

# Cuba

23<sup>rd</sup> March - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Easy birding trip with pre-honeymoon ☺



Old Havana



El Nicho waterfall



Cayo Coco

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**Introduction** After the Colombian trip last year, we were thinking a lot about where to go next time. We read many trip reports and we concluded that Cuba is a perfect country where we can combine birding with leisure activities. The birding destinations are easily accessible: Zapata area, Trinidad, Cayos, Najasa and Western Cuba. In many birding sites or surroundings there are beautiful beaches, palms, snorkelling places, etc. This wasn't a pure birding trip, we also visited some old colonial towns (Havana and Trinidad), did some resting on the Cayos and enjoyed the Cuban lifestyle with many old cars, horse-and-carriages and ox-carts. Therefore, Cuba is a perfect choice for a couple, especially if the trip is their honeymoon or, as in our case, pre-honeymoon. It is highly advisable to visit this country before it is overrun by thousands of tourist. Unfortunately, more and more new hotels are built; more and more natural areas are disappearing. Cuba is changing, but not in the right direction. The journey was almost perfect if we ignore the beggars, chaotic traffic and the surprisingly high prices. Honestly, it seems that Cuba is a poor country however the prices are horrible. For example, one piece of stock cube was 1 CUC. The only cheap thing is the rum ☺. Almost nobody speak English so Spanish is necessary. All in all our lists contain 140 bird species including all 28 endemics, 2 mammal species, 9 reptile species, 2 amphibian species and 10 butterfly species.

**Airplane ticket and visa** We bought the airplane ticket via [www.momondo.com](http://www.momondo.com). The cost of the ticket was 545€/person. All together we had five flights: Budapest – Frankfurt – Toronto – Havana and Havana – Toronto – Budapest. We had to sleep one night in Frankfurt; it was cheaper this way, than if we had direct flight. Visa is obligatory in Cuba for Hungarian citizens, and it cost 22€/person. It can be requested here: [http://www.embacuba.hu/vizumok\\_turistakartya](http://www.embacuba.hu/vizumok_turistakartya).

**Vaccination** There is no obligatory vaccination to Cuba, the recommended ones are the following: hepatitis A and B, rabies, typhus and tetanus. My personal opinion is that rabies and tetanus are not necessary.

**Money** The currency of Cuba is Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC) for tourist; however locals use Cuban Peso (CUP). We took Euro and upon arrival at the airport we exchange money at the money exchange office which is located outside of the terminal building (we arrived at night so the two other offices inside the airport were closed). Only one person can go there and the process is very slowly. Don't take US dollar (USD) because you have to pay 10% tax. Most

places only accept CUC so it is advisable not to accept CUP as a change (we did it once but after that we couldn't use it ☺). 1 CUC = 26 CUP. There are only few ATM's in Cuba so bring enough cash. As we know, ATM's accept visa and not mastercard.

**Electricity** Plugs encounters are European type C (220V) and American type A (110V). Most of the houses have both types. Read more at [Worldstandards website](#).

**Transport** As we read in many trip reports before the trip, renting a car in Cuba is a challenge. And this is true. First of all, because there are not so many cars in Cuba, you have to book a car in time, three-six months before the trip. There are three car companies: Cuba Car, Havanauto's and REX. We tried to register on their website, unsuccessfully, and none of them replied to our e-mails... Finally we found a company, [Cubacation](#), where we could book a car. We got an automatic Renault Sandero. We paid 790€ for 10 days including insurance. International driving license is not needed. The problems began early morning. We wanted to depart to Zapata 7am so we chose a 24h' company in 3ra y Paseo, Vedado. First, they didn't find our reservation despite of we had their confirmation and a voucher (they said us it is Cuba, they did nothing, we have no choice,) so we had to wait until the central office opens (8:30am) to check our reservation. It was very frustrating; there were 8-10 officers who did nothing, just walking up and down. After 8:30am, an officer said they found our car but it was in another office, which is in the opposite side of the city. What??? Another half an hour passed and an agent came to pick us up, and take us the other place, which was about 20-25 kilometres away. After we arrived we waited more than one hour, because they were still cleaning the car. After we filled the papers, we had to pay 150 CUC deposit plus 60 CUC for a full tank of fuel, etc.-etc. Finally the car arrived. It was in typical Cuban condition with lots of abrasions. Finally, at 10:30am we could depart to Zapata area. Fortunately we had no problem with the car during the ten days, which is almost unbelievable ☺. The car have to be returned with an empty tank, and we could almost manage this. We drove 2160 kilometres. We used fuel Especial (B-94) which is not available at every gas station. Moreover, gas stations are rare, not only in rural areas but along motorways too. The price was 1.3 CUC/litre. If you want refuel the car, you have to go over the counter, than a man have to put the pump to zero before being able to proceed. This was about 15-20 minutes procedures, even if there is no other car on the gas station. So, be patient ☺. Roads are various in Cuba, but usually bad due to bad asphalts, potholes, no indication between lanes, etc.-etc. Generally traffic is quite slow and it is true for the highways as well, where the speed limit is 100km/hr. Driving can be very funny if you ignor dangerous situation, such as the pedestrians, cyclists, horses, carriages, etc. Old cars are everywhere, drivers usually put their hand out to

indicate changing lane. Highway doesn't mean the same as in Europe or America. It is normal that it is used by horse-and-carriages, ox-carts and cyclists, sometimes over against traffic... We saw many hawkers on the road frequently on the left fast lane who sold cheese (which looked like a cake). All in all, you need to focus the driving and it could be very exhaustive. Railway crossings are very funny. There are no lights, no barriers, no sound systems, only 3, 2 and 1 red lines, but the most reliable sign is that lot of people (sellers, hitchhikers, etc.) are standing there ☺. During the two weeks we haven't seen any trains. Parking is free everywhere, don't fall for locals. In several places a man came to us to ask for money for parking but after the first occasion we didn't fall, and didn't pay. For navigation we used MAPS.ME an offline application, it works well, moreover it indicates where gas stations are located.

**Weather and birding season** We had luck with the weather, there were two short but intensive rain in Havana and Cayo Coco during the two weeks. Daily temperature varied between 28 and 32C°, which dropped to 20-25C° at night. The sun rise about 7am and set about 7pm. Bird activity was the best in the early morning, but for example red-shouldered blackbird was very active at noon. We read windy conditions in many trip reports, particularly in Cayo Coco region, but we didn't experience it. There was wind, of course, but it didn't disturb bird activities. The end of March and early April is maybe the best period to see all target endemics and winter visitors too, moreover there is a little chance to spot Antillean nighthawk as well. Actually, we saw all current 28 endemics species easily, except Cuban parakeet, what we observed only for a short time. There were some missing species, for example thick-billed vireo or Bahama mockingbird, but we didn't search them for a long time.

### **Trip reports**

1. Goldbach R., van Scheepen P., Meijer D., de Kort D. 2004.07.24. – 2004.08.01. CUBA
2. Gordijn R., Rijkes H. 2014.02.22. – 2014.03.08. Cuba
3. Collaerts E., Collaerts P., Raymaekers S., Theuwis T. 2014.03.03. – 2014.03.18. Birding Trip Report to Cuba
4. Moser V., Hiss D. 2017.01.24. – 2017.02.16. Cuba – Finding the endemics and much more with public transport
5. Hart V., Hudson J., Hofland R. 2017.02.15. – 2017.03.01. Cuba
6. Kehoe C. 2017.04.01. – 2017.04.12. CUBA II
7. Mitchell D. 2017.04.14. – 2017.04.23. Birding in Cuba
8. de Temmerman L., Deroo F. 2018.12.27. – 2019.01.04. Cuba

## Book

1. Raffaele H., Wiley J., Garrido O., Keith A., Raffaele J. (2015): Birds of the West Indies. Christopher Helm, London, 216 p.

Map Cuba, Reise, 1:650 000

## Accommodation

Place	Name	Nights	Price/2 person €	Comments
Havana	Casa Carlo Rico ( <a href="#">link</a> )	3	74	Recommend. Spacious room with windows overlook the patio. Breakfast was included but it was very basic (toast, jam, coffee). If you ask the host could serve very abundant and manifold breakfast for 5 CUC/person.
Playa Larga	Villa Capricho ( <a href="#">link</a> )	2	59	Highly recommend. Beach is very close. Hosts are very friendly. Food is very good compared to the average.
Trinidad	Hostal Eloida ( <a href="#">link</a> )	2	56	Recommend. Small room with windows overlook the patio ☺. Good view from the rooftop terrace. Breakfast is in the price, they also serve dinner upon request.
Cayo Coco	Sol Cayo Coco Hotel ( <a href="#">link</a> )	3	373	Not recommend (also see below). The only place where we didn't have hot water. The area has pool, bar, gym and other luxury facilities however the pictures on the webpage are better than in reality. Staffs were friendly (but most of them expecting you to tip) and the food is quite good comparing to the average.
Camagüey	We found it on the spot. One casa particular on street Argentina.	1	22	The house is under reconstruction, so the time we were there was no kitchen, so they couldn't serve any food.
San Diego de los Baños	Mirador de San Diego ( <a href="#">link</a> )	1	47	Recommend. Clean, spacious room. Pool is free. Good view from the restaurant or the top floor. Garden is very nice with some Cuban tree frogs.
Havana	Casa Chiong ( <a href="#">link</a> )	1	21	Recommend. It is situated on the fourth floor, room number 7. The only accommodation where the

				host speak English well. We didn't get towels but it wasn't problem.
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We booked our accommodations on-line before the trip, except one night in Camagüey. Usually we stayed at casas particulares, which means room in a private house with two simple or one double bed, private bathroom and air conditioner. Towels and soap are provided except last night in Havana. A typical blue sign marks casas particulares, it is easy to see them. We used it in Camagüey, where the first casa particular, where we wanted to stay was full. However the owner was very helpful and she managed to book another casa particular for us. Fortunately most casa particular offers breakfast, lunch and dinner too. Internet is accessible only in public hotspots, if you buy an internet card (valid for one hour) in shops (ETECSA). We only used it once but it didn't work well, it was very slow. In Cayo Coco there are not many options to lodge except very expensive hotels, resorts. We booked a room in Sol Cayo Coco Hotel via GalaHotels website. We received the confirmation and the voucher too, and the money was taken from our bank account. However when we arrived to Sol Cayo Coco Hotel, they said at the reception that our reservation has been cancelled, and our money never have arrived to the hotel. But we haven't been informed about the cancellation, and we neither get our money back. We had to make another reservation on the spot, and pay the total amount again, moreover it was more expensive at the last moment. After we came back to Hungary, we wrote an e-mail to GalaHotels and Sol Cayo Coco Hotel too, but they didn't even answer. So never book room via GalaHotels and neither in Sol Cayo Coco Hotel, as they didn't really care about their guests, they are bastards!

**Food** Not a gastronomic wonder. Breakfast is good, usually omelette or fried eggs with bread, fresh fruits and juice. Main courses are soup, chicken, pork or beef with lots of salad. We think the main problem is that there are not so many spices and food are very tasteless. The prices are varied between 10-15 CUC/person. Drinks are expensive too, especially bottled water, sometimes we paid 1,5-2 CUC for a 1.5 litre bottled water. Sometimes we ate at food stalls along the main road, where they sold pizzas or hamburgers, but they were nothing like you expect from a pizza and hamburger. For instance, 'hamburger especial' meant the hamburger contained a thick meat, cheese and a slice of ham. No salad, no vegetable, no sauce ☺.

**Guide** We booked Angel Garcia Martinez ([angelito.martinez@nauta.cu](mailto:angelito.martinez@nauta.cu)) in Zapata area. It cost 25 CUC/person/morning. First he answered in Spanish, but later he didn't respond at all. Therefore, after a time we wrote an e-mail for his brother, Chino ([chino.zapata@gmail.com](mailto:chino.zapata@gmail.com)), who helped us. Locals never stress too much about organising things. All in all, Angel guided us

and two other birdwatchers one morning in La Turba track and Soplillar, and he showed us all the targets. His English is very good and he is a good birdwatcher.

### **Itinerary**

23<sup>rd</sup> March TRAVELLING. Departure from Budapest Liszt Ferenc Airport in the morning. Arrival at Frankfurt airport early afternoon. Afternoon sightseeing in the city center. Night in Frankfurt.

24<sup>th</sup> March TRAVELLING. Departure from Frankfurt to Toronto. Six hours waiting in Toronto airport, after that travel to Havana. Arrival almost at midnight. Night in Havana.

25<sup>th</sup> March HAVANA. Sightseeing all day. First Cuban birds in smaller parks and above the sea, such as Cuban blackbird or magnificent frigatebird. Night in Havana.

26<sup>th</sup> March HAVANA. Sightseeing all day. Birding in parks and along the sea. Night in Havana.

27<sup>th</sup> March ZAPATA MARSH NORTH OF CRIADERO DE CROCODILOS, CRIADERO DE CROCODILOS, PALPITE, SOPLILLAR, PLAYA LARGA. Three hours driving to Zapata area. Good finding for red-shouldered blackbird. One hour birding in Criadero de Crocodilos, no flicker, no Cuban amazon. Good “photo tour” in Palpite ☺. Short walking in Soplillar, first specials from here, like grey-fronted quail-dove. Evening walking in Playa Larga, including the hotel area. At night we checked the stygian owl’s tree, successfully. Night in Playa Larga.

28<sup>th</sup> March LA TURBA TRACK, SOPLILLAR, CUEVA DE LOS PECES, CRIADERO DE CROCODILOS, PLAYA LARGA. Early birding on La Turba track with Angel and two other birdwatchers, we saw easily both targets. After that we went to Soplillar with them to collect all specialties here including bar-legged owl and Cuban nightjar. Lunchtime in Cueva de los Peces with three blue-headed quail-dove. Afternoon short visit to Criadero de Crocodilos, but nothing special. Afternoon relaxing on Playa Larga beach. Night in Playa Larga.

29<sup>th</sup> March SOPLILLAR, EL NICHU WATERFALL. Early birding in Soplillar to search Cuban parakeet, but we didn’t find it. Three hours driving to El Nicho. Walking on the trails, birding, photographing, etc. Good bird species was a perched scaly-naped pigeon. Afternoon we went to Trinidad (1h’30min”), but we stopped at Cuban gnatcatcher’s spot, it was very easy. We had luck, we observed very well a hunting Gundlach’s hawk. Night in Trinidad.

30<sup>th</sup> March TRINIDAD. All day sightseeing and relaxing, enjoying the sun, Cuban lifestyle and cocktails, etc. No day without good bird species: cave swallows and Cuban martins were common in the town. Night in Trinidad.

- 31<sup>st</sup> March VALLE DE INGENIOS, CAYO COCO, CUEVA DE JABALI, PIPING PLOVER SITE. More than four hours drive to Cayo Coco but we stopped giant kingbird's stake-out in Valle de Ingenios. I searched more than half hour but finally saw it well on a tree plus a Cuban palm crow pair was moving in the area. After some short stops in Cayo Coco and check-in to the hotel, we went to Cueva de Jabali. We found quite easily our targets with the help of a local staff member, plus we went to the cave too. Afternoon visit piping plover's beach, unsuccessfully, but West Indian whistling ducks were their hotspot. Night in Sol Cayo Coco Hotel.
- 1<sup>st</sup> April CAYO PAREDON GRANDE SURROUNDINGS, CAYO COCO AREA, PIPING PLOVER SITE. Early birding near Cayo Paredon grande, we saw Cuban black hawk, but we didn't find thick-billed vireo. We stopped at some sites in Cayo Coco area but we didn't see any special. Afternoon trying again in piping plover's beach, but failed. Night in Sol Cayo Coco Hotel.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April CAYO COCO, PIPING PLOVER SITE. Almost all day resting on the beach and around the hotel, but afternoon we searched again the piping plover, finally successfully. We saw two individuals. Night in Sol Cayo Coco Hotel.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April CAYO COCO, RANCHO LA BELEN, NAJASA CEMETERY. Four hours drive to Najasa area with some short stops. Birding at Rancho la Belen around at noon, not the best time, scored plain pigeons. Afternoon birding around the cemetery, no Cuban parakeet. Finally we found it on the road west of Najasa. Night in Camagüey.
- 4<sup>th</sup> April CAMAGÜEY – SAN DIEGO DE LOS BAÑOS. 700 kilometres, 8 hours driving. Late afternoon we tried Cuban grassquit, unsuccessfully. Very tiring day. Night in San Diego de los Baños.
- 5<sup>th</sup> April CUEVA DE LOS PORTALES, LA GÜIRA, LAS TERRAZAS PIG FARM. Early morning birding in Cueva de los Portales, after that we went to La Güira. In both place we saw easily the targets. Tring again Cuban grassquit, but we didn't observe it. One hour driving to Las Terrazas pig farm, where we saw Cuban grassquit easily. Afternoon driving to Havana with some roadside stop in the lakes. Late afternoon sightseeing in the capital. Night in Havana.
- 6<sup>th</sup> April TRAVELLING. Departure from HAVANA to Toronto. We had eight hours until our next flight, so we went to the city centre. Late afternoon we depart from Toronto to Budapest. Night in the airplane.
- 7<sup>th</sup> April TRAVELLING. Arrival in the morning at Budapest Airport.

## **Some important information about visited sites**

The abovementioned trip reports described well almost every places, so we concentrate some up-to-date important information.

### Havana (La Habana Vieja, Malecón, Reyes del Morro, El Bosque de Habana, Centro Habana)

We started the tour in this town, two full days. The program was sightseeing however we saw our first Cuban common endemic, Cuban blackbird, and some near-endemics such as Antillean palm swift, greater antillean grackle and tawny-shouldered blackbird. Maybe the best birdwatching place is El Bosque de Habana but unfortunately this place is full of waste so we didn't spend much time here. Every small green area holds Cuban blackbird, greater antillean grackle and red-legged thrush. Along the Malecón we saw some magnificent frigatebirds and royal terns.

### Zapata marsh north of Criadero de Crocodilos

This year wasn't the best for red-shouldered blackbird however north of Criadero de Crocodilos is always a good place for this tricky bird. We found some hotspots in trip reports but we saw them at another point (22.407, -81.1506). We had them very lucky, because in spite of the high temperature at noon the pair was very active, they were flying and the male was singing. In this region we observed four northern jacanas on a small water (22.3828, -81.1549).

### Criadero de Crocodilos

We parked in the parking area (22.3667, -81.1648) and took a walk north from here, two times. Maybe the best area is around the pools (22.3677, -81.1645). Loggerhead kingbird, West Indian woodpecker and cape may warbler are very common here. The water holds an anhinga and some purple gallinule. The moving was very good both occasions; we really liked this place. Parking is free, don't pay to anyone! Some locals (waiters!) may try to ask to pay for the parking, but it is free!

### Palpite

After we arrived to the place (22.326, -81.183), we met the host and he told that the price is 5CUC/group. So we paid 5 CUC/two people. The host is very kind and helpful, for example he showed us a Cuban bird book to check the birds (actually it wasn't necessary). During our stay others were coming too, so the place is very busy.

### Soplillar

The entrance is here: 22.2887, -81.1479. You can go in by car too but walking is better. Just follow the main road north, northeast then east direction. After you have followed the road to east there will be some path in the forest but I think wherever you go, you could find the targets except bare-legged owl and Cuban nightjar. These two endemics are very hard, you need a guide. You couldn't get lost, you will recognize the widest path (a car fits on it). We saw the grey-headed quail-dove somewhere here: 22.2894, -81.1412. Surprisingly the Cuban pygmy owl was very easy, we saw three times here very well. La Sagra's flycatcher, Cuban peewe and Cuban trogon are very common. We tried in this spot (22.2902, -81.1465) for the Cuban parakeet early morning, but we saw only one Cuban amazon.

### Playa Larga (including Hotel Playa Larga)

We spent two nights here so we had enough time to discover the town. Hotel Playa Larga is good place for stygian owl, we saw here: 22.2817, -81.1961. Actually the bird lives next to the hotel in the forest (22.2805, -81.1933) however every evening; in total darkness it sits on the top of the high tree next to the reception, on some dead branches. We didn't see it but Cuban nightjar usually hunts on the grass here: 22.2799, -81.1956. Just wait for the darkness and search the nightjar here. Late afternoon is the best time to find Cuban amazon around the hotel, we saw four individuals here: 22.2816, -81.194. The bay (22.2831, -81.2094) is good for yellow-crowned night heron but we didn't spend much time for searching.

### La Turba track

Entrance is here: 22.433, -81.142. We went to this area with Angel. The road wasn't so good but driveable, sometimes Angel told me where I should go (there was rain the day before). Because Angel knows the targets' places well, we easily observe the Zapata wren (22.418, -81.183) and the Zapata sparrow (22.414, -81.186), moreover we saw some yellow-headed warbler here too (almost in the same place where we observed the wren).

### Cueva de los Peces

Coordinate: 22.1666, -81.1365. Parking is free, don't pay to anyone! Some locals may try to ask to pay for the parking, but it is free! Blue-headed quail-dove is very easy, we saw three around noon at the feeding site next to the restaurant. When we arrived there with camera a waiter immediately showed us where the quail-doves are. Please tip the staff so that they continue to feed the birds there. There is an opportunity to snorkelling in the lake but we didn't try it.

### Surroundings of El Nicho Waterfall

It was a quite long journey from Playa Larga but it worth it. Arriving at the site we parked at the car park (22.029282, -80.130557), we paid two tickets (10 CUC/person), then went to the trail. All the trails are connected, you can't get lost. Best species was a perched scaly-naped pigeon (22.0302, -80.1308), but in the forest we saw and heard some Cuban trogon, Cuban pewee and black-whiskered vireo. On the way to Trinidad, between Guajimico and San Juan pueblo, we saw very well a hunting Gundlach's hawk next to the main road (21.9227, -80.2842). Somewhere beside we saw our first eastern meadowlark pair.

### Trinidad

Cave swallow's nests are on the Museo de Arqueologia (21.8052, -79.9849). There is a tower in Palacio de Cantero (21.8049, -79.9854), from here you could take some good photos for Cuban martin and Cave swallow as well. Entry tickets are 2 CUC/person.

### Valle de Ingenios

We took a short walk between this (21.8078, -79.743) and this (21.8036, -79.7359) points while we found a giant kingbird here: 21.8053, -79.7383. Early morning the bird movements were very active. We saw a pair Cuban palm crow (they were calling), Cuban trogons, black-whiskered vireo, etc. The pasture holds an eastern meadowlark pair (21.8029, -79.7364).

### Surroundings of Sol Cayo Coco Hotel (including West Indian whistling duck site)

The best known place is the West Indian whistling duck site, where we saw them every day. The ducks usually fed southwest side of the lake, here: 22.5332, -78.3556. Good observation point this view point: 22.5345, -78.3557. Here one evening we observed a yellow-crowned night heron (22.5346, -78.3559). Probably there is a Cuban black hawk territory around the lake because we saw a bird around it twice. The garden of the hotel holds a northern flicker pair (22.5353, -78.3561) but we saw a bird a little bit further (22.5368, -78.3577). West side of the hotel there is a bushy area (22.5349, -78.3584) where we saw some interesting species such as white-crowned pigeon or Cuban oriole. The beach (22.5377, -78.3547) is good for brown pelican, laughing gull, royal tern and magnificent frigatebird, but the latter one was usually seen above the hotel too.

### Cueva de Jabali

The place is here: 22.545, -78.406. When we were there the bird activity was amazing in spite of the high temperature. There are two feeding and drinking station next to the staff's accommodations. In the first one (22.5452, -78.4055) we saw two Key West quail-dove, Cuban

bullfinch and Zenaida dove. We saw the quail-doves at 4pm, however I read a lot of trip reports which mentioned that the birds come to drink around 6pm, moreover the local people said the same too. The second feeding and drinking station (22.5451, -78.4054) holds two Cuban bullfinches, Zapata sparrow and some black-throated blue warblers such as interesting species. We saw a Zapata sparrow here (22.545, -78.406) too. The area is good for Cuban today, we took some good photos about it. Moreover there is a Cuban green woodpecker hole along the track. A local staff member invited us to the cave where we saw numerous Waterhouse's leaf-nosed bats, it was amazing experience. This man didn't ask money for being our guide, but it is advisable to tip him.

### Piping plover site

We saw two individuals in the classic beach (22.526, -78.338). The low tide is before 3pm, it is very important to be there this time. We tried to see the birds at afternoon two times but of course unsuccessfully. We met an American birders group who showed us a western sandpiper along many semipalmated sandpipers. Other interesting species are willet, little blue heron and roseate spoonbill.

### Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse surroundings

We didn't spend much time here (22.4815, -78.1651) and unfortunately we didn't find thick-billed vireo. There was a short rainy period in early morning which not helps birdwatching. Except one Cuban black hawk (22.477, -78.1621) and two oriente warblers (22.4573, -78.1622) we didn't observe any special species. This place was the biggest disappointment during the trip. There were many construction sites, a lot of lorries, etc. In a word, calm birding was impossible.

### Cayo Coco area

We had some roadside stops in Cayo Coco area. In many places we saw a lot of American flamingos, laughing gulls, royal terns and brown pelicans. American white pelicans were here, and only here: 22.4347, -78.419. Surprisingly we saw one oriente warbler in front of the causeway along the road (22.2854, -78.5338). Mosquitos were everywhere and they are very disturbing, birding is almost impossible.

### Rancho la Belen

We read in many trip reports that it is not possible to enter except you sleep there or you have a guide. In spite of this, we asked a woman at the entrance (21.0105, -77.7371) who admitted us to the trail. We drove until Rancho la Belen (20.9972, -77.7122) and were birding along the road,

sometimes walking, sometimes by car. Near the lodge we saw giant kingbird (20.9977, -77.7143) and Cuban amazon (20.9975, -77.7128). Cuban palm crow was common. After a long search we found three plain pigeons flying (21.0056, -77.7235). All in all the bird activity, in spite of the timing and the high temperature, was very alive with limpkin, Cuban pewee, Cuban trogon, Cuban emerald, etc.

#### Najasa cemetery

The cemetery is here: 21.004, -77.744. We birded from here south of the road but we didn't see any interesting species except Cuban palm crow.

#### Cueva de los Portales

You have to take a short walk from the car park (22.6676, -83.4764) while you reach the cave (22.669, -83.4794). Entrance fee is 2 CUC/person but you could pay later because in early morning nobody is there ☺. Cuban solitaire is easy behind the stone steps (22.6703, -83.4792). Cave swallows are nesting in the caves, and we saw some little goblin bats. Other good birds are scaly-naped pigeon, yellow-headed warbler, Cuban tody and La Sagra's flycatcher.

#### La Güira

It is about five minutes from Cueva de los Portales car park (22.657, -83.445). Park along the road (22.653445, -83.445135), then walk north. Almost immediately turn right. We saw two olive-capped warbler on a pine tree (22.654, -83.4435). Along this path we observed western spindalis, red-legged honeycreeper, black-whiskered vireo, Cuban oriole and yellow-headed warbler.

#### Las Terrazas pig farm

Because we didn't find Cuban grassquit near San Diego de los Baños, we went to Las Terrazas pig farm (22.855, -82.909). After we got there a birdwatching group arrived (a couple and two guides, one of them is a local guide). Actually, a local staff member immediately started to feed the grassquits, so we saw yellow-faced and Cuban grassquits as well. One of the guide told us that this is a military area and asked us how have we found it. We told him that we read it in trip reports. All in all it wasn't a problem that we went in, and of course we tipped the local staff member.

### Roadside stops, on the way

During long drivings we stopped in some places. Maybe the most interesting ones between Havana and San Diego de los Baños where we checked some roadside lakes. For example, only here we observed some snail kites. However we observed the only Cuban parakeet along the road near Najasa, but we saw some eastern meadowlark along the Circuito sur road.

### **Visited sites**

1. Havana (La Habana Vieja, Malecón, Reyes del Morro, El Bosque de Habana, Centro Habana)
2. Zapata marsh north of Criadero de Crocodilos
3. Criadero de Crocodilos
4. Palpite
5. Soplillar
6. Playa Larga (including Hotel Playa Larga)
7. La Turba track
8. Cueva de los Peces
9. Surroundings of El Nicho Waterfall
10. Trinidad
11. Valle de Ingenios
12. Surroundings of Sol Cayo Coco Hotel (including West Indian whistling duck site)
13. Cueva de Jabali
14. Piping plover site
15. Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse surroundings
16. Cayo Coco area
17. Rancho la Belen
18. Najasa cemetery
19. Cueva de los Portales
20. La Güira
21. Las Terrazas pig farm
22. Roadside stops, on the way

### **Birds** (by Raffaele, Wiley, Garrido, Keith, Raffaele and IOC 9.1; H – heard; E – endemic)

1. American white pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) 16

\*31<sup>st</sup> March Cayo Coco. About 20 individuals were feeding here (22.4347, -78.419), quite far from the main road. We only saw this species here and nowhere else in Cayo Coco.

2. Brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) 1,14,16,22
3. Magnificent frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) 1,6,12,14,16
4. Ring-billed gull (*Larus delawarensis*) 12
5. Laughing gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) 1,6,12,14,15,16,22
6. Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) 6,16,22
7. Royal tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) 1,12,14,16
8. Cabot's tern (*Thalasseus acuflavidus*) 1
9. Little blue heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 6,14,16,17,22
10. Tricolored heron (*Egretta tricolor*) 6,16,22
11. Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*) 16,22
12. Reddish egret (*Egretta rufescens*) 16
13. Great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*) 11
14. Great egret (*Ardea alba*) 3,6,16,18,22
15. Yellow-crowned night heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) 12

\*2<sup>nd</sup> April Cayo Coco (West Indian whistling duck site). One bird stood on the lakeside (here: 22.5346, -78.3559) in the evening hours. The bird was quite tame, I took a picture with 24-105mm lens.

16. Black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) 7
17. Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) 17
18. Green heron (*Butorides virescens*) 1,7,16,22
19. Western cattle egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) 1,6,8,11,12,14,16,17,18,22
20. American white ibis (*Eudosimus albus*) 6,14,16
21. Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 22
22. Roseate spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) 16
23. American flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) 16
24. Semipalmated plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) 14
25. Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) 14

\*2<sup>nd</sup> April Cayo Coco (piping plover site). Two individuals were feeding among other shorebirds (semipalmated plovers, semipalmated sandpipers, etc.) in the classic site (22.524519, -78.334560). It is very important that you have to be here before high tide, this time of the year before 3pm! We saw the birds between 1 and 2pm.

26. Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) 1,6,12,16,22
27. Grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) 14
28. American golden plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) 14
29. Solitary sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) 15
30. Semipalmated sandpiper (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) 15

31. Western sandpiper (*Charadrius mauri*) 14
  - \*2<sup>nd</sup> April Cayo Coco (piping plover site). One individual was observed among other shorebirds (semipalmated plovers, semipalmated sandpipers, etc.) in the classic piping plover site (22.524519, -78.334560). We met a group of American birders and they showed us this species. Thank you!
32. Least sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) 14
33. Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) 14
34. Spotted sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) 1,22
35. Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) 14
36. Ruddy turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 6,14,16
37. Black-necked stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) 22
38. Northern jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) 2,22
  - \*28<sup>th</sup> March Zapata marsh north of Criadero de Crocodilos. Four individuals were feeding in a small wetland area, here: 22.3828, -81.1549.
  - \*3<sup>rd</sup> April Najasa area. One bird was feeding along the Najasa river, here: 21.1222, -77.7812.
39. American coot (*Fulica americana*) 22
40. Purple gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) 3
41. Common gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) 1,3,22
42. Double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) 1,3,22
43. Neotropic cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) 7,12,14,16
44. Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) 3
45. Blue-winged teal (*Spatula discors*) 16
46. Lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*) 22
47. Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*) 16
48. West Indian whistling duck (*Dendrocygna arborea*) 12
  - \*31<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> April West Indian whistling duck site. We saw them every day in the classic site (in the morning and afternoon, moreover also at noon), the highest number was 17. The ducks usually fed southwest side of the lake, here: 22.5332, -78.3556. Good observation point this view point: 22.5345, -78.3557. You can walk here freely, there is no gate.
49. Ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) 22
50. Sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) 5
51. Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) 12
52. Gundlach's hawk (*Accipiter gundlachi*) E 9
  - \*29<sup>th</sup> March Surroundings of El Nicho Waterfall. What a luck! On the way to Trinidad, between Guajimico and San Juan pueblo, I got a sight of a hunting bird next to the main road. We stopped by the car and we could observe by binoculars the bird as was hunting. Coordinate: 21.9227, -80.2842.
53. American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) 1,2,6,7,9,10,11,12,15,16,17,18,20,22
54. Snail kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) 22

55. Cuban black hawk (*Buteogallus gundlachii*) E 12,15

\*1<sup>st</sup> April Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse surroundings. Not so common... One individual was observed near the lighthouse surroundings, the bird was moving that area, sometimes next to the road, here: 22.477, -78.1621.

\*1<sup>st</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> April Surroundings of Sol Cayo Coco Hotel (including West Indian whistling duck site). After we returned from the Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse, we observed a bird above the West Indian whistling site... Next day on the way to the piping plover beach, we saw the bird exactly on the same place as it were the day before (22.5315, -78.3467), sitting on a branch. Probably it is its territory.

56. Broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) 9,11

57. Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) 1,6,7,9

58. Northern crested caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) 3,9,22

59. Turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*) 1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11,12,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,22

60. Western osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) 3,15,16

61. Plain pigeon (*Patagioenas inornata*) 17

\*3<sup>rd</sup> April Rancho la Belen. Three individuals were flying along the main road (21.0056, -77.7235). Not an easy bird, especially around noon.

62. Scaly-naped pigeon (*Patagioenas squamosa*) 9,19

\*29<sup>th</sup> March El Nicho waterfall. One bird was sitting on a dead tree in front of the car park, here: 22.0302, -80.1308. Beautiful view.

\*5<sup>th</sup> April Cueva de los Portales. Several flying individuals were seen in the early morning.

63. White-crowned pigeon (*Patagioenas leucocephala*) 6,7,12

64. White-winged dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) 9,10,12,20,22

65. Blue-headed quail-dove (*Starnoenas cyanocephala*) E 8

\*28<sup>th</sup> March Cueva de los Peces. Very easy in the restaurant, here: 22.1666, -81.1365. We saw three individuals around noon at the feeding site. Please tip the staff so that they continue to look after the birds. However, don't pay for parking, which is next to the road (about 100 meters from the restaurant and the lake)! It is not compulsory, however a local people asked for 2 CUC to pay him.

66. Key West quail-dove (*Geotrygon chrysis*) 13

\*31<sup>st</sup> March Cueva de Jabali. Two birds were observed in the first feeding and drinking station next to the local staff accommodation (22.5452, -78.4055). We saw the birds at 4pm, however I have read in several trip reports that the birds come to drink around 6pm, moreover the local people said the same.

67. Grey-fronted quail-dove (*Geotrygon caniceps*) E 5

\*27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. One and two individuals were seen almost the same place: 22.2894, -81.1412. The birds were feeding on the ground next to the main track.

68. Common ground dove (*Columbina passerina*) 1,5,22

69. Zenaida dove (*Zenaida aurita*) 5,13,16

70. Mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*) 1,7,9,10,16,20,22

71. Cuban amazon (*Amazona leucocephala*) 5,6,17,22

\*27<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar village. On the way to Soplillar forest I got a sight of two flying individuals in front of the car, landing on a fruit tree. The tree stood on a garden however the local family invited us and I took some good photos about the two birds. Coordinate: 22.2927, -81.1544.

\*27<sup>th</sup> March Hotel Playa Larga. Late afternoon we saw four birds in front of the hotel on a tree (22.2816, -81.194).

\*28<sup>th</sup> March Between Palpite and Soplillar. One bird was seen with Angel on a tree next to the road, somewhere here: 22.3171, -81.1651.

\*29<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. One bird was sitting on a branch in early morning (22.2912, -81.1448).

\*3<sup>rd</sup> April Rancho la Belen. Two individuals were observed close to the house in Rancho la Belen, here: 20.9975, -77.7128.

72. Cuban parakeet (*Psittacara euops*) E 22

\*3<sup>rd</sup> April Rancho la Belen. Poor flying view somewhere here: 21.0577, -77.8089. The only endemic bird species what we saw very poorly.

73. Great lizard cuckoo (*Coccyzus merlini*) 5,22

74. Smooth-billed ani (*Crotophaga ani*) 1,9,12,16,17,18,22

75. Bare-legged owl (*Margarobias lawrencii*) E 5

\*28<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. Angel showed us a dead palm tree that holds this species.

76. Cuban pygmy owl (*Glaucidium siju*) E 5

\*27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. Interestingly we met this species only in Soplillar. However here we saw three birds. We found two hunting individuals late afternoon and early morning (we didn't use tape), and Angel showed us a nesting tree with a bird too. In this forest the species is quite easy everywhere.

77. Stygian owl (*Asio stygius*)

\*27<sup>th</sup> March Hotel Playa Larga. 26<sup>th</sup> March we met an English birder who gave us a good idea for this species. Every evening, in totally darkness, the owl sits the top of the high tree next to the reception, on some dead branches. The tree is here: 22.2817, -81.1961. Surprisingly it was an easy target.

78. Cuban nightjar (*Antrostomus cubanensis*) E 5

\*28<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. Angel showed us a bird in a roosting place. It sat quite high on a tree.

79. Antillean nighthawk (*Chordeiles gundlachii*) 20

\*5<sup>th</sup> April La Güira. One individual flew up from the road about here: 22.6473, -83.4386. Probably this species arrive late March-early April.

80. White-collared swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) 10

81. Antillean palm swift (*Tachornis phoenicobia*) 1,5,10,11,22

82. Cuban emerald (*Chlorostilbon ricordii*) 1,3,4,17,19

83. Bee hummingbird (*Mellisuga helenae*) E 4

\*27<sup>th</sup> March Palpite. The house is here: 22.326, -81.183, the price is 5 CUC/group. We saw about five individuals, mostly males but females as well.

84. Cuban tody (*Todus multicolor*) E 5,13,19

85. Cuban trogon (*Priotelus temnurus*) E 5,7,9,11,17,19,20,21,22

86. Belted kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) 2,7,16,22

87. West Indian woodpecker (*Melanerpes superciliaris*) 3,5,11,12,16,17,18,22
88. Northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) 12,22  
 \*28<sup>th</sup> March Palpite-Soplillar. Male and female were seen along the road, Angel heard their voice. The birds were here: 22.3125, -81.1629.  
 \*1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April Sol Cayo Coco Hotel. A territory was here. The male was quite active, it drummed on a pile both days. I saw two birds here (22.5353, -78.3561) and here (22.5368, -78.3577).
89. Cuban green woodpecker (*Xiphidiopicus percussus*) E 5,13,17,22
90. Fernandina's flicker (*Colaptes fernandinae*) E 5  
 \*28<sup>th</sup> March Soplillar. Angel showed us a dead palm tree that holds this species. Not an easy target.
91. La Sagra's flycatcher (*Myiarchus sagrae*) 3,5,19
92. Grey kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) 1,3,5,6,9,11,13,15,16,17,18,19,22
93. Loggerhead kingbird (*Tyrannus caudifasciatus*) 3,5,7,11,12,15,17,18,19
94. Giant kingbird (*Tyrannus cubensis*) E 11,17  
 \*31<sup>st</sup> March Valle de Ingenios. The best place is here: 21.8053, -79.7383. The species is usually very active and it is moving in the canopy, but fortunately these trees are not so high. Be patient, I searched about 45 minutes before finding it.  
 \*3<sup>rd</sup> April Rancho la Belen. One bird was moving in the canopy close to the house (20.9977, -77.7143).
95. Cuban pewee (*Contopus caribaeus*) E 5,9,11,17,18,21
96. Cuban palm crow (*Corvus minutus*) E 11,17,18
97. Cuban crow (*Corvus nasicus*) 3,11,17,18
98. Cuban martin (*Progne cryptoleuca*) E 1,5,10,20
99. Northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) 1,22
100. Tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) 5
101. Cave swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) 10,19,22
102. Barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) 1
103. Cuban gnatcatcher (*Polioptila lembeyi*) E 22  
 \*31<sup>st</sup> March Gnatcatcher road. One pair was seen easily in the gnatcatcher road (21.8334, -80.1532). The pair was very tame, they were moving very close to us.
104. Zapata wren (*Ferminia cerverai*) E 7  
 \*28<sup>th</sup> March La Turba track. One singing individual was seen very close, here: 22.418, -81.183. It was very active, singing and moving usually at the bottom of the vegetation (reedbed, scrub).
105. Grey catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) 3,13
106. Northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20,  
 22
107. Cuban solitaire (*Myadestes elisabeth*) E 19  
 \*5<sup>th</sup> April Cueva de los Portales. One bird was seen very well in early morning behind the stone steps (22.6703, -83.4792).

108. Red-legged thrush (*Turdus plumbeus*) 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20,22
109. White-eyed vireo (*Vireo griseus*) 7
110. Cuban vireo (*Vireo gundlachii*) E 5,7,9,12,22
111. Black-whiskered vireo (*Vireo altiloquus*) 9,10,11,17,19,20
112. Black-and-white warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) 7,16
113. Northern waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) 4,7
114. Louisiana waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) 3
115. Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) 3,5,13
116. Prairie warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) 7,10,11
117. Palm warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) 1,2,3,5,6,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,22
118. Olive-capped warbler (*Setophaga pityophila*) 20
- \*5<sup>th</sup> April La Güira. Two individuals were feeding on a pine tree (22.654, -83.4435).
119. Cape may warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) 1,3,10,12,15,16
120. Black-throated green warbler (*Setophaga virens*) 5,17
121. Pine warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) 13
122. Oriente warbler (*Teretistris fornsi*) E 15,16
- \*31<sup>st</sup> March Cayo Coco. One bird was seen in front of the causeway along the road, on a bush (22.2854, -78.5338).
- \*1<sup>st</sup> April Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse surroundings. Two birds were observed along the main road, close to the lighthouse (22.4573, -78.1622).
123. Common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) 6,7,12,16
124. Northern parula (*Setophaga americana*) 7
125. Yellow-headed warbler (*Teretistris fernandinae*) E 7,19,20
126. American redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) 1,3,5,7,17,19
127. Black-throated blue warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) 3,4,5,7,13,16,17
128. Western spindalis (*Spindalis zena*) 5,9,20
129. Cuban oriole (*Icterus melanopsis*) E 3,4,7,9,11,12,20
130. Cuban blackbird (*Ptiloxena atroviolacea*) E 1,3,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,22
131. Shiny cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) 5
132. Greater antillean grackle (*Quiscalus niger*) 1,3,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20,21, 22
133. Tawny-shouldered blackbird (*Agelaius humeralis*) 1,3,4,5,7,17,20
134. Eastern meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) 11,22
135. Red-shouldered blackbird (*Agelaius assimilis*) E 7
- \*27<sup>th</sup> March Zapata marsh north of Criadero de Crocodilos. On the way to Play Larga, almost at noon I noticed a flying bird in front of the car (22.4070, -81.1506). Getting out of the car we observed a beautiful pair both side

of the road, they were quite active, moving and flying, and the male singing very intensively despite the high temperature.

136. Cuban grassquit (*Tiaris canorus*) E 21

\*5<sup>th</sup> April Las Terrazas pig farm. We saw 7-8 males and females on the pig farm (22.855, -82.909).

137. Yellow-faced grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*) 1,3,5,9,11,13,21,22

138. Zapata sparrow (*Torreornis inexpectata*) E 7,13

\*28<sup>th</sup> March La Turba track. One pair was moving along and on the road in the classic site, close to the “car park” (22.414, -81.186).

\*31<sup>st</sup> March Cueva de Jabali. One bird was seen very well here: 22.545, -78.406 and the feeding and drinking station near the staff’s accommodation.

139. Cuban bullfinch (*Melopyrrha nigra*) E 13,15

\*31<sup>st</sup> March Cueva de Jabali. Two birds were observed in the first and second feeding and drinking station next to the local staff accommodation (22.5452, -78.4055, 22.5451, -78.4054).

\*1<sup>st</sup> April Cayo Paredon Grande lighthouse surroundings. One individual was observed near the lighthouse surroundings, next to the road, here: 22.4783, -78.1633.

140. Painted bunting (*Passerina ciris*) 13

+ Feral pigeon (*Columba livia* forma domestica) 1,6,10,11,12,22

+ Eurasian collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) 1,6,10,11,12,22

+ Red-legged honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) 20

+ House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) 1,6,10,11,12,22

**Mammals** (by [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [igoterra.com](http://igoterra.com), E – endemic)

1. Little goblin bat (*Mormopterus minutus*) E 19

2. Waterhouse's leaf-nosed bat (*Macrotus waterhousii*) 13

+ Red-tailed squirrel (*Sciurus granatensis*) 1

**Reptiles** (by [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [caribherp.org](http://caribherp.org), E – endemic)

1. Cuban brown anole (*Anolis sagrei*) 1

2. Cuban curlytail lizard (*Leiocephalus cubensis*) E 8,13

3. Cuban green anole (*Anolis porcatus*) E 16,22

4. Cuban racer (*Cubophis cantherigerus*) E 13

5. Cuban slider (*Trachemys decussate*) E 3

6. Cubatis anole (*Anolis jubar*) E 12,13

7. Habana anole (*Anolis homolechis*) E 9

8. Northern curly-tailed lizard (*Leiocephalus carinatus*) 1

9. Western giant anole (*Anolis luteogularis*) E 5
- + Tropical house gecko (*Hemidactylus mabouia*) 22

**Amphibians** (by [amphibiaweb.org](http://amphibiaweb.org), E – endemic)

1. Cuban telegraph frog (*Eleutherodactylus auriculatus*) E 19
2. Cuban treefrog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*) E 12

**Butterflies** (by [butterfliesofcuba.com](http://butterfliesofcuba.com))

1. Cuban crescent (*Anthanassa frisia*)
2. Flambeau (*Dryas iulia*)
3. Great southern white (*Ascia monuste*)
4. Gulf fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)
5. Large orange sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*)
6. Malachite (*Siproeta stelenes*)
7. Mimosa yellow (*Pyrisitia nise*)
8. Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)
9. White peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*)
10. Zebra heliconian (*Heliconius charithonia*)