

Tour Report

August 1st - 17

Wednesday 1 August

Alarms awoke us at 3.20am and, after coffee; Martin arrived at 4.20am and took us to terminal 2 at Heathrow Airport arriving at 5.00am. As soon as the Iberia desk opened we dumped our main bags and were on our way. We boarded from Gate 9 and were on the aircraft to watch our bags go aboard so at least they started off with us.

Breakfast in the way to Madrid was OK; even if Joan did have to fish the ham out of her croissant. We were bussed to the terminal and had to walk a long way to gate A5. Mary walking very awkwardly after her fall outside the doctor's surgery yesterday. In theory this would seem to be a good place to have an accident but they couldn't even give her any ice.

In view of the imminent arrival of the Euro and demise of the Peseta, Joan and Judith converted all Spanish currency into bottles of pop and water. Judith was beginning to recover from orange juice poisoning.

Our departure was slightly delayed while we waited for a take off slot.

On board we were served lunch (more ham for Joan to avoid) and alcohol and some slept for a while. When the films were about to commence hostesses closed all the blinds without so much as an "excuse me"; best film on offer was "The Dish" which was enjoyable.

We arrived outside, with our bags, at 5.00pm local time (10.00pm UK time) having waited a long time at immigration.

Veronica Crepinsek of Natoura Tours met us and we drove over the coastal Cordillera and around Caracas. It was still daylight and we saw several birds including Carib Grackle, Yellow-headed Caracara and American Kestrel.

There were lots of shanty towns around the city and Veronica explained that many are illegal immigrants from Peru, Colombia and Ecuador seeking work. They pay no taxes and steal electricity from the streetlights.

Having arrived at the Hotel Avila, we dumped our bags in our rooms and went out birding in the last few moments of daylight - Saw Vaux's Swift, Blue-chinned Sapphire, Tropical Kingbird and Blue-gray Tanager.

Five had beers and Mary used three of our free rum punch vouchers, don't suppose it did her poorly foot any good at all but it made her feel a lot happier. We had to squeeze back under the roof as a rainstorm passed through.

Before bed we howered and did laundry which dried overnight. A chewy bar was all the food we needed that evening to go with our first Doxycycline or Malarone pills.

Note - Records of birds are made when they are first seen. See tick list for further sightings.

Thursday 2 August

Hot and sticky with heavy showers.

Up for 5.15 am and out birding as it got light at 6.00am (except Mary who rested her foot). David appeared almost at once and introduced himself then realised he had left his binoculars at home and went away again.

There were lots of birds including Swallow Tanager (the only sighting during the trip), Crested Oropendula, Bare-eyed Thrush, Rusty-margined Flycatcher, Great Kiskadee, Trinidad Euphonia, Blue-and-White Swallows and Rose-ringed Parakeets, which have been introduced by accident and are doing as well as they are in London.

David returned to join us for the excellent buffet breakfast and Mary emerged as well.

David told us that the Hotel Avila was the first hotel built in Caracas by the Rockefellers; It was built in the 1920s, is a listed building and has no air-conditioning. The climate in 1920s was cooler in Caracas and the ceiling fans were more than adequate at that time. Deforestation has led to an increase of heat and humidity. At Caracas Zoo a terrarium was built to retain heat for the reptiles and that now overheats.

Veronica Crepinsek arrived with almond like fruits for the caged Macaws and Toucans. These were very sad creatures especially the Toucan whose cage was so finely barred it could hardly see out.

As predicted the traffic was chaotic on the way back to the airport but the scenery was interesting when we went through a farmer's market.

Our flight to Puerto Ordaz with Aeropostal (Air Mail!) was on time and very good; it took an hour and saved a 10-hour drive. We were served cheese and ham bun and fruit juice or Pepsi. Ricardo had brought us two vehicles as the large van is not available until Sunday. All the luggage went in one van with Judith, Pete, Mary, Ricardo and another driver. Julio drove the second van with David, Geoff, Richard and Joan but they had to travel sitting sideways. Julio was from Uruguay, spoke excellent English and was great fun. Ricardo had bad toothache and was taking antibiotics and painkillers; Judith's Clove Oil came in handy later in the trip.

We drove a short distance to Cachamay Park (altitude 150m) and took a short walk. Our first encounter was with a Brown-backed Three-toed Sloth walking across the path, on the ground, something it is ill equipped to do. We looked at the Caroni River falls before looking for birds. When we reached the Gallery forest we saw three Weeping Capuchin Monkeys. Saw Red-crowned and Lineated Woodpeckers, Violaceous Jay, Capped Heron and Social, Streaked, and Boat-billed Flycatchers. David mimicked the Ferruginous Pygmy Owl and attracted Glittering Throated Emerald, Tropical Gnatcatcher, Chivi Vireo (resident Red-eyed Vireo), Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Scrub Greenlet and House Wren. There were also lots of butterflies around including Monarch and Blue Morpho.

We then went on to Upata where poor Mary's problems got worse when her hand was shut in the van door, at least they had lots of ice and the pain soon went away. Lunch consisted of cheese and tomato sandwiches in a small bar. The driver of Judith, Pete & Mary's vehicle had chips and they looked so good we all had chips. We saw Saffron Finch from the bar windows. Later we had one sharp stop on the road to see a juvenile White-tailed Hawk.

We continued our journey, through several heavy showers, before stopping beside a pool in farmland (altitude 300m). Lots of water birds were there including Wattled Jacana, Black-bellied and White-faced Whistling duck, Ringed Kingfisher, Yellow-hooded Blackbird and Stilt Sandpiper. We also saw Dark-billed Cuckoo and Troupial (National bird of Venezuela) that David had not previously seen in that area. Other birds were Common Tody-Flycatcher, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, Yellow Oriole and Green-rumped Parrotlets.

David continually warned us that the Parador Taguapire was not brilliant and has got steel doors. We arrived at about 5.30pm and thought it was OK steel doors and all. We showered reluctantly in cold water something we got quite used to.

Dinner was roast chicken and roast potatoes followed by watermelon and fresh grapefruit juice. Our dour host smiled when we complimented his good food. David told us he was not a man of much mirth.

We did the bird list with a beer or two, a very satisfactory day all round, then did some laundry before collapsing in bed. We saw large and small Marine Toads waiting outside our bedroom doors.

Friday 3 August

Misty start, sunny until noon, heavy showers all afternoon, dry evening, warm and humid. It was an early breakfast at 4.00am, ready for a 4.30am departure, and consisted of muesli, scrambled egg and avocado with watermelon juice and tea or coffee.

The drive to Imataca Forest Rio Grande took about an hour with Julio driving and Ricardo riding in the back with us. We stopped on the way to pick up Javier Contreras who looks after the Harpy Eagle nest site each year. We also stopped to watch a very handsome Black Curassow standing in the roadway ahead of us. Imataca Forest Reserve extends to 6 million hectares (18 million acres) and is tropical humid forest, with patches of secondary growth, at an altitude of 270m.

We walked into the forest with Javier leading the way; he carried Richard's telescope and tripod and used a lethal looking machete to hack off any offending branches. David also carried secateurs to take off any small bits that got in the way. There was razor grass and many sharp or spiky things growing in the forest but no leeches!

The walk was easy with only a few slight slopes. We birded all the way seeing one tree with six Swallow-tailed Kites. Other sightings were Black-necked and Green Aracaris, Black-spotted Barbet, Red-billed Toucan, Pale-tailed Barbthroat, Black-tailed and White-tailed Trogons, Paradise jacamar and Plumbeous Kite. David recorded the calls of many birds to allow us better views. After much patience we all had brilliant views of Brown-bellied Antwren, Mouse-coloured Antshrike, Dusky Antbird, Chestnut-rumped and Black-banded Woodcreepers. We introduced David to the idea of snake-bush hunting instead of comfort stops.

We reached the Harpy Eagle site at about 11.00am and crept up to it in silence. Despite our care, Richard and David were the only ones to see two birds. The adult flew off leaving the fully-grown juvenile for us to wonder at. We studied every detail of its beautiful plumage and powerful talons. Julio, who was new to the site, joined us on the outward walk but walked back as soon as we turned back from the Eagle's nest.

At the top of the slope from the Harpy Eagle site we stopped at a Screaming Piha lek site. What a big noise to come out of such a dull bird. We all watched it screaming, how could it open its mouth so far? We were aware that it would rain by noon and put our best foot forward. Joan and Judith were leading but soon stopped when they heard a most extraordinary sound. We all gathered and listened to a group of Gray-winged Trumpeters. David said we had divided a larger group and they were reassuring one another until we went away which we duly did having not seen the birds (Like Sri Lankan Spurfowl last year).

The rain started at noon and poured down for about 20 minutes. We got very wet despite our umbrellas. Geoff was last of the six with Javier following behind. Every time Geoff's umbrella got caught in some branches, Javier used his machete to chop the branch off narrowly missing Geoff's ears.

The rain washed off our insect repellent and we were well bitten; we started fantasising about picnic tables and ice cold beer.

We arrived back at the van in bright sunshine again and there was the picnic table built from branches by Ricardo. "Anyone wants a beer?" he asked; we could not believe our luck. We had a splendid picnic whilst our gear sat in the sun and dried nicely. Sadly our boots did not dry much and we filthied up the van as only we can.

We drove back slowly making various stops for birds including Gray-headed and White-tailed Kites.

When we arrived back at 3.30pm we showered and did laundry before sitting outside, under our patio roof, and watching 18 dejected Brown-throated Parakeets sitting in the trees nearby, also saw Lesson's Seedeater.

Wrapped ourselves up against the insects we drove to a wet area near El Palmar and saw some Little Chachalaca and Lined, Gray and Ruddy-breasted Seedeaters. We watched in amazement as 317+ Orange-winged Parrots flew to their roost, not a bad first sighting of a species. There were also two wonderful Caligo butterflies.

Had a Creole dinner of lentils, beef, rice and plantain followed by crème caramel. Beer and birdlist was followed by bed at 9.30pm.

Saturday 4 August

Sunny all day except a 5-minute shower at mid-day.

Breakfast was at 5.30am; hard boiled eggs, tuna and sweet corn concoction, bread, jam and orange juice.

We retraced our steps of yesterday to Imataca forest and stopped at one of the flooded areas. There were excellent views of Dusky and Blue-headed Parrots, one of them fell off its perch. We also saw Violaceous Trogon, White-necked Jacobin, Black-faced Hawk, Greater Yellow-headed Vulture, and David called up a Pectoral Sparrow, most of us heard its high pitched "psssst" and some of us saw the shadowy shape but the colours were lost in the darkness of the undergrowth. David picked up a Leaf Toad for us to examine. It was then into the forest and David called up a Ferruginous-backed Antbird, such a pretty bird and Not illu in the book.

We carried on a little way to another area of wetland and saw Dusky-billed Parrotlet, Variegated Flycatcher, Golden-collared and Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers, Channel-billed Toucan, Red-and-Green Macaw, Mealy Parrot, Band-rumped and Short-tailed Swifts, Fork-tailed Woodnymph and Long-tailed and Reddish Hermits. A Lesser Kiskadee sang "Kiskadee" to us until David tried to record its call and it went all shy.

We drove a short way back towards Rio Grande and took a trail into the forest, a joy to get out of the sun.

David took us to a special spot where we heard the call of, and saw, the 'Dynarod' red of a Guianan Red-Cotinga. David thinks it is the only known lek of this bird.

Ahead, calls signalled the approach of a feeding party and we saw some of the up to 20 species that could be present. We identified a Cinereous Mourner, White-lored and Ochre-bellied Flycatchers but many more flashed through the canopy. We were pleased to see a real wild Stick insect. The song of a Musical Wren hastened us back, what a wonderful sound, we listened entranced for ages as two individuals replied to David's recorded calls.

We continued going around a small area of the forest and saw Long-tailed and Plain-brown Woodcreepers. David tried again for a Ferruginous-backed Antbird and we all had much better views than earlier.

We had another memorable picnic lunch sitting in the middle of the road but there was no traffic at all.

The van stopped for us to take a brief look at 'Crake alley' where David thought a Crake flew across the road yesterday, far too hot for birds and for us. We did see Savannah and Roadside Hawks on the way back as well as Crested Bobwhite and Magpie Tanager. Back at Parador Taguapire we showered and did laundry. Joan and Richard sat outside and read books and drank beer, total decadence.

Before dinner, we drove a short distance, north towards San José, and looked at some tropical moist woodland at 350m altitude. First thing we met was a pig in the road. David did his Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl impression and called up lots of birds. We saw Lined seedeater, Dark-backed Goldfinch, Yellow Tyrannulet, Forest Elaenia, Black-crested Antshrike, Violaceous Euphonia, Silver-beaked and White-lined Tanagers and Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant. We strolled along the road as far as Hato Santa Barbara where we watched a roost of >500 Lined Seed eaters and saw Barred Antshrike as well as several water birds in a wet area.

For dinner we had steak, fried tomatoes and chips, no dessert but we weren't hungry. Two beers birdlist today! We did some pre-departure packing before bedtime at 9.30pm.

Sunday 5 August

Misty starts then bright and sunny, a little rain later.

We were woken at 3.15am when the new van arrived; the driver tooted its horn, slammed the door and shouted "Ricardo". Everyone woke up including all the dogs.

We had breakfast then squeezed all our bags into the van. There were extra seats in the back, which made it difficult getting everything in.

We drove a short distance to a wetland area stopping along the way for Green Ibis and Black-collared Hawk. The wetland produced a Cayman as well as lots of birds including Anhinga, Osprey, Moorhen, Hook-billed Kite, Spotted Sandpiper, Amazon and Green Kingfishers, Vermillion and Ruddy-tailed Flycatchers, Pale-breasted and Yellow-chinned Spinetails and Brown-chested Martins that are austral migrants. Pinnated Bittern was seen at our next stop which was followed by a comfort stop at La Parada de Maria Lionza where we tried gingerbread and local cheese like Mozzarella and had some fizzy drinks.

Beyond Turemo we turned east towards San Martin de Turumbán on the Guianan border and drove well into the area not recommended by the Foreign Office. Looking for birds in a tropical moist area, David saw a Red-ruffed Fruitcrow but he was the only one. Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl impressions produced an enraged Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl. We eventually saw a Black-eared Fairy attacking the Owl and then a Golden-headed Manakin. We had a super, if rather interrupted, picnic lunch as we hopped up to see Barred Woodcreeper.

Our first Crested Caracara was seen on the way as well as a flock of White-eyed Parakeets. We drove on as far as the Cuyuni River south of Eldorado and admired the bridge built by Eiffel at the same time as the Tower was being built in Paris. The Cuyuni River is not a tributary of the Orinoco or the Amazon as it makes its own way to the Atlantic Ocean. The bridge parapet was so hot we couldn't put our hands on it. There were White-banded Swallows swooping around. David told us that the camping lodge we could see belonged to a Swiss mercenary who popped into Eldorado penitentiary for a bit of torturing from time to time.

We were soon at Barquilla de Fresa at Las Claritas where Henry Cleavers, his wife Megali and their 14 year-old daughter Selva welcomed us. We enjoyed ice-cold beer whilst watching the hummingbirds on the feeders where we added Long-billed Starthroat to our list. Barquilla de Fresa is in tropical humid forest at about 150m (490') above sea level.

Barquilla de Fresa (strawberry ice-cream cone) was super but the walls were only screens to about 7 feet high so sounds were shared. Joan was accused of being a plastic bag freak whilst Geoff definitely has a thing about velcro. Snoring and farting was also widely shared.

We had noisy showers and fixed up mosquito nets before an excellent dinner at two tables, all together tomorrow! Everyone sat around to do the birdlist and before going to bed at 900pm.

Monday 6 August

Misty starts, sunny with cloud later. Heavy and humid in the afternoon preceding a monster thunderstorm.

Breakfast was at 4.30 am. Joan and Judith both had slightly dodgy tummies that aspirin sorted out sooner or later.

Today we drove up La Escalera as far as Km 111, at about 850m (2785') altitude, where we looked for Cock-of-the-Rock and soon found a female perched above us. Two juvenile males also flew across the road. We walked and drove up and down the road looking for birds, adding to our list Blue-cheeked Parrot, Tepui and White-tipped Swifts, Rufous-breasted and Straight-billed Hermits, Wedge-billed Woodcreeper, Curve-billed Scythebill, Plain Xenops, Roraiman and Ash-winged Antwrens, Yellow-green Grosbeak, Smoke-coloured Pewee, Two-banded Warbler, Slate-

throated Redstart (Whitestart), Orange-bellied Euphonia, Fulvous Shrike-Tanager and Masked Trogon.

We found a wonderful red Passion Flower and photographed it. Joan got in trouble for saying, rather loudly "can you see it" whilst Geoff was videoing. Geoff then recorded Joan laughing hysterically.

After coffee we took a steep trail into the forest to see a Cock-of-the-Rock nest in a cave. There were two fully-grown young and then a female came to feed them. The inside of the cave was too dark for photographs which was a great pity.

We drove on up to a quarry area where Blue-and White Swallows were nesting and miniature Tepuis were being formed in the sand. There were excellent views of Fiery-shouldered Parakeets in the tree tops below us. We also saw a Fork-tailed Flycatcher much higher than its usual altitudinal range.

We went back down to the Piedra de la Virgen, a rock that defeated the road builders and remains with a shrine beside it. There we ate our picnic beside the road. We looked in horror at an old Renault 5 (with Ferrari sticker on the front wing) that had been in a bad crash and stuck up with tape. Seven people got out of this wreck; they certainly needed to light a candle to the Virgin before continuing their journey!

Lunch was interrupted by the arrival of a pair of Cayenne Jays; they were difficult to find for big noisy white birds.

Back at Barquilla de Fresa we lounged around whilst watching the hummingbird feeders. Judith was having a shower when a Crimson Topaz appeared, she heard the noisy wing beats before we all shouted and she emerged wearing nothing but a dress over her wet skin. The Crimson Topaz stayed around for a little while and even posed on the tree for us. A Sloth also climbed to the top of a nearby Cecropia tree but this was a much more leisurely affair.

Before dinner we drove down the Cuyuñi River Road (altitude 210m, 670') and looked for birds. On the way we passed a White-necked Puffbird sitting on the roadside wires and at the electricity sub-station a guard had a Boa Constrictor. It was very hot and humid and the air felt very tense. The birds obviously felt the same to start with, some Blue-cheeked Parrots flew over and David recorded their calls. He played back the calls several times and they gave us several fly-pasts. The best birding was over a wetland area where we had good views of White-collared Swift, Swallow-wing, Black-headed Parrots and a female Spangled Cotinga, sadly the gorgeous male did not appear.

Ricardo offered us some of the 7kg water melon bought yesterday, initially we declined but when he opened the back of the van it fell out and burst so we decided to eat it. We all got covered in the juice and fell about laughing; luckily Geoff was too sticky to film this activity. The funniest part was when David discovered that the juice running out of the melon we had not eaten was going into his wellies.

The thunderstorm started just as we got back was accompanied by gales and torrential rain. We had another excellent meal and did the birdlist whilst enjoying several beers. Each time we moved we had to avoid stepping on all the frogs that preferred the lounge to outside in the rain. David showed us a map he had coloured showing all the different habitats that we would be visiting during our holiday.

Bed 8.45pm.

Tuesday 7 August

Showery day with heavy rain at times, cool at 1400m (4500') pleasant and warm (24°C, 75°F) at Barquilla de Fresa.

Breakfast was at 4.30am ready for a 5.00am departure. Geoff was feeling a bit under the weather, definitely a bit dull and morose. We drove up La Escalera again, this time to Km 116 and stopped to photograph the beautiful red dawn over the misty forest and lowland Tepuis.

We continued on to the National Guard Post near the top of the forest at about 1100m (3600') altitude. The Guard Post has newly installed lights that attract hundreds of moths. Moths of all sizes were resting all over the support posts of the building straddling the road; there was one giant moth, which must have been nearly a foot across (30cm). Golden-tufted Grackles were enjoying the easy pickings for breakfast. It was fascinating to see how they carefully discarded the wings of the moths for themselves but stuffed complete moths down the throats of their youngsters. Lots of other birds were sharing the feast including Olive-backed Tanagers. The surrounding area yielded Tepui Brush-Finch, Brown-capped (Tepui) Redstart (Whitestart), Rufous-collared Sparrow, and some outraged Yellow-headed Caracaras that thought we were keeping them from their breakfast. David thanked the National Guard profoundly for allowing us to birdwatch under their noses; binoculars and cameras usually have to be hidden away at Guard Posts.

We went on to the top edge of the forest at 1400m (4585') and looked for birds; Saw Band-rumped Pigeon, Gray-rumped Swift, Yellow-bellied Tanager and a Peacock Coquette, a tiny gorgeous hummer were seen. David called up a pair of Coraya Wrens that sang a duet for us. Going downhill a little way we looked around areas of red soil forest and sandy forest. Red soil is poor but supports good growth of forest, sandy soil is very poor and produces stunted trees with thick layers of moss and lichen. Sometimes Mary watched from the comfort of a three-legged camping stool and, in trying to keep out of the way of a car, tipped herself very gracefully onto the ground. David leapt to her rescue and nearly got himself run over, the motorist was baffled. Despite this minor mishap we saw some good new birds including Chestnut-tipped Toucanet, Yellow-legged and Black-billed Thrushes and Speckled, Black-headed and Red-shouldered Tanagers.

One track, on red soil, yielded Rose-collared Piha (quieter than his Screaming relation), Greater Flowerpiercer, Sierran Elaenia, Olive Manakin, White-throated Foliage Gleaner and female Red-banded Fruiteater. David tried very hard to attract a Brown-breasted (Tepui) Antpitta and it was getting very close when the rain poured down. Joan was very slow sorting out her umbrella and was distracted by noisy birds, which turned out to be another Brown-capped (Tepui) Whitestart and a Tepui Spinetail.

We ate our picnic lunch under the roof of a guard post built when the Escalera road was being hard surfaced.

The sun came out just long enough for us to get back into the track but not long enough to find any birds.

We then tried another track which David said might be a bit damp (standing water damp!) but he did call up a Streak-backed Antskrike.

Our last site was in forest on sandy soil where we saw several hummingbirds including Velvet-fronted Brilliant.

On the way back to Barquilla de Fresa we drove through Las Claritas, which was even grottier on close examination. We also saw the nearby resettlement village of Inaway, much nicer but not really satisfactory accommodation for the local Indian tribes who are losing their native skills in purpose built homes.

Back at the lodge, Geoff tried to crash out but we had feeding parties of Tanagers coming through. Paradise, Opal-rumped and Turquoise Tanagers were all numerous; we even used a Paradise Tanager as a marker for a Spotted Tanager. Our only regret was leaving all the telescopes in the van so we had to manage with binoculars.

As we were having no afternoon trip out Geoff managed to get in his serious snoring practice and felt much better later.

Leisurely showers preceded the birdlist at 6.00pm and dinner at 6.30pm. We all chatted until about 7.30pm and went to bed at 7.45pm, the earliest yet, what would the nightclubbing set think!

Wednesday 8 August

Misty early then hot and sunny but stormy over the Sierra de Lema during the afternoon.

Breakfast was late this morning at 5.00am and then we left at 6.00am. We drove the short distance to the Cuyuñi River Road and parked in the same place as Monday afternoon. The **Capuchin Birds** were already calling at their lek; what an extraordinary sound like a cow mooing through comb and paper.

We hurried silently (as much as we are able) into the forest. Joan was behind David and was the only one lucky enough to have a reasonable view of a female Guianan Saki Monkey. It looked like a squirrel with reddish-brown fur and a fat bushy tail.

David knew exactly where to find a Capuchin Bird having spent four days sitting in the next tree watching it. As we arrived we heard a Guianan Red-Cotinga calling so this site may also be a lek for them. The Capuchin Bird was most unbirdlike creature; it looked like a poorly stuffed toy made from ill matched bits of brownish fur with a funny greyish spike stuck in the top. When it stretched itself into an aggressive pose it became a bird with huge bulging eyes; totally amazing. The wonders continued when, as we watched the Capuchin Bird, a Red-necked Woodpecker alighted on a tree very close by.

As we walked quietly back to the track David heard a Black-throated Antbird calling and played back the call from his tape recorder. A pair soon came along the side of the forest between the track and us and we all had excellent views before leaving the trees. Back out on the track we saw a Red-rumped agouti. The Antbirds followed us along the track singing loudly until we left their territory.

Further along the track David called up a pair of Warbling Antbirds, which we got very close to; too close for some binoculars. The Painted Tody-Flycatcher was not so obliging, it flew back and forth across the track at tree-top height and we nearly fell over trying to see it properly. We had to abandon our walk to the river as we came to a group of gold miners with dogs and decided withdrawal was prudent.

We went back to the van and had some coffee before riding a very short way to stop again and see good views of stationary Red-and-Green Macaws. David also called us a pair of Pygmy Antwrens that were much prettier than the illustration in the bird book.

We drove up La Escalera as far as the sign all about Canaima National Park where we posed for photographs; we also saw three White Hawks circling above the forest.

Stopping in Las Claritas on the way back David bought a rubber band for putting round his secateurs. What a dump it is, very much a mining town. The population is all transient single men and ladies of easy virtue.

We were back at Barquilla de Fresa by 11.00am and had time for beer and some packing and illicit bag rustling before lunch.

Lunch was delicious vegetables and pasta followed by homemade strawberry icecream. After lunch we lazed around and explored the trail into the forest where we saw pretty fishes, dragonflies and a spider with green legs.

We were out again at 4.00pm to visit a view point; David warned us that the trail is often slippery and Judith, Pete and Joan opted for sandals because the soles are more flexible than boots and therefore give better grip. On the way up Richard saw a male Cock-of-the-Rock fly across the road. It was pouring with rain when we arrived so we had tea and coffee. Judith tried her sandals on the rock surface to test the grip and found there wasn't any; she sat down heavily but luckily without any damage other than wet trousers. We renamed the site "Judith Falls".

The rain eased and we set off up the track over wet rocks. Some red rock was rough and easy walking but smoother areas had black algal growth and was like wet ice to walk on. Half way up Richard disturbed a Blackish Nightjar, which fortunately only flew into an adjacent tree so everyone had good views. Just as we were starting up again a second bird was flushed off the path. We all got to the top and saw two Poison Dart Frogs; very small and with warning black and yellow markings. Photographs were taken making very sure noone touched them.

We looked over from the viewpoint (1275m, 4175') very carefully as we were just on the down slope of the dome shaped rock and it was very slippery. We were overlooking miles of tropical humid forest (rain forest) that has never been penetrated at least in the last 15,000 years since the last ice age. As far as is known there are no native peoples in this area and it is so inhospitable that explorers have not yet ventured in; another good reason for not slipping over the edge.

We all got back in one piece and birded along the road; first thing we encountered was Julio taking a group to the Gran Sabana. We did manage to see a Buff-throated Saltator before rain stopped play. The rain did not ease all evening.

We dined and did the birdlist before paying up 20,500 Bolivars (£20.50) for beer and other drinks. We had to dodge refugee frogs again. We also paid for our laundry and bought a T-shirt with a Capuchin Bird design on the front before bed at 9.45pm.

Thursday 9 August

Pleasant warm sunny day with puffy white clouds and just a few spots of rain.

Awoke at 4.00am to find it still raining but it stopped with the arrival of daylight. We had breakfast of American pancakes and honey, cheese and jam before saying our farewells to Henry and **Megali** who had looked after us so superbly.

David took regular altitude readings on his all singing all dancing wrist watch and prepared a sectional view of the Gran Sabana from Las Claritas to Santa Elena d'Uairen. See attached illustration.

We drove up to near the National Guard Point at the top of the Sierra de Lema and walked along a very wet track. We found a Ruddy Tody-Flycatcher almost immediately and, at the end of the track, a Roraiman Barbtail, a really attractive and confiding Spinetail/Foliage-gleaner. David ran out of audiotape and went back to the van for more supplies before returning to the end of the track and Richard joined him. The Barbtail had moved on but they had good views of Rufous-breasted Sabrewing.

We continued on towards the end of the trees and stopped to see a White Hawk sitting on a treetop. When we alighted from the van a feeding party went through including Tepui Greenlet and Tropical Parula. David tried to call up a Tepui Antpitta but it was approaching infinitely slowly so we had to be satisfied with hearing its call. In another area of forest we failed to attract a Manakin but saw a Flycatcher new to science. It will be call a **Lema Flycatcher (Myonectis lentinae)**.

Driving out onto the grasslands of the Gran Sabana we stopped at the Soldiers Pioneer Memorial (1480m, 4850') that commemorates the military surfacing of the old dirt track climbing La Escalera up the Sierra de Lema.

We saw Plain-crested Elaenia and Grassland Sparrow but only heard a Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch; the Great Elaenia was nowhere to be seen.

Several stops were made across the Gran Sabana to see Tawny-headed Swallow, Black-faced Tanager and Bearded Bellbird. The Bellbirds were a long way away and only clearly visible through the telescope. Their calls, however, were easily audible across the distance. We visited Kama Meru falls (Meru means falls in the Indian language so it is Kama Falls Falls). It was quite impressive with a 60m (196') drop. Men were busy cutting and polishing Jasper into pendants etc., and various purchases were made.

Ricardo drove us a long way off the road into the grassland where we had our picnic. There were thousands of Black flies that bit us especially around the ears; the spots produced were very small but continued itching, on and off, for a month. The vegetation of the grassland was very strange having adapted to the semi-desert conditions and frequent fires set by the local Indians for communication and various celebrations.

The drive from this point on was spectacular with Tepuis on both sides albeit partially obscured by clouds. We made stops along the road for birds and saw a dark phase White-tailed Hawk and some Fork-tailed Palmswifts.

We stopped at the Yuruani River and looked at the falls; not a very long drop but on a very broad front. On the edge of the nearby settlement we stopped at a local craft shop run by the Pemón Indians. They were selling all sorts of hand woven baskets and we all bought a selection. Mary later found she had been given a free Cockroach with hers. By this time it was too late in the day to get Jasper Falls in a good light so it was decided to return the next day to look at them. We went straight on to Ya-Koo lodge (altitude 895m, 2930') via Santa Elena so Ricardo could see all his assorted girlfriends. The last 2km of the road was very rough and unpleasant to ride on; the jolting shook down the spare tyre and we saw that it was completely bald. David explained that if the surface is improved more buildings would come and the area would lose all its wildlife. The towns are sprayed to eliminate insects and the birds consequently disappear. Santa Elena was only established in 1942 as a border town with Brazil.

We were allocated four rooms in a small block away from the rest of the buildings, David brought us all up beers, which we enjoyed whilst admiring the views and birds. We added White-tailed Goldthroat and Black-throated Mango to our list and saw the local Burnished-buff Tanager which was much more brightly coloured than all those we had seen before.

We did mountains of laundry and had showers in hot water, a real luxury. All the wet washing hanging outside converted our smart building into laundry cottages.

Down in the dining lounge area we met Julio once again and we thought Venezuela was a large country.

We did the birdlist at 6.00pm before a very good meal at 6.30pm. We watched a video about the flora and fauna of the tops of the Tepuis. There were many mosquitoes about and we were thoroughly nibbled. We were in bed at 9.15pm but noisy French tourists woke us about midnight with excessive revelry.

Friday 10 August

Pleasant day, sunny started with some cloud and a little rain later.

We had breakfast at 5.30am prepared by Ricardo and were not too quiet in respect of the noisy French tourists.

We drove back onto the Gran Sabana and visited various sites at an altitude of 800-900m (2600-3000').

Our first stop was for a post that looked as if it had a bird on it (it hadn't) but right beside the post was a bush with a Plumbeous Seedeater, the only one of the trip so the error was rewarded; we also saw several Pale-vented Pigeons.

We stopped at a river bridge and examined the Moriche Palms for birds especially Moriche Orioles but there was no response to David's tape-recorded calls. We had a lot of birds flying past including Red-shouldered and Red-bellied Macaws. We followed a track away from the road to another bridge and looked into gallery forest and nearby grassland where there were lots of birds. New species observed were Brown Jacamar, Short-crested and Dusky-capped Flycatchers and

Eastern Meadowlark there were also at least two Red Howler Monkeys. David heard Collared Forest-Falcons calling and we spent ages trying to see them within the forest, we even walked into the trees but the leaves and branches were so thick we could not find the birds. David played back their calls and got lots of replies but all we saw was the branches moving after the birds moved. We eventually went back onto the bridge and the pair of birds flew across giving us excellent views; one even perched in full view for us to study. This certainly called for a celebratory coffee and biscuits.

We tried several more Moriche Palm stands but no sight or sound of Moriche Orioles or Sulphur-crested Flycatchers; but we did see two Mouse-coloured Tyrannulets.

Continuing to Jasper falls we stopped on the way at a viewpoint where some local holidaymakers also stopped for photos. It was vaguely pleasing to see that they too were covered in insect bites. Ricardo led our walk to Jasper Falls as this is something he regularly does and David is unfamiliar with. The Jasper rock in the stream bed was wonderfully red and quite slippery, we walked on the Jasper in water about 1cm (½") deep and it cooled our hot feet. We walked up the Jasper to the foot of the falls and met Julio yet again! Because of the altitude the forests in this area are cloud forests so heavy rain is common and the volume of water going over the falls can change suddenly and dangerously.

We changed from our boots into sandals before driving through Santa Elena and over the Brazilian border into Pacaraima or **La Ligna** (the border). We went to Churrascaria Casa Mister W for lunch; this is a very common type of restaurant in Brazil. You pay one price and then help yourself to salads, vegetables and bread and lads come round and serve you with freshly barbecued meat and you can eat as much as you want. This was all washed down with Antarctic beer served from large bottles in vacuum flask coolers. We also tried Guarana Champagne a Brazilian fizzy drink that, thus far, has prevented coca Cola or Pepsi gaining a foothold in Brazil. We went to a shopping centre near the border crossing and stocked up on delicious Brazilian chocolate. Ricardo went with us into the border crossing office to see if we could get our passports stamped; the woman refused point blank; smiling was extra too! Back at Ya-Koo we spent ages repacking so, if necessary, half of our luggage could travel separately; this all turned out to be a total waste of time.

We showered and doused ourselves in insect repellent before going on a birding walk around the grounds; no new birds but some more excellent sightings.

Did the birdlist and had fairly early dinner washed down with two beers; there are not enough tables for all the guests when the lodge is full so we had to move. David showed us the sectional plan of the Gran Sabana then bed 9.00pm.

Saturday 11 August

Warm sunny day with some short sharp showers about.

Had tea or coffee at 5.40am then we drove back into the Gran Sabana. We just went past the Canaima National Park sign and into a campsite. Ricardo probably slipped the owner a few Bolivars whilst David tried to call up a Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch; once again we got lots of replies but we didn't see one. We did see American Kestrel, Grassland Sparrow and Eastern Meadowlark, not new birds but good views.

We moved onto another area and tried again and also for Moriche Oriole. No luck with them but David could hear a crake calling and did not recognise it. He recorded it and played it back and it moved closer; eventually it posed for us in the sun and it was identified as an Ash-throated crake. This was a lifer for David as well as for the six of us of course.

We went back to Ya-Koo for breakfast at 8.30am then did last packing before leaving at 10.15am for Santa Elena Airport where we arrived just before 11.00am. There were two Rutaca five-seaters there and we thought all was well but one was not for us and left for Canaima; belatedly because Canaima had been closed because Fidel Castro was visiting there.

Said sad farewells to Ricardo who was leaving us to lead another Geodysey trip; he was also going to the dentist to get his troublesome tooth sorted out. We were introduced to Ramon who was our new driver; he was supposed to stay until it was certain that all our bags would go into the aircraft but rapidly disappeared. We suspected that the van was wanted for another job before going to meet us at Puerto Ordaz.

We moved our bags under the shade of the wing of the aircraft that was for us and moved them twice more as the sun moved across the sky.

David plugged in his computer and did some work whilst we sat around. Joan decided to birdwatch from the shade of the aircraft wing and was lucky enough to see two Moriche Orioles fly across.

The airport was not without entertainment as they were busy repairing the runway (out of action since February and supposedly fixed by May) because President Chavez is visiting on Monday to commission the new power line into Brazil. They were also strimming the long grass and planning to do some painting.

David was getting hot under the collar as deadline for the arrival of the second plane came and went. He was not happy using Rutaca as they have a poor safety record.

Eventually, at 1.40pm, the second plane arrived. Judith, Pete, Richard and Joan went in the plane that had been there all the time. The pilot seemed quite professional with a proper uniform and he had a full head set to talk to air traffic control; the plane also had GPS. On the downside the fuel gauge indicated that both tanks were empty.

We all had excellent views of the sides of Macizo de Chimanta and the top of Auyán-Tepui, the view down into the Devil's Canyon with Angel Falls pouring from top to bottom into the canyon. Angel Falls is the highest in the world 979m (3000'), 807m (2643') in a single drop. The last part of the flight was across/alongside the Embalse de Guri; the huge hydro-electric dam producing electricity to sell to Brazil. The flight was a bit noisy but otherwise could not have been better; at one point the pilot looked at his instructions and asked Pete where we were going, luckily Pete understood and said Puerto Ordaz.

The two planes took slightly different route to start with; the first plane passed Maurak-Tepui whilst the second plane was farther west and passed close by Uei-Tepui (La Aguja or The Tit). David, Geoff and Mary had a pilot who usually transported gold miners; he did not use a head set so they were deafened by his radio and he had never been to Puerto Ordaz airport before but he did tell them about The Tit! We all enjoyed it but David begins to feel he is living on borrowed time flying in small planes across the rain forest.

We piled into two quite small cars to travel to the Hotel InterContinental Guayana; we were not surprised to find armed guards at the entrance to the hotel grounds but were amazed to find airport type security at the hotel door.

At check-in we found out that the Cuban President, Fidel Castro, was due to spend the night in the hotel. We gladly accepted our free welcome beer in the bar and discussed tactics.

Joan, Geoff and Mary sampled the gorgeous warm water of the swimming pool; no life-guard on duty but two armed guards each. Photographing the Caroni River was regarded with great suspicion; Joan dared not photograph the arrival of a huge military helicopter.

Judith and Pete had great difficulty getting to their room because they wanted to use the service stairs instead of the lift; the stairs were off-limits so they had to have armed escort up and down. We did our bird list for the day before taking dinner in the restaurant with the few other hotel guests; the small army of security men were all crammed into the Brasserie for their meals.

We stationed ourselves in the bar with a good view of reception and watched. This was wonderful people watching; each time Fidel was supposed to be arriving everyone stood to attention. Time would pass and the alert would be over and everyone relaxed only to start again a little later. The photographer was getting very despondent and was soon failing to manage much of an alert at all. We were being watched all the time and it was obvious if one of us went to the loo then a security person would have to go as well. We concluded we must have been scrutinised by security before we were allowed to stay in the hotel; they probably knew more about us than we know about each other. At 11.15pm, after about five alerts we went to bed; Fidel had gone to dinner with President Chavez at a palace near the dam of the Embalse de Guri and we needed our beauty sleep.

Sunday 12 August

Hot and sunny, a little rain mid-afternoon.

Went downstairs at 7.40am to look at the morning; we went out to look at the Caroni River where the armed guards were still on duty.

We had an excellent buffet breakfast at 8.00am then got all our things ready to leave at 9.00am. The lifts were constantly full and we had great difficulty getting down; Judith and Pete were all right having established a rapport with their stair-way guards. When we arrived in reception we were told Fidel was about to leave (he had eventually arrived at 4.00am). They allowed our bags to be taken out then we all had to leave quickly in a group and go straight to our bus.

We drove to a shopping precinct in Puerto Ordaz to get materials for a picnic; it was fortunate that we had to feed ourselves today as Ramon said he didn't even have money for fuel; David had to get cash from his own bank for him. We wondered if Ramon had been given cash by Kuruvaina and had spent it on himself or if Kuruvaina had let him down; we shall never know.

As we drove back past the Hotel InterContinental Guayana we saw Fidel Castro's motorcade going the other way; we never really did see him.

We took the ferry across the River Orinoco to La Barrancas and saw some Large-billed Terns; we then drove north through the Llanos **of Monegas** that is at the eastern end of the Llanos visited in 1999.

We stopped in the Llanos beside an area of scrub and David did his Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl call and lots of birds appeared including Brown-crested Flycatcher, Pearly-vented Tody-Flycatcher, Pileated Finch and a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl.

It was so hot the sun was physically painful and David soon was so dry he could no longer whistle and the real Owl didn't bother either. Drinks were served before driving on passing lots of sawmills dealing with wood from forestry in the area; a bit like Breckland forests only warmer. We made several stops along the way to look at birds, we saw lots of Eared Doves flying around and on distant wires but soon found some perched close to the road so we could study them. Roadside pools and drains also yielded Limpkin and assorted Egrets in large numbers and, being north of the Orinoco again, we saw light-phase White-tailed Hawks once more. Another stop was made at a river bridge where Warao Indians live in stilt houses; they also make baskets from palm leaves and we purchased several. Joan and Richard also bought a carved Balsa wood Armadillo.

The road was busy with fast traffic and there was some heavy rain; we had difficulty finding a safe shady spot for our lunch picnic. Our bread, cheese, crisps and apples seemed all the nicer for the delay even if the parking place was not too salubrious. We did see a Plain-fronted Thornbird whilst we were eating. The snake hunting facilities for ladies at the lunch stop were inadequate so a fuel and loo stop was made a little later.

We arrived at Caripe, at 900m (2950') in the Sierra de Turimiquire, and the Cabanas Niebla Azul at 5.00pm; a wonderful view from the rooms but the pathway down was at best difficult and at worst dangerous. David managed to get Geoff and Mary, with her still painful foot, in a room close to the car park but the rest of us had a perilous descent. Judith, Pete, Richard and Joan had a two-bedroom apartment sharing a bathroom; Ramon and David shared similar accommodation one terrace lower down the steep slope.

We drove to the Oilbird cave (Cueva del Guácharo) at dusk and waited for the birds to come out as it got really dark; an amazing sight. The surprise was that despite their loud calls and echo-location they still kept flying into one another.

Went into Caripe for dinner of fried chicken, chips and wassacacca, a delicious concoction of avocado, coriander, garlic and tomato all mashed to a pulp. We had beers except David who drove back because Ramon was dead tired. I appeared that he had left Santa Elena at midnight yesterday and driven through the night to Puerto Ordaz; he then had two hours sleep before picking us up at the Hotel InterContinental Guayana and driving all the way to Caripe – dangerous! What was he doing in the 13 hours between leaving us at Santa Elena airport and leaving for Puerto Ordaz? Was he blowing the cash he had been given on riotous living or had he been given another driving job to do? It was an unsatisfactory situation and an unsolvable mystery. On the drive back David found the power-assisted steering on the van was not working. Richard and Joan opted for showers before bed to leave the shower for Judith and Pete in the morning. It was bed at 10.40pm after making notes of birds seen ready for a double birdlist tomorrow evening.

Monday 13 August

Hot, sunny at times and a little rain. Very humid and sticky at Vuelta de Larga in the coastal lowlands.

Judith and Pete used the shower and we were all ready for breakfast at 5.30am but it didn't arrive until 5.50am still it was good when it came and it had had to be carried down the horrendous steps.

We drove back down to the Oilbird Cave and looked for birds up and down the road. Birding was hard on the neck as all the birds were high in the trees because all the under storey of forest plants has been replaced by coffee. We saw Olivaceous and Cocoa Woodcreepers. (The Cocoa Woodcreeper was what we called a Buff-throated Woodcreeper in 1999 as the species has been split. We heard what is now called the Buff-throated Woodcreeper in Imataca forest). We also saw Scarlet-fronted and Maroon-faced Parakeets, Green Hermit, Collared trogon and Groove-billed Toucanet. David did his Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl call and brought in White-tailed Sabrewing and a large mixed flock of Tanagers including Blue-naped Euphonia. We also saw a Red-tailed Squirrel and heard a Red-billed Parrot.

When we returned to the Oilbird Cave an Inca (Green) Jay was perched on the ticket office roof. We were the first group of visitors inside the Oilbird cave at 8.15am. It was fascinating but a bit spooky with all the strange Oilbird calls echoing in the darkness. We were shown the regurgitated stones and pips from the fruit eaten by the Oilbirds and where some of them germinated only to die through lack of light. We saw several young birds that had fallen and were almost certain to die; sad but the rats, crabs and millipedes, to name but a few, must eat to live. It was a complete ecosystem, which we were privileged to see in action.

We went back to the Cabanas Niebla Azul and finished packing our bits and pieces ready for the poor porter to carry back up to the van. David was late coming because the porter forgot his bags and he was busy e-mailing Gillian with his misgivings following Ramon's exhaustion. We drove through the Sierra de Turimiquire having no difficulty finding where the good roads of wealthy Monegas gave way to the potholes of poor Sucre. We stopped once to see Pearl Kite perched in a roadside tree.

We visited Catuaro and saw the mission of Santa Maria de Catuaro, built in 1765 but now ruined, where Alexander von Humboldt stayed on his way back from visiting the Oilbird cave in 1799. Humboldt said of the place "In a very savage area, the mission is surrounded by large trees. At night Jaguars hunt the chickens and pigs". The village was neat and colourful but seemed very poor without any shops and no work for the population.

For lunch we went into the town of Casanay and found a Panaderia to get a picnic, David advised us what to have and what to avoid because not all items are made fresh every day. We ate our picnic in Bolivar Square in the middle of Casanay and watched the attractive young lady road sweepers at work. This entertainment was greatly appreciated by the chaps. Our leftovers did not go to waste with a young family who watched us in amazement.

Our journey took us out to the Caribbean Coast where we saw Brown Pelicans and Magnificent Frigate Birds as we drove through to the airport. David and Pete went in to check our flight on Thursday morning, we were not on the list but the flight was not full so we went on the list. No problem but so much for Veronica Crepinsek's assurance that there was no need to reconfirm the internal flight.

We arrived at Vuelta de Larga about 3.30pm and were each given our own palm thatched room complete with hammocks on the patio. The rooms were designed to have a good flow through of air and had double insulation with mosquito netting plus double doors to keep the sleeping area

safe from the beasties. The rooms also had a good supply of insect predators in the form of Geckos, Cockroaches and Millipedes.

We showered, sorted ourselves out and watched the wildlife all around us; Judith and Pete in the Jungle room had their own Gray Kingbird. At 5.00pm we walked around the buildings and garden; we saw Piratic Flycatcher, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Giant Cowbird, Stripe-backed Wren and Laughing Falcon. We also sampled delicious fallen Passion Fruit that made lovely yellow stains on Geoff and Joan's shirts.

We admired all the beautiful wooden furniture made by Klaus Müller and his family before doing our double birdlist at 6.30am when we were attacked by hundreds of mosquitoes. When we moved to the dining table where the light was better the insects were marginally less prolific. Dinner was excellent; we started our tally of beers and decided to go on a boat trip tomorrow – bed at 9.15pm.

Tuesday 14 August

Steamy and hot with long sunny periods and a little rain mid-morning.

Breakfast, of bread, cheese, tomato and cucumber, was at 5.30pm. We loaded up into the open backed truck, driven by Daniel Müller, and drove the short distance to Caño Ajies (Red Pepper Stream) where we boarded a metal-hulled boat and set off, downstream, towards the Atlantic Ocean between Montichardia and Red and Black Mangroves. We sometimes used the outboard motor and sometimes just drifted with the ebb-tide, our boatman occasionally using his paddle to keep us going straight.

Birding wasn't easy because we couldn't move much however we saw some brilliant birds thanks to the use of David's tape recorder and Daniel's familiarity with the birds of the area. We all saw Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Jet and Silvered Antbirds, Fuscous Flycatcher, White-winged Becard, Green-and Rufous Kingfisher, Crimson-hooded Manakin (two juvenile males directly overhead and agony to see but worth it) and several Velvet-fronted Grackles. Judith and Pete were sitting on the starboard side of the boat and also saw Pygmy Kingfisher the rest of us were unsighted in the edge of the mangrove. We turned round at a widening of the river and called up five Bicolored Conebills, mangrove specialists, before starting back.

We motored all the way back and, even though the tide had turned and was beginning to flood, it took an hour. Green-and-Rufous Kingfishers kept flying ahead of us for the first part of the journey. David obtained a lot of information about the local names of birds from the boatman for his research that he was doing.

We drove back to the ranch passing a Rufous-throated Puffbird on the way. We had an hour to relax before lunch, we saw several birds and watched Leaf-cutter Ants demolishing Busy Lizzie flowers (Impatiens) they seemed only to like the pink ones, the white flowers were untouched.

Lunch was very substantial with soup, fish and rice followed by fruit salad; during lunch Klaus told us he was hoping to receive a Manatee later in the day to try and establish captive breeding. Snoozing in hammocks was top of the activities in the early afternoon. Bird and butterfly watching was also popular in short bursts, the sun was too strong to stay out for long.

At 3.30pm we drove to Vuelta de Larga farm and stopped suddenly along the entrance road to see a Horned Screamer. Daniel showed us a Tapir that is part of a captive breeding programme. We walked around a large, shallow lagoon with Cayman in. We saw a Black-dotted Piculet which was nice as the bird book gave us to think it was as rare as Rocking-Horse droppings but lots more observations have taken place since the publication of the book.

The grasslands with Buffalo in were also full of birds including American Wood Ibis, Scarlet Ibis juveniles, Snail Kite, Aplomado Falcon, Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Pied Water-Tyrant, Lesser Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitcher and a Sandpiper Species (Least, Western or Semi-palmated). Daniel showed us the new lodge they are in the process of building in an idyllic spot over-looking the lagoon. It would need some good mosquito netting however; we left before dusk to avoid the beasties. Just as we were about to leave we saw a White-chested Emerald.

This evening we did our birdlist at the dinner table where it was interrupted by a super meal. The mosquitoes were not as bad as last evening but they were still very numerous and hungry. We added quite a few beers to our tally before retiring about 9.00pm. Klaus told us that the Manatee had died before it arrived at the ranch; it had been caught several days before and would not eat.

Wednesday 15 August

Misty with rain, heavy and accompanied by strong wind at times; sunny and very hot in the afternoon.

We had breakfast at 5.30am then loaded into two vehicles; the chaps went on the back of the open truck, driven by Daniel; the girls rode inside in a 4 x 4 driven by David. We had to go on a diversion to start with because a bridge had been recently washed out and repairs are underway. Rain started about half way to the Paria Peninsular but it was not torrential. Richard handed over his camera to keep it dry and the chaps stayed outside and got wet and muddy.

We arrived at Los Molinas at about 8.40am, altitude about 700m (2300'). The truck was left in the village and everyone went up, in two trips in the 4 x 4; the road was concreted but very steep over quite along distance and the truck would not have made it. We all gathered at the National Park Wardens Lodge where there was a smart picnic table on the veranda but no loo; unless it was inside and there was no one there. Everyone watered the grass and got munched by mosquitoes they were everywhere.

David was not certain that the walk was a good idea as the weather was so poor but we set off up the track. It was steep and slippery but Daniel soon found a Slate-crowned Antpitta, which we all saw quite well despite the semi-darkness and mist. A little farther on we found the endemic Paria or Yellow-faced Whitestart as well as Rufous-breasted Wren and we heard a Black-faced Antthrush. Because it was such difficult walking we were getting strung out and it was impossible for those at the back to get to see the birds if there were any. We stopped and tried to see a Wing-barred Piprites (Manakin); Mary managed to get her binoculars on it but the rest of us just saw a shape flying around in the mist.

We went on a little way and reached an altitude of about 800m (2620') when Joan said she would go no further and everyone agreed to turn back; at this moment the heavens opened and it lashed down with rain almost all the way back to the Warden's Lodge. The heavy rain made the path quite dangerous in places and David used Daniel's machete to cut steps into the smooth steep slopes.

We sat and looked at the rain from the veranda of the Warden's Lodge then decided it was lunchtime; after all it was nearly 11.30am. Daniel had to use an umbrella just to collect the food from the van it was raining so hard.

Our picnic was a very smart affair with real plates and cutlery and napkins; we had roast chicken, potato salad washed down with fresh passion fruit juice. The Warden appeared, just after our lunch, on a motorcycle to open his lodge. David spent ages talking to him about the local names of birds.

Several times the rain eased and some Hummingbirds and Tanagers appeared only to disappear with the arrival of another squall. The chaps went back first in the 4 x 4 to rejoin the truck; whilst waiting for the van to come back the girls saw some more Hummingbirds including a Brown Violetear. On the way down the hill from Los Molinas we all saw Chestnut-collared Swifts. It rained quite heavily on the journey back and umbrellas were used on the truck for shelter. It took about half an hour longer than the outward journey because the diversion around the collapsed bridge was a lot farther. The girls stopped on the way to see a pair of Donacobius (Black-capped Mockingthrush) performing a duet very close together on a branch.

Some packing was done before going out to Guaraúnos Swamp quite close to Vuelta de Larga; the swamp had been cleared for rice production but was soon abandoned. We stopped to photograph an attractive view and realised there was a Green-throated Mango, another local endemic, sitting in a tree quite close to us. At the next stop we saw a male Wattled Jacana with four little fluffy chicks and Geoff and Mary saw a Pygmy Kingfisher. The swamp then produced masses of birds including Slender-billed Kite, Grey-necked Woodrail, Spot-breasted, Cream-coloured and Crimson-crested Woodpeckers, Little Cuckoo, Greater Ani, Donacobius singing their duet for the chaps and a Sunbittern. This was an amazing place for our last afternoon of birding and new to David we were very glad Daniel had taken us there; the mosquitoes were pleased too having bitten us everywhere they could each time the truck stopped.

We finished the birdlist before having a superb dinner for which we thanked our hostess profoundly. We calculated that we had consumed 50 beers in three evenings; not a bad tally especially at 250 Bolivars (25p) each!

We all wrote on the thank you cards for David and Daniel before going to bed late at 9.45pm.

Thursday 16 August

Cloudless start and sunny most of the day but it had rained overnight and Joan got wet leading the way through the plants in the garden to go to breakfast at 5.30am. We had fresh hot soda bread with cheese, jam, tomato and cucumber.

We carried our bags to the truck and Daniel piled them all onto the back and we got on alongside. We left at 6.00am and drove straight to Carupano airport but the check-in for our luggage was not open so we went on to a coastal lagoon. This was a super spot with lots of American Flamingo, White-cheeked Pintail, Laughing Gull and Black-Skimmer as well as a few Royal Tern and a Black-crowned Night Heron; just as we were about to leave two Barn Swallows flew over. The drive back to Carupano was quite slow and we also stopped to photograph fishing boats with Brown Pelicans.

Only 10Kg of baggage was allowed so we had to pay 14,000 Bolivars (£14) excess baggage when we checked in our bags. We had coffee in the cantina and watched all the comings and goings; there seemed to be a lot of money leaving on planes that barely stopped moving. The television

was on in the cantina on the Discovery Channel and "Teletubbies" came on, even David was pleased as they had been discussed often during the trip; "Oh God!" said Geoff. "Teletubbies" was followed by "Bob el constructor" but our flight came before we could see that. We took off at 10.15am, which was thereabouts the right time; we dropped in at Cumana for more passengers on the way to Caracas.

On arrival at Caracas David got us a porter to wheel our bags from the domestic to the international airport; a distance of about 400m (yards) in the baking sun he earned his 6500 Bolivars (£6.50) but did not seem too pleased.

The Iberia check-in area was total chaos; it appeared that two flights had been cancelled yesterday and the delayed transit passengers were checking in and collecting their passports. Presumably if they weren't supposed to be in Venezuela so their passports had to be forfeited in exchange for overnight accommodation.

We started a queue for the 5.25pm flight (it was about 11.30am at this point) and held our ground; the Iberia security man was doing an excellent job only allowing transit passengers through. Our queue was getting longer and longer and obstructing the concourse so we were reluctantly allowed into the zig-zags. The family behind us in the queue were multilingual and they ascertained that the best offer for an Iberia flight was some time today – 23.59?

Finally at the check-in desk we asked if we could check our bags through to London. The chap disappeared with our tickets and passports for a while and we were a bit worried but he returned and asked us if we would like to go on Alitalia via Milan leaving at 4.35pm (it was now 3.10pm). We agreed and told David who was still waiting nearby.

Alitalia check-in was right at the opposite end of the terminal so we carried all our bags there. David tried to accompany us but he had so many bags that he stopped and we said a very hasty farewell. From this point on we didn't stop moving through all the phases of departure. Geoff used up his Bolivars on departure tax and Joan and Richard paid him back in Dollars; the last few Bolivars went on chocolate. The plane was already loading when we reached the gate and we took off on time.

There were three Iberia planes on the ground as we left and none of them was loading although one was being towed to the terminal. We probably made a good decision. The Alitalia flight was very good (despite the ham); the stewardesses even smiled (this was extra on Iberia).

Friday 17 August

We had about 3½ hours at Milan before catching a British Airways flight (ham optional) to Heathrow, Terminal 1. Unfortunately David had not got through to Martin so he had made an unnecessary trip to Terminal 2 earlier.

We were soon back to Mary and Geoff's where we collected our cars and fought the Friday afternoon traffic to get home.

A superb holiday in every way, we saw, or heard, 398 species of birds and were bitten by a similar number of insects. Seeing Angel Falls was a real bonus as we were prepared to not see anything in the clouds.

The logistical problems in Venezuela did not spoil our enjoyment at all but it caused some angst. It was a shame about Iberia but I think we said that last time; you get what you pay for.

Page	Plate	Number	Page	new	old	Common name	Seen	Caracas	Hotel Avila Ccs	P Ordaz El Palmar	Imataca Rio Grande	Imataca secondary	Imataca Rio Grande	Forest N El Palmar	Wetland El Palmar	Road to Sdan Martin	Road to Las Claritas	Sierra de Lema	Cuyuni Road	Sierra de Lema	Barquilla de Fresa	Cuyuni Road	El Miradore	Sierra de Lema	Gran Sabana	Gran Sabana	Ya-Koo	Gran Sabana	Santa Elena airport	P Ordz/Garipe	Caripe	Caripe	Crp/Vuelta Lg	Cano ajles	Vuelta Larga	Paria	Guaraunos swamp	Carupano lagoon	Latin name	
								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16		
1		3		1		Great Tinamou	h			h																														<i>Tinamus major</i>
1		5		1		Little Tinamou	h			h								h																						<i>Crypturellus obsoletus</i>
		Fig 3	10		1	Brown Pelican	1																									2					s	<i>Pelicanus occidentalis</i>		
		Fig 3	10		1	Magnificent Frigatebird	1																									10	2					1	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	
		Fig 5	13		1	Neotropic Cormorant	1		4	1																			1										2	<i>Phalacrocorax olivaceus</i>
		Fig 5	13		1	Anhinga	1								1																						2	1	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	
		Fig 6	15		1	Cocoi Heron (White-necked Heron)	1																													2			<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	
		Fig 7	16		1	Great (or Common) Egret	1			3					1															2					3	2	1	<i>Casmerodias albus</i>		
		Fig 7	16		1	Snowy Egret	1			1																								2	2	f		<i>Egretta thula</i>		
		Fig 7	16		1	Little Blue Heron (Texas)	1																													5		<i>Florida caerulea</i>		
		Fig 7	16		1	Cattle Egret	1			m					2													M			3	m	m	M				<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		
2		4			1	Capped Heron	1			1		1	3																				m	m				<i>Ptilerodius pileatus</i>		
2		9			1	Striated Heron	1			3						s																			s		6	3	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	
2		2			1	Black-crowned Night Heron	1																																1	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
2		5			1	Rufescent Tiger Heron	1					2																											<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>	
2		7			1	Pinnated Bittern	1								1																								<i>Botaurus pinnatus</i>	
		Fig 8	22		1	Neotropic Cormorant	1																												4				<i>Mycteria americana</i>	
3		Fig 9	24		1	Scarlet Ibis, (also Plate 3,2)	1																													s			<i>Euclidomus ruber</i>	
		Fig 11	25		1	American Flamingo	1																																m	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
		Fig 12	27		1	Horned Screamer	1																														1		<i>Anhima cornuta</i>	
		Not illius			1	Little Chachalaca	1					3			1																									<i>Ortalis motmot</i>
3		1			1	Limpkin	1																							3	2	2					3	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>		
3		5			1	Green Ibis	1									3																						2	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	
3		13			1	White-cheeked (or Bahama) Pintail	1																															m	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>	
3		15			1	Black-bellied Tree/Whist'g Duck	1			4						4													2									<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>		

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16			
3	16			1		White-faced Tree/Whist'g Duck	1			15		h			2																										<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
4	1			1		Yellow-headed Caracara (I,7)	1	f	2	1				3	1					2				f	f	s	s	s									2			<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	
4	2			1		Plumbeous Kite (plate VII,4)	1				1		1																					2	2					<i>Ictinea plumbea</i>	
4	3			1		Turkey Vulture(also plate I,4)	1				3	2		3	m	f	m	s	s					m	m	s	s	s	s	s		2		2	s	f	f			<i>Cathartes aura</i>	
4	5		1			Great Yellow-headed Vulture (I,6)	1						1									1												1						<i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	
I	1			1		Osprey	1								1																										<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
4	6			1		Laughing Falcon	1																										1	h			1			<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	
4	11			1		Snail (or Everglade) Kite (plate III,6)	1																												1					<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	
4	12		1			Slender-billed Kite (III, 5)	1																															1			<i>Helicolestes hamatus</i>
4	13		1			Hook-billed Kite (II,8 : III,2 ; V,3)	1								1																									<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>	
4	16			1		Savannah Hawk (IV,3)	1					1	2				4													2										<i>Heterospizias meridionalis</i>	
4	17			1		Black-collared Hawk (IV,4)	1									2																									<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>
5	3			1		Aplomado Falcon (VII,8)	1																														2				<i>Falco femoralis</i>
5	4			1		American Kestrel (VII,11)	1	2																2	2	2	3		3												<i>Falco sparverius</i>
5	7			1		Roadside Hawk (II,7)	1					2	2		1													1	1				h	1			2				<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>
5	14		1			Collared Forest-Falcon (4:10, VI,10)	1																		2																<i>Micrastur gilvicollis</i>
I	2			1		Black Vulture	1	m	s	s	2			2	m	m							s	s	s	s	2		m	m	m	m	m	m	M	M	m				<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
I	3		1			King Vulture	1											1																							<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>
I	8			1		Crested Caracara	1									1								s	s	s	s	1			2				1	1					<i>Polyborus plancus</i>
I	10		1			Red-throated Caracara	1						h				1									h															<i>Daptrius americanus</i>
III	7		1			Gray-headed Kite (V,4)	1				1																														<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>
IV	2			1		White-tailed Hawk	1			1																			2	2											<i>Buteo albicaudatus hupospodius</i>
IV	2		1			White-tailed Hawk, Dark phase	1																	2	1																<i>Buteo albicaudatus colonus</i>
IV	6			1		Great Black Hawk	1				1																														<i>Buteo urbitinga</i>

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V		1		1		White Hawk	1															3		1																<i>Leucopternis albigollis</i>	
V		2		1		Black-faced Hawk	1						1																												<i>Leucopternis melanops</i>
VI		6		1		Harpy Eagle	1				2																														<i>Harpia harpyja</i>
VII		3			1	Swallow Tailed Kite	1				6						1										1					3								<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	
VII		5			1	White Tailed Kite	1				1																									2				<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	
VII		6		1		Pearl Kite	1																								1								<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>		
VIII		7		1		Black Curassow	1				1																													<i>Crax alector</i>	
		Fig 15	59	1		Gray-winged Trumpeter	H				H																													<i>Psophia crepitans</i>	
1		9			1	Crested Bobwhite	1			h				2	1														1											<i>Colinus cristatus</i>	
6		5			1	Grey-necked Wood-rail	1																										h	h		2				<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	
6		8		1		Ash-throated Crake	1																			1		(7.30am)												<i>Porzana albigularis</i>	
		Fig 16	64		1	Common Gallinule (Moorhen)	1								2																									<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	
6		16			1	Purple Gallinule	1				1		4	5																										<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>	
6		17			1	Sunbittern	1																													1				<i>Eurypyga helias</i>	
6		19			1	Wattled Jacana	1			10			2	5															2						m	m+5			<i>Jacana jacana</i>		
6		2			1	Southern Lapwing	1			6			1												1										m		2			<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	
		Fig 20	72		1	Solitary Sandpiper	1			2																												3			<i>Tringa solitario</i>
		Fig 20	72		1	Lesser Yellowlegs	1																													2	1	1		<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	
		Fig 20	72		1	Greater Yellowlegs	1																						1				2							<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	
		Fig 21	73		1	Spotted Sandpiper	1								1																					6		6		<i>Actitis macularia</i>	
					1	Sandpiper sp.	1																												6					<i>Calidris sp.</i>	
		Fig 23	75	1		Stilt Sandpiper	1			2																															<i>Micropalama himanotopus</i>
		Fig 25	79	1		Common (Short-billed) Dowitcher	1																														2				<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>
		Fig 27	82	1		Common Stilt	1								1															f								s		<i>Himanotopus himanotopus</i>	

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		Fig 30	85		1	Laughing Gull	1																															M	<i>Larus atricilla</i>		
		Fig 32	88		1	Large-billed Tern	1																							4								4	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>		
		Fig 33	89		1	Royal Tern	1																																5	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	
		Fig 35	92		1	Black Skimmer	1																																M	<i>Rhynchops nigra</i>	
7	2			1		Pale-vented Pigeon	1																			s								#		1		<i>Columba cayennensis</i>			
7	5				1	Band-tailed Pigeon	1																																	<i>Columba fasciata</i>	
7	6				1	Scaled Dove	1			1																														<i>Scardafella squammata</i>	
7	7				1	Common Ground-Dove	1							s	s		s																						1	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	
7	8				1	Ruddy Ground-Dove	1		s			4	s	s	s		s									1	2	2		f	f	f	f			s				<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	
7	10			1		Eared Dove	1																							M									<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>		
7	13				1	White-tipped Dove	1						1		2																									<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	
7	14				1	Gray-fronted Dove	h																																	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>	
8	2			1		Red -and-Green Macaw	1				h		4				h					2	2	4																<i>Ara chloroptera</i>	
8	6			1		Red-bellied Macaw	1																			4		10													<i>Ara manilata</i>
8	7			1		Red-shouldered macaw	1																			s														<i>Ara nobilis</i>	
8	9			1		Red-billed Parrot	h																																	<i>Pionus sordidus</i>	
8	11			1		Blue-headed Parrot	1			h		3	10	6		5					5	h																		<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	
8	12			1		Dusky Parrot	1				1		2		2		h				3	h																		<i>Pionus fuscus</i>	
8	14			1		Orange-winged Parrot	1					317+		20+	f						2	h	3																	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	
8	15			1		Yellow-headed crowned Parrot	1			4																															<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>
8	17			1		Mealy Parrot	1				h		1								3																			<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	
		Not illud		1		Blue-cheeked Parrot	1														2		h		2																<i>Amazona brasiliensis</i>
9	1				1	Brown-throated Parakeet	1			2		18			s										4			4													<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>
9	4				1	White-eyed Parakeet	1									19																									<i>Aratinga leucophthalmus</i>
9	5				1	Scarlet-fronted Parakeet	1																																	<i>Aratinga wagleri</i>	
9	7				1	Maroon-faced Parakeet	1																																		<i>Pyrrhura leucotis</i>

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16			
9	9		1			Fiery-shouldered Parakeet	1											3		8																				<i>Pyrrhura egregia</i>	
9	11			1		Green-rumped Parrotlet	1			10			f	2	5																										<i>Forpus passerina</i>
		Not illus		1		Dusky-billed Parrotlet	1						1																												<i>Forpus sclateri</i>
9	12		1			Tepui Parrotlet (fast, high dots)	1										h	s		s																				<i>Nannopsittaca panychlora</i>	
9	15		1			Golden-winged Parakeet	h							h																										<i>Brotogeris chrysopterus</i>	
9	21		1			Caica Parrot	1				1		h					h																						<i>Pionites caica</i>	
9	23		1			Black-headed Parrot	1				h									4																				<i>Pionites melanocephala</i>	
		Intro-duced		7		Rose-ringed Parakeet	1		5																															<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	
10	2		1			Dark-billed Cuckoo	1			1																														<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>	
10	5			1		Striped Cuckoo	h			h	h																									h				<i>Tapera naevia</i>	
10	8			1		Little Cuckoo	1																																	<i>Piaya minuta</i>	
		Fig 37	113	1		Greater Ani	1																																		<i>Crotophaga major</i>
		Fig 37	113	1		Smooth-billed Ani	1			s	s			m	m		m			3	2	2	3	2	f	s		s	s	f	f	s	s	s	s	s					<i>Crotophaga ani</i>
10	9			1		Squirrel Cuckoo	1							1					1							2															<i>Piaya cayana</i>
VIII	9			1		Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	1									1				h	h				h			1													<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>
X	8		1			Blackish Nightjar	1																																		<i>Caprimulgus nigrescens</i>
10	14			1		Inca Green Jay	1																																		<i>Cyanocorax yncas</i>
10	15		1			Violaceous Jay	1			2																															<i>Cyanocorax violaceus</i>
10	16		1			Cayenne Jay	1											3	4		6	4																		<i>Cyanocorax cayanus</i>	
XII	1			1		White-collared Swift	1												1			1			5																<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>
XII	2		1			Tepui Swift	1											4		5		10		s																	<i>Cypseloides phelpsi</i>
XII	3		1			Chestnut-collared Swift	1																														20+				<i>Cypseloides rutilus</i>
XII	6		1			Band-rumped Swift	1				s	s	f				6	6			3	3																			<i>Chaetura spinicauda</i>
XII	7		1			Gray-rumped Swift	1															4																			<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>
XII	8			1		Vaux's Swift	1	f																																	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>
XII	11		1			Short-tailed Swift	1						3																												<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>

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XII	12			1		White-tipped Swift	1											50																						<i>Aeronautes montivagus</i>	
XII	14			1		Fork-tailed Palm Swift	1																	s		s	12						4		5		2		<i>Reinarda squamata</i>		
11	9		1			Velvet-browed Brilliant	1													1																1			<i>Heliodoxa xanthogonys</i>		
11	12		1			Brown Violetear	1																																<i>Colibri delphinae</i>		
11	15			1		Black-throated Mango	1																		1	2						1	1	1					<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>		
	Not illud			1		Green-throated Mango	1																													1			<i>Anthracothorax viridigula</i>		
11	17		1			Long-billed Starthroat	1										1				3	2				1													<i>Helimaster longirostris</i>		
11	20		1			Gray-breasted Sabrewing	1				2						3	4			4	3																	<i>Campylopterus largipennis</i>		
11	21		1			White-tailed Sabrewing	1																								1					#			<i>Campylopterus ensipennis</i>		
11	22		1			Rufous-breasted Sabrewing	1																1																<i>Campylopterus hyperthrus</i>		
12	3		1			Peacock Coquette	1																																<i>Lophornis pavonina</i>		
12	12		1			White-chested Emerald	1																																	<i>Amazilia chionopectus</i>	
12	14			1		Glittering-throated Emerald	1			2						1																	1	1			1		<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>		
12	15		1			Blue-chinned Sapphire	1	1						1																										<i>Chlorestes notatus</i>	
12	21			1		Copper-rumped Hummingbird	1		h					1																	2	2	2		2				<i>Amazilia tobaci</i>		
12	23			1		Fork-tailed Woodnymph	1							2			1	1	2	3		2			2															<i>Thalurania furcata</i>	
12	31		1			White-tailed Goldenthrout	1																		1						1								<i>Polytmus guainumbi</i>		
13	1			1		White-necked Jacobin (female 12, 34)	1							1																										<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	
13	3		1			Crimson Topaz	1																																	<i>Topaza pella</i>	
13	10		1			Black-eared Fairy	1								1		1																							<i>Heliothryx aurita</i>	
14	2		1			Green Hermit	1																													1				<i>Phaethornis guy</i>	
14	5		1			Long-tailed Hermit	1				1			1								1	h																	<i>Phaethornis superciliosus</i>	
14	6		1			Straight-billed Hermit	1										1						1																	<i>Phaethornis bourcierii</i>	
14	10		1			Reddish hermit	1							2			1																			1				<i>Phaethornis ruber</i>	
14	11		1			Rufous Breasted Hermit	1																																	<i>Glaucis hirsuta</i>	
14	12		1			Pale-tailed Barbthroat	1				1																													<i>Threnetes leucurus</i>	
14	16		1			White-tailed Trogon	1				2			1																											<i>Trogon viridis</i>

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16			
	14	17		1		Violaceous Trogon	1						1																												<i>Trogon violaceus</i>
	14	18		1		Black-tailed Trogon	1				1																														<i>Trogon melanurus</i>
158	14	19		1		Masked Trogon	1											2																						<i>Trogon personatus</i>	
158	14	20			1	Collared trogon	1																							1					1				<i>Trogon collaris</i>		
167	15	1		1		Swallow-wing	1								2			3	6		3	6	2																<i>Chelidoptera tenebrosa</i>		
164	15	2		1		White-necked Puffbird	1												1																				<i>Notharchus macrorhynchus</i>		
166	15	5			1	Russet-throated Puffbird	1																									1			1			<i>Hypnelus ruficollis</i>			
162	15	13		1		Brown Jacamar	1																		2														<i>Brachygalba lugubris</i>		
163	15	15		1		Green-tailed Jacamar	h					h																											<i>Galbula galbula</i>		
163	15	16			1	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	1																										1		h			<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>			
164	15	18		1		Paradise Jacamar	1				2				1			1																					<i>Galbula dea</i>		
159		Fig 38	160		1	Ringed Kingfisher	1			2					1																				1				<i>Ceryle torquata</i>		
160	15	20			1	Amazon Kingfisher	1								1														1							1			<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>		
161	15	21			1	Green Kingfisher	1								1																					1			<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>		
161	15	22		1		Pygmy Kingfisher	1																											1					<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>		
161	15	23		1		Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	1						h																					4					<i>Chloroceryle inda</i>		
168	16	2		1		Black-spotted Barbet	1				2																													<i>Capito niger</i>	
169		Not illus			1	Groove-billed Toucanet	1																												1					<i>Aulacorhynchus sulcatus</i>	
169		Not illus			1	Chestnut-tipped Toucanet	1																																	<i>Aulacorhynchus derbianus</i>	
170	16	8			1	Black-necked Aracari	1				7		2						4																		1			<i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>	
171	16	9			1	Green Aracari	1				1														1															<i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>	
172	16	15			1	Channel-billed Toucan	1						1							1																				<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>	
173	16	19			1	Red-billed Toucan	1				2															1										h				<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>	
177	17	3			1	Waved Woodpecker	1				h		h					1																						<i>Ceelus undatus</i>	
177	17	5			1	Cream-coloured Woodpecker	1																												h		1			<i>Ceelus flavus</i>	
175	17	6			1	Spot-breasted Woodpecker	1																															4			<i>Chrysoptilus punctigula</i>
176	17	7			1	Golden-olive Woodpecker	1											2		1																	1				<i>Picus rubiginosus</i>

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179	17	15		1		Golden-collared Woodpecker	1						1								h	2																		<i>Venillornis cassini</i>
178	17	16			1	Red-crowned Woodpecker	1			6				2	2																		2	2			1			<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>
178	17	17		1		Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	1						2					2						2																<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>
178	17	18			1	Lineated Woodpecker	1			1					1																			h						<i>Dryocopus ileatus</i>
180	17	19			1	Crimson-crested Woodpecker	1																														1			<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>
180	17	21		1		Red-necked Woodpecker	1															1																		<i>Campephilus rubricollis</i>
175	18	5		1		Golden-spangled Piculet	h						h												h															<i>Picumnus exilis</i>
175		Not illus		1		Black-dotted Piculet	1																												1		h			<i>Picumnus nigropunctatus</i>
183	18	6			1	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	1																										1							<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>
183	18	7			1	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	1										3																							<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>
182	18	8			1	Long-tailed Woodcreeper	1						1																											<i>Deconychura longicaud</i>
181	18	9			1	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	1						1																											<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>
186	18	12			1	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	1																										1	2						<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>
186	18	15			1	Buff-throated Woodcreeper	h				h																													<i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i>
186	18	15			1	Cocoa Woodcreeper	1																									1		h			h			<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>
186	18	16			1	Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper	1				1																													<i>Xiphorhynchus pardalotus</i>
184	18	19			1	Barred Woodcreeper	1									1																								<i>Dendrocolaptes certhia</i>
184	18	20			1	Black-banded Woodcreeper	1				2																													<i>Dendrocolaptes picumnus</i>
184	18	21			1	Strong-billed Woodcreeper	h				h																													<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>
188	18	25			1	Curve-billed Scythebill	1										6																							<i>Campylorhynchus procurvoldes</i>
192	19	7			1	Tepui Spinetail	1															1																		<i>Cranioleuca demissa</i>
189	19	9			1	Pale-breasted Spinetail	1								1							h			h		1													<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>
189	19	10			1	Dusky Spinetail (McConnell's)	1															2																		<i>Synallaxis moesta</i>
193	19	13			1	Plain-fronted Thornbird	1																						1											<i>Phacellodomus rufifrons</i>
191	19	14			1	Yellow-chinned-throated Spinetail	1								4																				5		3			<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i>

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200	19	20	1	Plain Xenops	1											1																						<i>Xenops minutus</i>
194	19	26	1	Roraiman Barbtail	1																	2																<i>Premnoplex adusta</i>
198	20	15	1	White-throated Foliage Gleaner	1													2																				<i>Automolus roraimae</i>
202	21	2	1	Great Antshrike	h				h																													<i>Taraba major</i>
203	21	4	1	Barred Antshrike	1				h		1	h											h												h			<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>
203	21	5	1	Black-crested Antshrike	1						1	h											h			3			h						h			<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>
211	21	10	1	Roraiman Antwren	1										3	h						1															<i>Herpsilochmus roraimae</i>	
213	21	11	1	Ash-winged Antwren	1										1																						<i>Terenura spodioptila</i>	
207	21	12	1	Pygmy Antwren	1											h			2																		<i>Myrmotherula brachyura</i>	
209	21	15	1	Brown-bellied Antwren	1				2																												<i>Myrmotherula gutturalis</i>	
215	21	25	1	Warbling Antbird	1														2																		<i>Hypocnemis cantator</i>	
205	22	4	1	Streak-backed Antshrike	1													1				h															<i>Thamnophilus insignis</i>	
204	22	5	1	Mouse-coloured Antshrike	1				1																												<i>Thamnophilus murinus</i>	
213		Not illud	1	Gray Antbird	h						h						h																				<i>Cercomacra cinerescens</i>	
214	22	11	1	Jet Antbird	1																											1				<i>Cercomacra nigricans</i>		
213	22	12	1	Dusky Antbird	1				3											h																	<i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i>	
216	22	18	1	Silvered Aitbird	1																											1				<i>Sclateria naevia</i>		
217	22	19	1	Black-throated Antbird	1														2																		<i>Myrmeciza atrothorax</i>	
216	22	21	1	White-bellied Antbird	h						h	h																									<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	
217		Not illud	1	Ferruginous-backed Antbird	1				h		3																										<i>Myrmeciza feruginea</i>	
220	23	3	1	Short-tailed Antthrush	h											h																					<i>Chamaeza campanisona</i>	
222	23	6	1	Scaled Antpitta	h											6																					<i>Grallaria guatimalensis</i>	
224	23	12	1	Thrush-like Antpitta	h				h																												<i>Myrmothera campanisona</i>	
224		Not illud	1	Brown-breasted (Tepui) Antpitta	H													H				H															<i>Myrmothera simplex</i>	
224	23	14	1	Slate-crowned Antpitta	1																													1		<i>Grallaricula nana</i>		
221	23	17	1	Black-faced Antthrush	h				h																								h				<i>Formicarius analis</i>	
238	24	13	1	Golden-headed Manakin	1				1					2																							<i>Pipra erythrocephala</i>	

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239	24	14		1		Crimson-hooded Manakin	1																																		<i>Pipra aureola</i>	
242	24	20		1		Olive Manakin Chloropipo	1													2																					<i>Chloropipo umiformis</i>	
243	24	24		1		Tiny Tyrant-Manakin	h								h																									<i>Tyrannetes virescens</i>		
243	24	27			1	Wing-barred Manakin Piprites	1						h																							1				<i>Piprites chloris</i>		
244	24	28		1		Thrush-like Manakin Schiffornis	h						h																											<i>Schiffornis turdinus</i>		
237	25	5		1		Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock	1										6					1	2																	<i>Rupicola rupicola</i>		
235	25	6		1		Capuchin Bird	1															4																		<i>Perissocephalus tricolor</i>		
237	25	7		1		Guianan Red-Cotinga	1							1								h																		<i>Phoenicurus carniflex</i>		
121	25	8		1		Oilbird	1																												M+	M+				<i>Steatornis caripensis</i>		
227	26	3		1		Spangled Cotinga	1													1																				<i>Cotinga cayana</i>		
255	26	5		1		Cinereous Mourner	1						1																											<i>Laniocera hypopyrrha</i>		
230	26	7		1		Screaming Piha	1				1		h																											<i>Lipaugus vociferans</i>		
230	26	8		1		Rose-collared Piha	1																2																		<i>Lipaugus streptophorus</i>	
236	26	11		1		Bearded Bellbird	1																		3																<i>Procnias averano</i>	
229	26	16		1		Red-banded Fruiteater	1															1																			<i>Pipreola whitelyi</i>	
283	26	17		1		Sharpbill	h																																		<i>Oxyruncus cristatus</i>	
232	27	4		1		White-winged Becard	1			h																															<i>Pachyrhamphus polychopterus</i>	
254	27	14		1		Bright-rumped attila	h				h																h														<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	
255	27	16			1	Cinnamon Attila	1																																		<i>Attila cinnamomeus</i>	
248	28	1			1	Cattle Tyrant	1			1				1																											<i>Machetornis rixosa</i>	
246	XIII	1			1	Long-tailed Tyrant	1							4																											<i>Colonia colonus</i>	
259	XIII	3			1	Greater Smoke-coloured Pewee	1																																		<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>	
259	XIII	5			1	White-headed Marsh Tyrant	1			4	1		1	2	2																										<i>Fluvicola leucocephala</i>	
249	XIII	6			1	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	1			1																1	s	s	s													<i>Muscivora tyrannus</i>
247	XIII	7			1	Pied Water-Tyrant	1																																		<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	
249	28	6			1	Gray Kingbird	1																																		<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	
249	28	7			1	Tropical Kingbird	1	f	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	3		f	f	s	s					s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s				f		<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	

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250	28	8		1		White-throated Kingbird	1																			2	2														<i>Tyrannus albogultris</i>	
251	28	12		1		White-ringed Yellow-throated Flycatcher	1				2			h																												<i>Conopias cinchoneti</i>
253	28	13		1		Social Flycatcher	1			2		s		3	1																											<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>
253	28	16		1		Rusty-margined Flycatcher	1		1					2																												<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>
252	28	17		1		Streaked Flycatcher	1			2																																<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>
252	28	19		1		Boat-billed Flycatcher	1			1				h																											<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>	
254	28	20		1		Great Kiskadee	1	2	s					1																											<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	
254	28	21		1		Lesser Kiskadee	1							1																											<i>Pitangus lictor</i>	
251	28	22		1		Piratic Flycatcher	1																																		<i>Legatus leucocephalus</i>	
250	28	23		1		Variegated Flycatcher	1							1												1															<i>Empidonomus varius</i>	
256		Not illus		1		Short-crested Flycatcher	1																			2															<i>Myiarchus forex</i>	
257	28	26		1		Brown-crested Flycatcher	1																																		<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	
257	28	28		1		Dusky-capped Flycatcher	1																			1																<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>
267		New to science		1		Lema Flycatcher	1																	1																	<i>Myiionectis lentinae</i>	
247	29	6		1		Vermillion Flycatcher	1								1																										<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	
260	29	14		1		Fuscous Flycatcher	1																																		<i>Cnemotriccus fuscatus</i>	
264		Not illus		1		Yellow-margined Flycatcher Flatbill	1			1				1	2																											<i>Tolmomyias assimilis</i>
264	29	19		1		Gray-crowned Flycatcher Flatbill	1			1				h																												<i>Tolmomyias poliocephalus</i>
264	29	20		1		Yellow-breasted Flycatcher Ochre-lored Flatbill	1				h																															<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>
276	29	26		1		Forest Elaenia	1							1	3	2																										<i>Myiopagis galmardii</i>
274	29	29		1		Yellow-bellied Elaenia	1		5															3		2																<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>
274	29	30		1		Small-billed Elaenia	1																				1															<i>Elaenia parvirostris</i>
275		Not illus		1		Plain-crested Elaenia	1																	2																		<i>Elaenia cristata</i>
276	29	32		1		Sierran Elaenia	1																	1																	<i>Elaenia pallatangae</i>	
267	30	7		1		Ruddy Tody-Flycatcher	1																																			<i>Todirostrum russatum</i>

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266	30	8			1	Common Tody-Flycatcher	1			4																															<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>		
266	30	110			1	Painted Tody-Flycatcher	1							h								1																			<i>Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum</i>		
267	30	14			1	Pearly-vented Tody-tyrant	1																						1												<i>Idioptilon margaritaceivent</i>		
269	30	15			1	Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant	1								1		1																								<i>Atalotriccus pilaris</i>		
269	30	16			1	Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant	1				h					1						1																			<i>Colopteryx galeatus</i>		
278	30	21			1	Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet	1																			2			1												<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>		
278	30	22			1	Southern Beardless Tyrannulet	1			2																								h						<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>			
280	30	29			1	White-lored Tyrannulet	1							1																											<i>Ornithion inerme</i>		
271	30	30			1	Yellow Tyrannulet	1								2																										<i>Ornithion flaveola</i>		
280	30	35			1	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet	h																		h									h		h					<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>		
282	30	44			1	Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	1						1																												<i>Pipromorpha oleaginea</i>		
260	30	48			1	Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	1									1																									<i>Terenotriccus erythrus</i>		
284	XI	7			1	Grey-breasted Martin	1			1	3		1	s	7	2						s	s					1	6						s		s			<i>Progne chalybea</i>			
284	XI	8			1	Brown-chested Martin	1								#																			s		s		s			<i>Progne tapera</i>		
285	XI	10			1	Tawny-headed Swallow	1																			4															<i>Alopochelidon fucata</i>		
285	XI	14			1	Blue-and-white Swallow	1		s									m																							<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>		
283	XI	15			1	White-winged Swallow	1								3	1																										<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	
285	XI	16			1	White-banded Swallow	1									7																										<i>Atticora fasciata</i>	
286	XI	18			1	Barn Swallow	1																																			<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	
289	31	5			1	Bicolored Wren	1																					3														<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>	
289	31	6			1	Stripe -backed Wren	1																											1	1	1		1				<i>Campylorhynchus nuchalis</i>	
291	31	7			1	Rufous-breasted Wren	1																														1					<i>Thryothorus rutilus</i>	
291	31	9			1	Coraya Wren	1																																			<i>Thryothorus coraya</i>	
294	31	12			1	Flutist Wren	h											h		h																						<i>Microcerculus ustulatus</i>	
293	31	13			1	White-breasted Wood-Wren	1				h																															<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	
292	31	15			1	House Wren	1		3	3																1		h						f		2	2					<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	
294	31	19			1	Musical Wren	H																																			<i>Cyphorhinus arada</i>	
301	31	24			1	Long-billed Gnatwren	1	3																																			<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16		
302	31	25			1	Tropical Gnatcatcher	1			2																				2										<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>
295	32	2			1	Tropical Mockingbird	1		5		1				2									f	f											2	2			<i>Mimus gilvus</i>
295	32	3			1	Donacobius (Black-capped Mockingthrush)	1																												2	2			<i>Donacobius atricapillus</i>	
297	32	10			1	Yellow-legged Thrush	1														2																		<i>Platycichla flavipes</i>	
300	32	16			1	Bare-eyed Thrush	1		3					1																			3					<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>		
299	32	18			1	Black-billed Thrush	1													4			2																<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>	
299	32	19			1	Pale-breasted Thrush	1				2		1	1											2	1					1							<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>		
304	33	1			1	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	h																		h													<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>		
305	33	4			1	Chivi Red-eyed Vireo	1		1																			1										<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>		
306	33	8		1		Buff-cheeked Greenlet	h										h					h																<i>Hylophilus muscicapinus</i>		
306	33	11		1		Tepui Greenlet	1																2															<i>Hylophilus sclateri</i>		
307	33	14			1	Scrub Greenlet	1		4			4																1		1										
316	33	20			1	Tropical Parula	1																1								1		1						<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	
324	33	29		1		Two-banded Warbler	1											2																					<i>Basileuterus bivittatus</i>	
322	34	3			1	Slate-throated Redstart Whitestart	1										5																						<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>	
323	34	4		1		Brown-capped (Tepui) Redstart Whitestart	1													4			4																<i>Myioborus bruniceps</i>	
323		Not illius		1		Yellow-faced Redstart Paria Whitestart	1																												2				<i>Myioborus pariae</i>	
331	34	7			1	Green Honeycreeper	1						1					1	2	3																		<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>		
331	34	8			1	Red-legged Honeycreeper	1				2																												<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	
331	34	9			1	Purple Honeycreeper	1				3		2							2	2																		<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>	
332	34	11		1		Blue Dacnis	1										2	1			4	3				2													<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	
327	34	15			1	Bananaquit	1		s s s	s	1	1	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	s s	f f	f f						2	1									<i>Coereba flaveola</i>
326	34	16		1		Bicolored Conebill	1																										5					<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>		
329	34	23		1		Greater Flowerpiercer	1														1		1																<i>Diglossa major</i>	
338	35	2		1		Blue-naped Chlorophonia	1														h								4						h				<i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i>	
328	35	3			1	Swallow Tanager	1		2																														<i>Tersina viridis</i>	
336	35	12			1	Burnished-buff Tanager	1																1	1		3	6												<i>Tangara cayana</i>	

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16		
337	35	13			1	Black-headed Tanager	1													4			2																	<i>Tangara cyanopectera</i>
336	35	14			1	Bay-headed Tanager	1				1									2	2										2									<i>Tangara gyrola</i>
336	35	15		1		Turquoise Tanager	1														6																			<i>Tangara mexicana</i>
333	35	16			1	Speckled Tanager	1													2				1						2					2				<i>Tangara guttata</i>	
333	35	17		1		Spotted Tanager	1														2																		<i>Tangara punctata</i>	
334	35	20		1		Yellow-bellied Tanager	1													2			1																<i>Tangara xanthogastra</i>	
333	35	22		1		Paradise Tanager	1														8				1														<i>Tangara chilensis</i>	
332	35	23		1		Opal-rumped Tanager	1														10																		<i>Tangara vella</i>	
340	36	2		1		Violaceous Euphonia	1							2	1									6															<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	
338	36	3			1	Orange-bellied Euphonia	1											3																				<i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>		
339	36	4		1		Trinidad Euphonia	1	1					h																									<i>Euphonia trinitatis</i>		
339		Not illius		1		Finsch's Euphonia	h																	h																
341	36	10		1		Golden-bellied White-lored Euphonia	h				h																												<i>Euphonia chrysopasta</i>	
342	37	1			1	Blue-gray Tanager	1	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	3			2		5		1		1	s	s	f			2	2	2	2				1	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>		
343	37	3			1	Palm Tanager	1		3	3		2				2	2		5					1	s	s	f			2	2	2						<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>		
351	37	7			1	Black-faced Tanager	1																2		1													<i>Schistochlamys melanopsis</i>		
343	37	9			1	Silver-beaked Tanager	1						1			1	6	6	2		1			5		2	f					s				4	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>			
346	37	12			1	White-lined Tanager	1							1																				2	2	1		<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>		
347	37	13		1		Red-shouldered Tanager	1													2																		<i>Tachyphonus phoenicius</i>		
346	37	15		1		Fulvous-crested Tanager	1				1						5	2	1																			<i>Tachyphonus surinamus</i>		
347	37	18		1		Olive-backed Tanager	1													4			2															<i>Mitrospingus oleagineus</i>		
346	37	19		1		Fulvous Shrike-Tanager	1										3																					<i>Lanio fulbus</i>		
351	38	7		1		Magpie Tanager	1							2																								<i>Cissopis leveriana</i>		
308	XIII	10			1	Crested Oropendola	1		6			1				40+													s	1		20+		s			<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>			
309	XIII	12			1	Yellow-rumped Cacique	1																									1	1					<i>Cacicus cela</i>		
310		Not illius		1		Red-rumped Cacique	h					h																										<i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i>		
311	XIII	16		1		Golden-tufted Grackle	1													40+			6															<i>Macroagelaius imthurni</i>		

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16			
311	XIII	17		1		Velvet-fronted Grackle	1																																		<i>Lamprosar tanagrinus</i>
311	XIII	18			1	Carib Grackle	1	s	s	s																			2	s	s	s	s						s	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	
308	XIII	19			1	Shiny Cowbird	1			1		1			h																										<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>
308	XIII	20			1	Giant Cowbird	1																									10			6					<i>Scaphidura oryzivora</i>	
309	38	10			1	Green Oropendola	1				h		6																											<i>Psarocolius viridis</i>	
312	38	13			1	Troupial -National bird of Venezuela	1			1																														<i>Icterus icterus</i>	
313	38	15			1	Yellow Oriole	1			1				1			1																				1			<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	
312	38	18			1	Orange-crowned Oriole	1						1																		2	2			2	2				<i>Icterus auricapillus</i>	
312	38	19			1	Moriche Oriole	1																					2												<i>Icterus chrysocephalus</i>	
311	38	20			1	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	1			1				4	10															2				s	s		s		<i>Agelaius icterocephalus</i>		
314	38	21			1	Red-breasted Blackbird	1					2	1	1												6			6											<i>Leistes militaris</i>	
314	38	22			1	Eastern Meadowlark	1																			1	2													<i>Sturnella magna</i>	
355	39	8			1	Yellow-green Grosbeak	1											2																						<i>Caryothraustes canadensis</i>	
353	39	10			1	Greyish Saltator	1		2					1																						3				<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	
353	39	11			1	Buff-throated Saltator	1															1																		<i>Saltator maximus</i>	
366	39	13			1	Rufous-collared Sparrow	1													10				3						2	2									<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	
359	39	16			1	Pectoral Sparrow	1						1																											<i>Arremon taciturnus</i>	
357	39	24			1	Tepui Brush-Finch	1																				5													<i>Atlapetes personatus</i>	
353	39	25			1	Blue-black Grosbeak	1											1																						<i>Cyanocopsa cyanoides</i>	
360	40	2			1	Lesser Seed-Finch	1				h		2	2																										<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>	
363	40	3			1	Blue-black Grassquit	1			s		3		2	s		s	1				1										3	3		2		2		2	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	
	Not in book				1	Lesson's Seedeater	1					1		10	f																									<i>Sporophila bouvronides</i>	
362	40	8			1	Lined Seedeater	1				2			500+								2	2																<i>Sporophila lineola</i>		
363	40	10			1	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	1																		2	f	f	2												<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	
363	40	11			1	Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	1					3												3		6														<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	
361	40	12			1	Gray Seedeater	1			h		3		1																					1				<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>		
362	40	14			1	Plumbeous Seedeater	1																			1													<i>Sporophila plumbea</i>		

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								1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16				
356	40	21		1		Pileated Finch	1																																		<i>Coryphospingus pileatus</i>	
365	40	22			1	Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	h																		h		h														<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	
366	40	23		1		Grassland Sparrow	1																3				2													<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i>		
364	40	26			1	Saffron Finch	1		1					2	1																									<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>		
368	40	30			1	Dark-backed Goldfinch	1							10+																					1				<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>			
367	40	33			1	Hooded Siskin	1																	3																<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>		
						Total birds seen and/or heard		398																																		
						Total birds seen		366																																		
						Total birds heard		32																																		
						Total new birds for Venezuela		213																																		

Mammals, Reptiles and Insects

Common name	Seen	Caracas	Hotel Avila Ccs	P Ordaz El Palmar	Imataca Rio Grande	Imataca secondary	Imataca Rio Grande	Forest N El Palmar	Wetland El Palmar	Road to Sdan Martin	Road to Las Clarifas	Sierra de Lema	Cuyuni Road	Sierra de Lema	Barquilla de Fresa	Cuyuni Road	El Miradore	Sierra de Lema	Gran Sabana	Gran Sabana	Ya-Koo	Gran Sabana	Santa Elena airport	P Ordaz/Caripe	Caripe	Caripe	Cip/Vuelta Lg	Cano ajjes	Vuelta Larga	Paria	Guaraunos swamp	Carupano lagoon	Latin name			
	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16					
Brown-backed Three-toed Sloth				1	1								1																							
Weeping Capuchin Monkey				3																																
Red Howler Monkey				h	h		h													2									h							
Guianan Saki Monkey															1																					
Red -rumped Agouti															1																					
Red-tailed Squirrel																								1		1										
Rat																								1												
Gecko				2	s																															
Tegu Lizard					2		1																												Anciva family	
Frogs, various				2													2			1				1												
Leaf Toad					1																															
Marine Toad				2																																
Poison Dart Frog																	2																			
Racer Snake																					1								1						Colabridae family	
Boa Constrictor													1																							
Cayman									1																				1							
Blue Morpho Butterfly				2																	2															
Monarch Butterfly				2																						1		1								
Caligo Butterfly						2	1																													
Moths, various (National Guard)														M																						
Stick Insect							1																													
Locust																																				