



*Field Guides Tour Report*

## GUATEMALA: SHADE-GROWN BIRDING

Feb 22, 2012 to Mar 3, 2012  
Jesse Fagan



*The impressive cone of Volcan San Pedro dominates the skyline above Lake Atitlan. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

Another great trip to Guatemala. We had the best of the birds, wonderful weather, and a group that was laughing and enjoying themselves nearly from the time they stepped off the plane. One of the more enjoyable aspects of this tour is spending time in local "fincas" or plantations where you are treated as part of the family. All similar, but each with its own unique charm. Thanks to Jamie (Los Andes), Mario (Las Nubes), and Andy (Tarrales) for their warm hospitality.

Birding was equally enjoyable. Highlights included scoped Azure-rumped Tanagers (a rare and local NCA endemic), a fly-over Highland Guan at Los Andes, a Fulvous Owl night to remember (!) at Las Nubes, and several Belted Flycatchers above the "World's Most Beautiful Lake," Lake Atitlan. Honorable mentions included Blue-throated Motmot, Rufous-collared Thrush, Hooded Grosbeak, Resplendent Quetzal (male in flight was pretty cool), Buffy-crowned Wood-Partridge, Rufous-breasted Spinetail, and Long-tailed Manakin. It was also hard to beat sunrise on Volcan San Pedro (a view had from Finca Las Nubes) and crossing Lake Atitlan by boat. The patio at Las Nubes along with evening wine and beers, and that coffee cupping session, round out the list of great experiences for us.

Thanks to my fun group. I hope to see you all again real soon. Lastly, let's not forget our experienced driver, Mateo, and Bitty Ramirez-Portillo for all her hard work.

Un abrazo.

--Jesse Fagan aka Mot

For more information about this tour, including future departures, visit our website at [www.fieldguides.com](http://www.fieldguides.com). And to see this

## KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: \* = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

## BIRDS

### *Cracidae (Guans, Chachalacas, and Curassows)*

**WHITE-BELLIED CHACHALACA** (*Ortalis leucogastra*) – A few around Las Nubes, but nice scope looks at Finca Patrocinio. Endemic to Pacific Slope.

**CRESTED GUAN** (*Penelope purpurascens*) – Our best looks at Finca Los Tarrales in the scope.

**HIGHLAND GUAN** (*Penelopina nigra*) – A wonderful experience along the trail at Finca Los Andes. [E]

### *Odontophoridae (New World Quail)*

**BUFFY-CROWNED WOOD-PARTRIDGE** (*Dendrortyx leucophrys*) – For those that did Cayala, we had one running down the trail. Numerous small coveys heard as well. Heard again at Finca Las Nubes. This is one species that has adapted well to coffee.

**SPOTTED WOOD-QUAIL** (*Odontophorus guttatus*) [\*]

### *Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)*

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

### *Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)*

**GREAT BLUE HERON** (*Ardea herodias*) – A bunch on Lake Atitlan. The first time I have seen this species floating in the water like a pelican. There must have been a concentration of fish.

**GREAT EGRET** (*Ardea alba*)

**CATTLE EGRET** (*Bubulcus ibis*)

**GREEN HERON** (*Butorides virescens*) – A couple on the last day along Lake Atitlan.

### *Cathartidae (New World Vultures)*

**BLACK VULTURE** (*Coragyps atratus*)

**TURKEY VULTURE** (*Cathartes aura*)

### *Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)*

**HOOK-BILLED KITE** (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*) – Two soaring birds at Finca Los Tarrales.

**SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (WHITE-BREASTED)** (*Accipiter*

*striatus chionogaster*) – A soaring bird was seen over Finca Las Nubes while we hung around the lookout waiting for raptors to get up.

**COOPER'S HAWK** (*Accipiter cooperii*) – A couple at Finca Las Nubes and again at Los Tarrales.

**GREAT BLACK-HAWK** (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) – A nice adult was soaring over Finca Patrocinio. This bird is fairly regular at this site.

**ROADSIDE HAWK** (*Buteo magnirostris*)

**BROAD-WINGED HAWK** (*Buteo platypterus*)

**GRAY HAWK** (*Buteo nitidus*) – One of the more common raptors on the Pacific Slope. We saw it several times.

**SHORT-TAILED HAWK** (*Buteo brachyurus*) – Seen over several days, a nice mix of both light and dark morphs.

**ZONE-TAILED HAWK** (*Buteo albonotatus*) – One at Finca Las Nubes flew over close while we birded near the cabins. They sure do look like Turkey Vultures.



*This splendid Black-and-white Owl was a super find on a day roost at Los Tarrales. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

**RED-TAILED HAWK** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) – Both light and dark morphs seen. We had a lovely dark morph while birding way up above Laguna Lodge.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

**BARRED FOREST-FALCON** (*Micrastur ruficollis*) – We had one in the forest at Finca Los Andes.

**COLLARED FOREST-FALCON** (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) [\*]

**CRESTED CARACARA** (*Caracara cheriway*)

**LAUGHING FALCON** (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) [\*]

**AMERICAN KESTREL** (*Falco sparverius*)

**BAT FALCON** (*Falco ruficularis*) – One perched in the open at Finca Los Andes.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

**AMERICAN COOT** (*Fulica americana*) – Numerous on Lake Atitlan.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

**LAUGHING GULL** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) – Just one on Lake Atitlan.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

**ROCK PIGEON** (*Columba livia*) [I]

**RED-BILLED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas flavirostris*) – Seen or heard at just about every site on the tour.

**BAND-TAILED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas fasciata*) – This highland pigeon was at Finca El Pilar and again at Fuentes Georginas.

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*)

**INCA DOVE** (*Columbina inca*)

**WHITE-TIPPED DOVE** (*Leptotila verreauxi*)

**WHITE-FACED QUAIL-DOVE** (*Geotrygon albifacies*) [E\*]

Psittacidae (Parrots)

**PACIFIC PARAKEET** (*Aratinga strenua*) – Lots around Finca Las Nubes, but first seen at Finca El Pilar in the morning sunlight. [E]

**ORANGE-FRONTED PARAKEET** (*Aratinga canicularis*) – At Finca Los Tarrales.

**BARRED PARAKEET** (*Bolborhynchus lineola*) – A brief flyover of two calling birds at Finca Las Nubes.

**ORANGE-CHINNED PARAKEET** (*Brotogeris jugularis*) – We had them perched at the top of tree while at Tarrales.

**WHITE-FRONTED PARROT** (*Amazona albifrons*) – We tallied 15 or so individuals at Finca Patrocinio.

**YELLOW-NAPED PARROT** (*Amazona auropalliata*) – A pair were scoped at Finca Patrocinio. This species is not doing so well do to pressure from the illegal pet trade.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

**SQUIRREL CUCKOO (MIDDLE AMERICA)** (*Piaya cayana thermophila*)

**GROOVE-BILLED ANI** (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) [\*]

Strigidae (Owls)

**GREAT HORNED OWL** (*Bubo virginianus*) – Possibly leader only. Heard in the evening at Finca Los Tarrales. [\*]

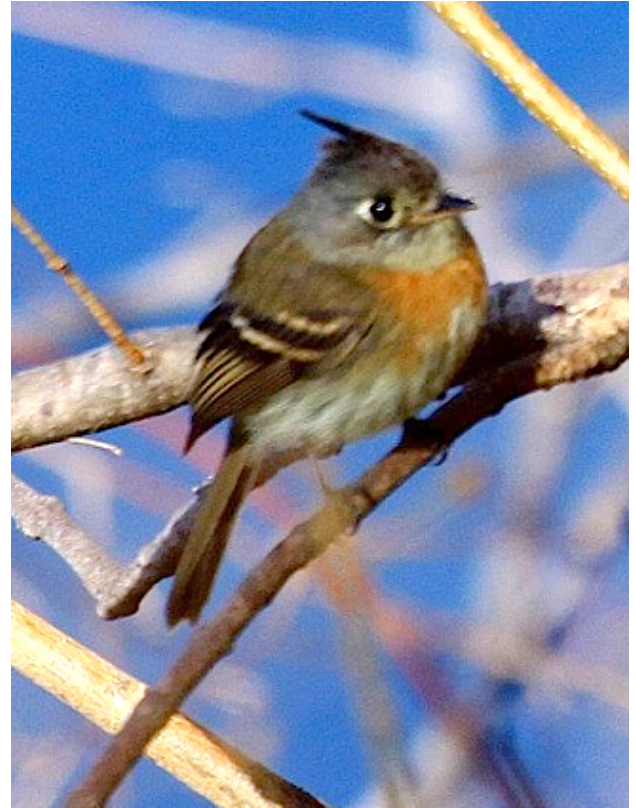
**FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL** (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) – A pair at Cayala were seen well.

**MOTTLED OWL** (*Ciccaba virgata*) [\*]

**BLACK-AND-WHITE OWL** (*Ciccaba nigrolineata*) – Really nice to find this one on a day roost at Finca Los Tarrales. A nice adult. Such a cool looking bird. Rare on the Pacific Slope.

**FULVOUS OWL** (*Strix fulvescens*) – One of my favorites. Such a great night. Memorable to see this species calling above us in the higher forest above Finca Las Nubes. [E]

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)



*One of several northern Central American endemics to be seen on this tour, the Belted Flycatcher is a rare and highly localised species confined to a very small region of Guatemala, El Salvador, and southern Mexico. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

**LESSER NIGHTHAWK** (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) – A couple of birds at dusk at Tarrales.

**COMMON PAURAUQUE** (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)

**MEXICAN WHIP-POOR-WILL** (*Caprimulgus arizonae arizonae*) – A brief encounter at the Las Nubes' platform.

*Apodidae (Swifts)*

**WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT** (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)

**VAUX'S SWIFT** (*Chaetura vauxi*)

**WHITE-THROATED SWIFT** (*Aeronautes saxatalis*) – This was a surprise at Finca Las Nubes (new for the site). Also again at Lake Atitlan.

*Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)*

**GREEN VIOLETEAR** (*Colibri thalassinus*) – One at Finca El Pilar and again at Fuentes Georginas. Generally speaking, a highland hummingbird.

**MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD** (*Eugenes fulgens*) – Several at Cayala, Finca El Pilar and again at Fuentes Georginas.

**LONG-BILLED STARTRHOAT** (*Heliomaster longirostris*)

– We had a nice male at Finca Patrocinio, but also again at Finca Los Tarrales. Difficult to pin down this species.

**GREEN-THROATED MOUNTAIN-GEM** (*Lampornis viridipallens*) [E\*]

**RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Archilochus colubris*) – One at Finca Los Andes and again at Takalik Abaj. A fairly common wintering hummingbird in NCA.

**EMERALD-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Abeillia abeillei*) – All too briefly at Finca Los Andes along the forest trail. [E]

**RUFOUS SABREWING** (*Campylopterus rufus*) – This endemic was seen well at a couple of different sites. [E]

**VIOLET SABREWING** (*Campylopterus hemileucurus*)

**AZURE-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Amazilia cyanocephala*) – Seen at the feeders at Finca El Pilar.

**BERYLLINE HUMMINGBIRD** (*Amazilia beryllina devillei*) – The subspecies in NCA are emerald green below with white "leggings" which are quite obvious when perched. [E]

**BLUE-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Amazilia cyanura*) – Very similar to the previous species, but has bluish upper and lower tail coverts, as well as a bluish tail. A few at Tarrales may be hybrids, Blue-tailed X Berylline. [E]

**CINNAMON HUMMINGBIRD** (*Amazilia rutila*) – Seen well at Finca Las Nubes.

**WHITE-EARED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Hylocharis leucotis*)

*Trogonidae (Trogons)*

**RESPLENDENT QUETZAL** (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – We had a female in the scope at Los Andes, but even better was a distant male in flight at Las Nubes. Only in flight can you truly appreciate that long "tail."

**GARTERED TROGON** (*Trogon caligatus*)

**MOUNTAIN TROGON** (*Trogon mexicanus*) [\*]

**COLLARED TROGON** (*Trogon collaris*) – At Finca El Pilar where it was fairly common.

*Momotidae (Motmots)*

**TODY MOTMOT** (*Hylomanes momotula*) – Josue was able to help us out on this one. Seen very well in the large bamboo patch at Finca Los Tarrales.

**BLUE-THROATED MOTMOT** (*Aspatha gularis*) – We struggled at Finca El Pilar, eventually getting a not so great scope view. However, we scoped it again nicely below Fuentes Georginas. This time appreciating the blue throat. An endemic to NCA. [E]

**BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT (LESSON'S)** (*Momotus coeruliceps lessonii*)

**TURQUOISE-BROWED MOTMOT** (*Eumomota superciliosa*) – The "Mot" is my namesake. Indeed, this is a sharp,



*We always make time to take in some of the beautiful architecture of the lovely old city of Antigua. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

flashy bird if I do say so myself! ;-) Scoped and seen well at Takalik Abaj.

*Ramphastidae (Toucans)*

**EMERALD TOUCANET (EMERALD)** (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus stenorhabdus*) – Encountered at several locales, but seen well at Finca El Pilar.

**COLLARED ARACARI** (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) [\*]

*Picidae (Woodpeckers)*

**ACORN WOODPECKER (ACORN)** (*Melanerpes formicivorus lineatus*) – Lots of isolated populations of this species, one that could potentially be split. It was pretty common at a couple of different sites on our tour.

**GOLDEN-FRONTED WOODPECKER (EAST MEXICO)** (*Melanerpes aurifrons santacruzi*) – One of the more common woodpeckers seen on this tour. Likes a lot of disturbed habitats.

**HAIRY WOODPECKER (SOUTH MEXICAN)** (*Picoides villosus sanctorum*) – This one looks really different from northern populations. It is smaller with dirty brown underparts and a less white spotting on the wings. We had good studies at Finca El Pilar.

**GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER** (*Colaptes rubiginosus*)

**NORTHERN FLICKER (GUATEMALAN)** (*Colaptes auratus mexicanoides*) – This endemic subspecies is really different looking. Possible split in the future. It is fairly common at higher elevations. We saw it well at Finca El Pilar.

[E]

**LINEATED WOODPECKER** (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

**PALE-BILLED WOODPECKER** (*Campephilus guatemalensis*) – We saw this large woodpecker at Finca Patrocinio in the taller forest.

*Furnariidae (Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers)*

**TAWNY-THROATED LEAFTOSSER** (*Sclerurus mexicanus*) – Not great, but glimpsed by a few at Finca Las Nubes.

**RUFOUS-BREASTED SPINETAIL** (*Synallaxis erythrothorax*) – A good bird that we saw very well at Finca Los Tarrales.

**SCALY-THROATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Anabacerthia variegaticeps*)

**RUDDY FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Automolus rubiginosus*) – Heard at Finca Las Nubes (very frustrating), but we caught up with it at Finca Los Tarrales at a lower elevation than they normally occur.

**IVORY-BILLED WOODCREEPER** (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*) – A responsive bird came close to the group on our afternoon at Finca Los Tarrales.

**SPOTTED WOODCREEPER** (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*)

**SPOT-CROWNED WOODCREEPER** (*Lepidocolaptes affinis*) – A few at Finca El Pilar.

*Thamnophilidae (Typical Antbirds)*

**BARRED ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) – Heard mainly, but seen well on our first morning at Cayala.

*Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)*

**NORTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANULET** (*Camptostoma imberbe*) [\*]

**GREENISH ELAENIA** (*Myiopagis viridicata*)

**YELLOW-BELLIED ELAENIA** (*Elaenia flavogaster*)

**OCHRE-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Mionectes oleagineus*) – One briefly at Finca Patrocinio.

**PALTRY TYRANULET** (*Zimmerius vilissimus*) – Not a great

name, we preferred "Mistletoe" Tyrannulet. This bird is common on our tour. Seen well at Finca Las Nubes.

**NORTHERN BENTBILL** (*Oncostoma cinereigulare*)



*Masked Tityras are widespread through the American tropics, and a common sight, given their brilliant white plumage and tendency to sit on high exposed perches. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

**COMMON TODY-FLYCATCHER** (*Todirostrum cinereum*)

**EYE-RINGED FLATBILL** (*Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*) – Caught up with this species at Finca Las Nubes doing circles around us.

**YELLOW-OLIVE FLYCATCHER** (*Tolmomyias sulphureus*) – One was seen very nicely from the tower at Finca Patrocinio.

**BELTED FLYCATCHER** (*Xenotriccus callizonus*) – A highlight of the trip. We had at least 5 individuals recorded, but saw one very well. A local and rare NCA endemic. [E]

**TUFTED FLYCATCHER** (*Mitrephanes phaeocercus*)

**GREATER PEWEE** (*Contopus pertinax*)

**TROPICAL PEWEE** (*Contopus cinereus*)

**YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) – A few around Takalik Abaj were studied well. A common wintering empid to NCA.

**LEAST FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax minimus*)

**HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax hammondi*) –

This highland Empid was recorded a few times beginning at Finca El Pilar, but again at Fuentes Georginas and Las Nubes.

**YELLOWISH FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax flavescens*) –

We struggled to draw one out, but eventually had nice looks at one while birding the pine-oak at Finca El Pilar.

**BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax fulvifrons*)

**BLACK PHOEBE** (*Sayornis nigricans*) – The subspecies here in Central America are nearly all black below.

**BRIGHT-RUMPED ATTLA** (*Attila spadiceus*) [\*]

**DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)

**BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

**GREAT KISKADEE** (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

**BOAT-BILLED FLYCATCHER** (*Megarynchus pitangua*)

**SOCIAL FLYCATCHER** (*Myiozetetes similis*)

**SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*) – This was as surprise as it is really early for this austral migrant. They don't normally start arriving until mid to late March. Seen at Finca Patrocinio from the tower.

**TROPICAL KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

**WESTERN KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) – Large concentrations in the coffee fields at Las Nubes.

#### Pipridae (Manakins)

**LONG-TAILED MANAKIN** (*Chiroxiphia linearis*) – Heard only at Patrocinio, but a few adult males were seen at Finca Los Tarrales where it is pretty common.

#### Tityridae (Tityras and Allies)

**MASKED TITYRA** (*Tityra semifasciata*)

**ROSE-THROATED BECARD** (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*)

#### Vireonidae (Vireos)

**YELLOW-THROATED VIREO** (*Vireo flavifrons*) – Best from the tower at Finca Patrocinio.

**PLUMBEOUS VIREO (CENTRAL AMERICAN)** (*Vireo plumbeus montanus*) – This was a great sighting. Possible split in the future. A pair were seen while descending the steep trail above Laguna Lodge.

**BLUE-HEADED VIREO** (*Vireo solitarius*)

**HUTTON'S VIREO** (*Vireo huttoni*) – Heard mostly, but seen at Finca El Pilar.

**WARBLING VIREO** (*Vireo gilvus*)

**BROWN-CAPPED VIREO** (*Vireo leucophrys*) – Nice looks directly above our heads while in the pine-oak forest at Pilar.



*The northern population of Prevost's Ground-Sparrow may be specifically distinct from the isolated population in Costa Rica. Besides plumage and vocal differences, the birds here also seem easier to see! (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)*

**LESSER GREENLET** (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)

**CHESTNUT-SIDED SHRIKE-VIREO** (*Vireolanius melitophrys*) – Frustrating this is a heard only. We had it by voice at Pilar, Las Nubes, and Atitlan. We just couldn't get one in close. [\*]

**RUFOUS-BROWED PEPPERSHRIKE** (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*)

*Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)*

**WHITE-THROATED MAGPIE-JAY** (*Calocitta formosa*) – Loads around Las Nubes and Patrocinio. Endemic to the Pacific Slope.

**BUSHY-CRESTED JAY** (*Cyanocorax melanocyaneus*) – A common NCA endemic. They also do well in the coffee fields. Seen or heard most days. [E]

**STELLER'S JAY (CENTRAL AMERICAN)** (*Cyanocitta stelleri ridgwayi*) – Just one above Atitlan at Finca El Pilar. [E]

**UNICOLORED JAY** (*Aphelocoma unicolor*) – One of the highlights of Fuentes was finding a pair of this raucous species. This species is rare to uncommon and local in the region.

*Hirundinidae (Swallows)*

**BLACK-CAPPED SWALLOW** (*Atticora pileata*) – This NCA endemic seemed to be around in good numbers. Seen at several different sites. [E]

**NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)

**GRAY-BREASTED MARTIN** (*Progne chalybea*)

**VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW** (*Tachycineta thalassina*)

**BARN SWALLOW (AMERICAN)** (*Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*)

*Aegithalidae (Long-tailed Tits)*

**BUSHTIT** (*Psaltriparus minimus*)

*Troglodytidae (Wrens)*

**BAND-BACKED WREN** (*Campylorhynchus zonatus*)

**RUFOUS-NAPED WREN** (*Campylorhynchus rufinucha*) – One of my favorites. "Reggaenucha." We had fine studies of a pair at Finca Patrocinio.

**SPOT-BREASTED WREN** (*Pheugopedius maculipectus*) – Good to get this one so nicely while birding near the cabins at Finca Las Nubes. The spots were really obvious!

**RUFOUS-AND-WHITE WREN** (*Thryophilus rufalbus*) [\*]

**PLAIN WREN** (*Cantorchilus modestus*) – Finally! It took us several tries to see it well. This is not a guide's favorite.

**HOUSE WREN (SOUTHERN)** (*Troglodytes aedon musculus*)

**RUFOUS-BROWED WREN** (*Troglodytes rufociliatus*) – Wrens are always troublesome. We worked hard at Finca El Pilar for this one, but eventually everyone got caught up with this small Winter Wren-like bird. Encountered at various sites. [E]

**WHITE-BREASTED WOOD-WREN** (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) [\*]

**GRAY-BREASTED WOOD-WREN** (*Henicorhina leucophrys*)

*Poliptilidae (Gnatcatchers)*

**LONG-BILLED GNATWREN** (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) – Heard a few times, but seen eventually at Finca Los Tarrales.

**BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER** (*Poliptila caerulea*)

*Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)*

**EASTERN BLUEBIRD** (*Sialia sialis*) – Hard to believe there are "Eastern" Bluebirds in Guatemala. Seen at Finca El Pilar.

**BROWN-BACKED SOLITAIRE** (*Myadestes occidentalis*) – One of the richest of the tropical songs. We heard this species in many places.

**ORANGE-BILLED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH** (*Catharus aurantiirostris*) – Mainly heard, but one responsive individual popped up for us long enough to see the orange feet and bill!

**RUDDY-CAPPED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH** (*Catharus frantzii*)

**SPOTTED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH** (*Catharus dryas*) [\*]

**SWAINSON'S THRUSH** (*Catharus ustulatus*) – A common winter visitor and migrant through the region. We saw quite a few during the trip.

**BLACK THRUSH** (*Turdus infuscatus*) – Singing in the higher forest patches at Finca Las Nubes, but also glimpsed flying around the fruiting trees.

**CLAY-COLORED THRUSH** (*Turdus grayi*)

**WHITE-THROATED THRUSH** (*Turdus assimilis*) – At several places, mainly heard calling, but seen at Las Nubes and Patrocinio.

**RUFOUS-COLLARED ROBIN** (*Turdus rufitorques*) – This endemic was seen perched on the cypress trees at Finca El Pilar. [E]

*Mimidae (Mockingbirds and Thrashers)*

**TROPICAL MOCKINGBIRD** (*Mimus gilvus*)

**BLUE-AND-WHITE MOCKINGBIRD** (*Melanotis hypoleucus*) – One of my favorites seen at a few different spots. Best at Cayala and Finca El Pilar. [E]

*Ptilogonatidae (Silky-flycatchers)*

**GRAY SILKY-FLYCATCHER** (*Ptilogonys cinereus*)

*Peucedramidae (Olive Warbler)*

**OLIVE WARBLER** (*Peucedramus taeniatus*) [\*]

*Parulidae (New World Warblers)*

**WORM-EATING WARBLER** (*Helmitheros vermivorum*) – Great looks at bird coming into the pygmy-owl tape at Takalik Abaj. Another was seen at Patrocinio.

**NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*)

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER** (*Mniotilta varia*)

**CRESCENT-CHESTED WARBLER** (*Oreothlypis superciliosa*) – Note the genus change (used to be in *Parula*). This species was seen at Finca El Pilar.

**TENNESSEE WARBLER** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) – A common wintering warbler in NCA. Seen most days of the tour.

**NASHVILLE WARBLER (WESTERN)** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla ridgwayi*)

**MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER** (*Geothlypis tolmiei*) – Fairly common at the higher elevations.

**MAGNOLIA WARBLER** (*Setophaga magnolia*)

**YELLOW WARBLER** (*Setophaga petechia*)

**TOWNSEND'S WARBLER** (*Setophaga townsendi*) – This is one of the more common wintering warblers on this tour.

**HERMIT WARBLER** (*Setophaga occidentalis*) – Uncommon and often missed on this tour. We had one nice male at Finca El Pilar.

**BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** (*Setophaga virens*)

**RUFOUS-CAPPED WARBLER (SOUTH MEXICO)** (*Basileuterus rufifrons salvini*) – There is an interesting split along the Motagua River Valley between northern (*salvini*) and southern (*delatirii*). We saw both distinctive subspecies on this tour.

**RUFOUS-CAPPED WARBLER (CHESTNUT-CAPPED)** (*Basileuterus rufifrons delatirii*)

**GOLDEN-BROWED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus belli*) – A handsome warbler seen at close range while at Finca El Pilar.

**GOLDEN-CROWNED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus culicivorus*)

**WILSON'S WARBLER** (*Cardellina pusilla*) – Seen every day except one. Very common wintering warbler in NCA. Generally in the highlands.

**PINK-HEADED WARBLER** (*Cardellina versicolor*) – Such a splendid bird. We had a pair that cooperated very nicely for us. Endemic to S Mexico (Chiapas) and Guatemala. [E]

**PAINTED REDSTART** (*Myioborus pictus*) – A pair above Laguna Lodge was nice.

**SLATE-THROATED REDSTART** (*Myioborus miniatus*)

*Thraupidae (Tanagers and Allies)*

**BLUE-GRAY TANAGER** (*Thraupis episcopus*)

**YELLOW-WINGED TANAGER** (*Thraupis abbas*)

**AZURE-RUMPED TANAGER** (*Tangara cabanisi*) – We struggled this day with just about everything it seemed, except this important target bird. We found several in a fruiting tree way up the hill, but the scope views were very nice. [E]

**RED-LEGGED HONEYCREEPER** (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) – An easy one to see around the cabins at Finca Las Nubes.



**GRAYISH SALTATOR** (*Saltator coerulescens*)

**BLACK-HEADED SALTATOR** (*Saltator atriceps*)

*Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)*

**WHITE-COLLARED SEEDEATER** (*Sporophila torqueola*)

**CINNAMON-BELLIED FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa baritula baritula*) – A single male seen well at Fuentes Georginas.

**CHESTNUT-CAPPED BRUSH-FINCH** (*Arremon brunneinucha*) – On our hike down from the higher forest at Las Nubes we had on along the trail. That white throat really stands out!

**WHITE-NAPED BRUSH-FINCH (YELLOW-THROATED)** (*Atlapetes albinucha gutturalis*) – A few different spots, but best at Cayala on our first morning.

**RUSTY SPARROW** (*Aimophila rufescens*) – Heard at Finca El Pilar, but we found a few more above Lake Atitlan. Hans was sure happy about this one! ;-)

**WHITE-EARED GROUND-SPARROW** (*Melospiza leucotis*) – I love this genus. Really sharp looking birds. We had this species at Finca Los Andes and heard at a few other spots.

**PREVOST'S GROUND-SPARROW (PREVOST'S)** (*Melospiza biarcuata biarcuata*) – At Cayala along the trail was pretty cool. [E]

**RUFOUS-COLLARED SPARROW** (*Zonotrichia capensis*)

**COMMON BUSH-TANAGER (MIDDLE AMERICA)** (*Chlorospingus ophthalmicus postocularis*)

*Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)*

**SUMMER TANAGER** (*Piranga rubra*)

**WESTERN TANAGER** (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

**FLAME-COLORED TANAGER** (*Piranga bidentata*) – A pair were seen at Finca El Pilar. This subspecies is a stronger orange than northern populations. "Guatemalan" Orange to be exact.

**WHITE-WINGED TANAGER** (*Piranga leucoptera*) – Males of this species are striking. We had a few around the cabins at Finca Las Nubes.

**RED-THROATED ANT-TANAGER** (*Habia fuscicauda*)

**ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) – Lots in the trees during our picnic breakfast at Finca El Pilar. Its a common wintering species in this region.

**INDIGO BUNTING** (*Passerina cyanea*)

**PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*)

*Icteridae (Troupials and Allies)*

**MELODIOUS BLACKBIRD** (*Dives dives*)

**GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) – Every day of the tour!

**BLACK-VENTED ORIOLE** (*Icterus wagleri*) – A highland oriole seen at Finca El Pilar and again around Lake Atitlan. It has a real distinctive call.

**BAR-WINGED ORIOLE** (*Icterus maculialatus*) – This local NCA endemic was feeding on Erythrina flowers at Finca El Pilar. It is fairly regular at this spot. [E]

**ORCHARD ORIOLE** (*Icterus spurius*)

**SPOT-BREADED ORIOLE** (*Icterus pectoralis*) – The spots can be hard to see on this one. We had a nice comparison with the following species along the entrance road to Las Nubes. Spot-breasted has an obvious white "triangle" in the wing.

**ALTAMIRA ORIOLE** (*Icterus gularis*)

**BALTIMORE ORIOLE** (*Icterus galbula*)

**YELLOW-BILLED CACIQUE** (*Amblycercus holosericeus*)

*Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)*

**SCRUB EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia affinis*) – Seen at Finca Los Tarrales. The one with the dark blue throat.

**YELLOW-THROATED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia hirundinacea*) – A bit more common on the Pacific Slope than the previous species. This is the one with the yellow throat, obviously.

**ELEGANT EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia elegantissima*) – Tough looks at El Pilar, but we did better at Finca Las Nubes in a mistletoe clump.

**BLUE-CROWNED CHLOROPHONIA** (*Chlorophonia occipitalis*) – A splendid bird. We caught up with a pair on a nest at Las Cruces above Finca Las Nubes.

**BLACK-CAPPED SISKIN** (*Spinus atriceps*) – A tough endemic to get. We had a pair below Fuentes Georginas at a reliable spot I found a few years back. [E]

**BLACK-HEADED SISKIN** (*Spinus notatus*)

**LESSER GOLDFINCH** (*Spinus psaltria*)

**HOODED GROSBK** (*Coccothraustes abeillei*) – One all too briefly at Finca El Pilar.

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## **MAMMALS**

**EASTERN COTTONTAIL** (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)

**VARIEGATED SQUIRREL** (*Sciurus variegatoides*) – The one around Los Tarrales. Generally found at lower elevations.

**DEPPE'S SQUIRREL** (*Sciurus deppei*) – The smaller squirrel found at higher elevations. Seen at El Pilar.

**CENTRAL AMERICAN AGOUTI** (*Dasyprocta punctata*)

**WHITE-NOSED COATI** (*Nasua narica*)

**WHITE-TAILED DEER** (*Odocoileus virginianus*) – Unusual to see White-tailed Deer despite being so common further north. We had two or three at Los Tarrales.

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## **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

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**Totals for the tour: 229 bird taxa and 6 mammal taxa**