



GUATEMALA
MARCH 3RD TO 18TH 2026



Report by Neil Glenn

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Day 1. Tuesday March 3rd: operation 'Avoid The USA'!

To avoid the hellish immigration at airports around the USA, the journey began at Heathrow T5 at 6.00am this morning. The route would take us via Madrid. A three hour transfer time *should* be ample.

And so it proved; a relaxed connection in Madrid saw us boarding our Iberia flight to Guatemala City on time. There was just the matter of the 10 hour flight to contend with.

Everything ran smoothly, and we were met at the airport by our smiling bird guide (Benjamin) and driver (José) on the evening of the 3rd. It was still just about light, so the first bird of the trip was duly noted: Great-tailed Grackle.

José expertly negotiated the awful city traffic and we arrived at our delightful hotel in the heart of the old Capital City of Antigua in time for a good night's sleep.

Day 2. Wednesday March 4th: birds and ruins

Members of the tour group appeared in the hotel's garden quadrangle in dribs and drabs ready for an early pick up. An approachable **Clay-coloured Thrush** was a nice start to the day and one or two Rufous-collared Sparrows flitted in and out of the hanging vegetation.



Benjamin and José arrived to pick us up at 7.00am. We were soon out of the town (and its cobbled streets) and heading uphill along the San Cristobel el Alto road to our first birding stop. We pulled off the road to scan the surrounding trees.

The rough pull-over overlooked a wooded valley with Agua Volcano in the background. It was a lovely, sunny morning. Small flocks of Grey Silky Flycatchers noisily flew overhead, with a few perching in treetops nearby. A vocal Ferruginous Pygmy Owl gave superb views in a tree next to the road.

In fact, there were birds everywhere! One Avocado tree in fruit produced several Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Tennessee Warblers while a closer flowering tree held Orchard, Black-vented, Bar-winged and Baltimore Orioles.

These birds and many more were all seen in a breathless ninety minutes by the road, all to the soundtrack of the **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** “hoo, hoo, hoo”ing away in the background. What a great start to our birding!



We headed downhill for a few minutes and then turned off into a posh-looking place with cultivated trees and lawns called Antigua Magica. Apparently, this was our breakfast stop! We were led across the lawn to a covered gazebo where we ordered a meal. Baltimore Orioles and Melodious Blackbirds looked down on us in this tranquil setting.

After a delicious breakfast, we drove for about half an hour until we arrived at the El Pilar Estate, complete with its hummingbird feeders. The estate is a huge coffee plantation where the owner has diversified into ecotourism. Once through the gate, we drove a little further to park near a water tank (where hundreds of Blomfield's Beauty butterflies were roosting under the roof) and took a short trail through the forest.

The path led to a set of sugar-water feeders hung on a wooden rigging. This was not like other feeders we had visited in other countries: there was no access to the platform where the feeders hung. Visitors viewed from a narrow path surrounded by trees and bushes, which meant that close photos of hummingbirds was difficult. It did mean, however, that the whole set up looked more natural than other hummer feeders we'd seen. The birds would sit in nearby bushes before heading to the feeders, allowing for a more natural feel.

In this way, we were rewarded with good views of Azure-crowned, Berylline, White-eared, and Rivoli's Hummingbirds and Rufous and Violet Sabrewings. In total, we saw seven species of hummingbird here. Also drifting by were several species of butterfly, while Turkey and Black Vultures soared overhead with a tiny Sharp-shinned Hawk for company.

We returned to the hotel in Antigua, where we left most of the birding gear. Benjamin led us to a terraced restaurant, where we had an excellent lunch (it seems Guatemala doesn't

do small portions!) while watching Vaux's Swifts against the backdrop of volcanoes around the city.

After lunch, we took a gentle stroll along the quaint streets of the old capital. Benjamin is also a Cultural Guide, so intimately knows the history of the town and its buildings. Antigua is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, founded early in the 16th Century. It was destroyed by an earthquake in 1773, resulting in the capital being relocated to Guatemala City.

We spent our time around the main plaza area of the town. We explored the ruined cathedral of San José, mainly because a pair of Barn Owls nest in a hole in the ancient wall. Unfortunately, they weren't at home, just a few Feral Pigeons. As we made our way to the 'new' cathedral - San José - a pair of Yellow-winged Tanagers flew over the buildings, along with Northern Rough-winged Swallows.

With the heat rising, it was time for a siesta back at the hotel. Benjamin picked up the group again at 7.00pm for the short walk to a lovely old restaurant, where we had dinner in a courtyard complete with a gentle breeze blowing across the table. Afterwards, it was time for bed in readiness for another early start tomorrow morning.

Day 3: Thursday March 5th: In the pink!

Benjamin and José picked us up at 6.00am, all packed and ready to move on from Antigua. The roads were very winding and busy with heavy lorries, so progress was slow. Despite this, after about an hour, we pulled up at a pleasant looking area in Tecpan complete with a few dining places surrounded by a pine forest. The welcome breakfast in the busy diner was filling. And now for some birding...

Steller's Jays – the distinctive *coronata* subspecies - and Band-backed Wrens were noisily pairing up in trees surrounding the car park. We took a narrow trail leading through unpromising habitat, with thundering lorries passing along the road below. Birding, however, was excellent!

A drop-dead-gorgeous **Crescent-chested Warbler** showed down to a few feet but the singing Brown-backed Solitaires took a bit more of an effort to find. The trail opened out a bit and we were able to obtain good views of a family of Blue-and-white Mockingbirds.



Unexpectedly, we found ourselves in a clearing by an empty horse paddock. This area was alive with birds. A Guatemalan Flicker flew in and perched on a dead tree. Benjamin spotted a Hutton's Vireo in a row of small trees and a Golden-browed Warbler sang in the background.

It was José, our driver, that first spotted one of the main target species of the whole trip: **Pink-headed Warbler**. We raised binoculars in the direction he was pointing, followed by gasps of appreciation as we clapped eyes on our very first pink jewel of the trip.

The Pink-headed Warbler was flitting about in the small trees, seemingly collecting nesting material from the trunks. Everyone had superb views of this stunning bird before it vanished out of sight never to be seen again. Our time with the warbler had been relatively brief but it was a thrilling experience, nonetheless.



We continued along the rough track to see what we could find. More Brown-backed Solitaires and Steller's Jays were seen but the highlight was perhaps the little Mexican Violetear singing from its perch on a twiggy bush. It was still there "chip, chip"ing away forty five minutes later when we walked past again on the way back to the bus! We left the area at 11.30am with a host of new birds for the tour.

The rest of the day was spent driving to the wonderfully named city of Huehuetenango. The roads and traffic were anything but wonderful, however. We had lunch in an aptly-named place called Quiche. After that, a quick roadside stop in dry scrub habitat produced one of the birds of the trip: Lesser Roadrunner.

Benjamin had spotted a brownly shape on rough ground by the road and suggested we park and scan. This brownly shape morphed into the roadrunner! It posed for a while before spotting us, which is when it did its 'roadrunner thing' and scuttled into some long grass out of view: wonderful!

We arrived at our hotel in Huehuetenango at 5.00pm, when the group was able to ease aching muscles from the drive with a nice, hot shower. We met again at 7.00pm for dinner in the hotel. We also ordered our packed breakfasts in readiness for a *very* early start tomorrow.

Day 4. Friday 6th March: from Valley of Death to Heaven's Door in one morning!

We were away from the hotel at 4.30am on a dark and cold morning. We had an hour's drive ahead of us; true to form, this was along winding and bumpy roads. We pulled up at a house in a rural setting at 5.30am, where we were met by Esteban, a good friend of Benjamin's. By all accounts, Esteban lives almost ferally in the amazing habitat of Cuchumatanes, so knows where every bird lives and what its habitats are.

After our picnic breakfasts and a cup of hot, strong coffee, we headed out into 'Esteban Territory'. It was a good start: Eastern Bluebirds and Clay-coloured Thrushes were ticked off in Esteban's garden just as it was getting light.

As we bumped along the rough track, the onrushing sunlight revealed a stunning landscape. We passed through rocky scrub with the windows open listening out for birds calling in the early morning. We eventually hit the main road, which if anything was bumpier than the farm track we had just come along!

Esteban signalled for José to pull over by the road. We crunched through the frost-covered grass and watched and listened by some bushes below a rocky hillside. A Spotted Towhee showed first followed by a pair of Yellow-eyed Juncos. It wasn't long before the top target bird appeared atop a frosty bush: **Yellow-rumped (Goldman's) Warbler**.



At one point some of the group could have sworn that they saw hot breath coming from the Goldman's bill, as it sang from the top of the bush close to our position. What a stunner: surely a nailed-on candidate for a future split from Yellow-rumped Warbler (come on *Avilist*, don't let us down!).

The Goldman's and the juncos all came closer, giving perfect views to warm the group's hearts and hands. After taking in our fill, Esteban told us that we should move on and try and find his favourite bird before it was too late in the morning. Neil looked at his watch: it was only 6.45am!

After more bumpy tracks, we dropped down into the 'Valley of Death'. The habitat reminded some of the high Paramo: endless flat, grassland seemingly devoid of birdlife. However, singing and chirruping told us otherwise and we were soon watching Eastern Meadowlarks beautifully lit by the early morning sun against a golden backdrop of dry, swaying grass. The endemic race of Savannah Sparrow – *wetmorei* - soon joined the throng.

During all of this, Esteban kept scanning the 'Paramo' for his favourite bird. We drove a little further before quietly parking next to a small patch of crops and a shallow pool. "There, there, there, at the back!" Esteban was very excited, as one or two Ocellated Quails tried hiding in the grass behind the pond. They soon scuttled out of sight but this meant we could breathe again.

We checked another quail site without luck and then went on the hunt for Black-headed Siskins, without success. Esteban suddenly told us to get back in the van because an **Ocellated Quail** was singing from the undergrowth very close to our position.

We waited and waited in the van but the pesky quail didn't want to cross our path. We eventually quietly got out again and tried to find the source of the constant calls of the bird. Several 'Goldman's' Warblers came to see what we were up to. The quail was hiding in a thick patch of bushes but with careful positioning, everyone got superb views of this iconic species. Once again, Esteban was very happy!



Out of the Valley of Death, we made our way to Heaven's Door – a viewpoint overlooking the mountains and forests of Cuchumatanes. It wasn't long before a very confiding (if very active) Pink-headed Warbler showed extremely well in the bushes just off the

viewpoint. A male Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer was also a welcome addition to the morning's bird list.

We took a short walk down a track, where more Pink-headed Warblers were seen, as well as a cracking Golden-crowned Kinglet, delightful Bushtits, beautiful Townsend's Warblers and a fleeting glimpse of a Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge.

It was time to bid farewell to Estaban and his wonderful suite of birds, so we dropped him back at his house. As we drove away, he promptly headed out into the hills to find more quails to photograph. Until next time, my friend...

We had lunch in the town before another long drive along winding, bumpy roads. We reached Quetzaltenango at 5.45pm and rested until dinner. Some people had time to enjoy the luxury of the naturally heated jacuzzi in their rooms (Quetzaltenango is built on volcanic ground).

The long day wasn't over yet, though! Benjamin planned to drive along a forest road to the gates of Fuentes Georginas, a local nature reserve and thermal spa. We left at 8.00pm and just over half an hour later, we were spotlighting Mexican Whip-poor-wills in trees along the road. We heard more than we saw but it was exciting, nonetheless. A strange, mournful call caught my ears, which turned out to be a mammal none of us Brits had heard of: a Cocomistle.

Cocomistle is related to coatis and Kinkajous and is strictly nocturnal. Its call sounded like a bird of the night and added to the dusk chorus of the forest. Just as we were about to go back to the hotel, a Fulvous Owl called from the valley below. A closer bird answered.

Minutes later, the stocky owl perched on a large branch just below us giving excellent, spotlit telescope views for over quarter of an hour. The owl was much more cooperative than the Whip-poor-wills and made for a fantastic end to a very long day.

Day 5. Saturday, March 7th: a wonderful dawn chorus

After last night's success, it was agreed that we head for the Fuentes Georginas road again to witness the dawn chorus. We were by the reserve's entrance gate by 6.00am. The Mexican Whip-poor-wills were still calling. One even perched on a close branch, where we were able to see it relatively well through telescopes. The Fulvous Owl was also calling but didn't show for us this morning.

Highland Guans joined the chorus and as the first light hit the tip of the distant volcano, Brown-backed Solitaires struck up their jangly song; lots of them! A Black Thrush belted out its almost familiar thrushy song and the almost subliminal 'tick, tick' calls drew us to some Common Chlorospingus (Chlorospingi/Chlorospinguses?) in the close bushes. Suddenly, Benjamin excitedly pointed up to the forested hillside and whispered two magic words: "Horned Guan!"

The frog-like croaking noise was coming from the trees opposite our position. After several minutes of scanning, Neil found one of these Endangered, range-restricted guans sitting in a tree way in the distance. And then there were two more. And then Benjamin found another showing well on a large, dead branch. It was a thrilling experience because not only is Horned Guan an Endangered species, it has a very restricted world range: less than 7,000km²

After the excitement of finding one of the key target species of the whole trip, we made our way to the entrance gates of the reserve. Along the way, the group marvelled at the warm sulphury steam emanating from the rocks and banks by the road. The ticket office had been cut into the stone of the hillside to keep the ticket seller warm on cold mornings such as this!

Once inside, we immediately made for the small café and ordered omlettes and pancakes (and the ever-present tortillas) for breakfast. While eating, we couldn't help but relive the wonderful dawn chorus we had just witnessed. In fact, Neil declared it to be his favourite ever!

After the very welcome breakfast, we joined the families heading for the naturally-heated baths. We felt extremely overdressed: we were kitted out for the dawn chill and not the increasing heat of the morning!

We birded the forested path to the pools. Curious bathers wondered what we were looking at. Some stopped to ask and we showed them pictures of the birds we were watching and hearing.

Again, Benjamin and José indicated for us to be quiet: “Horned Guan is singing close by”. This time, the ‘song’ was an almost subliminal deep “whuu, whuu”, like someone tuning a very distant tuba.

We tracked down the source of the call to a guan sitting in a tree about 75 yards away across the valley. We watched it for over 90 minutes as it fed, sang and then began to build a nest. Male **Horned Guans** build several nests, which the female inspects and chooses her favourite one. We were one of the very few people in the world to witness this incredible behaviour!



While watching the guan's antics, we also noted an obliging Blue-throated Motmot, a pair of Mountain Thrushes, several Brown-backed Solitaires and quite a few species of butterfly.

After tearing ourselves away from the guan at Fuentes Georginas, we headed south along typical Guatemalan roads. We stopped for lunch at 1.30pm at a place that could well have been paradise.

The dining room overlooked a pool surrounded by trees where many herons and egrets were nesting. It was hard to concentrate on the superb steak baguettes when **Boat-billed Herons** were perched within touching distance of the verandah's railings!

After lunch, we braved the heat to wander round the grounds of this amazing place. Ringed Kingfishers perched on wires near the swimming pool, while Snowy and Great Egrets, a Green Heron and Tricoloured Herons nested close to the paths. Other wildlife included a Brown Basilisk in a tree and a huge Green Iguana sunbathing by the lake.

After a pleasant, (if a tad hot), stroll around the grounds, it was time to move on again. Our destination was Los Tarrales, a nature reserve-cum-ecolodge about two hours from our lunch stop. However, Benjamin would not allow the group to pass by what he considered to be "the best ice cream in the world"!

We called in at the very busy farm selling the ice cream and very nice it was too. Best in the world? Neil challenged Benjamin to go with him to St. Agnes, Isles of Scilly, to sample the Troytown ice cream for comparison.



We checked in at Los Tarrales at 5.00pm. This was a traditional 'jungle' lodge, with extensive grounds, individual chalets for accommodation and a communal dining room. It felt

very homely. This was helped by having a Lesson's Motmot sitting on the path as we drew up, with Yellow-winged Tanagers on the banana feeder and a **Central American Agouti** feeding on the lawn!



After a siesta or a wander round the grounds, the group met up again for dinner in the open dining room at 7.00pm. It was pizza night: home cooked in the kitchen as and when you wanted one. The delicious and filling pizza (and a beer or two) set us up for the group bird log and bed after yet another long day filled with stunning birds.

Day 6. Sunday, March 8th: the day the earth moved

We all met in the indoor dining room for a pre-breakfast coffee at 5.00am. The White-bellied Chachalacas were already making a heck of a racket! At 5.15am, we jumped into a 4x4 with Benjamin and our local guide for the day: Everilda Buchan.

The plan was to spend the whole morning exploring Los Tarrales along the farm tracks through this coffee-producing estate. It was a beautifully sunny morning as we bounced our way along the tracks.

We pulled up at a viewpoint overlooking the vast forest. Horned Guans can occasionally be seen on the far hillside but not today. Instead, we had fantastic views of Crested Guans, Yellow-faced Grassquits, a Grey Hawk and Red-billed Pigeons.

We continued deeper into the estate plantation trying several times for Azure-rumped Tanager; a much sought-after species at Los Tarrales. We found Turquoise and Yellow-winged Tanagers but no target species.

Our picnic breakfasts were taken at another viewpoint, where we scanned the forest near and far. Eve spotted a Double-toothed Kite - a rare sighting in Los Tarrales - before it was seen off by a couple of Masked Tityras.

We next took a slow walk along the track. A Tyra – a large member of the *mustelid* family - crossed our path and vanished into the forest. A pair of Gartered Trogons showed well, as did Berylline and Blue-tailed Hummingbirds and a Blue-throated Sapphire ('Goldentail').

On the return to the lodge, we tried once more for Azure-rumped Tanagers. This time it was a success! A small flock of these beautiful birds were feeding on small fruits way above our heads before flying off. Our necks ached after the encounter but it was well worth it. A soaring King Vulture overhead was the icing on the cake.

The cold beer/soft drink in the dining area was very welcome when we returned at midday. The heat certainly ruled out more walking for the time being, but Cinnamon Hummingbirds, a **Lesson's Motmot**, Pacific Parakeets, Black-headed Saltators, Yellow-winged Tanagers and Golden-fronted Woodpeckers kept us entertained while we sat and cooled down in the bar.



After a tasty lunch, there was time for a siesta. We met up with Benjamin for a walk at 2.45pm. We had to scuttle back under cover, though, when a short sharp shower suddenly started. Twenty minutes later, we headed out on the lodge trails again. The sun came out and bird activity stepped up a gear or two.

A mixed flock of bedraggled parrots sat in the top of a bare tree, trying to dry out. Pacific, Orange-fronted and Orange-chinned Parakeets chattered together, alongside a few White-fronted Amazons.

We hit upon a feeding flock or two as we neared a forest stream. The trees were alive with overwintering North American species such as Least Flycatcher, Black-and-white Warbler, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Wilson's and Tennessee Warblers, Indigo Bunting and Baltimore Orioles to name a few. It was difficult keeping up with the flocks as they passed through. We got back to the bar at 4.30pm, where another cold drink was extremely welcome.

Dinner was at the indoor dining room at 7.00pm, followed by the extensive bird and wildlife log. Later, while in our rooms, we felt the bed rocking: we later learned that a Force 7 earthquake had struck about 150 miles away. If that's what it felt like at that distance, we were extremely glad we weren't closer to the epicentre!

Day 7. Monday, March 9th: searching for a ghost

The group met Benjamin in the coffee room at 6.15am. For those that wanted to, our guide had planned a gentle pre-breakfast walk around the grounds of Los Tarrales. The walk took us to a wonderful lagoon. The sun was shining, the water was millpond still and the sunlit Atitlan Volcano gleamed down on us in the distance.

We disturbed a Great Blue Heron on the pool while a Hooded Warbler tried to hide from us in the thick undergrowth around the banks. Further along, the trail opened out to a shaded coffee field. A bare tree in the distance held Western Tanagers and Tropical and Western Kingbirds, with Rufous-capped Warblers and a Northern Bentbill closer to us in the bushes.

The highlight for most of us came when Benjamin spotted the roosting **Northern Potoo**. Everyone had superb views of this amazing bird, as it did its best to look like a broken tree branch. It was doing a pretty good job!



After admiring the potoo for quite a while, we followed the loop trail back to the main buildings of the lodge. Benjamin heard a Laughing Falcon calling in the distance. While trying to find this bird, Neil found a Bat Falcon sat atop a dead tree glowing in the sun. We never did locate the calling Laughing Falcon.

A filling breakfast was waiting for us in the dining room. After this, it was time to pack and leave this amazing estate. Just 45 minutes later, we pulled into a very hot and dusty car park and followed a track to the IMAP Reserve on the shore of Lake Atitlan.

We took a very slow walk along the paths on the small reserve. The paths led visitors through a series of very dry and dusty crop fields, akin to our allotments back home. The main target here was a localised hummingbird called a Slender Sheartail.

Try as we might, we couldn't find the hummingbird, though we scoured every suitable perching stick. We did, however, see Cabanis's Wren, a Tropical Mockingbird and several species of butterfly enjoying the dry heat.

We admitted defeat; the Sheartail lived to fight another day. We left the reserve and headed for our next hotel: Los Olivos, just a short drive away. After checking in, we had a slap-up lunch overlooking the lawn stretching down to Lake Atitlan.

The afternoon was spent at leisure. Some of the group had a relaxing siesta, while others strolled down to the lake shore. No matter how hard we scanned the lake and surrounding vegetation we could not find an Atitlan Grebe. This wasn't surprising being as the species is considered to be extinct.

We did, however, find Tropical Mockingbird, Lesser Goldfinches, Northern Rough-winged and Barn Swallows, Blue-winged Teals, Lesser Scaups but best of all were three Reddish Egrets, which are very scarce birds on the lake. Neil had to send off a photo to eBird for verification!

Benjamin joined us for dinner on the dining room verandah overlooking the lake. It was a very pleasant setting in which to compile the day's bird log (although the London taxi sat on the lawn seemed a tad incongruous).

Day 8. Tuesday, March 10th: a resplendent Resplendent Quetzal!

José and Benjamin arrived at the hotel at 5.00am for the short drive to the Rey Tepepul Reserve. Although it was still dark, there were quite a few people turning up and setting off into the dark forest.

We followed Benjamin down narrow, dusty trails through trees and 'Rattle' Plants (Maxan); a crop grown by locals on the hillsides. I think the technical term for the terrain is "uppy-downy". The groups on the paths were a mix of excited birders and interested tourists all looking for the same quarry.

The undulating loop trail was 5km long. As dawn began to break, Crested and Highland Guans started calling, joined by Brown-backed Solitaires. It wasn't until we were about halfway round, and just after our picnic breakfasts – past the fig tree where our target species had fed at touching distance from the path for the whole season last year! - that we heard the far-carrying call that we had so much wanted to hear: Resplendent Quetzal!

To be honest, it then became a bit of a scramble to track down these jewels of the forest. Several groups converged, following their guides who knew just how to find the quetzals. We were still trying to work out where the soft calls were coming from when Benjamin appeared and indicated for us to follow him down a leafy slope. And there was a male quetzal in his telescope!

The scramble thinned out and we continued along the narrow track. We were left with two males and a female **Resplendent Quetzal** to ourselves, which continued to call softly to one another. And then they were gone, expertly melting away into the dense trees. AND BREATHE!



We continued our walk along the loop trail. We heard another quetzal but it was extremely high in the canopy; a real neck-breaker. Elegant Euphonias showed well while building a nest but the Blue-crowned Chlorophonias decided to be skulking this morning. Azure-rumped Tanagers showed very well next to the path, making a mockery of our struggles a couple of days ago at Los Tarrales (birds, eh?).

We reached the minibus at 10.30am and returned to Los Olivos for a very welcome cooling drink. Afterwards, Benjamin whisked us away in a boat across the bay on Lake Atitlan at high speed. Twenty minutes later, we docked at an amazingly colourful town called **San Juan La Laguna**. We wandered along its bustling streets before hopping in a tuk-tuk, which took us to our lunch stop on the edge of town. What an adventure!

After a huge lunch (remember, Guatemalans don't do small portions), we strolled around the town until we came to a shop producing traditional woven garments. We watched a demonstration of how the raw material was produced and dyed and then woven. After a quick browse of the amazing shop, we were on our way.



We slowly wandered around the busy town before catching the boat back to Los Olivos at 3.15pm. It was now siesta time but not before noting a Sora in the small reedbed by the dock at the hotel. We again ate dinner on the verandah overlooking Lake Atitlan before compiling the bird log. Unsurprisingly, there was still no sign of the almost-certainly-extinct Atitlan Grebe.

Day 9. Wednesday, March 11th: dawn at the volcano

Yet another early start saw us standing below Volcano Paquisis as the light came up. Two species of owl were calling: neither deigned to show itself! As light improved, we took a stroll along the lower part of the volcano's trail.

The overgrown area at the base of the volcano was alive with bird activity. A lone Singing Quail seemed to be searching for its flock and showed well for us. A Dusky Sparrow also performed nicely, as did a drop-dead-gorgeous Chestnut-sided Peppershrike.

Slightly further up the hill, a feeding flock drew closer while we stood and waited with bated breath. Greater Pewee, Mountain Elaenia, Band-backed Wrens, Clay-coloured Thrushes and Tennessee Warblers came and went from the small tree next to us.

Further up the trail, we came across a couple of Cabanis's Wrens and a MacGillivray's Warbler, though it took great patience to see any of them well. A Flame Tanager high in a tree showed nicely, and we had superb views of a very relaxed **Northern Emerald Toucanet**.



Ordinarily, we would have had to continue further up the very steep trail to try and see Horned Guan but because we had had superb views earlier in the tour we satisfied ourselves with the lower slope of Volcano Paquisis. We returned to the hotel for breakfast at 8.30am.

After breakfast, there was just time to walk down to the shore of Lake Atitlan for a last spot of birding before the next long drive. We were rewarded with a couple of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers catching flies while sallying from the wooden posts of the hotel's boat dock.

We loaded the van and left the hotel at 10.20. We stopped *en route* for lunch in Guatemala City (where Real Madrid V Manchester City was showing on the telly), where the steak sandwiches were very tasty. We got to our hotel in San Esteban at 5.00pm.

For those that wanted a dip, the hotel had a swimming pool, though most decided to have a rest before dinner and bird log at 7.00pm

Day 10. Thursday, March 12th: some hot wildlife

After a quick coffee, we were away from San Esteban at 6.00am with packed breakfasts in hand. Our destination was a rarely visited reserve in the Montagua Valley. We pulled up on a baking hot track where we were warmly greeted by Gilberto, a ranger on the reserve we were heading for.

Gilberto led the way on his motorbike, stopping to point out birds along the way. We were soon joined by Gilberto's nephew, Franklin. Their knowledge of the area and sharp eyes brought us a whole new suite of restricted-range, dry forest species.

We had excellent views of Yellow Grosbeaks, a male Varied Bunting, Russet-crowned and Turquoise-browed Motmots an Elegant Trogon (recently split from the Arizonan taxon) and best of all two roosting Middle American Screech Owls. Finally, we reached the reserve itself!



We made our way to the research station at the Heloderma Natural Reserve, specifically established to protect the Endangered Guatemalan Beaded Lizard (*Heloderma charlesbogerti*), which is endemic to Guatemala.

We were enthusiastically met by researcher Johana Gil. While we ate our packed breakfasts on the porch, Johana explained the problems facing the venomous Beaded Lizard and how the reserve was set up to rehabilitate rescued lizards.

As we headed out onto a trail, Gilberto spotted a **Lesser Ground Cuckoo**. The bird flew into thick cover but with stealth and patience, we found it perched in thick brush just outside the research station. An Altamira Oriole flew through as well.



Gilberto and Franklin led the way to the lizard compound, where Franklin very carefully extracted a Beaded Lizard – “don’t get bitten by one; there’s a lot of vomiting involved!” - from its roosting burrow to give us a better look.

We learned that the Beaded Lizard’s life was intrinsically linked to another reptile, also Endangered, called the Montagua Spiny-tailed Iguana, which we had seen along the access track earlier (also endemic to the Montagua Valley in Guatemala). Both species have a strong dependency on Organ Pipe Cactus and the associated dry forest. During the heat of midday, with cold lemonade in hand, we discussed the recovery project with the dedicated team.

We left the Heloderma Reserve, seeing more Elegant Trogons along the track. We stopped for lunch at 2.30pm before arriving at Country Delight Hotel at 4.15pm. To stretch our legs after another long drive, Benjamin took those that wanted a walk along a lovely loop trail behind our chalets.

The forest walk produced Lesson’s Motmot, Canivet’s Emerald, Blue-headed Vireo, Magnolia and Black-throated Green Warblers and a quite a few Least Flycatchers. The tall, bare tree outside our chalets held many Bushy-crested Jays, Tennessee Warblers, grackles and a Black-and-white Warbler.

After the walk and a rest, we met up again in the dining room at 6.30pm and compiled the varied wildlife diary for the day.

Day 11. Friday, March 13th: triskaidekaphobia?

A pre-breakfast excursion found us at a reserve called Ranchito Quetzal at 6.30am, sheltering from heavy rain while supping coffee from the small visitor centre café. Slate-throated Solitaire and Unicoloured Jay entertained us while we scanned for quetzals.

The rain stopped, so we strolled along the scenic trail. We saw a Collared Trogon and lots of warblers but we neither heard nor saw Resplendent Quetzals on this occasion. We returned to our hotel for breakfast at 8.30am.

We were loaded and away at 9.30am. We were only 30mins into a very long drive when we hit a traffic queue because of flash strike action. We couldn’t divert to an alternative route because that road was closed too!

Roadside birding in the rain entertained us for a while (Blue-winged Warbler, Orange-billed Nightingale Thrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Plain Chachalaca, etc). News came through that the road wouldn’t open until 2.00pm!!!

The benefit of superb ground agents then came into play: despite not even being in the country, our ground agent had heard about our delay and had already put Plan B into operation! We took all our luggage from the bus, walked a few yards through the picket (a bit of a party atmosphere) and were met by another vehicle in the town of Coban on the other side of the blockage. Because of the hold up, we had to take lunch ‘on the hoof’, so collected supplies and ate them while driving north.

We continued north: in fact, *a very long way* north! Fortunately, we managed to catch our ferry across Rio La Pasión from Sayaxché in time (noting Mangrove Swallows and a Neotropic Cormorant) and continued the drive (in ever increasing rain).

We finally checked in at La Isla Hotel in Flores at 6.30pm. After a quick turnaround, we ate with Benjamin in the restaurant next door at 7.30pm. What a day!

Day 12. Saturday March 14th: some very special birds

After yesterday’s torrential rain, today dawned sunny and still. In better conditions, we could now see that Flores (capital city of Petén district) was situated on an island; breakfast in the hotel overlooking Lake Petén Itzá was a delight.

At 7.30am, we were picked up by Cornelio; another friend of Benjamin’s and guide at another reserve we were going to be staying at. We drove along (mercifully straight, surfaced)

roads through marsh and agricultural land, which were alive with a new suite of bird species. We had good views of American Gallinules, Snail Kites, Vermilion and Fork-tailed Flycatchers, three species of falcon and many other small bird species.

We continued through farmland, where the 'roads' became bumpy tracks, with Northern Parula, Grey-crowned Yellowthroat, Blue Grosbeak and lots of Western Tanagers to see us on our way.

In the heat of midday, we transferred to a boat for a 30min trip to the Guacamayas Biological Research Station; the breeze from the boat was extremely welcome, as were sightings of Mangrove Swallows, kingfishers, herons, egrets and flycatchers.

We took lunch by the hummingbird feeders at the lodge: White-bellied Emerald, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird and **Wedge-tailed Sabrewing** were new species for the trip. Yucatan Squirrel was a nice addition to our mammal list.



After lunch, most of the group chilled out in our delightful lodge rooms or took up position to try and capture hummingbirds for posterity with our cameras. At 3.45pm, we boarded our boat once more, this time for a leisurely pootle along the river and narrow channels surrounding the Research Station.

Highlights were many: perhaps the most treasured sighting was of a stunning **Agami Heron**. This amazing bird gave uncharacteristic, prolonged views as it stalked under cover of a bankside tree. We dared hardly breathe!



Other birds noted were Yucatan Woodpeckers, Yucatan Flycatcher, Plumbeous Kites, Yellow-tailed Orioles and roosting Wood Storks backlit by an orange sunset. Bliss! We were back at the idyllic lodge for dinner at 7.00pm.

After a very long but superb day, we weren't done yet! For those that wanted to (everyone!), we boarded the boat one last time today for a night 'drive' down the river. Expectation was high, as is the norm on night excursions, and tonight didn't disappoint.

The first wonderful creature we encountered was a Mexican Red-rumped Tarantula by the boat dock, followed by Northern Potoo, Morelet's Crocodile and best of all the range-restricted Spot-tailed Nighthawk. We flopped into our beds at 9.30pm after a long but exciting day.

Day 13. Sunday, March 15th: silent Guacamayas

After an early breakfast at the lodge, the group, Benjamin and Cornelio were cruising on the boat at 6.00am (for everyone that wanted to). It was a glorious early morning experience: mist was rising from the surface of the river with a perfect orange sunrise as a backdrop. Only the sound of birds could be heard.

As we chugged along, a Scarlet Macaw - uncharacteristically silent - flew across the river. Mangrove Swallows were our frequent companions. We landed on a wooded riverbank and stood for a while drinking in the sights and sounds of the forest.

We then walked along a lovely forest track, seeing Yucatan Woodpecker, Keel-billed Toucans, a Grey-breasted Chat, a pair of noisy Bat Falcons, a skulking Mayan Antthrush and quite a few butterflies.

Cornelio suddenly noticed two **Scarlet Macaws** fly into a Guacamayas tree to feed on the red petals. We located at least five birds, perfectly showing why the local name for them is Guacamayas and why the lodge we are staying at is given its name – the same name as the tree

we were now watching them feed in! Not once did they give their famous loud squawk; they quietly fed at the top of the tree: wonderful!



We reboarded the boat at 10.30am, just as the heat of the day was increasing rapidly. We chilled out at the lodge until an early lunch at 11.15am.

After the meal, we loaded up the boat: it was time to leave paradise! We cruised back to Los Caballos where we transferred to 4x4s. We retraced our route back to the main highway along the bumpy track through agricultural fields (Grassland Yellow-finch was added to the ever-growing bird list, as was a Solitary Sandpiper feeding in a tiny roadside pool).

Cornelio drove us to Tikal, where we checked in at our hotel at 3.15pm. We immediately walked round the grounds with Benjamin. A confiding **Ocellated Turkey** was soon ticked off, one of the main targets at this historical site. We found the nest of a Scaly-breasted Hummingbird, complete with sitting female, five Keel-billed Toucans and a Great Crested Flycatcher on migration.



We met Benjamin for dinner in the hotel dining room at 6.30pm, plus compiled the group log for the day. The electricity went off at 9.00pm, though most of us were in bed by then.

Day 14. Monday, March 16th: Turkeys and Temples

The group met in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 7.00am. Most had already seen Keel-billed Toucans, Ocellated Turkeys and Russet-naped Wood Rails from our rooms!

After breakfast, another friend of Benjamin's - Noel - met us at the hotel to show us around the Tikal Archaeological Site of Tikal. Noel was also an expert on the local birds and where to find them.

Golden-olive and Cream-crested Woodpeckers were the first birds to show, and we also saw more Keel-billed Toucans. Further along the forested tracks towards the temples, a Northern Grey Fox trotted across the road in front of us and a marvellous Brown Basilisk lizard posed for photos.

We arrived at Temple 4 and had a cold drink: the temperature was already into the high seventies (Fahrenheit). While supping, we had telescope views of an Orange-breasted Falcon perched high on the side of one of the walls of the temple (much to the bemusement of the general tourists also sheltering from the heat, wondering what we were looking at. One or two had a look through our telescopes).



As we slowly walked towards the Main Plaza, we had very good views of **Slaty-tailed**, Gartered and Black-headed Trogons. We also found White-crowned Parrot and White-fronted & Mealy Amazons

As we rounded a corner of the complex, we all knew what to expect: we had all seen the famous photographs of the huge Mayan Temple but the sight that greeted us still took our breath away!

The famous **Temple I** came into view and towered above the 'lawn' we were standing on. To our left was North Acropolis behind us was Temple II. The whole amazing scene dates from 300 to 850AD and must surely be on everyone's 'Bucket List' of things to see?

We stayed in the Plaza trying to soak in the remarkable scene (while trying to stay in the shade of an old tree) while listening to Noel and Benjamin's description of the Mayans and main Plaza. The whole complex spreads for many kilometres, so further exploration is possible if people wish to extend their stay.

After a while, we made our way to the restaurant in the park, though most of the group chose to drink rather than eat: heat is an appetite killer! After cooling down, we decided to take a forest trail to look for White-collared Manakins. We heard one or two but they refused to show for us. Ample compensation came in the form of superb views of a foraging troupe(?) of White-nosed Coatis, Yucatan Black Howler Monkeys and Central American (Geoffroy's) Spider Monkeys. The Scaly-breasted Hummingbird was still on her nest, as we got back to the chalets. What an amazing walk!

After a cooling drink or two, we were at leisure – some dozed, some packed while others took another stroll around the chalets to see what birds they could find. I'm not sure anyone had enough energy to take a swim in the hotel's swimming pool, though.



Days 15 & 16. Tuesday, March 17th & March 18th: the long, long journey home!

After breakfast at the hotel, an air-conditioned bus arrived to take us on the first leg of our long journey home. As we exited Tikal National Park, several Ocellated Turkeys and five impressive Great Curassows fed by the side of the road. It was a fitting farewell to this amazing place.

Ninety minutes later, we were at the small airport at Flores in plenty of time to catch an internal flight to Guatemala City. We now had a six hour wait to get something to eat, discuss the wonderful trip, simply chill out or a mixture of the above. However, one sad task was to say goodbye to our ever-present guide: Benjamin. Benjamin showed superb knowledge of everything Guatemalan and went out of his way to accommodate our every need combined with a great sense of humour!

The flight from Guatemala City to Madrid was uneventful and the transfer to our London flight was extremely easy. We landed in Blighty at 6.30pm and most were home and in bed by midnight.

A very long journey home is always a drag but we had plenty of time to reflect on what was a superb, if a little tiring, trip to a very interesting country.

351 BIRD SPECIES (in order & taxonomy of AviList 2025)

Blue highlight = Heard only

Red highlight = Endemic

Purple highlight = Leader only

SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	IUCN STATUS
Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major percautus</i>	LC
Thicket Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus cinnamomeus goldmani</i>	LC
Black-bellied Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis fulgens</i>	LC
Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	LC
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	LC
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	LC
Highland Guan	<i>Penelopina nigra</i>	VU
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens purpurascens</i>	NT
Horned Guan	<i>Oreophasis derbianus</i>	EN
Great Curassow	<i>Crax rubra rubra</i>	VU
Plain Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis vetula vetula</i>	LC
White-bellied Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis leucogastra</i>	LC
Buffy-crowned Wood Partridge	<i>Dendrortyx leucophrys leucophrys</i>	LC
Ocellated Quail	<i>Cyrtonyx ocellatus</i>	VU
Singing Quail	<i>Dactylortyx thoracicus dolichonyx</i>	LC
Spotted Wood Quail	<i>Odontophorus guttatus</i>	LC
Ocellated Turkey	<i>Meleagris ocellata</i>	NT
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps podiceps</i>	LC
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	LC
Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	LC
Pheasant Cuckoo	<i>Dromococcyx phasianellus</i>	LC
Lesser Ground Cuckoo	<i>Morococcyx erythropygus erythropygus</i>	LC
Lesser Roadrunner	<i>Geococcyx velox</i>	LC
Common Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana thermophila</i>	LC
Maroon-chested Ground Dove	<i>Paraclaravis mondetoura</i>	LC
Inca Dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>	LC
Plain-breasted Ground Dove	<i>Columbina minuta interrupta</i>	LC
Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti rufipennis</i>	LC
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi (fulviventris & bangsi)</i>	LC
Caribbean Dove	<i>Leptotila jamaicensis (ssp?)</i>	LC
Grey-headed Dove	<i>Leptotila plumbeiceps plumbeiceps</i>	LC
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica asiatica</i>	LC

Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura marginella</i>	LC
White-faced Quail-Dove	<i>Zentrygon albifacies</i>	LC
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis pallidicrissa</i>	LC
Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris flavirostris</i>	LC
Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata fasciata</i>	LC
Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas nigirostris</i>	LC
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	LC
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columbia livia livia</i>	LC
Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna dolosus</i>	LC
Sungrebe	<i>Heliornis fulica</i>	LC
Russet-naped Wood Rail	<i>Aramides albiventris albiventris</i>	LC
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	LC
Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata cachinnans</i>	LC
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana americana</i>	LC
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	LC
Ruddy Crane	<i>Laterallus ruber</i>	LC
Grey-breasted Crane	<i>Laterallus exilis</i>	LC
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>	LC
Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	LC
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	LC
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i> (ssp?)	LC
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	NT
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	NT
Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	LC
Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla megalopterus</i>	LC
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	LC
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga leucogaster</i>	LC
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum mexicanum</i>	LC
American White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus albus</i>	LC
Bare-throated Tiger Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>	LC
Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius (ridgwayi & phillipsi)</i>	LC
Agami Heron	<i>Agamia agami</i>	NT
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	LC
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor ruficollis</i>	LC
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i> (probably <i>rufescens</i>)	NT
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula thula</i>	LC
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea violacea</i>	LC
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli</i>	LC
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens virescens</i>	NE
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba egretta</i>	LC
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	LC
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias herodias</i>	LC
Spot-tailed Nightjar	<i>Anturus maculicaudus</i>	LC
Mexican Whip-poor-will	<i>Antrastomus arizonae chiapensis</i>	LC
Northern Potoo	<i>Nyctibius jamaicensis mexicanus</i>	LC
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris mexicana</i>	LC
Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi (vauxi?)</i>	LC
Long-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longirostris longirostris</i>	LC
Stripe-throated Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis saturatus</i>	LC
Mexican Violetear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>	LC
Purple-crowned Fairy	<i>Heliothryx barroti</i>	LC
Green-breasted Mango	<i>Anthracothorax prevostii prevostii</i>	LC
Green-throated Mountaingem	<i>Lampornis viridipallens viridipallens</i>	LC
Rivoli's Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes fulgens</i>	LC
Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris longirostris</i>	LC
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	LC
Canivet's Emerald	<i>Cynanthus canivetii (canivettii & osberti)</i>	LC

White-eared Hummingbird	<i>Basilinna leucotis leucotis</i>	LC
Rufous Sabrewing	<i>Pampa rufa</i>	LC
Wedge-tailed Sabrewing	<i>Pampa curvipennis pampa</i>	LC
Violet Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hemileucurus hemileucurus</i>	LC
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeochroa cuvierii roberti</i>	LC
Azure-crowned Hummingbird	<i>Saucerottia cyanocephala cyanocephala</i>	LC
Berylline Hummingbird	<i>Saucerottia beryllina devillei</i>	LC
Blue-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Saucerottia cyanura guatemalae</i>	LC
Cinnamon Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rutila corallirostris</i>	LC
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl tzacatl</i>	LC
White-bellied Emerald	<i>Chlorestes candida candida</i>	LC
Blue-throated Sapphire	<i>Chlorestes eliciae eliciae</i>	LC
Northern Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium gnoma cobanense</i>	LC
Ferruginous Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum ridgwayi</i>	LC
Whiskered Screech Owl	<i>Megascops trichopsis mesamericanus</i>	LC
Middle American Screech Owl	<i>Megascops guatemalae guatemalae</i>	LC
Fulvous Owl	<i>Strix fulvescens</i>	LC
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	LC
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	LC
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura (ssp?)</i>	LC
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus burrovianus</i>	LC
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus carolinensis</i>	LC
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus velox</i>	LC
Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus fasciatus</i>	LC
Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	LC
Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis major</i>	LC
Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris conspectus</i>	LC
Grey Hawk	<i>Buteo plagiatus</i>	LC
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus platypterus</i>	LC
Short-tailed Hawk (dark morph)	<i>Buteo brachyurus fuliginosus</i>	LC
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis (kemsiesi? And?)</i>	LC
Resplendent Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus moccino moccino</i>	NT
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena massena</i>	LC
Black-headed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanocephalus</i>	LC
Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus sallaei</i>	NE
Elegant Trogon	<i>Trogon elegans elegans</i>	LC
Mountain Trogon	<i>Trogon mexicanus mexicanus</i>	LC
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris puella</i>	LC
Tody Motmot	<i>Hylomanes momotula momotula</i>	LC
Turquoise-browed Motmot	<i>Eumomota superciliosa vanrossemi</i>	LC
Blue-throated Motmot	<i>Aspatha gularis</i>	LC
Russet-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus mexicanus castaneiceps</i>	LC
Lesson's Motmot	<i>Momotus lessonii (goldmani & lessonii)</i>	LC
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata torquata</i>	LC
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	LC
American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea strictoptera</i>	LC
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana septentrionalis</i>	LC
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda melanogenia</i>	LC
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus sulfuratus</i>	NT
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus torquatus</i>	LC
Northern Emerald Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus virescens</i>	LC
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus similis</i>	LC
Chestnut-coloured Woodpecker	<i>Celeus castaneus</i>	LC
Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes rubiginosus yucatanensis</i>	LC
Guatemalan Flicker	<i>Colaptes mexicanoides</i>	LC
Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis guatemalensis</i>	LC
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus lineatus</i>	LC

Yucatan Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pygmaeus rubricomus</i>	LC
Golden-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes aurifrons</i> (<i>hughlandi</i> , <i>dubius</i> [& <i>veraecrucis</i> ?])	LC
Smoky-brown Woodpecker	<i>Leuconotopicus fumigatus sanguinolentus</i>	LC
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cahinnans cachinnans</i>	LC
Collared Forest Falcon	<i>Micrastur semitorquatus naso</i>	LC
Barred Forest Falcon	<i>Micrastur fuficollis guerilla</i>	LC
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus cheriway</i>	LC
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius tropicalis</i>	LC
Orange-breasted Falcon	<i>Falco deiroleucus</i>	NT
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco fufigularis petoensis</i>	LC
Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	LC
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis jugularis</i>	LC
White-crowned Parrot	<i>Pionus senilis</i>	LC
Yellow-naped Amazon	<i>Amazona auropalliata auropalliata</i>	CR
White-fronted Amazon	<i>Amazona albifrons albifrons</i>	LC
Mealy Amazon	<i>Amazona farinosa guatemalae</i>	NT
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao cyanopterus</i>	LC
Olive-throated Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula nana astec</i>	LC
Orange-fronted Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula canicularis canicularis</i>	VU
Pacific Parakeet	<i>Psittacara strenuus</i>	NE
Long-tailed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia linearis</i>	LC
White-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus candei</i>	LC
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata personata</i>	LC
Rose-throated Becard	<i>Pachyramphus aglaiae sumichrasti</i>	LC
Tropical Royal Flycatcher	<i>Onychorhynchus coronatus mexicanus</i>	LC
Sepia-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon amaurocephalus pileatus</i>	LC
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus assimilis</i>	LC
Eye-ringed Flatbill	<i>Rhynchocyclus brevirostris brevirostris</i>	LC
Yellow-olive Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens cinerieiceps</i>	LC
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum finitimum</i>	LC
Northern Bentbill	<i>Oncostoma cinereigulare</i>	LC
Guatemalan Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius vilissimus</i>	LC
Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet	<i>Ornithion semiflavum</i>	LC
Northern Beardless Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma imberbe</i>	LC
Greenish Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis viridicata placens</i>	LC
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster subpagana</i>	LC
Mountain Elaenia	<i>Elaenia frantzii ultima</i>	LC
Rufous Mourner	<i>Rhytipterna holerythra holerythra</i>	LC
Yucatan Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus yucatenensis navai</i>	LC
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer lawrenceii & connectens</i>	LC
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	LC
Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus cooperi</i>	LC
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus guatimalensis</i>	LC
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis texensis</i>	LC
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua mexicanus</i>	LC
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana monachus</i>	LC
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus satrapa</i>	LC
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	LC
Western Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	LC
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus blatteus</i>	LC
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans aquaticus</i>	LC
White-throated Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax albigularis albigularis</i>	LC
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>	LC
Yellowish Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flavescens salvini</i>	LC
Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	LC
Greater Pewee	<i>Contopus pertinax pertinax</i>	LC
Northern Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus bogotensis brachytarsus</i>	LC

Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus intermedius</i>	LC
Dusky Antbird	<i>Cercomacroides tyrannina crepera</i>	LC
Scaled Antpitta	<i>Grallaria guatemalensis guatemalensis</i>	LC
Mayan Antthrush	<i>Formicarius moniliger intermedius</i>	LC
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus gracilius</i>	NE
Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus emigrans</i>	LC
Ivory-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus flavigaster eburneirostris</i>	LC
Spotted Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus erythropygius parvus</i>	LC
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes affinis affinis</i>	LC
Ruddy Foliage-gleaner	<i>Clibanornis rubiginosus veraepacis</i>	LC
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis nicaraguae</i>	LC
Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo	<i>Vireolanius melitophrys quercinus</i>	LC
Green Shrike-Vireo	<i>Vireolanius pulchellus pulchellus</i>	LC
Ochre-crowned Greenlet	<i>Tunchiornis ochraceiceps ochraceiceps</i>	NE
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtata decurtata</i>	LC
Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	LC
Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys strenuus</i>	LC
Hutton's Vireo	<i>Vireo huttoni vulcani</i>	LC
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	LC
Blue-headed Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius solitarius</i>	LC
White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus griseus</i>	LC
Steller's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri coronata</i>	LC
Unicolored Jay	<i>Aphelocoma unicolor unicolor</i>	LC
White-throated Magpie-Jay	<i>Cyanocorax coliei azureus</i>	LC
Brown Jay	<i>Cyanocorax morio morio</i>	LC
Green Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yncas centralis</i>	LC
Bushy-crested Jay	<i>Cyanocorax melanocyaneus melanocyaneus</i>	LC
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	LC
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	LC
Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea chalybea</i>	LC
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis (serripennis?)</i>	LC
Black-capped Swallow	<i>Atticora pileata</i>	LC
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica erythrogaster</i>	LC
American Bushtit	<i>Psaltiriparus minumus melanotis</i>	LC
Grey Silky-flycatcher	<i>Ptilogonys cinereus molybdophanes</i>	LC
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa clarus</i>	LC
Trilling Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus ardeleo</i>	LC
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea (caerulea?)</i>	LC
Band-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus zonatus restrictus</i>	LC
Rufous-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus capistratus nigricaudatus & xerophilus</i>	LC
Southern House Wren	<i>Troglodytes musculus intermedius</i>	LC
Rufous-browed Wren	<i>Troglodytes rufociliatus rufociliatus</i>	LC
White-bellied Wren	<i>Uropsila leucogastra brachyura</i>	LC
Spot-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius maculipectus canobrunneus</i>	LC
Cabanis's Wren	<i>Cantorchilus modestus</i>	NE
White-breasted Wood Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta prosthaleuca</i>	LC
Grey-breasted Wood Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys castanea & capitalis</i>	LC
Blue-and-white Mockingbird	<i>Melanotis hypoleucus</i>	LC
Grey Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	LC
Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus gracilis</i>	LC
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis guatemalae</i>	LC
Brown-backed Solitaire	<i>Myadestes occidentalis oberholseri</i>	LC
Slate-coloured Solitaire	<i>Myadestes unicolor</i>	LC
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	LC
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantiirostris melpomene</i>	LC
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus (ssp?)</i>	LC
Ruddy-capped Nightingale Thrush	<i>Catharus frantzii chiapensis</i>	LC

Rufous-collared Thrush	<i>Turdus rufitorques</i>	LC
Black Thrush	<i>Turdus infuscatus</i>	LC
Mountain Thrush	<i>Turdus plebejus differens</i>	LC
White-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus assimilis rubicundus</i>	LC
Clay-coloured Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi (grayi & megas)</i>	LC
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus domesticus</i>	LC
Elegant Euphonia	<i>Chlorophonia elegantissima elegantissima</i>	LC
Blue-crowned Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia occipitalis</i>	LC
Scrub Euphonia	<i>Euphonia affinis affinis</i>	NE
Yellow-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia hirundinacea hirundinacea</i>	LC
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria colombianus</i>	LC
Common Chlorospingus	<i>Chlorospingus flavopectus postocularis</i>	LC
Green-backed Sparrow	<i>Arremonops chloronotus chloronotus</i>	LC
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch	<i>Arremon brunneinucha macrourus</i>	LC
Yellow-eyed Junco	<i>Junco phaeonotus alticola</i>	LC
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis septentrionalis</i>	LC
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis wetmorei</i>	LC
Rusty Sparrow	<i>Aimophila rufescens pectoralis</i>	LC
Grey-crowned Ground Sparrow	<i>Melospiza occipitalis</i>	LC
Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus repetens</i>	LC
White-naped Brushfinch	<i>Atlapetes albinucha griseipectus</i>	LC
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens (auricollis?)</i>	LC
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna alticola</i>	NT
Yellow-billed Cacique	<i>Amblycercus holosericeus holosericeus</i>	LC
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri wagleri</i>	LC
Montezuma Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i>	LC
Black-vented Oriole	<i>Icterus wagleri wagleri</i>	LC
Bar-winged Oriole	<i>Icterus maculialatus</i>	LC
Black-cowled Oriole	<i>Icterus prothemelas prothemelas</i>	LC
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius spurius</i>	LC
Yellow-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysater chrysater</i>	LC
Yellow-tailed Oriole	<i>Icterus mesomelas mesomelas</i>	LC
Spot-breasted Oriole	<i>Icterus pectoralis guttulatus</i>	LC
Altamira Oriole	<i>Icterus gularis gigas</i>	LC
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	LC
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus (richmondi?)</i>	LC
Bronzed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus aeneus aeneus</i>	LC
Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus impacifus</i>	LC
Melodious Blackbird	<i>Dives dives</i>	LC
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus mexicanus</i>	LC
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla (ssp?)</i>	LC
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	LC
Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>	LC
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	LC
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	LC
Crescent-chested Warbler	<i>Oreothlypis superciliosa superciliosa</i>	LC
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	LC
MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Geothlypis tolmiei (ssp?)</i>	LC
Grey-crowned Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis poliocephala palbrebalis</i>	LC
Kentucky Warbler	<i>Geothlypis formosa</i>	LC
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas (trichas?)</i>	LC
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	LC
Hooded Warbler	<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	LC
Northern Parula	<i>Setophaga americana</i>	LC
Magnolia Warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	LC
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>	LC
American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva (sonorana?)</i>	LC

Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata goldmani</i>	NE
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Setophaga virens</i>	LC
Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	LC
Rufous-capped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus rufifrons rufifrons</i>	NE
Golden-browed Warbler	<i>Basileuterus belli scitulus</i>	LC
Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus culicivorus</i>	NE
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla (pusilla?)</i>	LC
Pink-headed Warbler	<i>Cardellina versicolor</i>	LC
Slate-throated Whitestart	<i>Myioborus miniatus hellmayri</i>	LC
Yellow Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus chrysopheplus aurantiacus</i>	LC
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	LC
Grey-throated Chat	<i>Granatellus sallaei boucardi</i>	LC
Blue Bunting	<i>Cyanocompsa parellina parellina</i>	LC
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	LC
Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea (ssp?)</i>	LC
Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris pallidior</i>	LC
Varied Bunting	<i>Passerina versicolor purpurascens</i>	LC
Red-crowned Ant Tanager	<i>Habia rubia rubicoides</i>	LC
Red-throated Ant Tanager`	<i>Driophlox fuscicauda insularis</i>	LC
White-winged Tanager	<i>Piranga leucoptera leucoptera</i>	LC
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra rubra</i>	LC
Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	LC
Flame-coloured Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata sanguinolenta</i>	LC
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus carneipes</i>	LC
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina splendens</i>	LC
Grey-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata pallida</i>	LC
Grassland Yellow Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola chrysops</i>	LC
Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer	<i>Digloss baritula montana</i>	LC
Black-headed Saltator	<i>Saltator atriceps atriceps</i>	LC
Cinnamon-bellied Saltator	<i>Saltator grandis hesperis</i>	LC
Morelet's Seedeater	<i>Sporophila morelleti morelleti</i>	LC
Yellow-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris olivaceus pusillus</i>	LC
Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus cana</i>	LC
Yellow-winged Tanager	<i>Thraupis abbas</i>	LC
Azure-rumped Tanager	<i>Poecilostreptus cabanisi</i>	VU

MAMMALS (in order & taxonomy of *Mammals of the World* by Lynx Ediciones)

Central American Black Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta pigra</i>	EN
Central American Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi vellerosus</i>	EN
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>	LC
Variegated Squirrel	<i>Sciurus variegatoides goldmani</i>	LC
Yucatán Squirrel	<i>Sciurus yucatanensis phaopus</i>	LC
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus thomasi</i>	LC
Northern Grey Fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus guatemalae</i>	LC
Tayra	<i>Eira barbara senex</i>	LC
Cacomistle	<i>Bassariscus sumichrasti variabilis</i>	LC
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica narica</i>	LC

REPTILES

Red = Endemic

*** = Captive

Morelet's Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus moreletii</i>	LC
Common Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	LC
***Guatemala Beaded Lizard	<i>Heloderma charlesbogerti</i>	EN
Montagua Spiny-tailed Iguana	<i>Ctenosaura palearis</i>	EN
Brown Basilisk	<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>	LC
Yellow-spotted Spiny Lizard	<i>Sceloporus chrysostictus</i>	LC
Tropical House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus mabouia</i>	LC

BUTTERFLIES (in order & taxonomy of *A Swift Guide to Butterflies of Mexico and Central America*)

Julia Heliconian	<i>Dryas iulia</i>
Zebra Heliconian	<i>Heliconius charithonia vazquezae</i>
Red Peacock	<i>Anartia amathea</i>
Pithy Sister	<i>Adelpha pithys</i>
Guatemalan Catone	<i>Catonephele mexicana</i>
(Probable) Glaucous Cracker	<i>Hamadryas glauconome glauconome</i>
Blomfield's Beauty	<i>Smyrna blomfieldia</i>
Karminski's Beauty	<i>Smyrna karwinskii</i>
Guatemalan Gemmed-Satyr	<i>Cyllopsis guatemalena</i>
Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>
White-spotted Clearwing (Greta)	<i>Greta annette annette</i>
Bar-celled Oleria	<i>Oleria zea zea</i>
Potrillo Skipper	<i>Cabares (Autochton) potrillo</i>
Cobalt (Bluish) Longtail	<i>Urbanus viterboana</i>
Moth species	<i>Smicropus laeta</i>

And many more unidentified!

MISCELLANEOUS

Blue-tailed Damselfly species	????
Mexican Red-rumped Tarantula	<i>Tliltocatl vagans</i>
Cinnabar Sage	<i>Salvia cinnabarina</i>
Plant species	<i>Monnina xalapensis</i>
Giant Thistle	<i>Cirsium subcoriaceum</i>
Pink Snapdragon Vine	<i>Maurandya scandens</i>
Fibreglass Plant	<i>Wigandia urens</i>

IUCN Classifications:

DD = Data Deficient
 NE = Not Evaluated
 NR = Not Recognised
 LC = Least Concern
 NT = Near Threatened
 VU = Vulnerable
 EN = Endangered
 CR = Critically Endangered
 EW = Extinct in the Wild
 EX = Extinct