

Yucatán, Mexico

31st May - 8th June 2019

Ann and Andrew Duff with Stuart Keenan and Sonia Jupp

Report by Ann Duff

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our tour to Yucatán was organised by Stuart with our main contact being Luis Trinchán Guerra (luis_trinchanguerra@hotmail.com), a young Mexican birder whom three of us had met in 2018 when he accompanied us to El Triunfo in SE Mexico as part of a longer tour with Michael Carmody of Legacy Tours (mdcarmody@comcast.net; www.legacy-tours.com). We also had the guiding services of Luis's friend 'Ichi' (Ismael Arellano Ciau; www.ichitours.com), a Mayan accredited guide who knew the sites extremely well and who did nearly all of the driving. Ichi's English is limited but good enough to get by with.

We each had a specific target list of birds, except for Sonia who had not been to Mexico previously. Our focus was on seeing all of the endemics and near-endemics available on our itinerary as well as other available birds on our target lists. This meant that we were not interested in looking for "list padders" such as shorebirds, and because we were visiting at a time when there would be no wintering Nearctic warblers our species total was always going to be on the low side. The overall total number of bird species was 180 with 175 seen and 5 heard only. Mammals and butterflies were also recorded on this tour.

Flights We booked flights through www.traveltrolley.co.uk and www.budgetair.co.uk. We had a complicated routing as we were combining Honduras with the Yucatán in Mexico. Consequently we flew to Cancún with British Airways then on to Honduras via El Salvador with Avianca before returning to Cancún. Amazingly all flights were on time.

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

Transport Stuart had booked and paid for a comfortable Nissan NV350 Urvan, a 10-seater mini-bus, supplied by Avis, through via www.opodo.co.uk. As anticipated we had problems with the Avis rental staff in Cancún who insisted on us paying for additional insurance before we were allowed to take the vehicle, even though Stuart had taken out full cover in the UK when he booked it. Main roads were good, but the road to Calakmul was in poor condition. We covered just over 2000km in 9 days.

Accommodation Our accommodation was pre-booked through one of the hotel booking websites with breakfast sometimes included, and lunches and dinners taken in nearby restaurants. We stayed one night at Hotel Casa del Mar, Cozumel; one night at Hotel Cenote Casa Tortuga, Balcheil, Tulum; two nights at Hotel Otoch Beek, Chicanna, Xpujil; two nights at Casa Valladolid Boutique Hotel, Valladolid; two nights at Villa de Pescadores, Río Lagartos.

Food and drink Food was standard Mexican fare with lots of rice and refried beans.

Currency Mexican peso (MXN); approx. 25 = £1

Health The usual inoculations are advisable but not compulsory. Mosquitoes were bad around Río Lagartos and Xocen.

Daylight hours UK is 7 hours ahead of Yucatán.

Weather Mostly hot to very hot with occasional and sometimes heavy showers.

Books For birds we used *A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America* by Steve N G Howell and Sophie Webb (Oxford University Press 1995) and *Where to watch birds in Mexico* by Steve N G Howell; for mammals: *A Field Guide to the Mammals of Central America and Southeast Mexico* by Fiona A Reid (OUP 1997); for butterflies: *A Swift Guide to Butterflies of Mexico and Central America 2nd edition* by Jeffery Glassberg (Princeton University Press 2017). I also found Ross Gallardy's 2016 Yucatan report very useful (www.cloudbirders.com).

SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

- May 18th** Flight from London, Heathrow and arrival in Cancún, Mexico. Overnight at La Hacienda El Ramon, Cancún.
- May 19th** Pre-breakfast birding close to the hotel. Flight from Cancún to San Pedro Sula, Honduras via El Salvador.
- (May 19th - May 31st Birding in Honduras)**
- May 31st** Flight from San Pedro Sula, Honduras via El Salvador to Cancún, Mexico. Ferry to Cozumel. Birding around the Planetarium area on Cozumel. Overnight at Hotel Casa del Mar, Cozumel.
- June 1st** El Cedral area; Waste Water Treatment Works road. Ferry to Cancún. Muyil Archaeological site. Overnight at Hotel Cenote Casa Tortuga, Balcheil, Tulum.
- June 2nd** Early a.m. Route 307 south then took the Laguna Ocom turn off for Reserve Ejidal/Síijil Noh Há. Continued on Route 307 then on the 186 towards Dzibanche. Back to Route 307 for lunch in Xpujil. Birding El Hormiguero, part of Calakmul Biosphere. Overnight at Hotel Otoch Beek, Chicanna, Xpujil.
- June 3rd** Early a.m. Calakmul entrance road and archaeological site. Late p.m. area around hotel. Overnight at Hotel Otoch Beek, Chicanna, Xpujil.
- June 4th** Route 307 north to Dzibanche and Reserve Ejidal/Síijil Noh Há. Route 295 north to Valladolid. Evening at Xocen. Overnight at Casa Boutique Hotel, Valladolid.
- June 5th** Early a.m. Xocen. Breakfast. Tixhuolactan. Late afternoon and evening at a private reserve at Xocen. Overnight at Casa Boutique Hotel, Valladolid.
- June 6th** Chichen Itza all morning. North on route 295 to Río Lagartos. Siesta. Late afternoon Ganadería San Salvador area; Los Coloradas & the salt works. Overnight at Villa de Pescadores, Río Lagartos.
- June 7th** a.m. Los Coloradas; Ganadería San Salvador; Sendero Punta Morena; Chiquila restaurant, south of Río Lagartos. Late p.m. and early evening boat out into the mangroves. Overnight at Villa de Pescadores, Río Lagartos.
- June 8th** Travel day: en route to Cancún. Evening flight to Gatwick.
- June 9th** Arrive Gatwick, London.

DAILY DIARY

May 19th Early morning birding around the hotel produced **Turquoise-browed Motmot** and **Black-headed Saltator**. Transfer to Cancún Airport for 12:50 flight to San Salvador, and onward 14:40 flight to San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

(May 19th-31st birding in Honduras - trip report at www.cloudbirders.com/tripreport/repository/DUFF_Honduras_05_05_2019.pdf)

May 31st 06:25 flight from San Pedro Sula, Honduras via San Salvador to Cancún, arriving at 11.25 then a very long delay waiting for luggage. Finally met Luis and Ichi at 13:30 at the Avis car rental offices. Another long delay arguing about vehicle insurance which had already been paid in the UK. We were unable to collect the minibus until we either paid an extra \$50 a day or left a hefty deposit on a credit card. Eventually reached Playa del Carmen, parked the vehicle in a secure car park and walked to the ferry terminal for the 16:00 Ultramar crossing which took approx. 40 minutes and cost

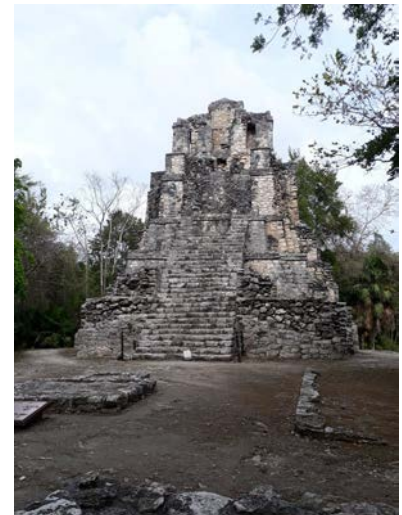
400MXN return. Many car rental booths line the quay as one reaches the main town of San Miguel, all offering 'deals' which didn't materialise. Again it took quite a long time to sort out transport for the day-and-a-bit we would be on Cozumel, ending up with a rather shabby minibus for 1700MXN, (approx. £68). We drove to a scrubby area near the Planetarium, birding from 17:45 to 18:45 during which time we saw **Black Catbird**, **Yucatan Vireo**, **Yucatan Woodpecker**, **Cozumel Emerald**, **Caribbean Elaenia** and **Cozumel Vireo**. Overnight at Hotel Casa del Mar, Cozumel.



June 1st Early a.m. we drove west to El Cedral for our last Cozumel endemic, Cozumel Wren but to no avail. We did find **Caribbean Dove**, **Mangrove Cuckoo**, **Yucatan Flycatcher**, **Yucatan Vireo**, **Yellow-lored Amazon**, **Cozumel Emerald**, **Western Spindalis** and the endemic Cozumel subspecies of **Yellow-faced Grassquit**. We decided to try the Waste Water Treatment Plant area where Ichi had seen the wren recently. We drove past the rather grand entrance gates on the deeply potholed road until we reached a dense tangle of vegetation. We heard a **Cozumel Wren** almost

immediately and Andrew was able to pish a pair of them in really close. With all targets met we headed back to the hotel for breakfast and checkout before catching the 13:00 ferry back to Playa del Carmen.

In the afternoon we drove south past Tulum to the very interesting Muyil archaeological site (45MXN entrance fee) where there were only five other visitors! Here we saw **Grey-headed Tanager**, **Couch's Kingbird** and, to my delight, our first **Yucatan Black Howler Monkeys**. Our hotel was back the way we'd come so we stopped in Tulum for a very good meal at El Camello restaurant. Sadly there was no beer as there were elections the following day and no alcohol is allowed for 24hrs before an election. As no breakfast would be provided at our next hotel we shopped in Tulum for a few essentials. On arrival we were surprised to find the rooms had small kitchenettes with a fridge, coffee machine, a 4-ring hob, crockery and cutlery - ideal for a longer stay. After we'd checked in it was still light enough to visit the three *cenotes* (sinkholes) a short distance further along the road. We were able to explore them at our leisure and they were quite different. At the first one there was a steep slope leading down to the water's edge and then quite a small, deep pool which led to an underwater cave. We could see bats in the crevices around the walls of the cenote. Proper snorkelling gear would be necessary for this one! The second and third were much larger and shallower with small fish visible in the clear water - quite tempting to jump in but we didn't. Overnight at Hotel Cenote Casa Tortuga, Balcheil, Tulum.



June 2nd 04:30 breakfast, packed and away by 05:10 and drove south on Route 307 towards Felipe Carrillo Puerto in intermittent rain which cleared as we reached the turn-off for Sijil Noh Há and Laguna Ocom at 06:30. We birded along the entrance road for a couple of hours, finding an unexpected **Grey Kingbird** (a rare migrant in eastern Yucatán) and more predictably **Rufous-tailed** and **Buff-bellied Hummingbirds**, **White-bellied Emerald**, **Mayan Anthrush**, **Ruddy Woodcreeper**,

White-browed, Spot-breasted and White-bellied Wrens and Grey-throated Chat. By 08:30 it was very hot and activity was already dying down. We left at 09:15 for a 2+ hour drive towards Dzibanche where we birded along a quiet country road which was pleasantly cool after heavy rain and lightning. This agricultural area is good for **Black-throated Bobwhite** although we only had brief views of a couple scurrying away.

We continued south to Chicanna and checked-in to the Hotel Otoch Beek after lunch. I was looking forward to making a cup of tea (so British!) as the booking site had promised a kettle in the room. No such luck but there was a fridge and two small packets of cereal with cartons of long-life milk! The tiny bathroom had just enough space for a toilet and shower with the latter producing a mere trickle of water; the basin in the room was the same so washing clothes was extremely difficult. However we had more birding to do and set off for El Hormiguero which is part of the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve. This was a good area for flycatchers such as **Northern Royal Flycatcher** and **Eye-ringed Flatbill**, and raptors including **Short-tailed** and **White-tailed Hawks**. At 18:45 it was time to leave and that was when we discovered that the local villagers had erected a gate which was locked at 18:00 - new since the last time Ichi had been there and with no sign to indicate that it would be closed; we were stuck! Luis went off to find someone with a key. It was not that simple and he was sent all round the village before being told he had to secure the agreement of all the men to allow us out without paying a 'fine' of 500MXN. Eventually they agreed and after 40 minutes waiting we were released. Luis had remained calm and controlled throughout and no doubt that helped immeasurably. On the way to Xpujil we saw two **Magnificent Frigatebirds**, a long way from the ocean and suggesting that this species often takes a shortcut across the peninsula. As we planned to visit Calakmul the following day we needed to go into Xpujil town for food and water as there is nowhere to buy a meal once we get to the ruins. It was 20:00 by the time we arrived back at the hotel and some of us opted out of dinner at the small nearby restaurant as a snack in the room then an early night was a more tempting proposition. Overnight at Otoch Beek, Chicanna, Xpujil.

June 3rd Another early start to reach the entrance road at Calakmul for first light, arriving at 05:50. Having read Ross Gallardy's 2016 report I was surprised to find that there was a manned barrier at this point and the first of three separate charges to be paid. 50MXN initially, 75MXN at the second barrier, 75MXN at the access to the ruins. (The Visitor's Centre which was built near the second barrier is unused!). The road was in a poor state of repair with trees that had fallen halfway across it unmoved and potholes unrepaired. We were the first vehicle down the road which meant we had time to appreciate the many **Ocellated Turkeys**, c. 18, between kms 26-30 along with two **Yucatan Jays** and a superb male **Great Curassow** briefly. At one point we pulled off into a small lay-by to access a path which led to a pool in the forest. We could hear an **Eastern Thicket Tinamou** calling and as we rounded a bend we could see a rounded shape moving away. That was a **Central American Agouti**, seen by Luis, Andrew and Ann. What they didn't see was that immediately following it was a tinamou, seen by Sonia and Stuart! Seems some birds you're just not destined to see. Around the almost dried-up pool we found **White-fronted Amazon**, **Barred Forest-falcon**, **Grey-throated Chat**, **Crested Guan** and could still hear the tinamou calling. We continued to the entrance building with its dusty air of neglect where we took the shorter route to the main complex. By now it was 10:30, very hot, and from this point there were very few birds and most of the rest of our time here was spent in exploring the Mayan ruins where it is still possible to clamber all over them should you wish to.



After a picnic lunch in the car park we headed back to the hotel where we enjoyed a siesta and pondered where we should spend the following day as we didn't consider it worthwhile to return to Calakmul. Later, over dinner, we discussed our options. Tres Garantías was a possibility but no-one fancied the very early start which would have been necessary to arrive at first light. We concluded our best option was to move on a day early to Valladolid to spend more time seeking out two very difficult birds, Yucatan Poorwill and Yucatan Nightjar. Luis phoned the hotel in Valladolid to extend our booking (unfortunately at rack rate, more than double what we paid through the booking

website) so all that remained was to negotiate our cancellation fee with the Otoch Beek. As the owner wasn't around we had to leave that until the next day.

A brief walk around the football pitch and into some woodland near the hotel yielded only barking dogs so we retired to bed. Overnight at Otoch Beek, Chicanna, Xpujil.

June 4th The owner wasn't too pleased about our cancellation but Luis managed to get him to agree a fair reduction and we left at c.05:15 for Dzibanche where we hoped for better views of **Black-throated Bobwhite**. It was misty with some drizzle. Fortunately by the time we reached the Dzibanche road north of Morocoy at 06:30 it was clear and we had good views of the bobwhites. On to Sijil Noh Há for woodcreepers and raptors. Again we were in luck with **Tawny-winged Woodcreeper**, **Stub-tailed Spadebill** and the icing on the cake, a perched **Ornate Hawk-eagle** along the cycle track. We left Sijil Noh Há at 11:30 arriving in Valladolid and the delightful Casa Boutique Hotel at 14:00. After a late lunch cum early dinner in a restaurant on the main *zocalo* (town square) we enjoyed some relaxation before driving to Xocen to try for the poorwill and nightjar. As we watched and waited a nightjar sp. flew over our heads - just a **Pauraque**. We could hear a **Yucatan Poorwill** calling at the back of a recently harvested field and we walked as far as it was wise to do so, bearing in mind that Ichi had replaced his open sandals for wellies as there were likely to be snakes around. The poorwill refused to budge and we had to admit defeat. Overnight at Casa Boutique Hotel, Valladolid.



June 5th Back early to Xocen for another go at the nightjar and poorwill but without success. Some consolation though with two perched **Yellow-lored Amazons**, **Rose-throated Becard**, **Rose-throated Tanager**, **Pheasant Cuckoo**, **Black Catbird** and **Orange Oriole**. We returned to the hotel for breakfast then drove to the village of Tixhuolacton to see the **Common Barn-owl** which roosts in the cenote. We also photographed the ruins of the church which was destroyed during the War of the Castes (1847-1901). A midday siesta and swim were needed then a relaxing stroll around the *zocalo* in Valladolid where we discovered more about the war through the beautiful murals of Manuel Lizama located in the town hall. After an early dinner we drove to Ichi's friend's private reserve where we spent a few hours seeking Eastern Thicket Tinamou for Ann and the elusive poorwill but only hearing them. Lots of biting insects! Overnight at Casa Boutique Hotel, Valladolid.

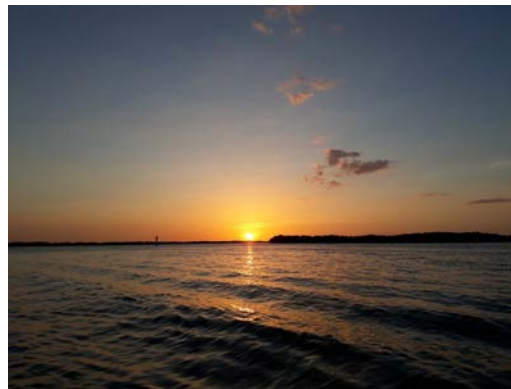
June 6th A lie-in! Breakfast at 07:30 as today was mainly a tourist not birding day at Chichen Itza where we arrived at 08:50. It was already quite busy and heating up - expensive too; 481MXN about £16 per person. Unlike Calakmul visitors are no longer allowed to clamber over the remains of the temples which are very impressive. We spent several hours exploring the site with no birds of note then travelled on to Río Lagartos which Andrew recalled as consisting of just one half-built hotel when he visited in 1987 and which is now a flourishing and popular resort. Over a late lunch at a seafront restaurant we watched pelicans, frigatebirds, flamingoes, cormorants, gulls, terns, **Wood Stork**, **Crested Caracara** and **Common Black Hawk**. We drove out of town to the area around Ganadería San Salvador where we found **Yucatan Wren**. Further on at Los Coloradas and the salt works there were good numbers of **American Flamingoes** as well as **Greater Yellowlegs**, **Least, Black and Common Gull-billed Terns**, **Great Blue (Wurdermann's) Heron**, **Lesser Nighthawk**, **Black-throated Bobwhite** and **Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture**. On the way



back to town we stopped at the Los Coloradas bridge over the mangroves to try for Yucatan Nightjar but without success. Overnight at the hotel Villa de Pescadores, Río Lagartos.

June 7th 06:00 start, returning to Los Coloradas via Río Lagartos Biosphere Reserve to twitch the Yucatan race of White-lored Gnatcatcher which IOC had just split as Yucatan Gnatcatcher. As there wasn't one there we continued to Ganadería San Salvador and San Felipe with only **Blue-grey Gnatcatchers** showing. At the former we again saw **Yucatan Wrens**, also **Ladder-backed Woodpecker**, **Mangrove Vireo**, **Common Vermilion Flycatcher** and **Black-throated Bobwhite**. At the pungent and littered Sendera Punta Morena, San Felipe, Ichi found a much-wanted **American Pygmy-kingfisher** for Ann and Andrew. We then retired to the Chiquila bar and restaurant on the outskirts of Río Lagartos for an enjoyable hour watching **Mexican Sheartails** whizzing around under the thatched roof and perching in the rafters. After lunch Ann and Andrew opted out of a further search for White-lored Gnatcatcher which again proved to be elusive.

Ichi had organised a boat to take us out through the mangroves as far as the bridge in a last ditch attempt for Yucatan Nightjar. It was a lovely evening and very pleasant zipping along with a cool breeze after the heat of the day past **Tricolored Heron**, **Double-crested Cormorant** and **Snowy Egret** with **Osprey** and **Mangrove Swallows** overhead. We stopped on several occasions for Ichi to try playback of Yucatan Nightjar but it wasn't until we'd reached the Los Coloradas bridge that he got a response. At 21:20 a nightjar flew out of the mangroves, crossing from one side of the river to the other, giving a good view. At last, **Yucatan Nightjar**. With sighs of relief we zoomed back to Río Lagartos. Overnight at Villa de Pescadores.



the van and made the driver pull over. Ichi and Luis persuaded him to hand over his driving licence and then follow us to the carwash where he waited until the attendants were able to deal with our vehicle. Fortunately they produced some magical eraser which completely removed all trace of the mark so we were very relieved and continued on to the rental depot. Unfortunately for Ichi and Luis the delay had caused them to miss their coach to Mérida and they would not arrive home until after midnight. Our flight left on time at 19:15 local time.

June 9th Arrived Gatwick Airport, London, at 10:45.

BIRDS

Eastern Thicket Tinamou *Crypturellus cinnamomeus* - heard at El Hormiguero, 2nd June; seen by Stuart & Sonia, Calakmul, 3rd June; heard Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Plain Chachalaca *Ortalis vetula* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Great Curassow *Crax rubra* - 1 male briefly on the road Calakmul, 3rd June

Black-throated (Yucatan) Bobwhite *Colinus nigrogularis* - Dzibanche, 2nd & 4th June; Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Singing Quail *Dactylortyx thoracicus* - heard Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Ocellated Turkey *Meleagris ocellata* - 18+ on the entrance road Calakmul, 3rd June



Black-bellied Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Muscovy Duck *Carina moschata* - Dzibanche, 4th June

American Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber* - Río Lagartos, 6th June; 100s at Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* - common around towns and villages

Eurasian Collared-dove *Streptopelia decaocto* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

White-crowned Pigeon *Patagioenas leucocephala* - nr Planetarium, 31st May & El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* - Muyil, 1st June

Caribbean Dove *Leptotila jamaicensis* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

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

Zenaida Dove *Zenaida aurita* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Common Ground-dove *Columbina passerina* - seen regularly

Ruddy Ground-dove *Columbina talpacoti* - on Cozumel, nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 7th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis* - nr Planetarium, Cozumel, 31st May; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th & 7th June; Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albigollis* - Xocen, 4th June



Yucatan Poorwill *Nyctiphrynus yucatanicus* - heard Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Yucatan Nightjar *Antrostomus badius* - heard Xocen, 4th June; 1 in mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June

Vaux's Swift *Chaetura vauxi* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothonax prevostii* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Muyil, 1st June

Cozumel Emerald *Chlorostilbon forficatus* - on Cozumel, nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June

Canivet's Emerald *Chlorostilbon canivetii* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Wedge-tailed Sabrewing *Campylopterus curvipennis* - Muyil, 1st June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Xocen, 5th June



Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Buff-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia yucatanensis* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Cinnamon Hummingbird *Amazilia rutila* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Dzibanche, 4th June; Xocen (private reserve), 4th June; Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June

White-bellied Emerald *Amazilia candida* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Mexican Sheartail *Doricha eliza* - Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June; Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* - Río Lagartos, 6th June

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris* - Dzibanche, 4th June; Xocen, 5th June

Pheasant Cuckoo *Dromococcyx phasianellus* - Xocen, 5th June

Common Squirrel-cuckoo *Piaya cayana* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Mangrove Cuckoo *Coccyzus minor* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

Ruddy Crane *Laterallus ruber* - heard at Water Treatment Plant road, Cozumel, 1st June

Grey-necked (Russet-naped) Wood-rail *Aramides cajaneus* - Dzibanche, 2nd & 4th June
Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* - Dzibanche, 4th June
White Ibis *Eudocimus albus* - en route to Water Treatment Plant road, Cozumel, 1st June
Green-backed (Green) Heron *Butorides striata* - Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June
Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* - 1 of white morph (Wurdeemann's Heron) Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June
Great White (Great) Egret *Ardea alba* - Río Lagartos, 6th June
Reddish Egret *Egretta rufescens* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June
Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* - mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* - mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* - Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* - Río Lagartos, 6th June
Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* - 2 seen flying east en route to Xpujil (c.5km SSW of the town, c.100kms from the east coast), 2nd June; numerous at Río Lagartos, 6th June



Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus* - 1 in mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Neotropical Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* - Río Lagartos, 6th June; Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June
Black-winged (-necked) Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June
Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa* - Dzibanche, 4th June
Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June



Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* - 1 briefly as it flew past hotel at Río Lagartos, 6th June
Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* - Río Lagartos, 6th June; Chiquila Bar, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Least Tern *Sternula antillarum* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Common Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* - Río Lagartos, 6th June

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* - Río Lagartos, 6th June

Common Barn-owl *Tyto alba* - 1 at roost on wall of cenote in Tixhuolactan, 5th June



Ferruginous Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* - heard at Calakmul, 3rd June

Guatemalan Screech-owl *Megascops guatemalae* - heard at Xocen, 4th June

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* - seen most days

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* - Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 6th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June



American Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* - seen most days



Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* - mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June



Ornate Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus melanoleucus* - Síijil Noh Há, 4th June



Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* - Dzibanche, 4th June

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* - Río Lagartos, 6th June

White-tailed Hawk *Geranoaetus albicaudatus* - Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Black-headed Trogon *Trogon melanocephalus* - Muyil, 1st June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June



Violaceous (Gartered) Trogon *Trogon violaceus* - Muyil, 1st June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June

Blue-diademed (Lesson's) Motmot *Momotus lessonii* - Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Turquoise-browed Motmot *Eumomota superciliosa* - Muyil, 1st June; Tixhuolactan, 5th June



American Pygmy-kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* - Sendera Punta Morena, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Collared Araçari *Pteroglossus torquatus* - Muyil, 1st June

Chestnut-colored Woodpecker *Celeus castaneus* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June

Yucatan Woodpecker *Melanerpes pygmaeus* - on Cozumel, nr Planetarium, 31st May and Water Treatment Plant 1st June



Golden-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes aurifrons* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Ladder-backed Woodpecker *Dryobates scalaris* - Río Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* - en route to Cancún, 8th June

Barred Forest-falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Collared Forest-falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* - Río Lagartos, 6th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* - Xocen, 4th June

White-fronted Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona albifrons* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June

Yellow-lored Amazon (Yucatan Parrot) *Amazona xantholora* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Dzibanche, 4th June; 2 perched, Xocen, 5th June



Aztec (Olive-throated) Parakeet *Eupsittula astec* - Muyil, 1st June

Mayan (Mexican) Anthrush *Formicarius moniliger* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Western Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseus* - Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Ruddy Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla homochroa* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Tawny-winged Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla anabatina* - Síijil Noh Há, 4th June

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June; Xocen, 5th June

Rufous-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis erythrothorax* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Northern Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus mexicanus* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June; Síijil Noh Há, 4th June



Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Xocen, 5th June



Rose-throated Becard *Pachyramphus aglaiae* - Xocen, 5th June

Stub-tailed Spadebill *Platyrinchus canocrominus* - Síijil Noh Há, 4th June



Eye-ringed Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus brevirostris* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June



Yellow-olive Flatbill (Flycatcher) *Tolmomyias sulphurens* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Xocen, 5th June

Northern Bentbill *Oncostoma cinereigulare* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June



Common Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Northern Beardless Tyrannulet *Campostoma imberbe* - Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* - nr Planetarium, Cozumel, 31st May; Síijil Noh Há, 4th June

Caribbean Elaenia *Elaenia martinica* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* - seen regularly



Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris* - Xocen, 4th June

Northern Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus* - Xocen, 4th June

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* - seen most days

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* - fairly common

Couch's Kingbird *Tyrannus couchii* - Muyil, 1st June

Grey Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; this is an uncommon migrant to eastern Yucatan from the West Indies



Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June

Yucatan Flycatcher *Myiarchus yucatanensis* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 7th June

Common Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* - Dzibanche, 2nd & 4th June; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 7th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June



Northern Tropical Pewee *Contopus bogotensis* - Xocen, 5th June

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May

Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata* - Muyil, 1st June; Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June

Yellow-green Vireo *Vireo flavoviridis* - Muyil, 1st June; Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Xocen, 5th June

Yucatan Vireo *Vireo magister* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June

Mangrove Vireo *Vireo pallens* - Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 7th June

Cozumel Vireo *Vireo bairdi* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June

Brown Jay *Cyanocorax morio* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June

Green Jay *Cyanocorax yncas* - Xocen, 4th June

Yucatan Jay *Cyanocorax yucatanicus* - Calakmul, 3rd June; Xocen, 5th June

Cave Swallow *Petrochelidon fulva* - large numbers breeding in cenote in Tixhuolactan, 5th June

Mangrove Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea* - mangroves, Río Lagartos, 7th June

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* - seen regularly

Yucatan (Northern) Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ridgwayi* - Xocen (private reserve), 4th June

Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Blue-grey Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea* - nr Planetarium, Cozumel, 31st May; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June; Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 7th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Cozumel Wren *Troglodytes beani* - a pair responded well to pishing Water Treatment Plant road, Cozumel, 1st June



White-browed (Carolina) Wren *Thryothorus albinucha* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Yucatan Wren *Campylorhynchus yucatanicus* - Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th & 7th June



Spot-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius maculipectus* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

White-bellied Wren *Uropsila leucogastra* - Sijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Black Catbird *Melanoptila glabrirostris* - nr Planetarium, 31st May & at El Cedral 1st June on Cozumel; Xocen 4th & 5th June



Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* - seen most days

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi* - seen regularly

Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia affinis* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea* - Muyil, 1st June; Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June

Olive Sparrow *Arremonops rufivirgatus* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Green-backed Sparrow *Arremonops chloronotus* - El Hormiguero, 2nd June

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* - Dzibanche, 4th June

Orange Oriole *Icterus auratus* - Xocen, 5th June

Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis* - Muyil, 1st June

Hooded Oriole *Icterus cucullatus* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Muyil, 1st June; Dzibanche, 2nd June



Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prothemelas* - Xocen, 5th June

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus* - Muyil, 1st June

Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives* - Dzibanche, 2nd June

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus* - seen most days

Grey-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis poliocephala* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June; Ganadería San Salvador, Río Lagartos, 6th June; en route to Cancún, 8th June



American Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May & El Cedral, 1st June

Western Spindalis *Spindalis zena* - on Cozumel nr Planetarium, 31st May and El Cedral, 1st June

Grey-throated Chat *Granatellus sallaei* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; Calakmul, 3rd June



Blue Bunting *Cyancompsa parellina* - Calakmul, 3rd June

Red-throated Ant-Tanager *Habia fuscicauda* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Síijil Noh Há, 4th June



Rose-throated Tanager *Piranga roseularis* - Xocen (private reserve), 4th June



Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis* - Xocen (private reserve), 4th June; Los Coloradas, Río Lagartos, 7th June



Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus* - Síijil Noh Há, 2nd June

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* - nr Planetarium, 31st May; El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus* - El Cedral, Cozumel, 1st June

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* - Dzibanche, 2nd June; en route to Cancún, 8th June



Grey-headed Tanager *Eucometis penicillata* - Muyil, 1st June

White-collared Seedeater *Sporophila moreletii* - nr Planetarium, Cozumel, 31st May; Dzibanche, 2nd June; en route to Cancún, 8th June

MAMMALS

Yucatan Squirrel *Sciurus yucatanensis* - 1 Muyil, 1st June; El Hormiguero, 2nd June; Xocen, 5th June

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* - Calakmul, 3rd June

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica* - Calakmul, 3rd June



Northern Raccoon *Procyon lotor* - Río Lagartos, 6th & 7th June

Central American Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi* - Calakmul, 3rd June



Yucatan Black Howler Monkey *Alouatta pigra* - Muyil, 1st June; Calakmul, 3rd June



BUTTERFLIES

Dark Kite-swallowtail *Eurytides philolaus* - Muyil, 1st June (common); Calakmul, 3rd June (common); S'ijil Noh Há, 4th June (very common)



Red-underlined Kite-swallowtail *Eurytides agesilaus* - S'ijil Noh Há, 4th June (1 briefly with the previous sp.)



Bow-lined Kite-swallowtail *Eurytides macrosilaus* - Calakmul, 3rd June (1 feeding on damp tissue)



Cassius Blue *Leptotes cassius* - Calakmul, 3rd June (1)



American Snout *Libytheana carinenta* - Calakmul, 3rd June (several at visitor centre)



White Peacock *Anartia jatrophae* - en route to Cancún, 8th June [and others seen from moving vehicle.]

Many-banded Daggerwing *Marpesia chiron* - Calakmul, 3rd June (1 fem. in car park)



Ruddy Daggerwing *Marpesia petreus* - Muyil, 1st June (1)



Silver Emperor *Doxocopa laure* - S'ijil Noh Há, 2nd June (1 worn male high up in a tree)



Common Morpho *Morpho helenor* - Sijil Noh Há, 4th June (1)



Renata's Satyr *Yphthimoides renata* - Sijil Noh Há, 4th June (1)



Mercurial Skipper *Proteides mercurius* - Calakmul, 3rd June (several at visitor centre)

