

FIELD REPORT

PANAMA'S DARIEN LOWLANDS: CANOPY CAMP

JANUARY 13–21, 2024



Harpy Eagle © Erik Bruhnke

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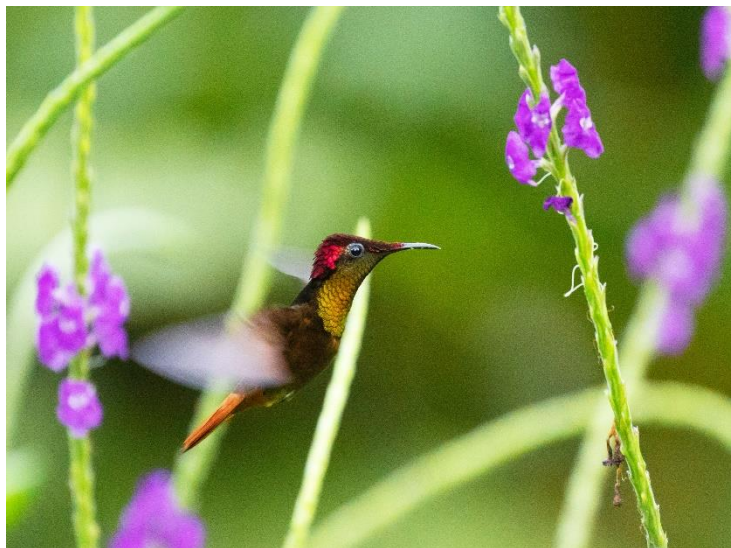
Our January 2024 Panama's Darien Lowlands: Canopy Camp tour was a memorable delight to the senses. The spectacular array of sights and sounds we enjoyed every day were complemented with incredible care by the Canopy Family, with wild-yet-luxurious lodging, incredible food, and friendly camaraderie.

Our tour started in Panama City, where we met our local guide, Eliécer Rodríguez, in the early morning at our hotel. Eliécer is a close friend from past VENT tours in the Darien; he is a gem of a guide to work with, having both incredible birding skills and attentive people skills. Of the various spots to visit, Bayano Lake was the first spot on our radar. While scanning the water, we scored views of a pair of White-eared Conebills quite low in the trees (they are often much higher up). The dapper Spot-breasted Woodpecker was a gold star bird to find on the first day. Scanning throughout the supports of Bayano Bridge brought forth a handsome Bat Falcon. A Striated Heron, Cocoi Heron, and Great Egret fed along the shores while an Osprey flew over. What a fun start to our tour!



An up-close experience with a White-eared Conebill © Erik Bruhnke

A delicious lunch and birding ensued at Hotel Avicar. Scaly-breasted Hummingbirds and Black-throated Mangos fed nearby, as Clay-colored Thrushes and a Baltimore Oriole gorged themselves on fruit. Everyone was having lunch! After lunch we explored the Torti River, where we were treated to an array of highlights including a dapper Rufescent Tiger-Heron casually walking along the river's edge while a pair of Lesser Kiskadees courted each other.



Ruby-topaz Hummingbird making his feeding rounds © Erik Bruhnke

Checking into the Canopy Camp couldn't have been more exciting. Even before we were checked-in, we directed our binocular views to a male Ruby-topaz Hummingbird feeding among a collective ten other hummingbird species. The Ruby-topaz Hummingbird is a South American species and a locally-rare treat throughout the area of the tour. With good luck, we ended up seeing this species every day of the tour while staying at the camp.



One of the many regional highlights of the tour, a Gray-cheeked Nunlet © Erik Bruhnke

After an outstanding fresh-cooked breakfast, we spent the next morning birding the Canopy Camp grounds, our home for the tour. Throughout the morning we had 57 bird species just casually walking around the property. Five King Vultures graced our sights, while the regional Gray-cheeked Nunlet took our breath away. A Whooping Motmot called and “purred” in the early morning hours, just before we had views of a Golden-collared Manakin. Chestnut-headed Oropendolas squawked at each other while deciding who got the most bananas. Euphonia species included Yellow-crowned, Thick-billed, and Fulvous-vented.

In the afternoon we birded Yaviza Wetlands, where we came across a sneaky and chatty White-throated Crake coming in to check us out. Pale-vented Pigeons cruised through the sky, while a secretive American Pygmy Kingfisher kept watch over some water. A Pied Water-Tyrant perched on top of the reeds while a Striped Cuckoo called nearby. In addition to a beautiful wintering Yellow Warbler, one of the last birds at the wetlands was an Olive-gray Saltator, primarily a South American species. We enjoyed wonderful views of roosting Spectacled Parrotlets on the drive home.

Salto Road was on the agenda for the next morning. We started the morning with two male Blue Cotingas. A Bare-crowned Antbird called deep in the woods while we locked our sights on a Plain-brown Woodcreeper and a Cocoa Woodcreeper. Later in the morning we had nice views of Ochre-ored Flatbill, in addition to a Black Antshrike and two Dusky Antbirds. A Black-bellied Wren shouted its beautiful song while a Yellow-backed Oriole came into view. Birding around Yaviza in the afternoon, we scored great views of a Rufous-tailed Jacamar.

Our next morning was an early one, as we trekked into the wilds to look for the legendary Harpy Eagle. A brief, early morning dugout canoe boat ride brought us to the village of Alto Playón. After meeting the Emberá-Wounaan residents, we each hopped on our individually-walked horses that would take us much of the way to the Harpy Eagle nest. After reaching the point where the horse ride comes to an end, we continued by foot on the well-established trail into the wilderness. A Crimson-crested Woodpecker was busy working on a nesting cavity while Black-chested Jays chattered deep in the forest. A Bright-rumped Attila called nearby. After a bit further, we came across the massive cuipo tree that towered above the dense forest. Tucked into the core of the massive, towering cuipo tree was the treasure of the day: an active nest of a Harpy

Eagle! The mother was first seen on the edge of the nest, keeping watch while occasionally preening. A little bit later we got to see her adorable, fuzzy white chick. The experience was incredible . . . being in the presence of such a rare raptor, knowing this is the national bird of Panama, too!

The next day we returned to Salto Road. Even before we departed the Canopy Camp, we had wonderful looks at a Gartered Trogon while a Little Tinamou yodeled deep in the forest. Highlights from our morning

included two Black Hawk-Eagles, three chatty Cinnamon Woodpeckers, and a Streak-headed Woodcreeper. Collectively, we saw seven species of antbirds throughout the morning. In the afternoon we explored Sansón Abajo, where an up-close Red-billed Scythebill took our breath away. As the day came to an end, we birded a roadside wetland, enjoying two Black-capped Donacobius, the only member of their family, and essentially a South American species all-round! During our night hike around the camp later on, we found a sleeping Streaked Flycatcher and heard a Mottled Owl.



We had an incredible experience with this Harpy Eagle. Her chick was resting below her at the time of the photo. © Erik Bruhnke



Red-billed Scythebill working the branches for some good eats © Erik Bruhnke



This locally-rare Russet-throated Puffbird made an appearance! © Erik Bruhnke

On our next day we birded along the Chucunaque River and Tuquesa River, en route to the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía. A charming, up-close Brown-capped Tyrannulet stole the show. While on the dugout canoe, we enjoyed the view of tropical race Turkey Vultures. Along the trails beyond the village we got to see a Russet-throated Puffbird, a second Panama record that Eliécer had discovered shortly before our tour started! What a striking bird, typically not even on the birding radar. Red-rumped Woodpecker and One-colored Becard were a treat to see among the great diversity. A casual walk around Nando's Trail back at the camp brought forth views of Russet-winged Schiffornis and a Speckled Mourner.

Our last day always comes too soon. After saying goodbye to the Canopy Camp staff, who took exceptional care of us, Eliécer and our group headed to San Francisco Reserve. While exploring the beautiful hilly habitat with the nearby pond, we enjoyed views of the Yellow-green Tyrannulet, an endemic to Panama! Two sneaky Swainson's Hawks and a Zone-tailed Hawk were seen flying high overhead while we enjoyed scope views of a Broad-billed Motmot. A male Black-tailed Trogon made a special appearance before we left, as did the vine-swinging Plain Xenops. We saw a gathering of rare Geoffroy's Spider Monkeys up in the trees. On the last stretch of the drive back to Panama City, we enjoyed a Savannah Hawk perched and flying over a field.



Harpy Eagle mother with chick © Erik Bruhnke

A special thanks goes out to Eliécer for his incredible and passionate birding skills shared with all of us. Our stay couldn't have been more wonderful, thanks to him and the entire Canopy Camp staff, who made our experience so memorable. The birds, butterflies, and more were amazing every day. Collectively, we came across 238 incredible bird species. I'm already looking forward to next year's Canopy Camp tour!



Male Gartered Trogon, one of four beautiful trogon species we enjoyed © Erik Bruhnke

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Tinamous	Tinamidae	
Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamus major</i>	Heard from Salto Road
Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>	Heard often at the Canopy Camp during twilight hours. We heard, briefly saw possibly the loudest-known Little Tinamou at Sansón Abajo, as it walked on large and noisy dry leaves.
Waterfowl	Anatidae	
Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	Flock of seven flew over us at Yaviza Wetlands
Guans, Chachalacas & Curassows Cracidae		
Gray-headed Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis cinereiceps</i>	Observed at the Canopy Camp, and heard during the morning chorus along Salto Road
Pigeons and Doves	Columbidae	
Rock Pigeon (Feral)(I)	<i>Columba livia</i>	Observed in Panama City, Yaviza, San Francisco Reserve, and Hotel Avicar in Torti
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	Observed in Yaviza Wetlands and the general Yaviza area, in addition to along the Pan-American Highway
Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	One seen along Salto Road
Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	A daily sight on the tour, seen among the Pan-American Highway and various side roads

Blue Ground Dove	<i>Claravis pretiosa</i>	Two seen while birding along Bayno Lake, and also one along Salto Road. An uncommon dove species.
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Observed every day of the tour, often heard calling.
Gray-chested Dove	<i>Leptotila cassinii</i>	Heard along the Tuquesa River as well as the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Cuckoos	Cuculidae	
Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>	Seen along Salto Road, and a large flock of 40 along the Tuquesa River
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Observed along the Pan-American Highway, Yaviza Wetlands, and along the entrance road to the Canopy Camp
Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	Heard along the Torti River, Sansón Abajo, and seen well at Yaviza Wetlands
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	Observed along Salto Road
Nightjars	Caprimulgidae	
Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	Heard several times at Canopy Camp, also seen briefly flushing from road pre-sunrise just before Puerto Limón
Potoos	Nyctibiidae	
Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>	Seen many days at the Canopy Camp! Also heard those Canopy Camp birds giving their haunting calls at night. An awesome experience.
Swifts	Apodidae	
Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus</i>	Seen along Salto Road
Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	Seen along Salto Road, Sansón Abajo, Tuquesa River, and while at Nuevo Vigía
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift	<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>	One flyover while exploring the Tuquesa River
Hummingbirds	Trochilidae	
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	Common and stunning hummingbird, seen every day of the tour
Rufous-breasted Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsutus</i>	Seen briefly at the Canopy Camp
Long-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis longirostris</i>	Seen along Alto Playón
Pale-bellied Hermit	<i>Phaethornis anthophilus</i>	Observed at Canopy Camp and along Salto Road
Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	<i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i>	Outstanding experience with this rarity, not annual for the tour. Observed every day at the Canopy Camp. It was the first bird we saw upon checking into the Canopy Camp. We saw

		both the striking adult male around the common area, and also saw the earthy-colored female/young male bird on occasion
Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	Observed every day of the tour among feeders and some wild areas. A common and striking hummingbird
Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Helimaster longirostris</i>	Seen most days, at the Canopy Camp
White-vented Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffonii</i>	Observed at the Canopy Camp daily
Scaly-breasted Hummingbird	<i>Phaeochroa cuvierii</i>	Seen at Hotel Avicar in Torti, and a few times at the Canopy Camp feeders
Snowy-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Saucerottia edward</i>	Seen along Bayano Lake, at Canopy Camp, and at Hotel Avicar in Torti
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>	A common, daily sight at both hummingbird feeders and in the field
Sapphire-throated Hummingbird	<i>Chrysuronia coeruleogularis</i>	Seen every day at the Canopy Camp
Blue-chested Hummingbird	<i>Polyerata amabilis</i>	Seen every day of the tour. A common visitor at the Canopy Camp hummingbird feeders
Violet-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Chlorestes julie</i>	Seen every day of the tour. Observed at Canopy Camp, along Salto Road, and at San Francisco Reserve
Rails, Gallinules & Coots	Rallidae	
Gray-cowled Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajaneus</i>	Observed at Yaviza Wetlands
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	Seen at Yaviza Wetlands, brief but quite up close!
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	One seen along Bayano Lake
White-throated Crake	<i>Laterallus albigularis</i>	Seen briefly and heard well at Yaviza Wetlands
Plovers and Lapwings	Charadriidae	
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	Observed at Yaviza Wetlands
Jacanas	Jacanidae	
Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	Heard at Yaviza Wetlands, seen along the Pan-American Highway
Sandpipers & Allies	Scolopacidae	
Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	Brief flyby at Yaviza Wetlands
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Seen along the Torti River and the Tuquesa River
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Seen feeding while birding along the edge of the Torti River

Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	One seen along the Torti River and another at Yaviza Wetlands
Storks	Ciconiidae	
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Seen soaring high overhead several times while birding Canopy Camp and Salto Road
Frigatebirds	Fregatidae	
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Seen soaring high overhead while having lunch at Hotel Avicar and while birding San Francisco Reserve
Anhinga	Anhingidae	
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Seen from Bayano Lake and along the Chucunaque River
Cormorants	Phalacrocoracidae	
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>	Seen most days, sometimes flying by but most often on bodies of water
Herons, Egrets & Bitterns	Ardeidae	
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>	Seen walking along the Torti River on our first day, and also seen at Nuevo Vigía lagoon
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Seen along the Torti River, Chucunaque River, Tuquesa River, and at Yaviza Wetlands
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Seen along the Pan-American Highway, around Yaviza, and the Tuquesa River
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	Seen once, at Bayano Lake
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	Seen along the Chucunaque River and Nuevo Vigía
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Common, daily sight among open areas
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Seen at Bayano Lake and while along the Tuquesa River
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	One observed along the Tuquesa River
Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	One seen at Bayano Lake
Ibises & Spoonbills	Threskiornithidae	
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	One seen along Tuquesa River
New World Vultures	Cathartidae	
King Vulture	<i>Sarcorampus papa</i>	Seen several times both soaring and on the ground at the Canopy Camp. Also observed soaring high overhead from Nuevo Vigía. A spectacular vulture species
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Daily observation throughout our travels
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Daily observation throughout our travels
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	One low-flying individual seen from the Tuquesa River
Osprey	Pandionidae	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Seen over Bayano Lake

Hawks, Eagles & Kites	Accipitridae	
Gray-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>	Observed from Salto Road and Nuevo Vigía area
Harpy Eagle	<i>Harpia harpyja</i>	Breathtaking experience with this species - observing both a mother and nestling way up in a cuipo tree from the Alto Playón (Emberá-Wounaan) community
Black Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i>	Heard calling from Canopy Camp, and also observed from Alto Playón and along Salto Road
Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	Seen soaring over Canopy Camp
Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>	Seen well from Salto Road and also while along the Tuquesa River. Such a sharp-looking raptor!
Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	Observed from our bathroom/snack break on the way to Canopy Camp on day one, and also seen once along the Chucunaque River
Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	Spotted by Erik while commuting along the Pan-American Highway on our last day. Nice views of this species over a grassy field.
Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>	A common, widespread raptor. Seen every day.
Gray-lined Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	Seen while on horseback along Alto Playón and along the Tuquesa River
Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	Both light and dark morphs seen. Observed at Canopy Camp and along Salto Road
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Very uncommon raptor species for a mid-winter visit. We saw two of them flying high over San Francisco Reserve
Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	One adult seen soaring over our heads at San Francisco Reserve. A gorgeous and often-overlooked raptor!
Owls	Strigidae	
Mottled Owl	<i>Strix virgata</i>	Heard several nights around the Canopy Camp
Striped Owl	<i>Asio clamator</i>	Very uncommon. Seen fleeing during early twilight, among fields on the way to Puerto Limón
Trogon	Trogonidae	
Black-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>	Most common trogon of the tour, seen at Alto Playón, Tuquesa River, the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía, and San Francisco Reserve
White-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon chionurus</i>	Seen and heard on Salto Road and at Canopy Camp
Gartered Trogon	<i>Trogon caligatus</i>	Observed at Canopy Camp

N. Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon tenellus</i>	Wonderful views of this species at San Francisco Reserve
Motmots	Momotidae	
Whooping Motmot	<i>Momotus subrufescens</i>	Heard often at Canopy Camp. Seen at Canopy Camp and also heard along Salto Road
Broad-billed Motmot	<i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>	With a little persistence we enjoyed views as the bird called, on San Francisco Reserve
Kingfishers	Alcedinidae	
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	Observed most days, along various waterways, seen along the Pan-American Highway, and also at a pond at San Francisco Reserve
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	Observed most days, along rivers (Chucunaque, Torti, and Tuquesa). Also noted from the Nuevo Vigía lagoon, and once along the Pan-American Highway
American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	Thrilling to see this dapper and tiny species at the Yaviza Wetlands. Uncommon.
Puffbirds	Bucconidae	
White-necked Puffbird	<i>Notharchus hyperrhynchus</i>	Seen along Salto Road
Pied Puffbird	<i>Notharchus tectus</i>	Seen at the Canopy Camp
Barred Puffbird	<i>Nystalus radiatus</i>	Seen and heard along Sansón Abajo, as well as the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
White-whiskered Puffbird	<i>Malacoptila panamensis</i>	One seen at San Francisco Reserve. A stunner of a puffbird!
Gray-cheeked Nunlet	<i>Nonnula frontalis</i>	Great to see this regional specialist right at the Canopy Camp
Russet-throated Puffbird	<i>Hypnelus ruficollis</i>	Kudos to Eliécer for discovering this 2nd Panama record earlier on! We were able to enjoy the beauty and unique call of this rare find at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Jacamars	Galbulidae	
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	Seen at the Yaviza Forest and at Sansón Abajo
Great Jacamar	<i>Jacamerops aureus</i>	One enjoyed along Salto Road
New World Barbets	Capitonidae	
Spot-crowned Barbet	<i>Capito maculicoronatus</i>	We had a little gathering of them along Salto Road, in addition to Salto Road
Toucans	Ramphastidae	
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>	Seen most days of the tour. Often present at the Canopy Camp
Yellow-throated Toucan	<i>Ramphastos ambiguus</i>	Most common Toucan of the tour, seen all but one day. A common part of the audio ambience at Canopy Camp
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	Observed several times at Canopy Camp in addition to Salto Road and Nuevo Vigía

Woodpeckers	Picidae	
Olivaceous Piculet	<i>Picumnus olivaceus</i>	Delight to see this tiny woodpecker at the Canopy Camp
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i>	Seen several times at Canopy Camp
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	Common, seen all but one day of the tour
Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates kirkii</i>	Canopy Camp and Nuevo Vigía
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>	Seen along Alto Playón and along Salto Road
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	Seen at a variety of places including Yaviza Wetlands, El Salto, San Francisco Reserve, and along the Pan-American Highway
Cinnamon Woodpecker	<i>Celeus loricatus</i>	A stunning woodpecker with an intense call. We had a great experience with this species along Salto Road
Spot-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes punctigula</i>	Incredible woodpecker species. Seen well in far-western part of the bird's range, along the Torti River. It was a treat to see this bird, let-alone on the first day of the tour
Falcons & Caracaras	Falconidae	
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	Heard along Salto Road and at the Canopy Camp
Collared Forest-Falcon	<i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i>	Heard at the Canopy Camp
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Seen among a grassy field along the Pan-American Highway
Red-throated Caracara	<i>Ibycter americanus</i>	Observed at the Canopy Camp once. A declining species.
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Seen every day of the tour. Beautiful and common.
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	We found two of them along the entrance road to Puerto Limón
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	Three different sightings, including at Bayano Lake, a high-soaring bird at Canopy Camp, and around the town of Yaviza
African & New World Parrots	Psittacidae	
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	Common, observed every day of the tour. Seen with some regularity, heard frequently
Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	A daily sight on the tour. It was fun to appreciate their unique downward wingbeats among their calls as they flew by.
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	Observed all but the first day of the tour.

Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	Observed all but the first day of the tour. Common audio ambience around the Canopy Camp
Spectacled Parrotlet	<i>Forpus conspicillatus</i>	We had a flock of twenty of them getting ready to roost one evening. Delightful little birds.
Chestnut-fronted Macaw	<i>Ara severus</i>	One was observed flying over the Canopy Camp, and two were seen around Alto Playón
Typical Antbirds	Thamnophilidae	
Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	Seen at Bayano Lake and Alto Playón
Black Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus nigriceps</i>	Seen along Salto Road and Sansón Abajo
Moustached Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula ignota</i>	Observed along Salto Road and at San Francisco Reserve
Pacific Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula pacifica</i>	Enjoyed along Rio Torti on our first day
White-flanked Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i>	Observed along Salto Road
Dot-winged Antwren	<i>Microrhopias quixensis</i>	Observed along Salto Road
Dusky Antbird	<i>Cercomacroides tyrannina</i>	Three seen along Salto Road
Bare-crowned Antbird	<i>Gymnocichla nudiceps</i>	Seen along Salto Road
White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	Heard along Salto Road
Chestnut-backed Antbird	<i>Poliocrania exsul</i>	Two observed along Salto Road
Antthrushes	Formicariidae	
Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>	Observed at the Canopy Camp
Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers	Furnariidae	
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	Beautiful species, seen along Salto Road
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	Tiny woodcreeper, seen at the Canopy Camp
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>	Most common woodcreeper of the tour, seen/heard all but two days.
Red-billed Scythebill	<i>Campylorhamphus trochilirostris</i>	With a little persistence we had great views of this species at Sansón Abajo
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	Seen along Salto Road and once on some trees along the Pan-American Highway
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	Seen along Salto Road and San Francisco Reserve
Manakins	Pipridae	

Golden-collared Manakin	<i>Manacus vitellinus</i>	Observed along Salto Road and Canopy Camp. We got to appreciate the lekking sounds, and had some views of these birds too through the dense vegetation
Red-capped Manakin	<i>Ceratopira mentalis</i>	Female seen at San Francisco Reserve
Golden-headed Manakin	<i>Ceratopira erythrocephala</i>	Observed at Canopy Camp. Another gorgeous manakin species!
Cotingas	Cotingidae	
Purple-throated Fruitcrow	<i>Querula purpurata</i>	Heard near-daily, and seen several times
Blue Cotinga	<i>Cotinga nattererii</i>	Observed several times along Salto Road, and also along Alto Playón
Rufous Piha	<i>Lipaugus unirufus</i>	It was a treat to observe this beautiful and uncommon bird, at San Francisco Reserve
Tityras & Allies	Tityridae	
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp and several times along Salto Road
Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	Observed once in Yaviza and two together along Salto Road
Russet-winged Schiffornis	<i>Schiffornis stenoryncha</i>	Wonderful to see this bird at the Canopy Camp
Speckled Mourner	<i>Laniocera rufescens</i>	Seen along Nando's Trail at the Canopy Camp
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>	Observed along Salto Road, Sansón Abajo, and at San Francisco Reserve
White-winged Becard	<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus</i>	Seen along Tuquesa River
One-colored Becard	<i>Pachyramphus homochrous</i>	Seen at the Canopy Camp and at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Sharpbill, Royal Flycatcher & Allies Oxyruncidae		
Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Terenotriccus erythrurus</i>	Tiny and beautiful songbird, seen along Salto Road
Tyrant Flycatchers	Tyrannidae	
Yellow-green Tyrannulet (E)	<i>Phylloscartes flavovirens</i>	We had nice views of this Panama endemic, while birding San Francisco Reserve
Southern Bentbill	<i>Oncostoma olivaceum</i>	Heard along Salto Road and San Francisco Reserve
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	Seen at Bayano Lake and at San Francisco Reserve
Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum nigriceps</i>	We saw one at the Canopy Camp
Ochre-lore Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>	Seen along Salto Road and the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía

Brown-capped Tyrannulet	<i>Ornithion brunneicapillus</i>	Tiny and striking, we saw one at Canopy Camp and one along the Tuquesa River
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	Seen along the Pan-American Highway, at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía, and at San Francisco Reserve
Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet	<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>	Observed all but one day of the tour. Common vocalist of the semi-wooded areas
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	Seen at Bayano Lake, Yaviza Wetlands, and the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias griseiceps</i>	Observed once at Canopy Camp
Northern Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus bogotensis</i>	One observed at San Francisco Reserve
Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	Observed at Canopy Camp and several times along Salto Road
Pied Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	Observed at the Yaviza Wetlands. Such a contrastive, striking bird.
Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>	Seen along Salto Road and at San Francisco Reserve
Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	Seen and heard at Alto Playón and also once along Salto Road
Choco Sirystes	<i>Sirystes albogriseus</i>	Observed once along Salto Road
Rufous Mourner	<i>Rhytipterna holerythra</i>	Seen at the Canopy Camp
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Common, seen/heard all but the first day of the tour. Great to see these wintering birds among the many year-round resident species.
Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Philohydor lictor</i>	One pair seen along the Torti River and another pair seen along the Tuquesa River. We got to see the pairs courting and feeding each other.
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	Observed at the Yaviza Wetlands, Tuquesa River, and at a pond in San Francisco Reserve
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	Seen along the Torti River, at the Canopy Camp, and near the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	Pretty common, seen all but two days among a variety of places
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	Uncommon for the tour, observed while birding around Bayano Lake
Gray-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>	Observed at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	Fairly common, observed all but two days among a variety of places. Seen and studied well and up close at the Canopy Camp

Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	Such a chatty flycatcher, seen at Canopy Camp twice and along the Tuquesa River
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Part of the daily charm of the tour, seen among a variety of roads.
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	Seen over a field along the Pan-American Highway and also once around Yaviza.
Vireos, Shrike-Babblers & Erpornis Vireonidae		
Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>	Nice views of this species at Bayano Lake
Lesser Greenlet	<i>Pachysylvia decurtatus</i>	Seen up in a tree at Canopy Camp
Crows, Jays & Magpies Corvidae		
Black-chested Jay	<i>Cyanocorax affinis</i>	A fairly common sound from the woods outside of Canopy Camp, observed a total of four days of the tour
Donacobius Donacobiidae		
Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	We were treated to two of them along the Pan-American Highway. Very exciting to see this unique and beautiful species, which is near-exclusive to South America
Swallows Hirundinidae		
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	Several seen along the Tuquesa River
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	A fairly common sight, observed over villages and townships on a total of four days of the tour
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	A common sight, observed on all but one day.
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Observed flying overhead while we birded the Tuquesa River
Gnatcatchers Polioptilidae		
White-browed Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila bilineata</i>	Observed from Canopy Camp, along Salto Road, and once along the Pan-American Highway
Wrens Troglodytidae		
Scaly-breasted Wren	<i>Microcerculus marginatus</i>	Heard-only, with its sharp singing notes, at San Francisco Reserve
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Seen/heard all but one day of the tour. It was fun to study and appreciate the Southern House Wren's song, being different than the "Northern" House Wren's song. Only the southern form exists on this tour.
White-headed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus albobrunneus</i>	Seen at Alto Playón and seen/heard well at Sansón Abajo. Such a neat wren species!

Black-bellied Wren	<i>Pheugopedius fasciatoventris</i>	Observed along Salto Road
Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius rutilus</i>	Observed while birding along Bayano Lake
Bay Wren	<i>Cantorchilus nigricapillus</i>	Observed from San Francisco Reserve
Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Cantorchilus leucotis</i>	Observed at Bayano Lake, Salto Road, the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía, and San Francisco Reserve
Mockingbirds & Thrashers	Mimidae	
Tropical Mockingbird (I)	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	Observed at Bayano Lake, Alto Playón, Nuevo Vigía, and casually along the Pan-American Highway while commuting
Thrushes & Allies	Turdidae	
Clay-colored Thrush	<i>Turdus grayi</i>	Seen at the fruit feeders at Hotel Avicar as well as around the Canopy Camp grounds
Old World Sparrows	Passeridae	
House Sparrow (I)	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Seen around the town of Yaviza, Alto Playón, Hotel Avicar, and along the Pan-American Highway
Finches, Euphonias & Allies	Fringillidae	
Yellow-crowned Euphonia	<i>Euphonia luteicapilla</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp, the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía, and along the Pan-American Highway
Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia lanirostris</i>	Seen/heard at Hotel Avicar, the Canopy Camp, and San Francisco Reserve. Like other euphonias, the Thick-billed Euphonias are gorgeous little birds!
Fulvous-vented Euphonia	<i>Euphonia fulvicrissa</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp and San Francisco Reserve
Troupials & Allies	Icteridae	
Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	Observed along Salto Road, Alto Playón, and the Tuquesa River
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius wagleri</i>	Most common oropendola of the tour, seen all but the last day of the tour. They were regular visitors to the bananas at the Canopy Camp
Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	Seen along Salto Road and along the Pan-American Highway
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	One gorgeous male seen while we birded along the Pan-American Highway
Yellow-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysater</i>	Beautiful sights and sounds of this species, seen along Salto Road and Alto Playón
Orange-crowned Oriole	<i>Icterus auricapillus</i>	One seen at Alto Playón

Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Seen at Hotel Avicar, the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía, and three were seen at one time along the Pan-American Highway
Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Observed at Bayano Lake and while birding the Torti River
Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>	Seen flying over the Torti River on our first day
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Common, seen all but one day of the tour
Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	Seen at Alto Playón and Rio Tuquesa. Interesting to see this species more regularly in recent years, coming up from South America.
New World Warblers	Parulidae	
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	Observed along the Torti River and Tuquesa River. Often heard calling, seen several times.
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Seen along the Torti River and Tuquesa River.
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	Seen along the Torti River, Tuquesa River, and while hiking around the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Mourning Warbler	<i>Geothlypis philadelphia</i>	Observed at Yaviza Wetlands
Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Setophaga castanea</i>	One of the more common wintering warblers of the tour, seen on four days among Canopy Camp, Yaviza Forest, and along Salto Road
Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	One seen at Yaviza Wetlands
Buff-rumped Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis fulvicauda</i>	Seen along the creek at San Francisco Reserve
Cardinals & Allies	Cardinalidae	
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp and San Francisco Reserve, observed every day of the tour
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	
Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	
Mitrospingid Tanagers	Mitrospingidae	
Dusky-faced Tanager	<i>Mitrospingus cassinii</i>	Seen and heard at San Francisco Reserve
Tanagers & Allies	Thraupidae	
Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>	Seen along Salto Road
White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	Little gatherings of them seen along Salto Road, Sansón Abajo, and once at San Francisco Reserve
Flame-rumped Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus flammigerus</i>	Observed once at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía.

Crimson-backed Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus dimidiatus</i>	Gorgeous tanager species, seen along the Torti River and the Tuquesa River
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Seen five days of the tour among a variety of places, including birdfeeders. Incredible shades of blue on this species.
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Seen at the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía as also at Hotel Avicar
Golden-hooded Tanager	<i>Stilpnia larvata</i>	Observed once, at Canopy Camp. Another breathtaking tanager species.
Plain-colored Tanager	<i>Tangara inornata</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp, along Salto Road, and at Nuevo Vigía
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Observed once in the early morning at Canopy Camp
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	Seen along Bayano Lake and at Hotel Avicar
White-eared Conebill	<i>Conirostrum leucogenys</i>	Incredible experience with a low-perching pair of White-eared Conebills at Bayano Lake (uncommon that far west), and also seen on Salto Road and along San Francisco Reserve
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	Seen along Bayano Lake and at San Francisco Reserve
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	Gorgeous little bird, seen at Yaviza Wetlands
Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>	We saw two of them along Bayano Lake and also once briefly on the entrance road to the Canopy Camp
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	A delightful sight, every day. Among the wild areas we found them in, they frequent the fruit feeders and hummingbird feeders
Olive-gray Saltator	<i>Saltator olivascens</i>	Great to see this near-South American species, enjoyed at Yaviza Wetlands
MAMMALS		
Three-toed Sloths	Bradypodidae	
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth	<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>	Great views of these sloths along Salto Road. Any day with a sloth is a great day!
Two-toed Sloths	Megalonychidae	
Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>	Seen around the Emberá village of Nuevo Vigía
Anteaters	Myrmecophagidae	
Northern Tamandua	<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	It was great to see this species one afternoon, an uncommon treat!
Tamarins	Callitrichidae	
Geoffroy's Tamarin	<i>Saguinus geoffroyi</i>	Seen four days of the tour, often around Canopy Camp (eyeing up the bananas)

Monkeys	Cebidae	
White-throated Capuchin	<i>Cebus capuchinus</i>	Seen three days, at Canopy Camp and along Salto Road
Geoffroy's Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>	Very exciting find at San Francisco Reserve! They are unfortunately endangered, and were a lifer mammal for many of us including Erik
Large Monkeys	Atelidae	
Mantled Howler Monkey	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>	Heard along several rivers, seen along Salto Road, and heard and seen at Canopy Camp. Their incredible call is part of the Canopy Camp ambience!
Squirrels, Prairie Dogs & Marmots		
Sciuridae		
Red-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sciurus granatensis</i>	A common visitors at the bananas at Canopy Camp
Agoutis	Dasyproctidae	
Central American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>	Seen very briefly one afternoon
Plain-nosed Bats	Vespertilionidae	
Bat spp.		Flying around in the evenings at Canopy Camp
Weasels	Mustelidae	
Neotropical Otter	<i>Lontra longicaudis</i>	Very brief view at Yaviza Wetlands
Raccoons	Procyonidae	
White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>	Seen at the Canopy Camp
Cows	<i>Bos taurus</i>	We saw a large herd freely-migrating on the Pan-American Highway in front of our car. Eventually rounded-up by cowboys.
Amphibians/Reptiles		
Common Basalisk	<i>Basiliscus basiliscus</i>	Seen five days of the tour, along waterways. We got to see some drama taking place between two as they chased each other around a lagoon!
Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	Seen two different times, once at the Canopy Camp and once in the Yaviza area
Spectacled Caiman	<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	Found along a waterway. Really cool to see!
Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	Seen and heard nightly during our checklists at the Canopy Camp
Butterflies		
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Seen from the Pan-American Highway and at the Canopy Camp

Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>	Seen at Hotel Avicar
Two-spotted Prepona	<i>Archaeoprepona demophoon</i>	Gorgeous butterfly, seen at Canopy Camp
White Peacock	<i>Anartia jatrophae</i>	A common, near-daily sight among different locations, including our home at the Canopy Camp
Banded Peacock	<i>Anartia fatima</i>	A common, near-daily sight among different locations, including our home at the Canopy Camp
Malachite	<i>Siproeta stelenes</i>	Seen along the Chucunaque River and at the Canopy Camp. A stunner of a species
Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho menelaus</i>	Beautiful species, seen five days of the tour at the Canopy Camp and at a variety of field locations
Stub-tailed Morpho	<i>Morpho theseus</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp after one of our delicious on-site lunches
Pale-Owl Butterfly	<i>Caligo telamonius menus</i>	Seen at Canopy Camp
Owl-Eye Butterfly	<i>Caligo sp.</i>	Seen on Salto Road
Zebra Heliconian	<i>Heliconius charithonia</i>	Observed along the Chucunaque River
Variable Cracker	<i>hamadryas feronia</i>	Great study of this striking species, at the Canopy Camp
Erato Heliconian	<i>Heliconius erato</i>	Near-daily sight at Canopy Camp, and occasionally at a few field locations
Sara Longwing	<i>Heliconius sara</i>	Seen at the Yaviza Wetlands
Sister sp.	<i>Adelpha sp.</i>	Brief flyby of two sister sp., at the Canopy Camp
Other insects		
Scorpion sp.		Seen via black light during our night hike. Really neat to see a few of them tucked in the base of a tree!