

Birding Belize's Maya Realm Species List | March 18 – 27, 2025 With Naturalist Journeys



Guided by Bryan Shirley and local guides Eduardo, Isaias, & Jeffery
Participants: Mylon, Samrina, John, Joan, Kay, George, Ellen, and Joel

Summary: Trip to 3 wonderful locations in Belize: Crooked Tree, Lamanai, and Black Rock Lodge. This trip had it all – wonderful birds, great scenery, awe-inspiring Mayan ruins, excellent food and lodging, and a great group of participants. Our local guides at each lodge couldn't have been better. Highlights of the trip included a good number of species endemic to the Yucatan Peninsula such as Black Catbird & Rosy-throated Tanager (my personal favorite bird of the trip!), wide-spread but hard to see species like Orange-breasted Falcon, and large numbers of North American migrants getting ready to head North to breed. We visited the 2 best Mayan archeological sites in Belize, Lamanai and Caracol, and enjoyed birding and exploring the area to learn about this amazing culture.

During our tour we observed 232 species of birds. A detailed report of the species and locations can be found here:

[Birding Belize's Maya Realm | March 18-27, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Mammals (13 Species)

Southern Opossum *Didelphis marsupialis* – One scurried across the road during our night outing at Black Rock

Gray Four-eyed Opossum *Philander opossum* – One was seen along the river on our night cruise at Lamanai

Northern Tamandua *Tamandua Mexicana* – Unfortunately we only had brief views of this species before it disappeared into the thick vegetation during our night outing at Black Rock

Tayra *Eira barbara* – A very cooperative individual was raiding the fruit feeder at Lamanai Lodge on two of our mornings here

Proboscis Bat – *Rhynchonycteris naso* – a group of about 15 were under the stairs at one of the rooms at the Black Orchid Lodge on the pre-tour night

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* – We had a couple around the ruins at Lamanai, but there seemed to always be around the feeders picking fruit off the ground at Black Rock. One person even had one with 2 babies!

Yucatán Squirrel *Sciurus Yucatanensis* – Common around Crooked Tree and a couple at Lamanai as well

Deppe's Squirrel *Sciurus deppei* – Not recorded until we got to Black Rock where it appears to be the common squirrel

Yucatán Black Howler Monkey – *Alouatta pigra* Heard their amazing howling most days and a located a few for photos a couple of days too

Central American Spider Monkey – *Ateles geoffroyi* – Our best views were at Lamanai as we explored the forest near the ruins

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica* – One sneaking along near the feeders at Black Rock during our morning walk the first morning there

Mexican Hairy Dwarf Porcupine *Coendon mexicanus* – 2 were sleeping in a tree near the parking area at Birds Eye View Lodge

Greater Bulldog Bat (Fishing Bat) *Noctilio leporinus* – One flew across the lagoon during our night cruise at Lamanai

Reptiles, Amphibians, Etc

Morelet's Crocodile *Crocodylus moreletii* - Several seen from our boats at Crooked Tree and Lamanai

Asian House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus* - Common around the lodge at Crooked Tree

Brown Basilisk *Basiliscus vittatus* – Recorded 2 days along the river at Lamanai

Black Spiny-tailed Iguana *Ctenosaura similis* – Common and seen most days

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana* – Common and seen most days

Central American Boa (imperator) *Boa imperator* – Isaias found one near the parking area before our night drive at Black Rock

Central American Jumping Pit Viper *Metlapilcoatlus mexicanus* – Jeffery found one coiled up asleep on a log in the forest at Caracol Ruins

Central American Gulf Coast Toad *Incilius valliceps* - Near the shore of the lagoon at Crooked Tree