

Grand Oaxaca: Birds, Culture & Crafts Species List | February 1 – 12, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Pat Lueders with local guide Eric Martinez. Our clients included Bill, Bobbie, Eileen, Gary, Gwen, Jan, Kevin, Ann, Tony & Janet

This comprehensive tour of the Oaxaca Valley began in Oaxaca City with birding trips to a variety of ecosystems found in the valley and the surrounding mountain range of the Sierra Norte. Cultural activities included a tour of downtown Oaxaca City, a visit to the village of Teotitlan, known for its heritage of weaving for a demonstration of the dyeing and weaving of rugs. We visited Santa Maria del Tule to see the world's largest Montezuma Cypress and enjoyed a walking tour of the Zapotec archaeological site of Monte Alban. The tour moved to San Jose del Pacifico in the Sierra Madre del Sur mountain range to bird the Pine-Oak forest habitat. The final days were spent in Hualaco, birding the Tropical Deciduous Forest, the lowland deciduous forest, and to take an ocean birding trip in the Pacific Ocean.

VOTED FAVORITE BIRD OF THE TRIP: ORANGE-BREASTED BUNTING & RED WARBLER (TIE)

BIRDS: 248 species were recorded of which 8 were heard only, 30 were endemic and 3 were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 248 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.

[Grand Oaxaca: Birds, Culture & Crafts | February 1-12, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

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

MAMMALS (8):

Red-bellied Squirrel *Sciurus aureogaster* — Seen often at many of the mountain locations

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* — Seen crossing the road on drive in the Sierra Madre mountains

Pantropical Spotted Dolphin *Stenella attenuata* — Great looks at a number of this dolphin species during the ocean birding

Central American Spinner Dolphin *Stenella longirostris* — Distinguished by its triangular fin, exciting to see a number of this species spinning while jumping close to our boat on the ocean birding trip

Common Long-beaked Dolphin *Delphinus delphis* — White/gray underneath, many followed close to our boat on the ocean birding trip

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae* — At least 6 were seen blowing and surfacing in the area of our boat and diving, stirring up schools of fish creating a frenzy of feeding by the seabirds.

Bryde's Whale *Balaenoptera bryei* — Maybe 5-6 seen spouting and diving around the schools of fish on our ocean trip

Mexican Free-tailed Bat *Tadarida brasiliensis* — Seen flying around our restaurant on the final evening of the tour

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (10):

- Olive Ridley Sea Turtle** *Lepidochelys olivacea* — Close views of 5 or 6, including two together, on our ocean birding trip
- Asian House Gecko (I)** *Hemidactylus frenatus* — Heard vocalizing and seen often
- Western Spiny-tailed Iguana** *Ctenosaura pectinata* — Seen on our walks at the Pluma Hildalgo area
- Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana* — Many found on the concrete wall on return from the visit to the Copalita River
- Clouded Anole** *Anolis nebulosus* — Seen the first day in the Oaxaca Valley
- Longtail Spiny Lizard** *Sceloporus siniferus* — Seen on the walk at Piedra Azul
- Southern Crevice Spiny Lizard** *Sceloporus aureolus* — Seen sunning on the rocks on the walk at Piedra Azul
- Giant Oceanic Manta Ray** *Mobula birostris*---How exciting to see this largest type of ray in the world along side our boat on the ocean birding trip!
- Jumping Mobula Ray** *Mobula elasmobranchs*---First we would see the silver fins, then we would often see many of these rays jump high in the air on our ocean birding trip
- Yellow-bellied Sea Snake** *Hydrophis platurus*---We saw two of this extremely venomous species of snake close to our boat on the ocean birding trip

BUTTERFLIES (21):

- Dorantes Longtail** *Thorybes dorantes* — Seen in good numbers on the walks in the Sierra Madre del Sur
- Julia Heliconian** *Dryas iulia* — Most seen on our walk at Pluma Hildago
- Zebra Longwing** *Heliconius charithonia* — Seen fairly often along the road in the Pluma Hildago area
- Banded Peacock** *Anartia fatima* — Seen on blooming flowers in the Pluma Hildago area
- Mexican Fritillary** *Euptoieta hegesia* — Seen with many other species in Pluma Hildago
- Great Southern White** *Ascia monuste* — Seen flying along the roads in most areas
- Glaucous Cracker** *Hamadryas glauconome* — Great photos resting on tree trunks on our walk at the private eco-reserve near Huatulaco
- Gray Cracker** *Hamadryas februa*---Seen in the same area as the Glaucous Cracker on our walk at the private eco-reserve
- Anna's Eighty-Eight** *Diaethria anna* — Coming to puddle in a stream of water at the Oro del Sur coffee plantation
- Navy Eighty-Eight** *Diaethria astala*---Coming to the water stream with other butterfly species at the Oro del Sur coffee plantation
- Magnificent Swallowtail** *Papilio garamas* — Seen flying on our walk at Las Guacamayas
- Bordered Patch** *Chlosyne lacinia* — Seen with many other species at the blooming bushes at Pluma Hildago
- Mexican Silverspot** *Dione moneta* — Seen often at many locations
- Marine Blue** *Leptotes marina*---Seen on our walks at San Jose del Pacifico
- Confusing Sister** *Adelpha iphicleola*---Seen with many species along the road in San Jose del Pacifico
- Rusty-tipped Page** *Siptoeta epaphus*---This species looks stunning as it flies, seen on walks at San Jose del Pacifico
- Juno Heliconia** *Dione juno*---Seen on a walk along the road in San Jose del Pacifico
- Crimson Patch** *Chlosyne janais*---Seen on the blooming bushes in Pluma Hildago
- Karwinski's Beauty** *Smyrna karwinskii*---Nice photos of this interesting species seen at Pluma Hildago
- Guatemala Tagosa** *Tagosa guatemalena*---Seen around the Oro del Sur coffee plantation
- Silver-studded Leafwing** *Hypna clytemnestra*---Seen on the walk at the private eco-reserve, good photo