

Trinidad & Tobago: Incredible Birds & Wildlife Species List January 23 – February 1, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by Naturalist Journeys guide David Jaffe (DJ) with local guides Dave Ramlal, Mukesh Ramdass, Jason Radix, Desmond Wright and Zolani “Zee” Frank. Our clients were Matt and Ellen, Jeanne, Carol and David.

The Trinidad & Tobago tour truly started when we all convened for the first time at Hacienda Jacana, a paradisaical lodge surrounded by a diversity of habitat including rainforest, a large pond and a bit of cultivated agriculture. This diversity created for avian-rich grounds and wonderful opportunities for robust exploration. Following our time around the Hacienda and some of the easily accessible wetlands, savannas and forests located within a day’s drive, we moved camp to the recently renovated Asa Wright Nature Centre for a further three nights. From here we birded the famous Blanchisseuse Road and the Dunston Oilbird cave among other sites. Our final three nights of the tour were at the delightful Cuffie River Nature Retreat on the island of Tobago.

Tour highlights included an evening boat cruise through the Caroni Swamp where we witnessed thousands of Scarlet Ibis returning to their evening roost. We enjoyed a dinner of gourmet catering and an enormous chocolate cake! Nesting tropicbirds, boobies and frigatebirds highlighted our offshore trip to Little Tobago Island, and we did especially well to see all the expected and ‘hoped-for’ hummingbird species including Blue-chinned Sapphire, Ruby-Topaz, Tufted Coquette, and White-tailed Sabrewing....to mention just a few of those little gems.

We recorded 153 bird species on Trinidad and 36 additional species on Tobago for a total of 189 species. We also observed various reptiles and amphibians with a Red-rumped Agouti and several bats being the only wild mammals observed. We were fortunate to see both endemic bird species, the Trinidad Piping-Guan and Trinidad Motmot. Brave souls ‘forged’ through a small (teeny-tiny actually) creek to get looks at the iconic Oilbirds. We searched for the Bearded Bellbirds at the Asa Wright Centre. They were found....after a bit of effort!

We must give a special thanks go to our amazing Trinidad local guide Dave Ramlal for his incredible guiding, warm, welcoming and friendly attitude and mindful driving getting us to all of our destinations safely. Gracious thanks must also go to Jason Radix, Desmond Wright and Zolani “Zee” Frank on Tobago, all of whom shared their intimate knowledge of the island with enthusiasm and patience.

The ebird species report link below details the 189 species we observed on this trip. If you click on “Show All Details” on the right side of the ebird list you will see the details of each sighting.

[Trinidad & Tobago: Incredible Birds & Wildlife | Jan. 23 – Feb. 1, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

In addition, the list below include some of the mammal, reptile, amphibian and butterfly/moth species found during the tour.

A final word of thanks must go to all the tour participants. Without their patience, humor and camaraderie this trip would not have been the success that it was!

MAMMALS (2)

Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporine*—Our first and only sighting of this large rodent was in the upper garden on day one at Asa Wright Nature Center.

Lesser Sac-winged Bat *Saccopteryx leptura* – Several could be seen hawking along the trails at the Asa Wright Nature Center, both during the day and during our night walk.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (8)

Grenada Tree Anole *Anolis richardii* – close views at the Adventure Farm as it rested on a trunk of a palm with its head pointing up.

Weigmann's Striped (Ocellated) Gecko *Gonatodes vittatus* – we observed two of these on our descent from the viewpoint on Little Tobago Island

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus* – a nice selection of sightings from Hacienda Jacana and Nariva Wetlands

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina* – I don't think any of us actually saw this creature, but Jeanne thinks she might have stubbed her toe on one while walking back to her cabin at the Hacienda Jacana!

Ruschenberger's Tree Boa *Corallus ruschenbergerii*—Dave and our boat driver first located one at Caroni Swamp and then two more that were entangled in a large mass on the trees directly above our boat.

Caribbean Treerunner (Plica caribbeana)—This was one of the first lizards we saw at Asa Wright Nature Center.

Garden Lizard, aka Jungle Runner (Ameiva atrigularis)—We encountered this lizard first at Hacienda Jacana and then again at Asa Wright Nature Center.

Pinchon's Piping Frog (Eleutherodactylus pinchoni)—We saw about 30 tadpoles of this species in a small puddle on the uphill side of the road on our morning walk with Desmond from the Cuffie River Nature Retreat.

LEPIDOPTERA: Butterflies (5) (a small sample of the species noted, many more were left unidentified)

Red Peacock *Anartia amathea*

Red Postman *Heliconius erato*

Illioneus Giant-Owl (*Caligo illioneus*)

Long-tailed Skipper (*Urbanus proteus*)

Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*)

OTHER:

Tidal Spray Crab (Plagusia depressa)—We saw several of these crabs crawling around on some of the limestone rocks at Fort James Park in Plymouth.

Juming Guabin Fish (Ablepsoides hartii, formerly Rivulus hartii)—We saw several of these at the furthest point of our walk on the Gilpen Trace in the Main Forest Ridge Reserve.

Hermit Crab (numerous families)—We did not identify the individual we saw that was tucked into shell along the climb to the seabird viewpoint on Little Tobago.