

# Costa Rica: Birding Across the Continental Divide Species List | February 15 – 24, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by NJ guide Kent Skaggs, with local guide Jose Armando Obando. Our 10 participants were: Dana & Coleman, Jane & Mike, Linda & Mike, Maxa, Peggy & Randy and Wendy**

**Summary:** Bird and nature enthusiasts from California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Oregon and Ontario, Canada, traveled to Costa Rica to experience both the Caribbean and Pacific sides of the country and to see the birds and other wildlife that live there. Starting in the Central Valley, we headed north to Cinchona before dropping down into the Caribbean lowlands to the Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí area where we visited the famous La Selva Biological Station. Then it was west to the Arenal Observatory Lodge for a couple of days, a couple more near Monteverde before finishing our adventure along the Pacific coast near Tarcoles. As expected, birds were plentiful during the tour including 21 species of hummingbirds, 22 species of flycatchers, 18 species of warblers and 22 species of tanagers and their allies, plus several species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and butterflies. Not to mention the beautiful landscape we traveled through and the wonderful hospitality we experienced at every stop. For a detailed list of what was seen and where, please keep reading.

**BIRDS (278 species):** The eBird link below details the 278 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 was seen and how many.

[Costa Rica: Birding Across the Continental Divide | Feb 15-24, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

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

**MAMMALS (12 species):**

**Northern Tamandua** *Tamandua mexicana*— One seen crossing the entrance road to Arenal Observatory Lodge.

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth** *Bradypus variegatus*— One seen high up in a tree at Sendero Bogarin.

**Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth** *Choloepus hoffmanni*— A partially obscured individual was seen resting in a tree along a road in the Monteverde area.

**Proboscis Bat** *Rhynchonycteris naso*— One seen roosting on a tree trunk in Carara National Park.

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*— Fairly common, seen at multiple locations.

**Variegated Squirrel** *Sciurus variegatoides*— Common, seen at multiple locations.

**Central American Spider Monkey** *Ateles geoffroyi*— Seen on consecutive days at the Arenal Observatory Lodge, once on a trail and also from the viewing deck.

**White-faced Capuchin** *Cebus capucinus*— Heard from a trail at the Arenal Observatory Lodge and seen at Carara National Park.

**Mantled Howler Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*— Seen at the Arenal Observatory Lodge from one of the trails and also heard there. Also seen and heard at Cerro Lodge.

**Common Raccoon** *Procyon lotor*— Two seen on exposed mudflats as we navigated a channel through the mangroves during the Tarcoles River boat tour.

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*— Seen at multiple locations.

**White-tailed Deer** *Odocoileus virginianus*— One seen at Carara National Park.

#### **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (7 species):**

**American Crocodile** *Crocodylus acutus*— Several seen during the Tarcoles River boat tour.

**Black Spiny-tailed Iguana** *Ctenosaura similis*— One seen at Cerro Lodge.

**Helmeted Basilisk (Iguana)** *Corytophanes cristatus*— One seen at Carara National Park.

**Eyelash Viper** *Bothriechis schlegelii*— One seen hiding out in some epiphytes on a tree trunk at Arenal Observatory Lodge.

**Neotropical Bird Snake (Bird-eating Snake)** *Phrynonax poecilonotus*— One seen along a trail at the Children's Eternal Rainforest.

**Green and Black Poison Dart Frog** *Dendrobates auratus*— One seen at Carara National Park.

**Giant Toad** *Rhinella horribilis*— One seen at Cerro Lodge.