

Southwest Costa Rica

Ornithological trip report

6.-26. February 2010

Leander Khil, www.khil.net

Participants:

Gernot Kunz, Franziska Anderle, Barbara Emmerer, Johannes Gepp, Kathrin Geßlbauer, Erwin Holzer, Peter Horak, Helmut Kaiser, Leander Khil, Brigitte Komposch, Christian Komposch, Richard Kunz, Franziska Maier, Laura Pabst, Maria Luise Spreitzer, Magdalena Steiner

Route:

5./6.2. Alajuela, 6.2. Puya-Marsh (Cerro de la Muerte), **6.-9.2. Trogon Lodge/San Gerardo de Dota**, **10.-18.2. Osa peninsula/La Leona Lodge/Corcovado national park**, **18.-24.2. Esquinas Lodge-Biological station/La Gamba**, 24.2. rio Tarcoles, 25.2. volcano Poás

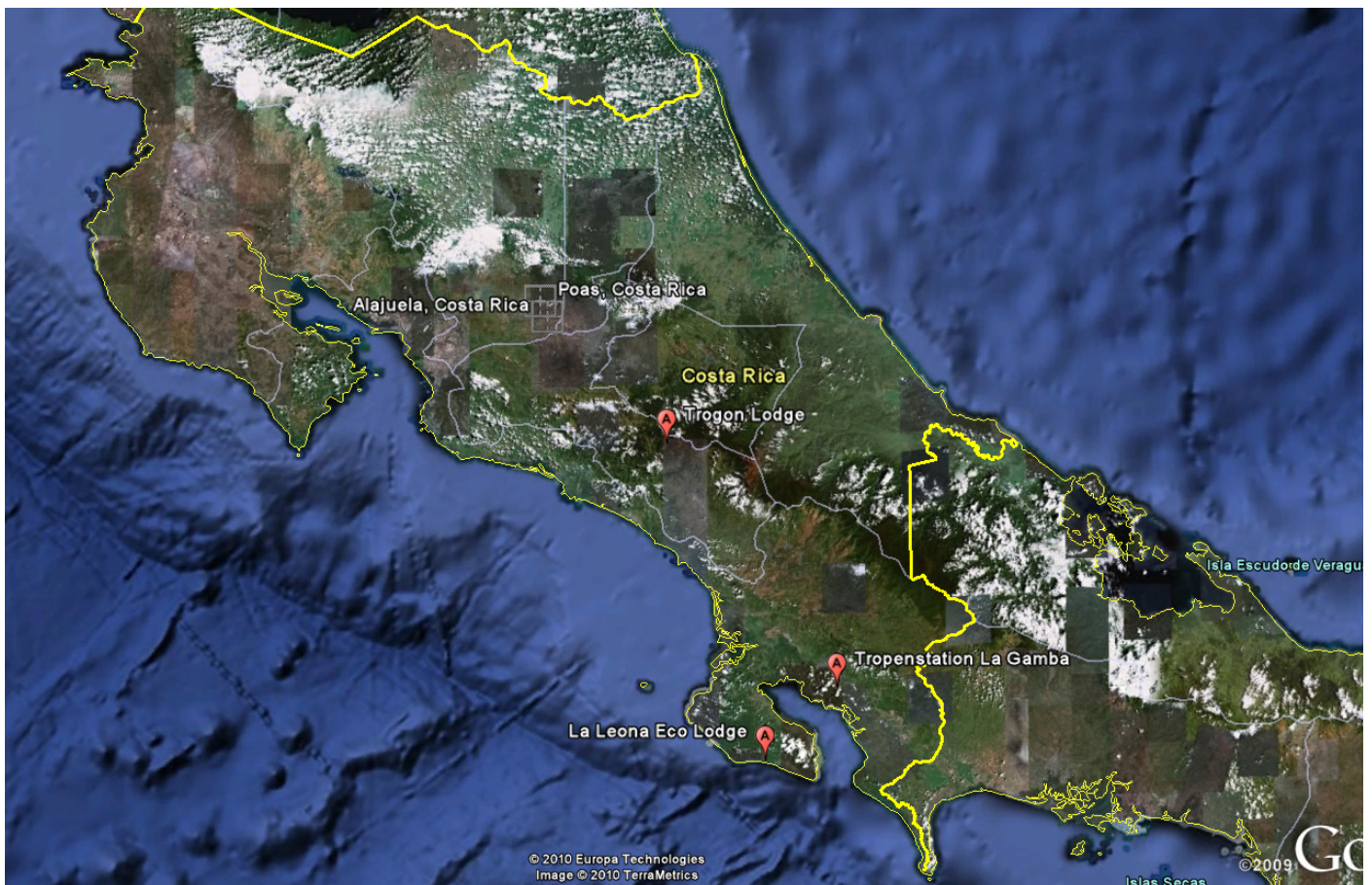
The main aim of the trip was collecting and photographing insects and arachnids on three spots of central and southwestern Costa Rica (see map), whereas I focused on the avifauna. We didn't visit many different locations but studied those three in detail. We travelled with two rented Toyota Hiace vans, which suited most streets perfectly, except for the very steep track down to San Gerardo de Dota.

238 species were identified, but many, briefly seen birds had to stay unidentified and are therefore not mentioned in this report. The list includes only species seen/photographed by the author, species which were seen and photographed by other members of the tour are depicted at the end of the list. All the photos were taken during this 3-week-trip in Costa Rica.

Maybe less photography would have meant more different species - but since taking pictures was the best choice to identify many of the similar species, which I had never seen before, I chose that way and didn't regret it. Since I was alone as a birdwatcher, with a book being my only guide, surrounded by lifers round the clock, I'm pleased with the result of this trip (even if I compare with trip reports of huge groups of birders, recording 450 species in the same time all over the country).

The order of species mostly follows the field guide I used: „The Birds of Costa Rica“ by Richard Garrigues and Rober Dean. Although species are illustrated with only one image, the book didn't leave too many mysteries, of which many were kindly solved by Mr. Garrigues himself.

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Visited locations. Source: Google Earth



Trogon Lodge

Trogon Lodge/San Gerardo de Dota

This wonderful (but expensive) lodge is situated in a valley covered by tropical cloud-forest at about 2100m above sea level, below Cerro de la Muerte. The lodge's beautiful garden attracts a lot of species (Hummingbirds, Slaty Flowerpiercer, Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager etc.) of which some weren't seen anywhere else on the trip. The network of trails running through the cloud-forest isn't very rambling, but still sufficient to discover something new on every walk.

The open valley bottom downstream of the lodge offered a variety of habitats and good observations (Torrent Tyrannulet, American Dipper).

Extremely rewarding spots in the vicinity of the lodge were Los Lagos (where a single tree kept the promise to be one of the best spots to see Resplendent Quetzal in the region) and Savegre Lodge, which is the better place to stay for birdwatchers (Resplendent Quetzal, Collared Trogon, Emerald Toucanet, Scintillant Hummingbird just to name a few). Most (yet not all) species seen around Trogon Lodge were also seen around Savegre Lodge.

Corcovado national park

La Leona Eco Lodge/Osa peninsula

Another marvellous lodge with great food and service, situated just outside Corcovado national park on the southern coast of Osa. The tent-like bungalows are situated among the first rows of palms, a few metres from the shore, where hundreds of Brown Pelicans pass by every day.

Trails into the forest start from the lodge and from different spots along the shore, in the nearest vicinity of the lodge. One long trail leads into the famous Corcovado national park, which can be entered when paying a fee (10\$ as far as I remember) at a small hut, not far from the lodge. Generally, the habitats are quite the same in- and outside the national park, still some species were only seen inside.

The species diversity is just incredible and the Pacific is a big plus, regarding the wellness-aspect..

Two trips by car led us into the agrarian regions, somewhere between the lodge and Puerto Jimenez.



Shore near La Leona Lodge, with passing Scarlet Macaw

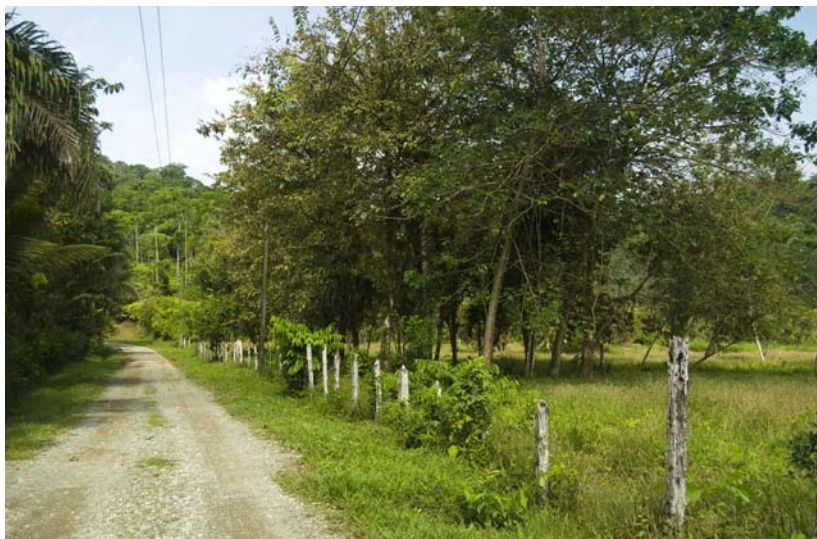
Piedras blancas national park

Esquinas Lodge/Biological station La Gamba

A whole week was spent in this area, the „Rain-forest of the Austrians“ (www.regenwald.at). We divided in two groups, staying at the austrian biological station and Esquinas lodge, a few hundred metres down the road.

There, the range of different trails of variable length was unsurpassed on this trip and also the biggest number of species of birds were recorded in the surroundings of this place.

The advantage were the open and partly cultivated areas and the bigger variety of habitats altogether, which produced many species which were seen nowhere else on this trip. Spots like Valle Bonito or the village of La Gamba can be reached by foot or by bike and offer a totally different spectrum of species.



The road leading to biological station La Gamba

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*

No sightings, but 1 Ind. heard from Fila Trail/Esquinas Lodge on 23.2.

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus*

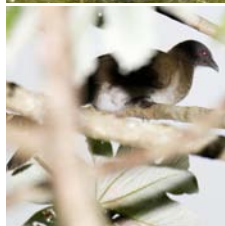
One stationary pair at the pond („Laguna“) near the biological station La Gamba.



Gray-headed Chacalaca

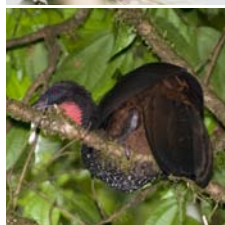
Ortalis cinereiceps

3 Ind. on a tree near the road from Puerto Jimenez to La Leona Lodge (13.2.). 1 Ind. in the trees of the biological station La Gamba (23.2.).



Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens*

1 Ind. seen flying off in the forest of La Leona Lodge (16.2.). 2 Ind (pair?) seen high up in the trees from Bird Trail/Esquinas Lodge (20.2.).



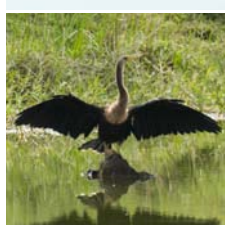
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*

Abundant and seen on every occasion at sea. Maximum flock size ~60 Ind. at La Leona Lodge. Few observations of flying individuals some kms inland.



Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*

1 female at the heronry Puerto Jimenez and another female at a pond nearby the road from Puerto Jimenez to La Leona Lodge.



Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*

Only two observations of very confiding single individuals on the coast of Corcovado national park.



Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*

Some observations of single individuals (adults & juveniles) on Osa peninsula (e.g. Valle Bonito, La Gamba, Esquinas Lodge).



Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

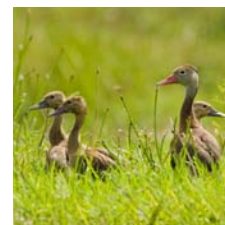
A handful of single individuals on Osa peninsula.



Black-bellied Whistling Duck

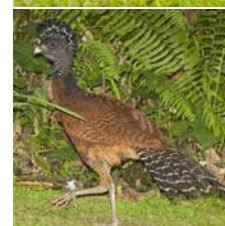
Dendrocygna autumnalis

A pair with 4 juveniles at a pond nearby the road from Puerto Jimenez to La Leona Lodge.



Great Currassow *Crax rubra*

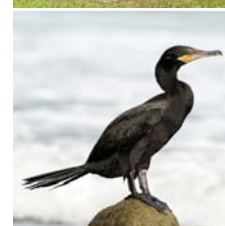
~ 10 sightings of single birds (mostly females) or pairs in the forests of La Leona Lodge, Corcovado national park and Esquinas Lodge.



Neotropic Cormorant

Phalacrocorax brasilianus

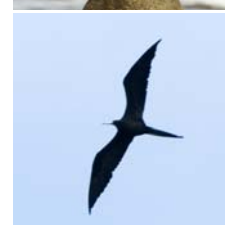
2-3 Ind. were seen resting and fishing on the coast of Corcovado national park on 17.2.



Magnificent Frigatebird

Fregata magnificens

Frequently seen on Osa peninsula but always distant, most times circling above the coast or at sea. Largest flock of 7 Ind. at La Leona Lodge.



Bare-throated Tiger Heron

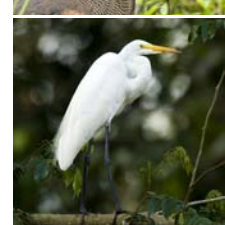
Tigrisoma mexicanum

Few observations of single individuals (adults & juveniles) along streams nearby the road from Puerto Jimenez to La Leona Lodge. One sighting at a river mouth in Corcovado national park.



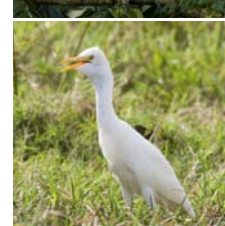
Great White Egret *Egretta alba*

Frequently seen on Osa peninsula, always single individuals.



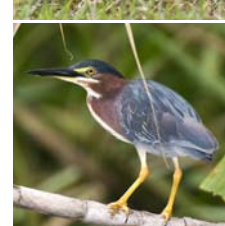
Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Very common with cattle on Osa peninsula.



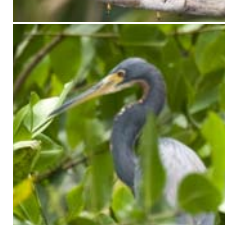
Green Heron *Butorides virescens*

Few single observations on Osa peninsula and around La Gamba. Maximum was 3 Ind. in Valle Bonito.



Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*

One single observation of an adult in the heronry of Puerto Jimenez.



Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*

Seen only once (2 Ind.) in the heronry of Puerto Jimenez.



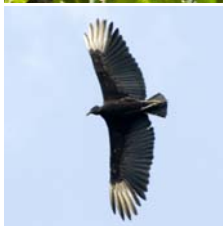
White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*

Around 20 Ind. in the heronry of Puerto Jimenez, single individuals and small groups observed on many occasions on Osa peninsula and one stationary juvenile at the „Laguna“ near Esquinas Lodge.



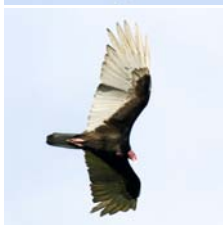
Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*

Abundant everywhere, also on higher elevations (Trogon & Savegre lodges). Biggest flock ~50 Ind.



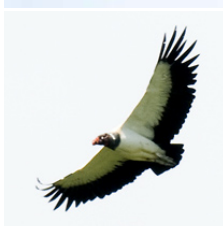
Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Abundant everywhere. Apparently rarer in urbanized areas but seen more often than Black Vulture in the mountainous regions.



King Vulture *Sarcorhampus papa*

Seen twice on 15.2. One adult circling above the street between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge and one near the parking lot at La Leona.



American Swallow-tailed Kite

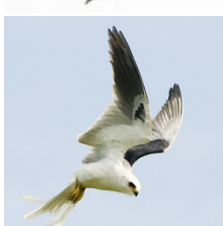
Elanoides forficatus

Single observations on Osa peninsula. Maximum 3 Ind. on 14.2. at La Leona Lodge.



White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*

One sighting of a bird hunting on the dry meadows between La Gamba and Esquinas Lodge on 20.2.



Barred Hawk *Leucopternis princeps*

One individual crosses the valley at Trogon Lodge on 7.2. (R. Garrigues pointed out the unusually high elevation of the location for this species. Regarding the lack of a photo, this record should be treated with caution).

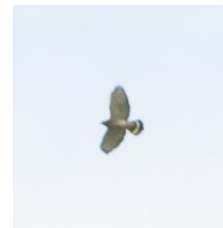


Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris*

Common on Osa peninsula and often seen in fact sitting along the roads from La Leona Lodge to Puerto Jimenez. One copulating pair on 15.2.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*

One sighting of a bird circling with vultures over La Gamba on 20.2. and another on 23.2. from Fila Trail/Esquinas Lodge.



Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*

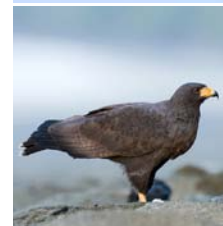
One individual of each light and dark morph on 15.5. near the parking lot at La Leona Lodge.



Mangrove Black-Hawk

Buteogallus subtilis

At least one stationary pair at La Leona Lodge. Another one at the end of the trail from there into Corcovado national park. One confiding juvenile on a dry pasture between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge.



Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

Two circling birds above the road near Puya marsh/Cerro de la Muerte and one of the migrant race from North America flying by at Savegre Lodge.



Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*

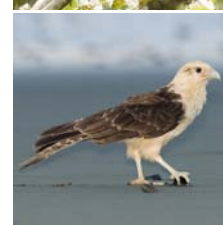
Some observations of single individuals, mostly near Puerto Jimenez, one sighting at La Gamba on 22.2.



Yellow-headed Caracara

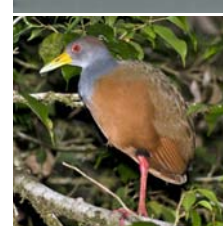
Milvago chimachima

Quite common on Osa, 3-5 stationary Ind. on the beach of La Leona Lodge (breeding in the abandoned tent camp). Single observations around La Gamba.



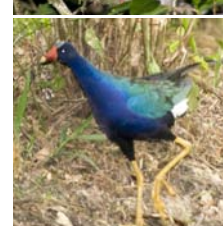
Grey-necked Woodrail *Aramide cajanea*

Several observations on Osa peninsula, often pairs. Best seen along streams or around ponds in the early morning. One bird was found roosting in a tree over a pond near the biological station La Gamba.



Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*

One pair nested at the „Laguna“ near the biological station La Gamba and defended the place energetically against the juvenile White Ibis.

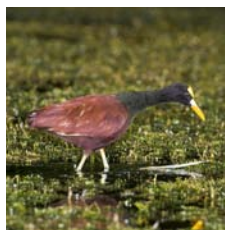


Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Two single observations at the heronry in Puerto Jimenez and in a small creek near La Gamba.

Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa*

Seen quite often on Osa peninsula on bigger ponds as well as in water-filled car-tracks. Maximum were 5 Ind. At „Laguna“ a pair raised four chicks.



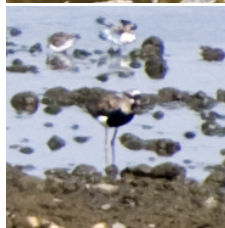
Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*

5 Ind. were spotted from the famous „crocodile-watching-bridge“ crossing Rio Tarcoles near Carara on 25.2.



Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*

2 Ind. were at the same spot as the above species.



Black-necked Stilt

Himantopus mexicanus

5 Ind. were at the same spot as the above species.



Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

One lonely Ind. lingered on the rocky beach of Corcovado national park on 17.2.



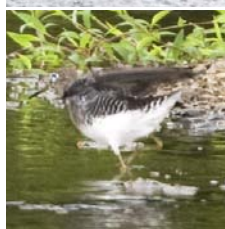
Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*

2-3 Ind. were seen in the river at Valle Bonito on 21.2.



Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*

2 Ind. were at the same spot as the above species.



Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia*

Quite common (but only single Ind.) at stream outlets along the beaches of La Leona Lodge and Corcovado national park. Also in Valle Bonito and La Gamba.

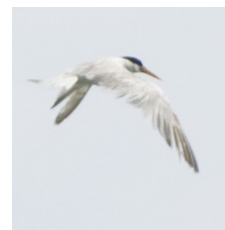


Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

One flew by at La Leona Lodge on 11.2.

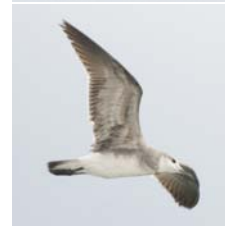
Elegant Tern *Thalasseus elegans*

In Corcovado national park, one heavily worn Ind. was hunting along the rocky beach on 17.2.



Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*

Maybe 5 Ind. flew by in Puerto Jimenez on 13.2.



Rock Pigeon *Columba livia cf. domestica*

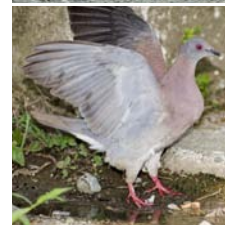
Astonishingly rare in all the places we've been to. Some Ind. finally in the streets of Puerto Jimenez and La Gamba.



Pale-vented Pigeon

Patagioenas cayennensis

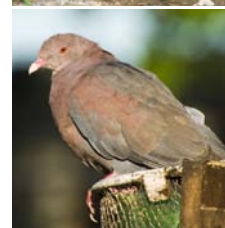
Seen on two occasions: On 10.2. ~ 5 Ind. in the streets and gardens of Puerto Jimenez and one single bird on 21.2. in La Gamba.



Red-billed Pigeon

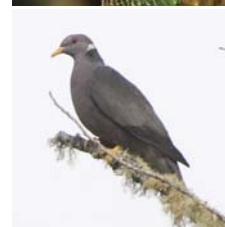
Patagioenas flavirostris

Two were seen at a feeder in the park of Alajuela on 6.2.



Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*

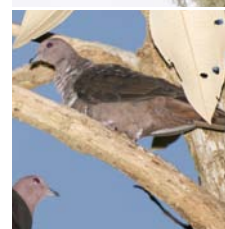
The only species of dove observed in the mountainous regions. Mostly distant but seen well at Savegre Lodge, biggest flock held about 20 Ex.



Short-billed Pigeon

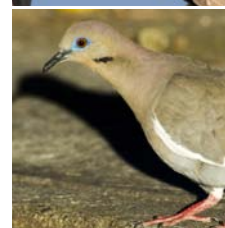
Patagioenas nigrirostris

Many lousy views of disappearing Ind. at La Leona Lodge. One pair showed very well on two occasions when eating fruit on a tree nearby the beach.



White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*

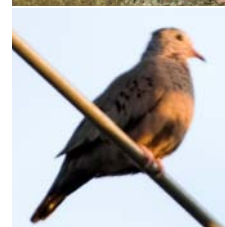
Common in Alajuela.



Common Ground Dove

Columbina passerina

At least 2 Ind. sat on TV antennas in Alajuela in the early morning of 6.2.



Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*
Very common on Osa peninsula, also seen frequently in the La Gamba region. Flocks up to 100 Ind.



Blue Ground Dove *Claravis pretiosa*
At La Leona Lodge, 1 male was seen in the forest on 16.2. Several observations of single birds and pairs near the biological station La Gamba.



White-tipped Dove *Leptoptila verreauxi*
Most common Dove around La Leona Lodge, also common in gardens around La Gamba.



Gray-chested Dove *Leptoptila cassini*
Recorded only once in the garden of the biological station La Gamba - identified later from a photo (color of orbital skin). Quite possibly I took some Gray-chests for White-tips..



Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana*
1 male seen on 23.2. from Bird Trail/Esquinas Lodge.

Crimson-fronted Parakeet *Aratinga finschi*
Some flocks (up to 20+ Ind.) fly over in Alajuela.



Brown-throated Parakeet *Aratinga pertinax*
One observation of 2 Ind. on 22.2. the village of La Gamba.



Orange-chinned Parakeet *Brotogeris jugularis*
Seen frequently in pairs or small flocks in agricultural land on Osa peninsula as well as in Puerto Jimenez.



Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*
Astonishingly common! Seen daily around La Leona Lodge but also frequently in different habitats around Osa peninsula, even in Puerto Jimenez. Biggest flock 7 Ind.



Red-lored Parrot *Amazona autumnalis*
Two sightings in two locations: 2 Ind. on 14.2. between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge, 3 Ind. on 21.2. close to the biological station La Gamba.



Mealy Parrot *Amazona farinosa*
Several observations of single birds between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge.

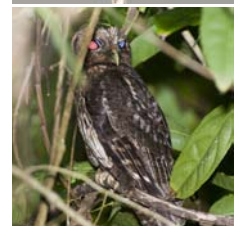
Mangrove Cuckoo *Coccyzus minor*
Seen twice in the La Gamba region: On 22.2. 1 Ind. close to the village, another Ind. on 23.2. from Fila Trail/Esquinas Lodge.



Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*
~10 Ind. were on a pasture between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge on 13.2., another 10 Ind. on 21.2. near La Gamba.



Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgata*
One lucky encounter on 17.2. in the forest above La Leona Lodge. Attacking Riverside Wrens, Red-legged Honeycreepers and others drew my attention to a roosting bird in dense vegetation only 2m above the ground.



Common Pauraque *Nyctidromus albigollis*
One Ind. was seen twice on the same spot by day, in the abandoned tent camp, close to La Leona Lodge. Single Ind. (max. 3 together) sat on the street (and wires) linking Esquinas Lodge and La Gamba every night. Several sightings of Paurques/ Nightjars on on virtually every drive in the evening/night on Osa peninsula.



Black Swift *Cypseloides niger*
About 5 Ind. flying near the biological station La Gamba 20.2.



Costa Rican Swift *Chaetura fumosa*
About 10 Ind. flying near the biological station La Gamba 20.2.

Long-billed Hermit

Phaethornis longirostris

Two single observations in La Leona Lodge. Quite common in the garden of the biological station La Gamba.



Bronzy Hermit *Glaucis aeneus*

Common in the garden of the biological station La Gamba.



Fiery-throated Hummingbird

Panterpe insignis

1 Ind. on 16.2. in Puya marsh/Cerro de la Muerte. 1 Ind. on 25.2. at the crater lake of Poás volcano.



Magnificent Hummingbird

Eugenes fulgens

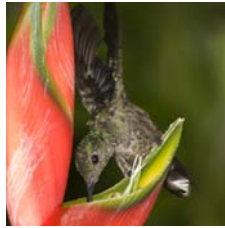
Common at the hummingbird-feeders in both Trogon and Savegre Lodges (a little more in the first).



Scaly-breasted Hummingbird

Phaeochroa cuvierii

Maybe overlooked in the hummingbird-frenzy in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba. Only one Ind. identified from photos taken there on 23.2.



Purple-crowned Fairy *Heliophrys barroti*

One magnificent encounter with a female in the forest above La Leona Lodge on 16.2. The name Fairy fits perfectly!

Charming Hummingbird *Amazilia decora*

Apparently the most common hummingbird in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba - but still felt hard to identify with certainty due to lack of striking features.



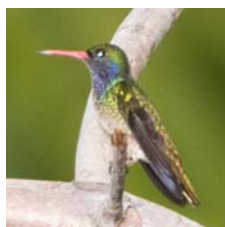
White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*

A male was in La Leona Lodge on 11.2.

Blue-throated Goldentail

Hylocharis eliciae

Most frequently seen hummingbird in La Leona Lodge, two nests found. No sightings in other locations.



Rufous-tailed Hummingbird

Amazilia tzacatl

Single observations in Alajuela and La Leona Lodge, where a nest with two juveniles on a path inbetween the tents was a main ornithological attraction for many visitors.



Green Violet-ear *Colibri thalassinus*

Most common and striking hummingbird in both Savegre and Trogon Lodges. One nest found in the gardens of the latter.



Stripe-tailed Hummingbird

Eupherusa eximia

In Savegre Lodge, 3-4 Ind. were seen from the beautiful terrace of the restaurant.



White-throated Mountain-gem

Lampornis castaneiventris

Regular visitor at the feeders in both Trogon and Savegre Lodges.



Scintillant Hummingbird

Selasphorus scintilla

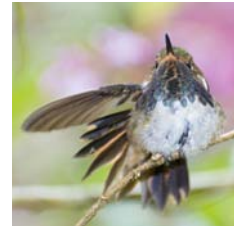
A marvellous male visited the garden below the terrace in Savegre Lodge on 8. and 9.2.



Volcano Hummingbird

Selasphorus flammula

In Trogon and Savegre Lodges quite common at shrubs with small flowers, scarcer at the feeders. Still, only two males (Talamanco Cordillera-type) were seen, one on 3400m at Cerro de la Muerte.



Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*

Several sightings at La Leona Lodge and Corcovado national park. Mostly females but also some pairs and feeding birds.



Baird's Trogon *Trogon bairdii*

One pair was seen from Waterfall Trail/Esquinas Lodge on 20.2.



Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*

A breeding pair including their nest in a treehole, ~ 2 m above the ground, were seen in Savegre Lodge, close to the bungalows.



Slaty-tailed Trogon *Trogon massena*

A single male was seen on 17.2. from the trail leading into Corcovado national park from La Leona Lodge.



Resplendent Quetzal

Pharomachrus mocinno

One of my target birds was seen very well on several occasions in two locations: A very popular pair occupied a nest hole in Savegre Lodge and at least one pair, maybe more, were seen on two days at Los Lagos, between Trogon and Savegre Lodge, feeding on a single tree (species?).



Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquatus*

Several observations at La Leona Lodge, La Gamba and Puerto Jimenez, where a maximum of 3 Ind. were seen in the heronry.



Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*

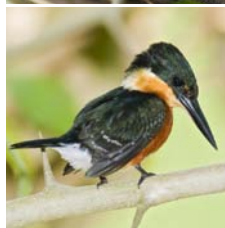
Quite common in freshwater habitats of all sizes, even at the smallest streams in dense forests. Dived from several metres height into very shallow water (< 10 cm).



American Pygmy Kingfisher

Chloroceryle aenea

A male preyed fish and a prawn at the heronry of Puerto Jimenez. 2 Ind. were seen frequently at the two ponds between biological station La Gamba and Esquinas Lodge.



Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda*

A pair nested in a precipitous wall close to the junction of Fila and Bird Trails/Esquinas Lodge. Seen on 22.2.



Emerald Toucanet

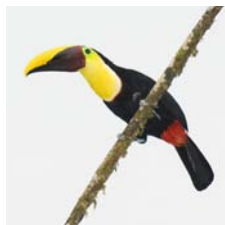
Aulacorhynchus prasinus

Heard some times (no sighting) in the forest of Savegre Lodge.

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan

Ramphastos swainsonii

Seen fewer times than expected, but in various habitats in La Leona Lodge, Osa peninsula and biological station La Gamba. Maximum was 7 Ind. on the beach of La Leona Lodge.



Fiery-billed Aracari *Pteroglossus frantzii*

One pair was seen foraging in a treefall-gap in the forest above La Leona Lodge on 16.2. A mating pair was seen by the female members of the group solely at the nearby Bosque de Cabo Lodge.

Acorn Woodpecker

Melanerpes formicivorus

Maximum 3 Ind. were around the buildings of Savegre Lodge.



Golden-naped Woodpecker

Melanerpes chrysauchen

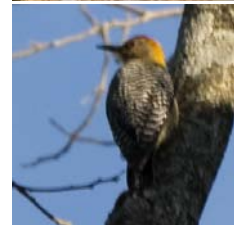
A pair was seen several times eating fruit from a tree close to the beach at La Leona Lodge. One female visited the feeder (bananas) at the biological station La Gamba.



Hoffmann's Woodpecker

Melanerpes hoffmannii

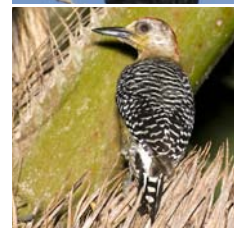
A pair was in the central park of Alajuela.



Red-crowned Woodpecker

Melanerpes rubicapillus

Quite frequently seen around La Gamba.



Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus*

A pair visited the garden of Trogon Lodge once.



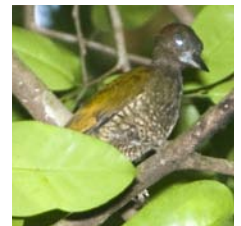
Olivaceous Piculet *Picumnus olivaceus*

Several single observations in the forests near La Leona Lodge.

Rufous-winged Woodpecker

Piculus simplex

A female, seen on 16.2. in a treefall-gap at La Leona Lodge, fooled me with its black-headed appearance (sharply contrasting with mantle feathers), looking quite different from the illustration in „Birds of Costa Rica“.



Pale-billed Woodpecker

Campephilus guatemalensis

A male was seen above La Leona Lodge on 16.2.



Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*
One was between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge on 15.2. and a pair in the trees beside the road from La Gamba to the biological station.



Pale-breasted Spinetail
Synallaxis albescent

An adult was photographed on 20.2. in the scrubland close to the biological station La Gamba.



Ruddy Treerunner

Margarornis rubiginosus

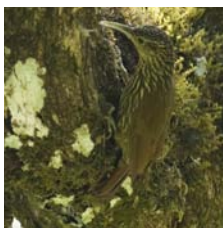
Single birds were seen two times in mixed-species-flocks in the forest near Trogon Lodge. (Don't worry, the photo's orientation is alright.)



Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*
2 Ind. were on Ozelot Trail on 22.2.

Spot-crowned Woodcreeper
Lepidocolaptes affinis

Two sightings of max. 2 Ind. in the forest and gardens of Trogon Lodge.



Cocoa Woodcreeper

Siphorhynchus susurrans

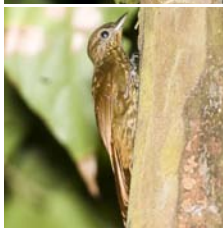
Two observations of one bird each, on 16.2. at La Leona Lodge and on 22.2. at La Gamba.



Wedge-billed Woodcreeper

Glyphorhynchus spirurus

Several were at La Leona Lodge on 16.2. and 1 Ind. on a single tree in the scrubland near La Gamba.



Black-hooded Antshrike

Thamnophilus bridgesi

A very common, vocal, noisy and confident species, seen only around La Leona Lodge-Corcovado national park.

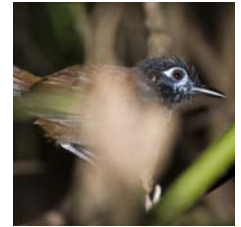


Russet Antshrike *Thamnistes anabatinus*
1-2 Ind. on 16.2. in La Leona Lodge.

Chestnut-backed Antbird

Myrmeciza exsul

Two observations of one pair each around La Leona Lodge.



Bare-crowned Antbird

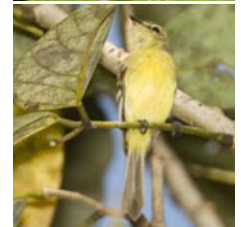
Gymnocichla nudiceps

One female was seen in the forest of Esquinas Lodge on 22.2.

Slaty Antwren *Myrmotherula schisticolor*
1-2 Ind. (possibly + juveniles) were in the forest above La Leona Lodge on 16.2.



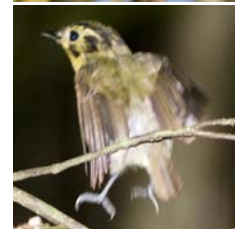
Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola*
One was at La Gamba on 20.2.



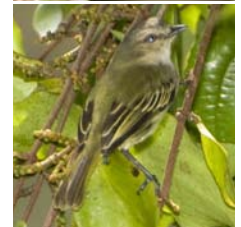
Golden-crowned Spadebill

Platyrinchus coronatus

Two sightings of 1-2 Ind. in the forest of La Leona Lodge.



Paltry Tyrannulet *Zimmerius vilissimus*
One single bird was near La Gamba on 22.2.



Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet

Camptostoma obsoletum

One was photographed at the parking lot nearby La Leona Lodge on 15.2. and caused confusion amongst CR-experts. On 23.2. 1 Ind. was in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba.

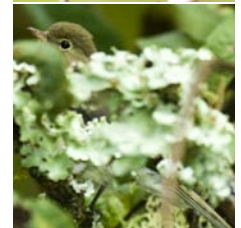


Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*
A single bird was in the scrubland in front of the biological station La Gamba on 23.2.



Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzii*

Two sightings of single birds in and around Trogon Lodge.



Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaius*
2-3 singing males were in Valle Bonito on 21.2.

Yellow-olive Flycatcher
Tolmomyias sulphruescens
On 19.2./23.2. 1 Ind. was in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba.

Olive-striped Flycatcher
Mionectes olivaceus
In the forest of Esquinas Lodge, 1 Ind. was photographed on 8.2.

Common Tody-Flycatcher
Todirostrum cinerum
Several observations around La Gamba. Maximum were 2 Ind. in the trees along the road from La Gamba to the biological station.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher
Mionectes oleagineus
A juvenile was photographed from Bird Trail/ Esquinas Lodge on 20.2.

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher
Terenotriccus erythrurus
1 Ind. was at La Gamba on 20.2. and G. Kunz photographed 1 Ind. at La Sirena on 14.2.

Sulphur-rumped/Black-tailed Flycatcher
Myiobius sulphureipygius/atricaudus
One Ind. of either of those two species was at the edge of the forest of La Leona Lodge.

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*
Two observations of 1-2 Ind. at La Leona Lodge and near La Gamba.

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serophaga cinerea*
One was foraging on rocks in Savegre River, seen from the bridge downstream of Trogon Lodge.

Eye-ringed Flatbill
Rhynchocyclus brevirostris
Several Ind. were seen on 16.2. at La Leona Lodge.

Ochraceous Pewee *Contopus ochraceus*
3 Ind. perched on a wire in the forest above Trogon Lodge.

Tropical Pewee *Contopus cinereus*
One was near La Gamba on 19.2.

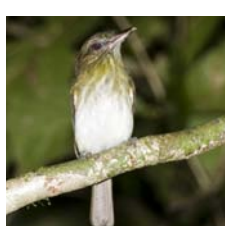
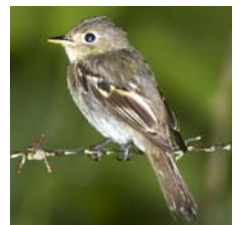
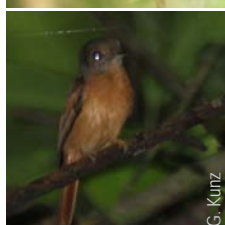
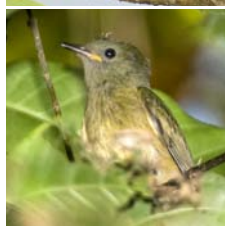
Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens*
One perched on a barbed wire along the road in front of the biological station La Gamba on 22.2.

Yellowish Flycatcher
Empidonax flavescens
A pair was showing well at the small bridge leading into the forest from Savegre Lodge at both visits.

Black-capped Flycatcher
Empidonax atriceps
A pair was seen regularly around the bungalows in Trogon Lodge.

Tufted Flycatcher
Mitrephanes phaeocercus
Several observations in the forest above Trogon Lodge. Very similar to Ochraceous Pewee!

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*
A single individual sits on a road near La Gamba and then flies into a garden on 22.2.



Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*
1 Ind. in Savegre Lodge on 8.2.



Great Crested Flycatcher
Myiarchus crinitus

One is in the trees of the abandoned tent camp, nearby La Leona Lodge, on 12.2.



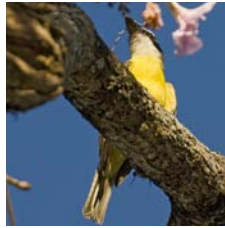
Panama Flycatcher
Myiarchus panamensis

On 13.2. one shows in the mangroves of the heronry in Puerto Jimenez.



Boat-billed Flycatcher
Megarhynchus pitangua

At least two pairs were in the central park/ Alajuela and one flew by in Valle Bonito. Probably I took the species for Great Kiskadees some times...



Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Quite common on Osa peninsula and around La Gamba, also seen in Alajuela.



Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*
Very common in Puerto Jimenez, also seen around La Gamba.



Grey-capped Flycatcher
Myiozetetes granadensis
Quite common around Esquinas Lodge/ biological station La Gamba.



Streaked Flycatcher
Myiodynastes maculatus
Single birds and small groups were seen in Puerto Jimenez and La Gamba. A family with fledged juveniles was at La Leona Lodge.



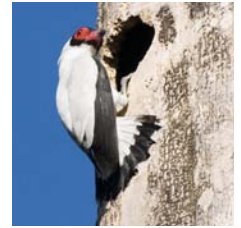
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*
Common in all habitats and seen at nearly all altitudes.



Rose-throated Becard
Pachyramphus aglaiae
An adult and a 2cy male were in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba on 20.2.



Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*
Two pairs occupied nesting holes in palms (excavated by Hoffmann's Woodpecker?) in the central park of Alajuela.



Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor*
Pairs and single birds were seen rarely around La Gamba.



Three-wattled Bellbird
Procnias tricarunculatus

Heard in Trogon and Savegre Lodges and maybe somewhere in the lowlands, no sighting. Comparison with sound-recordings made me insecure, though Black-faced Solitaire apparently sounds very similar - maybe we didn't hear any true bellbird..

Blue-crowned Manakin *Pipra coronata*
A pair was seen several times at the same spot from a trail nearby La Leona Lodge and a single male was in corcovado national park.



Red-capped Manakin *Pipra mentalis*
Two pairs were seen frequently in trees close to the beach of La Leona Lodge. Females and juveniles were observed from the trails around Esquinas Lodge.



Orange-collared Manakin
Manacus aurantiacus
Several observations of females in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba and from adjacent trails.



Tawny-crowned Greenlet
Hylophilus ochraceiceps
1-3 Ind. were in the forest above La Leona Lodge on 16.2.



Blue-and-white Swallow
Pygochelidon cyanoleuca
The only species of swallow in the mountainous regions. Common around Savegre Lodge.



Mangrove Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea*
Seen at La Leona Lodge and on pastures/ agricultural land between the Lodge and Puerto Jimenez.

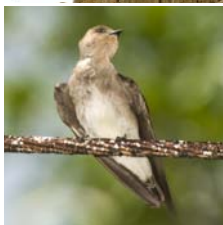


Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*
Common around La Gamba and on Osa peninsula.

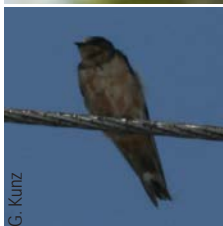
Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*
Around 10 Ind. were at Valle Bonito on 21.2, singles in Puerto Jimenez. A pair was seen fighting for a tree hole with a Red-crowned Woodpecker on the way from La Leona Lodge to Puerto Jimenez.



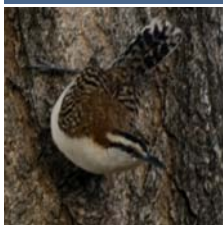
Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*
About 5 Ind. hunted over a big river, seen on the way from Trogon Lodge to Osa peninsula. 10-20 Ind. sat on wires in La Gamba town.



Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
3 Ind. were seen somewhere on the way to La Gamba on 18.2.



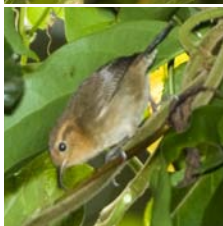
Rufous-naped Wren *Campylorhynchus rufinucha*
A pair was in the central park/Alajuela.



Riverside Wren *Thryothorus semibadius*
Common in the forests around La Leona Lodge and in Corcovado national park. Also seen nesting at the biological station and in La Gamba.



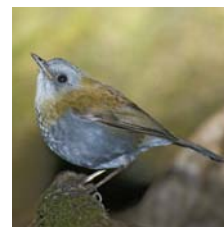
Ochraceous Wren *Troglodytes ochraceus*
One single observation in the forest above Trogon Lodge.



House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*
Common around buildings in La Gamba and La Leona Lodge.



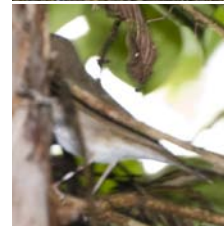
Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus gracilirostris*
One was found dead at Puya marsh/Cerro de la Muerte. Very confident Ind. were seen along streams in Trogon and Savegre Lodges.



Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus frantzii*
A pair was seen only once at a small brook just around the bungalows of Trogon Lodge.



Swainson's/Gray-cheeked Thrush *Catharus ustulatus/minimus*
An unidentified small thrush was seen in very dense vegetation from Fila Trail/Esquinas Lodge on 23.2. The photo just isn't sufficient...



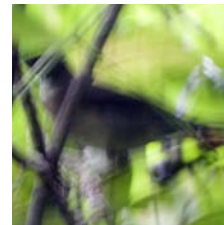
Black-faced Solitaire *Myadestes melanops*
One encounter with a curious Ind. in the forest close to Trogon Lodge.



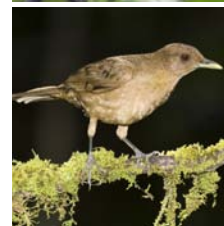
Sooty Robin *Turdus nigrescens*
A worthy substitute for our European Black-bird. Seen often in Trogon and Savegre Lodges, one nest found.



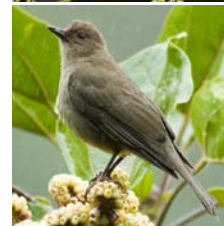
White-throated Robin *Turdus assimilis*
One Ind. seen shortly from Fila Trail/Esquinas Lodge on 23.2.



Clay-colored Robin *Turdus grayi*
The national bird of Costa Rica was abundant in Alajuela and in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba. Also seen in La Leona Lodge.



Mountain Robin *Turdus plebejus*
Quite common in Trogon Lodge. A small group was seen at Puya marsh/Cerro de la Muerte.



American Dipper *Cinclus mexicanus*
Several sightings of single birds between Trogon and Savegre Lodges.

Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher

Ptilogonys caudatus

About 5 Ind. were seen briefly at Puya marsh/Cerro de la Muerte. Several short sightings in Trogon Lodge. One, very confident male was seen well at the restaurant in Savegre Lodge.



Flame-throated Warbler *Parula gutturalis*

2 Ind. were spotted on the way down from the Quetzal-spot at Los Lagos.



Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia*

Several observations at Alajuela and Puerto Jimenez. Always males of „migrant race“.



Chestnut-sided Warbler

Dendroica pensylvanica

A handful of sightings at La Leona Lodge and biological station La Gamba. An apparently very young juvenile bird, looking like an adult male caused confusion on Ozelot Trail/Esquinas Lodge.



Black-throated Green Warbler

Dendroica virens

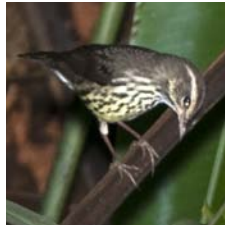
A group of three birds visited higher trees in the garden of Trogon Lodge regularly.



Northern Waterthrush

Seiurus noveboracensis

Seen quite often along rivers and streams at La Leona Lodge and around La Gamba, also at ditches (Puerto Jimenez) and small ponds (biological station).



Wilson's Warbler *Wilsonia pusilla*

Quite common at Trogon, Savegre and La Leona Lodges but skulking and seldom seen long and well.



Hooded Warbler *Wilsonia citrina*

A female was seen in a single tree on the road from La Leona Lodge to Puerto Jimenez on 15.2.



Mourning Warbler *Oporornis philadelphia*

A male was in the gardens of the biological station La Gamba on 23.2.

Buff-rumped Warbler

Phaeothlypis fulvicauda

Seen regularly along streams around La Leona and Esquinas Lodges. Max. 2 Ind.



Collared Redstart *Myioborus torquatus*

Many sightings at Trogon and Savegre Lodges. A very tame Ind. visited the terrace of the restaurant in Savegre Lodge regularly and even flew inside the building to collect spiders from Whiskey-bottles.



Rufous-capped Warbler

Basileuterus rutrifrons

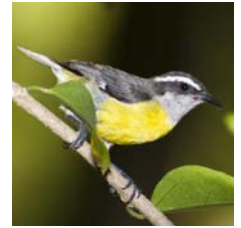
One short observation at Trogon Lodge (may be questioned regarding the wrong habitat and lack of a record shot).

Wrentrush *Zeledonia coronata*

A single Ind. was seen in the forest above Trogon Lodge. Skulking at its best!

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

Common in the lowlands, especially at La Leona and Esquinas Lodges.



Black-cheeked Ant-Tanager

Habia atrimaxillaris

Probably a pair (only the male was seen well) was stationary at the junction of Fila and Bird Trail/Esquinas Lodge on 22./23.2.



Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager

Chlorospingus pileatus

Common in Trogon and Savegre Lodges. Small groups were foraging in the gardens, collecting fruit and insects, also from the insect-attracting-lamps.



White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus*

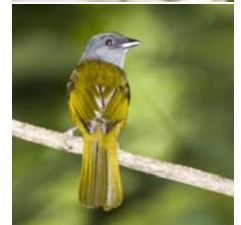
On 21.2. a pair was at Valle Bonito, on 22.2. a single male close to La Gamba.



Gray-headed Tanager

Eucometis penicillata

2 Ind. were seen in the forest at La Leona Lodge, 1 Ind. was at the compost heap of Esquinas Lodge.



Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*

Only males were seen at La Leona Lodge, Puerto Jimenez and biological station La Gamba.



Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*

A male was in the treetops above Trogon Lodge.

Flame-colored Tanager *Piranga bidentata*

Common at Savegre Lodge, also seen near Trogon Lodge.



White-throated Shrike-Tanager

Lano leucothroax

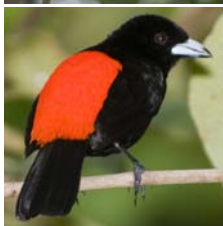
A male was seen in a treefall-gap at La Leona Lodge on 16.2.



Cherrie's Tanager

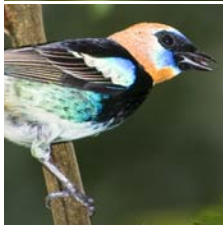
Ramphocoelus costaricensis

Common everywhere in the lowlands, abundant (probably the most common species) around La Gamba/Esquinas Lodge/ biological station.



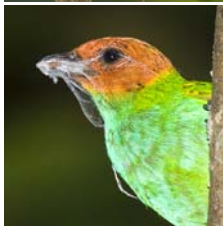
Golden-hooded Tanager *Tangara larvata*

A beautiful pair visited the feeder at the biological station regularly.



Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*

Several sightings in the gardens of the biological station, a pair was seen collecting spider webs (for nesting?).



Silver-throated Tanager

Tangara icterocephala

Seen only once from the terrace of the restaurant at Savegre Lodge.



Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

Common everywhere, except for Trogon Lodge. Mostly seen foraging in pairs.



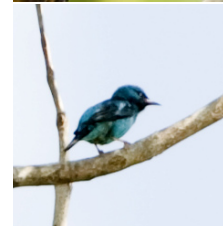
Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

Common in lowlands.



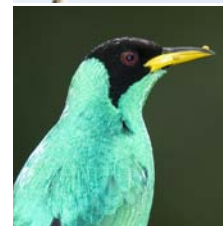
Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

On 19.2. some pairs were seen around the „Laguna"/Esquinas Lodge.



Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*

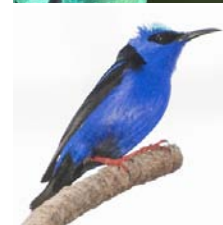
A pair regularly visits the feeder at the biological station La Gamba.



Red-legged Honeycreeper

Cyanerpes cyaneus

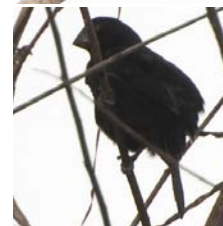
Hard to see, but common everywhere on Osa and in the La Gamba region. Always seen in pairs.



Thick-billed Seedfinch

Oryzoborus funereus

A pair was in Valle Bonito on 21.2.



Variable Seedeater *Sporophila americana*

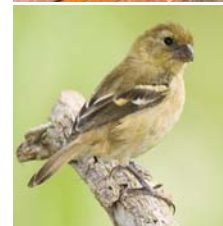
Abundant around La Gamba and Puerto Jimenez.



White-collared Seedeater

Sporophila torqueola

A female was found in the pastures between Puerto Jimenez and La Leona Lodge on 15.2.



Yellow-bellied Seedeater

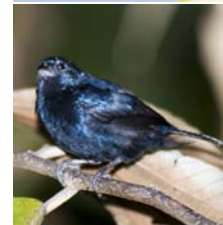
Sporophila nigricollis

About 20 Ind. were in meadows and adjacent trees between the biological station and La Gamba on 20.2.



Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

Seen on on Osa peninsula and around La Gamba in small numbers.



Slaty Flowerpiercer *Diglossa plumbea*
 Pairs were seen regularly feeding on flowers in the gardens of Trogon and Savegre Lodges.



Large-footed Finch *Pezopetes capitalis*
 A tail-less individual fooled me for two days and kept its ID secret. Singles were seen regularly from then on in the gardens of Trogon Lodge.



Yellow-tighed Finch *Pselliophorus tibialis*
 Two times pairs and a single juvenile were encountered in Trogon and Savegre Lodges.



Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantirostris*
 Pairs were seen several times around the biological station La Gamba.



Black-striped Sparrow *Arremonops conirostris*
 Regularly seen on Osa and around the biological station in small numbers.



Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*
 Abundant in higher regions (Trogon Lodge, Savegre Lodge, Cerro de la Muerte).



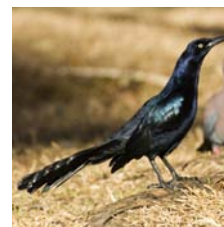
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
 Exclusively seen in Puerto Jimenez.

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus*
 One was near the biological station on 20.2.

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*
 Several sightings, a pair visited the biological station's feeder daily.



Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*
 Common in the streets of Alajuela, Puerto Jimenez and other urbanized areas.



Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus*
 One was at „Laguna"/Esquinas Lodge on 19.2. and about 20 Ind. on 22.2. close to La Gamba.

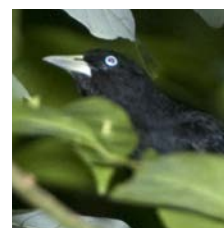


Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*
 Pairs and small groups were seen rarely in Valle Bonito, around La Gamba and at Rio Tarcoles.



Yellow-billed Cacique *Amblycercus holosericeus*
 One visited the feeder at the biological station several times.

Scarlet-rumped Cacique *Cacicus uropygialis*
 2-3 Ind. were watched in the treefall-gap above La Leona Lodge on 16.2.



Montezuma Oropendola *Psarocolius montezuma*
 One gets little attention by the crowd as it flies by at the crocodiles of Rio Tarcoles on 24.2.

Yellow-bellied Siskin *Carduelis xanthogastra*
 Only one female was seen in the known roosting tree at the entrance of Savegre Lodge. A small flock was photographed by R. Kunz close to Trogon Lodge.



White-vented Euphonia *Euphonia minuta*
 A pair was at La Gamba on 22.2.

Spot-crowned Euphonia *Euphonia imitans*
 At least a pair was seen every day from one of the trails around Esquinas Lodge (20.-23.2.).



Species seen and photographed by other members of the group



Spotted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus guttatus*
Trogon Lodge, 7.2.2010. Photo: B. Emmerer



Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
La Sirena, 14.2.2010. Photo: G. Kunz



Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*
La Sirena, 14.2.2010. Photo: G. Kunz



White-whiskered Puffbird
Melacoptila panamensis
La Sirena, 13.2.2010 Photo: G. Kunz



Northern Barred-Woodcreeper
Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae
La Sirena, 14.2.2010. Photo: G. Kunz



Bicolored Antbird *Gymnopithys leucaspis*
La Sirena, 14.2.2010. Photo: G. Kunz

Other wildlife, too amazing to get no attention..

