

# Western Panama: Tranquilo Bay Main Tour: February 8 - 15, 2025 Mount Totumas Ext: February 16 – 18, 2025 Species List | with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by host Rick Weiman with 11 adventurous clients that included Don, Linda, Cassandra, Bill, Pauline, Brett, Debbie, Lorna, Donna, Keith and Julie, with local guide Brenda Sanchez.**

Our Naturalist Journeys Western Panama Tranquilo Bay tour led us to the wonderful Tranquilo Bay Eco Adventure Lodge, our home for seven action packed days. The lodge is an all-inclusive resort in Panama on the island of Bastimentos that Naturalist Journeys tour groups have been visiting now since January 2022. The preserve surrounding the lodge and private cabanas encompasses 200+ forested acres of Panama's Western Caribbean Coast and over a kilometer of Caribbean coastline.

Boat excursions to bird smaller islands and canals surrounded by mangroves, or to the mainland were part of our daily adventures. The lodge now has a new two-tier pontoon boat that we slowly cruised mangrove and jungle canals on, leisurely birding along the way. Kayaks and paddleboards were also available for us to use when our afternoon downtime allowed it, and some of us took advantage of several opportunities to snorkel on the fairly pristine coral reefs right off the dock, or to a larger reef system just a short boat ride away.

The species report eBird link below for February 8 – 15 details the 221 species of birds our group either observed or heard during the main tour. Linda and Don took the Mount Totumas 4-day extension with local guide Reinaldo and saw or heard 98 different bird species, with 53 of them new to the entire tour. Our total number of birds including the extension was therefore 274 species. The Mount Totumas February 16 - 18 extension trip report link is below the Tranquilo Bay main tour report link.

If you're new to eBird, be sure to click on "Show All Details" on the right side of the list as this will expand the report to show you where and when all of the birds were seen and how many.

[Western Panama: Tranquilo Bay | February 8 - 15, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

[Western Panama: Mount Totumas Extension | February 16-18, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

The following is a list of additional mammal, reptile, and amphibian species we were also lucky enough to find during the trip.

## **MAMMALS (13)**

**Derby's Woolly Opossum** *Caluromys derbianus*—Spotted at least two individuals most evenings on the banana feeders.

**Gray Four-eyed Opossum** *Caluromys derbianus*—A few clients ran across one of these small opossums either on the trails at night or sneaking onto the deck to grab a fallen banana.

**Nine-banded Armadillo** *Dasyus novemcinctus*—Brett found a large one on one of the trails heading to the lodge.

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth** *Bradypus variegatus*—Multiple sightings on the grounds near the lodge, including six in one day in the garden area. Also spotted throughout the trip on excursions including one hanging right over the pontoon boat on our Changuinola Canal trip (also known locally as the Snyder Canal).

**Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth** *Choloepus hoffmanni*—Good looks at several on the island, usually snoozing, but also including an actively climbing mom with a baby Keith got an exceptional video of.

**Variiegated Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis*—Spotted at least twice during roadside birding excursions on the mainland.

**Common Bottlenose Dolphin** *Tursiops truncatus*—One observed by Brett and Debbie on a kayak trip near the lodge.

**Crab Eating Raccoon** *Procyon cancrivorus*—Several usually hung out in the large Jagua Tree large tree off the lodge veranda eating the round ripe fruits in the tree.

**White-throated Capuchin** *Cebus capucinus*—A family group visited the banana feeders every day of the tour. You want monkeys, they got monkeys!

**Mantled Howler Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*—Heard during our mainland birding trips and then some were spotted in distant trees near Buena Esperanza.

**Panamanian Night Monkey** *Aotus zonalis*—Cassandra was lucky enough to come across a mom and a baby one night walking back to her cabin. These are very unique nocturnal monkeys with large eyes.

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*—Some of us had a very quick look at one during our Snyder Canal pontoon boat ride.

**Lesser Sac-winged Bat** *Saccopteryx bilineata*—These small bats were roosting on the back of Rick's cabana # 5.

## **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (10)**

**Spectacled Caiman** *Caiman crocodilus* —One observed basking along Punta Robalo Road in the water buffalo field.

**Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana*—In the trees during the Snyder Canal journey and also spotted from the tower on the island in the garden lounging on tree branches.

**Brown Basilisk** *Basiliscus vittatus*—Julie and Keith spotted one along the trails at the lodge, others may have as well.

**Mourning Gecko** *Lepidodactylus lugubris*—This introduced species was abundant near the lodge, with many hunting bugs on the windows and sides of the walls.

**Striped Rocket Frog** *Allobates talamancae*—Several seen and heard on the grounds of the lodge and Isla Popa.

**Strawberry Poison Dart Frog** *Oophaga pumilio*—Brenda and Joel found multiple color morphs of this species on Isla Popa for us.

**Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog** *Dendrobates auratus*— Very common hopping around the Tierra Oscura trails.

**Vaillant's Frog** *Lithobates vaillanti*—One spotted in the small pond on the lodge property.

**Savage's Thin-toed frog** *Leptodactylus savagei*—Brett spotted one at night on the Tranquilo Bay trails. A very large, brown, bullfrog sized frog.

**Green Climbing Toad** *Incilius coniferus*—A young one, which was all brown, was found in the garden by Brenda one afternoon and documented by Rick with a photograph.