

Brazil: The Atlantic Rainforest

Thu 9th – Fri 17th October 2014



Grey-winged Cotinga, Pico da Caledônia - one of those never-to-be-forgotten moments © Peter Tapsell from REGUA II tour

report compiled by tour leader:
Richard Thaxton

Trip Diary

Tour Leader: Richard Thaxton

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We arrived at REGUA to the talk of it being an *El Nino* year, which, though a Pacific Ocean phenomenon, can affect the weather of the entire South American continent. Here in southeast Brazil it had manifested as a prolonged very hot and dry spell of weather. For us this meant each day in the low-to-mid 30s and one day topping 40°C. There had been no significant rain for months with the inevitable impacts on the flowering and fruiting of trees. The spring-fed REGUA wetland was fine, as busy with birds as always, but elsewhere bird activity seemed a little subdued compared to how I've known it on previous visits to the Atlantic rainforest. Nevertheless, despite a scorching week which proved a challenge at times when walking forest trails, we had fun, saw a lot of fabulous birds and hopefully how and where we saw them will live long in the memory.

In total, 260 species were recorded, 31 of which were Brazilian endemics. The highlights? Well, you will all have your own, but some of these will surely be amongst them.

- The wonderful close views of the mysterious Common Potoo
- The cotinga hat trick – Black-and-gold, Swallow-tailed and Grey-winged Cotingas
- The Streamcreeper that joined us for lunch
- The sad rarity of Three-toed Jacamar
- The chip-eating Yellow-browed Woodpecker
- The ethereal experience of Giant Snipe-ing at dusk
- The blur of colour from the myriad of hummingbirds at Macae de Cima
- The *Daz*-whiteness, and the resounding “*bonk*” call, of Bare-throated Bellbird
- The colourful array of assorted tanagers
- And many more, add your own.....

Day 1 - Thursday 9th October

The inevitable travel day to start. We departed Heathrow at lunchtime on our BA flight, arriving at Rio de Janeiro late that night. On arrival, our emergence from the airport was quite swift where we were met by the ever-smiling Alceni who whisked us away from the bright lights and hustle & bustle of the city, to the starkly contrasting remote, dark, silent, reclusive oasis that is Guapiacu Lodge at REGUA Reserve, our base for the next week.

After a long travel day, we were tired and promptly retired to our rooms forthwith, but, not to be cheated out of birds to show for our travel day, for those who weren't out for the count the moment their heads hit the pillow, Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, Common Potoo and Pauraque were duly noted, calling out there in the darkness, before midnight.

Day 2 - Friday 10th October

The day dawned early, well it does doesn't it (!) and we were up and about just after first light. A long-lie was allowed for, if required, after yesterday's travel but our collective excitement meant that we were all assembled, up and at it, on the lodge tower.

And what a wake-up vista to behold? From the lodge garden and the tower we looked out across a precious swathe of the rare Atlantic rainforest biome, to the spectacular, jagged forested spine of the Serra dos Órgãos mountain range. This imposing, mountain ridge forms the backdrop to and indeed part of the REGUA Reserve property.

Birds were in evidence straightaway. From our elevated vantage point we were perfectly positioned for the first of many fly-by birds passing at eye level, including Picazuro and Pale-vented Pigeons, Red-rumped Cacique, Crested Oropendola, and Channel-billed Toucan. Fly-by raptors that would become staples for us during the week included both Yellow-headed and Southern Caracaras, Roadside Hawk, both Turkey and Black Vultures and a far from staple Bicoloured Hawk.

The lodge garden and trees around us on the tower similarly gave us our introduction to more regular, though no less wonderful birds, including our first hummers: the garden-resident Black Jacobin and Swallow-tailed Hummingbirds, Violet-capped Woodnymph and Glittering-throated Emerald. Tanagers included Blue Dacnis, Violaceous and Purple-throated Euphonias, Bananaquit, Chestnut-vented Conebill and Palm, Sayaca and Yellow-backed Tanagers. The common, ubiquitous, Great Kiskadees made themselves known, noisily, and at the other end of the spectrum, a Greenish Elaenia was a surprise find and a bonus, write-in bird, not seen again all week – a lucky start.

From our lofty spot we also got our first tantalising view down to part of the REGUA wetland below us, spotting Cattle Egrets leaving their night-time roost, Neotropic Cormorant, Anhinga, Striated Heron, Rufescent Tiger Heron and those beautiful blue-faced, buttermilk-coloured Capped Herons. Ringed and Amazon Kingfishers went back and forth, White-collared, Sick's and Grey-rumped Swifts belted by us, and noisy, clamorous gangs of both Smooth-billed and Greater Anis crashed about in bushes. In addition, as we watched wildlife, it watched us too – mind those three curious and inquisitive White-tufted Marmosets right beside us on the tower. It wasn't easy to break away, but breakfast beckoned.

After breakfast REGUA's resident guide Adulei joined us as we ventured down to the wetland. On our way down we made slow but rewarding progress, seeing so much along the way. We spent time familiarising ourselves with the regulars, and the differences between the closely related and lookalike species; Cattle Tyrant, Kiskadee, Social Flycatcher, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Streaked Flycatchers, Tropical Kingbird and Short-crested Flycatcher.

A little further on we caught up with a raft of new species; Chestnut-backed Antshrike, Common Tody-flycatcher, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, White-bearded Manakin, Rufous- and Pale-bellied Thrushes, White-flanked Antwren, our first endemic Wing-banded Hornero, and the diminutive White-barred Piculet proved a popular cutey.

More so though, our next bird, a highlight of the week for sure (on the first day!) on account of the unsurpassable views. A Common Potoo, perched on its 'nest', no more than the jagged top of a snapped tree, right beside the path. In the telescope at almost minimal focus, the views of this curious bird were simply fantastic. Perched there, with its nose-in-the-air haughtiness, it conveyed an - *I'm so well camouflaged you can't see me* – smugness. The ladies amongst us were seen to flush, smitten by this edgy, mysterious character with its earthy, rugged good looks, and not to mention those "*eye-lashes to die for*", eh Pam?

On finally reaching the wetland we added to our heron tally, with Cocoi Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron and Great Egret. Other waterbirds included Pied-billed Grebe, Purple Gallinule, both White-faced and Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, Brazilian Teal and Southern Lapwing. We had good views too of Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Yellow Tyrannulet and White-headed Marsh Tyrant, plus those wheatear-looking Masked Water Tyrants and Saffron Finches that escorted us along the path. Next up was a dull brown, drab female Double-collared Seedeater, (but I'm sure she's got a great personality). Unfortunately for her, the poor soul, she was followed by, and in contrast, positively frazzled by, the flamboyant retina-burning 'looker' that is Brazilian Tanager, or "*eye candy*" as Joe succinctly put it. Wow! A brighter bird you will not see.

At the swampy edges to the wetland we found Yellow-chinned Spinetail and a party of very vocal, Black-capped Donacobius, the show-offs, whereas Rufous-sided Crake needed a little tempting to help him show, but we all managed a wee glimpse.

By now it was getting very hot, and bird activity had begun to wane so we beat a retreat back to the lodge for lunch. As we back-pedalled, we lucked upon a female Masked Duck, the first to be seen for quite some time at REGUA despite them previously being almost a given. Lunch was followed by some downtime, a siesta for some, others relaxing, watching and enjoying the lodge garden birds.

At 3pm we ventured down to the hide overlooking part of the wetland. Made of concrete to thwart termites, the hope was that it would be cool in here, but it turned out to be more like a tandoori oven! Nevertheless, we stayed a while, until we were cooked through. It was relatively quiet, mostly birds familiar to us already, but we enjoyed close views of Pied-billed Grebes including that one battling to hold onto and eventually swallow an eel.

At 5pm we headed out to go sniping: a quest to search for Giant Snipe. On arrival at the site, towards dusk, we were greeted by a noisy Streamer-tailed Tyrant, watched by Burrowing Owl, hooted at by a distant Mottled Owl and tormented by a calling Ash-throated Crake that wouldn't show. In the gathering darkness, the excitement mounted when we began to hear the weird, unearthly calls of the snipe. We couldn't though pin one down and only managed to glimpse a bird on two fly-by sorties in the gloaming. Bah!

Then it was back for dinner and bed after a busy, bird-packed first full day. Phew!

Day 3 - Saturday 11th October

First thing, we were back on the tower for an hour or so – just the by now familiar suspects seen - before breakfasting early and heading off-site to Macae de Cima, an area of montane forest reaching a height of 1400m, with easy access to high elevation Atlantic Forest specialities.

Along the way we stopped at a roadside banana seller's stall, which is usually moving with tanagers, feeding on his over-ripe stock. Here we had good views of a dazzling array of tanagers including Blue-naped Chlorophonia, Chestnut-bellied and Violaceous Euphonias, Ruby-crowned and Green-headed Tanagers and a Blue Manakin. Not as bustling with birds as I've seen it but a worthwhile journey-breaking stop for ten minutes or so.

On the road up we made several speculative roadside stops that paid dividends. First we saw Bare-throated Bellbirds, separately a male, a female and a juvenile male in transitional plumage, their strident anvil-striking "*bonk, bonk*" calls resounding around the forest slopes. There was a colony of Crested Oropendolas with a parasitic Giant Cowbird eyeing-up their nests. In roadside forest edge we picked out Variable Antshrike, White-winged Becard, Grey-capped Tyrannulet, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, both Spix's and Rufous-capped Spinetail, Sharp-billed Treehunter, Dusky-tailed Antbird and Yellow-legged Thrush. There were fly-by Plain Parakeets too.

At Macae de Cima the track was very dry which enable us to drive all the way up, save some leg-work and take our time to bird at leisure when walking back down. First though, on arriving at the top, at the house of orchid-expert, the late David Miller, some friends, family or workmen were there, and though we'd come armed with our own sugar solution, they had already charged the hummingbird feeders. So we didn't have to wait, it was already a bustle of hummers. We just sat back and enjoyed the frenzied spectacle of multiple species to-ing and fro-ing, squabbling and chasing.

There was a riot of colour provided by: Brazilian Ruby, Violet-capped Woodnymph, Black Jacobin, Scaly-throated Hermit, Glittering-throated and Versicoloured Emeralds, Swallow-tailed and White-throated Hummingbirds, the exquisite Plovercrest and the elfin Amethyst Woodstar - what a beguiling cast, and what a performance. It was just utter pleasure, sat there basking in the warm sunshine watching their frantic antics. The last time I was at MdC it was all mist, drizzle and perishingly cold and I and those with me were unprepared and under-dressed. This time I'd laid it on thick about extra layers, waterproofs even gloves and hats! This time we were blessed with absolutely glorious weather and we could have been sat there in our simmets!

Just from this one spot, the array of hummers apart, we also enjoyed Azure-shouldered, Golden-chevrons, Brassy-breasted, Flame-crested, Green-headed and Burnished-buff Tanagers; found and 'scoped a Black-and-gold Cotinga and a Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant albeit a bit distant; watched a Long-tailed Tyrant at its nest hole; had both Surucua Trogon and Hooded Berryeater just above our heads plus a Pin-tailed Manakin, just a female, for now. As we lunched in the shade, we were joined by Blue-billed Black Tyrant and Thick-billed Saltator, a Yellow-browed Woodpecker flew in above us, a Mantled Hawk plummeted low in over our heads and a Black Hawk-eagle circled above us. What a spot!

Eventually though we began the leisurely walk down seeing birds all along the way, some species seen already but others that were new to us. Some were easy, others we had to work for. It took us a while but eventually we had good views of both Bertoni's Antbird and Ochre-rumped Antbird. Black-throated Trogon showed well too, as did another and much better Black-and-gold Cotinga, a 'scoped frame-filler of a view. The birds seemed to come in clumps. Further on, we bumped into Spot-billed Toucanet, Greenish Saltator Yellow-eared Woodpecker, Velvet Black Tyrant and Cinnamon Tanager. Moving on yet further the next flurry of species included Plain Antwren, Rufous-crowned Greenlet, Golden-crowned Warbler, Grey hooded and Sepia-capped Flycatchers.

We then stopped to watch and marvel at that Yellow-browed Woodpecker chipping away at a rotted tree stump and extracting that enormous, yellow, crenulated grub, looking like a huge crinkle-cut chip. This was followed by a Rufous-thighed Kite devouring a whopping locust. As we neared the gate, the group had become a little strung-out. So when Adulei and I heard a Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper below us somewhere and a little coaxing brought it up into view, Trevor was man-handled into position to see it to prevent it becoming a leader-only bird! We would though all eventually see this cracking bird later in the week.

At the vehicle by 3pm we began to make our way back, stopping on the drive down to catch up with Creamy-bellied Thrush, Red-eyed Thornbird, Planalto Tyrannulet, Pallid Spinetail and Grey-eyed Greenlet.

Day 4 - Sunday 12th October

After an away day yesterday we stayed closer to home today on the REGUA property, heading out to the Green Trail, aka Waterfall Trail. The drive to the trailhead took us through pasturelands during which we picked up bad-tempered looking Burrowing Owls scowling at us as we passed, Forked-tailed Flycatchers and Sooty Grassquit. Three unexpected Curl-crested Jays were a nice bonus too.

No sooner had we set off than Blond-crested Woodpecker went back and forth across the trail ahead of us. From then there began a steady flow of birds for us to enjoy: Grey-hooded Attila, White-winged Becard, Eye-ringed Tody Tyrant, Ochre-bellied and Yellow-olive Flycatchers. Southern Antpiper played hard to get but was glimpsed. As we walked through that corridor of bamboo, Temminck's Seedeater sang above our heads, Blue Manakin showed well as did that stunningly handsome Black-cheeked Gnateater.

It was by now very hot and humid and the uphill stretches of the trail proved a challenge, but we valiantly pressed on (well done everybody) and were duly rewarded with a flurry of antwrens; Rufous-winged, Star-throated, Unicoloured, Salvadori's and Streak-capped, plus Plain and Spot-breasted Antwrens. We struggled a bit for foliage-gleaners managing just Buff-fronted and Ochre-breasted.

After yesterday's dull green female Pin-tailed Manakin it was great to find a striking male. This plus Yellow-green Grosbeak and Red-crowned Ant Tanager completed a good outward leg of our walk. We made it to the waterfall and sat in the sunshine for lunch, joined by Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper for all to see this time, displaying to us as we ate. This, difficult-to-see-well bird, gave us wonderful prolonged views out in the open, doing exactly what it says on the tin, creeping a stream, as they do.

It was a blissful setting, but before long we needed to backtrack for home. The return downhill leg was more comfortable with more birds to boot. Best amongst them were Black-throated Saltator, Black-capped Becard, Olivaceous Woodcreeper and both Plain and Streaked Xenops. Being able to 'scope an obliging Greyish Mourner was a real treat too.

The pastureland drive back was profitable for new species too, with Campo Flicker, and a melée of hirundines; Grey-breasted Martin, White-rumped Swallows, Blue-and-white Swallows and many Southern Rough-winged Swallows. After dinner that evening some of us ventured out owling, hearing Mottled Owl and Tawny-browed Owl but none were seen.

Day 5 - Monday 13th October.

We were joined today by guide Rene who accompanied us off-site up and over the Serra dos Órgãos down to Sumidouro. It's a bit of a drive but a chance for some very special birds, not least of all the very rare Three-toed Jacamar, our main quest for the day.

The drive was a bit dispiriting, as the Sumidouro area seemed to have been ablaze. Palls of smoke hung in the air everywhere and it was all very hazy. The fires were largely due to the prolonged dry spell that that part of Brazil was experiencing; some fires had occurred naturally, but alas other fires had been set, illegally and sadly, to clear areas for cattle grazing. It seemed all very scorched.

No matter, roadside stops en route gave us chance to see Aplomado Falcon, White-tailed Hawk and Blue-winged Parrotlet. Arriving at the Carmo/Sumidouro area the Three-toed Jacamars were waiting for us, seen as soon as we got out of the minibus. It felt like such a very rare bird ought to be harder to find than that. Their rarity felt all a bit emotional too, a relic population but for how long given the inexorable habitat destruction we witnessed through deliberate burning of the surrounding area. It was of course great to see them.

Stops at intervals along the dusty road, gave us our first Guira Cuckoos - curiously absent so far, Long-billed Wren, Grey-headed Tody-flycatcher and Rufous Hornero. Further on we saw White-eared Puffbird, White-rumped Monjita, Rufous-fronted Thornbird, that incandescently orange Campo Troupial and those wonderfully vocal displaying Streamer-tailed Tyrant.

The heat was infernal and a shady spot for lunch was hard to find so we sought shelter at an air-conditioned roadside service station. After lunch we braved the heat for a little longer taking a stop-start drive along another stretch of track catching up with Eared Pygmy Tyrant, Striped Cuckoo, Shiny Cowbirds and a Dusky-legged Guan.

Day 6 - Tuesday 14th October

An on-site day today. We breakfasted early and, accompanied by Rene, set off on the short drive to the Waldenoor Trail on the REGUA property. Both Cliff and Streaked Flycatchers greeted us on arrival and then slowly walking up the trail we saw many birds including: Squirrel Cuckoo, Rufous-capped Motmot, Channel-billed Toucan, Blond-crested and Yellow-throated Woodpeckers, Olivaceous Woodcreeper and Ochre-bellied, Sepia-capped and Yellow-olive Flycatchers.

Others we saw, but better than previously, included fantastic close views of Blue Manakin, 'scopefuls of Surucua Trogon, Spot-billed Toucanet, both Plain and Maroon-bellied Parakeets and the swifts - Sick's, Grey-rumped and White-collared. New species were White-tipped Dove and Saw-billed Hermit and then venturing up a trail spur gave us great views of a chubby-looking Buff-bellied Puffbird and then those superb views of Least Pygmy Owl perched just above our heads and for long enough to be thoroughly 'scoped by all. Also new for us along this trail were Chestnut-crowned Becard, the squat and stocky White-throated Spadebill, White-throated Woodcreeper, Chivi Vireo and Tropical Parula. Both Rufous-headed and Red-necked Tanager were up there in the canopy too, but gave us only a fleeting glimpses.

We returned to the lodge for lunch and to sit out the worst of the day's heat, but it hardly seemed to subside at all. Nevertheless we ventured down to the wetland in the mid-late afternoon to see what was what, adding Chestnut-headed Blackbird, and getting better views than previously of Chestnut-backed Antshrike and Grey-headed Tody-flycatcher. The usual wetland suspects were of course there, including herons: Capped, Striated, Cocoli and Black-crowned Night.

In the evening we gave Giant Snipe another shot and this time our luck was better. Ash-throated Crake wasn't so shy this time too and strutted out into the open for us. As darkness fell we were fortunate to see Wedge-tailed Grass Finch, but the main event was the snipe. Several birds were heard out there in the darkness and Adulei deftly managed to track one down for us, held for us in the beam of his lamp. We carefully walked in behind him and his lamp and peered over his shoulder for superb views of the snipe at very close range.

Day 7 - Wednesday 15th October

On this our last off-site day we headed for Pico da Caledônia, a conveniently accessible high elevation forest area, where a steep track would take us to 2219m - almost to the treeline. En route we stopped briefly at the banana seller's stall but there wasn't a lot new going on, just a few of the now familiar tanagers. As we passed through the town of Novo Friburgo (aka *Knickerville*), we considered a brief stop, but no-one needed any.

At Caledonia, before making our ascent we made a rest stop in the town where, as we queued for the loo, we spotted our first Swallow Tanager of the trip. Having then swapped from the minibus to the necessary 4 x 4 it was onwards and upwards as they say, for the steep, low-ratio ascent. With its sharp bends and sheer drops, it was a bit of a white-knuckler to the top. But worth it for the accessibility and the leisurely saunter back down.

It was another very hot day but here the altitude and breeze gave us some welcome respite from the heat of the week so far. We were in amongst the birds as soon as we jumped out of the jeep. First up were Plovercrest, not a bad start, and another fine male Swallow Tanager. Birds came thick and fast and within the first 50m or so we'd seen Rufous Gnateater, Serra do Mar Tyrannulet, Red-eyed Thornbird, Uniform Finch, Brazilian Ruby, Rufous-tailed Antthrush, but alas only heard Mouse-coloured Tapaculo.

A lovely cobalt blue Diademed Tanager was next, followed by the humble Rufous-collared Sparrow. A Crane Hawk was spotted circling high above us whilst White-collared Swifts belted back and forth. Fuscous Flycatcher proved furtive but we nailed it eventually and Large-tailed Antshrike also played hard to get but we all had glimpses. A Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant was seen at distance. We put time in waiting and watching for movement in the forest edge and understory and our patience was eventually rewarded with Ochre-faced Tody-flycatcher alongside Bay-chested Warbling Finch.

All the time though, no-one dared mention Grey-winged Cotinga or our chances of seeing it, it was the proverbial elephant in the room. Rene heard it sing and caught my eye but we said nothing to you so as not to raise expectations. We walked on a little further to a bend with a good lookout giving us plenty of room to scan, when lo, what should hove into view but the enigmatic Grey-winged Cot. How lucky were we, to see this rare and elusive bird, only rediscovered in 1980 and currently known only from the small forest pocket on this mountain? It perched atop a tree just long enough to be 'scoped by all, prompting not just a little jubilation on my part. Surely the unofficial 'mission-bird' for Limosa's REGUA week. Reezult!

We walked on a little further, adding Brassy-breasted Tanager and Pallid Spinetail to our tally. We then rendezvoused with the jeep and had lunch, after which we jumped in and drove the next stretch down, to a likely spot for Black-and-gold Cotinga, another Atlantic rainforest endemic. And there it was! Two in fact, just like that. Luck was on our side. Could we make it a cotinga hat trick?

On reaching the bottom of the track we diverted along the Sao Bernardo trail. It was absolutely roasting hot and it was tempting to call time and head for home, but we persevered. Sauntering along, we flushed a Brown Tinamou, saw Variable Antshrike, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Scaled Woodcreeper, Campo Flicker, Olivaceous Elaenia, Sepia-capped Flycatcher, Rufous-crowned Greenlet, Golden-crowned Warbler, a White-tailed Hawk, and...not one, but four magnificent **Swallow-tailed Cotingas!!!!** Absolute stotters, and what fantastic, prolonged 'scope views we had. Surely, one of the world's most beautiful birds.

How do you top that? And what with the heat too, we called it a day and turned for home. However on the final stretch down to the minibus, we were stopped in our tracks by a Red-legged Seriema strutting along the road ahead of us.

Day 8 - Thursday 16th October

Our last day at REGUA. Pre-breakfast we ventured down to the hide overlooking part of the wetland. Here we finally caught up with Whistling Heron to complete the checklist 'set' of herons. One was just above our heads, right in front of the hide, and later joined by two others across the water from us who began to live up to their name and give their whistling kettle-like display song. Love was clearly in the air this morning as in a nearby tree two Rufescent Tiger Herons began canoodling cutely and a pair of Wing-banded Horneros performed their wing-lifting display to each other.

Other than that it was the usual suspects; whistling ducks, moorhens, jacanas and gallinules, noisy Kiskadees, Social Flycatchers and Yellow-chinned Spinetails. The Capybaras looked great soaking up the early morning sun.

After breakfast through to lunch, we returned for a last look at the wetland completing the yellow trail. We caught up with one or two species that had eluded us thus far including Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture quartering the forest adjacent to the wetland pools, and a fine male Hooded Tanager.

The Common Potoo was on its perch looking as haughty as ever. What a great bird, and so much enjoyed by us that week. The Pauraque was still on its nest along the yellow trail, as was the Tropical Screech Owl, plus we found that other one roosting in the tree by the reserve office. We heard Lineated Woodpecker for the second time that week but alas it remained unseen. Other than that, other birds were what had now become familiar to us.

We returned to the lodge for lunch, followed by time to pack and prepare for travel, relax and soak up the ambience of the lodge, its garden, the tower and that spectacular vista. Before long though, our driver Alceni arrived to take us back to Rio for the flight home.

Arriving on the coast at Rio just before dusk, we were able to add two more final species to our tally for the week, Little Blue Heron and Magnificent Frigatebird.

Day 9 - Friday 17th October

As you know I remained at REGUA to await the arrival of a second *Limosa* group a week later, so clearly I wasn't with you for the return flight 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 you find the report a good read, that it helps you revisit the experience in your mind's eye and serves as a memento of our time together at REGUA. Many thanks for coming along and sharing it all.

Richard Thaxton

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED

(Total of 260 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 - Sumidouro

PdC - Pico da Caledônia

WT - Waldenoor Trail

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*

Several seen on arrival in Rio for the return flight to Blighty, 16th

Brown Tinamou *Crypturellus obsoletus*

One flushed from a forest-edge residence's garden along Sao Bernardo trail at Pico da Caledônia (PdC) on 15th

Dusky-legged Guan *Penelope obscura*

Heard at Macae de Cima on 11th and two seen at Sumidouro (Sum), 13th

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*

Seen most days, certainly when on site at REGUA wetland (RW), but on excursions days too, in wetland fields passed en route

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

Seen on five days at RW

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

1-3 seen each visit to RW

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis*

Many seen on all visits to RW

Masked Duck *Nomonyx dominicus*

Just one, a female at RW on 10th. Apparently this was the first sighting for quite some time, yet previously was almost a given at the wetland, so we were lucky

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*

Three, RW on 10th and again on 16th. 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. An evolving wetland

Rufescent Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum*

Good views on three occasions, RW. An adult and juvenile on 10th and adults 14th & 16th

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Seen on four dates in or flying from RW.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Seen on five dates; 1-3 RW on each visit, others seen in wetland fields & ditches en route to other sites

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibi*

Seen daily at RW and a drive-by bird in fields everywhere we went. At least 500+ birds at RW roost each evening

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*

One RW on three dates; 10th, 14th and 16th

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

2-3 RW all week, several others seen *en route* to other sites

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus*

Between 4-6 of these beautiful buttermilk-coloured birds seen on six dates at RW

Whistling Heron *Syrigma sibilatrix*

We almost missed it, not around all week until our last day when we had great views of two above our heads at the hide, joined by a third and obligingly whistling like kettles for us, 16th

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*

One or two seen as we approached Rio on our way to the airport, 16th

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

One picked out amongst the cattle egret roost at RW 10th & 11th

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*

1-2 seen on all visits to RW

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

Between 6-10 RW on each visit made

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Seen all week overhead at R and wherever we went

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*

These invaluable Neotropical bin-men were all over the place, in high numbers

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*

Just one seen, over RW on 16th

Southern Caracara *Caracara plancus*

Seen daily, where ever we were

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*

Common all week, everywhere we went

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis*

One, on our way to Sum. on 13th

Rufous-thighed Kite *Harpagus diodon*

Seen on two dates 11th & 12th at R

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*

One perched in the lodge garden, 15th

Mantled Hawk *Leucopternis polionotus*

One, low, right over our heads at David Miller's house at Macae de Cima (MdC) on 11th

Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens*

One, soaring high above us at PdC on 15th

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis*

Two, RW/yellow trail 10th, 3-4 seen either *en route* to and/or at Sum. on 13th

Bicoloured Hawk *Accipiter bicolor*

One seen from the tower at R, 10th

Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris*

Noted on five dates various locations, some at roadsides, unsurprisingly!

White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus*

One, seen high above us at a roadside stop *en route* to Sum. on 13th, another at PdC on 15th

Black Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*

Just one sighting, MdC, 11th

Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata*

An obliging bird in front of our vehicle at PdC on 15th

Rufous-sided Crake *Laterallus melanophaius*

One, of these skulking little critters, coaxed into view at RW on 10th

Grey-necked Wood Rail *Aramides cajanea*

Heard after dusk, from our rooms, on several evenings. One seen by Christine, RW, 13th

Ash-throated Crake *Porzana albicollis*

Heard only, when we went Giant Snipe-ing from R on 10th, but then eventually seen there on 14th

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*

On our first attempt, several were heard and one fly-by bird in the gloaming seen by some on 10th, then one seen well on our second attempt, 14th. What a weird sound they make!

Feral Rock Dove *Columba livia*

A few seen en route through towns.

Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro*

Common, fly-by birds throughout the week.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis*

Three, fly-by birds from R tower on our first morning, on 10th.

Plumbeous Pigeon *Patagioenas plumbea*

One, from R tower on 10th, heard MdC, 11th.

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*

Common and widespread; seen daily.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

Seen on three dates; WT on 14th, PdC on 15th and RW/yellow trail on 16th.

Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla*

Heard all week, but not seen.

Maroon-bellied Parakeet *Pyrrhura frontalis*

Five fly-by birds from R tower on our first morning, 10th, four at MdC on 11th, birds overhead along GT, 12th, and others at PdC on 15th.

Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius*

Three, Sum. on 13th.

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

Brief views of fly-by birds at MdC on 11th, and four along WT on 14th.

Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani*

Three fly-bys at the roadside banana stall en route to MdC on 11th, two overhead along GT on 12th.

Orange-winged Parrot *Amazona amazonica*

Four, in the lodge garden on 13th, others on WT on 14th.

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

Seen on three dates; from the lodge on 10th, MdC on 11th and WT on 14th.

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major*

Small groups on all visits to RW.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*

Seen daily, when at RW and at various places visited throughout the week.

Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira*

Three seen at Sum. on 13th were our only records, surprisingly.

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia*

Heard only at RW on three occasions, one finally seen at Sum. on 13th.

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba*

That brilliant one peering at us over the rim of its nest hole along the RW/yellow trail on 10th and 16th and a second roosting bird near the REGUA office, also on 16th.

Mottled Owl *Strix virgata*

Alas, a heard only, on both our Giant Snipe outings on 11th and 14th, and on our brief owl-ing outing to REGUA's so-called 'fragment' block of forest on 12th.

Tawny-browed Owl *Pulsatrix koeniswaldiana*

As above, heard only, when owl-ing, 12th.

Least Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium minutissimum*

Oddly, we saw this species, the more difficult of the two pygmy owls, wonderfully well on the WT on the 14th, peering down at us.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*

We were sent to sleep and woken by a calling bird somewhere outside our rooms throughout our stay at R and heard them elsewhere too, but could we actually find one? It remained a heard only, bah!

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*

One, when out Giant Snipe-ing on 10th and two there again on 14th, and two along the track through the pasturelands towards head of the GT on 12th.

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*

Unbelievably great views of that bird nesting atop a stump, as they do, right beside the RW path. There to marvel at every time we passed by.

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*

Four seen in vehicle headlamps as we returned from Giant Snipe-ing on 10th. Others heard, around the lodge at night all week, and we found that bird on eggs, right by a seat on the RW/yellow trail, 16th.

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*

Recorded daily, in all/most locations with

Biscutate Swift *Streptoprocne biscutata*

By careful scanning & panning with these rapid fly-by birds, a few were picked out amongst flocks of the above w-c swifts, by their incomplete white collar and less forked/almost square-ended tail.

Tricky, but we got there!

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*

Noted on four dates in small numbers.

Sick's Swift *Chaetura meridionalis*

Noted on three dates in small numbers, often in mixed flocks with Grey-rumped Swifts.

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis*

Just one, over RW late afternoon on 10th.

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

A single bird buzzed about us on WT on 14th.

Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsuta*

One seen at R lodge feeders, 10th.

Scale-throated Hermit *Phaethornis eurynome*

One, David Miller's (DM's) house at MdC on 11th.

Swallow-tailed Hummingbird *Eupetomena macroura*

Daily, at R lodge feeders, a very aggressive individual that repelled most others hummers, but curiously almost no-where else all week.

Black Jacobin *Melanotrochilus fuscus*

Seen daily, the one brave soul at R lodge feeders, braving the belligerence of the Swallow-tail. Others seen at MdC on 11th.

Plovercrest *Stephanoxis lalandi*

One on the feeders at DM's house, MdC 11th and another on our walk down PdC, 15th.

Violet-capped Woodnymph *Thalurania glaucopis*

Seen on four dates at R lodge feeders, and likewise at MdC, 11th.

White-chinned Sapphire *Hylocharis cyanus*

Seen on GT on 12th, Wt on 14th and at PdC on 15th.

White-throated Hummingbird *Leucochloris albicollis*

Seen on the feeders at the DM's house at MdC, 11th.

Versicoloured Emerald *Amazilla versicolor*

One of feeders at DM's house, MdC 11th, one along GT, 12th.

Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata*

Seen on five dates at R lodge.

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

Three, on feeders at DM's house MdC 11th, and one PdC 15th.

Amethyst Woodstar *Calliphlox amethystine*

Just the one of these diminutive beauties, on the feeders at DM's house, MdC, 11th.

Surucua Trogon *Trogon surrucura*

One seen at DM's house, MdC 11th, and one seen along the WT, 14th.

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*

Just one seen, at MdC on 11th.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

At least two birds seen on four dates at RW.

Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquatus*

At least two birds seen on three dates at RW.

Rufous-capped Motmot *Baryphthengus ruficapillus*

Heard all week, at night and at dawn from our lodge rooms. One seen on GT on 12th, and one right beside the vehicle as we returned to the lodge on 13th.

Spot-billed Toucanet *Selenidera maculirostris*

Three, on the walk down from DM's house, MdC 11th, and one along the WT 14th.

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus*

Two seen from the R lodge tower on our first morning, 10th, two along the GT on 12th and one when out Giant snipe-ing on 14th.

White-barred Piculet *Picumnus cirratus*

Four RW on our first morning, 10th, one at Sum. on 13th, two along WT, 14th and two seen RW on 16th.

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

One on our way down the trail at MdC 11th and one PdC on 15th.

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula*

One, on GT on 12th and another on WT on 14th.

Yellow-browed Woodpecker *Piculus aurulentus*

One, MdC on 11th.

Campo Flicker *Colaptes campestris*

Three seen on 12th as we passed through pasturelands on our way to GT, two at a roadside stop on our way to Sum. on 13th, two on our way to WT on 14th and one at PdC on 15th.

Blond-crested Woodpecker *Celeus flavescens*

Two seen along the GT, 12th were our only encounters.

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

Heard only, RW on 10th and again 16th.

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

In total we must have seen at least eight of these rare and threatened birds, sadly a significant part of the world population! Seen almost the moment we stepped out of the vehicle at Sum. on 13th.

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda*

In contrast to the above, we saw just two of these far, far commoner species; one showed well along the RW/yellow trail on 10th and one on GT on 12th.

Buff-bellied Puffbird *Notharchus swainsoni*

One, along WT on 14th.

White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru*

Two obliging birds along the roadside at Sum. on 13th.

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

At first, just a disappointing drab female on the walk down at MdC on 11th, but then a 'scope-full of a resplendent male along GT, 12th.

White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus* .

Scarce, just a pair seen along the RW/yellow trail on our first morning, 10th.

Blue Manakin *Chiroxiphia caudata*

A female at MdC on 11th, a pair along the GT on 12th and two along WT on 14th.

Chestnut-crowned Becard *Pachyramphus castaneus*

A pair seen on WT on 14th.

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus*

A male on the walk down from DM's house at MdC on 11th, and a male seen along the GT on 12th

Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus*

One seen along GT on 12th and one along WT on 14th.

Crested Becard *Pachyramphus validus*

One, MdC 11th.

Swallow-tailed Continga *Phibalura flavirostris*

Wonderful views of four of these exquisite birds, Sao Bernardo trail (PdC), 15th.

Hooded Berryeater *Carpornis cucullata* **En**

Great views of one above our heads as we lunched at DM's house, MdC 11th.

Bare-throated Bellbird *Procnias nudicollis*

An adult male, a female and a juvenile male, all 'scoped, but not together, at a roadside stop as we drove up to MdC 11th.

Grey-winged Cotinga *Tijuca condita* En.

Possibly the bird that defines this trip. One kindly popped up onto a treetop just long enough for us all to take a look in the 'scope. Marvellous.

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

A male, 'scoped from DM's house and a female on our walk back down from here, MdC 11th, then two males at PdC 15th.

Planalto Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias fasciatus*

One at MdC on 11th and one at PdC on 15th.

Grey-capped Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias griseocapilla*

One at MdC on 11th and one at PdC on 15th.

Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata*

One, in the lodge garden on our first morning, 10th.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*

One, RW on 10th and two at Sum. on 13th.

Olivaceous Elaenia *Elaenia mesoleuca*

One along Sao Bernardo trail (PdC) on 15th.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*

One, RW on 10th.

Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola*

One, RW on 10th.

Southern Antpipit *Corythopis delalandi*

Proved tricky, but eventually some of us glimpsed one along GT, 12th.

Serra do Mar Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes difficilis* En.

One on the steep walk down at PdC on 15th.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus*

Three on GT on 12th and two on WT, on 14th.

Grey-hooded Flycatcher *Mionectes rufiventris*

Just the one, on the walk down at MdC on 11th.

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*

Singles on three dates; MdC on 11th, GT on 12th and WT on 14th.

Eye-ringed Tody Tyrant *Hemitriccus orbitatus* En.

Two, along GT on 12th, one along WT on 14th and one on the walk down at PdC on 15th.

Eared Pygmy Tyrant *Myiornis auricularis*

One at Sum. on 13th.

Ochre-faced Tody-flycatcher *Poecilatriccus plumbeiceps*

One at PdC on 15th.

Yellow-lored (Grey-headed) Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum poliocephalum* En.

One, at Sum. On 13th.

Common Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*

Two on our first morning at RW, 10th and one at Sum. on 13th.

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*

Seen on three dates; GT on 12th, Wt on 14th and at PdC on 15th.

White-throated Spadebill *Platyrinchus mystaceus*

One, on WT on 14th.

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*

One at the road toll on our way to MdC on 11th and one on our way to WT on 14th.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus*

One at PdC on 15th.

Blue-billed Black-Tyrant *Knipolegus cyanirostris*

Seen at MdC on 11th and PdC on 15th.

Velvety Black-Tyrant *Knipolegus nigerrimus* En.

One. MdC on 11th.

White-rumped Monjita *Xolmis velata*

Two on telephone wires at Sum. on 13th.

Streamer-tailed Tyrant *Gubernetes yetapa*

One seen towards dusk when we went out Giant Snipe-ing from R on 10th and a responsive, enthusiastic roadside pair at Sum. on 13th.

Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant *Muscipipra vetula*

One, MdC on 11th, one at PdC on 15th and one RW/yellow trail on 16th.

Masked Water Tyrant *Fluvicola nengeta*

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

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala*

At least one pair at RW, seen whenever we looked.

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*

One, 'scoped visiting a nesthole, DM's house, MdC on 11th.

Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosus*

One, RW on 10th, others seen *en route* to other sites during the week.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*

Common and widespread. 144

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*

Common and widespread.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*

Seen on four dates; RW on 10th, WT on 14th, PdC on 15th and again RW on 16th.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarhynchus pitangua*

Seen on four dates; R on 10th, GT on 12th, PdC on 15th and again R on 16th.

Variegated Flycatcher *Empidonomus varius***Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus***

Common and widespread.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*

Several, seen on four dates; pasturelands *en route* to GT on 12th, *en route* to WT on 14th and on our way to PdC on 15th.

Greyish Mourner *Rhytiperna simplex*

One, GT on 12th.

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*

One, at RW on 10th, two at Sum. on 13th.

Grey-hooded Attila *Attila rufus* En.

One along GT on 12th and one heard along WT on 14th.

Large-tailed Antshrike *Mackenziaena leachii*

One, seen fleetingly, PdC, 15th.

Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus*

Seen on most visits to RW, heard only along GT on 12th and one seen along WT on 14th.

Variable Antshrike *Thamnophilus caerulescens*

A pair, MdC on 11th, on our descent from DM's house.

Rufous-capped Antshrike *Thamnophilus ruficapillus*

One, MdC on 11th.

Spot-breasted Antwren *Dysithamnus stictothorax*

A pair, seen along GT on 12th.

Plain Antwren *Dysithamnus mentalis*

One seen on walk down from MdC on 11th and another along GT on 12th.

Star-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula gularis* En.

One, along GT on 12th and one along WT on 14th.

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris*

Just the one, RW on 10th.

Salvadori's Antwren *Myrmotherula minor* En.

Two, GT on 12th.

Unicoloured Antwren *Myrmotherula unicolor* En.

Two seen along GT on 12th.

Rufous-winged Antwren *Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus*

One seen along the GT on 12th.

Bertoni's Antbird *Drymophila rubricollis*

We struggled at first but then a pair emerged giving obliging views, at MdC on 11th on trail down from DM's house.

Rufous-tailed Antbird *Drymophila genei* **En.**

One at PdC on 15th.

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

One, at MdC on 11th.

Dusky-tailed Antbird *Drymophila malura*

Two, at MdC on 11th.

Streak-capped Antwren *Terenura maculate*

One, GT on 12th.

Rufous Gnateater *Conopophaga lineata*

One, PdC on 15th.

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

One of these skulkers coaxed to the trail edge along GT on 12th.

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

Heard only, at PdC on 15th.

Rufous-tailed Antthrush *Chamaeza ruficauda*

Glimpsed by some, down that steep bank at DM's house, MdC on 11th.

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

Seen almost daily, at or on leaving R when heading out.

Rufous Hornero *Furnarius rufus*

Just the one! Seen at roadside whilst stuck in traffic on our way to Sum. on 13th.

Rufous-capped Spinetail *Synallaxis ruficapilla*

Three at MdC on 11th.

Spix's Spinetail *Synallaxis spixi*

One at MdC on 11th, heard only in the scrubby clearing along GT on 12th, and two PdC on 15th.

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

Two at MdC on 11th and one at PdC on 15th.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomea*

Seen on any visit made to RW.

Rufous-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons*

Two, at roadside stop, at Sum. on 13th.

Red-eyed Thornbird *Phacellodomus ferrugineigula*

Two at MdC on 11th and one at PdC on 15th.

Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor lichtensteini*

Just the one, on GT on 12th.

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufum*

Similarly, just the one, on GT on 12th.

Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper *Lochmias nematura*

One, glimpsed by some (perhaps just Trevor, I think) on our walk down for DM's house, MdC on 11th, but then great views for all as we lunched at the waterfall at the head of the GT on 12th.

Sharp-billed Treehunter *Heliobletus contaminatus*

One at a roadside stop on our way up to MdC 11th.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*

One above us on GT on 12th.

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans*

One above us on GT, 12th and one along WT on 14th.

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*

Just two dates; GT on 12th and WT on 14th.

White-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes albicollis*

Just one sighting - WT on 14th.

Planalto Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris*

Just one sighting - MdC on 11th.

Scaled Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes squamatus* **En**

One at PdC on 15th.

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis*

Noted on just two dates; MdC on 11th and PdC on 15th.

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

Glimpsed up in the canopy along GT on 12th, along WT on 14th and RW/yellow trail on 16th.

Rufous-crowned Greenlet *Hylophilus poicilotis*

Two sightings, MdC on 11th and PdC on 15th.

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

Two seen at Sum. on 13th.

Curl-crested Jay *Cyanocorax cristatellus*

Three, at head of GT on 12th and two at Sum. on 13th.

White-rumped Swallow *Tachycineta leucorrhoa*

A few amongst mixed *hirundines* as we came back through the pasturelands from GT on 12th.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*

As above, but otherwise scarce/absent elsewhere.

Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*

As above. Plus a few seen *en route* to PdC on 15th.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

A scattering, seen daily.

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla*

Two very vocal pairs at RW on 10th and 14th.

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

Just one, at Sum. on 13th.

Southern House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

Seen or heard daily about the lodge and gardens.

Chalk-browed Mockingbird *Mimus saturninus*

Noted almost daily, various locations.

Yellow-legged Thrush *Turdus flavipes*

A couple seen up at MdC on 11th.

Rufous-bellied Thrush *Turdus rufiventris*

Noted on four dates, various locations.

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas*

Noted on four dates, various locations.

Creamy-bellied Thrush *Turdus amaurochalinus*

Just one sighting, up at MdC on 11th.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

A few seen in passing through towns, when off-site on 11th and 15th

Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi*

One seen along WT on 14th.

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*

Seen only on one day, 11th, at MdC.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*

Low numbers on four dates. Some active nests on road up to MdC, 11th.

Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous*

Seen on all visits to RW and from R lodge tower.

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

One seen at Sum. on 13th.

Chestnut-capped Blackbird *Chrysomus ruficapillus*

A few seen, RW on 14th.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*

One on our way down from MdC on 11th and two in a roadside horse paddock at Sum. on 13th.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*

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

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

Unusually scarce, a few seen on just two dates.

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*

Seen at MdC on 11th and PdC on 15th.

Uniform Finch *Haplospiza unicolor*

Just one, at PdC on 15th.

Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola*

Common & widespread, seen daily.

Wedge-tailed Grass Finch *Emberizoides herbicola*

Two, at dusk, on our second attempt at Giant Snipe-ing on 14th.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

A couple seen in the pasturelands en route to GT on 12th and around the farm at start of WT on 14th.

Temminck's Seedeater *Sporophila falcirostris*

One in the stand of bamboo along GT on 12th.

Double-collared Seedeater *Sporophila caerulescens*

Just one along RW/yellow trail on our first morning, 10th.

Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata*

One, lodge gardens on 16th.

Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus*

Seen along GT on 12th and WT on 14th.

Ruby-crowned Tanager *Tachyphonus coronatus*

Several of these black & tan duos during the week, seen on five dates, at the roadside banana stall on our way to and at MdC on 11th and along Gt on 12th and at PdC on 15th.

Brazilian Tanager *Ramphocelus bresilius*

We saw this retina-burner on a daily basis – wow, those incandescent, red-hot glowing males – “eye-candy” Joe termed ‘em.

Sayaca Tanager *Thraupis sayaca*

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

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

Scarce. Just the one, up at DM's house at MdC on 11th.

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

Scarce. A few seen up at MdC on 11th were our only ones.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

Seen daily in lower numbers.

Green-headed Tanager *Tangara seledon*

A few of these *lookers* seen on four dates; MdC on 11th, GT on 12th, WT on 14th and at PdC on 15th

Red-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanocephala*

Alas, just one all week, and poor views at that, in a high-up canopy flock on WT on 14th.

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

An absolute *stotter* of a bird. Seen on two dates; up at MdC on 11th and PdC on 15th.

Burnished-buff Tanager *Tangara cayana*

Seen on three occasions at R lodge feeders. Others at MdC on 11th, at Sum. on 13th and at PdC on 15th.

Cinnamon Tanager *Schistochlamys ruficapillus*

Two seen on way down from MdC on 11th.

Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis*

Only two seen, on 15th at PdC – one when we made a loo-stop at Caledonia town, PdC on 15th and another later on, higher up.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

Seen daily at various sites.

Rufous-headed Tanager *Hemithraupis ruficapilla*

Only one seen, along WT on 14th, in a mixed flock high in the canopy.

Yellow-backed Tanager *Hemithraupis flavicollis*

A few seen on four dates at various localities.

Diademed Tanager *Stephanophorus diadematus*

A couple seen at PdC on 15th.

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*

A female, at DM's house, McD on 11th.

Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum*

Seen just twice; RW on 10th and at Sum. on 13th.

Red-crowned Ant-tanager *Habia rubica*

Just one sighting, along GT on 12th.

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

Just the one, of this handsome endemic, at PdC on 23rd.

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica*

Seen on three dates at R, in the lodge garden

Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea*

Noted on six dates, the best at the roadside banana stall on 11th and 15th.

Chestnut-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia pectoralis*

Seen at the roadside banana stall on 11th and along Gt on 12th.

Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea*

Just one seen fleetingly at the banana stall on 11th.

Yellow-green Grosbeak *Caryothraustes canadensis*

Seen twice; along GT on 12th and WT on 14th.

Black-throated Grosbeak *Saltator fuliginosus*

One, GT on 12th.

Green-winged Saltator *Saltator similis*

Seen just once. MdC on 11th.

Thick-billed Saltator *Saltator maxillosus*

One seen MdC on 11th.

OTHER CRITTERS**Mammals**

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*

Guianan Squirrel *Sciurus aestuans*

Capybara *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris*

Brown Howler Monkey *Alouatta guariba*

White-tufted Marmoset *Callithrix jacchus*

Tayra *Eira barbara*

Reptiles

Broad-snouted Caiman *Caiman latirostris*

Tegu Lizard sp.