

VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.,

NORTHEASTERN ARGENTINA TOUR PAMPAS, CORRIENTES & IGUAZÚ

November 9 - 20, 2007

Guides: Steve Hilty (only Corrientes and Iguazú)

**Also Hernan Castanas; Juan Klaven (pampas and Corrientes); and Juan Mazar Barnett
(Iguazú)**

This can be described as a trip of contrasts—wide-open spaces in the pampas, dense bamboo-laden forests in Iguazú, and one of the world's most spectacular waterfalls. And, there were equally impressive avian contrasts—flightless rheas with ostrichlike demeanor, and screamers, swans, and waterfowl aside tiny birds with such unlikely names as Firewood-Gatherer and Many-colored Rush-Tyrant. In the dense forests of Iguazú there were aracaries, Toco Toucans, and finely attired Plush-crested Jays, all in sharp contrast to the many foliage-gleaners, tyrannulets, and more somber dress of forest understory species.

The pampas region was unseasonably cold and windy and, surprisingly, the cold weather continued northward into Corrientes, although our intrepid group enjoyed much warmer weather in Misiones. The pampas, with its sweeping horizons, vast estancias, cattle, and great numbers of waterfowl and large birds, provided the theme for the first part of our trip. In Corrientes our group enjoyed an opportunity to mingle with barefoot gauchos, meet the owner of an estancia, and lunch in the open air under the spreading branches of trees at the ranch compound. Here, also, we found perhaps the oddest and one of the rarest of all flycatchers, the Strange-tailed Tyrant, whose name hints at its unusual adornments. Imagine a small airplane towing a banner and you have an idea of the appearance of this bird in flight. An unscheduled visit to a marsh near Pousadas provided views of rare Saffron-cowled Blackbirds and other species new to the group. Anyone who has turned the pages of an Argentina field guide will know that the Corrientes region hosts many unusual seedeaters, and we enjoyed fine studies of six species—a good number—including the scarce Chestnut Seedeater.

At Iguazú, everyone will have their favorite image of the region, perhaps of swifts swirling in the mist of the falls, rainbows shimmering above swirling water, the sheer volume of water, or perhaps the smaller falls that flank the main falls. One of our birding days at Iguazú was hampered by rain, but the first and last days were spectacular, with great views of birds of forest interior and forest edge. For me, the number of foliage-gleaners we saw in the Iguazú area was remarkable, as well as our views of the Rufous Gnateater, the pair of Blond-crested Woodpeckers, and diminutive Eared Pygmy-Tyrants; Plush-crested Jays decorating a tree at the visitor center; Green-headed Tanagers; Swallow-tanagers; and the palms with up to a hundred nests of Red-rumped Caciques. From Buenos Aires to the pampas and the mists of Iguazú, this trip should provide memories of an exciting country and a bird fauna to match.

Boldface and underlined = uncommon or of special interest

Boldface, Capitalized and underlined = rare

(*) asterisk = heard only

LIST OF BIRDS:

Greater Rhea	<i>Rhea Americana</i>
Red-winged Tinamou	<i>Rhynchotus rufescens</i> ;
Spotted (Tinamou) Nothura	<i>Nothura maculosa</i>
*Brown Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus obsoletus</i>
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
White-tufted Grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>
Great Grebe	<i>Podiceps major</i>
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax olivaceus</i>
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>
Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>
Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>
Great Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>
Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>
Maguari Stork	<i>Ciconia (Euxenura) americana</i>
Jabiru	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>
Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>
Bare-faced (Whispering) Ibis	<i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>
Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>
Southern Screamer	<i>Chauna torquata</i>
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>
White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>
Black-necked Swan	<i>Cygnus melancoryphus</i>
Coscoroba Swan	<i>Coscoroba coscoroba</i>
Brazilian Teal	<i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>
Chiloe Wigeon	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>
Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>
White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>
Silver Teal	<i>Anas versicolor</i>
Rosy-billed Pochard	<i>Netta peposaca</i>
Black-headed Duck	<i>Heteronetta atricapilla</i>
Lake Duck	<i>Oxyura vittata</i>
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>
Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>
Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>
Long-winged Harrier	<i>Circus buffoni</i>

Cinereous Harrier	<i>Circus cinereus</i>
Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>
White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>
Southern Crested Caracara	<i>Polyborus plancus</i>
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>
Chimango Caracara	<i>Milvago chimango</i>
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Black-fronted Piping-Guan	<i>Pipile jacutinga</i>
Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>
*Rufous-sided Crake	<i>Laterallus melanophaius</i>
Gray-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>
Giant Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides ypecaha</i>
Slaty-breasted Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides saracura</i>
*Ash-throated Crake	<i>Porzana albicollis</i>
Plumbeous Rail	<i>Rallus sanguinolentus</i>
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Spot-flanked Gallinule	<i>Porphyriops melanops</i>
White-winged Coot	<i>Fulica leucoptera</i>
Red-gartered Coot	<i>Fulica armillata</i>
Red-fronted Coot	<i>Fulica rufifrons</i>
Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>
American Painted-Snipe	<i>Nycticryphes (Rostratula) semicollaris</i>
American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>
American Golden Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>
South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiae</i>
Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Tryngites subruficollis</i>
Snowy Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>
?Olrog's Gull (formerly Band-tailed Gull)	<i>Larus olrogi</i>
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>
Gray-headed Gull	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>
Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Larus maculipennis</i>
Sandwich Tern/Cayenne Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>
Snowy-crowned Tern	<i>Sterna trudeaui</i>
Yellow-billed Tern	<i>Sterna superciliaris</i>
Large-billed Tern	<i>Sterna simplex</i>
Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>
Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>
Picazuro Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas picazuro</i>
Spot-winged Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas maculosa</i>
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>
Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida ariculata</i>
Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>
Picui Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina picui</i>
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>

*Gray-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>
White-eyed Parakeet	<i>Aratinga leucophthalmus</i>
Nanday (Black-hooded) Parakeet	<i>Nandayus nenday</i>
Reddish-bellied Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura frontalis</i> Iguazú
Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monacha</i>
Blue-winged Parrotlet	<i>Forpus xanthopterygius</i>
Scaly-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus maximiliani</i>
Blue-fronted (Turquoise-fronted) Parrot	<i>Amazona aestiva</i>
Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>
Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>
Guira Cuckoo	<i>Guira guira</i>
Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>
Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene (Speotyto) cunicularia</i>
Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>
Great Dusky Swift	<i>Cypseloides senex</i>
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>
Scale-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis eurynome</i>
Planalto Hermit	<i>Phaethornis pretrei</i>
Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>
Glittering-bellied Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon aureoventris</i>
Violet-capped Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania glaucopsis</i>
Gilded Hummingbird	<i>Hylocharis chrysura</i>
White-throated Hummingbird	<i>Leucochloris albicollis</i>
Versicolored (Emerald) Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia versicolor.</i>
Surucua Trogon	<i>Trogon surrucura</i>
Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon rufus</i>
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle Americana</i>
*Rufous-capped Motmot	<i>Baryphthengus ruficapillus</i>
White-eared Puffbird	<i>Nystalus chacuru</i>
Rusty-breasted Nunlet	<i>Nonula rebecula</i>
Chestnut-eared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus castanotis</i>
Toco Toucan	<i>Ramphastos toco</i>
Ochre-collared Piculet	<i>Picumnus temminckii</i>
White Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes candidus</i>
Yellow-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes flavifrons</i>
White-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis spilogaster</i>
Green-barred Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes melanochloros</i>
Campo (Field) Flicker	<i>Colaptes campestris</i>
Blond-crested Woodpecker	<i>Celeus flavescens</i>
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>
*Robust Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus robustus</i>
Rufous Hornero	<i>Furnarius rufus</i>
Araucaria Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura setaria</i>
Wren-like Rushbird	<i>Phleocryptes melanops</i>
Curve-billed Reedhaunter	<i>Limnornis curvirostris</i>
Bay-capped Wren-Spinetail	<i>Spartonoica maluroides</i>
Chotoy Spinetail	<i>Schoeniophlax phryganophila</i>
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis frontalis</i>
Spix's (Chicle) Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis spixi</i>
Sulphur-bearded Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca sulphurifera</i>
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i>
Hudson's Canastero	<i>Asthenes hudsoni</i>
Greater Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus ruber</i>

Freckle-breasted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus striaticollis</i>
Firewood-Gatherer	<i>Anumbius annumbi</i>
Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor lichensteini</i>
*Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor rufus</i>
Black-capped Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor atricapillus</i>
White-eyed Foliage-gleaner	<i>Automolus leucophthalmus</i>
Plain-brown (Thrush-like) Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla (turdina) fuliginosa</i>
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>
White-throated Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes albicollis</i>
Planalto Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes platyrostris</i>
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i>
Spot-backed Antshrike	<i>Hypodaleus guttatus</i>
*Tufted Antshrike	<i>Mackenziaena severa</i>
Variable Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus caerulescens</i>
Plain Antvireo	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>
Rufous-winged Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus rufipennis</i>
Bertoni's Antbird	<i>Drymophila rubricollis</i>
White-shouldered Fire-eye	<i>Pyriglena leucoptera</i>
Rufous Gnateater	<i>Conopophaga lineata</i>
*Gray-hooded Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes rufiventris</i>
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>
Greenish Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis viridicata</i>
Large Elaenia	<i>Elaenia spectabilis</i>
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>
Small-billed Elaenia	<i>Elaenia parvirostris</i>
Sooty Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga nigricans</i>
Yellow Tyrannulet	<i>Capsiempis flaveola</i>
White-crested Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga subcristata</i>
Sepia-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon amaurocephalus</i>
Many-colored Rush-Tyrant	<i>Tachuris rubrigastra</i>
Warbling Doradito	<i>Pseudocolopteryx flaviventris</i>
*Drab-breasted Bamboo-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus diops</i>
Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Euscarthmus meloryphus</i>
Eared Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Myiornis aricularis</i>
Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>
Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>
Spectacled Tyrant	<i>Hymenops perspicillatus</i>
White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>
Streamer-tailed Tyrant	<i>Gubernetes yetapa</i>
Strange-tailed Tyrant	<i>Alectrurus risora</i>
Yellow-browed Tyrant	<i>Satrapa icterophrys</i>
Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosus</i>
Sirystes	<i>Sirystes sibilator</i>
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>
Three-striped Flycatcher	<i>Conopias trivirgata</i>
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>
Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>
Variegated Flycatcher	<i>Empidonomus varius</i>
Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher	<i>Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus</i>
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savanna</i>
Southern Antpipit	<i>Corythopis delalandi</i>
Green-backed Becard	<i>Pachyramphus viridis</i>
Chestnut-crowned Becard	<i>Pachyramphus castaneus</i>

Crested Becard	<i>Pachyramphus validis</i>
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>
Brown-chested Martin	<i>Progne (Phaeoprogne) tapera</i>
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>
White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>
White-rumped Swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucorrhoa</i>
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>
Tawny-headed Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx (Alopochelidon) fucata</i>
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhnota</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Wing-barred Piprites	<i>Piprites chloris</i>
Blue Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia caudate</i>
White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>
Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>
Ochre-breasted Pipit	<i>Anthus nattereri</i>
Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
Chalk-browed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus saturninus</i>
Rufous-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>
Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>
Creamy-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus amaurochalinus</i>
White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>
Masked Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila dumicola</i>
Plush-crested Jay	<i>Cyanocorax chrysops</i>
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclaris gujanensis</i>
*Purple-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia chlorotica</i>
Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>
Chestnut-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia pectoralis</i>
Hooded Siskin	<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>
Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiaiyumi</i>
Masked Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis aequinoctalis</i>
Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>
White-rimmed (lored) Warbler	<i>Basileuterus leucoblepharus</i>
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>
Magpie Tanager	<i>Cissopis leveriana</i>
Chestnut-headed Tanager	<i>Pyrrhocomma ruficeps</i>
Ruby-crowned Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus coronatus</i>
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>
Black-goggled Tanager	<i>Trichothraupis melanops</i>
Sayaca Tanager	<i>Thraupis sayaca</i>
Blue-and-yellow Tanager	<i>Thraupis bonariensis</i>
Green-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara seledon</i>
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>
Swallow-Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>
Red-crested Finch	<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>
Long-tailed Reed-Finch	<i>Donacospiza albifrons</i>
Black-and-rufous Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza nigrorufa</i>
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>
Rusty-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila collaris</i>
Double-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila caeruleascens</i>
White-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila leucoptera</i>
Capped Seedeater	<i>Sporophila bouvreuil</i>
Dark-throated Seedeater	<i>Sporophila ruficollis</i>

Chestnut Seedeater	<i>Sporophila cinnamomea</i>
Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>
Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>
Lesser Grass-Finch	<i>Emberizoides ypiranganus</i>
Great Pampa-Finch	<i>Embernagra platensis</i>
Red-crested Cardinal	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>
Yellow-billed Cardinal	<i>Paroaria capitata</i>
Saffron-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon flavirostris</i>
Grassland Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i>
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>
Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>
Green-winged Saltator	<i>Saltator similis</i>
Saffron-cowled Blackbird	<i>Xanthopsar flavus</i>
Yellow-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelasticus thilius</i>
Unicolored Blackbird	<i>Agelasticus cyanopus</i>
Chestnut-capped Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus ruficapillus</i>
White-browed Blackbird	<i>Sturnella superciliaris</i>
Bay-winged Cowbird	<i>Molothrus badius</i>
Screaming Cowbird	<i>Molothrus rufoaxillaris</i>
Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>
Epaulet Oriole	<i>Icterus cayanensis</i>
Red-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i>
Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>
Yellow-rumped Marshbird	<i>Pseudoleistes guirahuro</i>
Brown-and-yellow Marshbird	<i>Pseudoleistes virescens</i>
Scarlet-headed Blackbird	<i>Amblyramphus holosericeus</i>
Chopi Blackbird	<i>Gnorimopsar chopi</i>

NATIVE MAMMALS:

Seven-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus septemcinctus</i>
Coipu or Nutria	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>
Capybara	<i>Hydrochoeris hydrochaeris</i>
Pampas Cavie	<i>Cavia pamparum</i>
Patagonian Skunk	<i>Conepatus humboldti</i>
Southern Coatimundi	<i>Nasua nasua</i>
Brown Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta fusca</i>
Brown Capuchin	<i>Cebus apella</i>
European Hare	<i>Lepus capense</i>

Herps

Tegu Lizard	<i>Tupinambis sp.</i>
Yellow Anaconda	<i>Eunectes notaeus</i>
Marine Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>

Trip list compiled by S. Hilty
November 2007