

Costa Rica: Birds & Nature Species List | March 5 – 12, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Dan Donaldson, with local Costa Rica guide Armando, along with fellow travelers Kathleen, Barbara, Karyn, Raymond, Larry, Heather, George, Mary, Benjamin and Robin.

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 Suria Lodge/Hotel (2 nights) where we searched for Costa Rica's most famous bird, the Resplendent Quetzal. We encountered ours on back mountain roads near Parque Nacional Los Quetzales and Pariso de Quetzals. After stunning looks at 2 males in this remote forested location, we also had one appear on our 6:00am bird walk around Suria Lodge.

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). We spent 2 days here exploring the grounds and enjoying the amazing veranda overlooking the feeding station.

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. This is the habitat of Mantled Howler Monkeys, Sloths- we saw both Brown-throated three-toed and Hoffmanns Two-toed species here along with many more parrot species-including Scarlet Macaws.

Those that participated on the extension stayed one evening at Cerro Lodge, three nights at La Ensenada Lodge in Puntarenas Province along the shores of the Pacific's Colorado Gulf.

BIRDS: 226 individual species were recorded between our locations 3 very diverse locations.

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: Birds and Nature | March 5-12, 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 entire trip, including the Pacific Coast extension where noted.

MAMMALS (11):

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*

Hoffmann's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni*

Neotropical River Otter *Lontra longicaudis*

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*

Honduran White Bat *Ectophylla alba*

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*

Variegated 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 (12):

American Crocodile *Crocodylus acutus*

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus*

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Green Basilisk *Basiliscus plumifrons*

Common (or Brown) Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*

Green Spiny Lizard *Sceloporus malachiticus*

Black River Turtle *Rhinoclemmys funerea*

Red-eyed Tree Frog *Agalychnis callidryas*

Green-and-black Dart Frog *Dendrobates auratus*

Strawberry Poison Dart Frog *Oophaga pumilio*

Asian House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenaye*

Eyelash Viper *Bothriechis schlegelii*