

## **Brazil:** The Atlantic Rainforest

Sat 25th Oct – Sun 2nd Nov 2014

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*Grey-winged Cotinga, Pico da Caledonia - one of those never-to-be-forgotten moments (one amongst many on the trip) © tour participant Peter Tapsell from REGUA II tour*

**report compiled by tour leader:  
Richard Thaxton**

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## Trip Diary

### Tour Leader: Richard Thaxton

with Ted Fletcher, Roger Le Voir, Geoff Nelson, Jennifer & David Pope and Peter Tapsell

Southeast Brazil had been experiencing a very hot dry spell, for several months, but just prior to the start of the tour there had been a bit of a break in the weather, with some respite from the prolonged excessively high temperatures. It had cooled a bit, but it's all relative, as it was still very hot for our week, but the air was fresher - less humid and significant rain in the week before the tour seemed to have refreshed things somewhat. As a consequence, the birds were more numerous, more active, and some species seemed to have suddenly appeared from nowhere.

In total, 295 species were recorded, 37 of which were Brazilian endemics. You will no doubt all have your own personal highlights and favourite birds and experiences from this tour, but some of mine that will surely feature amongst yours and live long in the memory follows.

- Those **mega-views** of Grey-winged Cotinga, in fact the trio of cotinga species
- Lurching with and to the song of Black-and-gold Cotinga
- The Yellow-fronted Woodpecker family's antics at the nest
- Those delightful Peach-fronted Parakeets
- Those cobalt-blue Diademed Tanagers
- That obliging, posing Frilled Coquette
- Those easily seen, though oh-so-rare Three-toed Jacamars
- The colourful array of assorted tanagers, surely chief amongst them Red-necked Tanager
- The obliging close and 'photographable' nesting Common Potoo and Tropical Screech Owl
- The Giant Snipe experience at dusk - surreal or what?

### Day 1. Saturday 25th October.

Our travel day. Well yours really, as I was already in Brazil, so with a *Limosa* placard pinned to my chest I awaited your arrival at Rio. Once assembled, we were whisked swiftly off into the Rio night by our driver Alceni and onwards to REGUA. Arriving late, and after a day of travel, without further ado we retired to our rooms. For those amongst us who weren't instantaneously out like lights, the calls of Common Potoo, Pauraque and Ferruginous Pygmy Owl eventually lulled us to sleep.

### Day 2. Sunday 26th October

At first light we were promptly up and at it, keen to see and explore the lodge, the gardens and our surroundings. We gathered on the lodge tower, to marvel at the spectacular vista across this swathe of Atlantic Rainforest to the razor-backed ridge beyond, part of the Serra dos Órgãos range that forms the backdrop to and indeed part of the REGUA Reserve property.

It was our first opportunity to get to grips with an array of new birds, many of which would become staples throughout the week. These included Palm, Sayaca and Burnished-buff Tanagers, Violaceous Euphonia, Chesnut-vented Conebill and Blue Dacnis – the so-called *Dracula Bird* - Prince of Dacnis, get it? Oh how we laughed, or not! I'm afraid the tone was set for 'funny-punny week'. From our vantage point overlooking the REGUA wetland below us, Cattle Egrets were amongst our first birds, passing by us departing their roost, plus Whistling Herons, Great Egret and Neotropical Cormorants. Yellow-headed Caracaras flew back, forth and overhead, our first Channel-billed Toucans called excitedly from trees nearby and Ruddy Ground Doves and Picazuro Pigeons darted by.

After breakfast, we gathered in the lodge garden watching Swallow-tailed Hummingbirds, Black Jacobin and we added a write-in to our checklists already – Greenish Elaenia, an unusual bird at REGUA, not a bad start! We met up with resident guide Adulei and headed off down to the wetland,

and eventually back via the yellow trail. Birds came thick and fast and as a result we made very slow but rewarding progress. It took us over an hour just to walk the few hundred metres down to the Reserve office area. We spent time familiarising ourselves with the more common species and the distinctions between similar looking species: Kiskadee, Social and Boat-billed Flycatcher; Tropical Kingbird, Cattle Tyrant, Streaked and Short-crested Flycatchers; how to separate the flight silhouettes of Black and Turkey Vultures. We enjoyed our first encounters with the REGUA wetland birds: Pied-billed Grebes, Purple Gallinules and Wattled Jacanas, and we were able to 'scope a Roadside Hawk. It wasn't all, what would become, routine stuff, as we also saw some of REGUA's specialities too including great views of a pair of Chestnut-backed Antshrikes, a Hooded Tanager and a pair of Brazilian Tanagers with stunning views of the incandescent crimson male.

Progressing along the wetland trail, we saw both tody-flycatchers, Common and the endemic Yellow-ored, the former was nest-building and at one point the male was carrying a feather larger than its entire self, which was quite comical. Further round, the group were set the task of locating the perched, cryptic, deadwood-look-alike Common Potoo, nesting, if you can call it that, atop a dead tree stump brooding its single chick that poked its head out through the adult's breast feathers. It remained motionless with an air of impassive haughtiness in the face of a phalanx of camaras.

Out on the water, we picked out Brazilian Teal, heaps of American Moorhens, Anhinga and assorted herons including Great Egret, Rufous Tiger Heron, Capped and Striated Herons. The swamp-like edges and adjacent scrub held Yellow-chinned Spinetails, Chestnut-headed Blackbirds, Shiny Cowbirds and those big 'wrens' - Black-capped Donacobius. Meanwhile Red-rumped Caciques and Ringed Kingfisher went back and forth. Snooty-looking Capybaras watched us pass, so too Caiman crocodiles, just their eyes poking out up through the pondweed. A Blackish Rail was glimpsed fleetingly by some, but I think we all saw the Rufous-sided Crake when it crept into view briefly. We passed the nest hole of Tropical Screech Owl but it was not at home - one for later.

Further round on the yellow trail, we heard Bran-coloured Flycatcher but couldn't locate it, we lucked upon a Slaty-breasted Wood Rail, saw Rufous-tailed Jacamar, White-bearded Manakin, Chestnut-crowned Becard, Blue-black Grassquit and White-flanked Antwren, and our final bird of this first session was Guira Cuckoo. By now it was hellish-hot and humid and being our first sortie out in such conditions we were feeling it a bit, so we returned to the lodge for lunch followed by some down-time during the hottest part of the day. A siesta for some; shady lodge garden birding for others.

At 15.15, when, to be honest, it wasn't a whole lot cooler, we ventured down to the hide overlooking part of the wetland. Here we had a great chance to make out the distinctive features that separate White-collared and Biscutate Swifts, as a mixed flock made low, high-speed passes across the water, slowing enough to drink in flight, giving us chance to sift one from the other. We then headed back part way around the wetland, enjoying both White-faced and Black-bellied Whistling Ducks along the way, found a Yellow Tyrannulet, White-headed Marsh and Masked Water Tyrants, and four White-barred Piculets behaving as though they were lekking, but they don't. We went as far as the screech owl nest and this time the bird was at home peering at us over the nest-hole rim.

We sauntered back to the lodge, pausing to 'scope a distant blob in a tree high up on a forested ridge. A sloth, I proclaimed, but some in the group were unconvinced, believing it to be a termite nest. Let me put it this way, it wasn't there the next time we looked a few days later.

### **Day 3. Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October.**

Today we headed off site, "a few" (did I say two?) hours drive away, to Sumidouro, seeking some special birds of that area, but birding along the way. My inaccurate drive-times were already becoming a bit of a theme for the week! At a roadside stop we saw Yellow-fronted Woodpecker and moving on we subsequently stopped at intervals for birds as we saw them. At the first of these we saw Crested Black Tyrant, a few raptors including Aplomado Falcon, Savanna Hawk and a White-tailed Hawk soaring high above us. We also saw Crested Oropendolas, Common (Rufous-fronted) Thornbird and Grey Monjita. A Toco Toucan was seen briefly, flying away ahead of the van as we drove.

At Carmo, rain had made the steep mud road almost impassable. Our driver Alceni made several valiant attempts to make progress but the mud proved too much. So we got out of the van and walked up the rest of the slope in the heat, phew, only to then hear Alceni driving up behind us. On reaching the gate, Three-toed Jacamars were waiting to greet us; bizarrely, they must surely be the easiest ultra-rare bird to see. We walked slowly along the track with birds at every step. These included: Red-eyed (Chivi) Vireo, Pileated Finch, that grotty-looking Surucua Trogon, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, White-winged Becard, brilliant views of several Swallow Tanagers, Yellow-olive, Swainson's, Sepia-capped and Streaked Flycatchers, a pair of American Kestrels, Yellow-eared Woodpecker, Rufous-headed and Black-goggled Tanagers, Streaked Xenops, Olivaceous Elaenia and Rufous-capped Spinetail. All this, not to mention (why do we say that and then mention them) assorted endemics; Serra Antwren, Hangnest Tody Tyrant, Grey-eyed Greenlet and Scaled Woodcreeper.

We had lunch and then back-tracked to another part of Sumidouro, taking a slow drive along a quite back road, stopping for birds as we found them. Along this leg, we saw the endemic Campo Troupial plus Campo Flicker, Yellow Marshbird, White-eared Puffbird, Chopi Blackbird and White-rumped Monjita.

#### **Day 4. Tuesday 28th October**

We stayed closer to home today, heading out through the pasturelands adjacent to the REGUA property to walk the green trail to the waterfall. What should have been a 20 minute drive or so (did I say 20 minutes?), took us well over an hour, so bird-packed was the drive, prompting much stopping and starting.

No sooner had we set off, when we were halted by a bunch of new birds for our week's tally, First up Double-collared Seedeater and Blue-black Grassquit in the fields at the REGUA entrance. This was followed by a fine male White-browed Blackbird perched on a wire, a Snowy Egret flew over our heads, a Fork-tailed Flycatcher sallied forth from a road-edge fence and then we saw those superb Guira Cuckoos, 12 of them perched close together in a tree soaking up the warmth of the early morning sunshine. Further along we saw a couple of both Blue-and-white and White-rumped Swallows quartering cattle pasture, where we also located a Yellowish Pipit dipping in and out of view in a muddy wheel rut. Seven wonderful Peach-fronted Parakeets were next up, these beautiful birds flying ahead of the vehicle as we drove, edging further up the fence line each time we approached. We were lucky - they are an unusual bird at REGUA. Further on, Burrowing Owls scowled at us as we passed and chose to look less at them rather than the stunning Green-headed Tanagers nearby.

On reaching the trailhead, we hit a bit of a purple patch, with lots of new birds including an obliging Laughing Falcon perched for 'scoping, so too a Rufous-thighed Kite. The endemic Sooretama Slaty Antshrike was an unexpected goody, so too Saw-billed Hermit. In this same initial area we also saw a wonderful soaring White-necked Hawk and a mixed bag of passerines, amongst them Flame-crested and Yellow-backed Tanagers, Red-legged Honeycreeper and Piratic Flycatcher.

On entering the cool, shady stretch of this forest trail, we encountered numerous birds as we slowly walked, including the endemics: Black-cheeked Gnateater, White-bellied Tanager, a female Pin-tailed Manakin, Star-throated Antwren, Eye-ringed Tody Tyrant and Grey-hooded Attila. These, plus Rufous-winged Antwren, Yellow-green Grosbeak, Sooty Grassquit and Ochre-bellied Flycatcher. Southern Antpipit proved tricky and remained a heard-only, as did Temminck's Seedeater but we fared better with Blue Manakin, both Yellow-olive and Sepia-capped Flycatchers, Plain-winged Woodcreeper and a female Red-crowned Ant-tanager.

As we covered more ground we saw more birds, the next flurry of species included Yellow-throated Woodpecker, Tropical Parula, Lesser Woodcreeper, Scaled Antwren and White-necked Thrush. We struggled for good views of Rufous-capped Antthrush, but it was seen nevertheless. Our last bird just prior to reaching our lunch spot at the waterfall was Spot-billed Toucanet. We then relaxed over lunch watching huge a Blue Morpho butterfly waft back and forth and White-thighed Swallows flying to and fro.

Eventually it was time to retrace our steps from whence we had come, yet despite this a suite of more new birds were ours to enjoy, birds not encountered on our way up. The first of these were Grey-headed Flycatcher, Spot-breasted Antwreio, Streak-capped Antwren, Scaled Antbird and Rufous-browed Peppershrike. We were then lucky enough to be at the right place at the right time for what must have been a mixed flock of species roving through the forest. As we walked the trail over just a short stretch we encountered; Black-capped, Ochre-breasted and Buff-fronted Foliagegleaners, Pale-browed Treehunter, Rufous-bellied Leaf-tosser, Plain Xenops, a Thrush-like Schiffornis belting back and forth across the trail as a blur, and another Red-crowned Ant-tanager, this time a fine male.

On reaching the truck we then drove back through the pasturelands stopping to enjoy Turkey Vultures on the ground, White-rumped Monjita, Brown-chested Martin, Rufous Hornero and Campo Flickers. The seven Peach-fronted Parakeets seen in the morning had become 11.

#### **Day 5. Wednesday 29th October.**

Today we ventured off site again to Pico da Caledônia, specifically to gain convenient road access to some high elevation Atlantic rainforest and the different assemblage of birds found there at height. The drive was a couple of hours, (and I think I got it right this time, didn't I?), stopping only briefly at a roadside banana-seller's stall to see some tanagers. It wasn't as busy as I've known it, but we had good views of Ruby-crowned, Palm, Green-headed and Golden-chevrons Tanagers plus the very striking Chestnut-bellied Euphonia.

At a quick loo-stop in Caledonia town before beginning our ascent gave us White-eyed Parakeet, Burnished-buff and Sayaca Tanagers, Sick's Swifts and Cliff Flycatcher. Then onwards, stopping to swap the minibus for the 4 x 4 we saw Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, which was a great start to what was to become a day of great new birds. We made the white-knuckle jeep ride to the top at almost 2220m and no sooner had we disembarked than we were in amongst new birds. First of these were White-crested Tyrannulet, Highland Elaenia and those gaudy Brassy-breasted Tanagers. Three endemics then followed; Velvety Black Tyrant, Bay-chested Warbling Finch and Brazilian Ruby. Next up were Diademed Tanager, Rufous-tailed Antthrush, Red-eyed Thornbird and Thick-billed Saltator whilst White-collared Swifts zipped overhead – all these within the first 100m or so.

As we continued to amble down the hill track, more birds followed; Mouse-coloured Tapaculo proved a challenge but we got there, along with Ochre-faced Tody-flycatcher, Blue-billed Black-Tyrant and Plovercrest, a stunning hummer. We managed better, in fact brilliant views this time of another streamcreeper and added Pallid Spinetail, Uniform Finch, Long-tailed Antshrike, Rufous Gnateater and Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner to our tally. Next, we enjoyed a fine male Yellow-legged Thrush, the warm-up act of what was to come. Adulei's amazing skills at birdcall mimicry paid huge dividends when what should respond and hove into spectacular view but Grey-winged Cotinga - Caledonia's Holy Grail-of-a-bird. And what unbelievable views we had – in full view, at eye level, in great light, perched out on a stump, just a matter of metres away. Even the vastly experienced Adulei was beside himself with excitement. As posh cameras clicked away, so close was it that he managed some great shots too, just on his wee point and shoot.

Metaphorical celebratory cigars and brandy were had, in the guise of our ham sandwich packed lunch, but did we care? It was a moment to cherish. If you see this bird at all you've done well, to see it as we did is outrageously lucky, a phenomenal birding moment to live long in the memory for sure. How did we follow that? Well, with yet more great birds as it happens, and more endemics. As we lunched, we 'scoped-at-will' a superb male Black-and-gold Cotinga, who perched nearby and sang for us, and we found ourselves a Serra do Mar Tyrannulet.

After lunch, with limited time, we then cheated and rode back down the rest of the hill in the 4 X 4 and drove around to the Sao Bernardo trail. Here, two Red-legged Seriemas greeted us, one just a little too close and too enthusiastically - was it someone's pet? The other though, more aloof, called from high up on the slope above which we felt 'counted' as the real deal! The heat was up by now but we took a slow and gentle wee stroll along the trail, birding as we went. Along here we saw Hooded Siskin,

Planalto Tyrannulet, Creamy-bellied Thrush, Variable Antshrike, Dusky-tailed Antwren, Scaled Woodcreeper, Glittering-bellied Emerald hummingbird, Olivaceous Elaenia and Pallid Spinetail again, and then the third of the trio of Caledonia's cotinga species, a magnificent Swallow-tailed Cotinga, arguably one of the world's most fabulous birds.

In a final flurry of birds before we needed to head for home, we picked out Swainson's Flycatcher, Fawn-breasted Tanager, Streaked Xenops, both White-crested and Mottled-cheeked Tyrannulets, Golden-crowned Warbler and Rufous-crowned Greenlet. Our final bird of the day was White-shouldered Fire-eye.

### **Day 6. Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

Today, at 6am we took the short 20 minute (aka 40 minute!) 4 x 4 drive through Matumba village to the Waldenoor Trail, part of the REGUA property. As we went through the village we stopped for Grey-breasted Martins and Southern Rough-winged Swallows on the roof of the shop and just a little further along the road we caught up with Red-cowled Cardinal, Guira Cuckoos, oh, and House Sparrow! Out in a nearby field were both Southern and Yellow-headed Caracaras and a Savanna Hawk.

Driving through the village, we stopped for another cardinal and happened to find a small flock of the introduced and now naturalised Common Waxbill, along with a few Sooty Grassquits and we lucked upon a Masked Yellowthroat here too, which was an unexpected find. On reaching the trail head, we headed up the gently inclined track birding as we went, picking up Swainson's Flycatcher, Double-collared Seedeater, both Yellow-backed and Flame-crested Tanagers and Chivi Vireo. Others to follow included Blue Dacnis, Black-capped Becard, White-bearded Manakin, White-tipped Dove, the endemic Saw-billed Hermit and a fine Black-throated Trogon. Meantime Maroon-bellied Parakeets zipped overhead.

Half way up the trail, we stopped and spent quite a while at the wee smallholding which was busy with birds. We enjoyed great views of a pair of nesting Yellow-fronted Woodpeckers aided by a third, helper-at-the-nest, likely a youngster of the previous season. Other species seen here included Variegated, Piratic and Dusky-capped Flycatchers, Azure-shouldered Tanager, Black-tailed Tityra, a nest-building trio of becards - Black-capped, Green-backed and Chestnut-crowned, and meanwhile a few Brown-chested Martins and White-thighed Swallows zipped about the farm and White-collared Swifts tore overhead - we could hear their scythe-like wings slicing through the air.

Pressing further on up the trail, we at last caught up with Blond-crested Woodpecker, and Rough-legged Tyrannulet was new for us too. At the top of the trail our quest was Frilled Coquette, and there it was waiting for us, on station, holding territory. Compared to the usual innate-restlessness of hummers, always on the move, making them difficult to see well, this ornate beauty just sat there, for prolonged frame-filling 'scope views, and posing for pictures. Nearby, a couple of gaudy Red-necked Tanagers vied for our attention. I think we could have stayed there all day, but we needed to head back to the lodge for lunch, and knowing we'd likely be delayed by more birds on our way back down the trail. And sure enough as we passed the farm we picked up Violaceous Euphonia, White-chinned Sapphire, a few Blue-winged Parrotlets and the endemic Plain Parakeet.

After lunch, we took a break, as the midday heat was murderous. At 3pm, hoping it might have cooled a little, a few of us ventured out, briefly. It was just still too hot and within an hour we were back, but not before we'd seen Grey-necked Wood Rail and Yellow Tyrannulet.

We ate early this evening, giving us time to head out before dusk to look for Giant Snipe, a surreal birding experience if ever there was one. As we pitched up at the site a short drive from REGUA, we were greeted by a Burrowing Owl, Fork-tailed Flycatchers, and a noisy Streamer-tailed Tyrant. While we waited for the gloaming, we were entertained by a couple of Ash-throated Crakes, a Wedge-tailed Grass Finch, a Barn Owl wafting across the field and several Pauraques. Come the witching hour, we entered the damp field and waited for Adulei to work his magic. The weird calls of one or two Giant

Snipe resounded out there in the darkness, one passed unseen over our heads. Then Adulei's torch went on, he'd found one, almost at his feet and we were beckoned over. Moving in behind him, we peered over his shoulder to see a snipe held transfixed in the beam of his light, peering back at us. The snipe then walked away, took flight and Adulei was able to prolong our enjoyment just that wee bit longer by tracking the flying bird in his torch beam before it disappeared into the night. How very marvellous was that?

#### **Day 7. Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

Our final off-site excursion today, was to Macae de Cima; like Caledonia, it was an opportunity to birdwatch in some higher elevation Atlantic rainforest. The drive took us...perhaps add your own time-frame this time, as I'll be wildly out.

We made a brief loo-stop at a hotel, managing to see Spix's Spintail, Rufous Hornero, Rufous-collared Sparrow and Yellow-legged Thrush in the process. Heading up hill, we stopped at a nesting colony of Crested Oropendolas, complete with their nemesis, a parasitic Giant Cowbird nearby. The metallic anvil-striking "bonk" calls of Bare-throated Bellbirds resounded around the forested slopes and we eventually located one or two of these Daz-white cotingas.

Swapping to the 4 x 4 for the steep dirt track, we drove straight up to the top to the house of orchid expert, the late David Miller. There was no-one about so it was just as well we had brought along our own sugar solution to charge the hummingbird feeders. Before too long one or two hummers started to appear but the strong, gusty wind posed us problems let alone diminutive wee hummingbirds. Nevertheless, a selection soon arrived including; Black Jacobin, Violet-capped Woodnymph, Brazilian Ruby, Scale-throated Hermit and new for us, White-throated Hummingbird.

We spent some time birding the house grounds, being buffeted by the strong wind, and with the low cloud billowing in and out across the forested slopes above made 'scoping for birds difficult. We did though manage to 'scope nesting Long-tailed Tyrants, just in time, because on walking away from my 'scope it was caught by a gust, blew over and smashed to the ground shearing off the tripod mounting shoe, bah! However, you'll be please to know that Swarovski kindly made the repair, free of charge, bless 'em.

Anyway, we eventually began the slow walk down the hill and birds came thick and fast. To begin with these included Swallow-tailed Cotinga, Golden-chevroned Tanager, Scaly-headed Parrot and Rufous-capped Spinetail. Black-and-gold Cotingas were heard on and off as we walked and White-rimmed Warbler remained a heard-only too. Next up was a very obliging Black-billed Scythebill, which made several passes across the track, as did both Planalto and Olivaceous Woodcreepers. In contrast Bertoni's Antbird required a bit of coaxing but eventually popped out, followed by Ochre-rumped Antbird. Both Thick-billed and Green-winged Saltators showed well as did a key species at this site, Hooded Berryeater. There was an array of tanagers as we walked including more Brassy-breasted, Golden-chevroned and Azure-shouldered. In one tree alone, we came across White-browed and White-collared Foliage-gleaners, both Black-tailed and Grey-hooded Flycatchers and a Mottled-cheeked Tyrannulet.

Pressing on, a Dusky-legged Guan was seen fleetingly, crashing off through the canopy above us and yet further down we found Squirrel Cuckoo, Rufous-backed Antvireo, Golden-crowned Warbler and Drab-breasted Bamboo Tyrant - a bird with a name longer than the wee bird itself! We'd been hearing Plovercrests on and off all the way down and eventually we came across a small lek of three of these wonderful birds.

We were back at REGUA in time to nip down to the wetland just before dinner, to witness the spectacle of wave upon wave of Cattle Egrets flighting in to roost. Also, Ted found an adult and a juvenile Black-crowned Night Heron and we also caught up with our one and only Grey-rumped Swift that, somewhat bizarrely, had been conspicuous by their absence all week.

**Day 8. Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November.**

It was our last day, so to make the most of our time we breakfasted early and then set off for a final look at the wetland and to return via the yellow trail. On setting off, Scaly-headed Parrots passed overhead, in the garden we saw that Greenish Elaenia again and a Long-billed Wren in the car park. Down at the reserve office area we found a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl high up in a tree, Channel-billed Toucans on a nearby hillside, Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Wing-banded Horneros and a perched Rufous-thighed Kite.

We had done this circuit on our first full day and not surprisingly, we saw much that we'd already seen and that was now very familiar to us: a selection of herons and other water birds, Boat-billed and Streaked Flycatchers, Cattle Tyrant and Tropical Kingbird, Guira Cuckoo, Amazon Kingfisher and Brazilian Tanager. Along the yellow trail we saw Blue-black Grassquits, Common Waxbill, Chestnut-vented Conebill, Violaceous Euphonia, Yellow Tyrannulet, those cute White-barred Piculets again, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, Yellow-chinned Spinetails, Chestnut-backed Antshrike and Red-legged Honeycreeper. The Tropical Screech Owl was at home, but alas the Common Potoo chick had been predated and the adults had deserted.

And yet, we still managed to see new species too. These were Lemon-chested Greenlet, Dark-billed Cuckoo, a Moustached Wren, and a Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture quartering the wetland, while Russet-crowned Crake went down as a heard-only.

We returned to the lodge for lunch, to pack and to relax ahead of travelling, time to chill and enjoy our last moments at this magnificent setting. Alas, all too soon it was time to go, Alcení had arrived to drive us to Rio, so we said our fond farewells and thanks to the REGUA staff team who had looked after us so well and had made for a fantastic stay at this truly inspiring place and project.

**Day 9. Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.**

I wasn't with you for the return flight because as you know I stayed on in Brazil, but I trust it went smoothly, that you arrived on time, that your onwards travel went well too and that you arrived home safely. I hope the above account covered most of what we saw, experienced and enjoyed together, that you found it a good read, that it helped you revisit the experience in your mind's eye and served as a memento of our time together at REGUA. Many thanks for coming along and sharing it all.

Richard Thaxton  
January 2015

**ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED**

(Total of 295 species recorded by the group. **En** = Brazilian endemic)

**Key to places**

R – REGUA Lodge  
RW – REGUA Wetlands  
MdC – Macae de Cima  
GT – Green Trail (aka waterfall trail)  
Sum./Carmo – Sumidouro  
PdC – Pico da Caledônia  
WT - Waldenoor Trail

**Dusky-legged Guan *Penelope obscura***

Just the one. seen at Sumidouro, 27<sup>th</sup>.

**White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata***

Seen on each visit to the REGUA wetland (RW).

**Black-bellied Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

As above.

**Muscovy Duck** *Cairina moschata*

2-4 seen each visit to RW.

**Brazilian Teal** *Amazonetta brasiliensis*

12+ seen on our first visit to RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, fewer on subsequent visits.

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps*

Three, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>. Previously scarce or unknown at RW. Has it ousted Least Grebe, which we didn't see but which was previously a given yet hasn't been seen at RW for some time now.

**Rufescent Tiger Heron** *Tigrisoma lineatum*

Good views on two occasions at RW, three adults on our first visit on 26<sup>th</sup> and then an adult and juvenile on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Ted pulled this one out of the bag at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour on our last visit to RW on 1<sup>st</sup> before leaving REGUA. Thanks Ted. Phew!

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

4+ seen on each of our three sorties down to RW during the week. Other roadside drive-by birds too.

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*

Common seen daily either at RW and a drive-by bird in fields everywhere we went

**Cocoi Heron** *Ardea cocoi*

The same one, likely, at RW on three dates; 26<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

1-2 at RW all week, others seen *en route* to other sites.

**Capped Heron** *Ptilerodius pileatus*

Between 2-3 of these beautiful buttermilk-coloured birds seen on three dates at RW,

**Whistling Heron** *Syrigma sibilatrix*

Four flew by us as we stood on the tower on our first morning 26<sup>th</sup> and one seen at RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula*

One flew passed us as we headed out *en route* to the green trail (GT) 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga*

A total of 5 seen at RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, just the one on our last RW visit on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

6+ at RW on each visit made.

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura*

Seen all week overhead at R and wherever we went.

**Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture** *Cathartes burrovianus*

Just one seen, over RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus*

Ubiquitous, seen daily, where ever we went.

**Southern Caracara** *Caracara plancus*

Usually a couple seen daily, where ever we were. A max of 5 in total on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-headed Caracara** *Milvago chimachima*

Common all week, everywhere we went.

**Laughing Falcon** *Herpetotheres cachinnans*

One perched nicely and 'scope-able at the start of GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*

Two, as we walked along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Apomado Falcon** *Falco femoralis*

One, at a roadside stop on our way to Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-thighed Kite** *Harpagus diodon*

Seen on two dates at R on 28<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

**White-necked Hawk** *Leucopternis lacernulatus*

One, soaring bird, shortly after we set off along the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis***

One, Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris***

Singles noted on five dates, various locations. Two on 26<sup>th</sup> at R/RW

**White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus***

One, at a roadside stop *en route* to Sum, 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata***

Two, at Pica do Caledonia (PdC) on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Russet-crowned Crane *Anurolimnas viridis***

Heard only, along yellow trail at back of RW, 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous-sided Crane *Laterallus melanophaius***

One, of these skulking little critters, coaxed into view at RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Grey-necked Wood Rail *Aramides cajanea***

Heard after dusk, from our rooms, on three evenings, then one seen RW, 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Slaty-breasted Wood Rail *Aramides saracura***

One along yellow trail at back of RW 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Ash-throated Crane *Porzana albicollis***

The curiosity of two separate birds got the better of them and they popped out to see us, when we were Giant Snipe-ing on 30<sup>th</sup>. Others heard that evening too.

**Blackish Rail *Pardirallus nigricans***

A good look proved tricky, but one glimpsed by some, RW on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica***

Several, RW, each time we visited.

**American Moorhen *Gallinula galeata***

RW was *hoachin* with *'em*, all week.

**Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis***

Seen daily, RW and in any open fields/ roadsides.

**Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana***

Several, RW all week, other roadside/ditch birds seen *en route* to other sites.

**Giant Snipe *Gallinago undulata***

Several heard and two seen, a fly-by bird and then superb close views of one held transfixed in Adulei's lamp beam.

**Feral Pigeon *Columba livia***

A few seen on four dates, *en route* through towns.

**Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro***

Common, fly-by birds throughout the week.

**Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti***

Common and widespread, seen daily.

**White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi***

Seen just twice, Waldenoor Trail (WT) on 30<sup>th</sup> and RW/yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla***

Heard all week, one seen on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruddy Quail Dove *Geotrygon Montana***

One flushed as we walked along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalma***

Two, in a tree at the loo-stop in Caledonia town, 29<sup>th</sup> and three Macae de Cima (MdC) 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Peach-fronted Parakeet *Aratinga aurea***

Great views of seven on 28<sup>th</sup>, along the track through the pastureland on our way to GT and 11 seen there on our way back.

**Maroon-bellied Parakeet *Pyrrhura frontalis***

Heard passing overhead on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and several seen on WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius***

On 30<sup>th</sup>, on WT, at first three rapid fly-by birds but then they came back and perched obligingly, for us to 'scope.

**Plain Parakeet *Brotogeris tirica* En.**

Three, flying about at the wee farm along WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and then brief views of four fly-by birds at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Pileated Parrot *Pionopsitta pileata***

Heard only, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani***

Three, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>, and three overhead at the lodge on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Orange-winged Parrot *Amazona amazonica***

Rather oddly, just a heard-only bird, once on GT 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Dark-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus melacoryphus***

Great views of one (there might have been a second bird?) just above our heads at back of RW on yellow trail, 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana***

Seen on four dates; from the lodge on 26<sup>th</sup>, at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup> and heard RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Greater Ani *Crotophaga major***

Small groups RW, 26<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani***

Common, seen daily, wherever we went.

**Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira***

Seen on six dates at RW, MdC and PdC. The best were that group on 12 perched in the early morning sunshine as we headed out *en route* to GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia***

One, RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, one at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup> and heard RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Barn Owl *Tyto alba***

One, wafting across the damp field when we were Giant Snipe-ing 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba***

Great views of one peering at us over the rim of its nest hole along the RW/yellow trail on 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum***

The first and last bird of each day, heard from our lodge rooms at dusk and dawn. Then on 1<sup>st</sup>, we found one to 'scope, high up in a tree, down by the reserve office.

**Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia***

Four, pastureland *en route* to GT on 28<sup>th</sup>, and then one when we went Giant Snipe-ing, 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus***

A contender for *bird of the week*, surely? Fantastic views on 26<sup>th</sup> of that bird nesting atop a stump, right beside the RW path, complete with chick peering out from behind the adult's breast feathers. Alas, it was found to have been predated later in the week, both adult and chick gone. Likely culprit, possum or a snake, I guess?

**Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis***

Heard all week from our rooms during the night. A couple seen when out snipe-ing on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris***

Recorded almost daily, in all/most locations. We had a great chance to look closely at the distinction between this species and Biscutate Swift, from the hide on 26<sup>th</sup>, as a mixed flock of these two were zipping low across the wetland.

**Biscutate Swift *Streptoprocne biscutata***

Only conclusively seen on 26<sup>th</sup> (see above)

**Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris***

Oddly scarce, just the one (!) picked out when we made an evening visit to RW on 31<sup>st</sup> to watch the egrets come in to roost.

**Sick's Swift *Chaetura meridionalis***

Seen on five dates in small numbers.

**Saw-billed Hermit *Ramphodon naevius* En.**

One buzzed us on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and then a better look at that one perched in the wee hedge, at the small-holding on WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Scale-throated Hermit *Phaethornis eurynome***

One, at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber***

Two seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Swallow-tailed Hummingbird *Eupetomena macroura***

Daily, at R lodge feeders, a very aggressive individual that repelled most others hummers, 1-2 others seen at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Black Jacobin *Melanotrochilus fuscus***

Seen daily, the one brave soul at R lodge feeders, braving the belligerence of the Swallow-tail. Others seen at feeders at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Plovercrest *Stephanoxis lalandi***

Two, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and three at MdC 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Friiled Coquette *Lophornis magnificus***

Two fine males located at top of WT on 30<sup>th</sup>, perched obligingly for 'scope frame-filling views.

**Violet-capped Woodnymph *Thalurania glaucopis***

Seen on three dates; GT on 28<sup>th</sup>, WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and at MdC, 31<sup>st</sup>.

**White-chinned Sapphire *Hylocharis cyanus***

Seen on three dates; RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**White-throated Hummingbird *Leucochloris albicollis***

Just the one, seen on the feeders at MdC, 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazalia fimbriata***

Seen at R lodge, 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup> and one seen at Carmo/Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Glittering-bellied Emerald**

One seen along the Sao Bernardo trail at PdC 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Brazilian Ruby *Clytolaema rubricauda* En.**

Two, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and a further two at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Surucua Trogon *Trogon surrucura***

Seen only at Carmo/Sum, two on 27<sup>th</sup>, a nice one and then that bedraggled, moth-eaten specimen.

**Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus***

Just one seen, WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona***

One RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and one RW 1<sup>st</sup>, same bird, likely.

**Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquatus***

Three seen RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and one of these again, likely, on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous-capped Motmot *Baryphthengus ruficapillus***

Heard all week, at night and at dawn from our lodge rooms. One posed nicely for 'scoping on yellow trail on 26<sup>th</sup>, one on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and another on WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Spot-billed Toucanet *Selenidera maculirostris***

One seen along GT 28<sup>th</sup> and one on our walk down at PdC 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Toco Toucan *Ramphastos toco***

Just one, seen flying away ahead of us as we drove to Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus***

Four seen from the R lodge tower on our first morning, 26<sup>th</sup>, one heard WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and one seen from RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**White-barred Piculet *Picumnus cirratus***

Six seen RW on our first morning, 26<sup>th</sup>, including four together, (near the nesting potoo) appearing to exhibit a sort of lekking behaviour, though in truth it was likely just two pairs behaving agitatedly towards each other, vying for a territory? Two others at Carmo/Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>, one at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>, and two of the same nesting birds RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes flavifrons***

Our first was one at the roadside shop/café stop *en route* to Sum on 27<sup>th</sup>, then a very obliging nesting pair - plus a third bird (helper?) along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>. I looked this up and discovered that 'up to three males and two females have been observed to attend a single brood'.

**Yellow-eared Woodpecker *Veniliornis maculifrons* En.**

Two at Carmo/Sum on 27<sup>th</sup>, at least two along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>, one at MdC 31<sup>st</sup> and one along yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula***

Two, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup> were our only ones.

**Yellow-browed Woodpecker *Piculus aurulentus***

One, also along GT on 28<sup>th</sup> was our only sighting.

**Green-barred Woodpecker *Colaptes melanochloros***

Just one, seen by Geoff, as we were stuck in traffic near Teresopolis, on our way back from Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Campo Flicker *Colaptes campestris***

Three pairs seen, one each on 27<sup>th</sup> at Carmo/Sum, on 28<sup>th</sup> in the pasturelands *en route* to GT, and on 30<sup>th</sup>, *en route* to WT.

**Blond-crested Woodpecker *Celeus flavescens***

Great views, when we finally caught up with this *wee stotter*, on WT on 30<sup>th</sup>. Phew!

**Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus***

Heard only, RW on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Three-toed Jacamar *Jacamaralcyon tridactyla* En.**

At least 6+ of these endemic rarities, on 27<sup>th</sup>, along the track at Carmo, Sum. All very obliging views.

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda***

One along yellow trail at back of RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and another along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru***

Two of these obligingly curious birds along the roadside at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Pin-tailed Manakin *Ilicura militaris* En.**

A female first and then and later on a male, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus* .**

A wing-snapping male along yellow trail at back of RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>, and one along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue Manakin *Chiroxiphia caudata***

Three, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana***

Great 'scope views of a male along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Thrush-like Schiffornis *Schiffornis turdina***

A restless one zipped back and forth, passed us a few times along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>. Remember that blur? Well, that was it!

**Green-backed Becard *Pachyramphus viridis***

A male, nest-building on WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-crowned Becard *Pachyramphus castaneus***

One along yellow trail on 26<sup>th</sup>, one GT on 28<sup>th</sup>, one nest-building on WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and one at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus***

A male along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one along yellow trail/RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus***

One seen along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Crested Becard *Pachyramphus validus***

One, MdC 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Swallow-tailed Cotinga *Phibalura flavirostris***

One near the top of the trail at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Hooded Berryeater *Carpornis cucullata* En**

Two, separate individuals, and others heard, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Bare-throated Bellbird *Procnias nudicollis***

Two separate obliging males, on the road up to MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Grey-winged Cotinga *Tijuca condita* En.**

Fantastic views at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> – at eye level, c.15m away, in perfect light, atop a stump,

against a leafy back-drop, for all of only 2-3 minutes, but it felt like much longer. How perfect an experience was that?!

**Black-and-gold Cotinga** *Tijuca atra* **En.**

We lunched with one, a superb male at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>. It obligingly perched in a tree close by, and sang as we ate, aligned in the 'scope, for all to see, throughout lunch, casually, at will, between mouthfuls. I'm not sure who was the more chilled about it, the bird, or us!

**Planalto Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias fasciatus*

One, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> was our only sighting.

**Rough-legged Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias burmeisteri*

One, WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Greenish Elaenia** *Myiopagis viridicata*

One, in the lodge garden on our first morning, 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia** *Elaenia flavogaster*

Two, RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, one on WT on 30<sup>th</sup> and two on yellow trail/RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Olivaceous Elaenia** *Elaenia mesoleuca*

One along track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, one along GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and another one along Sao Bernardo trail (PdC) on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Highland Elaenia** *Elaenia obscura*

One, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, one along GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and one RW/yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**White-crested Tyrannulet** *Serpophaga subscritata*

One, the first bird we saw on reaching the top of the steep track at PdC, on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow Tyrannulet** *Capsiempis flaveola*

Two, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and again on 1<sup>st</sup>. One also seen along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern Antpipit** *Corythopis delalandi*

Proved tricky, heard only along GT, 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Mottled-cheeked Tyrannulet** *Phylloscartes ventralis*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, one PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and another at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Serra do Mar Tyrannulet** *Phylloscartes difficilis* **En.**

One on the steep walk down at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleagineus*

Just the one, on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-hooded Flycatcher** *Mionectes rufiventris*

One, on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and one MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Sepia-capped Flycatcher** *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Bran-coloured Flycatcher** *Myiophobus fasciatus*

Heard only along yellow trail 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Drab-breasted Bamboo Tyrant** *Hemitriccus diops*

One, plus another heard, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Eye-ringed Tody Tyrant** *Hemitriccus orbitatus* **En.**

Just one, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Hangnest Tody Tyrant** *Hemitriccus nidipendulus*

Two, along track at Carmo, 27<sup>th</sup>. **En.**

**Ochre-faced Tody Flycatcher** *Poecilatriccus plumbeiceps*

One at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-lored Tody Flycatcher** *Todirostrum poliocephalum* **En.**

Two, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and one RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Common Tody Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum*

Four in total, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> including one nest-building, carrying a feather bigger than itself.

**Yellow-olive Flycatcher** *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*

Two seen at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Whiskered Flycatcher** *Myiobius barbatus*

One, seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-tailed Flycatcher** *Myiobius atricaudus*

One, seen on our descent at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Cliff Flycatcher** *Hirundinea ferruginea*

One, seen by group, at toilet stop on edge of Caledonia town, I missed it, in the loo at the time.

**Blue-billed Black-Tyrant** *Knipolegus cyanirostris*

One, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Crested Black Tyrant** *Knipolegus niggerimus*

One at a roadside stop *en route* to Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup> and two more when we got there.

**Velvety Black-Tyrant** *Knipolegus nigerrimus* **En.**

Only one, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey Monjita** *Xolmis velatus*

One, on 27<sup>th</sup> at Sum.

**White-rumped Monjita** *Xolmis velata*

One at Sum on 27<sup>th</sup> and another in the pasturelands on our way to GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Streamer-tailed Tyrant** *Gubernetes yetapa*

One at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup> and two when we went Giant Snipe-ing from R on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Masked Water Tyrant** *Fluvicola nengeta*

Seen on all visits to RW and other roadside fields/wetlands, in passing.

**White-headed Marsh Tyrant** *Arundinicola leucocephala*

As above, for Masked.

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus*

One, 'scoped visiting a distant nesthole at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>, luckily just before my 'scope blew over and broke, bah!

**Cattle Tyrant** *Machetornis rixosus*

A couple, dotting about RW throughout the week.

**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus*

One, at the start of GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and one at WT 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis*

Common and widespread.

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus*

Common and widespread.

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus*

A couple seen almost daily.

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarhynchus pitangua*

1-2 heard, if not seen, daily. The best, were our first, a pair nest-building at RW on our first morning, 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Variiegated Flycatcher** *Empidonomus varius*

One at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup> and one along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus*

Common and widespread.

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savana*

Seen on just one day, 28<sup>th</sup>, a few in the pasturelands *en route* to GT.

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer*

One, WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Swainson's Flycatcher** *Myiarchus swainsoni*

Three, at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, one at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and one, WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Short-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus ferox*

Three at RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, one at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup> and one RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Grey-hooded Attila** *Attila rufus* **En.**

Just one, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Spot-backed Antshrike** *Hypoedaleus guttatus*

One, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Large-tailed Antshrike** *Mackenziaena leachii*

One, seen fleetingly, PdC, 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-backed Antshrike** *Thamnophilus palliatus*

Two, seen on our first morning's visit to RW, and probably the same two on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Sooretama Slaty Antshrike** *Thamnophilus ambiguus*

A pair, seen at the start of the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>. **En.**

**Variable Antshrike** *Thamnophilus caerulescens*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Spot-breasted Antvireo** *Dysithamnus stictothorax*

A female, seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-backed Antvireo** *Dysithamnus xanthopterus*

Heard at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and one seen at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>. **En.**

**Star-throated Antwren** *Myrmotherula gularis* **En.**

Two, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-flanked Antwren** *Myrmotherula axillaris*

A pair at RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, and a female along yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Unicoloured Antwren** *Myrmotherula unicolor* **En.**

Two seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-winged Antwren** *Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus*

One seen along the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Serra Antwren** *Formicivora serrana*

A male, along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Bertoni's Antbird** *Drymophila rubricollis*

A pair at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Ochre-rumped Antbird** *Drymophila ochropyga* **En.**

One, at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Dusky-tailed Antbird** *Drymophila malura*

One, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Scaled Antbird** *Drymophila squamata*

One, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>. **En.**

**White-shouldered Fire-eye** *Pyriglena leucoptera*

One, along the Sao Bernardo trail, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous Gnatcatcher** *Conopophaga lineata*

One, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher** *Conopophaga melanops* **En.**

A fine male, then later a female, along the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Mouse-coloured Tapaculo** *Scytalopus speluncae* **En.**

It took us a while but our perseverance paid off, with one, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-capped Antthrush** *Formicarius colma*

One, GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-tailed Antthrush** *Chamaeza ruficauda*

One at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and another heard at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Wing-banded Hornero** *Furnarius figulus* **En.**

Two on our first morning's visit to RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and the same two likely, at RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous Hornero** *Furnarius rufus*

Seen on five dates, invariably a roadside "travel bird" as we drove out to sites.

**Rufous-capped Spinetail** *Synallaxis ruficapilla*

Two at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Spix's Spinetail** *Synallaxis spixi*

One at the hotel loo-stop at the bottom of the road up to MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Pallid Spinetail** *Cranioleuca pallida* **En.**

Two at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-chinned Spinetail** *Certhiaxis cinnamomea*

Seen on each of our visit made to RW.

**Rufous-fronted Thornbird** *Phacellodomus rufifrons*

Two, at roadside stop, at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-eyed Thornbird** *Phacellodomus ferrugineigula*

Two at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**White-browed Foliage-gleaner** *Anabathercia amaurotis*

One, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner** *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata*

One at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor lichtensteini*

One, of the following trio of F-gs, on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-capped Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor atricapillus*

One on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor rufum*

One on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-collared Foliage-gleaner** *Anabazenops fuscus*

One MdC on 31<sup>st</sup> **En.**

**Pale-browed Treehunter** *Cichlocolaptes leucophrus*

One on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> **En.**

**Rufous-breasted Leaf-tosser** *Sclerurus scansor*

It proved a struggle to see, but eventually one glimpsed, on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper** *Lochmias nematura*

One seen almost as soon as we got out of the van to make the swap to 4 x 4 at the foot of the steep drive up to PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Plain Xenops** *Xenops minutus*

One above us on GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Streaked Xenops** *Xenops rutilans*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, and one at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Plain-winged Woodcreeper** *Dendrocincla turdina*

One on the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Olivaceous Woodcreeper** *Sittasomus griseicapillus*

One on the GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and one MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Planalto Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris*

One at the outset of our walk up the MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Lesser Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus fuscus*

One, GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Scaled Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes squamatus* **En**

Two along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-billed Scythebill** *Campylorhamphus falcularius*

One, 'encouraged to show' on the walk down the trail at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous-browed Peppershrike** *Cyclarhis gujanensis*

Seen on just two dates; GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>, heard only MdC on 31<sup>st</sup> and RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Red-eyed (Chivi) Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus chivi*

Seen on four dates; RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>, GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and WT on 30<sup>th</sup>. A likely 'split' in the near future, as genetic studies have recently found that Red-eyed and Chivi Vireos are not even 'sister taxa'.

**Rufous-crowned Greenlet** *Hylophilus poicilotis*

One sighting only at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-eyed Greenlet** *Hylophilus amaurocephalus* **En**

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Lemon-chested Greenlet** *Hylophilus thoracicus*

One of our last new birds, we finally caught up with one at RW on 1<sup>st</sup>

**White-rumped Swallow** *Tachycineta leucorrhoa*

Two amongst mixed hirundines, over the pastureland on our way back from GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea*

Six on wires at the shop in Matumbo on our way to WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Brown-chested Martin** *Progne tapera*

Two amongst mixed hirundines, over the pastureland on our way back from GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-thighed Swallow** *Atticora tibialis*

One up at the waterfall on GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and two WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-and-white Swallow** *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*

Two amongst mixed hirundines, over the pastureland on our way back from GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

A scattering, seen daily wherever we ventured.

**Black-capped Donacobius** *Donacobius atricapilla*

Four RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Moustached Wren** *Pheugopedius genibarbis*

One, down by the volunteer quarters on edge of RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Long-billed Wren** *Thryothorus longirostris* **En.**

One, in the R lodge car park on 26<sup>th</sup>, and again on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Southern House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon*

Seen or heard daily about R lodge and gardens.

**Chalk-browed Mockingbird** *Mimus saturninus*

Noted almost daily, various locations.

**Yellow-legged Thrush** *Turdus flavipes*

One at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and then on 31<sup>st</sup> we saw the first of several at the hotel loo-stop at the base of the road up to MdC and then other seen on the walk down, perhaps half a dozen in total that day.

**Rufous-bellied Thrush** *Turdus rufiventris*

Noted on four dates, various locations.

**Pale-breasted Thrush** *Turdus leucomelas*

Noted on four dates at various locations. One on a nest along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Creamy-bellied Thrush** *Turdus amaurochalinus*

Two on 29<sup>th</sup> at PdC, one MdC on 31<sup>st</sup> and one along RW/yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**White-necked Thrush** *Turdus albicollis*

One, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

A few seen in passing through towns, when off-site on 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and 10+ in Matumbo village on 30<sup>th</sup> on our way to WT.

**Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild*

10+ in Matumbo village on 30<sup>th</sup> and four RW on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellowish Pipit** *Anthus lutescens*

One, skulking in wheel ruts in a field on our way to GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Tropical Parula** *Parula pitaiayumi*

One up in the canopy along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Masked Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis aequinoctialis*

One, Matumbo village, on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-crowned Warbler** *Basileuterus culicivorus*

2-3 along track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**White-rimmed Warbler** *Basileuterus leucoblepharus*

Heard only, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus*

Several at Carmo/Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>, some others at active nests on road up to MdC, 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Red-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus haemorrhous*

Fairly common, seen daily. Some active nests at RW.

**Campo Troupial** *Icterus jamacaii* **En.**

One seen at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-rumped Marshbird** *Pseudoleistes guirahuro*

Five in a field at Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Chopi Blackbird** *Gnorimopsar chopi*

Also five, in same field as above, Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-capped Blackbird** *Chrysomus ruficapillus*

Several seen, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and a couple there again on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivorus*

One behaving menacingly around oropendola nests at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis*

Low numbers, seen on six dates, mostly drive-by birds in farm pastures.

**White-browed Blackbird** *Sturnella superciliaris*

A fine male, sat on a wire near R entrance, as we set off for GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola*

Scarce, a couple seen on four dates.

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis*

Seen at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and in Matumbo village & along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Uniform Finch** *Haplospiza unicolor*

Just one, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola*

Common & widespread, seen daily.

**Wedge-tailed Grass Finch** *Emberizoides herbicola*

One, at dusk, when out Giant Snipe-ing on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina*

Seen on three dates; one at RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, a couple seen in the pasturelands *en route* to GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and a couple at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Sooty Grassquit** *Tiaris fuliginosus*

One at start of GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and two at Matumbo village on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Temminck's Seedeater** *Sporophila falcirostris*

One, heard only, in the stand of bamboo along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Double-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila caerulescens*

Several at RW on 26<sup>th</sup> and 6+ at beginning of GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**White-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila leucoptera*

One, RW/yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Red-cowled Cardinal** *Paroaria dominicana*

One on the edge of Matumbo village on 30<sup>th</sup> and an immature male RW on 1<sup>st</sup>. **En.**

**Hooded Tanager** *Nemosia pileata*

One, on our first morning walk on 26<sup>th</sup>, down by the volunteer accommodation/edge of RW and one at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-goggled Tanager** *Trichothraupis melanops*

One at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and two along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Flame-crested Tanager** *Tachyphonus cristatus*

Four in total, seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and 1-2 along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruby-crowned Tanager** *Tachyphonus coronatus*

One, RW on 26<sup>th</sup> one at the roadside banana stall on 29<sup>th</sup> and a couple along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Brazilian Tanager** *Ramphocelus bresilius*

A pair RW on 26<sup>th</sup>, and then the red-hot glowing male there on 1<sup>st</sup>, plus two WT on 30<sup>th</sup>

**Sayaca Tanager** *Thraupis sayaca*

Common & widespread, seen throughout the week at various localities.

**Azure-shouldered Tanager** *Tangara cyanoptera* **En.**

A couple along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-chevroned Tanager** *Thraupis ornate* **En**

Scarce, just a couple at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>, and likewise just a few at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum*

Seen daily in lower numbers, various places.

**White-bellied Tanager** *Tangara [mexicana] brasiliensis*

Two, at the outset of the GT on 28<sup>th</sup>. **En.** [Sometimes still treated as a subspecies of Turquoise Tanager]

**Green-headed Tanager** *Tangara seledon*

Two, at the outset of the GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and then several on our out day at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-necked Tanager** *Tangara cyanocephala*

Two, at the top of the WT on 30<sup>th</sup>, where the Frilled Coquet was on territory.

**Brassy-breasted Tanager** *Tangara desmaresti* **En.**

An absolute *stotter* of a bird, seen on three dates; at Carmo/Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Burnished-buff Tanager** *Tangara cayana*

A couple hanging around the R lodge garden all week, a couple seen at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and one along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Fawn-breasted Tanager** *Pipraeidea melanonota*

Two, along Sao Bernardo trail at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis*

Great views of two females and three males on our day at Carmo/Sum on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana*

Seen daily at various sites.

**Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus*

One at the start of the GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and then a pair along yellow trail on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous-headed Tanager** *Hemithraupis ruficapilla*

A pair, along the track at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup> and one along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-backed Tanager** *Hemithraupis flavicollis*

One, along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>, two along the WT on 30<sup>th</sup>, and several on 1<sup>st</sup> at R lodge and RW.

**Diademed Tanager** *Stephanophorus diadematus*

A couple seen at the top of PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>

**Chestnut-vented Conebill** *Conirostrum speciosum*

Four seen on our first day at RW, 26<sup>th</sup> and a few others at Carmo/Sum. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-crowned Ant-tanager** *Habia rubica*

A male on our way up GT on 28<sup>th</sup> and a female on our way down.

**Bay-chested Warbling-finch** *Poospiza thoracica* **En.**

Two of this handsome endemic, at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>

**Pileated Finch** *Coryphospingus cucullatus*

Two at Carmo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Purple-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia chlorotica*

Seen a couple of times during the week in R lodge gardens; others along WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Violaceous Euphonia** *Euphonia violacea*

4+ on our first morning, 26<sup>th</sup> in R lodge garden and RW, others at Carmo/Sum on 27<sup>th</sup> and WT on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-bellied Euphonia** *Euphonia pectoralis*

An obliging pair, seen at the roadside banana stall on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-green Grosbeak** *Caryothraustes canadensis*

Just one, seen along GT on 28<sup>th</sup>

**Green-winged Saltator** *Saltator similis*

Two, MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Thick-billed Saltator** *Saltator maxillosus*

One seen at PdC on 29<sup>th</sup> and another at MdC on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Hooded Siskin** *Spinus magellanicus*

Two, at start of Sao Bernardo trail, PdC on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**OTHER CRITTERS****Mammals**

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

**Capybara** *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris*

**White-tufted Marmoset** *Callithrix jacchus*

**Goefroy's Marmoset** *Callithrix geoffroyi*

**Reptiles**

**Broad-snouted Caiman** *Caiman latirostris*

**Tegu Lizard** *sp.*