Honduras
18th-31st May 2019

Ann and Andrew Duff with Stuart Keenan, Sonia Jupp and Stuart White

Report by Ann Duff

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our tour to Honduras was booked with Alexander Alvarado who had been recommended by Michael Carmody of Legacy Tours with whom Stuart Keenan, Ann and Andrew had travelled previously. Consequently their target lists were shorter than Sonia’s and Stuart White’s lists. At the British BirdFair in 2018 four of us met with Alex to discuss our target species and based our tour on his standard itinerary with some extra time added at La Tigra and Pico Bonito. We can recommend Alex who did most of the driving as well as guiding; his knowledge of the birds and sites was excellent. His e-mail address is: birdinghonduras@gmail.com.

Included in our itinerary were: 12 nights of good quality accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and dinners, airport transfers, a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle with driver and the services of an excellent guide, Alexander Alvarado. Our focus was on seeing all of the regional endemics available on our itinerary as well as other birds on our target lists. The group’s total number of bird species was 227 seen plus 16 heard only.

**Flights** We booked flights through [www.traveltrolley.co.uk](http://www.traveltrolley.co.uk) and [www.budgetair.co.uk](http://www.budgetair.co.uk). We had a complicated routing as we were combining Honduras with the Yucatan in Mexico. Consequently we flew to Cancun with British Airways then on to Honduras via El Salvador with Avianca. Amazingly all flights were on time.

**Visas & taxes** No visas were required. There was no departure tax.

**Transport in Honduras** Alex (and Daniel, our second driver) drove a comfortable 10-seater mini-bus. Road conditions were variable.

**Accommodation** We stayed: two nights at PANACAM Lodge; two nights at La Casona Hotel Campestre, Marcala; three nights at Hotel Los Gloriales close to La Tigra NP; two nights at La Muralla Hotel, La Union; two nights at Pico Bonito Lodge; and one night at Metrotel Express, San Pedro Sula.

**Food and drink** Food was standard Central American fare with lots of rice and refried beans.

**Currency** Lempira; approx. 31 = £1.

**Health** The usual inoculations are advisable but not compulsory. We encountered some biting insects including a few nasty horse flies.

**Timezone** UK is 7 hours ahead of Honduras.

**Weather** Variable: sunshine and showers initially, but cloudy and wet at La Tigra and Pico Bonito; the rainy season had arrived early. There had been a lot of rain and this had an impact on our chances of finding some of the rails and crakes as water levels were high.


SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

**May 18th** Flight from London Heathrow and arrival in Cancun, Mexico. Overnight at La Hacienda El Ramon, Cancun.

**May 19th** Flight from Cancun to San Pedro Sula, Honduras via San Salvador. Overnight at PANACAM Lodge.

**May 20th** Cerro Azul Meambar NP, PANACAM Lodge; El Colijo; Lake Yojoa; La Natureleza Hotel Bird Trail. Overnight at PANACAM Lodge.

**May 21st** Cerro Azul Meambar NP, PANACAM Lodge; El Rancho Restaurant & El Cajon hydro-electric dam; Lake Yojoa; drive to Marcala. Overnight La Casona Hotel.

**May 22nd** La Casona entrance road; Opatoro-Guajiquiro Highlands. Overnight at La Casona.

**May 23rd** La Casona complex; Las Moras Mts; drive to La Tigra NP. Overnight at Los Gloriales Inn.

**May 24th** Drive to Choluteca; Guanacaure; Finca Santa Alejandra; return to Los Gloriales.

**May 25th** La Tigra NP; Uyuca. Overnight at Los Gloriales Inn.

**May 26th** Travel day: La Tigra NP to Muralla NP. Overnight at Hotel La Muralla, La Union.

**May 27th** La Muralla NP; Vallecitos. Overnight at La Muralla Hotel, La Union.

**May 28th** Vallecitos; La Ceiba; Pico Bonito NP. Overnight at Pico Bonito Lodge.

**May 29th** Loop trail at Pico Bonito. Overnight at Pico Bonito Lodge.

**May 30th** Pico Bonito to Cuero y Salado mangroves; drive to San Pedro Sula. Overnight at Metrotel Express.

**May 31st** Flight to Cancun via San Salvador.

DAILY DIARY

**May 18th** Travel day. Overnight in Cancun.

**May 19th** Transfer to Cancun Airport for 12:50 flight to San Salvador (capital of El Salvador), and onward 14:40 flight to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, arriving at 15:25. Alex and his co-driver, Daniel, met us at the airport and the transfer to PANACAM Lodge (www.panacamlodge.com) took approx. 1 hr 30 mins. Light rain during the journey had ceased by the time we checked in to our spacious rooms, with a colony of noisy Chestnut-headed Oropendolas nesting right outside. Before dinner we had time to watch the hummingbird feeders outside the dining room where Rufous-tailed Hummingbirds and White-bellied Emeralds predominated and a tree frog was an interesting find.

**May 20th** Lightning and heavy rain during the night meant we had a wet start looking for two of our target species - Grey-headed and Grey-chested Doves - however we succeeded in seeing both. Alex pointed out the nest hole of Keel-billed Motmot from which we could hear the chicks calling. Soon an adult flew in to feed them and after good views of it we began walking/driving down the road towards the main highway with several stops along the way. Some of the birds seen were: White-collared Manakin, Rufous-and-white Wren, Dusky Antbird, Scarlet-rumped (Passerini’s) Tanager, Green-backed Sparrow and Prevost’s Ground-sparrow. We continued to Lake Yojoa by which time it was hot so we were pleased that our boat had a canopy. With water levels high we only heard Spotted Rail, Ruddy and Yellow-breasted Crakes, however Pinnated Bittern and Bare-throated Tiger-heron were good finds.

After lunch and a short siesta while we waited for Stuart White to arrive, we drove to La Naturelza Hotel & Restaurant where we walked the ‘aviturismo’ track. Our target was Uniform Crake.
and we heard several but they refused to be coaxed out. On the way back to PANACAM Lodge we stopped again at Lake Yojoa for an evening walk along a boardwalk for Common Barn-owl (split by some authorities as American Barn-owl Tyto furcata).

May 21st An early start to see if the Northern Royal Flycatcher had returned to its nest near the PANACAM Lodge entrance; after the heavy rain on 19th it hadn’t been seen there. In spite of the lovely morning it was still absent and a Central American Agouti and White-nosed Coati were small compensation. We left PANACAM at 06:00 for El Cajón and the hydro-electric dam area, stopping at El Rancho restaurant for breakfast while enjoying Azure-crowned and Berylline Hummingbirds, Green-breasted Mango and flyby White-fronted Amazons. From there we were accompanied by a local guide who took us to his site for the country’s only endemic Honduran Emerald where we watched two males sparring. Around the dam area we found Elegant Trogon, Fan-tailed Warbler and heard Little Tinamou. Leaving El Cajon we were fortunate to avoid a local protest where villagers had just removed a blockade of branches from across the road. A last stop at Lake Yojoa for an early lunch produced Rufous-backed Wren, Spotted Sandpiper and Red-winged Blackbird, with Ruddy and Yellow-breasted Crakes again only heard.

En route to Marcala we encountered heavy rain with thunder and lightning and in La Esperanza the roads were flooded due to the torrential downpour. By the time we reached La Casona Hotel Campestre the sun was out and we were lucky to find a small covey of Spot-bellied Bobwhites drying out on the entrance road.

May 22nd Picnic breakfast at La Casona with Common Nighthawks hawking and several Bushy-crested Jays for company. Left at 05:30 for the Opatoro-Guajiquiro highlands where we birded until 17:00. We spent quite a lot of time seeking good views of one of our main targets, Buffy-crowned Wood-partridge, and it wasn’t until late in the day that we all achieved good scope views. Solitaires were much in evidence with their distinctive metallic calls (Brown-backed) and the more musical notes of Slate-colored. A female Resplendent Quetzal put in an appearance as well as Blue-throated Motmot, Barred Forest-falcon, Mountain Trogon, Emerald Toucanet and eventually good views of the regional endemic Black-capped Swallow - another main target.

Over dinner in Marcala we all agreed that we did not need to return to the mountains the next morning as there were no further targets.

May 23rd Mainly a travel day so a relaxed 06:00 start to walk the extensive grounds of the complex of La Casona Hotel Campestre which had been established as a religious community - hence the no-alcohol policy! Sadly it all looked rather rundown but there was lots of good habitat in the network of ponds, lakes and streams with many woodpeckers: Golden-fronted, Lineated, Golden-olive and Acorn. Black-headed Saltator, Lesson’s Motmot and Red-billed Pigeon were some of the other birds seen there.

We left at 09:15 and drove towards Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, en route to La Tigra NP, a slow journey due to roadworks for a dual carriageway. We turned off the main road and headed into Los Moras mountains before an uphill slog to a bean field to look for Ocellated Quail. After heavy rain the track was flooded in places and rather slippery and our only reward was a 5-second flight view of four quail which dropped into the brambles and bracken, not to be seen again! Somewhat frustrated we returned to the vehicle and continued to Los Gloriales Inn for a two-night stay. Heavy rain led to dinner being delayed as we couldn’t get from our rooms to the dining room.
without getting drenched. Over dinner we all agreed we did not want to try the arduous La Tigra route for Ocellated Quail and Alex proposed a slight change of itinerary for the 25th as more rain was forecast. We would instead drive to Choluteca for **Blue-tailed Hummingbird** - a good result, as this was a bird I’d hoped to see but it wasn’t on our itinerary.

### May 24th
A bad night with rain hammering down - and some of it into our room! The change to the itinerary had been brought forward as it was still raining and we would drive to Choluteca today where better weather was forecast. Traffic was heavy around Tegucigalpa and we didn’t arrive at Guanacore until 10:20. We followed the water pipeline into the forest, negotiating a tricky huge boulder and a stream before reaching the best site for the **Blue-tailed Hummingbird**. Alex soon heard and saw one which flew in and out too quickly for the rest of us. Fortunately it quickly returned and was coaxed down to eye-level for great views. We took a different route back, following the lads who were humping bulging sacks of mangos back to the village. It took us to someone’s back garden although no-one was about and there were no barking dogs to give us away.

As there were mangroves nearby some of the group asked if we could try for **Mangrove Rail**. Alex had a good private site and we set off towards Choluteca only to be thwarted by a huge queue of traffic caused by a blockade of teachers and doctors who were protesting about the government’s proposed changes to their terms of employment, and there was no way round it as all other routes had also been blockaded. Lunch at a nearby petrol/service station seemed a good idea and by the time we’d eaten the traffic was moving (somewhat cynically it could be said that as it was Friday afternoon the protesters wanted to get home!) At the Finca Santa Alejandro salt pans we had to wait while the gatekeeper confirmed that Alex could be allowed access but we were soon inside and Alex quickly called in a **Mangrove Rail**. We added a few more water birds: **Willet**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **White Ibis**, **Roseate Spoonbill** and **Snowy Egret** before the long drive back to Los Gloriales in time for dinner. More overnight rain.

### May 25th
Due to the change in itinerary we would spend an extra night at Los Gloriales so this morning was spent in La Tigra NP where it was cool and misty to start. Alex drove us to a small settlement where there were plants and flowers for sale. It was a very good site for birds too. We saw **Ruddy Crake** just a few feet away, **Orange-billed Nightingale-thrush**, **Green-breasted Mountain-gem**, **Plain Wren** and **Rufous-browed Wren** before driving to the National Park car park. We set off on the Granadillas then the Jucuara Trails, seeing **Singing Quail**, great views of a male **Wine-throated Hummingbird**, **Black-throated Jay**, **Northern Spot-crowned Woodcreeper** and **Chestnut-capped Brush-finch**. Stuart White and Sonja were keen to try for Fulvous Owl (seen by the others at El Triunfo) so Alex took them off on La Esperanza Trail to try for a roosting bird, but without success.

When we were having lunch in the park cafe two birders arrived who knew Alex. They told him about a **Guatemalan Pygmy-owl** they had just seen - a new bird for all of us. It wasn’t at La Tigra but about a 90-minute drive away at Uyuaca - not far for a twitch, especially as three of us had run out of new birds to see. The owl was exactly where they had left it, much to our delight and we added **Crescent-chested Warbler** and another **Green-breasted Mountain-gem**. Back to Los Gloriales via a supermarket to buy fresh fruit and vegetables to take with us tomorrow to La Union where it can be difficult to obtain them.

### May 26th
A final walk around the Los Gloriales garden seeing **Northern Flickers**, **White-fronted Amazons**, **Band-backed Wrens** and **Blue-and-white Mockingbird**. It was still overcast and misty when we left at 06:30; being early on Sunday the traffic was light and we had time to stop for hot chocolate en route to La Muralla NP, Olancho, and the small town of La Union. After checking in to our hotel we had lunch in the small cafe...
across the road where we became the focus of interest for the Sunday-morning worshippers as they left the church next to the hotel. We were joined by Nain, the son of Don Pedro who runs the centre at La Muralla and set off at 13:30 to the reserve where we quickly added Guatemalan Screech-Owl, Red-Capped Manakin and Red-throated Parakeet to our list. Then it began to rain so we enjoyed some of Don Pedro’s excellent coffee until it eased off and we continued our search for Northern Nightingale-wren, only hearing one. We did see Sparkling-tailed and Stripe-tailed Hummingbirds, Crested Guan, White-crowned Amazon, Collared Forest-falcon and Keel-billed Toucan before returning to town.

May 27th An 05:30 start as we needed to be at the right place in good time. We stopped a short distance from the reserve entrance where there was a good view over the valley towards a fruiting tree. We were in luck: a distant Lovely Cotinga perched up feeding amongst the leaves where it was amazingly well-camouflaged. After a good picnic breakfast washed down with Don Pedro’s coffee we set off to walk the Pizote Loop Trail which was rather hard work due to slippery leaves and tree roots. Not a hint of Spotted Wood-Quail (Don Pedro said he sees them every day without trying!!) however we had good views of Northern Nightingale-wren, Mayan Antthrush, several Resplendent Quetzals (male and female), Northern Spotted Woodcreeper and Laughing Falcon.

Late afternoon we drove out of La Union to Vallecitos where swifts gather over the ridges. Spot-breasted and Yellow-backed Orioles along with Lesser Roadrunner kept us occupied until the swifts came in to view and we were able to pick out White-chinned and Greater Swallow-tailed Swifts from amongst the abundant White-collared Swifts. We finished the day with seven Spot-bellied Bobwhites.

May 28th The itinerary change meant we only had two nights at La Muralla Hotel before moving on to Pico Bonito Lodge. We stopped again at Vallecitos about 17kms from La Union for another look at the swifts. They were flying lower and closer this morning and we had better views of two Greater Swallow-tailed Swifts. A wonderful surprise as we drove on was a pair of Ocellated Quails feeding by the roadside. They scurried up the bank under some pine trees where they fed unperturbed by our presence and we were able to watch and photograph them until it was time to move on. Also present was a Canivet’s Emerald, split by some authorities as Salvin’s Emerald.

Our next stop (apart from one to photograph some beautiful orchids) was in the coastal town of La Ceiba, at a small private park owned by the Fundacion CREDIA renowned for its Black-and white Owls. We had excellent views of two although Alex said there were probably more. Heading out of La Ceiba there was quite a tail-back of heavy lorries as there had been another blockade, however we still got to Pico Bonito Lodge in time to see a roosting Great Potoo and the feeders were buzzing with hummingbirds. After checking in to our lovely spacious rooms (they even had a coffee machine!) we set out for a walk at 15:30 only for heavy rain at 15:50 which curtailed our birding. Mistletoe Tyrannulet was only heard but Wedge-billed and Olivaceous Woodcreepers, Spot-breasted Wren and Red-capped Manakin were seen.
May 29th  At 06:30 we started up the Loop Trail - a series of up-hill steps with some flat stretches in between and the return part with moss-covered stones and tree roots. It was a hard five-hour slog in the increasing humidity with some potential new birds heard only and Central American Pygmy-Owl, Tawny-crowned Greenlet and Northern Royal Flycatcher seen. The Central American Spider Monkeys we encountered were most upset by our presence and their non-stop raucous screams made birding difficult.

In the afternoon only Stuart Keenan and Sonia braved the rain and did part of the Loop Trail again, seeing Black-eared Quail, Great Curassow and Black-throated Trogon.

May 30th  From Pico Bonito Lodge we travelled to a small ‘railway station’ for the journey to Cuero y Salado. The train resembles a miniature railway with just two open carriages, one with hard wooden seats and the other with armchair-style seats. We made for the latter and left the others to the armed guards and a contingent of police men and women who were travelling to the reserve for training in conservation issues. The train stopped a couple of times to pick up groups of young school girls as it’s the only way they can get to school - there’s no road.

We spent a pleasant three hours out on the lake finding White-necked Puffbird, Common Black Hawk, Bat Falcon, Red-lored Parakeet and three species of kingfisher though only hearing American Pygmy-kingfisher and Northern Mourner. Proboscis Bats roosting below the reserve notice board were a good find also a West Indian Manatee seen lurking in the murky waters.

On the journey back to Sula San Pedro (ready for our early morning flight tomorrow) we encountered three more blockades as the unrest was escalating. The first was cleared quite quickly but the next ones delayed us by several hours. The general public seemed to have a lot of sympathy with the protesters and accepted the situation in a good-natured way. Much of the delay occurs when the blockade is lifted as the police have to sort out six lanes of traffic where there should be two! It was dark when we reached our hotel and we discovered that the airport had been blockaded throughout the day.

May 31st We arrived at the airport at 04:20 long before any of the protesters. Poor Alex was expecting another birding group from America at midday and was concerned about where he would be able to take them.
BIRDS

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major* - heard at Pico Bonito on 29th
Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* - heard at PANACAM on 20th and at El Cajon on 21st
Highland Guan *Penelopina nigra* - heard in Opatoro Highlands; 1 seen by leader only on 27th at La Muralla NP
Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens* - 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP
Great Curassow *Crax rubra* - 1 seen on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito on 29th
Spot-bellied (Crested) Bobwhite *Colinus leucopogon* - 5, flight view only, on 21st at El Cajun; 5 on entrance road to La Casona; heard on 23rd at Las Moras; 7 on 27th at Vallecitos

Buffy-crowned Wood-partridge *Dendrortyx leucophrys* - 2 on 22nd, Opatoro highlands

Black-eared Wood-quail *Odontophorus melanotis* - heard at Pico Bonito and 1 glimpsed by Sonia on the Loop Trail there on 29th
Tawny-faced Quail *Rhynchortyx cinctus* - heard on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito on 29th
Singing Quail *Dactylortyx thoracicus* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP
Ocellated Quail *Cyrtonyx ocellatus* - 4 flushed and briefly in flight on 23rd at Las Moras; 2 by the roadside en route from Vallecitos to La Ceiba on 28th were seen well

Black-bellied Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* - numerous at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st
Fulvous Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* - a few at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st
Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* - 2 at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st; a pair on 23rd at La Casona
Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* - 3 at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 1 on 21st
Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove) *Columba livia* - small numbers around towns and villages
Northern Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* - 1 on 21st near La Esperanza; c10 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona hotel grounds

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* - seen most days

Grey-chested Dove *Leptotila cassini* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

Grey-headed Dove *Leptotila plumbeiceps* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

White-faced Quail-dove *Zentrygon albifacies* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica* - common and seen most days

Inca Dove *Columbina inca* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Common Ground-dove *Columbina passerina* - 3 on 23rd at Las Moras

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* - 1 on 28th at daytime roost by entrance road to Pico Bonito Lodge

Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor* - at least 2 hawking overhead on 22nd-23rd at La Casona

Black Swift *Cypselooides niger* - 3 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

White-chinned Swift *Cypselooides cryptus* - 5 on 27th at Vallecitos

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* - c20 on 22nd at La Casona; 100+ on 27th at Vallecitos

Great Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila sanctihieronymi* - 1 on 27th & 28th at Vallecitos

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* - at least 1 on 28th at feeders at Pico Bonito Lodge

Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris* - 1 on 28th at feeders at Pico Bonito Lodge

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothorax prevostii* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon

Canivet’s (Salvin’s) Emerald *Chlorostilbon salvini* - 1 on 28th en route from La Union to Pico Bonito

Violet Sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Stripe-tailed Hummingbird *Eupherusa eximia* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP
Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica* - several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacati* - 1 on 19th & 1+ on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 21st at El Cajon; 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Cinnamon Hummingbird *Amazilia rutila* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

White-bellied Emerald *Amazilia candida* - several on 19th-20th at PANACAM Lodge

Honduran Emerald *Amazilia luciae* - 2 on 21st by the roadside at El Cajon, the only Honduran endemic

Azure-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanocephala* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon; 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Berylline Hummingbird *Amazilia beryllina* - 2 on 21st at El Cajon; 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Blue-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanura* - 1 male on 24th seen very well at Guanacaure

White-eared Hummingbird *Basilina leucotis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Green-breasted Mountain-gem *Lampornis sybillae* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 1 on 25th at Uyuca; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Sparkling-tailed Woodstar (Hummingbird) *Tilmatura duponti* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Wine-throated Hummingbird *Atthis elliotti* - stunning views of 1 male on 25th at La Tigra NP; the photos below show vividly how the gorget colour in hummingbirds can change according to the light

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris* - several on 21st at El Cajon

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* - heard on 24th at Guanacaure

Pheasant Cuckoo *Dromococcyx phasianellus* - heard on 26th at La Muralla NP
Lesser Roadrunner *Geococcyx velox* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos

Common Squirrel-cuckoo *Piaya cayana* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Ruddy Crake *Laterallus ruber* - heard on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Mangrove Rail *Rallus longirostris* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Uniform Crake *Amaurornis concolor* - 3 heard [1 seen briefly by Alex] on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

Spotted Rail *Pardirallus maculatus* - heard on 20th at Lake Yojoa

Yellow-breasted Crake *Hapalocrex flaviventer* - heard on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinicus* - several on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* - several on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa;

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* - 4 on 20th & 3+ on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Bare-throated Tiger-heron *Tigrisoma mexicanum* - 2 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Pinnated Bittern *Botaurus pinnatus* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* - 2 on 20th Lake Yojoa boardwalk

Green-backed (Green) Heron *Butorides virescens* - 3+ on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* - numerous on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa

Great White (Great) Egret *Ardea alba* - numerous on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa
Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* - 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* - 5+ on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa
Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* - 4 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca
Neotropical (Neotropic) Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

![Tricolored Heron](image)

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Black-winged (-necked) Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca
Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa* - numerous on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

![Northern Jacana](image)

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca
Willet *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca
Common (American) Barn-owl *Tyto alba* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa boardwalk
Guatemalan (Northern) Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium cobanense* - 1 on 25th at Uyuca

![Spotted Sandpiper](image)
Central American Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium griseiceps* - 1 on 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge

Ferruginous Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Guatemalan (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl *Megascops guatemalae* - 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Black-and-white Owl *Ciccaba nigrolineata* - 2+ on 28th at daytime roost at Fundacion CREDIA, La Ceiba

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* - seen most days

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* - 3+ on 20th and 21st at Lake Yojoa

American Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* - often abundant and seen most days

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* - 1 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP; this has to be one of the world’s most beautiful birds
Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* - good close views of 5+ on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis* - 1 on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Resplendent Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno* - 1 female on 22nd at Opatoro highlands; 2 males & 2 females on 27th at La Muralla NP

Violaceous (Gartered) Trogon *Trogon violaceus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* - 2 on 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 1 female on 23rd at Las Moras

Blue-throated Motmot *Aspatha gularis* - 2 on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Blue-diademed (Lesson’s) Motmot *Momotus lessonii* - numerous on 20th & 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 2 on 23rd at La Casona
Keel-billed Motmot *Electron carinatum* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

**Turquoise-browed Motmot** *Eumomota superciliosa* - 2+ on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
American Pygmy-kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* - 2 heard on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

White-necked Puffbird *Notarchus hyperrhynchus* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus* - 1 on 21st PANACAM lodge; 1 on 26th & 2 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus* - 1 on 22nd Opotoro highlands; 2 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Collared Araçari *Pteroglossus torquatus* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM;
Guatemalan (Northern) Flicker *Colaptes mexicanoides* - 2 on 22nd Opotoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at Las Moras; a pair on 26th at Los Gloriales Inn
Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* - 2 on 23rd at La Casona
Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Acorn Woodpecker *Hylotomus formicivorus* - 1 on 22nd Opotoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at La Casona
Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani* - heard on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Golden-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes aurifrons* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 23rd at La Casona
Hairy Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus villosus* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Barred Forest-falcon *Mircastur ruficollis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands
Collared Forest-falcon *Mircastur semitorquatus* - 1 heard on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP
Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Bat Falcon *Falco rufigularis* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP; 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
White-crowned Parrot *Amazona senilis* - c10 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP
White-fronted Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona albifrons* - 2 on 21st at El Cajon; 2 on 26th at Los Glorales Inn
Red-lored Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona autumnalis* - 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado
Aztec (Olive-throated) Parakeet *Eupsittula astec* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM
Red-throated (Green) Parakeet *Psittacara rubritorquus* - 15+ on 26th at La Muralla NP
Dusky Antbird *Cercomacra tyrannina* - 1 male on 20th at PANACAM
Mayan (Black-faced) Antthrush *Formicarius moniliger* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Western Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseus* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorynchus spirurus* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Ivory-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster* - 1 on 24th at Guanacaure
Northern Spotted Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Northern Spot-crowned Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes affinis* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP
Ruddy Foliage-Gleaner *Clibanornis rubiginosus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands
White-collared Manakin *Manacus candei* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM; 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Red-capped Manakin *Ceratopipra mentalis* - 1 male on 26th at La Muralla NP; 1 on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Lovely Cotinga *Cotinga amabilis* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Northern Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus mexicanus* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
**Masked Tityra** *Tityra inquisitor* - 2 on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 2 on 30th at the railway station en route to Cuero y Salado

**Northern Mourner (Schiffornis)** *Schiffornis veraepacis* - heard on 30th at Cuero y Salado

**Sepia-capped Flycatcher** *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM;

**Common Tody-flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum* - 2 on 24th at Guanacaure

**Mistletoe (Paltry) Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius parvus* - heard on 28th by entrance road to Pico Bonito Lodge

**Mountain Elaenia** *Elaenia frantzi* - 3 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaius* - heard on 20th at PANACAM

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 1 on 28th & 29th at Pic Bonito Lodge

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua* - 2 on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM

**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes luteiventris* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis* - 1 on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail and others seen

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savana* - 1 on 20th & 21st Lake Yojoa

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans* - 1 on 21st at Lke Yojoa; 2 on 23rd at La Casona

**Yellowish Flycatcher** *Empidonax flavescens* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

**Buff-breasted Flycatcher** *Empidonax fulvifrons* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

**Green Shrike-vireo** *Vireolanius pulchellus* - heard on 27th at La Muralla NP
Tawny-crowned Greenlet *Tunchiornis ochraceiceps* - 1 on 28th & 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge

Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata* - 4+ on 24th at Guanacaure; 1 on 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge

Black-throated Jay *Cyanolyca pumilo* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Unicolored Jay *Aphelocoma unicolor* - heard on 27th at La Muralla NP

Steller’s Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri* - 2 on 23rd at Las Moras

Brown Jay *Cyanocorax morio* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Bushy-crested Jay *Cyanocorax melanocyaneus* - c10 on 22nd & 23rd at La Casona Hotel; 3 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* - 2 on 21st Lake Yojoa
Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* - 1 on 20th & 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Black-capped Swallow *Atticora pileata* - 20 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Tropical Gnatacatcher *Polioptila plumbea* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Northern Nightingale-wren *Microcerculus philomela* - heard on 26th then 2 seen on 27th at La Muralla NP

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* - 3+ on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Rufous-backed (-naped) Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* - 3+ on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Rufous-backed (-naped) Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* - 3+ on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Rufous-backed (-naped) Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* - 3+ on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Rufous-backed (-naped) Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Spot-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius maculipennis* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Rufous-and-white Wren *Thryophilus rufalbus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Plain (Cabanis’s) Wren *Cantorchilus modestus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

White-breasted Wood-wren *Henicorhina leucosticta* - heard on 20th at PANACAM; heard on 27th at La Muralla NP

Grey-breasted Wood-wren *Henicorhina leucophrys* - heard on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Blue-and-white Mockingbird *Melanotis hypoleucus* - 1 on 21st en route to Marcala; 2 on 22nd

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 5+ on 23rd at Las Moras

Brown-backed Solitaire *Myiastesis occidentalis* - 5 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Slate-colored Solitaire *Myiastesis unicolor* - 1+3 heard on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush *Catharus frantzii* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Orange-billed Nightingale-thrush *Catharus aurantirostris* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Montain Thrush *Turdus plebejus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi* - common and seen or heard most days

Rufous-collared Thrush *Turdus rufigularis* - 3+ on 23rd at Las Moras

Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia affinis* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Olive-backed Euphonia *Euphonia gouldi* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria* - 4 on 20th at PANACAM

Black-headed Siskin *Spinus notatus* - a pair on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Green-backed Sparrow *Arremonops chloronotus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Common Bush-tanager (Chlorospingus) *Chlorospingus flavopectus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2

on 25th at La Tigra NP
Chestnut-capped Brush-finch *Arremon brunneinucha* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP
White-naped Brush-finch *Atlapetes albinucha* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras
Prevost’s (White-faced) Ground-sparrow *Melozone biarcuata* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM
Rusty Sparrow *Aimophila rufescens* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis* - 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands
Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri* - nesting colony on 19th-21st at PANACAM Lodge
Montezuma Oropendola *Psarocolius montezuma* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 3 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail; several on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Yellow-backed Oriole *Icterus chrysater* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos
Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Spot-breasted Oriole *Icterus pectoralis* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos
Black-vented Oriole *Icterus wagleri* - 2 on 23rd at Las Moras
Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prosthemelas* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa
Giant Cowbird *Molothrus aryzivorus* - 1 briefly on 21st at El Cajon
Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives* - common and seen most days
Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus* - very common and seen in good numbers most days
Crescent-chested Warbler *Oreothlypis superciliosa* - 1 on 25th at Uuyua
American Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca
Grace’s Warbler *Setophaga petechia* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP
Fan-tailed Warbler *Basileuterus lachrymosus* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam
Rufous-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons* - 1 on 24th at Guanacare
Painted Whitestart (Redstart) *Myioborus pictus* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras
Slate-throated Whitestart (Redstart) *Myioborus miniatus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP
Red-throated Ant-tanager *Habia fuscicaua* - 5+ on 24th at Guanacare
Flame-colored Tanager *Piranga bidentata* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands
Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Black-faced Grosbeak *Caryothraustes poliogaster* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge
Northern Grey (Greyish) Saltator *Saltator granis* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM
Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail
Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona
Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus* - several on 20th at PANACAM
Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* - several on 20th at PANACAM
Crimson-collared Tanager *Ramphocelus sanguinolentus* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM
Scarlet-rumped (Passerini’s) Tanager *Ramphocelus passerinii* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 3 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail
White-collared Seedeater *Sporophila moreletti* - several on 20th at PANACAM
Black (Variable) Seedeater *Sporophila corvina* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM
Blue-grey Tanager *Tangara episcopus* - 2 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail
Yellow-winged Tanager *Tangara abbas* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 2 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* - small numbers around towns

**MAMMALS**
- Forest Rabbit (Tapeti) *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* - 1 on 22nd at La Casona
- Variegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge
- Deppe's Squirrel *Sciurus deppei* - 1 on 20th & 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 23rd at El Cajon; 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP
- Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 4 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 2+ on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

**BUTTERFLIES**
- Thoas Swallowtail *Papilio thoas* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge
Cloudless Sulphur *Phoebis sennae* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Mimosa Yellow *Eurema nise* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; few on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP

Mexican Cycadian *Eumaeus toxea* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam

Dusky-blue Groundstreak *Calycopis isobeon* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam
Ceraunus Blue *Hemiargus ceraunus* - 1 on 23rd La Casona Hotel; 1 on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP

Ardent Crescent *Phyciodes ardys* - 1 on 30th perched briefly on boat at Cuero y Salado

Tropical Buckeye *Junonia evarete* - 1 on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP

Banded Peacock *Anartia fatima* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona Hotel

Malachite *Siproeta stelenes* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam
Four-spotted Sailor *Dynamine postverta* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

One-spotted Prepona *Archaeoprepona demophon* - 1 on 30th in mangroves at Cuero y Salado

Yellow-fronted Owl-butterfly *Caligo telamonius* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Split-spotted Owl-butterfly *Eryphanis lycomedon* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge
**Starred Oxeo** *Oxeoschistus tauropolis* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

**Carolina Satyr** *Hermeuptychia sosybius* - several on 27th by visitor centre at La Moralla NP

**Disturbed Tigerwing** *Mechanitis polymnia* - a mating pair on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

**Chisos Banded-skipper** *Autochton cincta* - 1 on 23rd at Los Moras
**Dusted Spurwing** *Antigonus erosus* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

**Sappho Bentwing** *Ebrietas sappho* - 1 on 28th between Vallecitos and La Ceiba

**Tropical Checkered-skipper** *Pyrgus oileus* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 28th between Vallecitos and La Ceiba

**Guatemalan Checkered-skipper** *Pyrgus aedepa* - 1 on 27th at El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP