEADERS: BARRY ZIMMER & CARLOS BETHANCOURT

COMPILED BY: BARRY ZIMMER

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Three hundred and sixty-nine thousand raptors in four hours! From the end of lunch until late in the afternoon, we watched as kettle after kettle circled overhead and streamed past the Canopy Tower. The official hawk counter tallied over 209,000 Swainson's; 100,000 Turkey Vultures; 59,000 Broad-winged; and a sprinkling of Mississippi Kites, Ospreys, and Peregrines in that span. One would need no other reason to visit Panama in October than to witness this incredible (in fact, indescribable) avian spectacle. Oh, but there are other reasons—plenty, actually.

Over the course of a week, we scoured a variety of habitats in and around the Canal Zone and tallied over 300 species of birds, myriad gorgeous butterflies, and an impressive mammal list as well. Starting with the Canopy Tower itself, we enjoyed unsurpassed views of Green Shrike-Vireo (including the lovely powder-blue nape) at about 20 feet and below eye level, right out of the gate. Keel-billed Toucans posed on nearby dead snags. Red-lored Parrots sailed by. A Black-breasted Puffbird posed in the scope. A pair of Black-headed Tody-Flycatchers came in to a close *cecropia*. Golden-hooded Tanagers, White-shouldered Tanagers, Green Honeycreepers, White Hawks, and King Vultures—where to look next? Someone spotted a howler monkey, then a family of tamarins. Would we ever be able to tear ourselves away from the tower? We did, by mid-morning, and decided to stroll down the entrance road on Semaphore Hill. Birds continued to come fast and furious. Walkaway scope views of a pair of Broad-billed Motmots were followed by a male Red-capped Manakin and then a Violaceous Trogon. A pair of Black-faced Antthrushes (generally shy and seldom seen) decided to show themselves, as did a handsome Black-bellied Wren. Three White-whiskered Puffbirds and an Olivaceous Flatbill building a nest led us up to lunch. You could probably spend a week just birding the tower and surrounding forests without ever getting in a vehicle.

Of course other areas beckoned. On our second day we headed to the foothills of Cerro Azul. This is generally my favorite day of the tour and this year did not disappoint. From the grounds of a private residence we had Yellow-eared Toucanet, Spot-crowned Barbet, Stripe-cheeked (endemic) and Crimson-crested woodpeckers, Violet-capped and Violet-headed hummingbirds, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Green Hermit, Violet-crowned Woodnymph, Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant, Scaly-breasted Wren, and a parade of tanagers that included the likes of Emerald, Speckled, Crimson-backed, Bay-headed, and Blue and Scarlet-thighed dacnis. The icing on the cake was provided when a somewhat rugged walk into a *heliconia* thicket yielded unbelievable views of a

perched White-tipped Sicklebill.

On world-famous Pipeline Road we enjoyed White-tailed, Black-tailed, and Slaty-tailed trogons; Pied and Black-breasted puffbirds; Great Jacamar; Cinnamon Woodpecker; Black-striped Woodcreeper; Streak-chested Antpitta; White-bellied, Spotted, and Bicolored antbirds; Purple-throated Fruitcrows; and our first Blue Cotinga, among others. Feeders at the Rainforest Discovery Center produced a dazzling variety of hummingbirds such as Violet-bellied, Blue-chested, White-necked Jacobin, and Stripe-throated and Long-billed hermits. No color in the rainbow had been missed!

Day four found us on the Caribbean side of the country near the tiny town of Achote. Highlights here included several Rufescent Tiger-Herons, Double-toothed Kite, Black-throated Trogon, a pair of Blue Cotingas, Pacific Antwren, White-headed Wren, and Yellow-backed Oriole. A two-toed sloth provided awesome views along the Trogon Trail. In the late afternoon we rode the Central Panama Railway along the Panama Canal and enjoyed the setting sun along with dozens of Snail Kites!

Our last two days were spent closer to the tower at Old Gamboa Road and Metropolitan Park. A family of Spectacled Owls, a roosting Great Potoo, White-necked Puffbird, Blue-crowned Motmot, Jet Antbird, Lance-tailed Manakin, and Rosy Thrush-Tanager were among the more memorable species. Feeders near Gamboa swarmed with Red-legged Honeycreepers; Orange-chinned Parakeets; Blue-gray, Crimson-backed, and Palm tanagers; and at least one Shining Honeycreeper. A Long-billed Curlew at Panama Viejo was our rarest bird of the trip (fewer than ten country records). Finally, a night drive produced superb views of the rarely seen Choco Screech-Owl and an olingo.

This trip combined fantastic quality and quantity (never a day with fewer than 100 species), colorful tropical birds, and drab forest skulkers. And don't forget the three hundred and sixty-nine thousand raptors...we certainly won't!

Itinerary:

October 17 - arrival at the Canopy Tower

October 18 - Tower watch until 10 am, Semaphore Hill; afternoon to Police Academy Ponds & Old Gamboa Road (106 species)

October 19 - Cerro Azul, Costa del Este, tower watch (116 species; 171 total)

October 20 - Pipeline Road all day (to Rio La Seda) including the new Panama Rainforest Discovery Center (115 species; 216 total)

October 21 - Achote, Gatun Dam area, Fort Sherman and Fort San Lorenzo, train ride along Panama Canal (132 species; 266 total)

October 22 - tower watch, Old Gamboa Road, Police Academy Ponds, Gamboa and Gamboa Resort area; evening owling (120 species; 287 total)

October 23 - Metropolitan Park, Panama Viejo, Miraflores locks (102 species; 303 total)

October 24 - departures for home or on to Canopy Lodge extension (304 total species)

Key:

bold-faced species indicate birds of rare, casual, or accidental occurrence
underlined species indicate birds of very uncommon occurrence or species that occur regularly but in such low densities as to be easily missed

Birds:

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) heard most days, and **one actually seen** by all at the ant swarm on Pipeline

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soul*) heard only

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) two near Achiote

Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*)

Blue-footed Booby (*Sula nebouxii*) easily one hundred in offshore feeding frenzy at Costa del Este; a new Panamanian bird for me!

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) one seen by Carlos and at least one member of the group in same flock as Blue-footeds

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) great views at Achiote of immature & adult

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)

Striated Heron (*Butorides striatus*) one near Gatun Dam

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) scope views at the Police Academy ponds

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) large numbers of migrants almost daily, including an estimated **100,599** on one day over the tower!
King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) two adults and one immature from the tower; very uncommon
Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)
Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) two very late birds from the tower the first morning; a first for this trip
White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)
Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) about 40 from the train around Gatun Lake
Double-toothed Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) pair at Achote in the scope
Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) singles over the tower on two days
Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) one from the train for a few was a surprise; rare
White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) two from the tower; always stunning
Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) about five near Fort Sherman
Great Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) one east of Panama City along the highway
Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) migrants most days with an impressive **59,927** over the tower on Day 5!
Gray Hawk (*Buteo nitidus*) one from the tower on the last morning for some; our last new bird
Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) both light and dark morphs
Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) incredible flights with an estimated **209,321** on Day 5; the overall raptor migration (an astonishing **369,876 raptors** counted on day 5) was voted the favorite bird experience of the tour!
Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*)
Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizastur melanoleucus*) distantly for most
Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*) heard only from the tower
Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mirandollei*) heard only from the tower
Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) heard only from the tower
Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) scattered about open areas
Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) Achote
American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) Gatun
Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*) Metro Park
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) one from the tower on Day 1
White-throated Crake (*Laterallus albigularis*) heard by all very close, seen by only one or two
Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*) heard
Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) a few in marsh at Achote
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) by a few from the train
Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) becoming very widespread in Panama
Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)
Collared Plover (*Charadrius collaris*) pair at Panama Viejo; very uncommon to rare
Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) uncommon; Panama Viejo
Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)
Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*)

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)
Willet (*Tringa semipalmatus*)
Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) one at Panama Viejo; casual in Panama with only about a dozen records or so
Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)
Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) about 300 at Costa del Este
Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*)
Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*)
Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*)
Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*)
Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)
Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*)
Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maxima*)
Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*) one by Carlos and a few others at Costa del Este; rare here
Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)
Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)
Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) many good scope views from the tower
Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)
Gray-chested Dove (*Leptotila cassini*) heard only
Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*) exceptional views at Gamboa
Brown-hooded Parrot (*Pionopsitta haematotis*) from the PRDC tower; uncommon
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)
Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)
Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) heard only
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) one at Metro Park for some
Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) always impressive; up to six in one day
Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*)
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
Vermiculated (Choco) Screech-Owl (*Megascops guatemalae*) incredible views on our night drive; this subspecies is likely to be split off from *M. guatemalae* and would become the Choco Screech-Owl (*M. chocoensis*); generally very hard to see
Spectacled Owl (*Pulsatrix perspicillata*) fantastic views of roosting family group thanks to Domi
Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) heard only
Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) one from the train by two of us
Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*)
Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)
Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*) scope views of bird on day roost!
White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) one from the tower
Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) the most common swift seen
Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*) best from the tower
Band-rumped Swift (*Chaetura spinicaudus*)
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) several nice views from the tower

Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) great views at Cerro Azul
Long-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis longirostris*) formerly Western Long-tailed; great studies at the PRDC feeders
Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis strigularis*) formerly Little Hermit
White-tipped Sicklebill (*Eutoxeres aquila*) we were very fortunate to visit a recently discovered lek of this rarely seen species; it was a somewhat difficult hike (a death march??) but well worth it as we had great views in the heliconia thicket; voted the second favorite bird of the tour)
White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) absolutely stunning
Violet-headed Hummingbird (*Klais guimeti*) two at Cerro Azul; uncommon
Violet-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania colombica*) stunning; seen from a few feet at the PRDC
Violet-bellied Hummingbird (*Damophila julie*) an incomparable species which is regular at the CT feeders and downright common at the PRDC
Violet-capped Hummingbird (*Goldmania violiceps*) one male at Cerro Azul
Blue-chested Hummingbird (*Polyerata amabilis*) common at CT & PRDC feeders
Snowy-bellied Hummingbird (*Saucerottia edward*) Cerro Azul
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) common in more open areas
White-vented Plumeleteer (*Chalybura buffoni*) regular at CT & PRDC feeders
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer (*Chalybura urochrysis*) common at Cerro Azul feeders
Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliothrix barroti*) Pipeline Road on Erythrina flowers!
White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) Pipeline & Achiote; wonderful scope views
Violaceous Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*) scarcer than usual, with just one on Semaphore Hill the first day
Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*) Achiote & Metro Park; great studies
Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*) stunning male spotted along Pipeline by Charlie; a bonus
Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*)
Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) Old Gamboa Road, Metro Park
Rufous Motmot (*Barythengus martii*) heard often; one seen well at ant swarm
Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*) several excellent views
Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*) Miraflores Locks
Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*) Police Academy Ponds
Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)
White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*) pair along Old Gamboa road was especially cooperative
Black-breasted Puffbird (*Notharchus pectoralis*) nice views from the tower, Pipeline, and Achiote
Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*) great views along Pipeline & at Achiote
White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) Semaphore Hill
Great Jacamar (*Jacamerops aureus*) prolonged scope views of one along Pipeline; voted the third favorite bird of the tour!
Spot-crowned Barbet (*Capito maculicoronatus*) pair studied at leisure at Cerro Azul, where rarely seen, and another pair at Achiote
Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) many great views

Yellow-eared Toucanet (*Selenidera spectabilis*) wonderful pair of these uncommon birds at Cerro Azul

Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) seen daily (up to a dozen a day) in numbers

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsoni*) heard on many days but seen only by a few along Pipeline Road

Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*)

Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*)

Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker (*Piculus collopterus*) fantastic view of a male at Cerro Azul; a Panamanian endemic

Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Celeus loricatus*) great scope views; charlie spotted our first

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucus*) magnificent; Cerro Azul & Metro Park

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)

Northern Barred Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*)

Cocoa Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus susurrans*) our most common woodcreeper

Black-striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*) stunning pair along Pipeline

Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*) several good views

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*) heard only at Achiote

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) great looks at Gamboa Resort

Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*) daily

Spot-crowned Antwreos (*Dysithamnus puncticeps*) one along Pipeline was an unexpected treat

Pacific Antwren (*Myrmotherula pacifica*) pair at Achiote was a very nice find

Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)

White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)

Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhoptias quixensis*) numerous

Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)

Jet Antbird (*Cercomacra nigricans*) nice views of male; localized

White-bellied Antbird (*Myrmeciza longipes*) great views of this ultra skulker at base of Pipeline

Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*) for some this species was heard only; glimpsed by others

Spotted Antbird (*Hylophylax naeviodes*) nice views of this striking species

Bicolored Antbird (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*) along Pipeline

Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) good views on Semaphore Hill; generally this species is heard only

Streak-chested Antpitta (*Hylopezus perspicillatus*) wonderful scope views of this special bird

Brown-capped Tyrannulet (*Ornithion brunneicapillus*)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)

Yellow Tyrannulet (*Capsiempis flaveola*)

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)

Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*) Police Academy Ponds
 Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*) Metro Park
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)
 Olive-striped Flycatcher (*Mionectes olivaceus*) Cerro Azul
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)
Yellow-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes flavovirens*) this Panamanian endemic
 was heard only (frustratingly close) at Metro Park
 Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*)
Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*) heard only
 Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*) Cerro Azul
 Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum nigriceps*) pair from the tower;
 uncommon
 Olivaceous Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*) building a nest on Semaphore Hill
 Yellow-margined Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias assimilis*)
 Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terentriacus erythrus*)
Black-tailed Flycatcher (*Myiobius atricaudus*) Old Gamboa road
 Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)
 Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) daily in numbers
 Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*)
 Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) scope views on Pipeline
 Rufous Mourner (*Rhytipterna holerythra*)
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
 Panama Flycatcher (*Myiarchus panamensis*) Achiote
 Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)
 Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*)
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes granadensis*) heard only at Achiote; very
 uncommon
 Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*) good views
 Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) abundant
 Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)
 Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) around Gatun Dam
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) always stunning!
Thrush-like Schiffornis (*Schiffornis turdina*) cooperative bird along Pipeline;
 uncommon
 Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*) heard only
 White-winged Becard (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*)
 Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)
Blue Cotinga (*Cotinga nattererii*) incredible pair at Achiote; also an immature male
 along Pipeline
 Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*) seen best along Pipeline & at PRDC
 where nesting

Golden-collared Manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*)
 Lance-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) best along Old Gamboa road
 Blue-crowned Manakin (*Pipra coronata*)
 Red-capped Manakin (*Pipra mentalis*)
 Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)
 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)
 Scrub Greenlet (*Hylophilus flavipes*) Achote & Metro Park
 Golden-fronted Greenlet (*Hylophilus aurantifrons*) Metro Park
 Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)
 Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*) seen incredibly well from the tower (even the blue nape!)
 Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*) Achote & Metro Park
 Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) daily in numbers
 Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) fewer than normal
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)
 Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)
 Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
White-headed Wren (*Campylorhynchus albobrunneus*) great views at Achote; easily missed
 Black-bellied Wren (*Thryothorus fasciatoventris*) exceptional views of this skulker
 Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*) great views along Pipeline
 Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) Metro Park
 Rufous-and-white Wren (*Thryothorus rufalbus*) mostly heard
 Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*) Old Gamboa Road
 Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*)
 House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)
 White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)
 Scaly-breasted Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*) incredible views of this skulker at Cerro Azul
 Song Wren (*Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*) mostly heard, but glimpsed by some
Tawny-faced Gnatwren (*Microbates cinereiventris*) heard only
 Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) seen incredibly well at Metro Park
 Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)
 Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) seen daily
Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) very uncommon migrant
 Clay-colored (Robin) Thrush (*Turdus grayi*) common
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)
 Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)
 Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)
 Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*)
 Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)
 Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) Police Academy Ponds; uncommon

Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus novaboracensis*)
Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) not seen by all
Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)
Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) Cerro Azul, Achote
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (*Rhodinocichla rosea*) this species is always a skulker, but was worse than usual this year; some people had good views, others only heard the birds
Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) two near Spectacled Owls for some
White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*) generally numerous
White-lined Tanager (*Tachyphonus rufus*) by some at Achote
Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) Metro Park
Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*)
Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) Cerro Azul
Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)
Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)
Crimson-backed Tanager (*Ramphocelus dimidiatus*) "sangre del toro"
Flame-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Tanager (*Ramphocelus flammigerus*) Achote; uncommon
Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) common
Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) common
Plain-colored Tanager (*Tangara inornata*)
Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*) one at Rosabel's on Cerro Azul
Speckled Tanager (*Tangara guttata*) one at Cerro Azul for some
Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) Cerro Azul; equally stunning
Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) certainly one of the prettiest tanagers
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*) pair at Cerro Azul
Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) many nice views of this beauty
Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) several excellent views
Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) female at Gamboa
Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) gorgeous males at Gamboa; 10 in view at once!
Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatina jacarina*)
Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*) Road
Thick-billed Seed-Finch (*Oryzoborus funereus*) scope views at Achote
Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) Cerro Azul
Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) Gatun Locks
Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantirostris*) heard only
Streaked Saltator (*Saltator striatipectus*)
Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*) spotted by Tom
Black-headed Saltator (*Saltator atriceps*) heard only
Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*) wonderful study at Metro Park, heard from the tower
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*) one on Pipeline Road
Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) three at Ammo Dump Ponds; uncommon
Red-breasted Blackbird (*Sturnella militaris*) male at Achote

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)
Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)
Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*) Achioté
Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) Gamboa Resort
Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)
Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*)
Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*) many good views
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) Achioté
Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia lueicapilla*) heard only
Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia lanirostris*)
Fulvous-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia fulvicrissa*)
Tawny-capped Euphonia (*Euphonia annae*) for some at Cerro Azul
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) Colon and for the first time ever for me in
Panama City

total species - **304**

***in combination with the Canopy Lodge extension 371 species were seen

Leader only birds:

Solitary Sandpiper
White-vented Euphonia

Mammals:

Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth--- one at Achioté
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth---a few seen very well
Geoffroy's Tamarin---adorable; best views from the tower & Achioté
White-faced Capuchin---very well along Pipeline
Mantled Howler Monkey---great views at from the tower and elsewhere
Red-tailed Squirrel
Central American Agouti---many great, close studies
Forest Rabbit---a trip highlight for a lucky few!
Capybara---by a few from the train
White-nosed Coatimundi
Olingo---at the end of our night drive; rarely seen
various unidentified bat species---some very large ones (possibly Woolly False Vampire
Bat)) and some small ones

total species - 12+

Reptiles & Amphibians:

Green Iguana
Striped Basilisk
Mediterranean (House) Gecko

Tungara Frog---the “pleasant” sound by the tower at night
rain frog species
caiman or crocodile seen from the train

total species -6

Butterflies:

Battus polydamus---Polydamas Swallowtail; from the tower
Papilio species (cresphontes or thoas)---Giant or Thoas Swallowtail
Papilio androgeus---Androgeus Swallowtail
Parides species---”Cattleheart”; large dark butterfly with red hind wing patch and buffy forewing patch; maybe Pink-checked Cattleheart
Phoebis sennae---Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis agarithe---Large Orange Sulphur
Arcas cypria---**Wavy-lined Sunstreak**; absolutely incredible butterfly (lime green, black, and blue with tails) seen from the tower at midday
Evenus regalis---Regal Greatstreak; another stunner from the tower
Rhetus arcus---Sword-tailed Beautymark---*wow!*
metalmark species
Heliconius erato---Erato Heliconian
Dione juno---Juno Heliconian
Anartia fatima---Fatima or Banded Peacock
Siproeta stelenes---Malachite
Adelpha species (very possibly *lerna*)
Callicore species---Eighty-eight species
Hamadryas februa---Gray Cracker
Marpesia petreus---Ruddy Daggerwing
Archaeoprepona demophoon---Two-spotted Prepona
Archaeoprepona amphinachus---White-spotted Prepona
Historis odius---Orion Cecropian
Doxocopa laure---Silver Emperor
Morpho helenor---Blue Morpho or Common Morpho
satyr species
Danaus plexippus---Monarch
Danaus gilippus---Queen
clearwing species---maybe in the genus *Ithomia*
Elbella scylla---Red-collared Firetip
Phanus marshallii---Common Ghost Skipper
Astrartes fulgerator---Two-barred Flasher

total species - 29

***Many butterfly identifications were somewhat speculative, but were based on A Swift Guide to the Butterflies of Mexico and Central America (Glassberg). This book does not

include ranges for Panama making identifications that much more difficult. In some cases I have listed a species which looks very similar not really knowing if it even occurs in Panama. Many more that were seen, were left unidentified (whites, sulphurs, skippers, glasswings, etc.). I have tried to include a common name when known.

Significant others:

Giant (Helicopter) Damselfly

Leafcutter ants

Army ants

watching a ship go through the canal at Miraflores Locks

minor earthquake tremors

Pringles "sandwiches"---thanks Tom

train list of 61 species