Guyana: Unspoiled Wilderness Species List | November 6-18, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Dave Mehlman with local guide Garey Sway. Our clients included Anne, Bob, Dave, Dean, Diane, Garrett, Pamela, and Vicki.

Our epic Guyana adventure spanned much of the length of the country from the relatively heavily populated coastal area surrounding the capitol Georgetown in the north to the wild and sparsely settled Rupununi savannah close to the border with Brazil in the south. On the coast, we experienced the rich diversity to be found right in Georgetown at the National Park and Botanical Gardens and supplemented that with a lovely boat trip on the Mahaica River and some stops to explore the coast with its tidal mudflats and mangroves. We found the national bird, the Hoatzin, quite easily on our boat trip, along with Blood-colored Woodpecker and other species typically found only along the coast, including the lovely Guianan Red Howler Monkey.

Leaving the north, we took a charter flight to Kaieteur Falls, flying over some of the vast expanses of untouched forest which characterize much of interior Guyana. At the falls, which were quite busy due to their being Guyana's number one tourist attraction, we admired the 740-foot drop of the falls and found a few male Guianan Cock-of-the-Rocks during our short stay there. Continuing our flight, we soon landed at the Surama airstrip right on the edge of the forest and the savannah, to begin our experience in interior Guyana. From our comfortable base at Surama Ecolodge, we walked forest trails, explored patches of savannah, and took a memorable boat trip down the tree-filled Buro-Buro River, all in search of the fascinating avifauna to be found there. Highlights were many, but included a fully grown Harpy Eagle chick, numerous species of antbirds, puffbirds, and many flycatchers.

From Surama we moved to the Atta Rainforest Lodge, situated in a clearing in the middle of deep forest. Though the rains occasionally came to remind us of why it is called "rainforest," on walks and drives we found many species including woodcreepers, toucans, Purple-throated Fruitcrows, currasows, noisy caracaras, and numerous tanagers. We left Atta very early one morning for the small indigenous community of Karasabai in search of the spectacular Sun Parakeet, achieving our mission there, and then ended up our tour for several nights at the Manari Ranch in the middle of the Rupununi Savannah near Brazil. The savannahs and gallery forests near Manari yielded great birds and wildlife such as storks, herons, whistling-ducks, a Jaguarundi, capybara, and Savanna and White-tailed Hawks. On an excursion to Nappi Village to find Guyana's only Horned Screamer, we stumbled upon a Giant Anteater going about its business. Our time here also included a fun trip to Bonfim, Brazil, across the Takutu River bridge for lunch (and a few new bird species for the list!). The tour concluded with a flight back to Georgetown from Lethem and great final views of the savannah in which we had spent so much time.

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

BIRDS 314 species were recorded of which 12 were heard only and 5 were seen by the guides only. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details 312 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.

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The following additional 2 species were also seen by the group, but not recorded in eBird:

White-necked Jacobin Florisuga mellivora—on the Rupununi River boat trip Fork-tailed Woodnymph Thalurania furcata—Atta

Species heard only were:

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*

Cinereous Tinamou Crypturellus cinereus

Plumbeous Pigeon Patagioenas plumbea

Gray-winged Trumpeter Psophia crepitans

Black Hawk-Eagle Spizaetus tyrannus

Tropical Screech-Owl Megascops choliba

Mouse-colored Antshrike Thamnophilus murinus

Cinereous Antshrike Thamnomanes caesius

Ferruginous-backed Antbird Myrmoderus ferrugineus

Capuchinbird Perissocephalus tricolor

Piratic Flycatcher Legatus leucophaius

Lemon-chested Greenlet Hylophilus thoracicus

Species seen or heard by guides only were:

Black-eared Fairy Heliothryx auritus

Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus*

Gray-crowned Flatbill Tolmomyias poliocephalus

Red-rumped Cacique Cacicus haemorrhous

Yellow-green Grosbeak Caryothraustes canadensis

MAMMALS (10 species):

Giant Anteater *Myrmecophaga tridactyla*—One was seen crossing the road and then hustling off into the savannah on the drive to Nappi Village.

Red-rumped Agouti Dasyprocta leporina—Seen by some in the group on one of our hikes in the forest at Surama.

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*—Many of these tree-roosting bats were flushed during our boat trip down the Buro-Buro River.

Brazilian Free-tailed Bat *Tadarida brasiliensis*—One of these flew through the dining room one evening at Surama.

Guianan Red Howler-Monkey *Alouatta macconnelli*—Seen or heard on several days of the tour at Surama and on the Mahaica River.

Brown Capuchin Sapajus apella—Found at Moco-Moco Village.

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*—A couple were seen while foraging along the riverbank on our Rupununi River trip from Kwatamang Landing.

White-lipped Peccary Tayassu pecari—Heard and seen by some in the group on a forest walk at Atta.

Jaguarundi *Herpailurus yagouaroundi*—An amazing sighing of one animal skulking through the grass while we were out on Manari Ranch heading to the Ireng River.

Capybara *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*—A small herd of young animals was swimming in the water in the big lake at JR Ranch and others were seen foraging on land at a distance.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (15 species):

Amazon Coachwhip *Chironius carinatus*—This lovely and colorful snake was seen crawling on a tree from the large bridge on the Buro-Buro trail at Surama

Black Caiman Melanosuchus niger—Several seen floating in a backwater pool on the Rupununi River boat trip Bronze Anole Anolis aeneus—Seen on the walls of the Cara Lodge; it is introduced into Guyana from Grenada Cane Toad Rhinella marina—Recorded several times during the tour, including when trying to enter the dining room at Manari Ranch!

Giant Ameiva Ameiva ameiva—Seen on several days at Surama and Atta

Gold Tegu *Tupinambis teguixin*—One seen entering a burrow from one of the bridges on the Rupununi Road **Green Iguana** *Iguana* —Seen on 2 days near Manari Ranch

Mediterranean House Gecko Hemidactylus turcicus—Seen at Surama Ecolodge

Mourning Gecko Lepidodactylus lugubris—Atta

Peter's Lava Lizard Tropidurus hispidus—Recorded at Surama and on the boulders at Sky Valley Waterfalls, Moco-Moco

Rainbow Whiptail Cnemidophorus lemniscatus—Recorded on 3 days at various sites

Red-snouted Tree Frog Scinax ruber—at the Cara Lodge, Georgetown

South American Spotted Skink Copeoglossum nigropunctatum—Surama

Spectacled Caiman Caiman crocodilus—Seen on the Buro-Buro River boat trip and at Manari Ranch

Striped Forest Whiptail Kentropyx calcarata—Found at Atta

INVERTEBRATES (88 species; list compiled by Anne Pierce with additions from others):

Butterflies & moths (67 species):

Aetolus Stripestreak *Arawacus aetolus*

Alana White-Skipper Heliopetes alana

Antiochus Longwing *Heliconius antiochus*

Apricot Sulphur Phoebis argante

Banana Stem Borer Telchin licus

Bitias Hairstreak Panthiades bitias

Blue-gray Satyr Magneuptychia libye

Ceiba Borer Euchroma giganteum

Chutes-and-ladders Hairstreak Celmia celmus

Common Blue-eye Anatya guttata

Common Groundstreak Ziegleria hesperitis

Common Morpho *Morpho helenor*

Cryptic Satyr *Paryphthimoides terrestris*

Darceta Sphinx Pachylia darceta

Ello Sphinx Erinnyis ello

Eyed silkmoth sp Automeris postalbida

Eyed-metalmark sp *Mesosemia nyctea*

False Nymphidium Synargis calyce

Florestan Sphinx Manduca florestan

Gnosia Hairstreak Gargina gnosia

graphic owlet sp Melipotis ochrodes

Gray Cracker Hamadryas februa

Hairstreak sp Cupathecla cupentus

Hairstreak sp *Theclopsis gargara*

Hairstreak sp *Theclopsis gargara*

Hanno Blue Hemiargus hanno

Hemmark sp Nymphidium cachrus

Hemmark sp Nymphidium lisimon

Hemmark sp Nymphidium mantus

Hermes Satyr *Hermeuptychia hermes*

Julia Heliconian Dryas iulia

Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak Strymon istapa

Metalmark sp Melanis aegates

Metalmark sp Parvospila emylius

Metalmark sp Parvospila lucianus

Metalmark sp Stalachtis calliope

Mexican Fritillary Euptoieta hegesia

Mimosa Skipper Cogia calchas

New world flannel moth sp Trosia dimas

noctuid sp Ronania marmorides

Orange-spotted Flower Moth Syngamia florella

Orcus Checkered-Skipper Bursinus orcus

Owlet moth sp Eulepidotis julianata

Owlet moth sp Hemeroblemma opigena

Owlet moth sp Herminodes atrosignata

Parce Sphinx Moth Callionima parce

Pearl moth sp Syngamilyta pretiosalis

Penelope's Ringlet Cissia penelope

Pink Hawkmoth *Adhemarius gannascus*

Plain Longtail Spicauda simplicius

Prominent moth sp *Crinodes bellatrix*

Prominent moth sp Strophocerus sericea

Prominent moth sp Strophocerus thermesia

Red Postman Heliconius erato

Saddleback caterpillar moth sp Acharia nesea

Satyr sp *Nhambikuara furina*

Scops Witch Moth *Feigeria scops*

Silkmoth sp Titaea tamerlan

Spangled Cupid Helicopis cupido

Sphinx moth sp Manduca paphus

Thamyra Satyr Taygetis thamyra

Tropical Buckeye Junonia evarete

Tropical Woodskimmer *Uracis imbuta*

Variable Cracker Hamadryas feronia

West Indian Mangrove Buckeye Junonia neildi

White Peacock Anartia jatrophae

Miscellaneous (14 species):

Banana Cockroach Panchlora nivea

Cerambycid beetle sp Onychocerus scorpio

Click beetle sp Semiotus ligneus

Dung beetle sp Canthon luteicollis

Great Pondhawk Erythemis vesiculosa

Helicopter Damselfly Pseudostigmatinae sp

leaf katydid sp Steirodon sp

Myrmicine ant sp Daceton armigerum

Patent leather beetle Passalinae sp

Planthopper sp Lystra pulverulenta
Red-tailed Blackwing Diastatops obscura
Velvet ant sp Traumatomutilla americana
Wax-tailed Planthopper Pterodictya reticularis
Wide-collared Lichen Cicada Proarna insignis

Spiders (7 species):

Garden orbweaver sp Argiope submaronica
Golden Silk Spider Trichonephila clavipes
Jumping spider sp Leptofreya ambigua
Orchard spider sp Leucauge argyra
Jumping spider sp Phiale guttata
Pretty Orbweaver Eriophora nephiloides

Tropical Orb Weaver Eriophora fuliginea

LOCATIONS AND NOTES:

- Day 1: Thursday, November 6, 2025; Cara Lodge, Georgetown National Park
- Day 2: Friday, November 7, 2025; Mahaica River, Naresh's house, Mahaica River bridge, Non-Pareil Seawall, Georgetown Botanical Garden
- Day 3: Saturday, November 8, 2025; Cara Lodge, Hospital Seawall, Kaieteur Falls, Surama Ecolodge
- Day 4: Sunday, November 9, 2025; Surama Ecolodge, Buro-Buro Trail, Surama entrance road, Surama Lake
- Day 5: Monday, November 10, 2025; Buro-Buro Trail to river, Buro-Buro River, eagle nest site, Surama Village
- Day 6: Tuesday, November 11, 2025; Rupununi River from Kwatamang Landing, Rupununi Road, Atta Rainforest Lodge
- Day 7: Wednesday, November 12, 2025; Atta Canopy Walkway, Atta trails & grounds, Rupununi Road, white sand forest, topaz bridge, owl location
- Day 8: Thursday, November 13, 2025; Atta Rainforest lodge, Rupununi Road, Moreiru Pond, Karasabai, Karasabai Road, Manari Ranch
- Day 9: Friday, November 14, 2025; Manari Ranch, Mussu Lake, Takutu River in Lethem
- Day 10: Saturday, November 15, 2025; Nappi Village, Manari Ranch, JR Ranch
- Day 11: Sunday, November 16, 2025; Moco-Moco Village, Sky Valley Waterfalls trail, Fazenda Buritizal Grosso (Bonfim, Roraima, Brazil), Manari Ranch
- Day 12: Monday, November 17, 2025; Manari Ranch; flight to Georgetown; departures