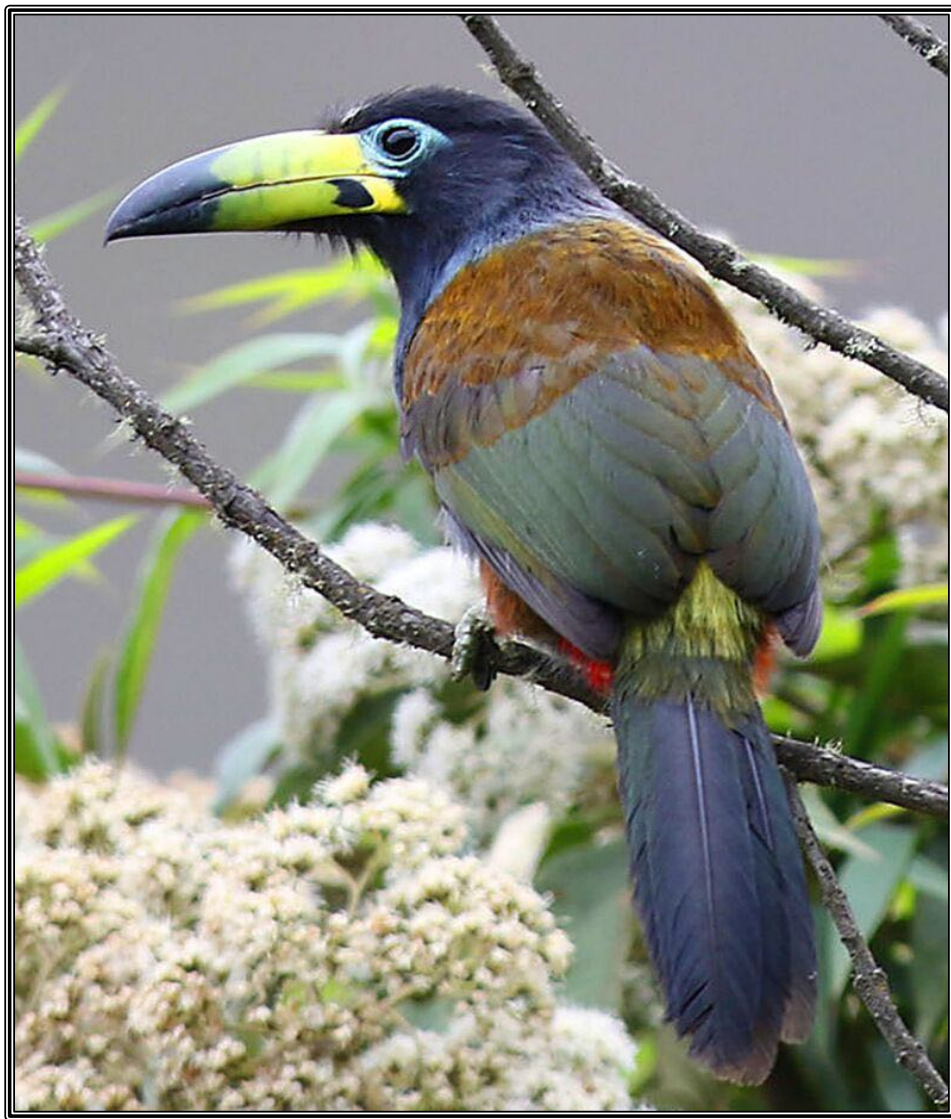




ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Bolivia Comprehensive



Hooded Mountain Toucan by Alasdair Hunter

Rockjumper Birding Tours



Chaco Pre-Tour: 28th August – 1st September 2015***Main Tour: 1st – 22nd September 2015******Apolo Post-Tour: 23rd to 27th September 2015*****Trip report compiled by tour leader: Forrest Rowland****Pre-Tour Top 5 Highlights**

1. Crested Gallito
2. Lark-like Brushrunner
3. Cream-backed Woodpecker
4. Black-legged Seriema
5. Many-colored Chaco Finch

Post-Tour Top 5 Highlights

1. Palkachupa Cotinga
2. Yungas Antwren
3. Rufous-crested Coquette
4. Black-bellied Antwren
5. Green-capped Tanager

Main Tour Top 10 Highlights:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Hooded Mountain Toucan | 6. Hairy-crested Antbird |
| 2. Black-masked Finch | 7. Ornate Tinamou |
| 3. Black-hooded Sunbeam | 8. Red-winged Tinamou |
| 4. Blue-throated Macaw | 9. Yungas Pygmy Owl |
| 5. Red-fronted Macaw | 10. Round-tailed Manakin |

Tour Intro

Bolivia has a very distinctive allure. It does not have the longest list of birds of any South American country. It does not have the best infrastructure or accommodations of any South American country. It doesn't even have a field guide to the birds of the country! However, Bolivia has more intrigue and potential than any other South American country. Bolivia has more barely accessed natural areas, more varied habitats yet to be explored, and more opportunity for visiting birders to actually contribute to the base of knowledge that is only very recently, and very slowly, being expanded by researchers and travelling birders alike. In short, Bolivia has quite a way to go in terms of creature comforts and access, but it is also an incredibly rewarding, mysterious, and fascinating country to explore!

The above paragraph says nothing of the endless, impressive, awe-inspiring backdrop against which a birding adventure in Bolivia plays out. Towering peaks soaring tens-of-thousands of feet high, canyons plunging thousands of feet deep, and the largest inland lake in all of South America (home to the most influential native culture on the continent) are daily landscapes one enjoys, even becomes accustomed to (though always impressed by), during a tour through the heart of the Andes in Bolivia. Dry Chaco forests, swampy Pampas grasslands, unique Chiquitania woodland, endemic-rich arid Andean



valleys, and the Bird-rich Yungas right up to scree slopes and bufedal wetlands at 15,000 feet are just some of the habitats in which we spent valuable time. In order to comprehensively bird the best that Bolivia has to offer we were treated to some of the most diverse, spectacular species and scenery, as well as being, by default, utterly immersed in truly remote, intact, Andean culture. Birding in Bolivia isn't just a trip; it's a unique, total experience.

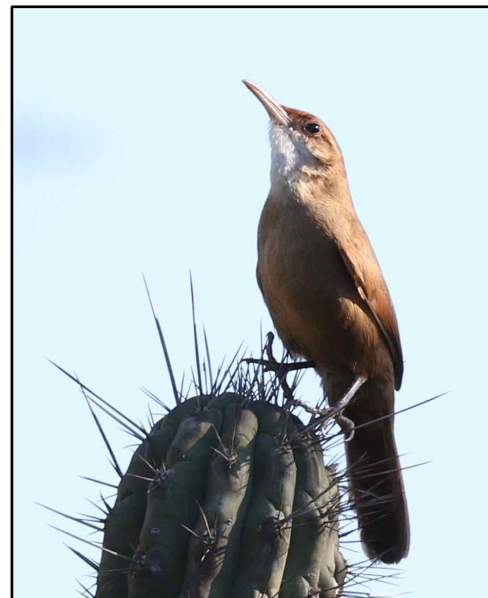
This, Rockjumper's inaugural tour to Bolivia, was one of the most exciting tours this author can recall guiding. New territory is always preferred by the explorer in all of us, and this tour offered new territory not only to myself and the participants, but even to our contacts right down to our well-travelled drivers! Trucks, vans, buses, boats, planes, small aircraft, every form of transport was utilized to arrive at the various choice locations we selected for this tour. Amazingly, save for a small laughable delay on the very last day of the tour, logistics went flawlessly and we all enjoyed safe, easy travel, decent-to-great accommodations, and good food throughout. As for the birds and the birding – it was as successful a tour to Bolivia as I have ever read about. Nesting season was in full swing, with our group recording some 90+ species showing clear evidence (copulation, food-carrying, etc.) of nesting being underway, and a few dozen others undergoing nest building and courtship. While this situation offers distinct challenges for the visiting birder and guide alike, we managed great views of nearly all sought-after species, with many bird experiences far surpassing our wildest expectations. All-tallied, 701 species were seen during the tour, with the total recorded reaching nearly 750 species. A staggering total! Ranging from the glorious Palkachulpa Cotinga and Hooded Mountain Toucan, right through the skulking tapaculos, similar-looking Canasteros, and wondrous variety of lovely tanagers and finches, we catalogued an impressive array of birds species including nearly all endemics possible, a number of critically endangered and endangered species, as well as many birds that are simply difficult to find most places, save here. I already look forward to our next visit!

Tour Summary

Our Bolivian adventure started out, as most do, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra. Unlike most tours, we started off by heading south. Highway 9 ("highway" being a very loose expression in Bolivian terms) bears nearly straight south to one of two borders with Argentina. For the first few hours of the drive, the highway runs through some good, fairly widespread, mixed scrub and Chiquitania woodland before gaining some slight elevation, paralleling the foothills of the Andes, with a few access points into some very interesting, utterly under-birded, dry forest, unlike anything I've ever seen elsewhere. This was but the first interesting habitat on our Chaco-focused Pre-Tour which would, in the end, net over 200 species in relatively species-poor (i.e. low-diversity) habitats! Though not the main focus of the pre-tour, we spent several hours in good scrub and this fascinating, bizarre, foothill forest.



Sneaky Tataupa Tinamous, confiding Chaco Puffbird, numerous Chaco Chachalaca, graceful Red-legged Seriemas, noisy Chotoy Spinetails distracting us from their nest, Greater Thornbird, Toco Toucan, Blue-crowned Trogons, White-barred Piculet, White Monjita, Rufous Casiornis, Plain Tyrannulet, Plush-crested Jay, White-banded Mockingbird, Screaming Cowbird, Saffron-billed Sparrow, White-bellied Seedeater, Ultramarine Grosbeak, and several other fine species were among the expected species in the variety of habitats we sampled *en route* to the Chaco habitats to which we would devote two full days. But it was all the bonus birds that took us by surprise! A wayward Brown-backed Mockingbird was our first surprise, and nearly the first bird of the entire trip. Several Dusky-legged Guans, Bicolored Hawk, Golden-collared Macaw, Ocellated Piculet, Black-banded and Tschudi's Woodcreepers, several Ochre-cheeked Spinetails, Straneck's and Sclater's Tyrannulets, Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher, and Green-backed Becards building a nest were all real treats. And we weren't even in the Chaco yet!!!



Chaco Earthcreeper
by Alasdair Hunter

Continuing south, we based our efforts out of a very comfortable Lodge in Caimiri, some 2 hours' drive from our desired habitat. The "old Highway to Paraguay" (little more than a bumpy dirt road) was our access to the "Green Inferno" detailed in accounts of the Chaco Wars. The dense, thorny, resilient plant life of the Chaco that extends from the base of the Southern Andes of Bolivia clear across Paraguay and into Argentina harbours a number of species adapted to a harsh existence. While not all the Chaco habitat endemics can be found in Bolivia, a great many can be.

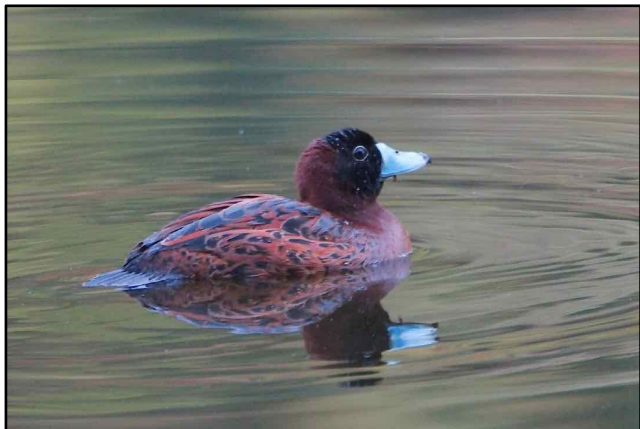


Blue-tufted Starthroat by Clayton Burne

Such was our quest to obtain views of as many of these range-restricted specialties as we could, given two days in proper habitat. We were extremely successful! The more exciting birds we managed to find included crippling views of Blue-tufted Starthroat, Checkered Woodpecker, Crested Hornero, Little Thornbird, two large family groups of the charismatic Lark-like Brushrunner, Short-billed and Sharp-billed Cansteros, Suiriri Flycatchers, numerous displaying Cinereous Tyrants, several Hudson's Black Tyrants, and one wonderfully cooperative Many-colored Chaco Finch that flew circles around us, sitting up to sing in



full view often. Black-legged Seriema was ridiculously easy. We ended up seeing 7, one of which nearly ran in front of our moving vehicle! Cream-backed Woodpecker played harder-to-get, until one huge male came bounding in on top of us to perch in full view.



Masked Duck by Marilyn Browne

Crested Gallito, being a terrestrial member of the Tapaculo family, was often meant to be very difficult. Nevertheless, within 15 minutes of our initial attempts, we were enjoying great views of a territorial bird sitting up in a bush defending his patch. Chaco Earthcreeper held out until the final hour. We were seriously sweating this species, given that we had heard only one singing bird in two days. Then, finally, one called about 50 meters distant. Walking into its territory, we lured this vocal individual out of the dense understory to sit atop a native cactus and sing in the sun, right before our eager eyes. Sound dramatic?

Well, it was! Our experience in Chaco was topped off

with numerous waterfowl, and more widespread species being encountered as we set about our task of finding the more difficult birds. Satisfied, early on, with our time in the Chaco we headed back for more investigation of the foothill forest, where we encountered the biggest surprise to-date: TWO, not one, but two singing Southern Antpipits, both willing to defend their territories against my playback! Given that the range maps of this species in all references didn't put it within 500 miles of our location, I was incredibly pleased that we could offer another interesting data point for the understanding of birds in Bolivia.

We met up with the other participants who would join us for the Main Tour and Post-Tour extension in Santa Cruz, after our fun foray in the Chaco. Our birding began at the renowned Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens where, immediately upon our arrival, we were greeted by an excessively friendly Greater Rhea that decided we would be good judges to rate his mating display. We had to, literally, walk around the bird to proceed into the heart of this vast park. The morning in the gardens was great, albeit a slightly longer walk than anticipated. We were entertained by Blue-crowned Trogons, Amazonian Motmots, Rufescent Tiger Heron, and the two most important species of this birding site: Fawn-breasted Wren and Bolivian Slaty Antshrike.



Red-legged Seriema by Clayton Burne



We had a few of both species, including an unbelievable performance by a pair of Antshrikes that came within 15 feet of us! Judicious use of Ferruginous Pygmy Owl looped playback brought in the biggest variety. In one instance we had White-wedged Piculet, Golden-green Woodpecker, Little Woodpecker, Gilded Hummingbird, Black-capped Antwren, Yellow-olive Flatbill, Rufous Casiornis, White-bellied Tyrannulet, Straneck's Tyrannulet, Tropical Parula, Flavescent Warbler, Golden-crowned Warbler, Orange-headed Tanager, Grey-headed Tanager, Variable Oriole, and Purple-throated Euphonia were all mobbing us within 30 feet. Quite a parade of color of sound to start off the tour. Undulated Tinamou, Chestnut-fronted Macaw, Blue-crowned, Yellow-chevrons, and Green-cheeked Parakeets all put in appearances, as did Olivaceous, Black-banded, and Buff-throated Woodcreepers. An afternoon at the Lomas de Arena area, despite not being able to cross into the more pristine grasslands on the far side of the river, produced stellar views of Chaco Puffbird, stunning White Woodpecker, Chalk-browed and White-banded Mockingbirds, Peach-fronted Parakeet, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Rufous-fronted Thornbirds, Guira Cuckoo, Burrowing Owl, and many other fun, open country, species.



Getting onto the bird by Michel Livet

From Santa Cruz we headed west, and up, into the Andes. Before long we found ourselves overlooking the lovely Laguna Vulcan, where we enjoyed a cup of coffee, fresh cuyapes, and views of a confiding Masked Duck. Grey-necked Wood Rails and South American Agoutis roamed the golf course



Lark-like Brushrunner by Jonathan Rossouw

there, while we checked the forest patches nearby finding Ocellated Piculet, Moustached Wren, and a pair of excited Slaty Gnateaters that, given the chance, would've landed on me! We had great views of this often tricky species. Working down the entrance road, through bamboo-laden foothill forest, we picked up several nice species such Yungas Tody-Tyrant and Black-goggled Tanager. Bolivian Recurvebill, our main target, remained a heard only, though we had many fine consolation prizes. Yungas Tody-Tyrant and brief views of McConnell's Flycatcher were nice. The star of the morning was, undoubtedly, a male Yungas



Manakin that bulletted in to playback and put on a show for us! Although, seeing 9 Andean Condors in the sky together was certainly a close contender.

Heading uphill past Samaipata, on our way to Comarapa where we would be based for the next day's exploration of Serrania de Siberia, we made a targeted stop for none other than the iconic Giant Antshrike. We were rewarded with a male that sang for nearly 30 minutes in view!!! Rufous-capped Antshrike and huge flocks of Mitred Parakeets were an added bonus. Shortly before dusk, with still an hour to reach our destination, we made a brief stop when a flock of 37 Red-fronted Macaws came cruising over us toward their cliff roosts. As we weren't expecting an encounter with this species for another two days, we were ecstatic to see this much-anticipated, critically endangered species.

Serrania de Siberia is fast becoming a famous site for good reason. As the old main highway (remember, most of these are merely widened, graded, dirt roads with little traffic) ascends beyond Comarapa, up through the dry valley habitats towards Cochabamba, a full day's drive away, it crosses the Serrania de Siberia. This high mountain range captures what moisture there is in the atmosphere allowing lush high-elevation southern Yungas forests to thrive on its steep slopes. Access, in the form of side roads and tiny footpaths, is plentiful, though often not needed as birding the main road can be outstanding. We had but one day to work our way down from the higher parts of the Serrania, back to Comarapa, sampling the myriad of habitats along the way. The weather cooperated, as did a number of wonderful bird species. Several mixed flocks and a few responsive individuals made for a lovely morning. Blue-capped Puffleg and Violet-throated Starfrontlet were both at the top of the list of highlights this morning, as both were seen very well, with lingering looks in varying light conditions playing off their



Red-tailed Comet
by Dubi Shapiro



Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager by Dubi Shapiro

inherently vibrant colours. While Black-winged Parrots flew by twice but did not land, Bar-bellied Woodpeckers gave unparalleled, eye-level views, aside Pearled Treerunner, the distinct *discolor* subspecies of Light-crowned Spinetail, numerous Buff-banded and Tawny-rumped Tyrannulets, Pale-legged Warbler, Brown-capped and Spectacled Whitestarts, Superciliaried Hemispingus, Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager, Blue-backed Conebill, and a number of Bolivian Brush Finch. The obviously unique *argentines* subspecies of Common Bush Tanager seen here is a likely split,



as well as the odd-sounding form of Blue-winged Mountain Tanager that is common. The bird of note here was definitely the pair of Trilling Tapaculos that very nearly landed on me while I was kneeling down, playing for them. It's uncommon enough to have great views of a Tapaculo, much less common still to have the entire group of 10 participants enjoy that experience. Birding our way back down to Comarapa, we made stops after lunch for one of Bolivia's most-wanted: Red-tailed Comet. This is probably one of the most widely-recognized of all Neotropical hummingbirds, and rightly so. After some diligent searching we had several nice views which would only be improved upon over time.

A quick jog down a side-track produced Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant, Rufous-sided Warbling Finch, Pampa Finch and a responsive pair of Rusty-vented Canasteros, which we would encounter at a few other sites as the tour progressed. Given that we were pressed for time due to an unforgiving road-closure schedule subject to the whims of the road construction crew responsible for the "improvements", we bagged out a bit early today to make the 5PM, rather than 7PM, passing back to Comarapa. This left two star species waiting for us the following morning. After a full night's rest, we



Red-fronted Macaw by Dubi Shapiro

were ready for Olive-crowned Crescentchest and Spot-breasted Thornbird, two species which suffer a rather odd elevational distribution in Bolivia and therefore require a targeted effort. Both species showed spectacularly the following morning! A pair of Crescentchests, characteristically, came slinking in through the underbrush to within 15 feet of the speaker, before they (rather uncharacteristically) decided to climb up into bare bushes and sing. After several minutes of playback at a stakeout, a pair of Spot-breasted Thornbirds came rocketing up the hill after us (it was foggy, and they hadn't woken up, it seemed). The pair sat together on a limb, duetting and displaying for a good 3 minutes. Throw in a flock of Grey-hooded Parakeets, some Cliff Flycatchers, White-winged Black Tyrant a flock of Fawn-breasted Tanagers, and we had a nice little early morning clean-up trip before the 8AM road closure forced us back below Comarapa.

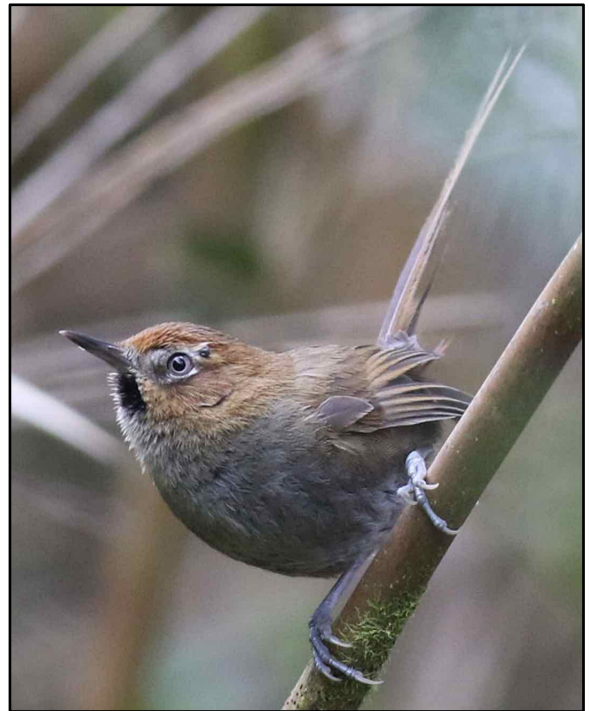
We had some ground to cover to make it to the Red-fronted Macaw Preserve in time for the evening flight of incoming birds to roost. This meant that we couldn't exhaust too much time birding *en route*,



save for a few stops. The uber-arid Dry Valley habitats of central Bolivia host a unique assemblage of species, some from drier habitats farther south, others from drier habitats farther east, and a few really high-quality, range-restricted endemics. While we did not manage to see all the hoped-for species on the drive in, during one full day on the Asociacion Armonia's property, and on the drive back towards civilization, we found all our special birds and managed some spare time to investigate some 2000-year-old Olmereque pictographs, to boot.

Red-fronted Macaws were numerous, and we had stunning views of perched and flying birds. With only 1000 individuals in existence, getting good views of the species was paramount. The equally range-restricted Cliff Parakeets share the roost with the Macaws, as do Southern Martins and Andean Swifts by the horde! Right from the porch of the lodge White-fronted Woodpecker, Bolivian Blackbird, Grey-crested Finch, Great Kiskadee, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, and several other species come in to feeders during breakfast hours. Birding the surrounding area produced great views of White-tipped Plantcutter, Black-chested Buzzard Eagle, Bolivian, Black-and-chestnut, and Ringed Warbling Finches, Band-tailed Sierra Finch, White-bellied Tyrannulet, the lovely Greater Wagtail-Tyrant, more Chaco Puffbird, Striped Woodpecker, the Sooty-fronted Spinetail, and a few other nice species. On our drive back towards the highway from the Preserve, we connected with Bolivian Earthcreepers in their preferred, steep-gully, habitat. A pair came right in to playback for us, allowing great views and photos. Though immersed in the birds, the unique scenery and lovely setting of the Red-fronted Macaw Lodge and adjacent Mizque River Valley were not lost to us. This was one of the most memorable sites of the tour, without doubt. It was made all the more memorable by the fact that our driver had to drive around, via back roads, across an obscure bridge to reach the main road opposite our lodge when it was time to leave. The river had risen too high for the bus to drive in the normal way!

After a night back in Santa Cruz to regroup, we headed west again, this time on the "new" highway to Cochabamba. Though slightly longer from a mileage standpoint, this relatively well-maintained highway is the quickest route to the bustling city of Cochabamba from the economic capitol city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. It flanks the Andes, to the north, on the humid side, before cutting abruptly up into Andes. The route makes a perfect altitudinal transect through bird-rich Yungas that remains mostly intact forest, given



Black-throated Thistletail
by Alasdair Hunter



the insanely steep nature of the terrain. We took advantage of the birding opportunities this new road provided. Over the course of two days, we focused on the middle and upper elevation Yungas between Miguelito and the Tablas Monte areas.



Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe by Marilyn Browne

Though one could arguably spend a week on this road seeing new birds every day, we had an amazing, action-packed two days. The list of exceptional encounters we had around Miguelito includes an entire family group of the exceedingly scarce Straw-backed Tanager, which we saw several times for unexpectedly wonderful views. One confiding Bolivian White-crowned

Tapaculo climbed around at our feet, while a family of Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulets came in so close we could actually see their cheeks! Crested Quetzals were numerous. Not just a few. They were numerous, and very responsive. Slaty Elaenia, Versicolored Barbet, Blue-throated Toucanet, Plum-crowned Parrots, Buff-browed and Montane Foliage-gleaners, Bolivian Tyrannulet posing for photos, Blue-naped Chlorophonia, Black-eared Hemispingus, and several Yungas Warblers all showed nicely, along with several other mixed-flock species. At higher elevations, in the Tablas Monte area, the Yungas Pygmy Owl show will not to be forgotten. Some 2 dozen species were seen in the vicinity of this responsive bird, including some excited Scaled and Tyrian Metaltails, Amethyst-throated Sunangels, not to mention the great looks that the Owl itself gave! An obliging Rufous-faced Antpitta showed for some participants, while Pale-footed Swallow, White-eared Solitaire, Golden-browed Chat-Tyrant, the rare Rufous-bellied Bush Tyrant, Dusky-green Oropendola, Collared Inca (Gould's race) and Long-tailed Sylph all showed well in a trout farm clearing where we would later eat lunch. The most spectacular birding in the Tablas Monte area involved a new track that led us straight to a massive mixed flock. This was the mother of mixed flocks, hosting Superciliaried, Orange-browed, Three-striped and Drab Hemispinguses, Streaked Tuftedcheek, Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant, White-throated Tyrannulet, Scarlet-bellied and Hooded Mountain Tanagers, Blue-capped Tanager, Light-crowned Spinetails, Pearled Treerunners, and more. It was the best high-elevation mixed flock of the entire tour. It wouldn't be topped until we reached the foothill forests of Sadiri, a week later. We had our first encounter with the endearing Black-throated



Thistletail here. Often a skulking bird, this lovely endemic species was seen time and again on our tour, always to our delight.



Giant Conebill
by Dubi Shapiro

After a somewhat tumultuous (for some) night in Cochabamba involving a host of teens occupying our hotel for an international science competition, we had an early start to make our way up the famous Cerro Tunari. Known locally for its beauty and quick access to staggering high elevation (the graded road reaches 14 000 feet), birders know it well as the best chance to see the endemic Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer, endemic Wedge-tailed Hillstar, near-endemic Maquis Canastero, scarce D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant, and iconic Giant Conebill, on a regular tour. It's also known as the only chance for the endangered and endemic, Cochabamba Mountain Finch. We had a full morning to explore the dry scrub and Polylepis treeline habitats that these special birds populate. The birding started well, and continued all morning long! Our first stop, relatively low down in agricultural scrub yielded up several great views of Grey-hooded Parakeet, Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer, Fulvous-headed Brush Finches, Rusty-browed and Rufous-sided Warbling Finches, Red-tailed Comet, and our first of

many Rufous-bellied Saltators. As we went higher, we made selective stops. Our second stop of the morning netted unrivalled views of the prized Cochabamba Mountain Finch point-blank, a family group of Streak-fronted Thornbirds, a few Rusty-vented Canasteros, White-browed Chat Tyrant, Rufous-webbed Bush Tyrant, White-winged Black Tyrant, and Bare-faced Ground Dove.

Near the bridge we encountered our first Greenish and Bright-rumped Yellow Finches, Black-hooded Sierra Finch, magnificent Giant Hummingbirds, both species of Cinclodes, and the elusive Maquis Canastero. A little higher up, in the village, we had a lovely pair of D'Orbigny's Chat Tyrant, delightfully dainty Tawny Tit-Spinetail, its commoner cousin the Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail, and a perfectly ironic chance encounter with the unmistakable Giant Conebill, which turned up in a Polylepis patch I swore was way too thin for the species. In this case, I happily ate my words! On the way back down, we chased down a few other nice species, including lingering, image-filled views of a beautiful male Wedge-tailed Hillstar. More than satisfied, we headed back down for a hearty lunch at our hotel in Cochabamba, before a brief



Cochabamba Mountain Finch by Dubi Shapiro



visit to Alalay Lake *en route* to the airport. As expected, at Alalay we racked up a huge list of waterfowl, several shorebirds, a few Plumbeous Rail, and our first (but not last) encounters with Wren-like Rushbird and the incomparably ornate Many-colored Rush Tyrant. How could such a colour scheme exist? And WHY? This spectacular creature, despite its broad range, never fails to impress. Thus ended the first “phase” of the tour – Santa to Cochabamba. Onwards to La Paz!!!! Oh Wait...why is the plane not moving? Right....the runway lights went out (sigh).

After a late arrival into the planet’s highest capital city of La Paz, we reluctantly awoke early, departing the fancy Hotel Ritz for our long drive to Chulumani. Actually, the drive is in the vicinity of 7 hours. The birding along the way was, of course, far too good to pass up. Birding the upper elevations of the “Death Road” down to Coroico from La Paz is remarkable. Being at 14 000 feet, surrounded by towering peaks and glaciers, is in and of itself, memorable. The scenery was sublime. Throw in Andean Goose, Huayco Tinamou, BOTH species of Seedsnipe, Puna Miners, 5 species of Ground Tyrants, Diuca Finches, Citron-headed Yellow Finch, Puna, Cordilleran, and Scribble-tailed Canasteros, Puna Tapaculo, one brief encounter with the enigmatic Short-



Puna Tapaculo by Merilyn Browne

tailed (Boulder) Finch, and one could claim that this morning’s birding at La Cumbre was truly epic!!! Stops lower down at Pongo added Aplomado Falcon, Olivaceous Thornbill, White-browed and Cinereous Conebills, Black-throated Flowerpiercer, and was topped off with a truly delicious trout lunch. Quite a morning, indeed, and plenty of birds and food to fuel the remainder of our drive down to Chulumani, in the middle Yungas near Apa Apa ridge.



**Bolivian Blackbird
by Dubi Shapiro**

One of the best birding areas in the country is the seldom-visited Apa Apa Preserve. This community-based project was inspired by landowners to whom nearly an entire ridge of pristine, middle-to-lower Yungas forest belonged. While this is still, technically, a privately-owned area, the community proudly boasts that the access and management of the area will be maintained by locals, no matter what. So far, the area remains wonderfully intact, and is home to an incredible range of species, including the near-endemic Scimitar-winged Piha. Given that the Piha was not displaying, not all tour members managed



looks at this rare bird, but a lucky few did! Nevertheless, the birding was superb. Mixed flocks were numerous and activity was consistent nearly all day. While many of the birds we encountered were welcome repeats (esp. Black-winged Parrot, Versicolored Barbet, and Straw-backed Tanager!) from the Miguelito or Tablas Monte areas, Blue-tailed Emerald, White-bellied Woodstar, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Red-billed Parrot, Strong-billed Woodcreeper, near-endemic Upland Antshrike (great views of this uber-rare bird!!!), Rough-legged Tyrannulet, Unadorned Flycatcher, Band-tailed Fruiteater, Inca Jay, Andean Solitaire, White-browed Brush Finch, Grey-eared Brush Finch and Slaty Tanager were all new for the tour, and all great birds. It was a wonderful day, a privilege, exploring this remote site that gets very little coverage and certainly warrants much more attention.

Road closure issues continued unabated, but still in a very manageable fashion. In order to beat the road construction closures and return to La Paz, then on to Lake Titicaca, we left Chulumani before the roosters began to crow. As the sun began to rise we found ourselves high in the upper Yungas, near Unduavi. After a few flushed Yungas (large-tailed) Doves, and a couple Andean Guan of the *sclateri* subspecies flew over us, dawn signalled that it was time to find a good place to pull over, eat breakfast, and let the day's festivities begin. Stopping just below the main highway, there is a wide pull out and a small trail leading away from the Chulumani/Yungas Road. A mixed flock was brewing nearby, and a bit of Yungas Pygmy Owl playback coaxed Citrine Warblers, White-banded Tyrannulets, Blue-backed Conebills, Hooded Mountain Tanagers, and Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanagers out of the bushes.

Shortly thereafter we wandered up the trail, where the same technique brought in Scaled and Tyrian Metaltails, White-crested and Sierran Elaenias, and the best views imaginable of a family group of rare Three-striped Hemispinguses, which hung around for photos. After a quick breakfast break, involving Barred Fruiteaters careening around us, a covey of Stripe-faced Wood Quail began to sing! The first few to



‘Waiting’ by Michel Livet



hustle over got looks. Trying a few tricks to pull them out of the roadside vegetation just wasn't working. Besides, Hooded Mountain Toucans began to call just up the road! If you've never seen a birding group running uphill at 11 000 feet, initiate Hooded Mountain Toucan vocalizations.

As the group coalesced at varying speeds to the origin of the sound, up popped a stunning adult Hooded Mountain Toucan, point blank, 30 feet away, at the top of the tree in which it was feeding. Words cannot describe the kind of elation such an encounter produces! This mythical creature, which has led plenty a fine birder on merry chase through the Andes, was finally there, before us, yawning, eating, and clapping its bill, without a care in the world. Somehow, the Wood Quail made their escape without a second thought from us. Euphoric, we strolled back down to the van enjoying leisurely views of several



Titicaca Grebe by Jonathan Rossouw

gorgeous White-collared Jays, Southern Mountain Caciques, and other species. The day was made. We birded little en route to Lake Titicaca, save for bagging yet another Yungas Pygmy Owl at Chuspipata and more fly-by Black-winged Parrots. Upon arriving at Lake Titicaca we grouped on the deck near the lake to see several endemic Titicaca (Short-winged) Grebes and Wren-like Rushbird.

We had but one full day in the Titicaca area, which we focused on two major sites: the Sorata Valley area, and wetlands in the vicinity. This high valley above Sorata is the only known home to the endemic Berlepsch's Canastero, as well as being one of the best places in the country for Black-hooded Sunbeam, arguably one of the most striking hummingbirds on earth. We began birding far too early, on the shady side of the canyon. Luckily, as the sun finally made its way across the valley, we gradually warmed up with hot coffee, tea, fresh pastries, Brown-backed Mockingbirds, Cinereous Conebills, White-winged Black Tyrants, and, finally, a pair of Berlepsch's Canasteros that came out of the eucalyptus to chase each other through the scrub. It was quite a show! The unfortunately-nondescript plumage of our first target bird was more than compensated for by the second. Black-hooded Sunbeam was more striking than description could allow for. Once, flying straight up from its shaded perch, the sun struck the bright blue rump and rufous tail with such intensity that I'm certain the image will be forever burned in memory.





Black-hooded Sunbeam
by Dubi Shapiro

On our return journey towards Titicaca, I spied an interesting-looking wet area in the dry Puna. We birded this site a bit in the morning and returned in the afternoon. Several species of shorebirds were present, as were a handful of Short-billed Pipits and Andean Flickers. On our return visit in the afternoon, however, no fewer than THIRTEEN Ornate were out, in the open, grazing the adjacent pasture plots! Dumbfounded, I searched my mind for a precedent and came up empty. I've never seen this many Tinamous together, anywhere. Searching for Flamingos lakeside we came up with only Chilean, but did come across four lovely Andean Avocets, several species of Waterfowl, and our only Andean Negrito of the tour.

We left the Andes in grand fashion - a small jet flight through (not over) the snow-capped peaks between Huayna Potosi and Illampu. What a way to start the day! Dawn was breaking across the mountaintops as we made our way northwest to the lowlands of Rurrenabaque and, ultimately, Madidi National Park. Comprising a huge area that extends down from the Apolo Plateau west to the Peruvian border, down through foothills into lowland Amazonian rainforest, Madidi National Park hosts an incredible diversity. To date, it is still considered to have the highest plant diversity of any park on the planet. To that extent, it also hosts one of the longest bird, mammal, reptile and amphibian lists as well, and new species are constantly being described. In fact, our assistant naturalist, Mauricio, is currently presenting his description of a new species of *Pristimantis* frog at a herpetological congress, literally, as I write this! Needless to say, we were all very excited about what the tropical lowlands of Bolivia would hold in store for us.

Our base of exploration was Asociacion Armonia's lovely, comfortable, perfectly-situated, Sadiri Lodge. Built atop the last outlying ridge of Andes. From a birding standpoint, Sadiri is perfect. It has access to dry (relative to other Amazonian microhabitats) lowland, wet Amazonian forest (which we didn't really drive down into), and wet east-Andean foothill forest, including all the microhabitats exclusive to outlying ridges at the eastern base of the Andes. In short, Sadiri is simply breath-taking. The bird list for the lodge grounds and near trails exceeds 350 species. That's lowball, because it



Sharpbill showing its red crest by Merilyn Browne



doesn't include the possible habitats readily accessed nearer to the community that runs the lodge, San Jose de Uchupumonias. While we decided to focus on the more endemic-rich, special habitats on the slope of the ridge itself, it is easily conceivable to see 450 species, or more, in a week based here. Add to this the best food, best accommodation (save for The Ritz, of course), best service of the tour, and it is very easy to conclude our feelings on this location – spectacular.



Black-masked Finch by Merilyn Browne

throated Barbet, Curl-crested Aracari, Bar-breasted Piculet, White-throated Woodpecker, 4 species of Macaw, Rose-fronted Parakeet, Rufous-tailed, Chestnut-winged, and Buff-throated Foliage-gleaners, Grey-throated Leaf-tosser, Tschudi's, Elegant, and Inambari Woodcreepers, Brownish-headed and Hairy-crested Antbird (best view possible, of a male attending a roadside antswarm!), Yungas, Red-billed, and Cinnamon-faced Tyrannulets, Spectacled Bristle Tyrant, McConnell's Flycatcher, White-crested Spadebill, Dusky-tailed Flatbill, Round-tailed Manakin, Sharpbill (with red crest erected in display!), Cinereous Mourner, Chestnut-crowned and Pink-throated Becards, Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo, 5 species of Euphonia, Cuzco Warbler, Pectoral Sparrow, White-winged Shrike-Tanager, Yellow-crested, Turquoise, Paradise, Green-and-Gold, Yellow-bellied, Spotted, Masked and Olive Tanagers, Yellow-shouldered and Rothschild's Grosbeaks. We amassed a truly impressive list for our time at this lovely lodge, and enjoyed every minute of our stay!

The final stop on our Main Tour was to the last of 3 albergues that the *Asociacion Armonia* purchased, and manages, for the protection of critically endangered species. In this case, it was the Blue-throated Macaw Preserve, accessible only by light aircraft, in the middle of the Beni Pampas of northern Bolivia. Another unbelievable setting! Flying out over

An abbreviated list of some of the stellar birds we encountered *en route* to, and at Sadiri: White Hawk, Hoatzin, Subtropical and Amazonian Pygmy Owls, Great-billed Hermit, White-browed Hermit, Grey-breasted Sabrewing, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Many-spotted Hummingbird, Violet-fronted Brilliant, Black-eared Fairy, Amethyst Woodstar, Black-tailed Trogon, Lemon-



**Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant
by Clayton Burne**



the Pampas we caught sight of several of the lakes made by the ancient Moxos tribe that inhabited the area. They survived the flood periods in the Beni by digging up snail shells and other organic material to build tall mounds on which they would farm and live. This left huge, symmetrical, rectangular quarries that filled with water over the years since their disappearance. The effect from air is impressive, seeing a seemingly homogenous grassland dotted with huge, bizarre, rectangular lakes! After our smooth, uneventful flights, we arrived for three nights' stay at our final birding destination.



Blue-throated Macaws by Merilyn Browne

Blue-throated Macaws number less than 200 individuals according to the latest Birdlife International estimates. This makes it one of the world's rarest species, and unfortunately likely for extinction within the next few decades, should threats persist. The Blue-throated Macaw Preserve does not protect nesting habitat for the Macaw, but does protect huge stands of the specific

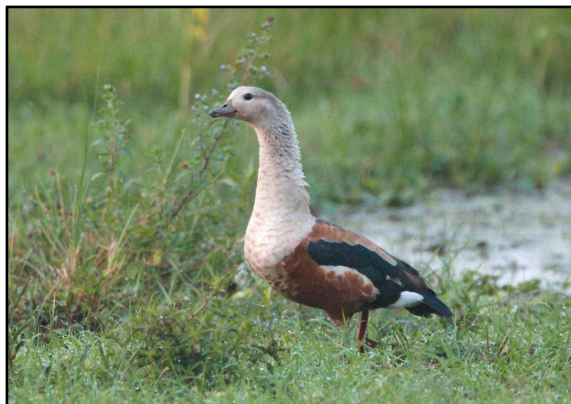
palms that the Macaws live off for most of the year. So it was, that standing in front of a line of mixed palm woodland in the middle of the middle of nowhere, we found ourselves looking at a tree with 7 Blue-throated Macaws squawking and cavorting. Weeding through dozens upon dozens of Blue-and-yellow Macaws all around us was quite fun, mind you. But an appreciation for what a rare bird we were observing, and what a privilege it was to be there, was unavoidable; an exceptional experience indeed.

With the star bird in the bag on the first afternoon, we had plenty of time to explore some of the other habitats on the preserve. The most alluring of these were the native grasslands across the river from the lodge, less than a two mile hike away. Our first full morning here, we headed straight in that direction. Though several nice species held up our progress (Southern Screamers, Herons and Ibis of all sorts, and more Upland and Buff-breasted Sandpipers than we could count) we managed to arrive at the grassland area in time for about 45 minutes of non-stop action. The first bird to appear was a group of Red-winged Tinamous which were foraging in the firebreak we were walking. They maintained a calm demeanour, and their distance, but didn't run off as we advanced through the habitat! The next bird to pop up was White-rumped Monjita, followed shortly thereafter by Wedge-tailed Grass Finch and Pampa Finch.



I was beginning to wonder if this was, indeed, the right type of grass when Bam! Up popped a Black-masked Finch!!! This mythical bird is searched for across grasslands of Brazil and Argentina, with extremely limited success. We had killer views of the first individual, after a bit of patience. Another 20 feet up the firebreak, and there, on the wire, was a Cock-tailed Tyrant. We were in the right place, for sure! Then up popped another, and another, and the Tyrants began chasing each other! Incredible. Looking back along the fence line, there were suddenly a number of birds using the fence to gain vantage. Another Black-masked Finch! Just below that, a Cock-tailed Tyrant.

Beneath that, a Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant. And so it went for about another 20 minutes. Great views upon great views of these seldom-seen, exceptionally high-quality, grassland species. The show was well worth the hike. During the course of our stay we enjoyed looks at Rufous-sided Crake, Greater Thornbird, Nacunda Nighthawk, Scissor-tailed Nightjar, Streamer-tailed Tyrant, Unicolored Blackbird, Orinoco Goose, Large-billed Antwren, White-eyed Attila, Rusty-collared Seedeater, Campo Flicker, White-rumped Tanager, Long-tailed Ground Dove, Black-capped Donacobius and countless numbers of waterfowl, herons, and ibis, amongst others.



Orinoco Goose by Merilyn Browne

The Preserve proved a wonderful end to an exciting adventure to Bolivia's best birding destinations. After flights back to La Paz, we said our farewells to those departing the group, over a fine meal back at our favourite city accommodation, the Ritz in La Paz. The adventure was only over for a few of our number. Most of the participants from the Main Tour were continuing on the massive road trip back over the Andes, to Apolo! We enjoyed a nice night's sleep, but arose early, once again, to hit the road.



Chilean Flamingo by Jonathan Rossouw

The Apolo Plateau is a bit of a geological oddity bordering the southernmost, and highest, end of Madidi National Park. This vast plateau is an isolated geological structure that has proved resistant to the erosive powers affecting the younger Andes around it. As such, the plateau hosts an older, unique, and disjunct assortment of birds. The fact that the run to Apolo allows the best access to untouched lower and middle yungas in the country is also a massive allure, as some of the least-known Peruvian and Bolivian species can be readily found en route to, or near the plateau. However, the main motivation for undertaking the 12-hour drive to Apolo was to see the critically endangered, gorgeous,



Palkachupa Cotinga. This beautiful relative of the Swallow-tailed Cotinga was recently given species status, and with a population of less than 700 individuals it ranks up there with Red-fronted and Blue-throated Macaws as the rarest of Bolivian birds, and yet another endemic.



Palkachupa Cotinga
by Alasdair Hunter

Though a long drive, the scenery for the entire drive to Apolo is captivating, and many great species were encountered, including Common Miner, Plain-breasted Earthcreeper, Torrent Duck, White-capped Dipper, Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant, Rufous-naped Ground Tyrant and others. Shortly after arrival we met up with local representatives of government, excited for us our visit. We were the first foreign group of visitors to visit Apolo!!! They rolled out the carpet for us, engaging the heads of the Palkachupa Cotinga project, hosted by *Asociacion Armonia*, to organize a Cotinga search the following morning to be followed by a special, homemade meal at the community centre in the tiny mountain village of Aten.

The morning came, and we were immediately lost by the lead vehicle which was to show us the way. After much disgruntled discussion, speculation, and ultimately a decision, we made our way back to the missed turn to encounter our hosts. This is why one leaves earlier than necessary! As it happened, we arrived to the first Cotinga site just after a beautiful dawn. We had breakfast, and shortly thereafter were ogling not one, but six, stunning Palkachupas in a nearby field! It was incredible. Not only did we see these lovely creatures, but we were able to watch them at length, follow them, and ultimately view the nest onto which they were putting the final touches. The project coordinators were eager to tell us about the species, threats it faced, and

hurdles ahead regarding preservation of the little remaining forest on the plateau. Yet again, we were observing a beautiful species faced with eminent threat of extinction. Always a sobering, yet exhilarating experience.

We spent the remainder of the day birding the plateau, including some interesting dry forest habitats at the north end of the plateau, beyond Apolo. Some of the various special birds we found during



our explorations that day included stellar views of male Rufous-crested Coquette! White-eared Puffbird, Cinereous-breasted Spinetail, Black-bellied Antwren, Chestnut-backed Antbird, and White-backed Fire-eye were all tallied today, with great views of each to boot. The following day we were at a bit of a loss, given that we were greatly limited by a lack of fuel. All the fuel stations in the area had been dry for days, with no fuel arriving in sight. Therefore, we had to be prudent and not stray too far from Apolo.



Rufous-crested Coquette by Niels Poul Dreyer

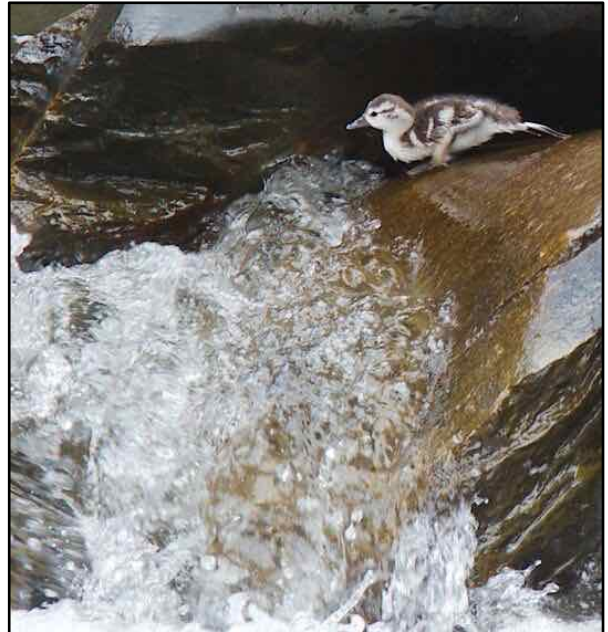
In lieu, we started out early for the Machariapo dry forest boundary, hoping to reach wetter, transitional forests, within responsible reach of our fuel. Alas, it wasn't to be! We were some 20 kilometers (2 hours on these roads) shy of where we reckoned the humid forest begins. Nevertheless, some fantastic birds were enjoyed in this completely under-birded area. Before dawn we came across Rufous Nightjars and a lone Striped Owl. Shortly after dawn the activity began in earnest. This tall, deciduous forest is home to an odd suite of birds that none of us pictured occupying the same patch. We had White-bellied Pygmy Tyrants, Greenish Elaenias, Upland Antshrike, and Yellow-olive Flycatchers in the same flock! Tschudi's and Black-banded Woodcreepers shared the dry forest with the likes of Ultramarine

Grosbeak. Totally bizarre! Near our turning-around mark, we encountered Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Amazonian Motmot, Olive-faced Flatbill, in the same flock with such dry forest species as Chestnut-vented Conebill and Guira Tanager. It was a truly fascinating morning, with some interesting insight gained into the avifauna of this deciduous valley. The afternoon was much more relaxed, as we were essentially grounded. Floating around the Monastery (best digs in town!) grounds where we were renting rooms from the local order of nuns, we were surprised to encounter a whole host of new species for the tour ranging from Dull-colored Grassquit and White-vented Violetear to Yellow-browed Tyrant, with a few other more widespread, but thus far undetected, species. The clear star of the show for the afternoon was one Green-capped Tanager (yes, the mega-rare one that is only known from Inambari, Peru, plus 6 recent records from Apolo, Bolivia) that perched atop a bare tree, in plain sight, almost as soon as we began our afternoon walk around the premises. Unfortunately, not all members of the group were present at the time, given that general sentiment was to presume no interesting new species would turn up in such seemingly mundane circumstances. Those who were present, however, were rewarded. Those who weren't were fabulous sports about it, even helping to vote it in as one of the Post-Tour's Top 5 species, despite having missed it. Yes, it is that interesting a species!



The final full day of the tour was, essentially, devoted to making it back in one piece to La Paz for international flights the following day. While the road is fairly well-maintained, not too narrow, and doesn't seem treacherous, it certainly presented us with challenges on this day! One stuck support vehicle, one blown transmission, and finally a complete engine failure later, and we didn't see La Paz until nearly 9PM after a 4:30AM departure. Resourcefulness, good spirit, and a sense of adventure amongst the group gave us a very different tallying of the day's proceedings: several Scissor-tailed Nightjars, one Red-necked Woodpecker, Streak-throated Bush Tyrant, Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant and an amazing experience with world's least-known small grey bird – Yungas Antwren(!!!) – combined with being stuck in a festive weekend parade at a most ironic point in our day's adventure, kept us smiling. Our last was an eventful, roller-coaster, of a day ending well, with us safe and sound back at the Ritz.

From start to stop, top to bottom, Bolivia proved to be one of the most rewarding, exciting, sometimes exhausting, tours of this author's career. I loved it! A special mention is more than due to the good-natured, intrepid, enthusiastic birders that joined us for this adventure. It was a pleasure sharing the experience with you all, and I hope to see you for more adventure in the years to come.



A juvenile Torrent Duck contemplates its next move by Merilyn Browne

Annotated List of species recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows IOC (Version: 5.3): Gill, F. and Donsker, D (Eds). IOC World Bird List. List powered through the report generator of our partner [iGoTerra](#).

BIRDS RECORDED 742 (701 Seen, 41* Heard only)

Tinamous Tinamidae 14

Grey Tinamou

Seen by RC at Sadiri

***Hooded Tinamou**

***Little Tinamou**

***Brown Tinamou**

Undulated Tinamou

Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens



*Black-capped Tinamou

*Small-billed Tinamou

Tataupa Tinamou

Red-winged Tinamou

Huayco Tinamou

Ornate Tinamou

Brushland Tinamou

Andean Tinamou

*White-bellied Nothura

Seen near Ipati on the Pre-Tour

Several seen at Viru Viru and Barba Azul

One walked out in front of us, La Cumbre!

13 in fields near Titicaca...incredible!!!

One flushed near Boyuibe on Pre-Tour

Two seen and flushed near Torrecillas

Rheas Rheidae 1

Greater Rhea

Many seen at various locations

Screamers Anhimidae 1

Southern Screamer

Good numbers at Barba Azul, with young

Ducks, Geese, Swans Anatidae 17

White-faced Whistling Duck

Numerous on Pre-Tour and Barba Azul

Black-bellied Whistling Duck

Torrent Duck

Numerous on Post-Tour, with hatchlings!

Orinoco Goose

Several at Barba Azul

Andean Goose

Numerous in the highlands

Muscovy Duck

Several at Barba Azul

Ringed Teal

Numbers on the Pre-Tour

Brazilian Teal

Crested Duck

Cinnamon Teal

Red Shoveler

Two at Lake Titicaca seen by some

White-cheeked Pintail

Two in the Chaco

Yellow-billed Pintail

Yellow-billed Teal

Puna Teal

Masked Duck

One gorgeous male, at Lago Vulcan

Andean Ruddy Duck

Chachalacas, Curassows & Guans Cracidae 6

Chaco Chachalaca

Speckled Chachalaca

Andean Guan

Distinctive sclateri ssp. seen

Spix's Guan

Sadiri

Dusky-legged Guan

Seen on Pre-Tour and near Comarapa

Razor-billed Curassow

Two seen at Sadiri!



New World Quail Odontophoridae 3***Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail****Stripe-faced Wood-Quail***Seen by a few near Unduavi!****Starred Wood-Quail****Grebes Podicepsidae 4****Least Grebe****Pied-billed Grebe****White-tufted Grebe****Titicaca Grebe – EN***Several, including young, at Titicaca!***Flamingos – Phoenicopteridae 1****Chilean Flamingo***Many at Titicaca***Storks Ciconiidae 3****Wood Stork****Maguari Stork****Jabiru***One seen en route to Villa Tunari!**Several of these beauties at Barba Azul***Ibises, Spoonbills Threskiornithidae 6****Plumbeous Ibis***Barba Azul***Buff-necked Ibis***Several at various sites***Green Ibis***Barba Azul***Bare-faced Ibis****Puna Ibis****Roseate Spoonbill***A few at Barba Azul***Hérons, Bitterns Ardeidae 10****Rufescent Tiger Heron***Barba Azul***Black-crowned Night Heron****Striated Heron****[Western] Cattle Egret****Cocoi Heron***Numerous in lowlands***[Western] Great Egret****Capped Heron***A few seen in lowlands***Whistling Heron***Numerous in lowlands, beautiful!***Snowy Egret****Little Blue Heron****Cormorants, Shags Phalacrocoracidae 1****Neotropic Cormorant**

Anhingas, Darters Anhingidae 1**Anhinga***Only one seen on pre-tour***New World Vultures Cathartidae 6****Turkey Vulture****Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture****Greater Yellow-headed Vulture****Black Vulture****King Vulture****Andean Condor***A few seen well on pre-tour**Several of these beauties near Comarapa!***Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae 20****White-tailed Kite***Two in the Chaco***Grey-headed Kite***One near Sadiri***Swallow-tailed Kite****Black Hawk-Eagle***Unrivalled experience with one near Sadiri!****Black-and-Chestnut Eagle****Double-toothed Kite***A few at Sadiri***Plain-breasted Hawk****Bicolored Hawk***One near Boyuibe on the pre-tour***Long-winged Harrier***Several of the graceful birds at Barba Azul***Plumbeous Kite****Black-collared Hawk***A few in the lowlands***Snail Kite****Savanna Hawk****Roadside Hawk****Harris's Hawk***Near Santa Cruz***White Hawk***Stellar view at Sadiri!***White-tailed Hawk****Variable Hawk****Grey-lined Hawk****Short-tailed Hawk****Seriemas Cariamidae 2****Red-legged Seriema***Beautiful pair on the pre-tour***Black-legged Seriema***A whopping 6 individuals in the Chaco!!!***Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae 8****Rufous-sided Crake***Great looks of a pair at Barba Azul***Grey-necked Wood Rail***Several****Ash-throated Crake****Plumbeous Rail***Great looks at Alalay Lake***Purple Gallinule**

Common Gallinule
Andean Coot
Giant Coot

Several nesting pairs in the highlands

Limpkin Aramididae 1

Limpkin

Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae 2

[White-backed] (Black-necked) Stilt
Andean Avocet

Lovely birds! Seen well at Titicaca

Plovers Charadriidae 2

Southern Lapwing
Andean Lapwing

Jacanas Jacanidae 1

Wattled Jacana

Seedsnipe Thinocoridae 2

Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe
Grey-breasted Seedsnipe

*Simonsi ssp; confiding birds at La Cumbre!!
Two dozen seen at La Cumbre...a spectacle!*

Sandpipers, Snipes Scolopacidae 10

South American Snipe
Upland Sandpiper
Spotted Sandpiper
Solitary Sandpiper
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
White-rumped Sandpiper
Baird's Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper - NT

*Several at Barba Azul
Apparently they all migrate to Barba Azul!

A few at Barba Azul
Many at Titicaca
A few at Barba Azul, great study!
Dozens Barba Azul; great view with Uppies*

Terns, Skimmers Laridae 3

Black Skimmer
Andean Gull
Yellow-billed Tern
Large-billed Tern

*Two at Barba Azul

One at Rurrenabaque*

Pigeons, Doves Columbidae 20

Common (Rock) Pigeon



Picazuro Pigeon
 Spot-winged Pigeon
 Band-tailed Pigeon
 Pale-vented Pigeon
 Plumbeous Pigeon
 *Ruddy Pigeon

Eared Dove

Plain-breasted Ground Dove

Mostly around Apolo

Ruddy Ground Dove

Picui Ground Dove

Blue Ground Dove

Two in Chiquitania scrub on pre-tour

Bare-faced Ground Dove

A few on Cerro Tunari

Black-winged Ground Dove

Numerous on altiplano

Long-tailed Ground Dove

Several of these beauties at Barba Azul

White-tipped Dove

Yungas (Large-tailed) Dove – NE

3 seen in the road near Unduavi

*Grey-fronted Dove

*White-throated Quail-Dove

*Ruddy Quail-Dove

Hoatzin Opisthocomidae 1

Hoatzin

Several at a stakeout near Rurrenabaque

Cuckoos Cuculidae 4

Guira Cuckoo

Numerous in lowlands

Smooth-billed Ani

Striped Cuckoo

Squirrel Cuckoo

Owls Strigidae 8

*Tropical Screech Owl

*Crested Owl

*Band-bellied Owl

Striped Owl

Brief views near Apolo in the dry forest

Yungas Pygmy Owl

Two fantastic encounters!

Amazonian Pygmy Owl

Scoped at Sadiri.....what a persistent bird

*Subtropical Pygmy Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl

Burrowing Owl

Potoos Nyctibiidae 1

*Common Potoo

One heard at Barba Azul



Nightjars Caprimulgidae 7

Lesser Nighthawk	<i>One at Barba Azul</i>
Nacunda Nighthawk	<i>Great numbers, plus eggs in a nest!</i>
*Blackish Nightjar	
Pauraque	
*Little Nightjar	
Scissor-tailed Nightjar	<i>One male at Barba Azul, several at Apolo</i>
Rufous Nightjar	<i>One flew right in for us at Apolo</i>

Swifts Apodidae 7

Chestnut-collared Swift	
White-collared Swift	
Sick's Swift	<i>Numerous on pre-tour</i>
Grey-rumped Swift	
Short-tailed Swift	
White-tipped Swift	<i>Numerous in mountains</i>
Andean Swift	<i>Numerous near Saipina and Comarapa</i>

Hummingbirds Trochilidae 38

Great-billed Hermit	<i>On lek at Sadiri</i>
Reddish Hermit	<i>Fly-bys at Apolo</i>
White-browed Hermit - NE	<i>Brief views at Sadiri</i>
Grey-breasted Sabrewing	
White-necked Jacobin	
White-vented Violetear	<i>A few at Apolo</i>
Brown Violetear	<i>A few in the forest at Sadiri</i>
Green Violetear	
Sparkling Violetear	
Black-throated Mango	<i>One in dry forest near Apolo</i>
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Numerous at Sadiri</i>
Rufous-crested Coquette	<i>A stunning, close, male at Apolo!!!</i>
Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Seen at Apa Apa and Sadiri</i>
Glittering-bellied Emerald	
Fork-tailed Woodnymph	
Gilded Sapphire	
Golden-tailed Sapphire	<i>Numerous at Sadiri</i>
Many-spotted Hummingbird	<i>Common at Sadiri</i>
White-bellied Emerald	
Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>In humid lowlands only</i>
Speckled Hummingbird	<i>One at Apa Apa</i>
Violet-fronted Brilliant	<i>Two at Sadiri!</i>
Black-hooded Sunbeam – E	<i>Gorgeous!!! Great views near Sorata</i>
Andean Hillstar	<i>One flyby near Lake Titicaca</i>



Wedge-tailed Hillstar – NE – NT
 Collared (Gould's) Inca
 Violet-throated Starfrontlet
 Great Sapphirewing
 Giant Hummingbird
 Amethyst-throated Sunangel
 Blue-capped Puffleg – NE
 Red-tailed Comet – E
 Tyrian Metaltail
 Scaled Metaltail – NE
 Olivaceous Thornbill
 Long-tailed Sylph
 Black-eared Fairy
 Long-billed Starthroat
 Blue-tufted Starthroat
 Amethyst Woodstar

Lovely male put on a show at Cerro Tunari!
Several of the special inca ssp. seen
A few at point blank, Siberia. Flashy!

Several at Tunari

Scope-filling views, and photos, Siberia!!!
Several males near Torrecillas. Splendid!

Several of malagae ssp. seen very well
Olivaceum ssp. seen below Pongo
Smaragdinus ssp. seen on occasion
A few at Sadiri
One at Apolo
Great looks at several in the Chaco
Seen at both Sadiri, and Apolo

Trogons Trogonidae 6

Crested Quetzal
 Black-tailed Trogon
 *Green-backed Trogon
 Blue-crowned Trogon
 Masked Trogon
 Collared Trogon

Many confiding individuals!
Sadiri

Sadiri

Kingfishers Alcedinidae 2

Ringed Kingfisher
 Amazon Kingfisher

Motmots Momotidae 1

Amazonian Motmot

Jacamars Galbulidae 1

Rufous-tailed Jacamar

Puffbirds Bucconidae 4

White-necked Puffbird
 White-eared Puffbird
 Chaco Puffbird
 Black-fronted Nunbird

Sadiri
A few at Apolo
Santa Cruz and the Chaco
Monasa nigrifrons



Barbets Capitonidae 3

Gilded Barbet	<i>Sadiri</i>
Lemon-throated Barbet	<i>A few at Sadiri</i>
Versicolored Barbet	<i>Several seen well!</i>

Toucans Ramphastidae 9

Black-throated Toucanet	
*Chestnut-tipped Toucanet	
Blue-banded Toucanet – NE	<i>Nearly a dozen seen!</i>
Chestnut-eared Aracari	
Curl-crested Aracari	<i>Distant views at Sadiri</i>
Hooded Mountain Toucan - NE	<i>Incomparable views of a close bird, eye-level, near Unduavi. Undoubtedly the most incredible experience of the tour!!!</i>
Channel-billed Toucan	
Toco Toucan	
White-throated Toucan	

Woodpeckers Picidae 22

Bar-breasted Piculet	<i>Great views at Sadiri</i>
White-barred Piculet	<i>Several in the Chaco</i>
Ocellated Piculet	<i>Several seen in foothill habitats, where under-recorded, by my reckoning</i>
White-wedged Piculet	
White Woodpecker	<i>Always a pleasure!</i>
Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	
Yellow-fronted Woodpecker	
White-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Confiding in the dry valleys</i>
Bar-bellied Woodpecker	<i>a pair at Siberia showed well!</i>
Little Woodpecker	
Checkered Woodpecker	<i>Numerous in the Chaco</i>
Striped Woodpecker	<i>Several in the dry valleys</i>
Red-stained Woodpecker	<i>In wet and dry forests near Apolo</i>
White-throated Woodpecker	<i>Great looks at Sadiri</i>
Golden-green Woodpecker	<i>Chryschloros ssp. seen near Santa Cruz</i>
Golden-olive Woodpecker	
Andean Flicker	
Campo Flicker	
Lineated Woodpecker	
Red-necked Woodpecker	<i>Stunning male near Apolo</i>
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	
Cream-backed Woodpecker	<i>An outstanding show, in the Chaco, when one male came bounding in to playback!</i>



Caracaras, Falcons Falconidae 9

Mountain Caracara
 Southern Crested Caracara
 Yellow-headed Caracara
 Chimango Caracara
 *Collared Forest Falcon
 American Kestrel
 Aplomado Falcon
 Bat Falcon
 Peregrine Falcon

Only seen by one participant

Parrots Psittacidae 27

Blue-and-yellow Macaw
 Blue-throated Macaw – E – CR

*Countless at Barba Azul!
 Scope views of nearly a dozen of this critically endangered, declining species at Barba Azul where they come to feed on the palms*

Red-and-green Macaw
 Red-fronted Macaw – E – CR

*Numerous at Sadiri
 Wonderful views of this species at its cliff roosting and nest sites near at the Preserve near Saipina*

Chestnut-fronted Macaw
 Red-bellied Macaw
 Golden (Yellow)-collared Macaw

*Several at Barba Azul and the Chaco
 Only recorded near Villa Tunari
 Common near Santa Cruz and Barba Azul
 Both neumanni and acuticaudatus ssp.
 Numerous in the dry valleys*

Dusky-headed Parakeet
 Peach-fronted Parakeet
 Blue-crowned Parakeet
 Mitred Parakeet
 White-eyed Parakeet
 Green-cheeked Parakeet
 Rose-fronted Parakeet
 Monk Parakeet
 Cliff Parakeet - E
 Grey-hooded Parakeet
 Blue-winged Parrotlet
 Yellow-chevroned Parakeet

*Common in lowlands
 a family group seen often near Sadiri!!!
 Common in the Chaco
 Fun to watch these build nests near Saipina
 Great views near Comarapa and Saipina*

Cobalt-winged Parakeet
 Black-winged Parrot
 Blue-headed Parrot
 Red-billed Parrot
 Scaly-headed Parrot
 Turquoise (Blue)-fronted Amazon
 Mealy Amazon
 Scaly-naped Amazon

*At Rurrenabaque
 Numerous flybys in the Yungas climes

 Numerous at Apa Apa only
 Common in the Chaco and Santa Cruz area

 Sadiri
 Common in the Yungas*



Ovenbirds Furnariidae 63

Common Miner	<i>A few above 4000m</i>
Puna Miner	<i>A few near La Cumbre</i>
Plain-breasted Earthcreeper	<i>On the Apolo extension, above Charazani</i>
Bolivian Earthcreeper - E	<i>Incredible views near Saipina, more or less staked out in its distinctive habitat</i>
Chaco Earthcreeper	<i>Finally tracked down a wonderfully responsive individual in the Chaco that put on a great show for us</i>
Cream-winged Cinclodes	
White-winged Cinclodes	
Rufous Hornero	
Crested Hornero	<i>A few showed very well for us in the Chaco, along with several other great species, responding to playback of Ferruginous Pygmy Owl</i>
Brown-capped Tit Spinetail	<i>Nearly a dozen up Cerro Tunari</i>
Tawny Tit Spinetail	<i>Stellar views up Cerro Tunari in its preferred habitat, and again seen near Pongo</i>
Black-throated Thistletail – E	<i>Wow!!! A whopping 7 recorded, in total, including 4 individuals that sat out, in full view, for photos at close range. One nearly landed on our driver, making him flinch!</i>
Sharp-billed Canastero	<i>Great views of one in the lower Chaco</i>
Short-billed Canastero	<i>Several in the Chaco</i>
Maquis Canastero - NE	<i>Two of three encountered up Cerro Tunari showed well for us!</i>
Cordilleran Canastero	<i>Below La Cumbre</i>
Rusty-vented Canastero	<i>In good numbers in high, dry habitats</i>
Berlepsch's Canastero – E – NT	<i>A pair came out of the Eucalyptus for us, into lower bushes, for good views and decent photos</i>
Puna Canastero	<i>Not uncommon in high tussock grass</i>
*Line-fronted Canastero	<i>Heard near Pongo, but didn't respond</i>
Scribble-tailed Canastero	<i>Nice, close view below La Cumbre, others up Cerro Tunari that showed but not as well</i>
Chotoy Spinetail	<i>Pre-tour only, this time</i>
Ochre-cheeked Spinetail	<i>My favorite Spinetail! Point blanks looks near Laguna Vulcan, near Ipati on the Pre-Tour, and in the dry forest near Apolo</i>
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	<i>Several</i>
Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>In dry lowlands on pre-tour</i>
Cinereous-breasted Spinetail	<i>One incredibly cooperative individual near Apolo put on a great show, and made me scratch my head about the habitat. Another 4 heard there.</i>
*Plain-crowned Spinetail	<i>Oddly, only one heard on the pre-tour</i>



Light-crowned Spinetail
 Stripe-crowned Spinetail
 Yellow-chinned Spinetail
 Rufous-fronted Thornbird
 Little Thornbird
 Streak-fronted Thornbird
 Spot-breasted Thornbird

Greater Thornbird
 Wren-like Rushbird
 Lark-like Brushrunner

Pearled Treerunner
 Grey-crested (Rufous) Cacholote
 Streaked Tuftedcheek
 Montane Foliage-Gleaner
 Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner

*Bolivian Recurvebill – E
 Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner
 Chestnut-winged Foliage-gleaner

*Striped Treehunter
 *Peruvian Treehunter
 Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner

Grey-throated Leaf Tosser
 Streaked Xenops
 *Long-tailed Woodcreeper
 Olivaceous Woodcreeper
 Strong-billed Woodcreeper
 Black-banded Woodcreeper

Straight-billed Woodcreeper
 Tschudi's Woodcreeper
 Elegant Woodcreeper
 Buff-throated Woodcreeper
 Olive-backed Woodcreeper
 Narrow-billed Woodcreeper
 Montane Woodcreeper
 Inambari Woodcreeper
 *Red-billed Scythebill

The beautiful discolor ssp. seen at Siberia
Numerous in good habitat
Barba Azul
Numerous in good habitat
A few seen well in the Chaco
Cerro Tunari
Tracked down below Torrecillas and seen displaying!
Santa Cruz and Barba Azul
Lake Titicaca and Alalay Lake
What a bird! A family group of 5 enjoyed in the Chaco, at close range.

Barba Azul

Seen near Ipati on the pre-tour, and again at Miguelito
Alas, heard only below Laguna Vulcan
In a mixed flock at Sadiri, scoped while perched
Two acrobatic individuals seen well at Sadiri in a mixed flock

Great views at Sadiri of this relatively skulking species
Sadiri

Apolo
Distinctive viridis and viridior ssps. seen
Great views of the endemic ssp. obsoletus
Best views of this species ever! Both olivaceus and pallescens ssps. recorded
Barba Azul
Amazing looks at Sadiri and Apolo
In nearly every mixed flock at Sadiri
Both guttatoides and dorbignyanus ssps.
Great views at Miguelito

Seen well in flocks at Sadiri and near Apolo



Antbirds Thamnophilidae 28

Fasciated Antshrike	<i>Very responsive at Sadiri</i>
Giant Antshrike	<i>Amazing bird!!! Watched at length near Samaipata</i>
Great Antshrike	
Barred Antshrike	
Chestnut-backed Antshrike	<i>Fabulous views on the Post-Tour</i>
*Plain-winged Antshrike	
Upland Antshrike	<i>A pair at Apa Apa put on a great show, as did a pair near Apolo!</i>
Bolivian Slaty Antshrike	<i>Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens</i>
Variable Antshrike	
Rufous-capped Antshrike	<i>A wonderfully cooperative pair near Samaipata</i>
Plain Antwreos	
Pygmy Antwren	
Yungas Antwren – E - NT	<i>Great views of this little-known, seldom seen, species on the post-tour. The most exciting “little Grey bird” of the tour!!!</i>
Grey Antwren	<i>Sadiri</i>
*Stripe-backed Antbird	
*Streak-headed Antbird	
Black-capped Antwren	<i>Encountered only on the pre-tour</i>
Large-billed Antwren	<i>One pair at Barba Azul</i>
Rufous-winged Antwren	<i>Several at Sadiri</i>
Dot-winged Antwren	<i>A family group at Sadiri of the seldom encountered albicaudata ssp.</i>
Black-bellied Antwren	<i>Stellar views of this beauty in the dry forest near Apolo; a disjunct, undescribed, subspecies belonging to the melanogaster group</i>
*Mato Grosso Antbird	
White-shouldered Fire-eye	<i>A responsive pair came in for prolonged looks near Apolo</i>
Black-faced Antbird	<i>Sadiri</i>
*Brownish-headed Antbird	<i>Unresponsive at Sadiri</i>
*Black-throated Antbird	<i>Often heard, not looked for, Sadiri</i>
*Sooty Antbird	<i>Unresponsive near Apolo</i>
Hairy-crested Antbird	<i>One of the best birds of the tour, attending an antswarm, incredibly confiding and relaxed male allowing unrivalled observation!!!</i>

Antthrushes Formicariidae 3

Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Nice views near Apolo; analis ssp.</i>
*Short-tailed Antthrush	<i>Several locations</i>
*Barred Antthrush	<i>Tablas Monte area and Apa Apa</i>



Antpittas Grallaridae 3***White-throated Antpitta****Rufous Antpitta***Miguelito**Brief, even "fly-by", looks at the cochabambae ssp. near Unduavi***Rufous-faced Antpitta – E***Several heard, one seen by some participants in the Tablas Monte area***Gnateaters Conopophagidae 1****Slaty Gnateater***Incredible views of this skulking species at Laguna Vulcan, where a pair came within a few meters of our party!***Tapaculos Rhinocryptidae 5****Crested Gallito***A pair of these crazy-looking beauties came in nicely to playback in the Chaco!***Bolivian White-crowned Tapaculo***Wonderful, confiding individual near Miguelito***Trilling Tapaculo***A responsive pair nearly landed on me at Siberia!***Diademed Tapaculo***A youngster came within 2m of my speaker on the Cotapata Track. Unbelievably great views of this oft missed, difficult species.***Puna Tapaculo***Unprompted, in-the-open views near La Cumbre***Tyrant Flycatchers Tyrannidae 112*****Wing-barred Piprites****Yungas Tyrannulet – E – Vu***A responsive pair of this practically unknown species gave wonderful views at Sadiri***Rough-legged Tyrannulet***Several***Sclater's Tyrannulet***Best views were had on the pre-tour***Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet***A few at Siberia***Forest Elaenia****Grey Elaenia****Greenish Elaenia****Yellow-bellied Elaenia****Large Elaenia***Seen near Santa Cruz and again near Sadiri, this species is seldom recorded in Bolivia***Small-billed Elaenia****White-crested Elaenia****Chilean Elaenia***One confirmed through vocalizations near Tablas Monte, haranguing a Yungas Pygmy Owl***Slaty Elaenia***One at Miguelito***Lesser Elaenia****Highland Elaenia***One at Siberia***White-lored Tyrannulet***Great looks at Sadiri*

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet**Suiriri Flycatcher***Numerous in the Chaco***White-throated Tyrannulet****Buff-banded Tyrannulet***Several at Siberia***White-banded Tyrannulet****Yellow-billed Tit Tyrant***A pair near Torrecillas***Tufted Tit Tyrant****Torrent Tyrannulet****White-crested Tyrannulet***A few on the pre-tour***White-bellied Tyrannulet***Several in the Chaco and dry valleys***Straneck's Tyrannulet***3 near Santa Cruz***Mouse-colored Tyrannulet****Southern Antpipit***Never before recorded from the Bolivian Andes, we had great views, and managed a recording of two singing males near Ipati***Greater Wagtail Tyrant***Common in the dry valleys; a beauty!***Bolivian Tyrannulet – E***Several at Miguelito and Apa Apa***Red-billed Tyrannulet***Good views finally achieved (after a bit of effort) of this little-known, canopy denizen at Sadiri Sadiri***Slender-footed Tyrannulet****Marble-faced Bristle Tyrant****Spectacled Bristle Tyrant***Great scope views at Sadiri!!! A rare bird***Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet***Eye-level views of this typically tough-to-see-well Tyrannulet at Miguelito***Cinnamon-faced Tyrannulet – NE***A few of these pretty, little birds observed at leisure at Sadiri. Another great bird!***Streak-necked Flycatcher****McConell's Flycatcher***Great views at Sadiri, seen only briefly at Laguna Vulcan***Slaty-capped Flycatcher****Sepia-capped Flycatcher****Southern Scrub Flycatcher****Plain Inezia (Tyrannulet)***Recorded in the Chaco, and once near Saipina***Unadorned Flycatcher***A few recorded in the Santa Cruz vicinity and Chaco***Bran-colored Flycatcher***Seen very well at Apa Apa and near Apolo***Many-colored Rush Tyrant***A real stunner! Close views at Alalay and Titicaca Lakes***Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant***A surprisingly gorgeous little bird, several of which showed wonderfully for us at Barba Azul!***Yungas Tody-Tyrant – E***One at Laguna Vulcan showed nicely***Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant****White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant***An adorable, confiding pair near Apolo***Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher***Stellar views on the Pre-Tour near Ipati***Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher***Poor views near Villa Tunari*

Yellow-olive Flatbill	
Zimmer's Flatbill	
Grey-crowned Flatbill	
Olive-faced Flatbill	
White-crested Spadebill	<i>Sadiri</i>
Cinnamon Flycatcher	
Cliff Flycatcher	
*Euler's Flycatcher	
Fuscous Flycatcher	<i>Barba Azul</i>
Black Phoebe	
Olive-sided Flycatcher – NT	<i>Apolo</i>
Smoke-colored Pewee	
Vermilion Flycatcher	
Andean Negrilo	<i>One at Titicaca</i>
Cinereous Tyrant	<i>Several in the Chaco</i>
Hudson's Black Tyrant	<i>A few in the Chaco seen well</i>
White-winged Black Tyrant	
Yellow-browed Tyrant	<i>A few at Apolo</i>
Taczanowski's Ground Tyrant	<i>Several near La Cumbre</i>
Cinereous Ground Tyrant	<i>A few near La Cumbre</i>
White-fronted Ground Tyrant	<i>A pair at La Cumbre</i>
Ochre-naped Ground Tyrant	<i>One at La Cumbre</i>
Rufous-naped Ground Tyrant	<i>Migrating flock of some 20 birds encountered near Charazani on the post-tour!</i>
White-browed Ground Tyrant	<i>One near Pongo</i>
Black-billed Shrike Tyrant	
White-rumped Monjita	<i>Barba Azul</i>
White Monjita	<i>A few of these lovely birds on the pre-tour</i>
Streak-throated Bush Tyrant	
Rufous-bellied Bush Tyrant	<i>A great find near Tablas Monte, were we enjoyed lengthy views of a pair, including nest building!</i>
Rufous-webbed Bush Tyrant	<i>One at Cerro Tunari</i>
Streamer-tailed Tyrant	<i>Always a treat to see these beauties; Barba Azul</i>
Black-backed Water Tyrant	<i>Barba Azul</i>
White-headed Marsh Tyrant	<i>Barba Azul</i>
Cock-tailed Tyrant – Vu	<i>A tough bird to find, we saw several, including a male, at Barba Azul!</i>
Golden-browed Chat Tyrant	<i>Tablas Monte</i>
Rufous-breasted Chat Tyrant	
D'Orbigny's Chat Tyrant	<i>Great views of a pair at Cerro Tunari</i>
Brown-backed Chat Tyrant	<i>Brief views near Pongo</i>
White-browed Chat Tyrant	
Cattle Tyrant	
Piratic Flycatcher	



Rusty-margined Flycatcher

Social Flycatcher

Grey-capped Flycatcher

Great Kiskadee

Lesser Kiskadee

One on the pre-tour

Golden-crowned Flycatcher

Streaked Flycatcher

Boat-billed Flycatcher

Variegated Flycatcher

Tropical Kingbird

Fork-tailed Flycatcher

Greyish Mourner

Sadiri

Rufous Casiornis

Common in proper habitat

Dusky-capped Flycatcher

Swainson's Flycatcher

Barba Azul

Short-crested Flycatcher

Brown-crested Flycatcher

Dusky-tailed Flatbill

*A total chance encounter with this rare bird at**Sadiri! Few records in Bolivia*

White-eyed (Dull-capped) Attila

Stellar looks at Barba Azul

Bright-rumped Attila

*One popped up for us at Sadiri***Cotingas Cotingidae 8**

Red-crested Cotinga

Palkachulpa Cotinga – E – CR

*6 of these stunning creatures put on a great show for**us, chasing each other around, collecting nest**material, and we even saw an active nest!!! Apolo*

White-tipped Plantcutter

Common in dry valleys

Band-tailed Fruiteater

*Seen by only a few at Apa Apa, where skittish and**nesting*

Barred Fruiteater

Great views!

Scimitar-winged Piha – E - Vu

*Brief views at Apa Apa, where not vocalizing and**skittish due to nesting*

Screaming Piha

Sadiri

Amazonian Umbrellabird

*Villa Tunari***Manakins Pipridae 3**

*Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin

Yungas Manakin

Great looks at several males on the tour!

Round-tailed Manakin

*Birds at Sadiri put on a good show for us***Tityras, Becards Tityridae 10**

Sharpbill

A truly incredible sight – one of the three individuals

we encountered at Sadiri did a full display, complete with erected, neon red, crest!

Black-tailed Tityra

Masked Tityra

***Eastern (Brown-winged) Schiffornis**

Cinereous Mourner

A few seen well at Sadiri

Green-backed Becard

Nice views on the pre-tour near Ipati

Barred Becard

Chestnut-crowned Becard

One below Sadiri

White-winged Becard

Pink-throated Becard

Commonly in flocks at Sadiri

Vireos, Greenlets Vireonidae 6

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

Nice looks at Sadiri!

Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo

Brown-capped Vireo

Red-eyed Vireo

Dusky-capped Greenlet

Sadiri

Tawny-crowned Greenlet

Sadiri

Crows, Jays Corvidae 5

White-collared Jay

Several in a mixed flock near Unduavi

Violaceous Jay

Purplish Jay

Plush-crested Jay

Inca Jay

Apa apa

Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae 13

Sand Martin

Hundreds migrating over Barba Azul

White-winged Swallow

Grey-breasted Martin

Brown-chested Martin

Blue-and-white Swallow

Brown-bellied Swallow

A few near treeline

Pale-footed Swallow

Flocks encountered at a few Yungas areas

Andean Swallow

Ubiquitous at high elevation lakes

White-banded Swallow

Apolo

Southern Rough-winged Swallow

Tawny-headed Swallow

A few in the dry valleys

Barn Swallow

American Cliff Swallow

A few dozen migrating over Barba Azul



Black-capped Donacobius Donacobiidae 1**Black-capped Donacobius***Barba Azul***Wrens Troglodytidae 7****Thrush-like Wren****Sedge Wren***Barba Azul***Moustached Wren****Fawn-breasted Wren***This somewhat range-restricted species showed well
Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens***(Southern) House Wren****Mountain Wren****Grey-breasted Wood Wren****Southern Nightingale Wren***A song unlike anything I've heard from birds farther
North, much more reminiscent of Wing-banded Wren
than Scaly-breasted. These birds definitely need some
scientific attention, as they are likely a separate
species. Currently no subspecies is assigned.***Gnatcatchers Polioptilidae 1****Masked Gnatcatcher***Polioptila dumicola***Mockingbirds, Thrashers Mimidae 3****Chalk-browed Mockingbird***Santa Cruz and Barba Azul***White-banded Mockingbird***Common around Santa Cruz and the Chaco***Brown-banded Mockingbird***One seen on the Pre-Tour, out of place, and another
seen well at Sorata, where expected.***Thrushes Turdidae 9****Andean Solitaire***Best-ever views of a responsive individual that flew
in to sing not 5m from us!***White-eared Solitaire***Common by voice, with a few seen***Great Thrush****Chiguanco Thrush****Glossy-black Thrush****Rufous-bellied Thrush****Pale-breasted Thrush****Creamy-bellied Thrush****Black-billed Thrush****Dipper Cinclidae 1****White-capped Dipper***Several on the post-tour*

Old World Sparrows Passeridae 1**House Sparrow***Passer domesticus***Wagtails, Pipits Motacillidae 2****Yellowish Pipit***Barba Azul***Short-billed Pipit***3 at a wetland near Titicaca***Finches Fringillidae 11****Olivaceous Siskin***Apolo***Hooded Siskin***Common in dry valleys***Black Siskin***Common on the altiplano***Purple-throated Euphonia****Thick-billed Euphonia****White-lored Euphonia***Sadiri***Bronze-green Euphonia***Sadiri***White-vented Euphonia***Sadiri***Orange-bellied Euphonia***Sadiri***Rufous-bellied Euphonia***Sadiri***Blue-naped Chlorophonia***A few at Apa apa***New World Warblers Parulidae 10****Southern Yellowthroat***Just one on the pre-tour***Tropical Parula****Citrine Warbler***Several groups in the North Yungas***Flavescent Warbler***One at the Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens***Pale-legged Warbler***Common in the South Yungas***Buff-rumped Warbler***Sadiri***Two-banded Warbler***Common in foothills***Cuzco Warbler***Apa apa and Sadiri***Golden-crowned Warbler****Yungas Warbler - NE***Several around Miguelito and Tablas Monte showed nicely, coming very close and serenading***Oropendolas, Orioles & Blackbirds Icteridae 20****Red-breasted Blackbird***Near Rurrenabaque***White-browed Blackbird***En route to Villa Tunari***Russet-backed Oropendola****Dusky-green Oropendola***Fairly common in middle and lower Yungas***Crested Oropendola****Olive Oropendola***Seen at Villa Tunari***Yellow-rumped Cacique****Southern Mountain Cacique***A few seen well at Unduavi***Solitary Cacique***Barba Azul*

Orange-backed Troupial	
Epaulet Oriole	<i>Only at Sadiri; confusing taxonomy and distribution between this and the following species</i>
Variable Oriole	
Screaming Cowbird	<i>Seen on the pre-tour</i>
Giant Cowbird	
Shiny Cowbird	
Chopi Blackbird	
Bolivian Blackbird – E	<i>Common in the dry valleys</i>
Greyish Baywing	<i>Common in the dry valleys and Chaco</i>
Yellow-winged Blackbird	
Unicoloured Blackbird	<i>Barba Azul</i>

Bananaquit Coerebidae 1

Bananaquit

New World Sparrows & Allies Emberizidae 10

Rufous-collared Sparrow	
Grassland Sparrow	
Yellow-browed Sparrow	
Pectoral Sparrow	<i>Fabulous views at Sadiri</i>
Saffron-billed Sparrow	<i>Seen well on the Pre-Tour</i>
White-browed Brush Finch	<i>Showed for us at Apa Apa</i>
Grey-eared Brush Finch	<i>Great views at Apa Apa</i>
Bolivian Brush Finch	<i>Common in the South Yungas</i>
Fulvous-headed Brush Finch	<i>Nice looks at this beauty up Cerro Tunari</i>
Common Bush Tanager	

Tanagers and Allies Thraupidae 97

Red-crested Cardinal	
Red-capped Cardinal	
Yellow-billed Cardinal	<i>Unsure sightings at Barba Azul</i>
Black-faced Tanager	<i>A few at Apolo</i>
Magpie Tanager	<i>A few in proper habitat</i>
*Hooded Tanager	
Slaty Tanager	<i>This scarce bird showed well at Apa Apa</i>
Orange-browed Hemispingus - NE	<i>Several individuals put on an amazing show for us near Tablas Monte. A rare bird!!!</i>
Superciliated Hemispingus	
Black-eared Hemispingus	
Drab Hemispingus – NE	<i>A pair seen by most participants near Tablas Monte</i>
Three-striped Hemispingus – NE	<i>Good views in a frenetic mixed flock near Tablas Monte were topped by utterly stunning views of a</i>



Orange-headed Tanager
Rust-and-Yellow Tanager
White-rumped Tanager
Black-goggled Tanager
Grey-headed Tanager

Yellow-crested Tanager
White-shouldered Tanager
White-winged Shrike Tanager
Silver-beaked Tanager
Blue-grey Tanager
Sayaca Tanager
Palm Tanager
Blue-capped Tanager
Blue-and-yellow Tanager
Hooded Mountain Tanager
Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager
Blue-winged Mountain Tanager
Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager
***Golden-collared Tanager**
Fawn-breasted Tanager
Turquoise Tanager
Paradise Tanager
Green-and-Gold Tanager
Saffron-crowned Tanager
Yellow-bellied Tanager
Spotted Tanager
Bay-headed Tanager
Green-capped Tanager – NE – Vu

Golden-naped Tanager
Blue-necked Tanager
Masked Tanager
Blue-and-Black Tanager
Straw-backed Tanager – Vu

Swallow Tanager
Black-faced Dacnis
Blue Dacnis
Purple Honeycreeper

family group that came in to Yungas Pygmy-Owl near Unduavi. Another rare hemispingus seen very well!

*Seen at several locations in Middle Yungas
Incredible views of this distinct species at Barba Azul
A few seen on the pre-tour and near Laguna Vulcan
One at Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens sat right out for photos!*

*Seen at Sadiri and on the Post-Tour
Apolo
A few seen very well at Sadiri!*

*The vocally-distinctive flavinucha ssp.
Several great encounters in Yungas*

Seen on the Apolo extension in its preferred habitat – a garden in Apolo!

A whopping 10 individuals seen on the tour!!! This very rare bird kept popping up for us at Miguelito and Apa Apa



Red-legged Honeycreeper**Green Honeycreeper****Guira Tanager****Yellow-backed Tanager****Chestnut-vented Conebill****Cinereous Conebill****White-browed Conebill****Blue-backed Conebill****Capped Conebill****Giant Conebill****Moustached Flowerpiercer****Black-throated Flowerpiercer****Grey-bellied Flowerpiercer – E****Masked Flowerpiercer****Many-colored Chaco Finch***Seen near Pongo and Cerro Tunari**Seen near Pongo**Numerous at Apa Apa**One wonderful, chance encounter at Cerro Tunari!**Only one seen on the Cotapata Track**Seen near Pongo and Unduavi**Several encountered in dry mountain climes**One responsive bird in the Chaco came in and sang circles around us, posing!**Fabulous scope, and very close, views of this enigmatic, highly-prized grassland denizen that is very rarely seen. Six were seen very well!***Black-masked Finch – Vu***Several near La Cumbre***Red (-crested) [Pileated] Finch****Black-hooded Sierra Finch****Peruvian Sierra Finch****Plumbeous Sierra Finch****Ash-breasted Sierra Finch****Band-tailed Sierra Finch****Grey-crested Finch****{Black-crested Finch}***A few near Saipina in the dry valleys**Common in dry valleys**Some very odd birds that appear to be, despite known range, this species occurring near El Tambo.**Unconfirmed as yet...**Several around La Cumbre***White-winged Diuca Finch****Short-tailed Finch***An inexplicably rare, probably widely nomadic, high-altitude species that frequents boulder fields and rockslides. A few participants had views of one individual, before it flew off, never to return, despite our search.**A few seen in the dry valleys near Saipina**Several seen near Torrecillas and Cerro Tunari**Fairly common in the dry valleys**One up Cerro Tunari***Bolivian Warbling Finch – E****Rufous-sided Warbling Finch****Black-and-Chestnut Warbler Finch****Rusty-browed Warbling Finch****Ringed Warbling Finch****Black-capped Warbling Finch****Cochabamba Mountain Finch – E – EN***Stunning views of a male, below eye-level, near the track up Cerro Tunari***Bright-rumped Yellow Finch**

Citron-headed Yellow Finch	<i>A pair near La Cumbre!</i>
Greenish Yellow Finch	
Saffron Finch	
Grassland Yellow Finch	
Wedge-tailed Grass Finch	<i>Not uncommon in decent habitat</i>
Great Pampa Finch	<i>Several seen well near Torrecillas, and at Barba Azul</i>
Blue-black Grassquit	
Rusty-collared Seed eater	<i>Barba Azul</i>
Double-collared Seed eater	<i>Seen in various locations</i>
White-bellied Seed eater	<i>Only encountered on the pre-tour</i>
Lined Seed eater	<i>Several near Rurrenabaque</i>
Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch	<i>Near Apolo</i>
Band-tailed Seed eater	<i>Many seen at high elevations</i>
Plain-colored Seed eater	<i>Numerous at high elevations</i>
Dull-colored Grassquit	<i>A few seen in the garden at Apolo</i>

Grosbeaks, Saltators & Allies Cardinalidae 13

Tooth-billed Tanager	<i>A few near Comarapa</i>
Red Tanager	<i>One on the Pre-Tour</i>
White-winged Tanager	<i>Great views at Sadiri!</i>
Red-crowned Ant Tanager	<i>Common at Sadiri</i>
Olive Tanager	<i>In nearly every flock at Sadiri, seen often and well there</i>
Black-backed Grosbeak	
Yellow-shouldered Grosbeak	<i>One found in a mixed flock at Sadiri!</i>
Buff-throated Saltator	
Greyish Saltator	
Golden-billed Saltator	
Rufous-bellied Saltator	<i>Numerous up Cerro Tunari</i>
Rothschild's Grosbeak	<i>Amazing, close, views of some responsive birds at Sadiri!</i>
Ultramarine Grosbeak	<i>A common, always lovely, sight on the tour</i>

Mammals (20 species)

Crab-eating Fox	<i>Cerdocyon thous</i>
Culpeo	<i>Pseudolopex culpaeus</i>
Tayra	<i>Eira barbara</i>
South American Coati	<i>Nasua nasua</i>
Marsh Deer	<i>Blastocerus dichotomus</i>



Red-brocket Deer	<i>Mazama americana</i>
Grey-brocket Deer	<i>Mazama gouazoubira</i>
European Hare – I	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Brown-throated Sloth	<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>
Azara's Night Monkey	<i>Aotus azarae azarae</i>
Paraguay Black (Black-and-Gold) Howler	<i>Alouatta caraya</i>
Pale (Bolivia) Grey Titi	<i>Callicebus donacophilus</i>
Southern Mountain Cavy	<i>Microcavia australis</i>
Yellow-toothed Cavy	<i>Galea flavidens</i>
Capybara	<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i>
Southern Mountain Viscacha	<i>Lagidium viscacia</i>
South American Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>
Bolivian Squirrel	<i>Sciurus ignite</i>
South Yungas Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus argentinus</i>
Greater Bulldog Bat	<i>Noctilio leporinus</i>

Reptiles and Amphibians 10

Rose Whirltail Iguana	<i>Stenocercus roseiventris</i>
Giant Whiptail	<i>Ameiva ameiva</i>
Black Lava Lizard	<i>Tropidurus melanopleurus</i>
Etheridge's Lava Lizard	<i>Tropidurus etheridgei</i>
Slender Anole	<i>Anolis fuscoaurata</i>
"Leptotyphlops"/Thread Snake	<i>Epictia albipuncta</i>
Mussarana	<i>Clelia Clelia</i>
One-colored Sideneck Turtle	<i>Podocnemis unifilis</i>
Andean Forest Toad	<i>Rhinella spinulosum</i>
Spot-legged Poison Frog	<i>Amareega picta</i>

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