

FALL AT PANAMA'S CANOPY TOWER

OCTOBER 15 – 22, 2011

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(WITH ASSISTANCE FROM DOMI & ALEXIS)

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Within a minute or so of arriving at our roadside birding spot near the village of Achiote, we heard the raspy calls of one of our prime targets, the localized White-headed Wren. In the same genus as our Cactus Wren, this striking species is a real regional specialty. We quickly spotted a pair of the wrens atop a tall tree and enjoyed good scope views. Moments later a Black-cheeked Woodpecker perched on an open snag and was quickly followed by a stunning Yellow-backed Oriole. Two Blue-headed Parrots flew by and an always impressive Keel-billed Toucan croaked from a bare tree to vie for our attention. Motion in some nearby *cecropias* revealed a family group of our other big target, Spot-crowned Barbets. We had great studies of these strange and beautiful birds for several minutes.

The song of a Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher caught our attention across the road, and with some difficulty we finally got this tiny passerine in the scope. Slaty-tailed Trogon, Flame-rumped Tanager, Squirrel Cuckoo—the parade went on and on. Two Orange-chinned Parakeets investigated a potential nesting site in a palm, and a male Thick-billed Seed-Finch sang from a vine tangle. The distinctive song of a Pied Puffbird came from across an open area, and quickly we had taped the bird in right next to the road.

Fifteen minutes had passed and our list was mounting at a dizzying pace. Over the rest of the morning we added White Hawk, Black Hawk-Eagle, Collared Aracari, Chestnut-backed Antbird, Black-faced Antthrush, White-whiskered Puffbird, Gray-capped Flycatcher, Blue Cotinga, Black-chested Jay, and Song Wren among others. At nearby Gatun Dam, we tallied a rare Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Savannah Hawk, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, and a group of Saffron Finches, while a nearby canal yielded a nesting colony of the strange Boat-billed Heron and a Common Black-Hawk. Great views of white-faced capuchins and mantled howler monkeys rounded out the day.

Of course, this was but one of many successful days on our recent Canopy Tower tour. We began our first day atop the tower itself where we enjoyed Gray-headed and Hook-billed kites; Short-tailed Hawk; Red-lored and Brown-hooded parrots; Keel-billed Toucans; Green Shrike-Vireo; Red-capped Manakin; Golden-hooded, Plain-colored, and Palm tanagers; and Green Honeycreeper. A very close three-toed sloth and a group of adorable Geoffroy's tamarins distracted us from the great birds. A walk down the entry road to the tower produced a host of new birds including Broad-billed Motmot; White-whiskered Puffbird; Western Slaty-Antshrike; Dot-winged, White-flanked, and Checker-throated antwrens; Blue-crowned Manakin; Gartered Trogon; and more. In the late morning and early afternoon, we had great raptor movement over the tower with an

estimated 14,000 Broad-winged Hawks alone, plus good numbers of Swainson's Hawks and Turkey Vultures. The Canopy Tower is the ideal place to witness the spectacle of hawk migration in the fall. After a mid-afternoon break we birded some nearby marsh country and a set of feeders in Gamboa. Wattled Jacana, Whooping Motmot, Barred Antshrike, Crimson-backed Tanager, stunning Red-legged Honeycreepers, and an uncommon Shining Honeycreeper were among the highlights.

The next day was spent on world-famous Pipeline Road. Prolonged scope studies of a Streak-chested Antpitta topped the list, but Great Tinamou, Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon, Band-tailed Barbthroat, Long-billed and Stripe-throated hermits, Violet-bellied Hummingbird, Black-throated Trogon, Black-breasted and White-necked puffbirds, White-bellied and Spotted antbirds, Royal Flycatcher, Purple-throated Fruitcrow, and a group of western night monkeys were also of note. A wetland at the base of Pipeline Road had Rufescent Tiger-Heron, White-throated Crakes (good views), and Yellow-tailed Oriole.

On the third day we ventured to the foothills of Cerro Azul where an entirely different group of birds can be found. A visit to a recently discovered lek of White-tipped Sicklebills resulted in scope views of this rarely seen hummingbird perched about fifteen feet away. A Yellow-eared Toucanet, another regional specialty, gave us great views, as did Short-billed Pigeon, Long-billed Starthroat, Green Hermit, Violet-capped Hummingbird, Bronze-tailed Plumeteer, Speckled Tanager, Bay-headed Tanager, and White-vented Euphonia. We were very lucky to find an ant swarm right next to the road which gave us wonderful studies of Plain-brown, Northern Barred, and Ruddy (rare) woodcreepers, and Bicolored, Spotted, and incomparable Ocellated antbirds.

Other days produced such special birds as Collared Plover; Long-billed Curlew (very rare in Panama); roosting Great Potoo; Cinnamon, Crimson-crested, and Lineated woodpeckers; White-tailed Trogon; Lance-tailed Manakin; and the endemic Yellow-green Tyrannulet.

In all, we tallied a very impressive 294 species of birds and 14 species of mammals (including a rarely seen paca), all while enjoying the comforts of the Canopy Tower for a week!

Itinerary:

October 15 - arrival at the Canopy Tower

October 16 - Tower watch until 9:30 am, Semaphore Hill; afternoon to Gamboa & Ammo Dump pond (109 species)

October 17 - Pipeline Road all day (to Rio Frijoles) including the new Panama Rainforest Discovery Center, Ammo Dump Ponds (111 species; 162 total)

October 18 - Cerro Azul, Cerro Jefe (Del Frente), Costa del Este (98 species; 215 total)

October 19 - Achiote, Gatun Dam & Locks area, Fort Sherman and Fort San Lorenzo, train ride along Panama Canal (125 species; 257 total)

October 20 - tower watch, Old Gamboa Road, Police Academy (Summit) Ponds, Semaphore Hill; evening owling (111 species; 272 total)

October 21 - Metropolitan Park, Panama Viejo, Miraflores locks (98 species; 291 total)

October 22 - morning tower watch followed by drive to Canopy Lodge extension (29 species; 294 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** quite well along Pipeline Road

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soul*) heard only

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) from Miraflores the last afternoon

Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*) Old Gamboa Road

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) very surprisingly tied for favorite bird of the tour!

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) great views at Ammo Dump of adult bird

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) one at Costa del Este and another at Panama Viejo; very uncommon

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) thanks to John

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)

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

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) exceptional views of newly discovered colony near Colon, including birds on nests; also at Police Academy ponds
 Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)
 Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) good numbers of migrants almost daily, including an estimated 5,000 on one day over the tower!
King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) one seen only by John over the Tower the last morning; very uncommon
 Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)
Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) distant scope views from the tower the first morning thanks to Rusty
Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*) a pair over the Tower the first morning was a real treat; very uncommon
 White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)
 Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) two very briefly from the train around Gatun Lake, only glimpsed by any participants; unusually scarce
 Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*) perched bird along Pipeline; exceptional scope study
 Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) a total of 8 over the tower on the first day
 Semiplumbeous Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) one spotted from the Tower the last morning
White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) four total including one sailing low right over the Tower the last morning; always stunning
 Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) near Colon thanks to Lorenzo!
 Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*) great views of adults in Colon and near Gatun Dam
 Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) migrants everyday with over **14,000** from the Tower on Day 1!
 Gray Hawk (*Buteo nitidus*)
 Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) mixed light and dark morph pair around the Tower often
 Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) about 750 over the Tower the first morning and another 500 or so on Day 4
Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) pair at Achiote
 Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus tyrannus*) Semaphore Hill & Achiote
Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mirandollei*) great views of this seldom seen species along Pipeline Road
 Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) heard only from the tower
Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) one at Miraflores thanks to Stuart
 Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) scattered about open areas
 American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) Colon
 Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) female from the Tower the last morning; uncommon
 Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*)
 Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) Colon
 White-throated Crane (*Laterallus albigularis*) **great views** of this skulking and seldom seen species

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) becoming very widespread in Panama
 Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)
Collared Plover (*Charadrius collaris*) one at Panama Viejo was a lucky find!
Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) uncommon; Panama Viejo
Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) 40 or more at Panama Viejo
 Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)
 Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*)
 Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)
 Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*)
 Willet (*Tringa semipalmatus*)
 Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*)
Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) one bird at Panama Viejo (for it's
 tenth year!); casual in the country
 Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)
 Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) uncommon
 Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*)
 Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*)
 Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*)
Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) a rare find was a lone bird at
 Gatun Dam (only my second ever in Panama!); tied for second favorite bird of the tour
 Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*)
 Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)
 Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*)
Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) very uncommon migrant; Costa del Este
 Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)
Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) three at Costa del Este spotted by Rusty; very
 uncommon
 Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)
 Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*) oddly only three seen
 Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) good scope views from the Tower
Short-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas nigrirostris*) great views of perched birds on
 Cerro Jefe
 Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)
 White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)
Gray-chested Dove (*Leptotila cassini*) nice views of one at Metro Park; seldom
 seen
 Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*) exceptional views at Old
 Gamboa Road & Achioté
 Brown-hooded Parrot (*Pyrilia haematotis*) seen best over the Tower
 Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)
 Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)
 Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) pair the last morning from the Tower
Yellow-crowned Parrot (*Amazona ochrocephala*) unusual was a pair in Metro
 Park, although they did not cooperate for very good views
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)
 Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) always impressive

Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*) somewhat poorly at Ammo Dump
 Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
 nighthawk species (*Chordeiles sp.*) distant bird seen from train
Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*) scope views of two birds on day roost!
White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) flock of 30 or more over Achiote
 Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) the most common swift seen
 Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*) a few from the Tower
 Band-rumped Swift (*Chaetura spinicaudus*) three total
 Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) several nice views from the tower
Band-tailed Barbthroat (*Threnetes ruckeri*) one at the PRDC was somewhat unexpected
 Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) six 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, but well worth it as we had great views of one perched in the heliconia thicket
 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 was common at the PRDC
Violet-capped Hummingbird (*Goldmania violiceps*) three 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; seen daily
 White-vented Plumeleteer (*Chalybura buffoni*) regular at CT & PRDC feeders
 Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer (*Chalybura urochrysia*) several at Cerro Azul
 Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliophryx barroti*) three total, including one coming to a feeder on Cerro Azul!
Long-billed Starthroat (*Heliomaster longirostris*) one at Cerro Azul feeders was completely unexpected
 White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) Semaphore Hill; wonderful scope views
 Gartered Trogon (*Trogon caligatus*) two seen; formerly Violaceous Trogon
 Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*) pair on Pipeline
Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*) by Sandy near San Lorenzo; very uncommon
 Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*) ten total with many superb views
 Whooping Motmot (*Momotus subrufescens*) great looks at Gamboa of this newly split species
 Rufous Motmot (*Baryphengus martii*) heard only
 Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*) several excellent views

Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*)
 Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*)
 Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*)
 Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle inda*) this rarely seen species was
 glimpsed in flight near Fort Sherman and heard by all
 White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*) five total; excellent studies
 Black-breasted Puffbird (*Notharchus pectoralis*) nice views along Pipeline
Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*) great views at Achiote
 White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) five total, a good count
Spot-crowned Barbet (*Capito maculicoronatus*) four at Achiote; always a treat
 Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) unusually scarce with only a few
 sightings
Yellow-eared Toucanet (*Selenidera spectabilis*) one on Cerro Azul; a regional
 specialty
 Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) almost daily in numbers; voted the
 favorite bird of the tour
 Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsoni*) good views on Pipeline
 Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*) Achiote
 Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*) widespread
 Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Celeus loricatus*) Semaphore Hill
 Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)
 Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucus*) Old Gamboa Road
 Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)
 Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*) best at the ant swarm
Ruddy Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla homochroa*) one at the ant swarm; rare
Northern Barred Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*) two at the ant
 swarm
 Cocoa Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus susurrans*) our most common woodcreeper
Black-striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*) one seen by some on
 Pipeline
 Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*) several good views
 Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) great looks at Ammo Dump
 Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*) daily
Moustached Antwren (*Myrmotherula ignota*) seen briefly overhead, but mostly
 heard; very uncommon
 Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)
 White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)
 Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*)
 Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)
Jet Antbird (*Cercomacra nigricans*) heard only
 White-bellied Antbird (*Myrmeciza longipes*) nice views of this ultra skulker at base
 of Pipeline
 Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*) Achiote
 Spotted Antbird (*Hyllophylax naeviodes*) nice views of this striking species
 Bicolored Antbird (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*) about ten at the ant swarm

Ocellated Antbird (*Phaenostictus mcleannani*) one stunning individual at the ant swarm; seen on about a fourth of the trips only
 Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) good views for most of this skulker on Cerro Azul; also briefly at Achote
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*) building a nest on Old Gamboa Road
 Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)
Yellow-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes flavovirens*) this Panamanian endemic was actually seen quite well at Metro Park, although for many of us it was a neck breaking experience; tied for second favorite bird of the tour!
 Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*)
Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*) heard only (seen in flight by some), unfortunately
 Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*) heard only
 Southern Bentbill (*Oncostoma olivaceum*) our first found by Linda
 Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum nigriceps*) a nice find at Achote!
 Olivaceous Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*) only one
 Yellow-margined Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) scope views on Old Gamboa Road
Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*) one along Pipeline was only my second in Panama!
 Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terentotriccus erythrurus*)
 Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) daily in numbers
 Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virens*)
 Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) Gatun; presumed this species and not Alder though the bird was silent
 Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) Metro Park
 Rufous Mourner (*Rhytipterna holerythra*) one along Pipeline for some
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
 Panama Flycatcher (*Myiarchus panamensis*)
 Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)
 Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*) spotted by Rusty
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
 Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
 Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes granadensis*) nice studies at Achote; very uncommon
 Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)
 Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) abundant

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) big wave of migrants around Gatun & Achiote with 230 in one day!
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) always stunning!
White-winged Becard (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*) PRDC; uncommon
 Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) one female at Achiote
Blue Cotinga (*Cotinga nattererii*) female at Achiote and distant male from the Tower the last morning
 Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*) seen best along Pipeline & Semaphore Hill
 Golden-collared Manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*) female only
White-ruffed Manakin (*Corapipo altera*) Cerro Azul
 Lance-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) superb study of upset male at Metro Park
 Blue-crowned Manakin (*Pipra coronata*) striking male on Pipeline
 Red-capped Manakin (*Pipra mentalis*) equally stunning
 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) daily
 Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*) one late bird by Sandy near San Lorenzo
 Scrub Greenlet (*Hylophilus flavipes*)
 Golden-fronted Greenlet (*Hylophilus aurantifrons*)
 Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)
 Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*) seen from the tower and along Pipeline
 Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*) nice study at Achiote
 Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) daily in numbers
 Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) oddly only one seen
 Northern Rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) Ammo Dump
 Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)
 Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
White-headed Wren (*Campylorhynchus albobrunneus*) great scope views within minutes of our arrival in Achiote; a regional specialty
 Black-bellied Wren (*Thryothorus fasciatoventris*) good views at the PRDC
 Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) Metro Park
 Rufous-and-white Wren (*Thryothorus rufalbus*) seen very well in Metro Park; an uber skulker that is usually heard only
 Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*) heard only
 Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) Old Gamboa Road
 Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*) good views along Pipeline & Achiote
 House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)
 White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)
 Scaly-breasted Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*) good vies for most on Cerro Azul
 Song Wren (*Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*) Pipeline & Achiote
 Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*)
 Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)
 Clay-colored (Robin) Thrush (*Turdus grayi*) common
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) uncommon
 Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)
 Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)
 Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) only two, normally more numerous
 Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)
 American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) one only
 Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) two seen
 Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus novaboracensis*)
 Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) seen well at Metro Park
 Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)
 Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) Cerro Azul
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (*Rhodinocichla rosea*) unfortunately heard only
 Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) heard only on Pipeline
 White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*) generally numerous
 Crimson-backed Tanager (*Ramphocelus dimidiatus*) "sangre del toro"
Flame-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus flammigerus*) one female at Achiote;
 uncommon
 Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) common
 Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) common
 Plain-colored Tanager (*Tangara inornata*) seen daily
Speckled Tanager (*Tangara guttata*) three on Cerro Azul & Jefe; very uncommon
 Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) Cerro Azul; equally stunning
 Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) certainly one of the prettiest tanagers;
 several nice views
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*) one female at Cerro Azul
 Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) several really nice views
 Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) several excellent views
Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) Gamboa & Cerro Azul
 Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) gorgeous males at Gamboa; 10
 in view at once!
 Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)
 Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*) seen briefly from Tower by some,
 otherwise only heard
 Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatina jacarina*) females at Ammo Dump
 Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)
Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*) male at Ammo Dump was
 unexpected
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater (*Sporophila minuta*) three at Ammo Dump were a
 bonus!
 Thick-billed seed-Finch (*Oryzoborus funereus*) Achiote
 Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) Cerro Azul

Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) Gatun Locks; one male and several females
 Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantiirostris*) Metro Park
 Black-striped Sparrow (*Arremonops conirostris*) Old Gamboa Road
 Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) Cerro Azul
 Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)
 Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) group near San Lorenzo
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) Metro Park
 Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*)
Carmioli's (Olive) Tanager (*Chlorothraupis carmioli*) Cerro Jefe in the fog
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
 Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*)
Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) Ammo Dump
 Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)
 Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*) Achioté
 Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) Ammo Dump
 Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)
 Yellow-billed Cacique (*Amblycercus holosericeus*) Olds Gamboa Road
 Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*) Pipeline
 Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*) many good views, especially from
 the Tower
 Chestnut-headed Oropendola (*Psarocolius wagleri*)
Montezuma Oropendola (*Psarocolius montezuma*) Achioté; uncommon
 Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia lueicapilla*)
 Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)
 Fulvous-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia fulvicrissa*)
White-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia minuta*) a surprise find on Cerro Jefe

total species - **295**

***in combination with the Canopy Lodge extension 373 species were seen

Leader only birds:

Blue-winged Teal
 Anhinga
 Crested owl---heard only
 Spectacled Owl---heard only
 Mottled Owl---heard only
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia
 Olive-striped Flycatcher
 House Sparrow

Mammals:

Central American Woolly Opossum---two on the night drive seen very well
 Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth---five on the night drive plus one on Pipeline

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth---a few seen very well; five total
Geoffroy's Tamarin---adorable; best views from the tower
Western Night Monkey---adorable at roost tree on Pipeline!
White-faced Capuchin---seen well near San Lorenzo
Mantled Howler Monkey
Variegated Squirrel
Red-tailed Squirrel
Central American Agouti---many great, close studies
Paca---great views of this rarely seen mammal; a tour first
White-nosed Coati
various unidentified bat species, including large ones from tower at dusk thought by some to be false vampire bats

total species - 14+

Reptiles & Amphibians:

Green Iguana
Mediterranean (House) Gecko
gecko species (possibly turnip-tailed)
anole species
Striped Basilisk
Central American Whiptail
Green iguana
Blunt-nosed Tree Snake---eating a gecko!
unidentified racer
Tungara Frog---the "pleasant" sound by the tower at night
American Crocodile

Spectacled Caiman
Central American Slider

total species -13

Butterflies:

Parides sesotris---Emerald-patched Cattleheart
Parides species---possibly
Papilio species thoas---Thoas Swallowtail
Phoebis sennae---Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis agarithe---Large Orange Sulphur
Arcas cypris---**Wavy-lined Sunstreak**; absolutely incredible butterfly (lime green, black, and blue with tails) seen from the tower at midday
Mesosemia zonalis---Whitened Eyed Metalmark---Pipeline Road
Ancyluris jurgensenii---**Costa-spotted Beautymark**---wow, another stunner from the Tower!

Heliconius erato---Erato Heliconian
Heliconius hecale---Heart-spotted Heliconian
Heliconius cydno---Cydno Heliconian---stunning blue & white one on Cerro Azul
Phyciodes drusilla---Orange-patched Crescent---Achiote roadsides
Junonia coenia---Common Buckeye
Anartia fatima---Fatima or Banded Peacock
Siproeta stelenes---Malachite
Adelpha species #1 (very possibly *Cecropia* Sister)
Adelpha species #2
Pyrhogyra otolais---White-edged Redwing
Marpesia petreus---Ruddy Daggerwing---from the Tower; spotted by Sandy
Anaea species---leafwing species
Doxocopa pavon---Pavon Emperor
Historis odius---Orion Cecropian
Morpho helenor---Blue Morpho or Common Morpho
Caligo species---unidentified owl butterfly species
Cythaerias pireta---**Pink-tipped Satyr (Rusted Clearwing-Satyr)**---in Rosabel's yard on Cerro Azul; maybe our coolest butterfly of the trip; clear wings with brilliant pinkish-red hindwings & bold eyespot
Pareuptychia ocirrhoe---White Satyr
Magneuptychia libye---Blue-gray Satyr
Jemadia pseudognetus---**Dot-collared Firetip**---from the Tower; amazing!
Astraptes fulgerator---Two-barred Flasher
Urbanus procne---Brown Longtail
Paches loxus---Brilliant Blue-Skipper---several at Achiote
 grass skipper species #1
 grass skipper species #2

total species - 33+

***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 ant swarm

watching a ship go through the canal at Miraflores Locks

train list of 43 species

learning about the Filoplumated Variegated Pygmy-Flycatcher (and it's breeding habits)

surviving the rainstorm in the rainfomobile!!!