

Cloud Forest Birds of Northwest Ecuador

19 - 25 February 2011



Dark-backed Wood-quail

Text and photos by Dušan M. Brinkhuizen ©

Introduction

Our "Cloud Forest Birds of Northwest Ecuador" tour is based at Reserva Las Gralarias. This reserve covers over 400 hectares of Chocó Cloud-forest and has a very comfortable lodge. It is located in the Mindo region which is one of the Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Ecuador. All the famous birding sites are at short distance from the lodge and easily reached by car. The area we bird lies within the Chocó Endemic Bird Area. The Chocó supports the largest number of restricted-range birds of any EBA in the Americas with over 50 species being endemic to the area. In a single week we do daytrips covering different elevations ranging from 3400m to 400m elevation. In this way we target a wide range of bird species and visit a nice set of different habitats.

Tour itinerary

Day 1 - 19 February - Yanacocha

Day 2 - 20 February - Reserva Las Gralarias

Day 3 - 21 February - Mashpi Bosque Protector

Day 4 - 22 February - Rio Silanche Bird Sanctuary

Day 5 - 23 February - Refugio Paz de las Aves and Mindo Valley

Day 6 - 24 February - Milpe Bird Sanctuary and Milpe road

Day 7 - 25 February - Bellavista area and Calacali race-track

Day-by-day reports

Day 1 - 19 February - Yanacocha

The Yanacocha reserve is probably the best and most easy accessible place to bird pristine temperate forest on the west-slope of the Andes in Ecuador. It is located on the north-western flank off the Pichincha Volcano just outside off Quito at 3400m. It is home to the critically endangered Black-breasted Puffleg. Unfortunately, the species has not been reported here for the last two years. On the way to the reserve a stop in secondary woodland produced a few species including *Paramo Pipit, Plain-colored Seedeater, Azara's Spinetail, Rufous-naped Brush-finch* and *Cinereous Conebill.* In the small canyon just before getting to Yanacocha we watched *Brown-bellied Swallows* and got good views of a singing *Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet.* Once at the reserve we started at the new "antpitta feeding station". Sylvio, the ranger, called in a *Tawny Antpitta* that soon came to feed on earthworms at a few feet distance away *(photo)*. At the start of the Inca-trail we heard no less than five species of antpitta namely *Undulated Antpitta, Chestnut-naped*



Antpitta, Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, Tawny Antpitta and Rufous Antpitta. One of our first birds seen along the trail was a Smokey Bush-tyrant shortly followed by two Andean Guans. White-browed Spinetails were vocal at several spots along the trail but it took us

a while before we got the species into view. In contrast, a *Crowned Chat-tyrant* was cooperative and showed itself nicely. Our first proper flock consisted of *Superciliaried Hemispingus, White-throated Tyrannulet, White-banded Tyrannulet, Spectacled Whitestart* and *Blue-backed Conebill.* The best bird that joined the flock was a *Bar-bellied Woodpecker* that we got to see well. At the hummingbird feeders we got *Sapphire-vented Puffleg, Golden-breasted*



Puffleg, Sword-billed Hummingbird, Great Sapphirewing, Buff-winged Starfrontlet, Mountain Velvetbreast and Tyrian Metaltail. Activity was good with lots of Masked and Glossy Flowerpiercers. A family flock of Rufous Wrens showed well but it took us some time to get the Scarlet-bellied Mountain-tanager in view. A Rufous Antpitta came in after song playback and hopped out on the trail just a few feet away. On the way



back we got a perfect flock at eye-level including stunning *Golden-crowned Tanagers, Black-chested Mountain-tanagers, Streaked Tuftedcheek* and *Pearled Treerunner*. At the rocky hillside we watched a female *Rainbow-bearded Thornbill* at close range. A *Short-eared Owl* was perched on a fencepost on the way back. The owl showed well both perched and in flight *(photo)*. A short stop in a dry valley near

Calacali yielded good views of Band-tailed Sierra-finch and Streak-backed Canastero. We also got Ash-breasted Sierra-finch, Common Ground-dove and a Tropical Mockingbird.

Day 2 - 20 February - Reserva Las Gralarias

Reserva Las Gralarias is one of the best birding sites for Chocó endemic Cloud-forest species. The reserve ranges from 1700 to 2300m in elevation and consists of mainly pristine habitat. At dawn we had a *Beautiful Jay* calling right outside the guesthouse. We left the breakfast table behind and went looking for it straight away. It turned out to be a wise decision as the bird was moving away from us. With the help of song playback we got the bird moving in our direction and soon we got excellent looks of it. A great start of the day! After finishing our breakfast we started with the trail system behind the guesthouse. A *Sickle-winged Guan* was one of the first birds seen but it was shy and moved away quickly. Webb spotted a *Cinnamon Flycatcher* right above our heads and a *Gray-breasted Wood-wren* was glimpsed in the understory. A pair of *Russet-crowned Warblers* showed well while singing at close range. A *Spotted Barbtail* was seen probing on a mossy branch. A nice mixed-flock further along the trail included *Blue-winged Mountain*



tanagers, Golden-naped Tanagers, Dusky Bush-tanagers, Capped Conebill, Blackburnian Warbler, three Streaked Tuftedcheeks and a nice Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (photo). A female Masked Trogon was seen perched in de midstory. We heard Dark-backed



Wood-quails calling and Slaty-backed Nightingale-thrushes were vocal too. Both Moustached and Yellow-breasted Antpittas remained heard only. A Plate-billed Mountain-toucan was calling but we had difficulties seeing it. In the fog we could only get a glimpse of its shape high up in the canopy. A female Green-and-black Fruiteater showed itself shortly in the sub-canopy. A pair of active Mountain Wrens was seen moving through the midstory. Just before we got back to the lodge we watched four Plate-billed Mountain-toucans foraging in the canopy above us. Maroon-tailed Parakeets were perched in the trees at the guesthouse. Tim, a volunteer researcher at Las Gralarias, had just spotted and photographed a Puma that was sleeping on a trail. Some of us went down with him to look for it, but unfortunately it wasn't there when we arrived. We did see the tracks of where the large cat had been resting. At the feeders at the questhouse we watched a large number of hummingbirds including Velvet-purple Coronet, Buff-tailed Coronet, Gorgeted Sunangel, Brown Inca, Violet-tailed Sylph, Speckled Hummingbird, Booted Racket-tail, Andean Emerald, Purple-throated Woodstar, Fawn-breasted Brilliant, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird and Empress Brilliant, Flame-faced Tanager, Golden-naped Tanager, Golden Tanager, Blue-winged Mountain-tanager, Orange-bellied Euphonia, Masked Flowerpiercer and Sickle-winged Guan were coming to the banana feeders. In the afternoon we hiked down the lower part of the reserve. Bird

activity was very low and only few birds were seen. Our rarest bird was a *Tawny-throated Leaftosser* that we heard only. We watched an old nest of a *Moustached Antpitta*. We got a few flocks with new species including *Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner*, *Lineated Foliage-gleaner*, *Three-striped Warbler*, *Rusty-winged Barbtail*, *Slate-throated Whitestart* and *Brown-capped Vireo*. A *Wedge-billed Woodcreeper* was seen well, a little high up for its altitudonal range. Late afternoon it started to rain and we got picked up by our driver Juan Carlos.

Day 3 - 21 February - Mashpi Bosque Protector

The Mashpi reserve is a superb Chocó birding site. It is easily reached by car and offers roadside birding through excellent forest between 900 and 1300m elevation. Some rare Chocó endemics seem to be more reliable here than elsewhere what makes the birding even better. We started the morning with a cracking *Indigo Flowerpiercer (photo)*. First we got it singing in top of a tree and later it flew into the flowering scrub along the roadside. We got some great views of this rare bird as it was moving at eye-level through the vegetation. Shortly after the flowerpiercer we got our first *Moss-backed Tanager (photo)*. This sought-after species was surprisingly common this day and apart from many singles seen we also got a flock of 12 individuals together! A flock of noisy *Blue-*



fronted Parrotlets flew by as we were watching another Moss-backed Tanager. A Black Solitaire was seen for only a split second before it disappeared into the vegetation. A Pale-vented Thrush was seen well. We birded our



way walking down the road regularly encountering small mixed-species flocks. A good flock had a few *Pacific Tuftedcheeks* and a *Brown-billed Scythebill*. Other flock species included *Rufous-rumped Antwren*, *Glistening-green Tanager*, *Black-chinned Mountain-tanager* and *Rufous-throated Tanager*. A *Black-billed Peppershrike* was singing from a nearby treetop but we never got to see it. Further down we run into our first *Toucan Barbets* of the trip. We also got nice views of a *Crimson-rumped Toucanet*. We detected a *Bronze-olive Pygmy-tyrant* by its wing snaps. It was moving steadily



through the understory. We tried hard for the *Chocó Vireo* but the species was heard only shortly. Lower down closer to the Mashpi hotel we watched a *Barred Hawk* flying by and a pair of *Pagrad Reported* showed pipely. In the lawer stretch of forcet past the hotel hird activity turned out

of *Barred Becards* showed nicely. In the lower stretch of forest past the hotel bird activity turned out low. We did get a few flocks but not many new species were added. Just before heading back to Las Gralarias we got good views of a *Black Solitaire*.

Day 4 - 22 February - Rio Silanche Bird Sanctuary

Rio Silanche is a popular day-trip for the Chocó lowland species. It is a small "island" reserve that still holds a good number of



interesting birds. Sadly, the surrounding area is covered with palm plantations. At a small lagoon we taped for the rare Brown Wood-rail but we did not get a response. A *Green Kingfisher* was perched on a snag and a few *Pale-vented Pigeons* landed on top of a tree. In a Cecropia we watched a pair of *Gray-and-Gold Tanager* and *Blue-necked Tanager*. A *Rufous Motmot* was first seen at a distance. Its distinctive call confirmed the identification and later on it perched much closer by. A small flock moved through and species like *Tawny-crested Tanager* and *White-shouldered Tanager* were picked out. We made a few short birding stops along the drive. A pair of *Cinnamon Woodpeckers*, *Pacific Antwren* and *Pale-mandibled Aracari* were the best birds seen. At the reserve we started with a pair of *Guayaquil Woodpeckers* that showed well *(photo)*. Bird activity at the canopy tower was low so we continued our walk into the forest. A *Band-tailed Barbthroat* was singing from its lek and we located the hummingbird in the dense undergrowth. A *Broad-billed Motmot* showed itself well and its shovel-shaped bill was characteristic. *Blue-crowned Manakin*, *White-bearded Manakin* and *Purple-throated Fruitcrow* were all seen inside the forest. A pair of



Mealy Amazon gave a loud call as they landed right above us. This large parrot is scarce at Rio Silanche and we were happy to get some nice views. Black-striped Woodcreeper, Guira Tanager and Scarlet-browed Tanager were some new species that we added to the list. A male Western White-tailed Trogon was the only species of trogon seen that day. A Slaty-capped Shrike-vireo was seen well in the sub-canopy. This species is usually very hard to see. A female Blue-black Grosbeak was foraging in the understory and showed itself at close range. The grosbeak is actually not that regular at Rio Silanche. On our way out we got two species of barbet in a flock namely Red-headed Barbet and Orange-fronted Barbet. An Osprey was kind of a surprise on the drive back. It was perched in a tree at close range. Where was the water?

Day 5 - 23 February - Refugio Paz de las Aves and Mindo Valley

Refugio Paz de las Aves near Nanegalito is a birding site not to be missed. Two brothers, Angel and Rodrigo, feed worms and fruits



to birds inside the forest; birds that got habituated to human presence. Many of the birds he feeds are elusive species and watching them at close range is a unique experience. At dawn Angel tried to call in the Colombian Screech-owl. His imitation was perfect, even better than tape playback, but the owl did not respond. On the way down we heard a *Giant Antpitta* singing. The bad news was that Angel had not seen world famous "Maria" for over three months. She was either incubating or she had past away. The weird thing is that last year

Maria did come out to collect earthworms, also during the nesting season. Hopefully the lack of Giant Antpittas turns out to be a seasonal pattern otherwise Angel has to look for new "amigos". It had been raining a lot the last month so the Giant Antpittas might have had an abundance of food in the



forest and did not need to come in for "extra" worms. At the lek we watched two males *Andean Cock-of-the-rock* in display. There was no sign of a female and activity dropped after about half an hour. We waited for the Giant Antpitta for

about an hour. Angel and Rodrigo were trying hard but no sign of the species. During our stop we did watch two *Olivaceous Pihas*. Regularly one of the birds was making a spectacular sound presumably with its wings. A very loud rattle just like White-bearded



Manakin and/or Long-wattled Umbrellabird. No wonder taxonomists recently placed the Pihas in the cotinga family! We tried to locate "Shakira", the Ochre-breasted Antpitta, but also no luck. "This time of year is bad for antpittas", Angel told us sadly. However, at the spot we did hear a *Scaled Fruiteater* calling from nearby. The fruiteater responded well to tape and soon we all got good looks of this nicely patterned bird. We hiked back up to the fruit feeders and waited for a while for the birds to come in. The *Sickle-winged Guans* were the first species to come in. There was one recent fledgling present that was significantly smaller than the other guans. *Blue-*



winged Mountain-tanagers and Black-chinned Mountain-tanagers showed up at very close range. A pair of Toucan Barbets came to feed on the bananas and showed itself fantastically (photo). A few Crimson-rumped Toucanets came in as well. Webb spotted a White-throated Quail-dove crossing the trail. Soon we got two of them in view as they were preening themselves in the understory. A Wedgebilled Hummingbird visited a flower inside the forest. After about an hour it was time to look for "Suzan", the Moustached Antpitta (photo). The bird was waiting on the trail as we arrived. It was feeding a chick so it left swiftly after it had filled its beak with worms. We got short but very good looks of it. Rodrigo called us and a little higher up the trail he showed us a family group of Dark-backed Wood-quails (photo). Two adults with their chick were feeding on the worms right at our feet. Back at the parking lot we got brief looks of a male *Orange-breasted Fruiteater* (photo). After the typical "Paz de las Aves" breakfast we went to look again for the fruiteater. Soon Angel had spotted both male and female and we got excellent views. A mixed-species flock went by at eye-level and we got great looks of Metallic-green Tanager and Crimson-mantled Woodpecker. We went to a new site for the Yellow-breasted Antpitta and on our way we taped a Nariño Tapaculo. The tapaculo came in aggressively and we even got to see it. "Willy 2" the new Yellow-breasted Antpitta, came in after a few minutes and showed itself very well. In the afternoon we went to the Mindo Valley. Just out of Mindo we birded a small patch of grassland and scrub. New birds seen at this site included Bran-

colored Flycatcher, Black-and-white Seedeater, Dull-colored Grassquit and Black-striped Sparrow. Near the butterfly-farm we went into a side-trail where we watched two Chocó Toucans at close range. A male Golden-headed Quetzal flew in a tree at the same site. Nearby we also got a pair of Guayaquil Woodpeckers. On the way back we met Fernando, a local guide that showed us a Scarlet-backed Woodpecker. He also knew a day-roost of a Common Potoo. The little drive was worthwhile and apart from the potoo we also got to see an Andean Solitaire. At the river we checked for Torrent Duck but got a nice White-capped Dipper instead.

Day 6 - 24 February - Milpe Bird Sanctuary and Milpe road

The Milpe reserve offers some great birding in the foothills of the western Andes at 1100m. Perhaps it is the best place to get the Club-winged Manakin, a Chocó speciality. We went straight down to the display grounds of the *Club-winged Manakin*. A male showed itself well while doing its courtship dance. A little further down the trail we heard a *Golden-winged Manakin*. In contrast to the spectacular display of the previous species the Golden-winged Manakin has a rather poor way of attracting mates. The male was



perched motionless on a snag in the understory. It sat there for minutes and once in a while produced a soft "burp" call. The blackand-yellow plumage, especially the crown, made up for it though. We heard three species of trogon calling: Chocó Trogon, Collared Trogon and Northern Violaceous Trogon. The latter species is often named Gartered Trogon and is actually rare at this site. An Emeraldas Antbird was seen in the understory and later on we got to see the Collared Trogon. A mixed-flock produced species including Ochre-breasted Tanager, Tawny-breasted Myiobius, Chocó Warbler, Slaty-capped Flycatcher, Spotted Woodcreeper, Lineated Foliage-gleaner and Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner. A Pale-vented Thrush was seen well and at the car park we watched a Yellow-collared Chlorophonia. At the hummingbird feeders we watched Green Thorntails, Green-crowned Brilliant, Green-crowned Woodnymph, Andean Emerald, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, a Purple-bibbed Whitetip and a White-whiskered Hermit. In the forest we got Band-tailed Barbthroat and Purple-crowned Fairy. A pair of White-winged Tanagers responded well to playback and we got some nice looks of this bright colored species. Two *Gray-headed Kites* were noticed by their call and we watched them from the car park. We continued birding at "Milpe Garden", a short distance down the road. The forest is more pristine here but the birding can be harder (less birdy). At the start of the trail we got a female Immaculate Antbird. Bird activity was low and the flocks produced hardly any new species. Rufous-rumped Antwren was a new addition. Very nice was the find of a nest of Russet Antshrike. The nest was being build by the pair in the midstory and we could watch the birds well. After lunch we went birding to the end of the Milpe road. There is still some forest left here and some rare species have been reported from this site. It is a slightly lower elevation than the Milpe reserve and some lowland species start to show up. On the way we saw a pair of Masked Tityra and a pair of Black-crowned Tityra perched in a single tree. The tree had a nest hole and the Black-crowned Tityras were inspecting it. The male showed very well while the female went inside the hole. Other species that we picked up along the drive include White-thighed Swallow and Gray Hawk. At the site we went into the forest on a muddy trail. A small understory flock looked promising but the only bird we got in view was a small woodpecker. Most probably a Red-rumped Woodpecker but we did not get the red rump on it so we couldn't confirm the identification. We heard a Tawny-faced Gnatwren calling from the understory and after playback we got the tiny bird in the bins. A Thrush-like Schiffornis sang from a distance but soon came in after playback. The bird perched right in the open and sat there for quite a while. It continued singing and we got some stunning looks of it. A Spotted Nightingale-thrush was heard singing and it came in as well. After a few minutes we got good views of this scarce and beautiful thrush. On the way back we flushed a large bird above our heads. It turned out to be a male Chocó Trogon. We had heard the species twice this day but seeing it well was a real treat. We ended the day with a pair of Scarlet-browed Tanagers and a Little Cuckoo along the road.

Day 7 - 25 February - Bellavista area and Calacali race-track

The Bellavista Cloud-forest Reserve provides easy roadside birding. Our first stop was at the start of the "Eco-ruta", just past San Tadeo. A mixed-flock produced some good birds including a pair of showy *Barred Becards*. The becards did not follow the flock but stayed around as they were probably nesting just next to the road. A male *Golden-headed Quetzal* was calling from the valley below. After a few imitation whistles the bird flew in and showed itself well but shortly. Our next stop was higher up the road. As we stepped out of the car we watched a *Plate-billed Mountain-toucan* being mobbed by a *Turquoise Jay*. The viewing conditions were perfect



and we enjoyed watching these two stunning species for a moment. A little further down the road a *Red-billed Parrot* flew in a treetop that we watched from above. A quick stop was made as Suzan spotted a flying raptor. We jumped out of the vehicle and watched a pair of *Hook-billed Kites* soaring low over the forest. Great views! At the well known curve we searched for the very rare Tanager

Finch. The bird activity was zero during our walk but just before we went back into the car we heard a few fine "chips". "Possibly Tanager Finch". Believe it or not but 2 min. later we were watching a pair of *Tanager Finch* (photo) at a few feet distance! A car with birders passed by at the right time and joined us watching these rare birds. Walking for 20 min. and seeing just one species of bird, the "rarest" one, that's just pure luck! At the "biostation" road we played again for Ocellated Tapaculo but unfortunately only got a distant response. A Chestnut-crowned Antpitta was singing from above and it was glimpsed shortly in a window. A male Green-and-black Fruiteater was seen well higher up the road. Our next stop was a bamboo patch down the "Miraflores road. This is a good place for Plain-tailed Wren and within less than a minute we got great looks of a family group. A loud call raised our attention and two Black-and-chestnut Eagles were flying right above us. Light conditions were not perfect plus some branches blocked our views. Nevertheless, the huge birds performed a short flight show at close range. At one point the birds grabbed each other by their claws and dropped down in an acrobatic way. One bird was significantly smaller, probably the



male. We had a delicious box-lunch (KFC-style chicken breaded in coconut) at the mirador and the eagles flew by again. We drove back to Quito after lunch in order to spend some more quality time at the dry valley near Calacali. A good start was a large flock (200+) of *Grassland-yellow Finches* that was foraging on freshly seeded vegetation. Other species that we got include *Band-tailed Seedeater*, *Ash-breasted Sierra-finch*, *Hooded Siskin*, *Cinereous Conebill*, *Tufted Tit-tyrant*, *Southern Yellow Grosbeak*, *Black-tailed Trainbearer*, *Sparkling Violetear* and *Blue-and-yellow Tanager*. A *Tropical Mockingbird* was a nice catch-up for some of us. The rarest bird of the valley flew up right in front of us and perched nicely on a snag. It was the very rare *White-tailed Shrike-tyrant* which has a vulnerable status. The future of this species in the valley is not that bright as they are planning to build more houses. Another surprise was a *Green-tailed Trainbearer* that was first noticed by Webb. This species is usually found inside the crater of Pululahua, not that far from our site. Well, given the fact that we got *Tanager Finch*, *Black-and-chestnut Eagle* and *White-tailed Shrike-tyrant* on a single day; our last day of the trip was certainly a success!



Acknowledgements

We like to thank: ranger Sylvio at Yanacocha for showing us the Tawny Antpittas, Fernando Timpe for the permission to enter Bosque Protector Mashpi, Angel Paz and his family at Refugio Paz de las Aves, the staff at Reserva Las Gralarias and our driver Juan Carlos Cruz.

Species list of birds

The taxonomy of this list follows: Ridgely, R.S. & Greenfield, P.J. (2006). Aves del Ecuador, Vol I. Quito: Colibri Digital

Crypturellus soui

x = seen, ♬ = heard	
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Sickle-winged Guan
Andean Guan
Dark-backed Wood-Quail
Cattle Egret
Turkey Vulture
Black Vulture
Osprey
Gray-headed Kite
Hook-billed Kite
Swallow-tailed Kite
Plumbeous Kite
Plain-breasted Hawk
Barred Hawk
Roadside Hawk
Gray Hawk

Black-and-chestnut Eagle

Little Tinamou

Chamaepetes goudotii Penelope montagnii Odontophorus melanonotus Bubulcus ibis Cathartes aura Coragyps atratus Pandion haliaetus Leptodon cayanensis Chondrohierax uncinatus Elanoides forficatus Ictinia plumbea Accipiter ventralis Leucopternis princeps Buteo magnirostris Buteo nitidus Spizaetus isidori

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Laughing Falcon Barred Forest-Falcon American Kestrel White-throated Crake Spotted Sandpiper Common Ground-Dove Rock Pigeon Band-tailed Pigeon Pale-vented Pigeon Ruddy Pigeon **Dusky Pigeon Eared Dove** White-tipped Dove Pallid Dove White-throated Quail-Dove Maroon-tailed Parakeet Pacific Parrotlet Blue-fronted Parrotlet Red-billed Parrot **Bronze-winged Parrot** Mealy Amazon Little Cuckoo Squirrel Cuckoo Smooth-billed Ani Short-eared Owl Common Potoo White-collared Swift **Gray-rumped Swift** White-necked Jacobin Band-tailed Barbthroat White-whiskered Hermit Tawny-bellied Hermit

Herpetotheres cachinnans Micrastur ruficollis Falco sparverius Laterallus albigularis Actitis macularius Columbina passerina Columba livia Patagioenas fasciata Patagioenas cayennensis Patagioenas subvinacea Patagioenas goodsoni Zenaida auriculata Leptotila verreauxi Leptotila pallida Geotrygon frenata Pyrrhura melanura Forpus coelestis Touit dilectissimus Pionus sordidus Pionus chalcopterus Amazona farinosa Coccycua minuta Piaya cayana Crotophaga ani Asio flammeus Nyctibius griseus Streptoprocne zonaris Chaetura cinereiventris Florisuga mellivora Threnetes ruckeri Phaethornis yaruqui Phaethornis syrmatophorus

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Wedge-billed Hummingbird Green Violetear Sparkling Violetear Purple-crowned Fairy Gorgeted Sunangel Green Thorntail Speckled Hummingbird Violet-tailed Sylph Black-tailed Trainbearer Green-tailed Trainbearer Rainbow-bearded Thornbill Tyrian Metaltail Sapphire-vented Puffleg Golden-breasted Puffleg Brown Inca Collared Inca **Buff-winged Starfrontlet** Mountain Velvetbreast Sword-billed Hummingbird **Great Sapphirewing Buff-tailed Coronet** Velvet-purple Coronet **Booted Racket-tail** Purple-bibbed Whitetip Fawn-breasted Brilliant Green-crowned Brilliant **Empress Brilliant** Purple-throated Woodstar Green-crowned Woodnymph Rufous-tailed Hummingbird Andean Emerald Blue-chested Hummingbird

Schistes geoffroyi Colibri thalassinus Colibri coruscans Heliothryx barroti Heliangelus strophianus Discosura conversii Adelomyia melanogenys Aglaiocercus coelestis Lesbia victoriae Lesbia nuna Chalcostigma herrani Metallura tyrianthina Eriocnemis luciani Eriocnemis mosquera Coeligena wilsoni Coeligena torquata Coeligena lutetiae Lafresnaya lafresnayi Ensifera ensifera Pterophanes cyanopterus Boissonneaua flavescens Boissonneaua jardini Ocreatus underwoodii Urosticte benjamini Heliodoxa rubinoides Heliodoxa jacula Heliodoxa imperatrix Calliphlox mitchellii Thalurania fannyi Amazilia tzacatl Amazilia franciae

Amazilia amabilis

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Purple-chested Hummingbird Golden-headed Quetzal Chocó Trogon Western White-tailed Trogon Violaceous Trogon Collared Trogon Masked Trogon Ringed Kingfisher Green Kingfisher **Broad-billed Motmot Rufous Motmot** Rufous-tailed Jacamar Orange-fronted Barbet Red-headed Barbet **Toucan Barbet** Chestnut-mandibled Toucan Chocó Toucan Crimson-rumped Toucanet Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan Pale-mandibled Aracari Black-cheeked Woodpecker Smoky-brown Woodpecker Red-rumped Woodpecker Scarlet-backed Woodpecker Bar-bellied Woodpecker Golden-olive Woodpecker Crimson-mantled Woodpecker Cinnamon Woodpecker Lineated Woodpecker Guayaguil Woodpecker Tawny-throated Leaftosser Pacific Hornero

Amazilia rosenbergi Pharomachrus auriceps Trogon comptus Trogon chionurus Trogon violaceus Trogon collaris Trogon personatus Megaceryle torquata Chloroceryle americana Electron platyrhynchum Baryphthengus martii Galbula ruficauda Capito squamatus Eubucco bourcierii Semnornis ramphastinus Ramphastos swainsoni Ramphastos brevis Aulacorhynchus haematopygus Andigena laminirostris Pteroglossus erythropygius Melanerpes pucherani Picoides fumigatus Veniliornis kirkii Veniliornis callonotus Veniliornis nigriceps Colaptes rubiginosus Colaptes rivolii Celeus Ioricatus Dryocopus lineatus Campephilus gayaquilensis Sclerurus mexicanus

Furnarius leucopus

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Azara's Spinetail Slaty Spinetail White-browed Spinetail Red-faced Spinetail Streak-backed Canastero Rusty-winged Barbtail Spotted Barbtail Pearled Treerunner Pacific Tuftedcheek Streaked Tuftedcheek Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner Lineated Foliage-gleaner Western Woodhaunter Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner **Uniform Treehunter** Plain Xenops Streaked Xenops Wedge-billed Woodcreeper

Strong-billed Woodcreeper
Black-striped Woodcreeper
Spotted Woodcreeper
Streak-headed Woodcreeper
Montane Woodcreeper
Brown-billed Scythebill
Western Slaty-Antshrike
Russet Antshrike
Checker-throated Antwren
Pacific Antwren
White-flanked Antwren
Dot-winged Antwren
Long-tailed Antbird

Synallaxis azarae Synallaxis brachyura Hellmayrea gularis Cranioleuca erythrops Asthenes wyatti Premnornis guttuligera Premnoplex brunnescens Margarornis squamiger Pseudocolaptes lawrencii Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii Anabacerthia variegaticeps Syndactyla subalaris Hyloctistes virgatus Philydor rufum Thripadectes ignobilis Xenops minutus Xenops rutilans Glyphorynchus spirurus Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus Xiphorhynchus erythropygius Lepidocolaptes souleyetii Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger Campylorhamphus pusillus Thamnophilus atrinucha Thamnistes anabatinus Epinecrophylla fulviventris Myrmotherula pacifica Myrmotherula axillaris Microrhopias quixensis

Drymophila caudata

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Rufous-rumped Antwren **Dusky Antbird** Chestnut-backed Antbird Esmeraldas Antbird Immaculate Antbird Rufous-breasted Antthrush **Undulated Antpitta** Giant Antpitta Moustached Antpitta Chestnut-crowned Antpitta Chestnut-naped Antpitta Yellow-breasted Antpitta Rufous Antpitta Tawny Antpitta Blackish Tapaculo Nariño Tapaculo Spillmann's Tapaculo Ocellated Tapaculo Sooty-headed Tyrannulet Ashy-headed Tyrannulet Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet Gray Elaenia Yellow-bellied Elaenia **Brown-capped Tyrannulet** Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet White-tailed Tyrannulet White-banded Tyrannulet White-throated Tyrannulet Tufted Tit-Tyrant Bronze-olive Pygmy-Tyrant Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrant Golden-faced Tyrannulet

Terenura callinota Cercomacra tyrannina Myrmeciza exsul Myrmeciza nigricauda Myrmeciza immaculata Formicarius rufipectus Grallaria squamigera Grallaria gigantea Grallaria alleni Grallaria ruficapilla Grallaria nuchalis Grallaria flavotincta Grallaria rufula Grallaria quitensis Scytalopus latrans Scytalopus vicinior Scytalopus spillmanni Acropternis orthonyx Phyllomyias griseiceps Phyllomyias cinereiceps Phyllomyias uropygialis Myiopagis caniceps Elaenia flavogaster Ornithion brunneicapillus Camptostoma obsoletum Mecocerculus poecilocercus Mecocerculus stictopterus Mecocerculus leucophrys Anairetes parulus Pseudotriccus pelzelni Pseudotriccus ruficeps Zimmerius chrysops

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Streak-necked Flycatcher Olive-striped Flycatcher Ochre-bellied Flycatcher Slaty-capped Flycatcher Ornate Flycatcher Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant Common Tody-Flycatcher Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher Yellow-margined Flatbill Flavescent Flycatcher Bran-colored Flycatcher Tawny-breasted Myiobius Cinnamon Flycatcher Acadian Flycatcher Smoke-colored Pewee Western Wood-Pewee Black Phoebe White-tailed Shrike-Tyrant Smoky Bush-Tyrant Masked Water-Tyrant Crowned Chat-Tyrant Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant **Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant** Piratic Flycatcher Rusty-margined Flycatcher Gray-capped Flycatcher Golden-crowned Flycatcher Boat-billed Flycatcher Tropical Kingbird Dusky-capped Flycatcher Bright-rumped Attila Green-and-black Fruiteater

Mionectes striaticollis Mionectes olivaceus Mionectes oleagineus Leptopogon superciliaris Myiotriccus ornatus Lophotriccus pileatus Todirostrum cinereum Todirostrum nigriceps Tolmomyias flavotectus Myiophobus flavicans Myiophobus fasciatus Myiobius villosus Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus Empidonax virescens Contopus fumigatus Contopus sordidulus Sayornis nigricans Agriornis albicauda Myiotheretes fumigatus Fluvicola nengeta Ochthoeca frontalis Ochthoeca diadema Ochthoeca fumicolor Legatus leucophaius Myiozetetes cayanensis Myiozetetes granadensis Myiodynastes chrysocephalus Megarynchus pitangua Tyrannus melancholicus Myiarchus tuberculifer Attila spadiceus Pipreola riefferii

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Orange-breasted Fruiteater Scaled Fruiteater Andean Cock-of-the-rock Olivaceous Piha Purple-throated Fruitcrow Golden-winged Manakin Club-winged Manakin Blue-crowned Manakin White-bearded Manakin Black-crowned Tityra Masked Tityra Thrush-like Schiffornis Barred Becard Cinnamon Becard One-colored Becard Black-billed Peppershrike Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo Chocó Vireo Brown-capped Vireo Lesser Greenlet Turquoise Jay Beautiful Jay Blue-and-white Swallow Brown-bellied Swallow White-thighed Swallow Southern Rough-winged Swallow **Gray-breasted Martin** Southern Nightingale Wren House Wren Mountain Wren Plain-tailed Wren Bay Wren

Pipreola jucunda Ampelioides tschudii Rupicola peruvianus Snowornis cryptolophus Querula purpurata Masius chrysopterus Machaeropterus deliciosus Lepidothrix coronata Manacus manacus Tityra inquisitor Tityra semifasciata Schiffornis turdina Pachyramphus versicolor Pachyramphus cinnamomeus Pachyramphus homochrous Cyclarhis nigrirostris Vireolanius leucotis Vireo masteri Vireo leucophrys Hylophilus decurtatus Cyanolyca turcosa Cyanolyca pulchra Pygochelidon cyanoleuca Orochelidon murina Atticora tibialis Stelgidopteryx ruficollis Progne chalybea Microcerculus marginatus Troglodytes aedon Troglodytes solstitialis Thryothorus euophrys

Thryothorus nigricapillus

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Rufous Wren Gray-breasted Wood-Wren Tawny-faced Gnatwren **Tropical Gnatcatcher** White-capped Dipper Andean Solitaire Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush Spotted Nightingale-Thrush Swainson's Thrush **Black Solitaire** Pale-vented Thrush **Ecuadorian Thrush Great Thrush Tropical Mockingbird** Paramo Pipit Superciliaried Hemispingus White-shouldered Tanager Tawny-crested Tanager White-lined Tanager Lemon-rumped Tanager Blue-gray Tanager Palm Tanager Blue-and-yellow Tanager Moss-backed Tanager Hooded Mountain-Tanager Black-chested Mountain-Tanager Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager Golden-crowned Tanager Fawn-breasted Tanager Glistening-green Tanager

Cinnycerthia unirufa Henicorhina leucophrys Microbates cinereiventris Polioptila plumbea Cinclus leucocephalus Myadestes ralloides Catharus fuscater Catharus dryas Catharus ustulatus Entomodestes coracinus Turdus obsoletus Turdus maculirostris Turdus fuscater Mimus gilvus Anthus bogotensis Hemispingus superciliaris Tachyphonus luctuosus Tachyphonus delatrii Tachyphonus rufus Ramphocelus icteronotus Thraupis episcopus Thraupis palmarum Thraupis bonariensis Bangsia edwardsi Buthraupis montana Buthraupis eximia Anisognathus igniventris Anisognathus somptuosus Anisognathus notabilis Iridosornis rufivertex Pipraeidea melanonota Chlorochrysa phoenicotis

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Golden-naped Tanager Gray-and-gold Tanager Golden-hooded Tanager Blue-necked Tanager Rufous-throated Tanager Blue-and-black Tanager Beryl-spangled Tanager Metallic-green Tanager Bay-headed Tanager Flame-faced Tanager Golden Tanager Silver-throated Tanager Yellow-tufted Dacnis Purple Honeycreeper Green Honeycreeper Scarlet-browed Tanager Guira Tanager Cinereous Conebill Blue-backed Conebill Capped Conebill Glossy Flowerpiercer Black Flowerpiercer White-sided Flowerpiercer Indigo Flowerpiercer Masked Flowerpiercer **Dusky Bush-Tanager** Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager **Dusky-faced Tanager** Bananaguit Yellow-faced Grassquit **Dull-colored Grassquit** Slate-colored Grosbeak

Tangara ruficervix Tangara palmeri Tangara larvata Tangara cyanicollis Tangara rufigula Tangara vassorii Tangara nigroviridis Tangara labradorides Tangara gyrola Tangara parzudakii Tangara arthus Tangara icterocephala Dacnis egregia Cyanerpes caeruleus Chlorophanes spiza Heterospingus xanthopygius Hemithraupis guira Conirostrum cinereum Conirostrum sitticolor Conirostrum albifrons Diglossa lafresnayii Diglossa humeralis Diglossa albilatera Diglossa indigotica Diglossa cyanea Chlorospingus semifuscus Chlorospingus flavigularis Mitrospingus cassinii Coereba flaveola Tiaris olivaceus Tiaris obscurus

Saltator grossus

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Buff-throated Saltator Black-winged Saltator Rufous-collared Sparrow Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch Band-tailed Sierra-Finch Grassland Yellow-Finch Blue-black Grassquit Variable Seedeater Black-and-white Seedeater Yellow-bellied Seedeater Lesser Seed-Finch Band-tailed Seedeater Plain-colored Seedeater Black-striped Sparrow Orange-billed Sparrow Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch Stripe-headed Brush-Finch **Tanager Finch** Chocó (Tricolored) Brush-Finch Rufous-naped Brush-Finch White-winged Brush-Finch Summer Tanager White-winged Tanager Ochre-breasted Tanager Southern Yellow Grosbeak Blue-black Grosbeak **Tropical Parula** Blackburnian Warbler Olive-crowned Yellowthroat Canada Warbler Slate-throated Redstart Spectacled Redstart

Saltator maximus Saltator atripennis Zonotrichia capensis Phrygilus plebejus Phrygilus alaudinus Sicalis luteola Volatinia jacarina Sporophila corvina Sporophila luctuosa Sporophila nigricollis Oryzoborus angolensis Catamenia analis Catamenia inornata Arremonops conirostris Arremon aurantiirostris Arremon brunneinucha Arremon torquatus Oreothraupis arremonops Atlapetes crassus Atlapetes latinuchus Atlapetes leucopterus Piranga rubra Piranga leucoptera Chlorothraupis stolzmanni Pheucticus chrysogaster Cyanocompsa cyanoides Parula pitiayumi Dendroica fusca Geothlypis semiflava Wilsonia canadensis Myioborus miniatus Myioborus melanocephalus

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Chocó Warbler
Black-crested Warbler
Russet-crowned Warbler
Three-striped Warbler
Buff-rumped Warbler
Scrub Blackbird
Shiny Cowbird
Hooded Siskin
Yellow-bellied Siskin
Orange-crowned Euphonia
Thick-billed Euphonia
Golden-rumped Euphonia
Orange-bellied Euphonia
Yellow-collared Chlorophonia

Basileuterus chlorophrys
Basileuterus nigrocristatus
Basileuterus coronatus
Basileuterus tristriatus
Phaeothlypis fulvicauda
Dives warszewiczi
Molothrus bonariensis
Carduelis magellanica
Carduelis xanthogastra
Euphonia saturata
Euphonia laniirostris
Euphonia cyanocephala
Euphonia xanthogaster
Chlorophonia flavirostris

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total = 350 species



Text and photos by Dušan M. Brinkhuizen ©

