

AMAZON RIVER CRUISE

FEBRUARY 21-MARCH 3, 2013

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TOUR REPORT
AMAZON RIVER CRUISE
February 21–March 3, 2013

By Barry Lyon

Even more than the mighty Andes, the Amazon River is the singular landmark that more people are likely to identify with South America than any other. At almost 4,000 miles in length, the river passes through Brazil for most of its course; however, it originates in Peru, flowing for several hundred miles in a northeasterly direction before exiting the country. The Amazon is many things: a river of legend, a river of history, and a life-sustaining conduit for people and commerce. The region drained by the Amazon is so massive that the great river and its tributaries are collectively referred to as “Amazonia.” Here, in Peruvian Amazonia, we spent an epic week exploring the venerable waterway from the comfort of a riverboat.

Without a boat, the Amazon is not easy to know. Few roads penetrate the surrounding vast jungle interior, and seasonal flooding submerges much of the region for months at a time. Travel by car, rail, and even by horse is literally impossible in most areas, which is why boat traffic is the essential means of transportation.

Unlike land-based tours to Amazonia, which focus on birds that occur in both *varzea* (seasonally flooded) and *terre firme* (above floodline) forest types, an Amazon River cruise is primarily a *varzea*-type trip. Whereas a land-based trip concentrates on a limited area, an Amazon River cruise brings exposure to a broad swath of territory. While fewer birds are seen on a cruise than on a land-based trip, the joys of a river cruise lie in its efficacy in delivering a more diverse travel experience.

It is with fond remembrance that we look back on our Amazon River journey. Whether one’s favorite memory was plying the river’s main course in the first light of day, or witnessing a glowing sunset from the top deck, or streaking up a winding tributary on an evening skiff ride, this trip offered something for everyone. Back channel excursions each morning and afternoon revealed a matrix of riverine ecosystems and habitats replete with birds, mammals, and reptiles. So much was seen during our time together that listing particular standout sightings, like our encounters with Scarlet and Blue-and-yellow macaws, or the hawks, toucans, and cotingas we noted on a daily basis, fails to capture the full breadth of our experiences. Rather, a partial roll call of the variety of birds we saw representing a multitude of families conveys the supreme diversity of Amazonia. We recorded 11 species of bitterns, herons and egrets, and ibis; 5 species of vultures; 17 types of parrots, including 3 macaws; 5 species of kingfishers; 8 species of woodpeckers; 6 types of woodcreepers; and 9 species of blackbirds, orioles, and oropendolas, in addition to a great many other birds. Mammals were much in evidence as well, with sightings of Pink and Gray river dolphins and four species of monkeys. With regard to the latter, especially memorable was the family of night monkeys seen at close range from a tree cavity, and the Monk Saki Monkeys Victor spotted in a tree on a stormy last afternoon.

With a nod to the trip’s more-than-just-birding approach, other activities included a morning skiff exploration of Pacaya-Samaria National Park and a return frog-hunting expedition by night, attending staff lectures on Amazonian ecology, trying our hands at piranha fishing, and visiting an indigenous community.

While seeing the Amazon was the trip's whole purpose, it should be remembered that a first day on the coast south of Lima provided a remarkable contrast to what was to come. Here, where the Atacama Desert reaches its northern limit, the northward surging Humboldt Current brings a bounty of nutrients within its cold waters. In the fishing village of Pucusana, the spectacle of cliffs stacked with Humboldt Penguins, Peruvian Boobies, Red-legged Cormorants, Inca Terns, and South American Sea Lions presented a clear demonstration of Peru's remarkable biogeography.

ITINERARY

February 21, 2013 – Participants of the **Amazon River Cruise** arrived in Lima, Peru by today. This evening we enjoyed a trip welcome and dinner in our hotel, the Sonesta el Olivar in downtown Lima.

February 22 – Our first day together was spent entirely along the coast south of Lima. The primary activities included birding at the marshes and wetlands of Pantanos de Villa on the southern outskirts of Lima, and spending the late morning and early afternoon at the fishing village of Pucusana farther south. At Pucusana, we enjoyed a boat ride within the protected bay and along the adjacent coastline, followed by lunch and some light birding in the village. Back in Lima in the late afternoon, we offered an optional birding outing in the park across the street from the hotel.

February 23 – This morning, we transferred back to the airport for a flight from Lima to Iquitos. Following lunch amid a very stormy day in Iquitos, we transferred to the waterfront and boarded our waiting riverboat, the *Aquamarina*. Following a mandatory safety drill, we departed the boat for our first excursion: a skiff trip to the river islands of the Itaya River in pursuit of river island specialty birds such as Red-and-white and Parker's spinetails, Black-and-white antbird, and Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant. Afterward, we rejoined the boat, which by this time had entered the Itaya River.

February 24 – We spent the entire first half of the day cruising the main channel of the Amazon River; in the afternoon we enjoyed a skiff trip up the Yarapa River, which enters the Amazon below the confluence of the Ucayali and Marañon rivers. The boat, meanwhile, was proceeding up the Ucayali River, where we rejoined it above the confluence.

February 25 – Today was dedicated to serious exploration of several tributary rivers and back channels. Three separate skiff trips included visits to the Sapuena, Supay, and Yurachocha rivers.

February 26 – This morning we explored the Zapote River, which was memorable for the fact that we had to wait out a driving rainstorm while in the Zodiacs, but which was followed by some very excellent birding. The entire afternoon was dedicated to making progress further up the Ucayali River. In the late afternoon, we boarded the skiffs and entered the Pacaya River for late-day birding and an evening night prowling. We stayed in the park after dark on a frog- and crocodile-catching foray before returning to the boat for a late dinner.

February 27 – The entire morning was spent exploring the Picaya-Samaria Reserve, which essentially meant partaking in a lengthy skiff trip up the Pacaya River all the way to ranger station number two. After lunch at the station, some people swam in the river, which in turn was followed by a general return to the boat. Most of the afternoon was spent relaxing on the boat as it began the return trip down the Ucayali River. An exploratory skiff ride up the oxbow back channel known as Hatum Posa was at once hot, scenic, and moderately productive.

February 28 – Today presented another opportunity to explore multiple tributary rivers, with morning skiff trips up the Dorado and Ucalayans rivers, and an afternoon on the Yanayapa River.

March 1 – With today representing our last full day on the river, we started with a morning-long visit to the indigenous community of Ucayuni, where we participated on an interpretive walk through the village, and where people shopped in the village “store” while others went birding in the surrounding habitat. The afternoon was spent cruising the main Amazon River channel en route to the waterfront at Iquitos.

March 2 – This morning at the waterfront, we were deluged by a powerful early-morning storm. Prior to disembarkation, we boarded the skiffs for a final birding outing—a return visit to the river islands of the Itaya River. We disembarked the boat in the late morning and transferred directly to the airport for the return flight to Lima. Upon arrival, we made the short walk to the airport hotel and checked in to our day rooms. In the early evening we gathered for a final group dinner before bidding fond farewells. Many people returned to the airport tonight for international flights home.

March 3 – Overnight flights arrived in the U.S. today.

BIRDLIST

The checklist order, and common and scientific names of the birds in this list are those given by James F. Clements in the *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*, 6th Edition, Cornell University Press, with all current updates. Please note that annotation of the river cruise segment of the list is very light due to the fact that all the areas we visited were essentially part of the same ecosystem.

Screamers (Anhimidae)

Horned Screamer (*Anhima cornuta*) – An impressive and massive bird; common in Picaya-Samaria Reserve.

Ducks, Geese & Waterfowl (Anatidae)

Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*)

Guans, Chachalacas & Curassows (Cracidae)

Speckled Chachalaca (*Ortalis guttata*)

Cormorants & Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Anhingas (Anhingidae)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns (Ardeidae)

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)

Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) – Fairly common; seen daily

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)
Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)
Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)
Capped Heron (*Pilherodious pileatus*) – A very attractive heron was seen sporadically along the Amazon River
Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Ibises & Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)

Green Ibis (*Mesembrinibis cayennensis*) – Always uncommon, we saw a couple of birds in flight on one day only

New World Vultures (Cathartidae)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*)
Greater Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes melambrotus*) – A bird of larger lowland forests, we only saw a few this trip; best looks at a bird soaring over Zapote Creek.
King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*)

Osprey (Pandionidae)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Hawks, Eagles & Kites (Accipitridae)

Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) – Beautiful views of a soaring bird on our final full morning on the river.
Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*)
Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*)
Slender-billed Kite (*Helicolestes hamatus*)
Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*)
Plumbeous Kite (*Ictinia plumbea*)
Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*)
Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*)
Slate-colored Hawk (*Leucopternis schistaceus*)
Great Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)
Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*)

Falcons & Caracaras (Falconidae)

Black Caracara (*Daptrius ater*)
Red-throated Caracara (*Ibycter americanus*)
Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*)
Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)
Bat Falcon (*Falco rufigularis*)

Rails, Gallinules & Coots (Rallidae)

Rufous-sided Crake (*Laterallus melanophaius*) – Heard only
Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*)
Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*)
Azure Gallinule (*Porphyrio flavirostris*)

Finfoots (Heliornithidae)

Sungrebe (*Heliornis fulica*)

Limpkin (Aramidae)

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

Plovers & Lapwings (Charadriidae)

Pied Lapwing (*Vanellus cayanus*)

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) – Wonderful studies of birds along the main Amazon River

Jacanas (Jacanidae)

Wattled Jacanas (*Jacana jacana*)

Sandpipers & Allies (Scolopacidae)

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*)

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers (Laridae)

Yellow-billed Tern (*Sternula superciliaris*)

Large-billed Tern (*Phaetusa simplex*)

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*)

Pigeons & Doves (Columbidae)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)

Ruddy Pigeon (*Patagioenas subvinacea*)

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)

Gray-fronted Dove (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)

Parrots (Psittacidae)

Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrrhura melanura*)

White-eyed Parakeet (*Aratinga leucophthalma*)

Dusky-headed Parakeet (*Aratinga weddellii*)

Chestnut-fronted Macaw (*Ara severus*) – Nice views of a nesting bird

Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*) – Spectacular studies of two birds near a nest hole

Blue-and-yellow Macaw (*Ara ararauna*) – The most common macaw; many spectacular views

Red-bellied Macaw (*Orthopsittaca manilata*) – Nice studies of a colony of nesting birds

Blue-winged Parrotlet (*Forpus xanthopterygius*)

White-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris versicolurus*)

Cobalt-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris cyanoptera*)

Tui Parakeet (*Brotogeris sanctithomae*)

Black-headed Parrot (*Pionites melanocephalus*)

Short-tailed Parrot (*Graydidascalus brachyurus*)

Festive Parrot (*Amazona festiva*)

Orange-winged Parrot (*Amazona amazonica*)

Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*)

Yellow-crowned Parrot (*Amazona ochrocephala*)

Hoatzin (Opisthocomidae)

Hoatzin (*Opisthocomus hoazin*)

Cuckoos (Cuculidae)

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)

Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*)

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)

Owls (Strigidae)

Tropical Screech-Owl (*Megascops choliba*) – Heard only

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) – Good views in Picaya-Samaria Reserve

Nightjars & Allies (Caprimulgidae)

Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)

Ladder-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis climacocera*) – Several views of day-roosting birds

Potoos (Nyctibiidae)

Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*)

Common Potoo (*Nyctibius griseus*)

Swifts (Apodidae)

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*)

Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*)

Pale-rumped Swift (*Chaetura egregia*)

Fork-tailed Palm-Swift (*Tachornis squamata*)

Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)

White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)

Black-throated Mango (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*)

Olive-spotted Hummingbird (*Leucippus chlorocercus*)

Glittering-throated Emerald (*Amazilia fimbriata*)

Trogons (Trogonidae)

Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*)

Gartered Trogon (*Trogon caligatus*)

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*)

Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)

Ringed Kingfisher (*Megaceryle torquata*)

Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*)

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle inda*)

American Pygmy Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*)

Puffbirds (Bucconidae)

Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*)

Black-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa nigrifrons*)

Swallow-winged Puffbird (*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*)

Jacamars (Galbulidae)

White-eared Jacamar (*Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis*)

Bluish-fronted Jacamar (*Galbula cyanescens*)

New World Barbets (Capitonidae)

Scarlet-crowned Barbet (*Capito aurovirens*)

Lemon-throated Barbet (*Eubucco richardsoni*)

Toucans (Ramphastidae)

Lettered Aracari (*Pteroglossus inscriptus*)

Chestnut-eared Aracari (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)

White-throated Toucan (*Ramphastos tucanus*)

Woodpeckers (Picidae)

Plain-breasted Piculet (*Picumnus castelnau*)

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes cruentatus*)

Little Woodpecker (*Veniliornis passerinus*)

Spot-breasted Woodpecker (*Colaptes punctigula*)

Chestnut Woodpecker (*Celeus elegans*)

Cream-colored Woodpecker (*Celeus flavus*)

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)

Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers (Furnariidae)

Lesser Hornero (*Furnarius minor*)

Parker's Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpecula*)

Red-and-white Spinetail (*Certhiaxis mustelinus*)

Orange-fronted Plushcrown (*Metopothrix aurantiaca*)

Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*)

Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper (*Dendrexetastes rufigula*)

Strong-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*)

Straight-billed Woodcreeper (*Dendroplex picus*)

Striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*)

Buff-throated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus*)

Typical Antbirds (Thamnophilidae)

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*)

Black-crested Antshrike (*Sakesphorus canadensis*)

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)

Amazonian Streaked-Antwren (*Myrmotherula sclateri*)

Ash-breasted Antbird (*Myrmoborus lugubris*)

Black-and-white Antbird (*Myrmochanes hemileucus*)

White-shouldered Antbird (*Myrmeciza melanoceps*)

Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)

Brownish Elaenia (*Elaenia pelzelni*)

Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant (*Stigmatura napensis*)

Spotted Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum maculatum*)
Drab Water Tyrant (*Ochthornis littoralis*)
White-headed Marsh Tyrant (*Arundinicola leucocephala*)
Dull-capped Attila (*Attila bolivianus*)
Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
Lesser Kiskadee (*Pitangus lictor*)
Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)
Piratic Flycatcher (*Legatus leucophaeus*)
Sulphury Flycatcher (*Tyrannopsis sulphurea*)
White-throated Kingbird (*Tyrannus albogularis*)
Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)
Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)
Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)

Cotingas (Cotingidae)

Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*)
Amazonian Umbrellabird (*Cephalopterus ornatus*)
Plum-throated Cotinga (*Cotinga maynana*)
Bare-necked Fruitcrow (*Gymnoderus foetidus*)

Tityras & Allies (Tityridae)

Black-tailed Tityra (*Tityra cayana*)
Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*)
Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)

Swallows (Hirundinidae)

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx cyanoleuca*)
Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)
White-winged Swallow (*Tachycineta albiventer*)
Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

Wrens (Troglodytidae)

Thrush-like Wren (*Campylorhynchus turdinus*)
Buff-breasted Wren (*Cantorchilus leucotis*)

Donacobius (Donacobiidae)

Black-capped Donacobius (*Donacobius atricapilla*)

Thrushes & Allies (Turdidae)

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)
Hauxwell's Thrush (*Turdus hauxwelli*)
Black-billed Thrush (*Turdus ignobilis*)

Tanagers & Allies (Thraupidae)

Hooded Tanager (*Nemosia pileata*)

Orange-headed Tanager (*Thlypopsis sordida*)
Masked Crimson Tanager (*Ramphocelus nigrogularis*)
Silver-beaked Tanager (*Ramphocelus carbo*)
Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)
Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)
Turquoise Tanager (*Tangara mexicana*)
Paradise Tanager (*Tangara chilensis*)
Yellow-bellied Dacnis (*Dacnis flaviventer*)
Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*)

Buntings, Sparrows & Allies (Emberizidae)

Caqueta Seed-eater (*Sporophila murallae*)
Chestnut-bellied Seed-eater (*Sporophila castaneiventris*)
Red-capped Cardinal (*Paroaria gularis*)
Yellow-browed Sparrow (*Ammodramus aurifrons*)

Troupials & Allies (Icteridae)

Oriole Blackbird (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*)
Yellow-hooded Blackbird (*Chrysomus icterocephalus*)
Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)
Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)
Solitary Black Cacique (*Cacicus solitarius*)
Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*)
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius bifasciatus*)
Band-tailed Oropendola (*Ocyalus latirostris*)

Siskins, Crossbills & Allies (Fringillidae)

Purple-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia chlorotica*)
Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia lanirostris*)
White-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia minuta*)

LIMA AREA BIRDS (February 22, 2013)

Key:

PV = Pantanos de Villa Wetlands and Marshes

P = Pucusana

L = Park across the street from Hotel Olivar de Sonesta in Lima

Ducks, Geese & Waterfowl (Anatidae)

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) - PV
White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis*) - PV
Ruddy (Andean) Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis ferruginea*) - PV

Grebes (Podicipedidae)

White-tufted Grebe (*Rollandia rolland*) - PV
Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - PV
Great Grebe (*Podiceps major*) - PV

Penguins (Spheniscidae)

Humboldt Penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*) – P; about a dozen in a deep grotto along the coast; a premier bird of the area

Boobies & Gannets (Sulidae)

Peruvian Booby (*Sula variegata*) – P; hundreds seen in flight and on the cliffs over the open ocean

Cormorants & Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) - PV

Red-legged Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax gaimardi*) – P; one of the world's most beautiful cormorant species

Guanay Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax bouganvillii*) - P

Pelicans (Pelecanidae)

Peruvian Pelican (*Pelecanus thagus*) – P; many close views

Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns (Ardeidae)

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) - PV

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) - PV

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) - PV

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - PV

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

Ibises & Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)

Puna Ibis (*Plegadis ridgwayi*) – PV; nice views of foraging birds and birds in flight

New World Vultures (Cathartidae)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) – All sites

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) – PV, P

Osprey (Pandionidae)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) - PV

Hawks, Eagles & Kites (Accipitridae)

Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) - L

Falcons & Caracaras (Falconidae)

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) - L

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - L

Rails, Gallinules & Coots (Rallidae)

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) - PV

Slate-colored Coot (*Fulica ardesiaca*) - PV

Thick-knees (Burhinidae)

Peruvian Thick-knee (*Burhinus superciliaris*) – PV; a rare and declining species, we found a pair attending a chick close to the highway; fabulous views

Plovers & Lapwings (Charadriidae)

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) - PV

Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)

American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) - PV

Blackish Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ater*) – P; on the rocks and cliffs along the open water

Sandpipers & Allies (Scolopacidae) – All shorebirds seen were wintering birds from North America.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) - PV

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) - PV

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) - PV

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) - PV

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) - PV

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) - PV

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) - PV

Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) - PV

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) - PV

Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) - PV

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers (Laridae)

Gray-hooded Gull (*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*) – PV; many great looks at birds in the water

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) - PV

Belcher's Gull (*Larus belcheri*) – PV; the most common gull around Lima

Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) - PV

Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) - PV

Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*) - PV

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) - PV

Pigeons & Doves (Columbidae)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) – All sites

West Peruvian Dove (*Zenaida meloda*) - L

Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*) – PV, L

Croaking Ground-Dove (*Columbina cruziana*) - L

Cuckoos (Cuculidae)

Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) - PV

Owls (Strigidae)

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) - PV

Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)

Oasis Hummingbirds (*Rhodopis vesper*) – P; scope views of a perched male bird at the lunch site

Peruvian Sheartail (*Thaumastura cora*) – L; spectacular views of a foraging male bird; a near endemic

Amazilia Hummingbird (*Amazilia amazilia*) - L

Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers (Furnariidae)

Wren-like Rushbird (*Phleocryptes melanops*) – PV; glimpsed only

Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)

Many-colored Rush Tyrant (*Tachuris rubrigastra*) - PV

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) - L

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) - L

Swallows (Hirundinidae)

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*) - L

Wrens (Troglodytidae)

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) - L

Mockingbirds & Thrashers (Mimidae)

Long-tailed Mockingbird (*Mimus longicaudatus*) - L

Bananaquit (Coerebidae)

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) - L

Tanagers & Allies (Thraupidae)

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) - L

Troupials & Allies (Icteridae)

Peruvian Meadowlark (*Sturnella bellicosa*) – PV; scope views

Scrub Blackbird (*Dives warszewiczi*) - L

Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - L

MAMMALS**Sloths (Bradypodidae)**

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth (*Bradypus variegatus*)

Marmosets & Tamarins (Callitrichidae)

Pygmy Marmoset (*Cebuella pygmaea*)

Saddleback Tamarin (*Saguinus fasciollis*)

New World Monkeys (Cebidae)

Common Squirrel Monkey (*Saimiri sciureus*)

Monk Saki Monkey (*Pithecia monachus*)

Common Woolly Monkey (*Lagothrix lagothrica*)

Night Monkey (*Aotus sp.*)

Squirrels (Sciuridae)

Northern Amazonian Red Squirrel (*Sciurus igniventris*)

Spiny Rats & Tree Rats (Echimyidae)

Yellow-crowned Brush-tailed Rat (*Isothrix bistrriata*)

Bulldog Bats (Noctilionidae)

Fishing bat sp. (*Noctilio sp.*)

Seals, Sea Lions & Walrus (Pinnipediae)

South American Sea Lion (*Otaria flavescens*) – On the coast at Pucusana

Amazon River Dolphin (Iniidae)

Amazon (Pink) River Dolphin (*Inia geoffrensis*)

Dolphins (Delphinidae)

Gray Dolphin (*Sotalia fluviatilis*)

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

Spectacled Caiman (*Caiman crocodilus*)

Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*)

Northern Caiman Lizard (*Dracaena guianensis*)

Hatched-faced Frog (*Sphaenorhynchus sp.*)

Variable Clown Frog (*Hyla sp.*)

Polkadot Frog (*Hypsiboas punctatus*)

False Fer-de-lance (*Xenodon rabdocephalus*)