

PANAMA: CHIRIQUÍ HIGHLANDS

JANUARY 28 – FEBRUARY 3, 2008

LEADERS: KEVIN ZIMMER & GENOVER “ITO” SANTAMARIA

COMPILED BY: KEVIN ZIMMER

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Once again, the highlands of Chiriquí, Panama dished up a wonderful mix of great birds, pleasant weather, lovely accommodations, and good food, made all the better by the superb hospitality of Carlos and his staff at Los Quetzales. We ended up with 238 species in just five days of birding, a higher species total than the past few tours with the same itinerary. More important, we encountered nearly 40 species of regional endemics, the vast majority of which are found only in the highlands of Costa Rica and western Panama.

After a one-hour flight from Panama City to David, we hit the ground running. Open country near David yielded dueling male Garden Emeralds, scope views of a perched Sapphire-throated Hummingbird, Brown-throated Parakeets, Red-breasted Blackbirds, and other lowland species. Subsequent stops in the foothills produced a male Charming Hummingbird on a song-perch, and a sprinkling of wintering warblers and resident tanagers.

The next morning saw us greeting the dawn at the upper cabins above Los Quetzales. Birding from the cabin decks was most enjoyable, and the opportunity to duck inside for some coffee and hot chocolate or to warm our hands at the fire was also welcome—it may be Panama, but the mornings are chilly in those mountains! Yellow-thighed Finches, with their comical pantaloons, and animated Collared Redstarts entertained us on the deck, as did the constant parade of flashy hummingbirds at the feeders. The feeders were dominated by hordes of Magnificent Hummingbirds, while even flashier Violet Sabrewings, White-throated Mountain-gems, and Fiery-throated Hummingbirds were regular infiltrators. Our studies of a perched Fiery-throated were particularly noteworthy—that bird is sensational when viewed in the proper light! The forest above the cabins produced multiple mixed-species flocks, with such treats as Buffy Tuftedcheek, Ruddy Treerunner, Black-cheeked Warbler, and Flame-throated Warbler, and it was here that we encountered our first Resplendent Quetzal, albeit a female. An afternoon vigil at a fruiting tree on the Respingo road produced dazzling male quetzals, one of the true glamour birds of the New World tropics.

Finca Hartmann provided us with a somewhat different assemblage of foothill birds, along with a fascinating glimpse into the behind-the-scenes operation of a shade-coffee plantation. The hospitality of Aliss and the rest of the Hartmann family, and their efforts to produce environmentally friendly coffee while retaining as much remnant foothill forest as possible were especially heartwarming. The birding around the clearing was so good that we found it difficult to pull ourselves away to bird the forest trail. Highlights

here included fabulous views of the range-restricted Fiery-billed Aracari and Turquoise Cotinga, along with scope views of perched Sulphur-winged Parakeets, a family group of Olivaceous Piculets, a lovely pair of White-winged Tanagers, great views of Emerald (= Blue-throated) Toucanets, and an interesting assortment of birds at a small army ant swarm.

Bajo Frio treated us to Crested Guans, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, dazzling Bay-headed Tanagers, scope-filling Scaled Pigeons, and a variety of edge-species. A stop at Cielito Sur provided another spectacular hummingbird show, this one dominated by Violet Sabrewings, surely one of the flashiest of all hummers. Lagunas de Volcan yielded a number of goodies, including Red-headed Barbet, Red-faced Spinetail, Collared Trogon, Slaty Antwren, and White-throated Spadebill. That evening we made a short excursion to look for Dusky Nightjar, an endemic nightjar of the highlands. We ended up with nice, spotlighted scope views of a singing male.

We finished with a flourish, by returning to Respingo on our last morning. A particularly chilling dawn vigil netted us Black Guan and at least three male Resplendent Quetzals that alternately gorged on fruits and chased one another through the trees, long trains wafting behind as they went. Working our way up the road, we had a nice encounter with a Zeledon's Tyrannulet, a rarely seen little flycatcher of the cloud forest canopy of the Costa Rica/Panama highlands. Up at the top, we basked in the welcome sunlight before heading down the trail. Previous attempts at the much-wanted Wrenthrush had resulted in multiple heard, but unseen, birds. This time we hit on a responsive individual, and soon had marvelous point-blank views.

We had reached our turn-around point, and were started back, when Ito spotted an interesting flycatcher in the midstory. Closer inspection showed it to be a rare Ochraceous Pewee, a regional endemic that Ito and I had seen on only a handful of previous occasions. The bird flew before most people had a good view, but my tape brought it back, and the bird soon settled in to foraging right above the trail, providing us with wonderful scope studies.

A short time later, a soft, froggy-sounding call from above the trail brought us to an abrupt halt. Golden-browed Chlorophonia! This was a real target bird that had been uncharacteristically inconspicuous to this point (a single female having been seen by just a few of us on the first afternoon). Now, we were staring point-blank at a dazzling male that was intent on feeding, allowing all in the group superb, prolonged views as it dropped to a few meters above the ground. This was a dramatic finish to a great few days of highland birding, and one that leaves me looking forward to my return to the land of Resplendent Quetzals, great coffee, and loads of highland endemics.

Itinerary:

January 28 – arrival in Panama City

January 29 – fly from Panama City to David (arrival at 1050 hours), with short birding excursion around the David airport prior to lunch at the Hotel Nacional. Early afternoon

cruise around the pastures comprising the Querevalo loop; then on to Cerro Punta, with various mid-afternoon stops en route (notably around Macho de Monte); arriving at the Los Quetzales hotel in Guadalupe shortly before dusk.

January 30 – 0615 departure for the Los Quetzales highland cabins, where we birded off the decks of cabins #2 & 3 until ca. 1000 hours, then birded the road through the forest above the cabins for the remainder of the morning. Lunch back at Los Quetzales at 1300 hours, and break until 1445; afternoon birding at Respingo until 1800 hours.

January 31 – 0500 departure for Finca Hartmann, arriving at 0615. Birded the main clearing until ca. 1000 hours, before walking the trail for about 1 km until 1130. Lunch and early afternoon tour of the coffee operation until about 1400 hours; then drove in 4X4 to Ojo de Agua, where we walked the forest track until 1600 hours. Departed Finca Hartmann at 1700 hours; back to Los Quetzales by 1800 hours.

February 1 – 0600 departure for Bajo Frio, where we birded until ca. 1030–1100. Stopped at Cielito Sur for 1.5 hours before returning to Los Quetzales for lunch. Afternoon to Lagunas de Volcan and Finca Janson. Pre-dinner nightjar prowl near the hotel.

February 2 – 0600 departure for Respingo, starting low down at the “quetzal trees”, and then working our way up to the Volcan Barú National Park headquarters and the Camino de Quetzales. Birded here until ca. noon; return to Los Quetzales for lunch; packed up, and left for David at 1500 hours, arriving in time for our 1730 flight back to Panama City. Upon arrival, some of us headed home, and others transferred on to the Canopy Tower for the second leg of the tour.

February 3 – return home (for those not continuing on to the Canopy Tower Tour).

Key:

BF = Bajo Frio

DL = David loop; including the airport ponds and Querevalo.

FH = Finca Hartmann

H = Highlands, including Los Quetzales, Respingo, the upper cabins and Cielito Sur

LV = Lagunas de Volcan and vicinity

MM = Macho de Monte area

* = heard only

NOTE: The following list follows (for the most part) the taxonomy and nomenclature employed by Ridgely & Gwynne 1989 (*A guide to the birds of Panama*), as modified by the American Ornithologists Union Checklist Committee (7th edition and subsequent supplements). Any exceptions are clarified in the list.

Bird of the Trip (as voted by the group):

1. Resplendent Quetzal
2. Golden-browed Chlorophonia
3. Violet Sabrewing & Pearl Kite (tie)

Birds:

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) - LV
Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*)* - FH*
Crested Guan (*Penelope purpurascens*) - BF (Nice scope views.)
Black Guan (*Chamaepetes unicolor*) **(RE)** - H (Feeding in the “quetzal tree” at dawn.)
Spotted Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus guttatus*)* - H*
Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*) - LV
Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - LV
Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) - Panama City
Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) - Panama City
Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) - Panama City
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) - DL, LV
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) - DL, FH, LV
Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) - LV
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - every day
Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) - LV
Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) - every day
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) - every day
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) - DL
Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) - FH
Pearl Kite (*Gampsonyx swainsonii*) - BF to Cerro Punta (A lovely individual perched on a wire.)
Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*) - DL, FH, BF
Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) - FH, H
Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) - H
Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*)* - FH*
Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) - LV
Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) - DL, BF, LV, Cerro Punta to David
Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)* - FH*, BF*
Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*) - FH, BF
White-throated Crake (*Laterallus albigularis*)* - DL*
Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) - LV
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) - LV
American Coot (*Fulica Americana*) - LV
Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) - DL, LV
Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) - DL, LV, H
Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) - LV
Wilson’s Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) - LV
Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) - David, Panama City
Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) - BF
Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) - H
Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) - DL, BF, LV, H
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) - FH, BF

Sulphur-winged Parakeet (*Pyrrhura hoffmani*) (RE) - H, FH (Several screeching flocks made passes, but we did get scope views of some perched birds at FH.)

Crimson-fronted Parakeet (*Aratinga finschi*) - DL*, FH

Brown-throated Parakeet (*Aratinga pertinax*) - DL {The subspecies found here, *ocularis*, has sometimes been treated as a separate species (Veraguan Parakeet), but taxonomy in the *pertinax* complex is, well, complex.}

Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*) - DL, FH, BF*

Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*) - DL, FH, BF

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) - DL, FH, H

Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*)* - DL*

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) - DL

Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) - FH*, H (A most responsive bird at Respingo.)

Dusky Nightjar (*Caprimulgus saturatus*) (RE) - H (Nice scope studies.)

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) - FH, LV

Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*) - FH, LV

Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) - FH, CS

Scaly-breasted Hummingbird (*Phaeochroa cuvierii*) - DL, FH (Multiple birds on song-perches.)

Violet Sabrewing (*Campylopterus hemileucurus*) - H, FH (Perhaps the most dazzling hummer of the whole lot – the numbers at Cielito Sur were especially impressive.)

White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) - BF

Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*) - H

Garden Emerald (*Chlorostilbon assimilis*) - DL

Violet-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania colombica*) - MM, BF

Fiery-throated Hummingbird (*Panterpe insignis*) (RE) - H (Point-blank views of this impressive hummer at the upper cabin feeders.)

Sapphire-throated Hummingbird (*Lepidopygia coeruleogularis*) - DL (Nearly a regional endemic. This species is found only from Panama to Colombia, with a single record from Costa Rica.)

Charming Hummingbird (*Amazilia decora*) (RE) - MM (Nice studies of a singing male. Also known as “Beryl-crowned Hummingbird”.)

Snowy-bellied Hummingbird (*Amazilia Edward niveoventer*) (RE) - H (This subspecies has a greener, less coppery back, and a blue-black tail; fairly different in appearance from birds in the Canal Zone. The species is found only from sw. Costa Rica to e. Panama.)

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) - DL, FH, BF, H, LV

Stripe-tailed Hummingbird (*Eupherusa eximia*) - H

White-throated Mountain-Gem (*Lampornis castaneiventris*) (RE) - H {The taxonomy of the *castaneiventris* group is complex. Males of this, the nominate form, are white-throated and blue-tailed, and are found only in Panama. They are replaced to the north/west by *cinereicauda* of the Talamanca Range in Costa Rica; males of which are white-throated and gray-tailed. These, in turn, are replaced in the mountains of central/northern Costa Rica by *calolaema*, males of which are purple-throated and blue-tailed. Females of the three forms are essentially indistinguishable. The three groups are semiisolated, and hybridize to a limited extent in the contact zones. Some authorities treat them as different subspecies of a single species (“Variable Mountain-Gem”, L.

castaneoventris), whereas others treat them as three separate allospecies (the treatment followed here.) }

Green-crowned Brilliant (*Heliodoxa jacula*) - H

Magnificent Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*) - H {The subspecies here is *spectabilis*, which is restricted to the highlands of Costa Rica & w. Panama. It differs from nominate *fulgens* (which occurs from Nicaragua north to the sw. United States) in that the males are bronzy-green (rather than blackish) above. }

Long-billed Starthroat (*Heliomaster longirostris*) - FH (One probing spiderwebs around the telephone pole at the FH clearing.)

Volcano Hummingbird (*Selasphorus flammula*) (RE) - H (Nice studies of perched males.)

Scintillant Hummingbird (*Selasphorus scintilla*) (RE) - H (A pair visiting the Los Quetzales feeders.)

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*) - LV

Orange-bellied Trogon (*Trogon aurantiiventris*) (RE) - H

Resplendent Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) - H (We scored nice looks at a female our first morning, and then followed that up with at least 3 males and a couple of females at the fruiting tree on the Respingo road. The scope-filling views of the males were spectacular, as was the noisy display flight executed by one male on our last morning. Easily one of the most beautiful birds of the Neotropics.)

Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) - FH, BF

Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*) - DL

Red-headed Barbet (*Eubucco bourcierii*) - LV (Another dazzler.)

Prong-billed Barbet (*Semnornis frantzii*) (RE) - H

Emerald Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus caeruleogularis*) - FH {This wide-ranging species has been split by some taxonomists into as many as 7 species. Under this treatment, the Central American forms sort out as follows: Wagler's Toucanet (highlands of sw. Mexico), Emerald Toucanet (e. Mexico to El Salvador), Blue-throated Toucanet (Costa Rica & w. Panama), and Violet-throated Toucanet (e. Panama to Colombia). The birds we saw were "Blue-throated Toucanets". The AOU check-list committees remain unconvinced, and are still recognizing a single, polytypic species for the time being, but this is likely to change. }

Fiery-billed Aracari (*Pteroglossis frantzii*) (RE) - FH (Nice views of this range-restricted species.)

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsoni*) - FH

Olivaceous Piculet (*Picumnus olivaceus*) - FH, BF (A nice family group at FH.)

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) - FH, H

Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*) - DL, FH, BF, LV, Cerro Punta to David

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus extimus/sanctorum*) - H, FH (This subspecies is very different from our North American birds {which, are themselves geographically variable}, having brown underparts, with almost no white spotting above. They are also smaller, and have a distinctly different voice than our Hairies.)

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Piculus rubiginosus*) - FH

Pale-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albescens*)* - BF*

Slaty Spinetail (*Synallaxis brachyura*) - BF

Red-faced Spinetail (*Cranioleuca erythroptera*) - LV
Spotted Barbtail (*Premnoplex brunnescens*) - H
Ruddy Treerunner (*Margarornis rubiginosus*) (RE) - H
Buffy Tuftedcheek (*Pseudocolaptes lawrencii*) (RE) - H (Repeated nice studies of this handsome bird.)
Lineated Foliage-gleaner (*Syndactyla subalaris*) - H
Ruddy Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus rubiginosus*) - BF (Glimpsed by a few people. This one was a real devil.)
Streak-breasted Treehunter (*Thripadectes rufobrunneus*) (RE)* - H*
Spotted Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*)* - H*
Streak-headed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*) - FH, BF, LV
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes affinis*) - H
Slaty Antwren (*Myrmotherula schisticolor*) - LV (Fabulous looks at a male flaring its white shoulders!}
Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*) - BF (We almost lost David on this bird! Sally made a nice single-leg grab!)
Silvery-fronted Tapaculo (*Scytalopus argentifrons*) (RE) - H (Fleeting glimpses were the best we could do this year.)
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*) - BF
Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*) - DL
Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*) - DL, BF
Lesser Elaenia (*Elaenia chiriquensis*)* - BF*
Mountain Elaenia (*Elaenia frantzii*)* - H
Torrent Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga cinerea*) - H (Nice studies of a pair at the Bambito.)
Olive-striped Flycatcher (*Mionectes olivaceus*) - MM (perhaps leader only)
Slaty-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon superciliaris*) - LV
Northern Scrub-Flycatcher (*Sublegatus arenarum*) - DL (This one got missed when we did the bird list the first night. We had one briefly at the David airport, at the same time when those male Garden Emeralds were squaring off along the fenceline.)
Zeledon's Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias zeledoni*) (RE) - H {Here recognized as a distinct species from "White-fronted Tyrannulet" (*P. leucogonys*) of the Andes, and Rough-legged Tyrannulet (*P. burmeisteri*) of se. South America. Our treatment follows that of Stiles & Skutch (*Birds of Costa Rica*), Ridgely & Tudor (*Birds of South America*), Ridgely & Greenfield (*Birds of Ecuador*) and others, and is predicated upon vocal, morphological, and ecological differences between the three taxa. Lacking a published, quantified analysis of these differences, other authorities have chosen to treat all three forms as conspecific (= Rough-legged Tyrannulet) for the time being. The form that we saw nicely is endemic to Costa Rica and w. Panama, and is very different from the true Rough-legged Tyrannulet of se. South America.}
Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*) - DL, MM, H, FH, BF, LV
Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*)* - FH*
Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*) - DL, BF
Eye-ringed Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*) - LV
White-throated Spadebill (*Platyrinchus mystaceus*) - LV
Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher (*Myiobius sulphureipygius*) - BF
Tufted Flycatcher (*Mitrephanes phaeocercus*) - H

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) - FH
Dark Pewee (*Contopus lugubris*) (RE)* - H*
Ochraceous Pewee (*Contopus ochraceus*) (RE) - H (The tour highlight for your leaders! This enigmatic species is found only in the highlands of Costa Rica and w. Panama, and is nowhere common. We enjoyed the best views that I have ever had of this bird, as it foraged just above our heads on the forest trail. It is often seen only in the canopy or subcanopy. We had prolonged studies.)
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) - MM, FH
Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) - H, BF
Yellowish Flycatcher (*Empidonax flavescens*)* - H*
Black-capped Flycatcher (*Empidonax atriceps*) (RE) - H
Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) - H, LV
Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) - FH, BF
Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) - DL, FH, BF
Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*) - MM, FH, BF*
Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*) - DL, MM, FH
Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes granadensis*) - MM, FH
Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) - daily
Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savanna*) - DL, BF
Barred Becard (*Pachyramphus versicolor*)* - H* (This one called all around us early the first morning, but never showed itself.)
Rose-throated Becard (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*) - MM, LV
Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) - FH, BF
Turquoise Cotinga (*Cotinga ridgwayi*) (RE) - FH (A dazzling male, seen early morning and again at the end of the day.)
Orange-collared Manakin (*Manacus aurantiacus*) (RE)* - BF*
White-ruffed Manakin (*Corapipo altera*) - FH
Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) - FH, BF
Yellow-winged Vireo (*Vireo carmioli*) (RE) - H (Repeated nice views.)
Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*) - H, LV
Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) - FH, BF, LV
Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*) - FH, BF, LV
Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*) - H*, LV
Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*)* - LV*
Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) - DL
Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) - DL
Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*) - H, FH
Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) - LV
Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) - MM, LV
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) - DL
Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) - MM, FH, BF, LV*
Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) - DL, FH*, BF*
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) - daily
Ochraceous Wren (*Troglodytes ochraceus*) (RE) - H (Nice studies.)
White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)* - FH*
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucophrys*) - H

Black-faced Solitaire (*Myadestes melanops*) (RE) - FH, H
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush (*Catharus gracilirostris*) (RE) - H
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush (*Catharus aurantiirostris*) - FH, BF*
Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush (*Catharus frantzii*) - H
Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) - FH
Mountain Robin (*Turdus plebejus*) - H, FH
Clay-colored Robin (*Turdus grayi*) - daily
White-throated Robin (*Turdus assimilis*) - FH, H
Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher (*Phainoptila melanoxantha*) (RE) - H
Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher (*Ptilogonys caudatus*) (RE) - H
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) - FH (A stunning male at FH – always a treat.)
Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*) - daily, with high of 20+ at FH
Flame-throated Warbler (*Parula gutturalis*) (RE) - H (Always a crowd-pleaser!)
Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*) - MM, FH
Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) - MM, FH, BF, LV
Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia aestiva*) - DL, FH
Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) - MM, FH (30+), BF, LV
Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) - LV
Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) - H
American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) - MM, FH
Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) - MM, H, FH, BF, LV
Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) - BF
Masked Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis aequinoctialis*) - LV {The form found here, *chiriquensis*, has been considered a separate species by some authors (= Chiriqui Yellowthroat).}
Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) - H, FH, BF, LV
Slate-throated Redstart (*Myioborus miniatus*) - H, FH
Collared Redstart (*Myioborus torquatus*) (RE) - H (This attractive bird has way too much personality!)
Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*) - FH, LV
Rufous-capped Warbler (*Basileuterus rufifrons*) - MM
Black-cheeked Warbler (*Basileuterus melanogenys*) (RE) - H (Lots of good looks at these.)
Buff-rumped Warbler (*Phaeothlypis fulvicauda*) - FH, BF*
Wrenthrush (*Zeledonia coronata*) (RE) - H (Another highlight! After striking out with the first few birds that we heard, we finally hit a responsive individual, that gave us a couple of very close passes. These are just super cool birds – one of my favorite endemics of the Costa Rican-Panamanian highlands. Also known simply as “Zeledonia”.)
Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) - MM, FH, BF, LV
Common Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus ophthalmicus*) - H (Cielito Sur only)
Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus pileatus*) (RE) - H
Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) - BF
Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) - MM, FH, BF
Flame-colored Tanager (*Piranga bidentata*) - H

White-winged Tanager (*Piranga leucoptera*) - FH
Cherrie's Tanager (*Ramphocelus costaricensis*) - MM, FH, BF
Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) - daily
Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) - DL, MM, FH, BF
Silver-throated Tanager (*Tangara icterocephala*) - H, FH, BF
Speckled Tanager (*Tangara guttata*) - FH (10+)
Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) - FH (10+), BF (Some spectacular views of these.)
Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) - MM, FH, BF
Spangle-cheeked Tanager (*Tangara dowii*) (RE) - H
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*) - BF
Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) - BF
Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) - BF
Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) - BF (1 female)
Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) - MM, BF
Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*) - FH, BF
Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila americana*) - FH, BF
Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*) - MM, FH, BF
Slaty Finch (*Haplospiza rustica*)* - H*
Slaty Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa plumbea*) (RE) - H
Yellow-thighed Finch (*Pselliophorus tibialis*) (RE) - H (These comical birds put on a real show at the upper cabin feeders.)
Large-footed Finch (*Pezopetes capitalis*) (RE) - H (aka. "Sasquatch Finch")
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch (*Buarremon brunneinucha*) - H
Black-striped Sparrow (*Arremonops conirostris*) - DL*, BF
Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*) - H, FH, BF, LV
Streaked Saltator (*Saltator striatipectus*)* - BF*
Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*) - FH, BF, LV
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) - MM, H (Cielito Sur), FH
Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanooides*)* - BF*
Red-breasted Blackbird (*Sturnella militaris*) - DL
Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) - DL, LV
Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) - DL, FH, BF, LV
Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) - DL
Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) - FH (40+), BF, LV
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) - BF
Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia luteicapilla*) - DL*, BF
Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*) - FH
Elegant Euphonia (*Euphonia elegantissima*)* - LV*
Spot-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia imitans*) (RE)* - BF*
Golden-browed Chlorophonia (*Chlorophonia callophrys*) (RE) - MM, H (Sally's bird! Despite a brief encounter with a female at MM on the first day, it was looking grim for finding a male. They had been totally silent, and essentially MIA. And then we heard that single froggy note from the fruiting tree right above the trail...Dazzling!)
Yellow-bellied Siskin (*Carduelis xanthogastra*) - MM, FH, BF, H
Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*) - MM, FH, BF, H

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - DL

Total = 238 species, including 38 regional endemics!