

World-class Birding in Colombia's Coffee Triangle

Main Tour: January 26 – February 9, 2025

Montezuma extension: January 22 – 26, 2025

Species List | with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Greg Butcher with local guide Manuel Espejo. Our clients included Bev, two Davids, Geri, two Nancys, Neil, Peter, Scott, and Susan.

Our first hotel was Sonesta Pereira (4,600 feet elevation), in a garden-like space with more than 30 species. For the pre-tour extension, we drove to Montezuma Rainforest Lodge (4,400'), where we were hosted by the now famous (because of a great article in *Birding* magazine) Michelle Tapasco. The lodge features the most diverse hummingbird feeder of the tour and a steep elevational gradient (up to 8,500') that we covered over 3 days (luckily, mostly walking downhill). After picking up the rest of the group in Pereira, we drove to Casa Bourbon (5,600') to explore coffee and soup culture and the birds of the Central Andean Cordillera. Our next stop was Tinamu Birding Lodge, with excellent tanager and hummingbird feeders and a Golden-collared Manakin lek. Then it was on to Hotel Termales del Ruiz (11,000'), with very different hummingbirds at their feeder, and our drive to 13,500' for the Buffy Helmetcrest (hummingbird). After 2 nights, we headed south to Hotel Sonesta Cali (3,340') and the birds of the Western Andean Cordillera and the Cauca Valley. A highlight there was Dona Dora's, with an Andean Cock-of-the-Rock lek and Toucan Barbets visiting the feeders.

BIRDS:

341 species were recorded (377 including the extension) including 49 hummingbirds and 62 tanagers (including many only recently identified as tanagers because of DNA analysis). We also had 41 flycatcher species, a group not often emphasized because they aren't all as colorful as most hummingbirds and tanagers.

The eBird links below detail the 341 species of birds our group observed during the main tour or the 377 species we saw on the main tour plus the Montezuma extension. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the lists to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Main Tour: January 26 to February 9, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

[Main Tour w/Montezuma extension: January 22 - February 9, 2025 | 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 — (# of species)

MAMMALS(6):

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* — We saw singles of this species almost daily during the extension and several times during the main tour.

Forest Rabbit or **Common Tapeti** *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* – We saw this rabbit on our last day in the Central Andean Cordillera. Different authors recognize different species; this is the older, combined name. It is somewhat smaller with smaller ears than the Eastern Cottontail, which can also be found in Colombia.

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis* — This was by far the most common mammal on the tour, seen on at least 8 days.

Andean Squirrel *Sciurus pulcheranii* — This species is endemic to the Andes of Colombia. We saw one individual.

Western Dwarf Squirrel *Microsciurus mimulus* – We saw this truly tiny squirrel on our last day of the extension, on Cerro Montezuma.

Tayra *Eira barbara* — A tayra hung out at the hummingbird feeders at Montezuma Rainforest Lodge and was seen several times.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (6):

Cauca Poison Frog *Andinobates bombetes* — We saw this species at the Pereira Botanical Garden.

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina* – We saw this species at Hacienda Venecia.

Anole *Anolis* — We had an anole of unknown species at the Pereira Botanical Garden.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana* — The Botanical Garden was good for herps; we also had an iguana there. We had our first iguana at Hotel Sonesta Pereira before the extension even began.

Black Musurana *Clelia clelia* – We saw this snake on the extension at Montezuma.

Ground snake – We had an unidentified ground snake at Otun-Quimbaya.

Long green snake – We had a friendly long green snake on the boardwalk on the last day at Laguna de Sonso.

OTHER INTERESTING SIGHTINGS:

An amazing number of orchids, both large and tiny. Thank you, Manuel and Senor Chorizo,

Morpho Butterfly

Tarantula of the family Theraphosidae