Bermuda, “Quest for the rarest Petrel of the North Atlantic”
A birding trip to Bermuda from 07 t/m 12 November 2013

One of the seen Bermuda Petrels by Robert Tizard, what a beauty.

Bermuda in total
**Itinerary**

07-11 Arrived on Bermuda, quite late check-in (Grotto Bay Beach Resort), in the afternoon just after dusk.

08-11 Birded at Coney Island, Blue Hole Park and Cooper’s Point (rain in the evening, light wind late in the evening increasing to gale force)

09-11 Birded at Ferry Point Park, Blue Hole Park and in the afternoon a pelagic 3 miles of Nonsuch Island. Winds decreasing to moderate in the afternoon.

10-11 Birded at the Arboretum and Jubilee Road. No wind.

11-11 Birded at Spittal Pond and the Arboretum. Almost no wind.

12-11 Birded at the Arboretum, later on Teus was taken to a hospital and birding ended. I flew out to London in the evening, arriving on 13-11.

**The Birds**

*01 BERMUDA PETREL – Pterodroma cahow*

08-11 12 ex. seen in flight, quite far out from Cooper’s Point. The birds came in closer and the white underwing and dark hood where seen. The birds were seen flying parallel in pairs.

09-11 7 birds seen very well and close. All the features like dark hood, white area above the upperbill, M on the upperparts, white rump and underwing pattern were seen.

See also: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYmi33G0QJw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYmi33G0QJw)
Again Robert Tizard made beautiful pics from the close flybys of this endangered species (the lower pic shows the parallel flying), the pic on the right is a video still of the other participant on this tour Teus Luijendijk.

02 Double-crested Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax auritus*
1 ex. seen from the boat going out for the pelagic.

03 Great Blue Heron – *Ardea herodias*
About 5 ex. seen daily around the eastern point of the island.

04 Great Egret – *Ardea alba*
2 ex. seen mostly in the mornings from the hotel.

05 Little Blue Heron – *Egretta garzetta*
About 4 ex. seen spread over the trip, one white bird (at Spittal pond)

06 Tricoloured Heron – *Egretta tricolor*
2 ex. at Spittal pond.

07 Green Heron – *Butorides virescens*
2 ex. seen, both immature and looking quite classic with red neck.

08 Yellow-crowned Night-heron – *Nyctanassa violacea*
The commonest heron recorded, present in low numbers in every suitable place.

09 Glossy Ibis – *Plegadis falcinellus*
10-11 1 ex. present along Jubilee road in a little swamp. This bird arrived with three others in September. One of these birds was ringed in the Coto Donana...

Not the best picture, but what a distance this bird travelled.

10 Wood Duck – *Aix sponsa*
11-11 2 birds a pair, in a small harbor from the taxi on the way to the Arboretum

11 American Wigeon – *Anas americana*
2 birds, one female (Jubilee road) and one adult male (Spittal Pond)

12 Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos*
The commonest duck recorded on the island.

13 Blue-winged Teal – *Anas discors*
The second most common duck recorded, with only one male in breeding plumage.

14 Green-winged Teal – *Anas carolinensis*
About 15 birds (one adult male in breeding plumage) along Jubilee road.

15 Northern Pintail – *Anas acuta*
11-11 3 ex (one male) at Spittal Pond.

16 Ring-necked Duck – *Aythya collaris*
11-11 2 female types at Spittal Pond.

17 (Taiga) Merlin – *Falco columbarius ssp: columbarius*
Seen daily with a maximum of 3 on a day often hunting.

18 North-American Common Moorhen – *Gallinula galeata*
11-11 2 ex. at Spittal Pond, because of the recent split this was the first time I noticed the large shield above the bill of this taxon.

19 Black-bellied Plover – *Pluvialis squatarola*
Seen daily mainly at the causeway bricks in low numbers.

20 Killdeer – *Charadrius vociferus*
11-11 3 ex. calling and flying over Spittal Pond
21 Greater Yellowlegs – *Tringa melanoleuca*
10-11 1 ex. in winter plumage along Jubilee road.

22 Lesser Yellowlegs – *Tringa flavipes*
10-11 4 birds in total along Jubilee road.

23 Spotted Sandpiper – *Actitis meicularia*
09-11 1 ex. on the bricks going out for the pelagic.

24 Ruddy Turnstone – *Arenaria interpres*
Quite common on the beaches.

25 Pectoral Sandpiper – *Calidris melanotos*
10-11 1 juv. giving nice views along Jubilee road.

26 Wilson’s Snipe – *Gallinago delicata*
10-11 10 ex seen along Jubilee road.

27 Ring-billed Gull – *Larus delawarensis*
A total of 3 birds seen on several days near the hotel.

28 Lesser Black-backed Gull – *Larus fuscus ssp: graellsii*
A total of 15 birds seen, mostly immature but also at least two adults, mostly in front of the hotel. I was a bit surprised about the numbers.

29 American Herring Gull – *Larus smithsonianus*
At least 1 adult seen along the causeway several times.

30 Mourning Dove – *Zenaida macroura*
Common on the island.

31 Common Ground-Dove – *Columbina passerina*
Common on the island.

32 Belted Kingfisher – *Ceryle alcyon*
Seen daily with about 2 birds a day, males and females.

33 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – *Sphyrapicus varius*
4 ex. present in the Arboretum giving great views over the days.

--- Great Kiskadee – *Pitangus sulphuratus*
The commonest bird in Bermuda but introduced.

34 Bermuda White-eyed Vireo – *Vireo griseus ssp: bermudianus*
Common and seen daily in the scrub and thickets. Often the first bird coming in when pishing.
Nice birds but after days of pishing for warblers you get a little bit fed up with them.

**35 American Crow – Corvus brachyrhynchos**
Quite common on the island, often seen in flocks flying to their roosting places.

**36 Barn Swallow – Hirundo rustica ssp: erythrogaster**
8 ex. in a little flock passed in south-easterly direction over Cooper’s Point. Some birds showed the orange underparts.

**37 Grey Catbird – Dumetella carolinensis**
Common throughout our stay and often the first species recorded in the early morning.

--- **European Starling – Sturnus vulgaris**
Common throughout the trip, an introduced species.

**38 Cedar Waxwing – Bombycilla cedrorum**
08-11 15 ex. in a flock at Blue Hole Park, with a few immature birds.

Mottled underparts of immatures in the flock.

**39 Nashville Warbler – Oreothlypis ruficapilla**
2 birds present during all visits to the Arboretum. Nice views.
See also: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juYuYAi62BI&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juYuYAi62BI&feature=youtu.be)

**40 Northern Parula – Parula americana**
About 10 birds seen spread over the trip at various parks, like the Arboretum.
Difficult to photograph this warbler.
See also: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xgsiOWs7Rg&feature=youtu.be

41 Yellow Warbler – *Setophaga petechia*
11-12 11 2 immatures at the Arboretum.

42 Cape May Warbler – *Setophaga tigrina*
09-11 2 ex. at Ferry Point Park, one adult male in autumn plumage and one immature.
11-11 1 male in autumn plumage at the Arboretum.
Great views of this, for me, very wanted warbler.

43 (Myrtle) Yellow-rumped Warbler – *Setophaga coronata*
The second most common warbler species and recorded daily.

44 Black-Throated Green Warbler – *Setophaga virens*
3 ex. at least at the Arboretum seen during all visits, sometimes aggressive towards each other.

**The male of the three.**

### 45 Pine Warbler – *Setophaga pineus*
1 immature seen at the Arboretum during most visits.
See also: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3bY1zCsPSE&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3bY1zCsPSE&feature=youtu.be)

### 46 Prairie Warbler – *Setophaga discolor*
3 birds in total, one at Blue Hole Park and two at the Arboretum

*Pic of the bird by Bob Flood, stole it from Twitter*
See also: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJsAbGz6u6M&feature=c4-overview&list=UUymtDG_g0oW9oajO5bGYAeg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJsAbGz6u6M&feature=c4-overview&list=UUymtDG_g0oW9oajO5bGYAeg)

### 47 Palm Warbler – *Setophaga palmarum* ssp: palmarum + hypochrysea
About 10 ex. at the Arboretum with all but one bird of the *palmarum* subspecies

*Palmarum*  
*Blurred but hypochrysea*
See also: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shQJmKtH2HY&feature=youtu.be

48 Blackpoll Warbler – Setophaga striata
About 10 immature birds seen at several places (but not in the Arboretum). Great views (no pics) and very instructive to see them in this plumage. All birds showed orange legs.

49 Black-and-White Warbler – Mniotilta varia
About 8 birds seen, spread over several parks. All giving great views.

50 American Redstart – Setophaga ruticilla
The commonest warbler species recorded (no numbers recorded), all but one male in autumn plumage were immature birds.

51 Worm-eating Warbler – Helmitheros vermivorus
10-11 1 bird seen well at the Arboretum entrance.

52 Ovenbird – Seiurus aurocapilla
Quite common in the thickets, sometimes more than one bird together, great views.

52 Northern Waterthrush – Parkesia noveboracensis
A bit less common than the former but giving great views.

53 Common Yellowthroat – Geothlypis trichas
About 10 birds seen spread over the trip in the marshy areas, all immature birds, male and females.

54 Summer Tanager – Piranga rubra
2 immatures present on all visits to the Arboretum, giving good views. Very orange in color.
55 **Scarlet Tanager** – *Piranga olivacea*
2 immatures seen. One daily in a tree at the breakfast table at the hotel and one at the Arboretum on 11-11.

*A great way to have breakfast.*

56 **Northern Cardinal** – *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Common at all visited places.

57 **Rose-Breasted Grosbeak** – *Pheucticus ludovicianus*
08-11 1 immature giving good views at Blue Hole Park.

58 **Indigo Bunting** – *Passerina cyanea*
About 5 birds seen spread over the parks, one time mixed in with a local flock of introduced House Sparrows.

59 **Baltimore Oriole** – *Icterus galbula*
2 immatures seen, one in flight over Coney Island on 08-11 and one at the Arboretum on most visits.

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Talking about orange:
-- **European Goldfinch** – *Carduelis carduelis*
A common introduced species on the island.
-- **House Sparrow** – *Passer domesticus*
Also common all over.

*Teus Luijendijk, Delfgauw*
*Max Berlijn, Epen*
*The Netherlands*