

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Trip List October 20-26, 2021 Extension Oct. 26-29, 2021

Compiled by Peg Abbott

Guides David MacKay and Carlos Gonzales with Peg Abbott of Naturalist Journeys and
8 participants: Don, Ann, Walter, Lynn, Betsy, Debbie, Bev and Andy
With Erik Martinez, guide and Peg, Don, Ann and Debbie

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

(LO)=Seen only by a tour leader

(I)=introduced

(E)=Mexican Endemic

(#) after species name = number of days seen of 5 for main tour and if seen on extension

Summary: This was our first Oaxaca trip since 2017 and we opted for a short version of the tour with a focus on the Oaxaca Valley. This was paced so we would have some time to dine and explore the vibrant life of Oaxaca City which we thoroughly enjoyed. North American migrants were returning by the day and mingling with the fascinating mix of residents including a number of Mexican endemic species. Birding highlights included three Long-tailed Wood-Partridge that came up into full view along a mountain roadside, seeing 15 species of hummingbirds, 22 species of wood warblers plus Olive Warbler, having good looks at some elusive species such as Oaxaca Sparrow and Russet Nightingale-Thrush. A confiding, singing Bridled Sparrow made the top trip tier bird list, as did a stunning male Mountain Trogon that posed for long scope views. A post-tour scouting trip followed, into the Sierra Madres south of Oaxaca with lodgings at Cabinas Puesto del Sol, birding in the southern Sierra Madres and a lower elevation moist forest site at La Pluma Road. This short extension into the southern Sierra Madres added a good number of species and will be a part of our future journeys. We all relished the food and fun times which in combination with time in this powerhouse of biodiversity was superb!

BIRDS (188 species recorded, 148 on the main tour and an additional 40 - those in green below - seen as additional species on the post-tour scouting trip to the highlands south of Oaxaca which included an excursion over the divide into lower elevation moist forest at La Pluma Road)

NEW WORLD QUAILS: Odontophoridae (1)

Long-tailed Wood-Partridge *Dendrortyx macroura* (E)—(1+Ext) Absolutely incredible views as three came up onto the side of the road as we drove in the highlands. David and the driver had seen them, but they are SO shy, we all stayed in the bus and to our surprise they came up to investigate as David gave them some light playback (inside the bus). Wow! We also heard them on the scouting trip one morning at the Cabinas Puesto del Sol.

GREBES: Podicipedidae (1)

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus*— (1) Several individuals (six) were seen at the Presa Piedra Azul Reservoir near Teotitlan, some were calling.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (8)

White-faced Quail Dove *Zentrygon albifacies*—(Ext) Heard Only (HO) but several individuals and a lovely morning chorus on the slopes above the La Pluma road as we walked through lower elevation moist forest.

Rock Pigeon (I) *Columba livia*—(5+Ext) Urban and agricultural areas, at least forty our first day at Parque Juarez.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (I) *Streptopelia decaocto*— (3) First encountered our first morning driving out the road up to Monte Alban.

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*— (3) Five were noted on our second stop in open habitat on the road up to the village of Teotitlan. Seen at close range at lunch at Rancho Zapata.

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*— (2) Two were seen our first morning on the road to Monte Alban.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*—(2+Ext) Heard as we watched Bridled Sparrow along a ravine above Teotitlan. Seen on the La Pluma road in moist forest of the southern Sierra Madres.

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*— (3) Widespread, seen often. We had very close looks our first afternoon at Parque Juarez in Oaxaca with pretty light for photography.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*— (1) Common in agricultural areas, we saw thirty or more in the first stop we made going up the rug-making village of Teotitlan, just off the main highway, we saw 30 or more. Several were seen on the road to Yagul.

CUCKOOS, ANIS and ROADRUNNERS: Cuculidae: (1)

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* —(Ext) Seen and heard on the La Pluma road in the southern Sierra Madres of Oaxaca, in moist tropical forest at lower elevations on the Pacific side.

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae (1)

Mexican Whip-poor-will *Antrostomus arizonae*—(Ext) HO on the grounds of Puesta del Sol Cabinas in the very early morning.

SWIFTS: Apodidae (1)

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*—(Ext) Thirty or more seen above the ridgeline as we stopped along our drive back to Puesta del Sol Cabinas from a day at lower elevations.

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (15)

Mexican Violetear *Colibri thalassinus*—(3+Ext) Vocal and defending territory along a flowering ravine on an offshoot road to Camino la Cumbre, we got good looks and watched them feed and chase each other. Their constant vocalization was the clue to their presence. Seen on a sharp curve on the road to Benito Juarez from Teotitlan, where we got up to lush habitat in a wooded ravine.

Rivoli's Hummingbird *Eugenes fulgens*—(2+Ext) Seen first on the afternoon of our first mountain day, walking the road on the east side of the Camino la Cumbre. Seen again on our second day in the mountains and in mountains while on the extension, both at feeders there and in the wild.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

Plain-capped Starthroat *Heliomaster constantii*— (1) LO, seen only by Peg, the time we diverted our walk up a canyon as intended and worked a new set of roads into rural villages by Teotitlan. One individual was seen feeding on flowers along with more common Ruby-throated and Berylline.

Amethyst-throated Mountain-gem *Lampornis amethystinus*— (1) Seen well in the afternoon of our first mountain day, on the east side of the Camino la Cumbre.

Blue-throated Mountain-gem *Lampornis clemenciae*— (2) First seen at the Cafeteria Colibri, a delightful spot for lunch in the mountains where we could scan from a viewing deck before downing rich soups, breads, coffee and fruit drinks. They came in very close to feeders and also perched at a distance, calling.

Garnet-throated Hummingbird *Lamprolaima rhami*— (Ext) Wonderful views and some photo ops of this gorgeous hummingbird in the highlands at Puesto del Sol Cabinas, coming into their feeders.

Beautiful Hummingbird *Calothorax pulcher* (E)— (1) This endemic species lives in some of the most splendid scenery imaginable, we found two on the road to Yagul, feeding on blooms of large columnar cacti. Sadly, much of this habitat is being converted to plantations of mescal.

Blue-capped Hummingbird *Eupherusa cyanophrys* (E)—(Ext) A specialty of the moist forest of the southern Sierra Madre del Sur, Erik made sure we found this species. We had two different individuals and got very good looks.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*— (4+ Ext) Quite numerous at times, we had 3 feeding out visibly on flowers the first morning we walked up to Monte Alban. Seen around Teotitlan. Our best looks at this species came while we were looking for Beautiful Hummingbird along a row of blooming cacti on the road to Yagul.

Rufous Hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus* — (1) Seen in the flowering hedge row adjacent to our lodgings at the Cabins Puesto del Sol.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird *Selasphorus platycercus*— (3) Seen and heard working flowers as we walked a road on the east side of Camino la Cumbre.

Bumblebee Hummingbird *Atthis heloisa* (E)— (Ext) A star attraction at the Puesto del Sol Cabinas, they fed on shrubbery around the lodge and returned often to favorite perches. We saw 3+ individuals, at least one female and two males working the area.

Dusky Hummingbird *Phaeoptila sordida* (E)— (4) Our first looks came in the city park we explored our first day in Oaxaca. But they were widespread and showed up where we searched for Bridled Sparrow and in other more open terrain we could hear and see them often as background to the bird chorus. Seen on the road up to Teotitlan. Friendly and confiding at Rancho Zapata where we had lunch.

White-eared Hummingbird *Basilinna leucotis*— (4) A fairly common species once up in its oak and pine woodland habitat. We first spotted them along an offshoot road to Camino la Cumbre. We had good views at the feeders at Café Colibri. Seen on a rural road in the valley near Teotitlan and then at higher elevation later that day on the route to Benito Juarez in a lush ravine. Here they fed so low there were at our knees, quite close! Tallying six on our return to Camino La Cumbre was impressive.

Green-fronted Hummingbird *Leucolia viridifrons* (E)— (1)

Berylline Hummingbird *Saucerottia beryllina*—(5+Ext) Fairly common, first encountered on the road up to Monte Alban where we got very good looks at perching males that returned to the same perch while feeding and chasing off other hummingbirds. Seen on rural road areas near Teotitlan.

RAILS, CRAKES, AND ALLIES: Rallidae (1)

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

American Coot *Fulica americana*— (1) Six were seen at the reservoir above Teotitlan.

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (1)

Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus*— (1) Two individuals were scoped along the shoreline at the reservoir above Teotitlan.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (5)

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*— (1+Ext) Nine individuals were seen and scoped at the reservoir above Teotitlan.

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*—(Ext) A lone individual on the island at Mojas Reservoir.

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii*—(Ext) Three individuals, probably migrants scoped on the far shore of the reservoir.

Wilson's Snipe *Gallinago delicata*—(Ext) Three individuals seen at Mojas Reservoir, a small body of water on the drive out of the valley and into the southern mountains. They were surprisingly out in the open on a small grassy island.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*—(1+Ext) Two individuals seen feeding and in flight at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (5)

Great Egret *Ardea alba*— (1) One individual flying and then feeding along the shoreline at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*— (1) Five individuals were noted at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*— (1) One individual was seen on the far shore of the reservoir at Teotitlan.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*—(3+Ext) Seen in agricultural areas of the valley and on the scouting trip, 25 at Mojas Reservoir.

Green Heron *Butorides virescens*— (1) One individual posing well was seen in the back bay we walked around at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae (2)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*—(5+Ext) Widespread and common. Seen flying over Camino la Cumbre our first day up in the mountains. Also seen from lower elevations in the valley, such as on the road to Yagul.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*—(5+Ext) Widespread and common, seen daily at most stops.

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (8)

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*— (1) Seen on the road up to Atzompa, two were spotted above us as we walked the road birding.

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*— (1+Ext) Seen above us as we walked the road across from Monte Alban one afternoon, to the archeological ruins at Atzompa.

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*—(Ext) Seen on the grounds of Cabinas Puesto del Sol, perched and in flight.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

White-tailed Hawk *Geranoaetus albicaudatus*— (1) Beautiful views of a pair flying above us as we walked the road across from Monte Alban to the ruins of Atzompa (closed) in the late afternoon; we will all remember a grand view back on the city and these two fine hawks in view for some time, circling.

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni*— (2) Our first sighting was along the Calle El Gallo Road as we were birding early morning ahead of the ruins opening up. We also saw one on the road up to Atzompa, which was closed due to Covid but had some grand views which afforded us several good raptor sightings that day.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*—(Ext) Seen on our day trip over to La Pluma moist forest

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*—(Ext) A good view of a lone bird on the wing, gliding along on the updraft of the mountain slope we had descended to do some lower elevation birding from Puesto del Sol Cabinas.

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*— (2) Seen flying over agricultural areas on our first stop off the highway going up to Teotitlan. Seen again in the distance flying from the road to Yagul. Another was spotted from the mountains off the Camino la Cumbre.

OWLS: Strigidae (2)

Northern Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium gnoma*— (1+Ext)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*—(Ext) Seen on the scouting trip, at lower elevation as we birded the La Pluma road area.

TOUCANS: Ramphastidae (1)

Northern Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*— (Ext) Six individuals were seen flying high along a ridgeline above the moist tropical forest we viewed from the La Pluma road, they in time came down to where we got good views.

TROGONS: Trogonidae (1)

Mountain Trogon *Trogon mexicanus*— (2) Lynn exclaimed as she saw the first one go by, up in the mountains the first day we visited when we had mist and fog and colder temperatures. We were engrossed in watching our first Gray-barred Wren flock and hoping to find Dwarf Jays. Our second day up in the same terrain proved fruitful when we located a male and got the scope on it. Don was able to track it to a second perch where we could scope it for all to see, a stunning bird and an excellent look.

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (2)

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*— (1) Seen flying across the reservoir at Teotitlan, calling.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*— (1) One individual was in the small back bay we walked around at the reservoir at Teotitlan, and we were able to get very good looks.

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (6)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*— (1) Two were seen on our return to the mountains at Camino La Cumbre.

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus*— (1) Good views in the tall standing trees visible from the Café Colibri.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

Gray-breasted Woodpecker *Melanerpes hypopolius* (E)— (1) Two were seen feeding in tall cactus on the home that sits at the edge of the reservoir at Teotitlan. We also saw them well at a restaurant later the same day – also with large cacti, Rancho Zapata. Seen on cacti on the road to Yagul.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker *Dryobates scalaris*— (2) Lynn spotted our first one on the Monte Alban Road our first morning, at some distance, but in the scope we got clear views. We had them on several other outings including the road to the ruins of Atzompa.

Hairy Woodpecker *Dryobates villosus*— (2+Ext) Pine forests of Camino la Cumbre.

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*— (2) HO, on the road with a ravine and large trees near Teotitlan, a drainage going into higher country from the valley.

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (3)

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*—(2+Ext) Two individuals were in the road and then flying on the road to Yagul. We had another on the road to Atzompa with its fine view back on the city.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*— (Ext) Seen passing through agricultural lands in the Oaxaca Valley, on wires.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*—(2+Ext) One individual seen walking up to Monte Alban along the Calle El Gallo Road, seen in the morning as we searched this open area going up the ruins. Another was seen on the road to Yagul, distant.

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: Furnariidae (3)

White-striped Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes leucogaster* (E)— (1) Seen well in a lush, wooded ravine at a sharp bend in the road, climbing in elevation on the road to Benito Juarez from Teotitlan.

Spot-crowned Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes affinis*— (1+Ext) Patience paid off and we were rewarded with views our final day up on the Camino la Cumbre. Also seen later on our extension.

Ruddy Foliage-gleaner *Clibanornis rubiginosus*— (Ext) (HO) We heard this well but were focused on seeing the Blue-capped Hummingbird, an endemic. Would have loved more time on La Pluma road in lower elevation moist forest habitat!

BECARDS AND TITYRAS: Tityridae (1)

Rose-throated Becard *Pachyramphus aglaiae*— (1+Ext) Two were seen on the route to Benito Juarez from Teotitlan, at very close range. They were in a wooded ravine that was quite lush, and we were above them, wonderful views. Seen well on the La Pluma road in moist forest descending from the Southern Sierra Madres de Sur on the scouting trip.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (23)

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma imberbe*— (2) Seen on the road to Atzompa. Then another was found our final day at the last stop at Tuxtepec.

Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata*— (2+Ext) Seen on the grounds of Monte Alban near the parking area. We saw it again at similar elevation on the road to Atzompa. Seen on La Pluma road in the southern Sierra Madre de Sur.

Pileated Flycatcher *Xenotriccus mexicanus* (E)— (1) (LO) Seen by Peg at the Café Colibri behind the restaurant where a little flock came through and there were brush piles and quite a bit of activity.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

Tufted Flycatcher *Mitrephanes phaeocercus*— (1+Ext) Seen at our final stop the last day, in an open area by a stream and agricultural field. Great views!

Greater Pewee *Contopus pertinax*— (1+Ext) Seen in the same area as the Tufted Flycatcher our final day, perched in an open-crowned tree for excellent views.

Western Wood-Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*— (1)

Hammond's Flycatcher *Empidonax hammondi*— (Ext) Good views of a lone individual feeding and returning to same perch, on a ridgeline of the mountains south of Oaxaca, not far from our lodge.

Gray Flycatcher *Empidonax wrightii*— (1) Seen in open habitat, going up the Teotitlan in the mix of villages, shrub clusters and fields.

Dusky Flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri*— (1) One individual seen in shrubbery on the road to Atzompa.

Pine Flycatcher *Empidonax affinis*— (Ext) A few individuals seen walking the road into the village of San Mateo in lush pine woodland

Cordilleran Flycatcher *Empidonax occidentalis*— (Ext) One individual seen and heard in moist forest of the Southern Sierra Madre de Sur mountains south of Oaxaca.

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*— (1) Two were present, feeding and calling at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

Say's Phoebe *Sayornis saya*— (2) Seen around buildings on our first stop going up to Teotitlan. Seen again near a farm as we explored the northern part of the valley on several unnamed roads on our fourth day.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*— (3+Ext) Beautiful views on our first and second stops going up to the village and reservoir at Teotitlan and then two posing well at the Reservoir. Also, two at Mojas Reservoir in the lower Valley. Present at lunch where we dined outside at Rancho Zapata. Seen on the road to Yagul.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*— (2+Ext) Heard on the grounds of Monte Alban.

Nutting's Flycatcher *Myiarchus nuttingi*— (2) Two individuals seen at close range with chance for photography, calling, on a rural road we explored in the valley, not far from Teotitlan. We had another two on the road to Atzompa.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*— (4) First seen at Parque Juarez in Oaxaca City. Seen at our first stop going up to Teotitlan on phone wires. One was spied at the reservoir at Teotitlan.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*—(4+Ext) First observed at Parque Juarez in Oaxaca City. Seen at a number of locations, including the road to Yagul. Seen at Mojas Reservoir in the lower valley.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*—(Ext) Seen on the scouting trip when we dropped into moist tropical forest at lower elevation on the La Pluma road

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*—(1+Ext) First seen at Parque Juarez in Oaxaca City. Seen at Mojas Reservoir in the lower valley.

Cassin's Kingbird *Tyrannus vociferans*— (4) Four were quite noisy and visible our first morning walking the shrubby terrain on the road up to Monte Alban. Seen on the way into Teotitlan and on rural roads of the valley. Noisy and present on the road to Yagul. They were present with Western Kingbird on our fourth day to the northern parts of the valley on several unnamed roads.

Thick-billed Kingbird *Tyrannus crassirostris*— (1) Ann spied this one, calling loudly atop a cactus as we waited for feeding bouts from the Beautiful Hummingbird, one individual.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*— (1) Ten were seen in the lower part of one of the unnamed roads we explored on our fourth day in the northwestern part of the valley.

VIREOS: Vireonidae (6)

Golden Vireo *Vireo hypochryseus* (E)—(2+Ext) First seen at the ruins at Monte Alban in a mixed flock below us as we left the ruins. Good looks at Camino la Cumbre in the mountains. Seen on the La Pluma road in moist tropical forest

Slaty Vireo *Vireo brevipennis* (E)— (2) On the road to Atzompa, those of us present will long remember the singing bush. This bird was first heard down in the bottom of the ravine below the road, and we were happy to be responded to us calling and seemed to be coming in to view. It did come in, but stayed deep inside a bush, not affording us a view!

Dwarf Vireo *Vireo nelsoni* (E)— (2) We heard this bird well the first day and were so happy to get very good views of it the next, in foothills habitat above Teotitlan on one of the rural, unnamed roads we explored.

Hutton's Vireo *Vireo huttoni*— (1+Ext) Seen our final day in a mixed flock up on Camino la Cumbre and then again in the mountains during our extension.

Blue-headed Vireo *Vireo solitarius*—(1+Ext) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads. Seen on the La Pluma road in moist tropical forest

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*— (3+Ext) Seen on our first day walking up to Monte Alban. In similar habitat and elevation, we found them on the road to Atzompa.

SHRIKES: Laniidae (1)

Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*— (1+Ext) Seen at Rancho Zapata behind the restaurant, and then on phone wires driving out of Oaxaca Valley on our post tour scouting trip

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (5)

Green Jay *Cyanocorax luxuosus*—(Ext) Five individuals seen on the La Pluma road in moist tropical forest, such colorful gorgeous birds. Only encountered when we dropped into moist forest at lower elevation.

Dwarf Jay *Cyanolyca nanus* (E)— (1) Second day up at Camino la Cumbre was a charm, walking down a mountain road David heard this species come in where we had a group of Gray-barred Wren. They were feeding across a slope but moved at a pace we got the scope on them and got some good views. This one was high on everyone's list, so high-fives were made all around.

Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*— (3+Ext) Seen along the Camino la Cumbre in the mountains. Seen on the road to Benito Juarez in lush habitat, often with Gray-barred Wren flocks, active and vocal.

Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay *Aphelocoma woodhouseii*— (4) First noted on our walk on the east side of Camino la Cumbre in the mountains, at a small farm feeding around the buildings and clearing. Four were seen near a farm on the bend of a road in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads.

Common Raven *Corvus corax*— (1) One individual was seen up on the Camino la Cumbre our final day.

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (1)

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

Mexican Chickadee *Poecile sclateri*—(1+Ext) First seen in a mixed flock as we walked down a road in the general vicinity of Camino la Cumbre in the mountains, vocal and fun to see.

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (2)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*— (2) Seen on two days of our journey at middle elevation habitats.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*— (1) 11 individuals were seen in flight over an open area in the northwestern part of the valley on our fourth day where we explored several unnamed roads.

BUSHTITS: Aegithalidae (1)

Bushtit *Psaltriparus minimus*— (1+Ext) A dozen or so were seen in the area we found Bridled Sparrow, not far from the reservoir at Teotitlan.

KINGLETS: Regulidae (1)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Corthylio calendula*— (3+1) Fairly common and versatile, seen in mixed flocks in the mountains and at lower elevations.

NUTHATCHES: Sittidae (1)

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis*— (1) Three were noted on our return to Camino la Cumbre our final day of the main tour.

TREECREEPERS: Certhiidae (1)

Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*—(Ext) A few individuals seen on the road to San Mateo that we walked twice, through lush pine forest habitat in the mountains south of Oaxaca

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae (1)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea*—(4+Ext) Three were seen and very inquisitive of us on our first morning walking up to Monte Alban. Seen at the reservoir at Teotitlan and above there where we looked for Bridled Sparrow. Seen at close range on the road to Yagul. Twelve were our high count on the road to Atzompa. Fairly common and consistent at our stops throughout the journey.

WRENS: Troglodytidae (7)

Rock Wren *Salpinctes obsoletus*— (1) (2+Ext) Seen atop a building, singing away, as we stopped just off the highway turning up to Teotitlan.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*— (2)

Happy Wren *Pheugopedius felix*—Heard and seen as we dropped into moist forest along the La Pluma road of the southern Sierra Madres.

Bewick's Wren *Thryomanes bewickii*— (2) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads.

Gray-barred Wren *Campylorhynchus megalopterus* (E)— (3) Our driver Hector heard the first flock we observed on Camino la Cumbre. This large, social, vocal, and always busy wren was a treat to see, always the feeling of a bird explosion before your eyes. They were often associated with other species moving

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

through and feeding quickly. At the lush ravine on the road to Benito Juarez from Teotitlan they were in with Steller's Jays.

Boucard's Wren *Campylorhynchus jocosus* (E)— (2) A busy pair was courting and calling as we stopped just off the road to search that open habitat going up to Teotitlan.

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*— (1+Ext) We took time to find two that were quite vocal along the Camino la Cumbre so all could get a view, then we noted them several other locations by sound. Several seen in moist forest along the la Pluma road on our extension.

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae (3)

Blue Mockingbird *Melanotis caerulescens* (E)— (1+Ext) Calle El Gallo Road, going up the ruins, we actually saw three of this often-furtive species, two chasing each other and flying between large shrubs. Also seen briefly by the fruit dump area near our hotel.

Curve-billed Thrasher *Toxostoma curvirostre*— (2) Seen in open shrubby habitat as we stopped a couple of times going up the village of Teotitlan in the valley. Singing individuals were on the road to Yagul.

Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos*— (3) One was seen and heard singing a whole new repertoire than what we were used to on the road up to Monte Alban our first morning.

THRUSHES: Turdidae (6)

Brown-backed Solitaire *Myadestes occidentalis*— (2+Ext) This species emits one of the most beautiful sounds in all of nature, and we heard it all the time were in the mountains. Our first sighting was on one of the offshoot roads in the Camino la Cumbre area where we saw it well. We were able to find and watch them on two days of the main trip (both mountain days) and then again on our scouting trip post-tour.

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus aurantiirostris*— (1) Good views in the mountains south of Oaxaca with Erik. A few were right on the grounds of our lodge there at well.

Russet Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus occidentalis* (E)— (1) On our last full day with more time and good weather in the highlands, we had really clear (cracking!) views of this species, with at least two cooperative individuals at different times during the day.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus* — (Ext) Two were heard and seen in the forests of the La Pluma road area of the range south of Oaxaca with Erik.

White-throated Thrush *Turdus assimilis*—(Ext) Several individuals feeding on a tree with numerous berries outside of Peg's cabin at the Puesto del Sol cabins.

Rufous-backed Robin *Turdus rufopalliatu*s— (1+Ext) Peg found this species, three individuals feeding on fruiting Schefflera at the western-style restaurant we ate at, Rancho Zapatos, on the grounds. Also seen on the scouting trip post-tour.

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: Ptiliogonatidae (1)

Gray Silky-flycatcher *Ptiliogonys cinereus*— (4+Ext) We had great fun our first day seeing so many, about forty, at Parque Juarez in Oaxaca. They were avidly feeding, calling and clustered atop trees of the park for very good viewing. We had six near a farm at the bend of a road in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads. They were calling and perched at close range against the blue sky – nice!

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021
TOUR SPECIES LIST

OLIVE WARBLER: Peucedramidae (1)

Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus*— (2+Ext) Seen along the Camino la Cumbre in pines on both visits there. Seen regularly in pine habitat while on the extension as well.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (1)

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (I)— (4Ext) Seen in Oaxaca City and surrounding small villages.

PIPITS AND WAGTAILS: Motacillidae (1)

American Pipit *Anthus rubescens*— (1) Spotted and scoped along the shoreline of the reservoir at Teotitlan.

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (5)

Elegant Euphonia *Chlorophonia elegantissima*— (1) Seen on our last stop near Tuxtepec coming down from the Camino la Cumbre towards Oaxaca, a lovely species to add so close to the end of our trip.

Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia affinis*— (1) Seen in mid-elevation arid areas of the unnamed roads we explored our fourth day in the northern part of the valley.

House Finch *Haemorhous mexicanus*— (4) Seen on our first day walking up to Monte Alban on the road. A flock was seen at the reservoir at Teotitlan. Several were present on the road to Yagul.

Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*— (2+Ext) Seen in the highlands at all locations, good views. One memorable sighting was above the row of flowers we searched for hummingbirds on the east side of Camino la Cumbre where it came into tall trees, calling.

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria*— (4+Ext) Widespread, five were feeding together our first morning on the road up Monte Alban. Seen fairly often, we got good views at Rancho Zapata at lunch one day and we had them on the road to Yagul. Three were observed at the Mojas reservoir in the lower valley

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae (9)

Bridled Sparrow *Peucaea mystacalis* (E)— (1) This stunning sparrow put on a good show for us. We looked for it in shrubby habitat above a ravine, first hearing them calling below. One posed for us nicely, singing, in the general Teotitlan Valley area not far from the reservoir.

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch *Arremon brunneinucha*— (Ext) Seen near Puesto del Sol Cabinas in an area they put out fruit – great views and photos of several individuals.

Yellow-eyed Junco *Junco phaeonotus*— (Ext) Seen on the road to San Mateo, several individuals in pine forest habitat, in open areas of that.

Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolnii*— (1+Ext) Seen mainly by David on our third day at the reservoir area above Teotitlan, we saw this species several times in days following on the extension.

White-throated Towhee *Melospiza albicollis* (E)— (4) We had a great show on the east side of Camino la Cumbre, at a road intersection, fairly open habitat, with five individuals moving about and calling. We had them at lower elevation on the road to Teotitlan as well as at the reservoir. Seen on the road to Atzompa. Actually, pretty versatile and common.

Oaxaca Sparrow *Aimophila notosicta* (E)— (2) We found this on our fourth day, the morning we walked several unnamed roads in the general vicinity of Etna in the valley. Lynn spotted one on the fence as we scanned, and most were able to get it again for views.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

Spotted Towhee *Pipilo maculatus*— (1+Ext) We saw the odd-plumaged probably hybrid cross with Collared Towhee while at Café Colibri quite well. Later we saw several regular individuals of the Oaxaca subspecies at the Cabinas Puesto del Sol.

Collared Towhee (E) *Pipilo ocai*— (2+Ext) This bird captured a top trip bird for its outrageous show-off behavior. We even got phone videos of it strutting and calling. We found it again on our return trip to the mountains including the lunch stop at Café Colibri. Also seen at the fruit dump area by Puesto del Sol Cabins very well.

Rufous-capped Brushfinch *Atlapetes pileatus* (E)— (2) Seen in the same area as the Collared Towhee, at the road intersection in the Camino la Cumbre east side area.

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (7)

Black-vented Oriole *Icterus wagleri*— (2) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads.

Streak-backed Oriole *Icterus pustulatus*— (1) Seen on day four in mid-elevation habitats.

Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullockii*— (1+Ext) Seen on day four in mid-elevation habitats where fruiting trees were present. Another individual was in conifer trees and fruiting trees of hotel grounds.

Audubon's Oriole *Icterus graduacauda*—(1+Ext) Seen at the lush ravine at the bend of the road to Benito Juarez from Teotitlan, good views at one individual that perched, then flew across the ravine to perch in view. Seen at lower elevation along the La Pluma road in moist forests.

Scott's Oriole *Icterus parisorum*— (1) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads on our fourth day.

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater*—A lone individual caused us to get out the scope to investigate, seen on phone wires near a farm, going up to Teotitlan.

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*—(5+Ext) Two were seen the lower valley in agricultural areas.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (22)

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*—(3+Ext) First seen in the mixed flocks on Camino la Cumbre. Seen in the lush ravine on the road to Benito Juarez. Seen in mixed flock in moist forest on the La Pluma road.

Crescent-chested Warbler *Oreothlypis superciliosa*— (3+Ext) First good looks were in the lush, wooded ravine at the sharp bend in the road we birded on the road to Benito Juarez. What a beauty! We had three noted on our return to Camino la Cumbre the first stop by Corral de Piedras.

Tennessee Warbler *Leiothlypis peregrina*— (1+Ext) Seen on our final stop last day, then on La Pluma Rd.

Orange-crowned Warbler *Leiothlypis celata*— (5+Ext) One of the first warblers seen on our first morning walking up to Monte Alban, in a mixed flock, feeding. Seen in the mountains in flowers at the crossroads on the east side of Camino la Cumbre and in lower open habitat on the road up to Teotitlan. Seen on the road to Atzompa. Seen in moist forest on the La Pluma Road

Nashville Warbler *Leiothlypis ruficapilla*—(4+Ext) Widespread and fairly common, we got good looks the first morning walking up to Monte Alban. They were in flowering shrubs on the road into Teotitlan. With the warbler flocks on the La Pluma Road, lower elevation moist forest

Virginia's Warbler *Leiothlypis virginiae*—(3+Ext) We got very good looks and some photos on our first morning walking up the road to Monte Alban. Two were seen on the road to Atzompa. Also seen in moist forest on the La Pluma Road on our extension.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

MacGillivray's Warbler *Geothlypis tolmiei*—(1+Ext) One came in quite close on our return visit to the Café Colibri in the mountains. Another individual was seen at our last stop near Tuxtepec.

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitiayumi*—(Ext) Nice views of an individual in broad-leafed moist forest at lower elevation along the La Pluma road.

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*— (1+Ext) Seen on the first day in Oaxaca City and on the extension at the lower elevation of La Pluma road.

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Setophaga coronata*—(5+Ext) Very common, a good number were in the trees as we dined at Café Colibri in the mountains.

Black-throated Gray Warbler *Setophaga nigrescens*— (3) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads.

Black-throated Green Warbler *Setophaga virens*—(Ext) Seen in moist forest at lower elevations on the La Pluma Road

Townsend's Warbler *Setophaga townsendi*— (4+Ext) Widespread and with mixed flocks at a variety of elevations. We got repeated, good looks at this species.

Hermit Warbler *Setophaga occidentalis*—(2+Ext) Seen along the Camino la Cumbre Road, west side.

Grace's Warbler *Setophaga graciae*—(Ext) Seen in mixed flocks feeding, south of Oaxaca.

Rufous-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons*— (4+Ext) One of our first notable sightings, we got very good looks as we headed up the road to Monte Alban. It came into low shrubs right on the road and seemed to pose for us, two individuals that day. We had them at several locations, including the road up to Atzompa.

Golden-browed Warbler *Basileuterus belli*— (2) Fabulous looks along the lush, forested road in the mountains at Camino la Cumbre.

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*—(Ext) La Pluma Road area, a skulker!

Fan-tailed Warbler *Basileuterus lachrymosus*—(Ext) Seen in two spots, both in moist forest on the La Pluma Road, one near our lunch café gave good views.

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*— (5+Ext) Seen our first morning walking up to Monte Alban with other warblers. Versatile, it was common at various elevations and much at home in the lush forests of Camino la Cumbre in the mixed flocks there. It was in shrubs on the road to Teotitlan.

Red Warbler (E) *Cardellina rubra*—(2+Ext) Voted one of the top trip birds by several of the group, great sightings our first morning in its mountain habitat along the Camino la Cumbre were grand. We saw them throughout the morning but two came in quite close, even below us along a steep embankment and we feasted our eyes on them each time encountered. Those white cheek tufts are stunning and expressive when flared.

Painted Redstart *Myioborus pictus*—(Ext) A common member of the mixed flocks in pine forests once we were south of Oaxaca in the mountains

Slate-throated Redstart *Myioborus miniatus*— (3+Ext) First seen in the mixed flocks in lush forest on Camino la Cumbre alongside Wilson and Red Warblers. Also lower in the valley, seen on the road we explored after the reservoir site at Teotitlan at Vuelta Aguda.

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae (6)

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*— (3) First seen at the Parque Juarez in Oaxaca City. Three were seen in moist forest along the lower elevation La Pluma road in the southern Sierra Madres.

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*— (3+Ext) One individual was seen on the road to Atzompa.

Naturalist Journeys Oaxaca Valley: Birds, Culture, & Crafts



October 20 - 26, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

Red-headed Tanager *Piranga erythrocephala* (E)— (Ext) This beauty comes into the ravine near a little café in the La Pluma road area and we were so fortunate it came as we were there eating. Peg had lingered back to take some photos when several came in – a small flock with males and females – and she was able to alert the others. Fun!

Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus*— (1+Ext) Seen in the northwestern part of the valley where we explored several unnamed roads.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*— (1) Seen on the grounds of Monte Alban.

Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps*— (Ext) La Pluma road, lower elevation on the southern side of the mountains leading to the coast below Oaxaca

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae (4)

Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer *Diglossa baritula*— (1) Very good looks at one feeding low in flowers at the road intersection we spent time at on the east side of Camino la Cumbre.

Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena*— (1) One was spotted on the road below the Monte Alban ruins as we watched a mixed flock of warblers.

Common Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavopectus*— (Ext) Seen on the Carretera San Pedro del Sur, high on a ridgeline in the highlands on our scouting trip.

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*— (Ext) A flock of six were feeding alongside the road in moist forest of the lower elevation La Pluma Road on our scouting trip.

Mammals (1) species noted

Mexican Gray (Red-beilled) Squirrel *Sciurus aureogaster*— (3) Seen in and around Oaxaca City.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (3) species noted

Collared Lizard (1) Seen at Teotitlan

Whiptail, species (1) Rancho Zapata

Red-eared Slider (1) Teotitlan Reservoir

Butterflies – a few favorites that we photographed

Common Buckeye

Mexican Silverspot

Square-spotted Yellowmark

Guava Skipper

Three-tailed Tiger Swallowtail

Thaos Swallowtail

Mexican Sister

Cloudless Sulphur

Hairstreak, sp (Blotchy?)

Black-veined Greatstreak

On La Pluma road (lower elevation)

Firetip, sp.

Anna's 88

Simple Patch

Red-bordered Patch

Confusing Sister

Malachite

Juno Longwing

Isabella's Heliconian

Mexican Heliconian

Rusty-tipped Paige

Blue Morpho, sp.