

Costa Rica: Birds & Nature
January 22 – 29, 2025 (Main Tour)
January 29 – February 2, 2025 (Pacific Coast Extension)
Species List with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Dan Donaldson, with local Costa Rica guide Johan Fernandez, along with fellow travelers Kerry, Robert, Susan, Richard, Jan, Grant, Susan, Dave, Sharon, Mary and Bill.

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

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

Our high-mountain/cloud forest birding was done from the Savegre Hotel (2 nights) where we searched for Costa Rica's most famous bird, the Resplendent Quetzal. We encountered ours at a nearby farm that works with local conservation organizations like the Paraiso de Quetzals cloud forest reserve.

Rancho Naturalista (2 nights) was our mid-level forest location. Known as a reliable location for elusive Snow-capped Hummingbird and a special visit from a Tyrah (large wolverine type weasel).

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

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

BIRDS: 311 individual species were recorded between our locations (215 on the main trip) and (154 Species on the extension) that includes some species overlap.

The eBird links below detail the species observed on the main tour with a separate link for the extension. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Costa Rica \(Main Tour\) | January 22-29, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

[Pacific Coast Extension | January 29 – February 2, 2025 | ebird Trip Report](#)

[Combined Tour eBird Trip Report](#)

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

MAMMALS (13):

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*

Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni*

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*

Honduran White Bat *Ectophylla alba*

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*

Variagated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides*

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis*

Mantled Howler Monkey *Alouatta palliata*

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica*

Tayra Eira *Barbara inserta*

Dusky Rice Mouse *Notomys fuscus*

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (14):

American Crocodile *Crocodylus acutus*

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Black Spiny-tailed Iguana *Ctenosaura similis*

Green Basilisk *Basiliscus plumifrons*

Common (or Brown) Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*

Green Spiny Lizard *Sceloporus malachiticus*

Boa Constrictor *Boa imperator*

Black River Turtle *Rhinoclemmys funerea*

Red-eyed Tree Frog *Agalychnis callidryas*

Green-and-black Dart Frog *Dendrobates auratus*

Strawberry Poison Dart Frog *Oophaga pumilio*