

ST. LUCIA

13th AUG to 3rd SEPT 2021



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St Lucia Amazon, Des Cartiers trail.

TRANSPORT

PRE-FLIGHT HOTEL GATWICK INN HOTEL £35 inc parking and only 200m from the Cambridge Hotel Park & ride.

AIRPORT PARKING CAMBRIDGE HOTEL PARK & RIDE £70.30 for 23 days. (+£8 each, return on shuttlebus)

Booked with discount via **Money Saving Expert**.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS + HOTEL £2,211 for 2 of us. TUI PACKAGE HOLIDAY.

13-AUG LGW 11.30 - 15.15 UVF.

03-SEPT UVF 17.15 - 06.15 LGW +1

ACCOMODATION BAY GARDENS HOTEL, RODNEY BAY. 21 nights room only. <https://g.page/baygardenshotel?share>

USD \$3 PPPN extra to pay for a Government Tourist tax on arrival.

CAR RENTAL. Chevy Spark from Drive-a-Matic for 18 days for USD \$584. (£424) booked through Rentalcars.com

Also had to buy a **Driving permit** for £15 through Rental cars.com which was written out ready on delivery.

This car was the cheapest available and booked on the internet which was cheaper than booking at their locations in Castries and Gros Islet. It was fine for all the sites visited and even the Des Cartiers Trail car park although the last 0.8 of a mile was quite overgrown and the last 0.2 of a mile muddy. Perhaps best to leave the car and walk a little along this last stretch.

DRIVING ON THE LEFT. **REGULAR GAS** 0.83 GBP/LTR

MONEY, VISAS, TIME ETC

VISABritish Nationals do not need a VISA.

EXCHANGE RATE1 GBP = 3.75 XCD. East Caribbean Dollar

TIME5 hrs BEHIND BST.

SUNRISE 05.49 **SUNSET** 18.28

COVID-19 Entry requirements; As fully vaccinated travellers, we were required to complete an online **Travel Registration form** which required the uploading of a negative PCR test 5 days or less before arrival in St Lucia, and complete a **Ministry of Health Screening Form**. This would allow us to travel freely on the island. Rules were different for unvaccinated travellers.

As we had booked a package deal with **Tui** we were able to take advantage of their offer with **CHRONOMICS** as we needed;

1x fit to fly PCR test to enter St Lucia @ £40 each.

1x return antigen test and 1x day 2 PCR test to return to the UK @ £20 for the two

Total of £120 for both of us.

BOOKS, MAPS, RECORDINGS ETC

LITERATURE

Birds of the West Indies.....Kirwan et al. LYNX EDS. (Easily the best and most informative field guide to the region using HBWA taxonomy).

E-BIRD for new and current information and sites.

MAPSME to mark sites, hotels etc accurately, and to use as a Sat Nav.

SOUND RECORDINGS

XENO CANTO

EQUIPMENT

OPTICS.

LEICA 10x32 ULTRAVIDS

KOWA TSN-553 Scope.

PULSAR AXION KEY XM30

CAMERAS / LENSES ETC.

CANON EOS 5D Mk IV.

CANON 100-400mm MKII

B+W 77mm MRC Clear UV Haze (010) Filter

Remote Control RC-201

VANGUARD VEO 2 235CB tripod

SOUND EQUIPMENT

SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 Phone

SAMSUNG S2 GT-19100

OLYMPUS LS-14 Linear PCM recorder.

JBL CLIP Bluetooth speaker.

LIGHTS

LED LENSER M17R

BLACK DIAMOND REVOLT HEADTORCH

TRIP IN GENERAL

SUNRISE 05:49 SUNSET 18:28

We booked this trip a week before departure, switching the intention from a longer trip to Mexico the day before Mexico was placed on the UK red list. The flights and car hire had suddenly spiralled up but we found a bargain with Tui to St Lucia. We booked 3 weeks in case we were able to travel to any other islands although as it worked out travel to other islands became very restricted as we arrived. With the flights and hotel booked all that was left was to suss out car hire and the sites for the few tricky birds. We were just happy to get away and although 3 weeks is far more time than was needed to see the birds it worked out well to casually see the birds for a change and relax a bit more ! (Despite the weather)

As fully vaccinated travellers we were allowed to go anywhere although we had to stay in Government specified hotels, which ours was. We had a couple of days lurking around the hotel when it was being "reliably" speculated that St Lucia was going on the UK red list and we would have to be flown back urgently but that was all bollocks. In the last week, St Lucia initiated a curfew from 7pm to 4am in the week and then 4pm to 4am on Saturdays and 1pm to 4am on Sundays but luckily we easily worked around that. We also had to have our temperatures taken twice a day at the hotel and wear masks in enclosed public areas for the whole duration but that wasn't the end of the world either and we still had a great time. We bought food and drinks in the Massy Supermarkets and had a few meals at roadside BBQ's and the odd KFC which saved us lots on the expensive hotel meals and drinks.

The weather was very changeable with torrential rain for several days of the trip and blistering humid sunny days up to 33 °C but we found plenty of time to get out and mix the birding with other stuff like snorkelling or just walking. We had no problems with the locals aside from a few drunks and touts in Soufriere.

Most of the birds were very easy to find with St. Lucia Oriole and Bridled Quail-Dove being the hardest ones, the biggest disappointment being the condition of the plumage on the birds at this time of year as they were in very heavy moult and looking a right mess.

It was a shame we didn't see the island at its best but it was great to get away!

ITINERARY

AUG 12th Booked into the **Gatwick Inn** <https://goo.gl/maps/HXU7pjAVgZqdmqQ9> for **£35**. This was only a few hundred metres from the **Cambridge Hotel Park and Ride** <https://goo.gl/maps/jeqk71Jv76kFsW7Z7> for the next morning's departure. A great evening in Horley with live music at the **54 PUB** <https://goo.gl/maps/SLkUwPRDfA3mngdw7>

13th Up early and re-parked at the **Cambridge Hotel Park and Ride, £86 for 23 days including the £16 PP return shuttle bus**. Checked in with Tui with all the required forms for boarding and entry Glitch free flight of 8hrs 45 mins and then a 2 hr bus transfer to the **Bay Gardens Hotel in Rodney Bay** <https://g.page/baygardenshotel?share> arriving after dark. Slight issue with the Hotel presenting a further 2 bills on top of the Govt Tourist tax of USD \$3 PPPN. When I enquired what they were, the first one was dismissed as voluntary, but the next one of USD \$5 per night was a sticking point as it was not in the Tui list of extra payments. We agreed not to pay till the Tui rep was contacted, and it was resolved a week later after several texts to the Tui rep who finally agreed I was right! Introduced to twice daily temperature screening and masks to be worn around some areas of the hotel. We also had access to the sister hotel, Bay Gardens Resort, a short walk away with its own beach and sunsets. (Happy hour 5.30-6.30).



Bay Gardens Hotel pool

14th Up and walked round **Rodney Bay** orientating and getting some food from the local Massy Supermarket. We had a small fridge which was great for keeping cold drinks and food from the supermarket in. It then rained torrentially all day. We also had an issue with the ATM's not working but only for this day.

15th Up to a much better day with the weather system moving off west mid morning enabling a bit of **birding towards Pigeon Island** 26 XCD each entry fee but it was closed when we were there and we never bothered in the end. We also tried a different area around Rodney Bay in the evening.

16th Up early and walked to Drive-a-Matic at Gros Islet to check out the car hire situation but they were not very helpful and more expensive and without the covers than booking via the internet so we opted to go back to the hotel and book via Skyscanner. After some very quick replies from Drive-a-Matic at Castries airport we got a Chevy Spark delivered free to our Hotel with a smile!

Out by 3pm driving down the west coast nearly getting to Canaries.

17th Up at 5am and birded tracks at <https://goo.gl/maps/rHhgo4q4BPmFGUmu5> and <https://goo.gl/maps/Vq9PGkukS6J9BHZL9> **off the road between Dennery and Praslin till midday**. Drove up as far as I could get in the car to what I thought was near the start of the Des Cartiers trail (c half a mile before) to check the access. As it happened I was actually in the wrong place but found the right coordinates later on eBird (see Aug 24th). I then drove on to bird the road at **Belvedere** <https://goo.gl/maps/Evy9Y1BZohyixZEN9> for the late afternoon where I saw one of the only two St Lucia Orioles of the trip. This area was very birdy although the road was quite busy with traffic. I walked the **concrete track going steeply uphill past the radio mast a few hundred metres to a small house** to get views of 3 sp of Swift and 2 St Lucia Parrots flying over.



18th Out with Helen all day driving down the west coast to **Soufriere** and back taking in **Anse Chastenet beach** and up to **Belvedere** at the Morne Tabac **St Lucia Parrot Sanctuary** in the evening paying 20 XCD to stand and talk with the interesting and friendly Rasta owner Asa. <https://goo.gl/maps/bPiurWjhvp4GmDjL6>

19th Rain virtually all day so we drove round the island again.

20th Up and out to recce a few Rufous Nightjar sites in the daylight and birding the area, and then I went back to collect Helen and went to check out Captain Mikes Whale Watching Tours at Castries. <https://g.page/captmikesfishing?share> .

21st Out with **Captain Mikes Whale watching Tour 8am to 12.00**. Not much bird wise but a small pod of breaching **Pygmy Sperm Whales** near the Pitons made it memorable. Back to Gros Islet for food and then out again to try for Rufous Nightjar at 3 sites. No birds calling and a touch windy ...and then the rain started!

22nd Late start and walked the path to **Anse Lapins** and back.

23rd **Mamiku gardens** <https://goo.gl/maps/44q32xzZmw9wDkb69> for a couple of hours (10 XCD each but should be 20 XCD) wandering around the grounds walking slowly along the trails looking unsuccessfully for Bridled Quail Dove which apparently breeds

there. Drove on to **Moule a Chique** at the southernmost tip of the Island and then back up the west coast past the various mudslides caused by the rain.

24th Did the **Des Cartiers Trail** <https://goo.gl/maps/4PK4DL3Ee1dCoe4L7> all morning only reading the partially hidden sign when leaving which said that entry is forbidden by law without a permit. Did the drive all the way in the Chevy Spark ...just a little vegetation in the centre of the track for the last 200 m.

25th Up very late and hanging around the hotel waiting for news that never came about the UK placing St Lucia on the Red list. Went out when it cooled down a little to the **Forestiére trail** car parking area and taking the trail north down the steps from there for about an hour <https://goo.gl/maps/nn5ft9mhgxdd74ft7> . We then tried a few more nightjar locations at dusk before driving back.

26th Back out to the **Forestiére trail** in the morning for c 2hrs before driving back to the hotel expecting the UK to put St Lucia on the red list but after much waiting and lack of response from the incompetent Transport Minister there was no change for us so we got to get our last weeks stay. Drove down to **Marigot** and then back for a few celebratory drinks.

27th Up late and drove to **Anse Chastenet** again and walked to **Anse Mamin beach**. **No birdwatching inland in the private grounds without Meno the bird guide!** The guard there phoned him and we arranged a trip for tomorrow earliest start at 8am. Headed back just in time to get some food before the curfew at 7am.

28th Up and away by 06.00 to get to **Anse Chastenet by 07.45. Met up with Meno and left Helen on the beach at Anse Mamin while we did a 2.5 hr walk in from Anse Mamin beach quickly hearing and then seeing the target Bridled Quail Dove**. Meno can be found at the Anse Chastenet Dive Centre located on the beach there. Meno was very entertaining and informative about the area as well as the birds and is definitely recommended for a few hours. More snorkelling at Anse Chastenet before the scramble to get food and drinks before the 4pm curfew!

29th Up and out to **Foristiére** again walking the same track for about an hour before the 1pm curfew.

30th Away early down to the **dry forest track between Dennery and Praslin for an hour** with another Kebab stop afterwards at the nearby viewpoint. On to walk **the pier at Savannes Bay** talking to the fishermen and women. Then just north of Hewanorra Airport looking for Eared Dove before taking an hours walk around **Sandy Beach**. We then drove back up **to Moule a Chique** for spectacular views of St Lucia and we could just see St Vincent to the south. A few checks around the airport at the west end of the runway at <https://goo.gl/maps/tEMAaAhZEMPutpXe6> revealed more Eared Doves, several pairs of displaying **Grassland Yellow-Finch** and a surprise **Black-bellied Whistling Duck**. After this we drove back to Rodney Bay.



31st Up early and drove to **Des Barras** to park here <https://goo.gl/maps/nNdxauEZkfzxb53f9> and **walked the 2.9 miles to Grand Anse... 2.5 hours down and and 1.5 hours back**. A superb walk with lots of good birding and some great views. Walked to Gros Islet Beach in the evening.

Sept 1st Out by 8am and down to **Anse Chastenet again**, walking the entrance road while Helen went to the beach. Joined her later after a few hours and some rain to snorkel off the Diving Club there. Slow drive back in the afternoon rain. Back at the hotel we did our antigen tests passing a negative result.

2nd Up early to do the Passenger Locator forms and Check in for the Tui Flight home. Handed the car back unscathed at 2pm and went for a walk to the harbour. Out later for a quick meal and drinks before the 7pm curfew.

3rd Finished packing and had a last swim and KFC then transferred to the airport and quickly on to the half-full flight home.



1. **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** (*Dendrocygna autumnalis autumnalis*)

A single bird, Aug 30th in a small pool by the taxi van terminal at Vieux-Fort just south of the runway. It was flushed accidentally from the bank and flapped into the dense floating vegetation. Thought to be of the southern nominate ssp due to the pale grey area seen at the base of the neck. A vagrant to St Lucia.



2. **American Black Swift** (Caribbean) (*Cypseloides niger niger*)

Up to 30 birds, Aug 17-18th Belvedere <https://goo.gl/maps/T16oPsLG93NXT5UFA> hawking at the top of the concrete road above the small house. Indistinctly pale tipped under tail covs noted for this Caribbean ssp. Also note the colder brown head and throat contrasting with the darker body.



3. **LESSER ANTILLEAN SWIFT** (*Chaetura martinica*)

4+, Aug 17-18th Belvedere with the Black and Short-tailed Swifts. Also c10 on the Des Cartiers Trail and c20 hawking along the road at Forestiere about 500m before the trail car park on both visits. The birds were very distinctive as they were growing new secondaries which looked very short compared to the very tatty and worn primaries. The projecting needle-like quills of the tail feathers can also be seen on the photos. Smaller than Black Swifts and feeding mainly just above or near the tree canopies with rapid bat-like wing flapping.



4. **Short-tailed Swift**

1-2 at Belvedere with the Black and Lesser Antillean Swifts Aug 17th. Also 1 at Forestiere and 4+ Grand Anse trail. A very distinctive swift with rapid flight and wing beats but a distinctive flight profile notable without bins at distance.



5. **Green-throated Carib** (*Eulampis holosericeus*)
C10 birds identified in all.



6. **PURPLE-THROATED CARIB** (*Eulampis jugularis*)
Male Aug 15th, Gros Islet. Thereafter a further 30+ seen, mostly moulting as in the photo at Belvedere where one Inga tree had about 10 birds feeding in it.
7. **Antillean Crested Hummingbird** (Lesser Antilles)
(*Orthorhynchus cristatus exilis*)
At least 20 birds seen in all with this one watched feeding at Belvedere.



8. **Mangrove Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus minor*)
10+ seen and several others heard only. Commonest along the Grand Anse Track.
9. **Scaly-naped Pigeon** (*Patagioenas squamosa*)
Common, especially at the south end of the island.
10. **Common Ground Dove** (*Columbina passerina*)
Common.
11. **Ruddy Quail-Dove** (Martinique) (*Geotrygon montana martinica*)
1-2 birds flushed off the trail at Des Cartiers with one bird seen close for a few seconds before flying off.



12. **BRIDLED QUAIL-DOVE** (*Geotrygon mystacea*)
Male calling Aug 28th at Anse Mamin (where another male heard calling by the reservoir just a little further along the trail there). Responded quickly to playback and came walking in but remained largely obscured. By leaving the speaker in the dry river and slowly circling round, the bird allowed me to slowly approach from a different direction and watch it for 10 minutes calling.



13. **Eared Dove** (*Zenaida auriculata*)
6 birds around the International airport at Hewanorra

14. **Zenaida Dove** (*Zenaida aurita*)
Very common everywhere.
15. **Common Gallinule** (American) (*Gallinula galeata* [galeata-group])
Pair at Rodney Bay and a pair at Anse La Raye.
16. **Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)
About 10 birds noted on a few sandy beaches around the island.
17. **Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*)
1 Gros Islet and 1 on Castries beach.
18. **Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*)
C20 noted in all, all birds feeding on the rotting seaweed on the east coast.



19. **Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*)
13 birds noted in all, all along the east coast and often approachable while energetically feeding.

20. **Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*)
C20 birds noted in all, mostly moulting adults but a few juvs with them.



21. **Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*)
20 adults and 1 juv noted.
22. **Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*)
1 Adult on the Aug 19th.
23. **Brown Noddy** (*Anous stolidus*)
1 from the boat trip Aug 21st.
24. **Laughing Gull** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*)
C150+ birds noted, mostly Adults and a few 1st summers and a few juveniles.
25. **Royal Tern** (*Thalasseus maximus*)
C 50 noted in all, all in winter plumage.
26. **Cabot's Tern** (Cabot's) (*Thalasseus acufavidus acufavidus*)
C15 birds seen in all. Certainly couldn't tell the difference in calls from Sandwich Tern.
27. **Magnificent Frigatebird** (*Fregata magnificens*)
Almost constantly in view along the coast. Often groups congregating around coastal towns and fishing areas.
28. **Red-footed Booby** (Atlantic) (*Sula sula sula*)
4 single brown phase adults on the boat trip.
29. **Brown Booby** (Atlantic) (*Sula leucogaster leucogaster*)
34 birds noted, mostly adults.
30. **Night-Heron** (American) (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*)
1st summer by a small pool near Dennergy.
31. **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** (Yellow-crowned) (*Nyctanassa violacea [violacea-group]*)
9 birds noted in all.
32. **Green Heron** (Eastern) (*Butorides virescens virescens/bahamensis*)
4 adults and 2 juveniles.
33. **Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*)
Very common.
34. **Great Blue Heron** (Blue form) (*Ardea herodias [herodias-group]*)
1 bird noted at Praslin.

35. **Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*)
8 birds noted, all blue.
36. **Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*)
C10 birds noted.
37. **Brown Pelican** (Southern) (*Pelecanus occidentalis* [occidentalis-group])
1 bird at Anse Chastenet.
38. **Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*)
1 bird south of Castries showed a thick and dark eyestripe, unlike the Caribbean race.



39. **Broad-winged Hawk** (Caribbean) (*Buteo platypterus* [brunnescens-group])
C 20+ birds seen in all with lots more heard only, especially whining juvs.



40. **American Kestrel** (Eastern Caribbean) (*Falco sparverius caribaeorum*)
At least 20 birds seen, often on wires or poles and usually near or within towns and villages.



41. **ST. LUCIA AMAZON** (*Amazona versicolor*)
 2, Aug 17th Belvedere in flight. Another 5 in the same area over the next 2 days and c15 at the Des Cartiers Trail with the best views had at the parrot viewpoint there (photos above). Another 2 over Forestiere.
 I only had a distant perched view in the rain north of Belvedere with the rest of the sightings being in flight.
42. **Caribbean Elaenia** (Caribbean) (*Elaenia martinica* [martinica-group])
 Commonly heard but less frequently seen. Often close but well hidden and several juvs seen.



43. **Lesser Antillean Pewee (ST. LUCIA)** (*Contopus latirostris latirostris*)
 1+, Aug 20th Marquis Estate (photo), 2 on 23rd at Mamiku gardens, Ad and juv on 28th Anse Mamin, 3 on 31st Grand Anse Trail and 2 on 1st Sept at Anse Chastenet. Apparently commoner at altitude but all the ones I saw were in the lowland forest.
This form of Lesser Antillean Pewee is a likely/potential future split from the rest and would then be a St Lucia Endemic



44. **Grey Kingbird** (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)
Very common.



45. **LESSER ANTILLEAN FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus oberi*)
1 Aug 17th Praslin, another at dusk on the Marquis Estate on 21st.
2 at Forestiere (photo right),
3 down the Grand Anse track (photo above)
and 2 at Anse Mamin.
A confiding bird at times as it hunted in the lower levels.



46. **Black-whiskered Vireo** (*Vireo altiloquus*)
At least 10 seen but probably very common.

47. **Caribbean Martin** (*Progne dominicensis*)
Common with mostly juveniles seen.

48. **Swallow (American)** (*Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*)
25+ noted in all, usually in small groups.

49. **Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)
1+ came whizzing past and flew round briefly at the lighthouse at Moule a Chique Aug 30th but was too quick to get a photo. Very pale rump patch and dark throat were seen.



50. **House Wren** **[St. Lucia]** (*Troglodytes aedon mesoleucus*)
2+ Aug 18th at Anse Chastenet defending territory at the forest edge 100m before the public car park there (also on Sept 1st). At least 5 birds easily seen along the Grand Anse Track also. **A potential future split would make this a St Lucia Endemic.**



51. **Tropical Mockingbird** (Tropical) (*Mimus gilvus* [gilvus-group])
Common.



52. **WHITE-BREASTED THRASHER (St. Lucia)**
(*Ramphocinclus brachyurus sanctaeluciae*)
8+ birds in 2-3 groups Aug 17th and 2 on 30th between
Dennery and Praslin.
Appeared to be in family groups with very worn adults
and a few pristine plumaged birds. Easily seen without
playback as calling frequently while foraging in the
leaf litter or up to 3m from the floor. Fairly confiding.
**A likely future split from the form on Martinique would make
this a St Lucia Endemic**





53. **SCALY-BREASTED THRASHER** (*Allenia fusca*)

4+ Aug 14th from the hotel room balcony and thereafter quite common and often close to human habitation. Often perched on the apex of a roof singing or one of the first birds in when pishing. Also seemed to be the frequent victim of Shiny Cowbird.



54. **Pearly-eyed Thrasher** (*Margarops fuscatus*)

1 seen at the start of the track to Anse Lapins and at least 3 birds at Forestiere on the trail. Also heard several times.



55. **GREY TREMBLER** (*Cinclocerthia gutturalis*)

Ad and a juv first seen Aug 17th near Praslin. 2 on the trail to Anse Lapins (photo top), 1 at Forestiere (photo lower) and 2+ well worn birds at Anse Chastenet missing tail feathers. Also heard many more. Great birds with lots of character.



56. **Rufous-throated Solitaire** (Rufous-throated) (*Myadestes genibarbis* [genibarbis-group])
At least 10 birds singing along the Des Cartiers Trail but only 2 birds seen. Superb birds.

57. **Spectacled Thrush** (*Turdus nudigenis*)
Only 3 birds seen but several more heard singing.



58. **Antillean Euphonia** (**LESSER**) (*Euphonia musica flavifrons*)
2-3 birds Aug 26th and 29th Forestiere along the trail from the car park frequently calling and hanging around some fruit bearing trees (photo above).
Also 3+ feeding along the Grand Anse track Aug 31st
A bit closer but still tricky to photo as moving quickly all the time. (photo right).
Currently lumped but a potential split as the Lesser Antillean males are pretty much similar to the females unlike the males on Puerto Rico and Hispaniola.



59. **ST. LUCIA ORIOLE** (*Icterus laudabilis*)
1 heavily worn and faded bird Aug 17th Belvedere and the above bird on 31st along the Grand Anse track.



60. **Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*)
Common. Usually associating with its host, Carib Grackle.

61. **Carib Grackle (Carib)** (*Quiscalus lugubris* [lugubris-group])
Common.

62. **Mangrove Warbler (Golden)** (*Setophaga petechia* [petechia-group])
Male Aug 16th, Rodney Bay/ Gros Islet.



63. **ST. LUCIA WARBLER** (*Setophaga delicata*)
1 Aug 16th near Canaries, thereafter a further 30+ seen, some looking very heavily worn!
A few juveniles were also seen with the one above at Mamiku gardens being the youngest.



64. **LESSER ANTILLEAN SALTATOR** (*Saltator albicollis*)
 3 Aug 16th Canaries along the road and thereafter at least another 15 seen. Common at Grand Anse where the photos were taken showing the differences in facial markings noted in some birds with the darker face likely to be an adult.
65. **Bananaquit** (Lesser Antillean) (*Coereba flaveola* [bartholemica-group])
 Abundant, especially down the Grand Anse track..



66. **LESSER ANTILLEAN BULLFINCH** (*Loxigilla noctis*)
 A male and 4 female types Aug 15th Gros Islet scrub. Thereafter abundant at times in forest.



67. **ST. LUCIA BLACK FINCH** (*Melanospiza richardsoni*)
 Pair (photo) and another female Aug 17th Dennery to Praslin at the same sites as the White-breasted Thrashers.
 Male along the track at the Des Cartiers trail.
 1st male Anse Mamin singing (top photo).
68. **Black-faced Grassquit** (*Melanospiza bicolor*)
 Very common to abundant in places.

MAMMALS



PYGMY SPERM WHALE (*Kogia breviceps*)

A small pod seen breaching from the boat trip Aug 21st.

ROGUES GALLERY

A few of the worst looking birds ...





NEW SPECIES

BOLD UPPERCASE are **CARIBBEAN ENDEMICS**, **E** denotes **ST. LUCIA ENDEMIC**.

1. **LESSER ANTILLEAN SWIFT** (*Chaetura martinica*)
2. **PURPLE-THROATED CARIB** (*Eulampis jugularis*)
3. **BRIDLED QUAIL-DOVE** (*Geotrygon mystacea*)
4. **ST. LUCIA AMAZON** (*Amazona versicolor*) **E**
5. **LESSER ANTILLEAN PEWEE** (**St. Lucia**) (*Contopus latirostris latirostris*) **E**
6. **LESSER ANTILLEAN FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus oberi*)
7. **WHITE-BREASTED THRASHER** (**St. Lucia**) (*Ramphocinclus brachyurus sanctaeluciae*) **E**
8. **SCALY-BREASTED THRASHER** (*Allenia fusca*)
9. **GREY TREMBLER** (*Cinclocerthia gutturalis*)
10. **ST. LUCIA ORIOLE** (*Icterus laudabilis*) **E**
11. **ST. LUCIA WARBLER** (*Setophaga delicata*) **E**
12. **LESSER ANTILLEAN SALTATOR** (*Saltator albicollis*)
13. **LESSER ANTILLEAN BULLFINCH** (*Loxigilla noctis*)
14. **ST. LUCIA BLACK FINCH** (*Melanospiza richardsoni*) **E**

NEW SUB-SPECIES candidates for splitting

1. House Wren (**St. Lucia**) (*Troglodytes aedon mesoleucus*) **E**
2. ANTILLEAN EUPHONIA (**LESSER**) (*Euphonia musica flavifrons*)