



Naturalist Journeys Veracruz, Mexico: River of Raptors

Naturalist Journeys Veracruz Mexico Tour Species List September 29 – October 10, 2021

Trip list compiled by David Mehlman

LOCATIONS AND NOTES:

Day 1: September 30, 2021; Hotel and Playa Mocambo, Hotel Bienvenido (roof), Cempoala, Paso Mariano

Day 2: October 1, 2021; Playa Juan Angel, Chichicaxtle, La Antigua (town, river boat trip)

Day 3: October 2, 2021; Cansaburro viewing platform, Miramar lookout, Chichicaxtle

Day 4: October 3, 2021; Las Barrancas, Alvarado Wetlands (boat trip), Tlacotalpan, Hotel Playa Azul (Catemaco)

Day 5: October 4, 2021; Nanciyaga Reserve, UNAM Biological Station, Montepío

Day 6: October 5, 2021; Ruiz Cortines, Hotel Playa Azul

Day 7: October 6, 2021; Hotel Playa Azul, Las Barrancas

Day 8: October 7, 2021; Rancho El Mirador, Cascada de Texolo, Hotel Casabella

Day 9: October 8, 2021; Macuiltépetl Park, Museo de Antropología de Xalapa

Day 10: October 9, 2021; La Joya, Cruz Blanca—Las Minas road, Perote, Laguna Alchichica, Tepeyahualco road

(HO) = Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only

(I) = Introduced

(GO) = seen by guides only

(E) = Mexican Endemic

Summary: 270 species of birds, 5 species of mammals, 5 species herps, and 26 species of invertebrates

BIRDS (270 species recorded):

TINAMOUS: Tinamidae (2)

Slaty-breasted Tinamou *Crypturellus boucardi*—(HO) Heard while birding along the road at the UNAM Biological Station in Los Tuxtlas

Thicket Tinamou *Crypturellus cinnamomeus*—(HO) Heard on two days, the first when at Paso Mariano and the second at Rancho El Mirador

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae (4)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*—See on both visits to Las Barrancas, but far more on the second visit

Fulvous Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor*—A pair with several chicks seen in a pond on the second visit to Las Barrancas

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*—(GO) One seen flying off when the first group arrived at the Cansaburro viewing platform

Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors*—A single bird found in the Rio La Antigua near the mouth during the boat trip

GUANS AND CURASSOWS: Cracidae (1)

Plain Chachalaca *Ortalis vetula*—Regularly seen and heard throughout the trip; found on 6 days



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NEW WORLD QUAILS: Odontophoridae (2)

Bearded Wood-Partridge (E) *Dendrortyx barbatus*—Two birds seen running through the forest at the top of Macuilepetl, behind the museum, where they are attracted to waste seed

Northern Bobwhite *Colinus virginianus*—One heard calling at Playa Juan Angel

GREBES: Podicipedidae (2)

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*—(GO) Seen by guides at Las Barrancas on the second visit

Eared Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*—At least 15 birds swimming in Laguna Alchichica

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (9)

Rock Pigeon (I) *Columba livia*—Found on 8 days of the trip whenever in or driving through almost all towns

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris*—Found on all days of the trip except when at the highest elevations of the mountains on the last 2 days; seen on 8 days total

Eurasian Collared-Dove (I) *Streptopelia decaocto*—Found on 9 days of the trip, pretty much in or near any inhabited area

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*—Seen on every day of the trip

Plain-breasted Ground Dove *Columbina minuta*—Seen and heard on the first visit to Las Barrancas

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*—Found on 6 days at a variety of lower elevation sites

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*—Mostly heard (but seen occasionally) on 4 days of the trip

Gray-headed Dove *Leptotila plumbeiceps*—(HO) One heard at the Hotel Playa Azul, Catemaco

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*—Found on 5 days in the lowlands, sometimes in large flocks flying southward overhead

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae (3)

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*—A commonly encountered species, sometimes seen from the bus, on 7 days when at lower elevations

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*—Seen or heard on 7 days at a variety of sites, from near the coast to Macuilepetl and Rancho El Mirador

Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*—Found only once, at the Cansaburro viewing platform

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae (1)

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis*—Seen on the road in the early morning darkness on the drive from Cardel to Rancho El Mirador

SWIFTS: Apodidae (2)

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*—Seen once flying over Ruiz Cortines

Vaux's Swift *Chaetura vauxi*—Seen on two days, at Nanciyaga and again at Las Barrancas; always overhead

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (13)

Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*—Seen flying through the forest along the Nanciyaga entrance road

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis*—Seen at Nanciyaga investigating Heliconias

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothorax prevostii*—Seen on two days, first in the mangroves at Alvarado and again at the Hotel Playa Azul

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*—Positively identified on 1 day on the road to Cansaburro

Wedge-tailed Sabrewing *Campylopterus curvipennis*—Found at Rancho El Mirador and again at Macuilepetl



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Long-tailed Sabrewing (E) *Campylopterus excellens*—Several seen in the town of Ruiz Cortines, mostly feeding on Erythrina

Violet Sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus*—Located by Alan at Hotel Playa Azul

White-bellied Emerald *Amazilia candida*—Seen at Nanciyaga and Ruiz Cortines

Azure-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanocephala*—Found on 3 days, sometimes with very excellent views, in Ruiz Cortines, Rancho El Mirador, and at Macuiltépetl

Berylline Hummingbird *Amazilia beryllina*—Found at Rancho El Mirador

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl*—This slightly higher elevation replacement of the next species was found twice, at Nanciyaga and at the Hotel Playa Azul

Buff-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia yucatanensis*—Found on the first 4 days of the trip at several lowland, coastal sites

White-eared Hummingbird *Hylocharis leucotis*—(GO) Seen or heard by guides on the road to Las Minas

RAILS, CRAKES, AND ALLIES: Rallidae (5)

Russet-naped Wood-Rail *Aramides albiventris*—Seen on two days, first at Cansaburro (crossing the road on the way in) and again during the Alvarado boat trip in the mangroves

Sora *Porzana carolina*—One seen skulking among water plants at Las Barrancas on the second visit; defied all attempts by the guides to turn it into a Yellow-breasted Crake!

American Coot *Fulica americana*—Several swimming in Laguna Alchichica

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*—Seen at two wetlands, Cansaburro and Las Barrancas

Ruddy Crake *Laterallus ruber*—Heard in the wetland at Cansaburro and seen from the dock at Nanciyaga

SUNGREBES: Heliornithidae (1)

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*—(HO) Heard once on the Alvarado Wetlands boat trip when in the mangroves

LIMPKINS: Aramidae (1)

Limpkin *Aramus guarana*—Seen twice on both visits to Las Barrancas, including through the scope for a long time on the second visit

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae (1)

Double-striped Thick-knee *Burhinus bistriatus*—Found on the first visit to Las Barrancas in a cattle pasture

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae (2)

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*—Seen on two days at three beach areas visited: Playa Juan Angel, the mouth of the Rio La Antigua during the boat trip, and Montepío

American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana*—Only found at the mouth of the Rio La Antigua during the boat trip

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (2)

Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*—Found on two days, first at the beach in front of the Hotel Mocambo and again during the boat trip to the mouth of the Rio La Antigua

Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus*—Found once at Playa Juan Angel

JACANAS: Jacanidae (1)

Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa*—Found on 5 days at a variety of wetland sites, sometimes quite conspicuous



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SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (7)

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*— Found on two days, first at the beach in front of the Hotel Mocambo and again during the boat trip to the mouth of the Rio La Antigua

Sanderling *Calidris alba*— Found on two days at 3 sites: the Hotel Mocambo beach, Playa Juan Angel, and at the mouth of the Rio La Antigua

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*—A few individuals were among the large flock of birds at the sandbar near the mouth of the Rio La Antigua

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*—The most frequently seen shorebirds, this species was seen on 6 days at a variety of sites at beaches and along streams, rivers, and at Laguna Alchichica; most had few to no spots

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*—A group of these was standing around in the water near the mouth of the Rio La Antigua

Willet *Tringa semipalmata*—Found on 2 days at the Hotel Mocambo beach and Playa Juan Angel; all were of the “western” population

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*—A small group was present along the small creek and Playa Juan Angel; also heard during the Alvarado boat trip

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (4)

Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla*—Found on 6 days when close to the Gulf Coast

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*—Seen from the boat on the Rio La Antigua boat trip, a few mixed with other terns

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus*—Seen from the boat on the Rio La Antigua boat trip on a sandbar at the mouth

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*—Seen from the boat on the Rio La Antigua boat trip, mixed in with Royal Terns

STORKS: Ciconiidae (1)

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*—Found on 3 days at 4 sites, first a small flock flying over the Hotel Bienvenido, another flock from the Miramar viewing area, a large group of 80 at Chichicastle, and finally at the Alvarado wetlands

FRIGATEBIRDS: Fregatidae (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*—Found on 5 days; often seen soaring statically high above the coast, but also one was perched on a pole in the Alvarado wetlands

ANHINGAS: Anhingidae (1)

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*—Seen on 3 days of the tour, sometimes in relatively large soaring flocks overhead

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (2)

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*—Found on 6 days, usually in or near rivers or other waterbodies

Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus*—Seen during the Rio La Antigua boat trip

PELICANS: Pelecanidae (1)

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*—Commonly observed when near the coast line; often flying near shore

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (10)

Pinnated Bittern *Botaurus pinnatus*— One very well seen at Las Barrancas on the second visit



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Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*—Found on 5 days at a variety of wetland sites

Great Egret *Ardea alba*—Regularly found (on 7 days), including many on the visits to Las Barrancas

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*— Found on 5 days at a variety of wetland sites

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*— Found on 6 days at a variety of wetland sites

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*—Seen on 2 days, first on the Rio La Antigua boat trip and again on the second visit to Las Barrancas

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*—Regularly encountered (reported on 8 days); often easy to see from the bus while driving when standing in cattle pasture

Green Heron *Butorides virescens*— Found on 5 days at a variety of wetland sites

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*—Only found on 2 days, first at Playa Juan Angel and then again at Nanciyaga, where one was roosting in the trees near the boat dock

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea*—Found on 4 days, perhaps in largest numbers at Cansaburro from the viewing platform

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae (2)

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*—Found on 5 days of the trip, often flying by

White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi*—Seen on 3 days, usually as a fly-by flock, at Cansaburro and the two visits to Las Barrancas

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae (3)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*—A common and ubiquitous species, found on all 10 days of the tour

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*—Also found on all 10 days of the tour, though most were probably resident birds, with only occasional migrating individuals seen while hawk-watching

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*—Only positively identified on 2 days, but probably around more than that; first when leaving Tlacotalpan to drive to Catemaco and then again during our final lunch at Catemaco

OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*—The most frequently encountered raptor of the trip, Ospreys were seen on 7 days, generally as single individuals migrating south at various sites

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (15)

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*—One seen while hawk-watching from the Chichicaxtle observatory

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus*—Observed once when flying over the Miramar viewing area

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*—Seen from the bus when driving to and from Tlacotalpan

Mississippi Kite *Ictinia mississippiensis*—Seen on the first 3 days of the trip, including from the Hotel Bienvenido

Northern Harrier *Circus hudsonius*—Found on 2 days, first on the road to Playa Juan Angel and again from the Miramar viewing area

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*—Found on the first 3 days at a variety of coastal sites and again at Rancho El Mirador and Macuiltépetl

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*—Found on 3 days, usually when flying overhead

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus*—Found on 3 days at several wetland sites, including Cansaburro, the Alvarado Wetlands (where they were frequently seen perched in mangroves along the sides of waterways), at Nanciyaga on the shores of Lake Catemaco, and at Montepío



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Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*—Found on 5 days of the tour at several sites, including a pair putting on a show at Rancho El Mirador

Gray Hawk *Buteo plagiatus*—(GO) Seen by guides at Ruiz Cortines

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*—Found on the first 3 days of the tour, where by far the most common migrant raptor, and again (a lone individual) at the overlook by the canyon on the road to Las Minas

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*—This resident raptor species was found at several sites on 2 days, first near Cansaburro, at the Miramar viewing area, and again at Rancho El Mirador

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni*—This tour was a bit early for the migration of this species, but it was picked out of the migrating groups of Broad-wings on 2 days when hawk-viewing

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus*—Found on 2 days of the tour, from the roof of the Hotel Bienvenido and at the Miramar viewing area,

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*—Found on the first and last days of the tour, once in the lowlands and a pair soaring over the canyon on the road to Las Minas

OWLS: Strigidae (2)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*—Seen or heard on 4 days at several sites, sometimes perching in the open

Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgata*—One seen and another heard during the owling trip to Nanciyaga

TROGONS: Trogonidae (4)

Black-headed Trogon *Trogon melanocephalus*—One seen on the road at the UNAM Biological Station, Los Tuxtlas

Gartered Trogon *Trogon caligatus*—Several seen on the road at the UNAM Biological Station, Los Tuxtlas

Mountain Trogon *Trogon mexicanus*—Seen and heard in the pine forests at La Joya

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*—Male and female seen on the road at the UNAM Biological Station, Los Tuxtlas

MOTMOTS: Momotidae (3)

Tody Motmot *Hylomanes momotula*—(HO) Heard on one of the forest trails at Ruiz Cortines

Blue-capped Motmot (E) *Momotus coeruliceps*—Seen and heard at Macuiltepetl Park

Lesson's Motmot *Momotus lessonii*—Seen or heard twice, at Nanciyaga and at Ruiz Cortines

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (5)

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*—Seen on 4 days of the trip, when on or near rivers and lakes

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*—Seen on 4 days of the trip when in or near appropriate habitat, most abundant at the Alvarado Wetlands

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*—Found on 3 days of the trip in appropriate habitat, including many well seen during the Rio La Antigua boat trip

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea*—(GO) Heard by guides (and glimpsed) at Nanciyaga from the boat dock, but could not be re-found despite further searching

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*—Seen on 2 days, first during the Rio La Antigua boat trip and again at the Hotel Playa Azul

TOUCANS: Ramphastidae (3)

Northern Emerald-Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*—Found on 1 day in the forests along the road past Ruiz Cortines



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Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*—Found on 4 days at several sites in southern Veracruz, most notably using a nest in a knothole on the grounds of the Hotel Playa Azul

Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*—Seen or heard on 3 days at Nanciyaga, at Ruiz Cortines, and at Rancho El Mirador

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (6)

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus*—Seen on 2 days, first at Rancho El Mirador and again at La Joya (the latter even from the Pemex parking lot!)

Golden-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes aurifrons*—By far the most commonly encountered woodpecker, found on 9 days at a wide variety of sites

Ladder-backed Woodpecker *Dryobates scalaris*—Seen or heard on 3 days at several coastal, wooded sites

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*—Seen or heard on 4 days of the tour; sort of the tropical equivalent of the northern Pileated Woodpecker

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus*—Seen in the Los Tuxtlas region while birding along the road at the UNAM Biological Station

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*—A couple individuals of the Red-shafted form were seen along the Cruz Blanca-Las Minas road

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (8)

Collared Forest-Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus*—(HO) heard on 2 days at the Cansaburro viewing platform and again at Rancho El Mirador

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*—Found on 5 days of the trip at several sites, perhaps most memorably near the mouth of the Rio La Antigua during the boat trip (and a captive bird at the Macuiltéptl museum!)

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans*—Seen very well at a distance through the scope at Paso Mariano and heard again at Nanciyaga

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*—Found on 5 days at a variety of sites in the lowlands and in the mountains

Merlin *Falco columbarius*—Seen on 4 days, mostly when birding near the coast

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis*—This elegant falcon species was found on 4 days, on the Rio La Antigua, at Cansaburro, and on both visits to Las Barrancas

Bat Falcon *Falco rufigularis*—Found only once, swooping overhead at Rancho El Mirador

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*—Found on 5 days; a not uncommon migrant, but mostly seen rapidly gliding overhead at various sites

PARROTS: Psittacidae (6)

Monk Parakeet (I) *Myiopsitta monachus*—A large flock well seen by the Hotel Mocambo, where they have established a nesting colony

Red-lored Parrot *Amazona autumnalis*—Found on 3 days at Cansaburro, Nanciyaga, and Rancho El Mirador

Yellow-headed Parrot *Amazona oratrix*—This relatively rare parrot species was found only at Cansaburro

White-fronted Parrot *Amazona albifrons*—Found on 3 days at the Hotel Mocambo, Cansaburro, and Rancho El Mirador

Olive-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula nana*—This elegant parakeet was seen during the Rio La Antigua boat trip and from the Cansaburro viewing platform

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*—Several birds seen perched and flying at Nanciyaga Reserve, where they have been successfully reintroduced



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ANTBIRDS: *Thamnophilidae* (1)

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*—Found in the mangroves during the Alvarado lagoon boat trip

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: *Furnariidae* (4)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*—Heard at Nanciyaga and seen very well exploring a tree trunk at Rancho El Mirador

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*—Quite good views of this large woodcreeper were had at Nanciyaga and Rancho El Mirador

Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia variegaticiceps*—Found along the road through the cloud forest past Ruiz Cortinez

Rufous-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis erythrothorax*—Very well seen by and over the boat in the mangroves on the Alvarado Wetlands boat trip

BECARDS AND TITYRAS: *Tityridae* (2)

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*—This fascinating and elegant species was found on 6 days at a variety of forested sites in central and southern Veracruz

Rose-throated Becard *Pachyramphus aglaiae*—Both sexes of this species were seen, sometimes quite well, on the first 3 days of the tour

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: *Tyrannidae* (26)

Stub-tailed Spadebill *Platyrinchus cancrominus*—(HO) Only found at Nanciyaga

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*—Seen by some in the group on the first visit to Las Barrancas

Eye-ringed Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*—Seen by some in the group from the road at the UNAM Biological Station

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*—Seen or heard on two days at the UNAM Biological Station and at Rancho El Mirador

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma imberbe*—(HO) Heard on 2 days at Cansaburro and Las Barrancas

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*—Well seen on 2 days at Las Barrancas (first visit) and again at Ruiz Cortines

Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*—Found on 3 days at Las Barrancas (first visit), Macuiltépetl, and Laguna Alchichica

Greater Pewee *Contopus pertinax*—This large pewee (if that's not an oxymoron, I don't know what is!) was seen at Rancho El Mirador, Macuiltépetl, and La Joya

Eastern Wood-Pewee *Contopus virens*—Found on 3 days at Ruiz Cortines, the Hotel Playa Azul grounds, and Macuiltépetl

Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens*—Found 1 day along the road by the UNAM Biological Station

Least Flycatcher *Empidonax minimus*—Found 1 day at Cansaburro

Cordilleran Flycatcher *Empidonax occidentalis*—Found twice, first at Rancho El Mirador and again at La Joya

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*—Seen in the Rio La Antigua at Paso Mariano

Say's Phoebe *Sayornis saya*—Seen once in the highlands near Cruz Blanca

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*—Found on 3 days at Cansaburro, Las Barrancas, and Laguna Alchichica

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*—Heard on 1 day at Nanciyaga

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*—Most heard, but also seen, on 3 days during the Alvarado boat trip, at Ruiz Cortines, and Rancho El Mirador



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Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus*—This commonly encountered migrant species was found on 6 days at a variety of sites

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*—Found on 9 days of the tour, this species was very loud and conspicuous!

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*—Seen or heard on 7 days, mostly at lower- to mid-elevation sites

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*—A ubiquitous species, seen on 9 days of the tour at many sites

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*—The most commonly encountered flycatcher of the trip, found on all 10 days, towards the end mostly noted while driving

Couch's Kingbird *Tyrannus couchii*—Only positively confirmed on 1 day when heard calling from the Cansaburro viewing platform

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus*—Seen on the first 4 days of the tour when at or near the coast, where it is a common migrant

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus forficatus*—Unexpectedly only seen on 1 day during the visit to Cansaburro

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*—Seen on 3 days, on both visits to Las Barrancas and in Ruiz Cortines

VIREOS: Vireonidae (6)

Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata*—Found on 1 day at Nanciyaga

White-eyed Vireo *Vireo griseus*—Found on 4 days at Playa Juan Angel, from the boat at Laguna Alvarado, the Hotel Playa Azul, and at Macuiltépetl

Hutton's Vireo *Vireo huttoni*—Seen in the pine-oak forests at La Joya

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons*—Found twice, first at Nanciyaga and again at the Hotel Playa Azul

Blue-headed Vireo *Vireo solitarius*—Seen twice at Macuiltépetl and again at La Joya

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*—Found only once at Rancho El Mirador

SHRIKES: Laniidae (1)

Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*—Found on the last day in the highlands while looking for ground squirrels and Burrowing Owls

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (3)

Brown Jay *Psilorhinus morio*—Found on 9 days at a variety of sites

Green Jay *Cyanocorax yncas*—Heard or seen on 3 days, by far the best at Macuiltépetl

Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*—Several seen high up in the pines at La Joya

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (1)

Mexican Chickadee *Poecile sclateri*—Several very well seen at La Joya foraging in the pines

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (5)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*—A commonly observed swallow, found on 5 days at a variety of sites, mostly in the lowlands

Purple Martin *Progne subis*—Seen perched on phone wires during the first visit to Las Barrancas

Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*—Found only once at Playa Juan Angel

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*—Regularly observed on 5 of the early days of the tour in the lowlands, where an abundant migrant

Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*—(GO) Seen by guides while hawk-watching from the Hotel Bienvenido roof



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TREECREEPERS: Certhiidae (1)

Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*—One found in the pine forests along the road from Cruz Blanca to Las Minas

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae (1)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea*—Found on 6 days at many low elevation sites

WRENS: Troglodytidae (6)

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*—Found on 5 days at several sites, perhaps best on the grounds of the Hotel Playa Azul

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus*—This noisy and ubiquitous wren species was found on 8 days, often first detected by its raucous calls

Rufous-naped Wren *Campylorhynchus rufinucha*—Found on 2 consecutive days along the trail to the Miramar viewing area and during the first visit to Las Barrancas, this is a disjunct, Veracruz-endemic subspecies

Spot-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius maculipectus*—(HO) Constantly heard singing on 5 days at a variety of forested sites, but never actually seen “in the feather”!

White-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucosticta*—(HO) This diminutive forest wren was heard at Nanciyaga and Ruiz Cortines

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*—(HO) This higher elevation replacement species for the preceding was heard at La Joya

DIPPERS: Cinclidae (1)

American Dipper *Cinclus mexicanus*—One bird seen foraging along the river at the base of the Cascada de Texolo

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae (4)

Blue Mockingbird (E) *Melanotis caerulescens*—Seen by some of the group at Macuiltépetl

Gray Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis*— Seen by some of the group at Macuiltépetl

Curve-billed Thrasher *Toxostoma curvirostre*—Several well-observed perching in prickly pear cactus at Laguna Alchichica

Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos*—Found on 2 days at the mouth of the Rio La Antigua from the boat and again at Las Barrancas

THRUSHES: Turdidae (7)

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis*—Only seen once along the road from Cruz Blanca to Las Minas

Brown-backed Solitaire *Myadestes occidentalis*—Heard and seen in the pine forest at La Joya

Slate-colored Solitaire *Myadestes unicolor*—(HO) Heard along road near Ruiz Cortines

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus mexicanus*—(HO) Heard in the pine forests at La Joya

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*—One seen on the grounds of the Hotel Playa Azul

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi*—Seen or heard on 8 days at many low- and mid-elevation sites

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*—Quite numerous in the high elevation pine forests at La Joya and on the road to Las Minas

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: Ptiliogonatidae (1)

Gray Silky-Flycatcher *Ptiliogonys cinereus*—Seen on 2 days, first at Macuiltépetl and again at La Joya

OLIVE WARBLER: Peucedramidae (1)



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Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus*—Found one day in the foraging flock at La Joya

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (1)

House Sparrow (1) *Passer domesticus*—This eagerly sought-after species for the list was found on 2 days in or around Coatepec, once right across the street from the Hotel Casabella!

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (4)

Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia affinis*—This lower elevation euphonia of mostly open habitats was seen or heard on the first 3 days of the tour at Paso Mariano, Chichicaxtle, and Cansaburro

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea*—A higher elevation species, this euphonia was seen on 3 days at Ruiz Cortines, Hotel Playa Azul, and the Cascada de Texolo

House Finch *Haemorhous mexicanus*—Found among the cactus at Laguna Alchichica

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria*—Found on 3 days at Playa Juan Angel, Ruiz Cortines, and Laguna Alchichica

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae (6)

Common Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavopectus*—This species (formerly known as Common Bush-Tanager, but placed into the avian identify protection program for its own safety) was found at Ruiz Cortines and Rancho El Mirador

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina*—(GO) One bird seen by guides along the road from Cruz Blanca to Las Minas

Black-chinned Sparrow *Spizella atrogularis*—A few seen on the hillside above Laguna Alchichica

Yellow-eyed Junco *Junco phaeonotus*—Found one day at several sites in the high elevation pine forests

Canyon Towhee *Melospiza fusca*—A few seen on the hillside above Laguna Alchichica

Rufous-capped Brushfinch *Atlapetes pileatus*—Found by a few in the group along the road to Las Minas by the canyon overlook

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: Icteriidae (1)

Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens*—This ubiquitous, but more often heard than seen, migrant was found on 6 days at a variety of sites, including in the Los Tuxtlas at Nanciyaga

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (12)

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna*—Seen and heard in the grasslands at Las Barrancas on both visits

Yellow-billed Cacicue *Amblycercus holosericeus*—Seen from the boat in the mangroves at the Alvarado Wetlands

Montezuma Oropendola *Psarocolius montezuma*—Seen (or heard!) on 5 days at most of the sites in the Catemaco/Los Tuxtlas region

Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prothemelas*—Seen on 2 days at Ruiz Cortines and the Hotel Playa Azul

Hooded Oriole *Icterus cucullatus*—Found on the first visit to Las Barrancas

Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullockii*—Seen on 2 days, first at the Rancho El Mirador and again (a female) at Laguna Alchichica

Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis*—This elegant and conspicuous large oriole was found on the first 4 days of the trip at most of the lowland sites visited

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*—A common and often very noticeable migrant, these were found on 8 days of the trip at many of the sites visited in the lowlands and mid-elevation mountains

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*—Seen from the boat on the Rio La Antigua trip

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus*—Seen on 3 days at Playa Juan Angel, in Ruiz Cortines, and on the last visit to Las Barrancas



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Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives*—This ubiquitous, but not that abundant, blackbird with its pleasant song was found on 9 days of the tour at most sites visited except for those in the high elevation forests and altiplano

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*—Found on all 10 days of the tour in a wide variety of sexes, ages, and states of plumage disrepair

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (21)

Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapilla*—Found on 3 days at Nanciyaga, Rancho El Mirador, and at Macuiltépetl

Louisiana Waterthrush *Parkesia motacilla*—Seen on 2 days on the Rio La Antigua boat trip and at Nanciyaga

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*—Found on 4 days at a variety of sites with or near wetlands

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*—A commonly encountered bird, this arboreal warbler was found on 8 days of the tour at many sites visited

Crescent-chested Warbler *Oreothlypis superciliosa*—Well seen by the group as part of a foraging flock in the pines and oaks at La Joya

Nashville Warbler *Leiothlypis ruficapilla*—One seen at Laguna Alchichica

Gray-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis poliocephala*—(HO) Heard one day at Cansaburro

Kentucky Warbler *Geothlypis formosa*—One bird very nicely seen by the group at Nanciyaga

Hooded Warbler *Setophaga citrina*—Found on 5 days at several sites, including Cansaburro and at the Hotel Playa Azul

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla*—Found on 4 days at Nanciyaga, the Hotel Playa Azul, Macuiltépetl, and La Joya

Magnolia Warbler *Setophaga magnolia*—Seen on 3 days, first in the mangroves at Laguna Alvarado, then at Nanciyaga, and finally at the Hotel Playa Azul

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*—The most commonly encountered warbler; found on 8 days of the trip at many sites

Mangrove Warbler *Setophaga petechia erithachorides*—This resident subspecies of Yellow Warbler (with a completely different song!) was seen and heard in the mangroves on the Alvarado Wetlands boat trip

Yellow-throated Warbler *Setophaga dominica*—This palm-loving species was found on 4 days at sites with appropriate habitat

Townsend's Warbler *Setophaga townsendi*—Several well seen by the group as part of a foraging flock in the pines and oaks at La Joya

Hermit Warbler *Setophaga occidentalis*—Well seen by the group as part of a foraging flock in the pines and oaks at La Joya

Black-throated Green Warbler *Setophaga virens*—Found on 3 days at Rancho El Mirador, Macuiltépetl, and La Joya

Rufous-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons*—Seen twice, at Ruiz Cortines and Rancho El Mirador

Golden-browed Warbler *Basileuterus belli*—A pair observed in the pine-oak forests at La Joya

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*—Found on 3 days, once by the guides, on the road past Ruiz Cortines, Rancho El Mirador, and Macuiltépetl

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*—Encountered on 4 days at several sites

Slate-throated Redstart *Myioborus miniatus*—Well seen by the group in the pine-oak forests at La Joya

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae (9)

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*—Well seen at La Joya, including a pair on the grass by the Pemex station!

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*—Found on 3 days at the Hotel Playa Azul, Rancho El Mirador, and Macuiltépetl

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*—A full-plumaged male seen perched in a tree at Macuiltépetl



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Red-crowned Ant-Tanager *Habia rubica*—Seen twice at the UNAM Biological Station and on the road through the forest past Ruiz Cortines

Red-throated Ant-Tanager *Habia fuscicauda*—Found at Rancho El Mirador

Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis*—One seen during the hike up to the Miramar viewing area

Blue Grosbeak *Passerina caerulea*—Seen twice at Playa Juan Angel and Cansaburro

Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea*—Found on 3 days at several sites near the coast

Dickcissel *Spiza americana*—This usually very common migrant was only found on 3 days at Cansaburro and on both visits to Las Barrancas

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae (8)

Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*—The most frequently encountered species of the “true tanagers”; seen on 6 days of the tour at many sites in the lowlands

Yellow-winged Tanager *Thraupis abbas*—Another very attractive and regularly encountered tanager; found on 5 days at several sites

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*—Seen twice, mostly young/female birds, at Ruiz Cortines and Rancho El Mirador

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*—One bird seen doing its display song on the first visit to Las Barrancas

Morelet's Seedeater *Sporophila moreletii*—A few found at Cansaburro but many more seen in Ruiz Cortines

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*—Seen on 2 days at Ruiz Cortines and Rancho El Mirador

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus*—Found during the walk around Ruiz Cortines

Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps*—This sometimes noisy and conspicuous saltator was found on 4 days at Cansaburro, the Hotel Playa Azul, Cascada de Texolo, and Macuiltépetl

Mammals (5 species)

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica*—Seen at Nanciyaga

Red-bellied Squirrel *Sciurus aureogaster*—Found on 5 days at several sites; a conspicuous species

Mantled Howler Monkey *Alouatta palliata*—Heard and one individual “packin’ a pair” at Nanciyaga

Perote Ground Squirrel *Xerospermophilus perotensis*—Found on the altiplano near Laguna Alchichica

Long-tailed Weasel *Neogale frenata*—One seen running along a fence on the road to Tlacotalpan from the bus

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (5 species)

Northern Spiny-tailed Iguana *Ctenosaura acanthura*—Seen twice; on the Rio La Antigua boat trip and at Las Barrancas

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*—One spotted perched in a tree at Paso Mariano

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina*—One seen at the Hotel Playa Azul

Mediterranean House Gecko *Hemidactylus turcicus*—Heard and seen several times, most memorably in the restaurant of the Hotel La Finca, Catemaco

Graphic Spiny Lizard *Sceloporus grammicus*—Photographed on the rocks by the canyon overlook on the road to Las Minas



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INVERTEBRATES (A partial list of 26 species noted, thank you to Bob Behrstock for identification)

ODONATA (Dragonflies and Damselflies)

Red Saddlebags *Tramea onusta*—Migrants seen from the rooftop at the Hotel Bienvenido
Black Saddlebags *Tramea lacerata*—Migrants seen from the rooftop at the Hotel Bienvenido
Wandering Glider *Pantala flavescens*—Migrants seen from the rooftop at the Hotel Bienvenido
Filigree Skimmer *Pseudoleon superbus*—Several individuals at the Miramar viewing area
Four-spotted Pennant *Brachymesia gravida*—Seen at the Miramar viewing area
Great Pondhawk *Erythemis vesiculosa*—Seen at the Miramar viewing area

LEPIDOPTERA (Butterflies and Moths)

Malachite *Siproeta stelenes*—Seen at Playa Juan Angel
Silver Emperor *Doxocopa laure*—Seen at Playa Juan Angel
Common Melwhite *Melete lycimnia*—Seen at Chichicaxtle
Ruddy Daggerwing *Marpesia petreus*—Seen at the Miramar viewing area
Broken Silverdrop *Epargyreus cruza*—Seen at the Miramar viewing area
White Peacock *Anartia jatrophae*—Seen at Las Barrancas
Banded Peacock *Anartia fatima*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador
Common (Blue) Morpho *Morpho helenor*—Observed flying at Las Barrancas and Nanciyaga
White Morpho *Morpho polyphemus*—Flying through the trees on the road past Ruiz Cortines
Anna's Eighty-Eight *Diaethria anna*—Seen at Macuiltépetl
Julia Heliconian *Dryas iulia*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador
Rosita Patch *Chlosyne rosita*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador
Longwing Crescent *Eresia phillyra*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador
Pale-banded Crescent *Anthanassa tulcis*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador
Polymnia Tigerwing *Mechanitis polymnia*—Found at the Hotel Playa Azul

ORTHOPTERA (Grasshoppers, Crickets, and Katydid)

Golden-horned Lubber Grasshopper *Taeniopoda auricornis*—Seen at Las Barrancas
Grasshopper *Chromacris colorata*—Seen at Rancho El Mirador

HEMIPTERA (True Bugs, Hoppers, Aphids, and Allies)

planthopper *Cerogenes auricoma*—Many individuals of this interesting species seen at the Miramar viewing area

HYMENOPTERA (Ants, Bees, Wasps, and Sawflies)

sawfly (caca de luna) *Perreyia* sp.—Several groups seen at Macuiltépetl

ARACHNIDS

Golden Silk Spider *Trichonephila clavipes*—Seen tending webs at Nanciyaga

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MAP OF LOCATIONS VISITED – provided by ProNatura

