

Christmas in Costa Rica | Species List

December 20 – 28, 2023 | with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Drew Haffenden with local guide Abelardo. Our clients included David, Julia, Wanda, Spat, Pat, Maita, John, Cindy, Linda and Sherryl

Summary: Our group had a wide interest in natural history which always makes for a very interesting tour. We recorded 199 species of birds, 15 species of mammals and 10 reptiles and amphibians. Butterflies and dragonflies were checked, a mating pair of millipedes drew attention and photos as did a Dung Beetle rolling its future nursery across the carpark at Casa dowii. Mammal highlights were the Honduran White Bats and a White-nosed Coati in residence at the fruit feeder at Selva Verde. Four Resplendent Quetzales, including a male who flew by with tail streaming, of course was a thrill. Two Scarlet Macaws in a low tree, wet in the rain and preening each other was a great sighting as were stunning close views of White-collared Manakin. A stunning Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher stands out, being new for everyone, though the very close view of Long-tailed Silky-flycatchers ignoring us while feeding was hard to beat. Excellent views of Flame-throated Warblers, a Costa Rica near endemic which just pushes into a very small area of Panama, and is restricted to high altitude, were a definite bonus.

The eBird link below details the 199 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Christmas in Costa Rica | December 20 – 28, 2023 | eBird Trip Report](#)

MAMMALS: — (15)

Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni* — (2) both on the grounds of Selva Verde. One was very low down – we could have touched it - and so tightly curled there was debate about which end was which!

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso* — (11) hanging low on a tree along the Sarapiquí River.

Honduran White Bat *Ectophylla alba* — (6) under a Heliconia leaf at Pierella Gardens

Common Tent-making Bat *Uroderma bilobatum* — (7) under a Heliconia leaf whose midrib had been chewed by the bats to make the blades droop.

Greater Sac-winged Bat *Saccopteryx bilineata* — (2) two on a building wall at Estación Biológica La Selva-OTS.

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* — (1) seen by most at Selva Verde.

Variegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides* — (8) one to three seen each day at Selva Verde.

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis* — (6) seen at Trogon Lodge and San Gerardo de Dota.

Central American Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi* — (2) heard only Selva Verde and Estación Biológica La Selva-OTS.

Mantled Howler Monkey *Alouatta palliata* — (common) seen and heard daily at Selva Verde.

Common Raccoon *Procyon lotor* — (1) one seen by Sherryl and David with a White-nosed Coati Selva Verde.

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica* — (2) the one seen by Sherry and David and one each day in a tree hanging over the fruit feeder, occasionally coming down for easy pickings.

Dusky Rice-rat *Melanomys caliginosus* — (4) two to three seen daily under fruit feeder Selva Verde, one at Casa Dowii.

Climbing rat. — (3) seen climbing a fruiting tree at Selva Verde.

Coyote *Canis latrans* — (2) heard at Trogon Lodge.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: — (9)

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus* — **(3)** Sarapiquí River

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana* — **(common)** many seen at Selva Verde, Estación Biológica La Selva-OTS and along Sarapiquí River

Spiny-tailed Lizard — **(1)** along the trail at Paraíso Quetzal Lodge

Anolis spp. — **(several)** two species seen at Selva Verde.

Black River Turtle *Rhinoclemmys funereal* — **(2)** on logs in different parts of Sarapiquí River.

White-lipped Mud Turtle *Kinosternon leucostomum* — **(1)** Selva Verde Lodge.

Red-eyed Tree Frog *Agalychnis callidryas* — **(1)** Found in a bush next to the dining area at Selva Verde.

Strawberry Poison Dart Frog *Oophaga pumilio* — **(4)** seen over a couple of days in leaf litter Selva Verde.

Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog *Dendrobates auratus* — **(1)** one graciously climbed up on a log for every to see and photograph.

OTHER

Zebra Longwing

Sapho Longwing

Swallowtail sp.

Leaf-cutter Ant

Dung Beetle

Millipede