

Bolivia: Birding and Nature Species List | October 27 – November 16, 2024 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Greg Butcher with Michel Livet, owner of Bolivia Andes & Amazonia, in-country bird guide Hugo Santa Cruz, in-country culture guide Cesar Renjel, and participants Andrew, Emily, John, Karen, and Tamara.

We sampled a wonderfully varied country over three weeks, flying to Santa Cruz, Trinidad and Barba Azul (for the extension), Cochabamba, and La Paz. For those on the extension, we visited two reserves focused on Critically Endangered Macaws, Blue-throated and Red-fronted. The Blue-throated Macaw Reserve (Barba Azul) is in the Beni Savanna, also known as Llanos de Moxos. We drove from Santa Cruz to Refugio Los Volcanes, at the edge of Amboro National Park, often described as a meeting place of 4 biomes. We visited Refugio de Los Colibries (Hummingbird Refuge) before staying overnight at El Pueblito overlooking Samaipata. We made two productive stops en route to the Red-fronted Macaw Reserve and two more on the way back. We stopped at KM 305 both ways. After our second night at El Pueblito, we visited Tucuman Parrot Reserve, then returned for a night in Santa Cruz before our flight to Cochabamba. From Cochabamba, we drove over 14,000 feet on Cerro Tunari. We flew into the La Paz airport, which is really in El Alto, then drove to Lake Titicaca. We visited Island of the Sun, the Tiwanaku and Puma Punku ruins, and had our last birding trip overlooking La Paz at Bosquesillo Auquisamana.

BIRDS

416 species were recorded of which six were endemic (out of 17 Bolivian endemics): Cliff Parakeet (eBird still has this species lumped with Monk Parakeet), Blue-throated and Red-fronted Macaws, Bolivian Earthcreeper, Bolivian Blackbird, and Cochabamba Mountain-Finch. Concerning conservation concern, BirdLife lists two species we saw as Critically Endangered (Blue-throated and Red-fronted Macaws), one as Endangered (Titicaca Grebe), and four as Vulnerable (Lesser Yellowlegs, Andean Condor, Military Macaw, and Cock-tailed Tyrant. The rarest bird we saw (with only 209 eBird registrations ever) was Bolivian Recurvebill.

The eBird link below details the 416 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.

[Bolivia: Birding and Nature | Oct 27 – Nov 16, 2024 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip

Species Common Name *Scientific Name*

MAMMALS: — (17 species)

Six-banded or Yellow Armadillo *Euphractus sexcinctus* – Barba Azul, October 29

Southern Tamandua *Tamandua tetradactyla* — a medium sized anteater, Barba Azul, October 30

Southern Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus spadiceus* – Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Bolivian Squirrel *Sciurus ignitus* – Refugio Los Volcanes or Refugio de Los Colibries, November 5

Brown Agouti *Dasyprocta variegata* – a small, hunch-backed rodent, Barba Azul, October 31, and Refugio Los Volcanes, November 4

Montane Guinea Pig *Cavia tschudii* — Cochabamba, Cerro Tunari, November 9-11

Capybara *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris* — the world's largest rodent, with a resident pack of about 20 at Barba Azul, October 29-31

White-eared Titi *Plecturocebus donacophilus* — a very small monkey, one of 35+ species of titis (!), Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Black-tailed Marmoset *Mico melanurus* – another small monkey, one of 25 species of marmosets, also at Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Brown Capuchin *Sapajus apella* — a medium-sized monkey, one of 24 species of capuchins, at Refugio Los Volcanes or Refugio de Los Colibries, November 5

Black-and-gold Howler Monkey *Alouatta caraya* — a large social monkey, heard more often than seen, at Barba Azul October 29-31

South American Coati *Nasua nasua* — a very social relative of the raccoon, Barba Azul, October 31

Feral Pig *Sus scrofa* – Barba Azul, October 29-31

Llama *Lama glama* — the domesticated version of the Guanaco, bigger than the Alpaca, Cerro Tunari, November 11, and Lake Titicaca, November 13-14

Alpaca *Vicugna pacos* — the domesticated version of the Vicuna, smaller than the Llama, Cerro Tunari, November 11, and Lake Titicaca November 13-14

Pampas Deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus* – rare and local due to hunting pressure, a very small deer, Barba Azul, October 30-31

Marsh Deer *Blastocerus dichotomus* – rare and local due to hunting pressure, a large deer, Barba Azul, October 30-31

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: — (9 species)

Yellow-headed Sideneck Turtle *Podocnemis unifilis* — Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Red-footed Tortoise *Chelonoidis carbonarius* — Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Yacare Caiman *Caiman yacare* — Barba Azul, October 31, and Santa Cruz Botanic Garden, November 2

Black Caiman *Melanosuchus niger* – Barba Azul, October 30-31

Tropical House Gecko *Hemidactylus mabouia* — Refugio Los Volcanes, November 3

Black Lava Lizard *Tropidurus melanopleurus* — Red-fronted Macaw Lodge, November 5-6

Spiny Lava Lizard *Tropidurus spinulosus* — Red-fronted Macaw Lodge, November 7

Giant Ameiva or Amazon Racerunner *Ameiva ameiva* — Santa Cruz, October 28, Barba Azul, October 31, and Refugio Los Volcanes, November 3

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina* — Barba Azul Lodge, October 31 & November 1, Refugio Los Volcanes, November 3