

Panama 3 Great Lodges Species List | July 6 – 18, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by Rick Weiman with clients Sharon, Sheila, Paul, Dave, Diane, Rich, and Daphne.

Our “green season” Panama tour visited all three of the Canopy Family’s lodges: the Canopy Camp in the Darién, the Canopy Tower in the former Canal Zone outside Panama City, and the Canopy Lodge in the mountains near the town of El Valle de Antón. We enjoyed excellent meals, wonderful accommodations, and wildlife viewings galore with many mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and butterflies to complement the 273 species of birds heard or observed. This included 17 different species of hummingbirds and 10 species of wrens! Our wonderful local guides were Eliecer (Eli) Rodriguez at both the Canopy Camp and Canopy Lodge, and Jorge Pineda at the Canopy Tower.

The highlight of the tour for most of us was our Darien adventure to try and see a Harpy Eagle (successfully I might add) that entailed traveling by van, river boat, 4x4 trucks, and then a hot and humid trek through fields and jungle paths to visit a newly discovered nest. We enjoyed birding trips in the open “bird-mobiles” at all three lodges, with comfortable roof top seating allowing better viewing and refreshing breezes. The number of mammals observed were astounding, with 20 unique species making the list, not to mention the 21 species of different amphibians and reptiles. We also had an enjoyable boat tour on Gatun Lake and its surrounding marshes leading us eventually onto the Panama Canal where we were dwarfed next to massive container ships. Here we had close views of various plumages of Snail Kites, Magnificent Frigatebirds, Brown Pelicans, Purple Gallinules, and Wattled Jacanas with chicks, as well as multiple heron and egret species.

The species report eBird link is below and details the 273 species of birds our group either observed or heard during the main 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. Out of those 273 bird species, 11 were heard only and 3 were only observed by the guides.

[Naturalist Journeys Panama 3 Lodge Tour - July 2025 - eBird Trip Report](#)

The following is a list of additional mammal, amphibian, and reptile species we were also lucky enough to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS (20 species recorded):

Central American Woolly Opossum *Caluromys derbianus*— Observed on our night tour in the bird-mobile at Canopy Tower on Semaphore Hill Road.

Common Opossum *Didelphis marsupialis*— Also observed on our night tour in the bird-mobile at Canopy Tower.

Nine-banded Armadillo *Dasypus novemcinctus*— Observed on our night tour in the bird-mobile at Canopy Tower, and then a family of four was spotted foraging on the grounds of Canopy Lodge. (continued)

MAMMALS (continued from previous page):

Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni*— Two were observed together very close to the road on our night tour in the bird-mobile at Canopy Tower.

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*— Spotted multiple times on the tour with the most amazing views being from the top of the Canopy Tower in a close-by Cecropia tree.

Geoffroy's Tamarin *Sanguinus geoffroyi*— The cutest of all the mammals, very visible at all 3 lodges.

Panamanian Night Monkey *Aotus zonalis*— Wow, we had two at night on the banana feeder at the Tower.

White-faced Capuchin *Cebus capuchinus*—Seen on the Gatún Lake / Panama Canal boat trip and also at Canopy Camp.

Mantled Howler *Alouatta palliata*—Heard on most days of the tour when at the Camp and Tower and observed several times, including a mother with a youngster.

Variegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides*— Observed at Cara Iguana stop.

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis*—Recorded at various places throughout the tour

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*— Most visible at the Lodge, seen several times by the feeders.

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica*—Encountered on 2 separate outings.

Allen's Olingo *Bassaricyon alleni*—Appeared on several evenings at the Tower, coming to eat bananas

Kinkajou *Potos flavus*—Seen in the trees outside the Tower on at least 2 evenings, coming for the bananas.

Tayra *Eira barbara*—Dave was hiking by the waterfall at the Lodge when a Tayra crashed through the tree branches trying to catch some Gray-headed Chachalacas who were scrambling for their lives. The outcome remains unknown. Tayras are large, usually black in color, omnivorous members of the weasel family.

Rothschild's Porcupine *Coendou rothschildi*—Jorge spotted one over our heads on a branch during our Tower night drive.

Northern Tamandua *Tamandua mexicana*—The park ranger at Pipeline Road alerted us to one sleeping up in a tree. Also known as the Lesser Anteater, it is active both day and night and feeds on termites, ants, and bees.

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*—A large group were roosting on the underside of a tree at the edge of Gatún Lake aligned in the shape of a snake, which Jorge explained was a defense mechanism.

Greater White-lined Bat *Saccopteryx bilineata*— Several were spotted roosting at the Rainforest Discovery Center while climbing the tower.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (21 species recorded):

Mediterranean House Gecko *Hemidactylus turcius*—This introduced species was spotted at all 3 lodges, hunting bugs on the windows and sides of the walls.

Yellow-headed Gecko *Gonatodes albogularis*—Found on a tree stump at the Camp on our night walk.

Brown Anole *Anolis sagrei*— Captured for observation and released during our Harpy Eagle hike.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*—Various sizes and sexes encountered during the tour, including a very young bright green one in the garden at the Camp.

Common Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*—Seen several times on the tour, but most regularly at the Lodge, where they were basking on rocks in the stream.

American Crocodile *Crocodylus acutus*—One spotted on Bayano Lake and several small ones were basking during our Panama Canal boat tour.

Central American Whiptail *Holcosus festivus*—Several seen basking on the deck at the Camp.

Delicate Ameiva *Holcosus leptophrys*— A pair were getting amorous near the feeder station.

Four-Striped Whiptail *Holcosus quadrilineatus* — We noticed one under the fruit feeders at the Canopy B&B.

Meso-American Slider *Trachemys venusta* —Spotted on our Panama Canal boat tour in the marshy area.

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REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (continued from previous page):

Striped Rocket Frog *Allobates talamancae*—Several seen calling and heard on the grounds of the Lodge.

Common Dink Frog *Diasposrus diastema*— Singing all around the Camp at night. Spotted on a banana leaf on our night walk there, also peeping loudly with vocal sac extended.

Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog *Dendrobates auratus*— Eli found one on the jungle floor during our Harpy Eagle adventure.

Savage's Thin-toed frog *Leptodactylus savagei*—Dave found them both, once on our Camp night walk and another on our Lodge night walk. A very large, brown, bullfrog sized frog. Also known as the Smoky-brown Jungle Frog.

Sylvia's Tree Frog *Cruziohylla sylviae*— This striking frog, with bright orange underparts and green above, was found by Jorge in an old cistern on Semaphore Hill Road. A mass of eggs were also on the side of the cistern.

Red-webbed Gladiator Tree Frog *Hypsiboas rufitelus*— One was found on our last night walk at the Lodge.

Rosenberg's Gladiator Tree Frog *Boana rosenbergi*— Diane found one on the side of a building while we were eating lunch in Torti. It is one of Panama's largest amphibians, 70-90 mm in length! It gets its name "gladiator" from the sharp spikes on its hands and combative behavior during reproduction.

Green Rainfrog *Pristimantis acuminatus*— Found on a night walk at the Camp.

Leaf Litter Toad *Rhaebo haematiticus*— Somehow found by Eli during our Harpy Eagle jungle trek. It's amazing camouflage allows it to resemble a brown leaf on the jungle floor.

Tungara Frog *Ensystomops postulosus*— Small brown frog found on a Camp night walk. Males protect fertilized eggs in a mass of foam that they lay.

Tatayo's Glass Frog *Hyalinobatrachium tatayoi* —Several found on leaves near the bridge at the Lodge at night. If you look closely enough you can see their internal organs through their skin.