

# **GRAND BELIZE**

**CROOKED TREE, HIDDEN VALLEY, &  
CHAN CHICH**

**MARCH 11 – 21, 2010**

**LEADER: BARRY ZIMMER**

**COMPILED BY: BARRY ZIMMER**

**VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.  
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003  
AUSTIN, TX 78746  
[WWW.VENTBIRD.COM](http://WWW.VENTBIRD.COM)**

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Leader: Barry Zimmer

We were standing at the edge of Bull's Point in the Mountain Pine Ridge of Belize staring down into the vast expanse of broadleaf forest below. Two pairs of stunning White Hawks were circling lazily about in the distance. We had about another ten minutes of birding time to go before we had to leave to catch our charter flight to Chan Chich. Suddenly a large dark raptor appeared at eye level, quite close but partially blocked by a tree in front of us. When it broke into the open we could see its slaty-gray body, broad and long wings, and very stubby tail with a single white band—an adult Solitary Eagle! I had previously seen only one in my life over 20 years ago. We watched this magnificent raptor for about three minutes as it circled about the ridge, and were even able to get photos. This amazing bird was voted the group's favorite bird of the tour—on a trip absolutely chock-full of amazing highlights.

We began with two days of birding at Crooked Tree Sanctuary and Caye Caulker. Water levels at Crooked Tree were low, as we had hoped, concentrating the waterbirds into small areas. Some species were present in the hundreds, others in the thousands: Wood Storks, Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, egrets, cormorants, Northern Jacanas—all too numerous to count. From our breakfast spot, we had 22 magnificent Jabirus in view at once! A boat trip out into the lagoon proved amazingly productive with 5 Agami Herons (2 in full view in the open for extended periods!), 6 American Pygmy Kingfishers (1 as close as eight feet away), several stunning Black-collared Hawks, comical Boat-billed Herons, and Gray-necked Wood-Rails among the highlights. Land birding in the area yielded the regionally endemic Yucatan Woodpecker and Yucatan Jay in addition to Yellow-headed Parrot, Rose-throated Becard, and Black-headed Trogon. An afternoon flight to Caye Caulker gave us great views of the rarely seen Rufous-necked Wood-Rail, "Mangrove" Warbler, Yucatan Vireo, and White-crowned Pigeon.

Our two days at Hidden Valley Lodge in the Mountain Pine Ridge had other treats in store for us besides the Solitary Eagle. A roosting Stygian Owl (one of the hardest New World owls to add to one's list), an Orange-breasted Falcon at 30 feet for over fifteen minutes, 16 Black-headed Siskins in the same tree, and bathing King Vultures topped the list. A Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl gave great views near our rooms, as did Rusty Sparrow, Blue-crowned Motmot, and Gray-crowned Yellowthroat. Feeders outside the dining room hosted Yellow-tailed and Yellow-backed orioles, Hepatic Tanager, Green and Brown jays, and Acorn Woodpecker.

The final six days of our trip were spent at what I consider to be the finest ecotourist lodge in the world, Chan Chich. Nestled into the plaza of ancient Mayan ruins and sitting in the middle of nearly 300,000 acres of protected forest, this place is a naturalist's

paradise. Birds abound, with parrots, toucans, trogons, manakins, Ocellated Turkeys, and Crested Guans all regularly sighted just outside our rooms. Many special birds can be found in this region and we had excellent luck with most. Great Curassow, Tody Motmot, Strong-billed Woodcreeper, Yucatan Flycatcher, Gray-throated Chat, and Rose-throated Tanager were among some of the most special finds. We had an incredible 30 species of raptors for the trip which included Hook-billed Kite, Swallow-tailed Kite, Double-toothed Kite, Gray-headed Kite, Crane Hawk, Great Black-Hawk, White Hawk, Laughing Falcon, Bat Falcon, Barred Forest-Falcon, and Ornate (scope views of perched adult) and Black-and-white hawk-eagles. Other notables included Plain-breasted Ground-Dove, Purple-crowned Fairy, Wedge-tailed Sabrewing, Emerald Toucanet, Black-faced Antthrush, Ruddy and Tawny-winged woodcreepers (at a great ant swarm), and Black-throated Shrike-Tanager. We also had great luck with mammals including 2 rarely seen red brocket deer and a prolonged study of a gorgeous ocelot, in addition to more regular fare such as Mexican black howler monkey, Central American spider monkey, and white-nosed coatimundi.

In all we tallied just under 300 species of birds (including many rarely seen species), saw some wonderful mammals and butterflies, and with the exception of a hot first day, enjoyed fantastic, mild weather. All this and a Solitary Eagle!

### **Itinerary:**

March 11 - arrival in Belize City

March 12 - land birding around Crooked Tree all morning; Northern Highway; afternoon flight to Caye Caulker (109 species; 109 total)

March 13 - boat trip to south lagoon and Spanish Creek at Crooked Tree in the morning; drive to Hidden Valley via Western Hwy (101 species; 141 total)

March 14 - Hidden Valley area all day including Thousand Foot Falls, King Vulture Falls, Lake Lolly Folly, Tiger creek Falls, and areas around the lodge (54 species; 172 total)

March 15 - brief morning walk around Hidden Valley, Butterfly Falls area, and Bull's Point; charter flight to Gallon Jug; afternoon birding at Chan Chich Lodge down to suspension bridge (92 species; 208 total)

March 16 - lodge clearing, walk to suspension bridge, & Back Plaza in am; afternoon to Gallon Jug (94 species; 234 total)

March 17 - Silvester Village & River trails; afternoon to bridge and Sac Be trail (87 species; 261 total)

March 18 - morning drive to Cedar Crossing & Laguna Seca; afternoon to Logger's Trail; night drive (94 species; 272 total)

March 19 - Xaxe Venic & Bajo trails; afternoon to Gallon Jug & Zibal (105 species; 284 total)

March 20 - predawn excursion at lodge, morning to escarpment; afternoon to River Trail & Logger's Trail (87 species; 290 total)

March 21 - optional morning walk to suspension bridge & Trish's Hill; charter flight to Belize City; departures for home (292 total species)

### **Key:**

H = Hidden Valley

C = Chan Chich and surrounding areas

T = Crooked Tree Sanctuary and surrounding areas

B = Belize City, Caye Caulker, and surrounding areas

**bold-faced species** indicate birds of rare, casual, or accidental occurrence or species rarely seen even though they occur regularly

underlined species indicate birds of very uncommon occurrence or species which occur regularly but in such low densities as to be easily missed

### **Birds:**

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) C---this species was actually **seen** briefly as it flew across the creek along the Sac Be Trail; normally heard only

Slaty-breasted Tinamou (*Tinamus boucardi*) C--- heard only as is often the case

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) T---an impressive 2500 estimated in one day!

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) generally uncommon but we had 40 one day

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) T

Plain Chachalaca (*Ortalis vetula*) H,C

Crested Guan (*Penelope purpurascens*) C---superb views

Great Curassow (*Crax rubra*) C---a total of 5 seen!

Ocellated Turkey (*Meleagris ocellata*) C---very common right around the cabanas, including displaying males

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) T

**American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*) flock of about 45 at Crooked Tree where rare but increasing

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) B

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) T---2000 in a day

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) B

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) T,C  
Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) B  
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma mexicanum*) B,T---nice views, especially on the boat trip at Crooked Tree  
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) T,C  
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) T,B,C  
Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) T,B  
Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) T,B,C  
Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) T  
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) T,B,C  
Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) T,C  
**Agami Heron** T---fantastic views at Crooked Tree where we had an amazing five total, two of which were seen very well; voted the second favorite bird of the tour!  
Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) T  
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) B,T,C  
Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) T---exceptional views of these comical birds  
White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) T---500 in one day!  
Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) poor views of a few  
Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) T---somewhat unusual were 100 at Crooked Tree  
Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*) B,T---repeated great views including 22 in view at once in front of Bird's Eye View Lodge and an adult on nest outside of Belize City  
Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) T---an estimated 1750 in one day!  
Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) daily  
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) daily  
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) T---about five total; one close on the ground  
King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) H,C---a total of **27** seen including excellent scope views of perched birds at King Vulture Falls & in Gallon Jug and wonderfully close flyovers  
Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) T,B,C---nest at Caye Caulker runway  
Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) C---thanks to Luis; uncommon  
Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*) C---a very **rare black morph** along the Bajo Trail and close views of perched male at the bridge; very uncommon  
Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) H,C---seven total; always a treat  
White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) C  
Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) T---nice views with 35 in one day  
Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*) C---scope views of perched adult at Trish's Hill the last morning  
Plumbeous Kite (*Ictinia plumbea*) having arrived in full force on their breeding grounds, we saw 17 total including a mating pair right over the birdmobile!  
Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*) T---stunning!; an impressive five seen  
Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*) C---very uncommon  
White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) H---always stunning!  
Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) B---near Belize City thanks to Lascelle

Great Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) T,C---an impressive five total

**Solitary Eagle** (*Harpyhaliaetus solitarius*) H---absolutely incredible was an adult from Bull's Point flying at close range (maybe 50 feet) for a couple of minutes; it was only my second ever and a very rare bird in Belize (rarely seen anywhere); voted the favorite bird of the tour!!!!

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*) T,H,C---many great views

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) C

Gray Hawk (*Asturina nitida*) T,C

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) H,C---three total

**Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle** (*Spizaetus melanoleucus*) C---extremely distant views of pair from escarpment; rarely seen

Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus tyrannus*) C---heard overhead in display flight along Bajo Trail; seen only by me

Ornate Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus ornatus*) C---nice scope views of perched adult the last morning at the bridge; also fairly close flyover at Laguna Seca

Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*) C---very quick views for Pete & I along the Logger's Trail

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) C---unbeatable scope studies the last morning

Bat Falcon (*Falco rufigularis*) T,C---seemed scarcer than usual with none right around the lodge, but we had several nice views and tallied about 8 total

**Orange-breasted Falcon** (*Falco deiroleucus*) H---prolonged, close scope study of one at King Vulture Falls; generally rare & local everywhere!

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) T---one from the boat at Crooked Tree

**Rufous-necked Wood-Rail** (*Aramides axillaris*) B---about six of these rarely seen birds at Dorothy & Jim's place

Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*) T---great views around the town

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) T---uncommon

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) T

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) T

Sungrebe (*Heliornis fulica*) C---one shy bird along the Sac Be Trail seen fairly well by all; nice spotting by Pete!

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) T---about 150 in one day

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) B

Semipalmated Plover (*charadrius semipalmatus*) T---seventeen on one mud flat

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) T,C

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) T

Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) T,C---wonderfully common

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) T,B

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) T---numerous this year

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) T

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) T

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) T---uncommon

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) B

Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) T

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) T

Royal Tern (*Sterna maxima*) B  
 Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) B---only a few seen  
 Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*) T,C  
 Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) H,C---only one seen perched  
White-crowned Pigeon (*Patagioenas leucocephala*) B---good views on Caye Caulker  
 Red-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas flavirostris*) C---this species has become common right around the lodge at Chan Chich  
 Short-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas nigrirostris*) C---nice studies  
 White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) B---only on Caye Caulker  
 Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) T  
**Plain-breasted Ground-Dove** (*Columbina minuta*) C---an unexpected find here  
 Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) T,C  
 White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) T,H  
 Gray-headed Dove (*Leptotila plumbeiceps*) C---seen well by some  
 Ruddy Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon montana*) C---good though very brief views  
 Olive-throated Parakeet (*Aratinga nana*) T,C---subspecies *astec*  
 Brown-hooded Parrot (*Pyrilia haematotis*) C---only one seen  
 White-crowned Parrot (*Pionus senilis*) C  
 White-fronted Parrot (*Amazona albifrons*) T,C  
 Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*) H,C---daily; abundant at Chan Chich  
 Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) C---more numerous than usual  
Yellow-headed Parrot (*Amazona oratrix*) T---a nice bonus!  
 Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) H,C---subspecies *thermophila*  
 Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) T,C  
 Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) H---fantastic scope study; good spotting by Rick  
**Stygian Owl** (*Asio stygius*) H---roosting bird near Hidden Valley from about 100 feet thanks to Rick; rarely seen anywhere  
 Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) C  
 White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) H---big flock over Tiger Creek Falls  
 Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*) C---less numerous than usual  
 Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) C  
 Long-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis longirostris*) C---formerly Western Long-tailed Hermit; a daily sighting around Chan Chich  
 Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis strigularis*) C---formerly Little Hermit  
 Scaly-breasted Hummingbird (*Phaeochroa cuvierii*) C---oddly only one brief sighting  
Wedge-tailed Sabrewing (*Campylopterus curvipennis*) C---one had staked out the feeder at cabana #2; very uncommon  
 White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) C  
 Green-breasted Mango (*Anthracothorax prevostii*) C---somewhat frustrating views of male in Gallon Jug  
 White-bellied Emerald (*Agyrtria candida*) C  
 Azure-crowned Hummingbird (*Amazilia cyanocephala*) H---common at the lodge feeders

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) T,C---the most common hummer in the area

Cinnamon Hummingbird (*Amazilia rutila*) B---seen by Margaret & I around our hotel

Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliothryx barroti*) C---amazing bathing display along the creek; voted third favorite bird of the tour

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) T,H,C

Black-headed Trogon (*Trogon melanocephalus*) T,C---especially nice at Crooked Tree

Violaceous Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*) T,C---many nice views

Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*) C---scarcer than usual but still nice views

Tody Motmot (*Hylomanes momotula*) C---great views of this uncommon species

Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) H,C---nice scope; *lessonii*

Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*) T,C

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) T,C

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*) T,C

American Pygmy Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*) T---a total of six birds seen including two within ten feet!; voted the fourth favorite bird of the tour

White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) C---a pair near the escarpment

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula ruficauda*) C---always spectacular

**Emerald Toucanet** (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus*) C---first time on this trip in several years; nice studies of pair

Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) C

Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) C--- the essence of the tropics!

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) T,H---southern race *lineatus*

Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*) C

Yucatan (Red-vented) Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pygmaeus*) T---nice views; subspecies *rubricornis*

Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes aurifrons*) T,C---subspecies *dubius*; especially noteworthy was pair at Silvester Village where I have never seen them

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) H---uncommon winterer

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Piculus rubiginosus*) H

Chestnut-colored Woodpecker (*Ceuleus castaneus*) C---great views of this spectacular woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*) C

Pale-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus guatemalensis*) C---spectacular

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*) C

Tawny-winged Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla anabatina*) C---at the ant swarm

Ruddy Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla homochroa*) C---four at the ant swarm

Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*) C

Strong-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*) C---excellent views at 5:40 AM; very uncommon

Northern Barred Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*) C---at the ant swarm

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*) T,C

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) C---nice study of a male

Plain Antvireo C---uncommon

Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhoptias quixensis*) C---oddly scarce with only one group seen  
 Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*) C  
Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) C---after some effort very good views; already split off as the Mexican Antthrush by some authors  
 Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet (*Ornithon semiflavum*) C  
Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*) C---very close pair along Xaxe Venic Trail; uncommon  
 Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*) C  
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia martinica*) H,C  
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*) C  
 Northern Bentbill (*Oncostoma cinereigulare*) C---heard only  
 Eye-ringed Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*) C---very brief sighting  
 Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphureus*) C---heard only  
 Stub-tailed Spadebill (*Platyrinchus cancrinus*) C---actually seen fairly well by most (often just heard)  
 Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*) C---two great sightings of this uncommon species  
 Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terenotriccus erythrus*) C  
 Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher (*Myiobius sulphureopygius*) C---especially well at bathing pools  
 Tropical Pewee (*Contopus cinereus*) T,C  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) C---heard only  
 Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) C  
 Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) T,C---up to 20 in one day!  
 Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) C---good studies; subspecies *gaumeri*  
 Rufous Mourner (*Rhytipterna holerythra*) C---spotted by Pete  
Yucatan Flycatcher (*Myiarchus yucatanensis*) C  
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) C---subspecies *lawrencei*  
 Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) C  
 Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) C---this year common right around lodge clearing  
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) T,H,C  
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarhynchus pitangua*) C---heard only  
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*) T,B,H,C---common; seen daily  
 Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) T,B,H,C  
 Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*) C---a few of the kingbirds heard around Chan Chich were of this species  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) C  
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) T,C---spectacular  
 Thrush-like Schiffornis (*Schiffornis turdinus*) C  
 Rufous Piha (*Lipaugus unirufus*) C---heard only  
 Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus*) C---heard only  
 Rose-throated Becard (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*) T---uncommon; subspecies *sumichrasti*  
 Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) C

White-collared Manakin (*Manacus candei*) C---stunning male almost always in the firebush by the restaurant  
 Red-capped Manakin (*Pipra mentalis*) C---fabulous males seen several places  
 White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) T,H,C  
 Mangrove Vireo (*Vireo pallens*) T,C  
 Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) T,C  
 Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*) H  
 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) C  
 Yucatan Vireo (*Vireo magister*) B---up close on Caye Caulker  
 Tawny-crowned Greenlet (*Hylophilus ochraceiceps*) C  
 Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*) H,C  
 Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanus pulchellus*) H,C---heard only; not as vocal as normal  
 Green Jay (*Cyanocorax yncas*) H---common around Hidden Valley; the yellow-eyed race *maya*  
 Brown Jay (*Cyanocorax morio*) T,H,C---daily; the southern race *fuliginosus*  
Yucatan Jay (*Cyanocorax yucatanensis*) T --- good study  
 Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) T,C  
 Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) T,C  
 Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) T  
 Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) T,C  
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) T,C  
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) T,H,C---lots of migrants  
 Spot-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus maculipectus*) T,C---especially well at Crooked Tree  
 Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) H---heard only; localized  
 House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) T,C---the "Southern" House Wren of some authors (*T. musculus*)  
 White-bellied Wren (*Uropsila leucogastra*) C---nice views of another skulker  
 White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) C---yet another skulker  
 Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) C  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) T  
 Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*) C  
 Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) T,C  
 Clay-colored Thrush (*Turdus grayi*) T,H,C---seen daily; subspecies *grayi*  
 White-throated Thrush (*Turdus assimilis*) C---heard well but only seen in flight; the southern race *leucauchen*  
 Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) T,H,C  
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*) T,B  
Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) C---very uncommon  
Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*) H,C  
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) B,T,C---including the stunning "Mangrove" Warblers on Caye Caulker  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica penslyvanica*) C  
 Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) T,H,C---almost daily  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) T

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) T,H,C  
 Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) T,H,C  
 Grace's Warbler (*Dendroica graciae*) H---great studies  
 Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) T,H,C  
 American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) T,B,C  
 Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) T,C---close, prolonged study from the boat  
 Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*) B,C  
 Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) T,C  
 Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*) T,B,C  
 Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) C---a few along Chan Chich Creek  
 Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) C---superb views at bathing pools  
 Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) T,C  
 Gray-crowned Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis poliocephala*) H---great scope views  
 Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) C---numbers up from recent years with at least a dozen birds seen  
 Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) C---spotted by Margaret  
 Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*) C---several nice encounters  
 Rufous-capped Warbler (*Basileuterus rufifrons*) H  
Gray-throated Chat (*Granatellus sallaei*) C---great views of this regional specialty  
Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) B---uncommon; just one seen  
 Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) C---well at the ant swarm  
 Black-throated Shrike-Tanager (*Lanio auranitus*) C---the flock leader; several great views  
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) C  
 Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*) T,H,C  
Rose-throated Tanager (*Piranga roseogularis*) C---another regional specialty; both male & female seen very in the bajo forest  
 Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) H---the southern race *figlina*  
 Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) T,C  
 Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) T,C  
 Yellow-winged Tanager (*Thraupis abbas*) C  
Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) H  
Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) C---uH,uncommon  
 Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) C---stunning!; first spotted by Pete  
 Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*) C  
 White-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila torqueola*) T,B,H,C---daily; *moreletti*  
 Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) H  
 Green-backed Sparrow (*Arremonops chloronotus*) C---good views this year  
 Rusty Sparrow (*Aimophila rufescens*) H---big, hulking *Aimophila*; subspecies *pyrgatoides*  
 Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) T,H  
 Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*) T  
 Black-headed Saltator (*Saltator atriceps*) H,C  
 Black-faced Grosbeak (*Caryothraustes poliogaster*) C  
 Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) T

Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*) C---excellent views  
Blue Bunting (*Cyanocompsa parellina*) C---not seen by all  
Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) H---an impressive 17 in one tree; generally uncommon  
 Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) C  
 Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) T  
 Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) C---a recent invader to Gallon Jug  
 Melodious Blackbird (*Dives dives*) B,T,H,C---seen daily  
 Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) B,T,C  
 Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) C  
 Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*) C  
 Black-cowled Oriole (*Icterus prothemelas*) T,C---a pair at lunch one day was especially cooperative  
 Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) T,C  
 Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*) H---superb views  
 Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) H---ditto  
 Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) C  
 Montezuma Oropendola (*Gymnostinops montezuma*) C---nesting colony behind the bar at Chan Chich  
 Yellow-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia hirundinacea*) H,C  
 Olive-backed Euphonia (*Euphonia gouldi*) C---much scarcer than usual  
 Black-headed Siskin (*Carduelis notata*) H---about a dozen at once our last morning at H

**total species - 292**

**Leader only birds:**

Collared Forest-Falcon---heard only at Chan Chich  
 American Golden-Plover---flyby migrants at Crooked Tree  
 Mottled Owl---heard only at Chan Chich  
 Common Tody-Flycatcher---Crooked Tree  
 Northern Parula---Crooked Tree  
 Hooded Oriole---Crooked Tree

**Mammals:**

Central American Spider Monkey---excellent views  
 Mexican Black Howler Monkey---one of the great sounds of Central America; great views---especially the last morning from Trish's Hill  
 White-nosed Coatiundi  
 Gray Fox  
 Deppe's Squirrel  
 Yucatan Squirrel---Crooked Tree  
 Central American Agouti---the last morning

**Ocelot**---a prolonged (about three minute) view on our night drive; seen about 35-40% of the trips

White-tailed Deer

**Red Brocket Deer**---two close sightings of this rarely seen mammal

Manatee---leader only

various bat species left unidentified (one **very** close!)

total species - 12+

### **Reptiles & Amphibians:**

Striped Basilisk

Spiny-tailed (Black) Iguana

Brown Anole

anole species

Mediterranean or House Gecko

Weatherman Gecko

skink species

Rose-bellied Lizard

Gulf Coast Toad---leader only

Common Slider

Morelet's Crocodile

total species - 11

### **Butterflies:**

Dual-spotted Swallowtail

Emerald-patched Cattleheart

Thoas Swallowtail---dead

Cloudless Sulphur

Large Orange Sulphur

Little Yellow

Great Southern White

Florida White

Julia

Banded Peacock

White Peacock

Monarch

Queen

blue species

Cloaked Scintillant---on my hand

Carolina Satyr

White Satyr

Guatemalan Patch

Gulf Fritillary

Many-banded Daggerwing  
Zebra Longwing (Heliconian)  
Erato Heliconian  
Mexican Cycadian  
Common Morpho  
Tropical Checkered Skipper  
unidentified long tailed skipper species  
Veined White Skipper  
Yellow-washed Skipper  
spread wing skipper species  
skipper species  
plus many others left unidentified

total species - 30+

**Significant others:**

Bullhorn Acacia Ant  
army ants  
leafcutter ants  
tarantula