

# Costa Rica: Birds and Nature Species List | February 22 – 29, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by guide Dan Donaldson, with local Costa Rica guide Johan Fernandez, along with fellow travelers Bob, Sandy, Lise, Steven, Sharon, Kathleen, Laura, Eric, Lee, and Elizabeth.**

Costa Rica- The most bird-rich country in the new world, with nearly half (900 out of 2,000) of all bird species in North America, utilizing its critical geography and habitat diversity at some point of their lives. This trip sampled as many of these habitats as possible with multi-day explorations in Caribbean lowland rainforests, mid-elevation mountain valleys, high elevation (over 7000 ft.) cloud forests. On the extension we added dry coastal forest and mangrove habitats and species to the trip.

Our locations included Hotel Bougainvillea (first night) in San Jose in the central valley, a wonderful birding destination itself and famous for its garden residents: Lesson's Motmots and Mottled Owls, Social Flycatchers and Brown Jays.

Our high-mountain/cloud forest birding was done from the Savegre Hotel (2 nights) where we searched for Costa Rica's most famous bird, the Resplendent Quetzals along with other high elevations specialists like Volcano Hummingbird and Junco.

Rancho Naturalista (2 nights) was our mid-level forest location. Known as a reliable location for elusive Snow-capped Hummingbirds, Keel-billed Toucans and Collared Aracari, and a special visit from a Tyrah (large wolverine type weasel).

Sarapiqui Rainforest Lodge (2 nights) In the lowland Caribbean rain forest provided us with 2 days of birding at the La Selva Biological station and an amazing boat tour on the Sarapiqui River.

Those that participated on the extension stayed one evening at Cerro Lodge, (Scarlet Macaws and White-throated Magpie Jays) and 2 additional nights at La Ensenada Lodge on the Pacific Coast.

**BIRDS: 227 individual species were recorded between our locations on the main trip, and an additional 92 species observed on the 4-day Pacific Extension.**

The eBird links below detail the species observed on the main tour with a separate link for the extension. 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.

[Costa Rica Main Tour | eBird Trip Report](#)

[Pacific Coast Extension | eBird Trip Report](#)

The following is a list of additional mammal, reptile, and amphibian species we were also lucky enough to find during the entire trip, including the Pacific Coast extension where noted.

**MAMMALS (13):**

**Southern Opossum** *Didephis marsupialis*  
**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth** *Bradypus variegatus*  
**Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth** *Choloepus hoffmanni*  
**Proboscis Bat** *Rhynchonycteris naso*  
**Honduran White Bat** *Ectophylla alba*  
**Greater Sac-winged Bat** *Saccoperyx bilineata*  
**Mexican Harry Dwarf Porcupine** *Coendou mexicanus*  
**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*  
**Variagated Squirrel** *Sciurus variegatoides*  
**Red-tailed Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis*  
**Mantled Howler Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*  
**Central American Spider Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*  
**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*  
**Tayra Eira** *Barbara inserta*  
**Dusky Rice Mouse** *Notomys fuscus*

**REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (14):**

**American Crocodile** *Crocodylus acutus*  
**Black River Turtle** *Rhinoclemmys funerea*  
**Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana*  
**Asian House Gecko** *Hemidactylus frenatus*  
**Green Basilisk** *Basiliscus plumifrons*  
**Spectacled Racer** *Drymobius margaritiferus*  
**False Parrot Green Snake** *Leptophis ahaetulla*  
**Green-and-black Dart Frog** *Dendrobates auratus*  
**Strawberry Poison Dart Frog** *Oophaga pumilio*  
**Neotropical River Otter** *Lontra longicaudis*  
**Collard Peccary** *Peccari tajacu*