

# World-class Birding in Colombia's Coffee Triangle

## Main Tour: January 21 – February 4, 2026

## Montezuma Pre-Tour Ext. January 17 – 21, 2026

### with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by client Pat Lueders, with local guide Manuel Espejo including clients Andrew and Jack.**

We enjoyed a great introduction to Colombia at our first hotel, the Sonesta Pereira, situated on beautifully maintained grounds with a pond, on the outskirts of the city. Arriving a day early, many local birds were seen as we walked in the gardens including Golden-faced Tyrannulet, Rufous-naped Greenlet, and Guira Tanager. Manuel Espejo, our guide for the entire tour, met us in the hotel dining room and reviewed the schedule for our drive in the morning to Montezuma. Our journey to the Montezuma Rainforest Lodge (4,400') gave Manuel the opportunity to introduce us to the culture, geography, and nature of Colombia. Our now famous hostess, Michelle Tapasco, greeted us next to the center's diverse hummingbird feeders. Her lodge was featured in a great article in *Birding* magazine and on a television feature by Anderson Cooper on *60 Minutes*. Because the lodge was so busy with visiting birders, we were lucky to be led by Michelle herself during our entire visit. After this memorable extension, we returned to Pereria to begin the main tour of the Central Andean Cordillera. During the tour, we visited a variety of habitats and altitudes ranging from 5,000'-13,500', enjoying delicious coffee, meals, and beautiful lodges.

**BIRDS (432):** 432 species were recorded including 49 hummingbird species, 6 tapaculos, 43 flycatchers, and 12 antpitta species.

The eBird link below details the 432 species our group observed on the main tour and the Montezuma extension. Click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to see where and when each bird was seen and how many times.

[World-class Birding in Colombia's Coffee Triangle 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammal and reptile species that were observed during this trip.

#### **MAMMALS (10):**

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*---We saw this mammal often around feeders and during drives.  
**Common Tapeti** *Sylvilagus brasiliensis*--Two were photographed near the feeders at the Hotel Termales del Ruiz  
**Red-tailed Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis*—The most common squirrel, seen often.  
**Andean Squirrel** *Sciurus pulcheranii*—Seen only once, in Manizales.  
**Western Dwarf Squirrel** *Microsciurus mimulus*—Very cute little squirrel seen often in Montezuma.  
**Tayra** *Eira barbara*—Lucky sighting of two crossing the road on a birding stop on the way to Montezuma.  
**Mountain Coati** *Nasuella olivacea*—Spotted by our driver along the trail on our visit to Rio Blanco.  
**Crab-eating Fox** *Cerdocyon thous*---Seen only once, during our visit to Hacienda. Lisbran  
**Andean Tapeti** *Sylvilagus andinus*---Seen at Hacienda Lisbran, identified by local guides.  
**Colombian Red Howler** *Alouatta seniculus*—Seen only once on a birding stop while driving to Hacienda Lisbran.

#### **REPTILES (1):**

**Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana*—Seen on the visit to the Black Lagoon