

ECUADOR AND THE GALAPAGOS

With Sandwich Bird Tours

Participants

Michael and Lorely Brimson, Derek and Barbara Etherton, Jim Law and

John van der Dol

October 12

We arrived in Quito at 0830 where we were met by our guide Willie Perez and our driver. We had a great big Mercedes Sprinter to ourselves. Eleven seats in the back for just the five of us. We checked into our hotel Sebastian after which we immediately went out birding. We were all suffering jet lag but the birds kept us going. We went to Canon del Chiche and visited several dry areas within the valley.

Good birds included Giant Hummingbird, Sparkling Violetear, White-bellied Woodstar, Mountain Velvetbreast, Western Emerald, Black-tailed Trainbearer with a huge tail, Tyrian Metaltail and the tanagers included a couple of local specialities, namely Scrub Tanager and Rufous-breasted Tanager. We also saw Southern Yellow Grosbeak, a beautiful Crimson-mantled Woodpecker and much more.

We also had distant views of Carunculated Caracara which was new for all.

We then returned to the hotel late afternoon, did the list, had a well deserved shower and had an early dinner. We were joined by Mercedes and Xavier, the owners of Neblina Forest and had a pleasant evening. Early bed though was also well deserved.

Hotel Sebastian

Oct 13

Drive to Mindo via Yanacocha and Nanegalito.

Late start leaving the hotel at 7. We arrived at Yanacocha about 1 hour and 20 minutes later. The first half of the morning was relatively clear and loads of good birds were noted. The way back was very misty and we virtually walked back without stopping. A quick lunch in the CP and off to Tanda Yapa Valley before eventually entering the Mindo Valley, past Bella Vista Lodge and on to Sachatamia Lodge arriving just before dusk at about 6 o'clock

Good birds today included Pearled Treerunner, Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager, Golden-crowned Tanager, a load of different hummingbirds, including the wonderful Sword-billed Hummingbird and Golden-breasted Puffleg. We also had an Andean Pygmy Owl and Black-breasted Mountain Tanager. A White-capped Dipper was found on a nearby stream accompanied by a couple of Slaty-backed Chat Tyrants. Some Andean Cock of the Rocks were seen too as well as some Blue-winged Mountain Tanagers, some wonderful Flame-faced Tanagers, the very rare Beautiful Jay of which there were three or four. A Toucan Barbet gave a great show as did a Golden-headed Quetzal. Dinner about 7 and another early night in anticipation of another great day tomorrow.

Night Sachatamia

Oct 14

A change of plan today when we heard that Spectacled Bears were being seen on a daily basis in a valley not too far away. This is an area of secondary forest full of great birds. So we got up for a 4.45 breakfast in order to leave at 5.15. We arrived not long after dawn but unfortunately it was raining. This could spoil the party.

Even before setting off along the trail we had seen some good birds. Pacific Hornero was new to all, and some White-winged Tanagers gave good views. On arrival at the lodge there were loads of hummingbirds visiting the feeders including White-whiskered Hermits, White-necked Jacobins, Rufous-tailed Hummingbirds, Brown Violetear and Green Crowned Brilliant.

On the trail we found Rufous Motmot, Spotted Nightingale Thrush, Barred Puffbird, Choco Toucan, Rufous-breasted Anthrush, Immaculate Antbird and Collared Trogon.

As we were walking along the trail we heard a cracking branch. This was the sign for Willie to check out for Bears. It wasn't long before we were watching an adult female and two young cubs. We watched them for about an hour and took over 400 photographs. What a fantastic experience. This was one of our best wildlife experiences ever. Eventually all the bears climbed down from the trees and disappeared quietly back into their own world and without a trace of noise or foliage movement, and we carried on along the trail. It is no wonder that few people see them. The weather had improved and in fact it had become quite warm. More goodies awaited us. Broad-billed Motmot, the difficult to find Scaled Fruiteater put in an appearance, and Esmeralda's Antbird, Grey-breasted Woodwren, Slaty Antwren, and many more were seen.

After lunch at the lodge we drove back through the cloud forest to Sachatamia Lodge. The cloud was very low and often we were driving through fog but we did manage a few stops and a few good birds were seen. Ecuadorian Thrush was nice as were Pale-mandibled Aracari, a fantastic Powerful Woodpecker which gave a right performance through the mist, a Slaty-backed Nightingale Thrush which was the second species of this family today and after much hard work the beautiful Plate-billed Toucan.

A lovely dinner was followed yet again by an early night.

Night Sachatamia

Oct 15

Drive to Angel Paz, Antpitta Reserve. Spent the whole morning walking down and then back up a very long steep trail. However we were rewarded by some spectacular birds which we had come here for. Firstly a Giant Antpitta gave stunning views while being fed with worms by the owner of the place. We were to see at least three examples of this magnificent creature. This was followed by a Moustached Antpitta, also down to just three or four yards and out in the open on the path. We carried on down to the bottom of the valley where we were rewarded with a Yellow-bellied Antpitta again at very close range and out in the open. On the way back we tried for Ochre-breasted Antpitta and this too put in an appearance, although this species appears a little more shy, preferring to stay deep in the forest. However we still had great views but getting a picture was a little more difficult. A feeding station geared up with several pullys and thin wire enabling the guy to transport fruit out into the forest was amazingly ingenious and productive. Here we had a dozen or so Sickie-winged Guans, three or four Crimson-rumped Toucanets including a young being fed by a parent, half a dozen each of Blue-winged and Black-chinned Mountain Tanagers. A Toucan Barbet and an Olivaceous Piha also put in an appearance.

This was arguably one of the most spectacular birding experiences ever, and I said that about yesterday too. This place is quite something!

We returned back up the steep trail to the house where Angel, the owner lives, for a treat of local food and coffee. On the way though we stopped by some hummingbird feeders and added several more to an already growing list of hummers. An absolutely stunning morning.

We returned to the lodge where we added yet more hummers including Gorgetted Sunangel and a White-sided Flowerpiercer.

After lunch we took a slow drive back to Quito but added little more other than a Streak-throated Bush Tyrant, Green-tailed Trainbearer, Russet-crowned Warbler, Hooded Siskin, Peregrine and Variable Hawk.

Back to Quito. Night Hotel Sebastian

Oct 16

We made an early start again but it was a beautifully clear and sunny morning. We decided to make for the higher altitudes in Antisana before the weather broke. So we were soon in paramo country where the birds were stunning as now it has become expected. We started the day with a Black-billed Shrike Tyrant and plenty of Carunulated Caracaras of which perhaps 200 were seen today. A surprise was a party of 11 Baird's Sandpipers. We had good views of 3 Black-chested Buzzard

Eagles and the scenery was just amazing with Cotopaxi Volcano in one direction and the snow covered Antisana Vocano providing the backdrop for a pair of Condors playing around against a blue sky. What a fantastic sight that was. A total of two adults and three juveniles were seen during the day.

Another target bird was the Ecuadorian Hillstar of which a total of 5 were seen including a female sitting on her nest. We visited a high altitude lake and added Speckled Teal, Yellow-billed Pintail, 2 beautiful Andean Ruddy Duck, Andean Coot and Silver Grebes to the list. Willie also found a great Horned Owl on a cliff-face which was quite a surprise.

We set off for lunch in a hacienda where we arrived in a howling sleet and hail storm, but they were not prepared for us. Some lack of communication. So we had to find some lunch back down in the valley in some restaurant which we duly did.

We then set off for Papallacta pass which some of us were dreading in terms of altitude. The top is 4400m above sea-level. In the event none of the group had any trouble as clearly we were becoming acclimatised to altitude over the past few days.

We stopped a few times on our way to the summit where we recorded White-chinned Thistletail, Grass Wren, Andean Tit Spinetail, Blue Mountain Thorntail and three Tawny Antpittas which were duly photographed. Our 5th species of Antpitta. Amazing!

We eventually arrived at the summit. Here the target was Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe which I thought were going to be tough. It was very foggy up there and one could not see too far. But before Barbara had got out the vehicle she had spotted two shapes which one could just make out to be partridge shape. They were clearly our target species but it was difficult to get good views because of the fog, let alone get a decent picture. We slowly crept closer, not wishing to disturb them, and took lots of misty pictures. By now we were really close and miraculously the mist cleared for just half a minute enabling some stunning photos to be taken. Mission accomplished and we set off down the mountain again to our new accommodation at Hotel Termas. However we had to make a stop for some Band-winged Nightjars of which we got reasonable views.

Our accommodation was great and soon after checking in we all spent half an hour in the hot spa pools round which the complex has been built.

A great dinner and yet another early night.

Night Termas Papallacta



Oct 17

This morning after a late breakfast we drove back up a road leading up to the reserve. Birding was done from the road with a great deal of success. We found the following species new for the trip: Buff-breasted and Masked Mountain Tanager, the second of which Willie got very excited about as this was only the third time he had ever seen it. Shining Sunbeam, Rainbow-bearded and Purple-

backed Thornbills were added, a pair of Red-crested Cotingas, Agile Tit Tyrant, Black-crested Warbler, Black-backed Bush Tanagers, Slaty Finch and Pale-naped and Stripe-headed Brush Finches. Although not the rarest, the star of the show was a beautiful Rufous Antpitta, number 6, which gave brief but stunning views, unfortunately too brief to get a photograph. This being the first Antpitta not to be photographed. Must try again!

We returned to the lodge to check out and drive on to our next accommodation.

We duly arrived at Guango lodge just in time for lunch. The place is covered with hummer feeders and consequently hummers were in abundance, including some more new ones in the shape of Buff-tailed Coronet, Chestnut-breasted Coronet, Long-tailed Sylph, Tourmaline Sunangel, Forgotten Woodstar and a couple of Sword-billed were present too.

Soon after lunch Willie called us over to the car park where one of the staff of the lodge had attracted a Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (number 7) with a bowl of worms. It sat there for us to photograph in full view just five or six yards away in excellent light. Our luck with this family is just amazing.

The afternoon was spent on one of the lodge's trails which too produced some interesting things.

We started off with brief but reasonable scope views of a Grey-breasted Mountain Toucan, followed by Grey-headed Bush Tanagers, Lacrimose Mountain Tanagers, Mountain Wren, Smoky Bush Tyrant, Slaty Brush Finch and Capped Conebill, a pair of Torrent Ducks and a Rufous Spinetail. A flock of Northern Mountain Caciches were found along the river and three Scaly-naped Parrots made an appearance and unusually sat on top of a tree for us to admire them. The day was finished off with good views of a Black-capped Hemispingus. We heard a Chestnut-naped Antpitta but on this occasion were unable to locate it.

Another fantastic day was celebrated with a lovely dinner and yet another early night.

Night Guango

Oct 18

After breakfast we walked the same trail as yesterday afternoon but included the higher part on the other side of the road. We added a few new species to the list including Flammulated Treehunter, Plushcap and a pair of Barred Fruiteaters which gave great views. We returned to the lodge, packed the bus and set off towards San Isidro. We did some birding in some agricultural area which produced quite a few of the more common species of open country but including a parent Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant feeding its fledged offspring.

We birded the road to San Isidro, eventually arriving at our destination just before lunch only to be met at the entrance to the lodge by a pair of Masked Trogons which duly obliged by sitting out in the open for a photograph. The gardens around the lodge are stuffed with birds as there are many moths to be had. Apparently the lodge is the only source of artificial light for miles around thus attracting many insects at night and in turn many birds the following morning.

It started to rain hard but by the time we had finished lunch we were able to leave to start one of the higher altitude trails known as Guacamayos Ridge nearby. It was very wet and slippery and quiet too but as time passed we racked up a few more species. Here it is a case of quality rather than quantity. Grass-green Tanager, Green-fronted Lancebill, Handsome Flycatcher, Chestnut-tipped Toucanet, and then stunning views of a Slaty-crowned Antpitta, but unfortunately in too dark a place to photograph. It was getting dark anyway and when we got back to the bus dusk had set in. We hung around for a few minutes and added some Swallow-tailed Nightjars to the list and on the way back scoped Andean Potoo with the aid of a spotlight.

On arrival back at the lodge Willie spotted a pair of the un-named Owls, locally known as the San Isidro Owl (No official English or scientific name as yet). Unfortunately by the time we could get the group together they had flown off. However just by the dining hall a juvenile of the same species was enjoyed by all.

We had dinner and retired. The food at this lodge is amazing and it is worth a visit just for that.



Oct 19

Birded the lodge grounds before breakfast with great success. We started off with a couple of Black-billed Peppershrikes, again eating moths, the juvenile Chestnut-crowned Antpitta which we had seen yesterday re-appeared, a superb Long-tailed Antbird gave us the run-around for a while, a couple of Bluish Flowerpeckers, and some more hummingbirds including Bronze Inca and a White-tailed Hillstar.

Things were going to get better! An Equatorial Rufous-vented Tapaculo was calling nearby. As had been the procedure throughout Willie tried to tape it in. This time finally with success. Good views and even a couple of blurry photographs.

Not ten yard away a Blackish Tapaculo was calling. This too was taped in and gave brief views. So a whole week without success apart from a flight view of a Spillmann's last evening, here we had two in ten minutes.

We now had to go and find our 9th Antpitta, namely the White-bellied variety. The lodge guide spent 45 minutes trying to whistle it in while we patiently waited for this very shy creature to appear. It was worth it. Yet again great views and more pictures.

Finally time for breakfast.

We eventually set off walking the road out of the lodge and we were rewarded with our first Emerald Toucanet, a couple of Chestnut-collared Swifts, a beautiful male Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia, a couple of Barred Hawks and an Andean Solitaire. A Highland Motmot was taped in and Ashy-headed and White-tailed Tyrannulets were noted. A Southern Lapwing was seen at the same time as a very distant large mammal in a tree which was probably a Sloth but too far to be certain.

As we traveled through the highland on our way back to Quito we saw yet another Tawny Antpitta and best bird of the day a Red-rumped Bush Tyrant. It was raining hard and Derek was feeling unwell, possibly being affected by indigestion and altitude so we came down quickly so as to avoid any health problems. We checked in to Hotel Sebastian for the third time and reluctantly bade farewell to our guide and friend Willie and our trusted driver Eduardo. We then had a very pleasant evening with a sandwich and a beer before retiring early.

Oct 20

The flight to Coca was fairly uneventful and lasted just 35 minutes. One could see signs of deforestation as we entered the Amazon basin primarily for agricultural reasons. We were picked up in an old pick-up truck and taken to a hotel where we were to wait for an hour before getting back

into the vehicle to be transferred to the dock. Here we got in to a motorized canoe with a canopy and taken with a load of indigenous folk 2 ½ hours downstream to Sani Lodge. The last of couple miles we were transported in a canoe and as we entered the lagoon on which the lodge is situated they turned off the outboard motor and paddled the final few hundred yards. This is to protect the Black Caimen which live in the lagoon and don't like the noise of outboard motors. Unfortunately this coincided with a huge rain storm and we all arrived at the lodge drenched to the skin. So what, it is rainforest.

En route we recorded very little apart from a nice Osprey and one or two Greater Yellow-headed Vultures.

We had eaten our packed lunch on the boat so after a welcome drink and some birding from the bar area at the lodge we set off in canoes for a paddle round the lagoon. Birds of interest included a pair of White-eared Jacamars, White-throated and Channel-billed Toucans, Plum-throated Cotinga, Black-billed Thrush, Bare-necked Fruitcrow, Hoatzins, Lettered Aracari, Slender-billed Kite, Black-fronted Nunbird, and Jim saw a Cream-coloured Woodpecker.

After a very nice dinner we went to bed very early in our comfortable cabins, in anticipation of an early start tomorrow.

Oct 21

A 5.30 breakfast was followed by a 6 o'clock start, again a paddle in a canoe to get to the start of the trail. We walked through the forest until about midday by which time we all felt quite tired. It was not the distance as the terrain and the stopping and starting and neck-breaking birding that took its toll. However it was a brilliant walk resulting in a long list of 'Ant-things'. Probably the best bird of the morning was a Rufous Potoo sitting on its nest on top of a broken tree-stump right next to the path. I could not think of a more uncomfortable place to sit for two weeks or more as on top of a broken tree, but then I am not a potoo. I guess others might have other ideas. A beautiful bird and much smaller than I had anticipated.

Other interesting birds included Scarlet and Chestnut-fronted Macaws, Striated Antwren, Musicians Wren with its distinctive and beautiful song, Brown Nunlet, White-breasted Woodwren, Rusty-belted Tapaculo, Scarlet-crowned and Gilded Barbets, Scale-backed, White-shouldered, Sooty and Black-faced Antbirds, Cinereous and Plain-winged Antshrikes, White-flanked and Plain-throated Antwrens and Thrush-like Wren. On the way back a Least Bittern flew across the lagoon.

We arrived back filthy dirty and smelly and a cold shower was welcome indeed. A great lunch, a short siesta, and we were off again on another trail. As soon as we had got off the boat we were greeted by a Tawny-bellied Screech Owl again right beside the path and he took no notice of us as we took plenty of photographs. Things were a little slow this afternoon as the light closed in and rain again put pay to any further birding, but we were nearing the end of our walk by then anyway. Birds noted were Dwarf Tyrant Manakin, White-necked Thrush, Olive Oropendola, Screaming Piha and a party of three Blue and Yellow Macaws enjoying the rain on the highest snag available in the forest.

One of the highlights was two Night Monkeys sitting sheltering in a hole in a tree but watching us watching them. Cute little things.

Another nice dinner followed by a well earned sleep interrupted only by heavy rain throughout the night.

Night Sani Lodge

Oct 22

Well it is still raining as I write this log. It looks like this morning will be a complete write-off. Lets hope it clears up for this afternoon. I feel sorry for the people leaving this morning in open boats in this weather, lets hope it does not happen to us.

Well it did clear up about lunchtime which enabled us to photograph the family of Tropical Screech Owls in the garden. A nice Swainson's Thrush briefly appeared in the garden outside the bar as did Scarlet Tanager, Straight-billed Woodcreeper, Piratic Flycatcher and some Black-headed Parrots. Other birds which turned up during the morning included the Many-banded and Ivory-billed

Aracaris, and a White-winged Becard.

As the rain had now stopped we set off in our paddle canoe for the tower. On the way we noted a Laughing Falcon and I saw a couple of Rufous-sided Crakes. Two Magpie and a Turquoise Tanager were added to the list.

The tower is of a steel construction and is 36m high and at the top of which is a platform made of wood in the tallest Kapok tree around.

From here we saw two groups of Red Howler Monkeys totaling 9 specimens, but both groups were rather distant.

Birds of interest included Spangled and Plum-throated Cotingas, Opal-rumped Tanager, White-browed Purple Tuft, Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Purple Honeycreeper, Cobalt-winged Parakeet, Crowned Slaty Flycatcher and a very noisy Common Piping Guan.

The sun was setting as we left and we had great if a little distant views of the Sumaco Vocano in a glowing gold sky.

On the way back we added Black-crowned Night Heron, Limpkin, Boat-billed Heron and a couple of Pauraques. A few Caiman eyes were seen too.

Oct 23

This morning we set off to cover some special sites on the banks and islands in the Rio Napo to try and find some target species. On the way to the main river we saw some White-fronted Capuchin Monkeys, a Slender-billed Kite and a pair of Plumbeous Antbirds. A few other birds new for the trip were noted along the main river including an interesting party of waders. Firstly some Pied Plovers were lifers for all and these were accompanied by Semi-palmated and Pectoral Sandpipers and a winter plumaged Wilson's Phalarope. According to the fieldguide these North American species are rarely seen inland but here they were.

A bamboo-covered island produced Spot Tody Flycatcher, an Olive Spot Hummingbird, several Yellow-green Vireos, some Variable Seed-eaters, a couple of Lesser Wagtail Tyrants and a Mottled-backed Elaenia.

A Swallow-tailed Kite made a brief but distant appearance before we left towards another site. Here we added Swallow-winged Puffbird, Yellow-headed Caracara and some White-banded Swallows.

The target was Brown Jacamar of which a pair was found.

Next stop was Great Potoo and a juvenile was found sitting out in the open. Fifty or so Dusky-headed Parakeets flew over too.

Two Ladder-tailed Nightjars were found in the bamboo on the riverbank and only one target was left to find and this was to be the most difficult. The White-lored Antpitta proved itself to be hard to find and we only heard it.

Three Greater Yellowlegs on the way back and a Drab-coloured Water Tyrant were to finish the morning.

In the afternoon we had a paddle round the creeks but with little new to be added apart from Grey-fronted Dove. Lots of the bizarre Hoatzins though.

Early night, tomorrow back to Quito in preparation for the third sector of the tour.

Oct 25

We were picked up at 5am and transferred to the airport for a morning flight to the Galapagos. After flying via Guayaquil we arrived in the Galapagos about lunchtime. We caught a ferry from Baltra to Santa Cruz where we joined a bus for our 45 min ride to the port of Puerto Ayora where we joined our boat which was to be our home for the next seven nights.



Jim and I have a small but comfortable cabin and after lunch we were taken ashore again to visit the Darwin research centre. Here we saw the captive tortoises which are part of a breeding program for eventual release back into the wild.

Lots of birds were noted including five “Darwin” finches, namely Small, Medium and Large-billed Groundfinches, Common Cactus and Vegetarian Finch, the latter was watched systematically stripping a flowering tree of its flowers.

Also seen were some exiting seabirds including lots of very close Elliot's Storm Petrels, Galapagos Shearwaters, loads of Magnificent Frigatebirds, Blue-footed and Nazca Boobies and some Common Noddy Terns.

Some more passerines included the Galapagos Mockingbird and Flycatchers and Yellow Warblers. Lava Gull and Lava Heron were photographed and a Wandering Tattler was seen on the rocks.

Back to the boat for dinner and a beer and we set sail at about 1.30 am for our next destination.

Oct 26

Jim and I got up before 6 only to find Mike and Lorely had beaten us to it. It was not long before we started seeing birds. There were plenty of yesterdays species round but we managed to add Waved Albatross and a single Dark-rumped Petrel. We were still sailing and fast approaching Floreana where we were going to be spending the rest of the day.

New seabirds today included Swallow-tailed Gull, Red-billed Tropicbird and Galapagos Penguin. The most important bird of the day was the Charles' Mockingbird of which we saw about three. The total world population is only about 100 birds, all on Floreana and one other small island.

We had a walk on the island this morning to a lagoon where we added Solitary Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalaropes, Least Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Plovers, Turnstone, Sanderling and Black-necked Stilt.

The Greater Flamingos here are really bright and very attractive and some Galapagos Pintail were found here too. Three Great Blue Herons put in an appearance and a Galapagos Dove shot by in the afternoon.

After lunch we visited Postbox Bay where you can post your letters or postcards and hope that a visitor in the future will hand-deliver it for you. Might take a while though the Polish couple were prepared to drive 100 miles from their home in Poland to do just that.

After that we went down a lava tube which was a rather odd experience. Walking inside a volcano is not something I had ever envisaged.

Mammals of the day were a number of Galapagos Sea-lions, a big pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins and three Humpback Whales breaching and fluking and generally having great fun. Many Pacific Green Turtles were seen too.

The sun is setting as I write this turning the sky a beautiful golden colour. This is some place and spending a week on a boat with like-minded people of all sorts of nationalities is just the job. I am going back upstairs now for my well deserved beer.

Oct 27

After sailing through the night we awoke this morning to be greeted by the island of Espanola. As is now the procedure we had breakfast and were taken ashore. It was soon obvious that this was going to be the best island yet. Really close views of Sea Lions, Marine Iguanas and Blue-footed Boobys started the day off. Just round the corner we came to one of the breeding areas of the Waved Albatross where there were two adults and several youngsters in attendance.

Several Espanola Mockingbirds, the third species in this family, were present too and very confiding.

We continued and more nesting birds were found including the Nazca Boobys with their snow-white downy young. We also saw three Galapagos Hawks (Buzzards really) and some Great Cactus Finches and Warbling Finches which are probably warblers rather than finches.

On the other side of the island we were confronted by huge cliffs on which we found a number of Swallow-tailed Gulls and Albatrosses and Tropicbirds were flying around allowing further photography.

A blow-hole in the cliff top set off a huge geyser every few seconds.

A Yellow-crowned Night Heron and an American Oystercatcher were found on the rocks too.

We continued round and without seeing any more new species we still had some more great photographic opportunities. All the wildlife on these islands is so approachable.

We returned back to the ship for lunch and on inspection some Frigatebirds turned out to be a new species in the form of Great Frigatebirds.

The afternoon was spent on the beach snorkling and swimming at Gardner Bay a little further along the coast.

Oct 28

A dinghy ride round Kicker rock produced more of the same species but the rock itself was quite impressive. It is made out of volcanic ash and is eroding away fast, so in geological time will not be there for much longer.

We then sailed on to the offshore island of Lobos (off St Cristobal) where we had a little walk.

Birds and sea-lions were extremely confiding and many photos were taken. We were able to approach a large young Great Frigatebirds on the nest.

The usual birds were seen.

We spent the afternoon in the capital of St Cristobal, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. In a seaside pool we found an adult and a young Yellow-crowned Night Heron and a couple of Striated Herons. The only new birds on the island were some St Cristobal Mockingbirds completing the set of four of this family.

On return I retired to bed, not feeling too well.

Oct 29

Baltra, We said goodbye to other passengers today while we refuelled.

I spent most of the day in bed with bad stomach but the rest of the crew went for an early morning walk and although they did not get any new birds, they did see some male Frigatebirds on nests with bright red extended throat pouches. Some great photos!

An afternoon dinghy ride produced White-tipped Sharks, Stingrays and Black Sea-turtles but no new birds.

Oct 30

St Barthelome

Dinghy ride to see some Penguins and a walk to the top of the volcano were the order of the

morning. Some amazing Lava flows and Cacti were seen.

In the afternoon we did another dinghy ride but I got the impression that the itinerary was running out of ideas although from a geological perspective it was fascinating.

A visit to Subrero Chino for the lava flows was very interesting.

Oct 31

We did a morning walk on Sumbbrero Chino which is a very hot and dry place and the only island on which we actually saw Land Iguanas. A pool was interesting in that it had some waders including Western and semi-palmated Sandpipers on it as well a Grey Plover and a few other bits and pieces. Medium and Small Groundfinches were noted but otherwise little else.

The rest of day was spent sailing back to Puerto Ayora where we moored up for the night. En route we noted about 6-8 Sooty Shearwaters and hundreds of Red-necked Phalaropes and the now usual other seabirds.

Nov 1

This morning we said goodbye to the crew and set off in our bus towards the airport. We made one unscheduled stop which I had arranged with our guide. This was to see the Giant Tortoises in the wild as opposed to in a breeding centre. We found in excess of 40 specimens and they sure are big. I find it difficult to believe that some tourists probably do not even see the one thing the islands are known for.

Small and Large Treefinch were added to the list.

We eventually flew back to Quito and checked in to the Sebastian for the fifth time.

Nov 2

We were picked up at 0700 and transferred to the airport from where we all flew to our respective destinations via Amsterdam without any hitches and arriving the next morning as planned.

TINIMIDAE TINAMOUS

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major* Heard only in the lowlands

PODICIPEDIDAE GREBES

Silvery Grebe *Podiceps occipitalis* A pair on a high altitude lake in Antisana.

SPHENISCIDAE PENGUINS

Humboldt Penguin *Spheniscus humboldti* Small numbers round the Galap.

DIOMEDEIDAE ALBATROSSES

Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata* Small numbers round the Galap. Including some chicks and adults on nest.

PROCELLARIIDAE SHEARWATERS and PETRELS

Galápagos Petrel *Pterodroma phaeopygia* Common round the Galap.

Dark-rumped Petrel *P. leucoptera* Several round the Galap.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* 6-8 off Santa Cruz

HYDROBATIDAE STORM-PETRELS

Elliot's Storm Petrel *Oceanodroma gracilis galapagoensis* Common round Galap.

Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel *O. tethys* Less common than previous species but still seen most days particularly in the southern part.

PHAETHONTIDAE TROPICBIRDS

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus* Small numbers round the Galap.

FREGATIDAE FRIGATEBIRDS

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* Very common round the Galap.
Great Frigatebird *F. minor* Common in the SE part of the Galap.

SULIDAE BOOBIES

Blue-footed Booby *Sula nebouxii* Very common in Galap.
Nazca Booby *S. granti* Less common than previous species but plenty seen nevertheless.

PHALACROCORACIDAE CORMORANTS

Neotropical Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Two singles at Sani were probably the same bird.

ANHINGIDAE ANHINGAS

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* Single at Sani

PELECANIDAE PELICANS

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* Very common round the Galap.



ANATIDAE DUCKS

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata* A pair at Guango.
Andean Teal *Anas andium* About 15 in the High Andes
White-cheeked Pintail *A. bahamensis* A few on the Galap.
Yellow-billed Pintail *A. georgica* A few on the high altitude lake in Antisana.
Andean Ruddy-Duck *Oxyura ferruginea* A pair in the High Andes.

PHOENICOPTERIDAE FLAMINGOS

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber* A small group on Floreana, Galap.

ARDEIDAE HERONS and BITTERNs

Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis* A single at Sani Lodge
Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum* Singles at Sani Lodge
Cocoi (White-necked) Heron *Ardea cocoi* Two singles at Sani
Great Blue Heron *A. herodias* A few on Floreana
Great Egret *A. alba* Small numbers in Napo and Galap.
Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* Small numbers on the Napo river and singles on the Galap.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Small numbers scattered around
 Striated Heron *Butorides striatus* Small numbers in all areas
 Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus* One or two in the Napo area
 Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa nycticorax*
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *N. violacea* An adult on the rocks on Espanola and another with a juvenile on St Cristobal
 Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius* Four after dark at Sani Lagoon

CATHARTIDAE AMERICAN VULTURES

Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus* Two adult and three juvs at Antisana, the former giving a wonderful arial display with the snow-covered Antisana Volcano as a back-drop.
 Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* Common in all mainland areas
 Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* Mostly in the Andes
 Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *C. melambrotus* Small numbers only in the rainforest

ACCIPITRIDAE KITES, EAGLES and HAWKS

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* A single along the Napo River
 Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* Also a single along the Napo River
 Slender-billed Kite *Rostrhamus hamatus* Two sightings of probably the same bird round the Sani Lodge Lagoon
 Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* One along the Napo River
 Plain-breasted Hawk *Accipiter ventralis* One along the Mindo Road
 Barred Hawk *Leucopternis princeps* A pair displaying near San Isidro Lodge
 Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* Three at Antisana
 Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris* One or two on four dates
 Variable Hawk *B. polyosoma* Fairly common in the Andes
 Galapagos Hawk *B. galapagoensis* Three birds on Espanola and another on Santa Cruz



FALCONIDAE FALCONS and CARACARAS

Black Caracara *Daptrius ater* Two singles at Sani
Carunculated Caracara *Phalcooboenus carunculatus* Three or four at Yanacocha and may be as many as 200 in Antisana
Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* A single at Sani
Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* A single at Sani
American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* One or two daily in the Andes
Peregrine Falcon *F. peregrinus* Two singles in the mountains

CRACIDAECURRASOWS and GUANS

Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata* A few at Sani near the lodge
Common (Blue-Throated) Piping-Guan *Pipile pipile* A single noisy individual seen from the tower at Sani
Sickle-winged Guan *Chamaepetes goudotii* Up to a dozen at Reserva La Paz de Las Aves

ODONTOPHORIDAE NEW WORLD QUAILS

Marbled Wood-Quail *Odontophorus gujanensis* Three seen by one observer only in Sani
Dark-backed Wood-Quail *O. melanonotus* heard only in the cloud forest One heard only at Maquipucuna

RALLIDAE RAILS, GALLINULES and COOTS

Rufous-sided Crake *L. melanophaius* Two at Sanio seen by just one observer
Common Gallinule *Gallinula chloropus* Seen on Santa Cruz only on the last morning.
Andean Coot *Fulica ardesiaca* Six in the High Andes

HELIORNITHIDAE FINFOOTS

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica* Two singles at Sani

ARAMIDAE LIMPKINS

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* Two singles at Sani

SCOLOPACIDAESANDPIPERS and SNIPES

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* Three along the Napo
Solitary Sandpiper *T. solitaria* A single on Floreana
Wandering Tattler *Heteroscelus incanus* Small numbers on the Galap.
Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* Small numbers on three days both in the mountains and along the Napo River
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* Small numbers of the race "hudsonicus" which breeds on the Galap. but equally could have been migrants from North America
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* Common in the Galap.
Sanderling *C. alba* One on Floreana
Semipalmated Sandpiper *C. pusilla* Four along the Napo River where they are supposed to be rare and may be half a dozen in the Galap.
Western Sandpiper *C. mauri* Three or four in the Galap.
Least Sandpiper *C. minutilla* One on Floreana
Baird's Sandpiper *C. bairdii* Eleven at high altitude at Antisana
Pectoral Sandpiper *C. melanotos* Four along the Napo River
Red-necked Phalarope *P. lobatus* Several hundred at sea and a few on a pool on Floreana in the Galap.
Wilson's Phalarope *P. tricolour* A single along the river Napo.

THINOCORIDAE SEEDSNIPES

Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe *Attagis gayi* A pair at close range at Papallacta at 4400m asl.

HAEMATOPODIDAE OYSTERCATCHERS

American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus* A few on the Galap.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE STILTS and AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* A few on the Galap.

CHARADRIIDAE LAPWINGS and PLOVERS

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* A single between San Isidro and Quito

Andean Lapwing *V. resplendens* Three at Antisana

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* A single on the Galap.

Pied Plover *Hoploxypterus cayanus* Four along the River Napo.

Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus* Quite a few in the Galap.

LARIDAE GULLS and TERNs

Andean Gull *Larus serranus* About 20 at Antisana

Franklin's Gull *L. pipixcan* A single flew over the boat in the Galap.

Lava Gull *L. fuliginosus* Scattered round in the Galap.

Swallow-tailed Gull *Creagrus furcatus* A few in the Galap.

Yellow-billed Tern *Sterna supercilii* Two at Sani Lagoon seen on four dates

COLUMBIDAE PIGEONS and DOVES

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* A few in Quito

Band-tailed Pigeon *C. fasciata* Small numbers in the Cloud Forest

Pale-vented Pigeon *C. cayennensis* Small numbers at Sani

Ruddy Pigeon *C. subvinacea* Just one record in the Andes

Plumbeous Pigeon *C. plumbea* Three birds in the Cloud Forest

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* Common throughout

Common Ground-Dove *Columbina passerina* Two at Tumbalo on the first day

Croaking Ground-Dove *C. cruziana* A couple at Tumbalo

Black-winged Ground-Dove *Metriopelia melanoptera* Fifty or more at Antisana

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* Common throughout

Gray-fronted Dove *L. rufaxilla* One at Sani

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana* A single at Maquipucuna

PSITTACIDAE PARROTS

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna* A party of three at Sani

Scarlet Macaw *A. macao* Three and five on two dates at Sani

Chestnut-fronted Macaw *A. severa* Up to four a day at Sani

Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilata* Two at Sani

Dusky-headed Parakeet *Aratinga weddellii* Fifty at Sani in one flock

Barred Parakeet *Bolborhynchus lineola* Three at Maquipucana

Cobalt-winged Parakeet *B. cyanoptera* Two at Sani

Black-headed Parrot *Pionites melanocephala* Eight at Sani

Red-billed Parrot *P. sordidus* Eight at Maquipucana

White-capped Parrot *P. seniloides* Fifteen at Sani

Orange-winged Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona amazonica* The commonest parrot at Sani seen in large numbers and mostly in pairs

Scaly-naped Amazon (Parrot) *A. mercenaria* Small numbers in the Andes

Mealy Amazon (Parrot) *A. farinosa* Up to 8 a day at Sani

CUCULIDAE CUCKOOS and ANIS

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* Four singles in the Highlands
Little Cuckoo *P. minuta* A single seen by one observer only at Maquipucana
Greater Ani *Crotophaga major* A few at Sani
Smooth-billed Ani *C. ani* Fairly common throughout and also on Santa Cruz in the Galap.

OPISTHOCOMIDAE HOATZINS

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin* Common at Sani

TYTONIDAE BARN OWLS

(Barn Owl *Tyto alba* One dead in the Galap)

STRIGIDAE TYPICAL OWLS

Tropical Screech-Owl *Megascops choliba* A pair with a juvenile in the Sani Lodge grounds
Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl *M. watsonii* One just round the corner from Sani Lodge
White-throated Screech-Owl *M. albogularis* Heard only at San Isidro
Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* One on the cliff-face at Antisana
Andean Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium jardinii* A single at Yanacocha gave great views
San Isidro Owl (Black-and-white Owl *Strix nigrolineata*) Three at San Isidro Lodge are considered to be a different species from B&W Owl but as yet has no official English or scientific name.
Rufous-banded Owl *Strix nigrolineata* Heard only along Guacamayos Ridge

NYCTIBIIDAE POTOOS and NIGHTJARS

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* An adult and a separate juvenile were seen along the Napo River
Andean Potoo *N. maculosus* A single scoped with the aid of a searchlight near the Guacamayos Ridge
Rufous Potoo *N. bracteatus* A single on a nest (top of broken palm trunk) next to the trail along the Napo River.

CAPRIMULGIDAE NIGHTJARS

Rufous-bellied Nighthawk *L. rufiventris* A single roosting on a branch at La Paz de Las Aves
Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* Two at Sani in spotlights
Band-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus longirostris* Four near and at Las Termas Hot Springs lodge
Ladder-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis climacocerca* Two in bamboo along the Napo River
Swallow-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis segmentata* Three near Guacamayos Ridge

APODIDAE SWIFTS

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* Small numbers in the Andes
Chestnut-collared Swift *Cypseloides rutilus* Two at San Isidro
Neotropical (Fork-tailed) Palm-Swift *Tachornis squamata* Small numbers in the Rainforest

TROCHILIDAE HUMMINGBIRDS

White-whiskered Hermit *Phaethornis yaruqui* One or two on one day in the Andes
Tawny-bellied Hermit *P. syrmatophorus* Small numbers in the Andes
Straight-billed Hermit *P. bourcierii* One at Sani
Green-fronted Lancebill *D. ludovicae* Single at Guacamayos Ridge

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* A few at Maquipucuna
 Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae* A few in the Andes
 Green Violetear *C. thalassinus* A single at La Paz de las Aves
 Sparkling Violetear *C. coruscans* Scattered in most Andes locations
 Western Emerald *C. melanorhynchus* Two at Tumbalo
 Green-crowned (Emerald-bellied) Woodnymph *T. Fannyi* (T.f. hypochlora) A few round Sachatamina Lodge
 Olive-spotted Hummingbird *Leucippus chlorocercus* A single on one of the islands in the Napo River
 Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacat* Reasonably common in the cloud Forest
 Andean Emerald *A. franciae* A few in the Cloud Forest
 Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys* Small numbers in the Andes
 Purple-bibbed Whitetip *Urosticte benjamini* One or two at La Paz de las Aves
 Empress Brilliant *Heliodoxa imperatrix* One or two at La Paz de las Aves
 Green-fronted(-crowned) Brilliant *H. jacula* A single at Maquipucuna
 Fawn-breasted Brilliant *H. rubinoides* Seen at La Paz de las Aves and San Isidro Lodge
 Ecuadorian Oreotrochilus *chimborazo* Seven including some on the nest at Antisana. Just one male was amongst them.
 White-tailed Hillstar *Urochroa bougueri* A single at San Isidro Lodge
 Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas* Three at El Canon del Chiche on the first day and a single at Papallacta
 Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis* Six at Papallacta
 Mountain Velvetbreast *Lafresnaya lafresnayi* Small numbers scattered around the Andes
 Great Sapphirewing *Pterophanes cyanopterus* Four at Yanacocha and a few at Papallacta
 Bronzy Inca *Coeligena coeligena* One or two at San Isidro Lodge
 Brown Inca *C. wilsoni* One or two at La Paz de las Aves
 Collared Inca *C. torquata* Seen at Yanacocha and in the High Andes
 Buff-winged Starfrontlet *C. lutetiae* Scattered around different locations in the Andes
 Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera* Five at Yanacocha and a few in the High Andes
 Buff-tailed Coronet *Boissonneaua flavescens* A few at feeders in the Andes
 Chestnut-breasted Coronet *B. matthewsii* A few at feeders in the High Andes
 Velvet-purple Coronet *B. jardini* Only seen at La Paz de las Aves
 Gorgeted Sunangel *Heliangelus strophianus* A single at Sachatamina Lodge
 Tourmaline Sunangel *H. exortis* Only seen at Guango Lodge
 Sapphire-vented Puffleg *Eriocnemis luciani* Seen at feeders at Yanacocha
 Golden-breasted Puffleg *E. mosquera* One or two at Yanacocha
 Booted Racket-tail *Oreotrochilus underwoodii* Three at Sachatamina Lodge
 Black-tailed Trainbearer *Lesbia victoriae* Singles at Tumbalo and Papallacta
 Green-tailed Trainbearer *L. nuna1* Two at Sachatamina lodge
 Purple-backed Thornbill *Ramphomicron microrhynchum* A single at Papallacta
 Viridian Metaltail *Metallura williami* A single at Papallacta
 Tyrian Metaltail *M. tyrianthina1* Small numbers scattered around most feeders
 Rainbow-bearded Thornbill *C. herrani* A female at Papallacta
 Blue-mantled Thornbill *C. stanleyi* A single at Papallacta
 Long-tailed Sylph *Agelaiocercus kingi* A few in the High Andes
 Violet-tailed Sylph *A. coelestis* A few at La Paz de las Aves and Sachatamina
 Purple-throated Woodstar *Calliphlox michellii* Small numbers on the western slopes
 White-bellied Woodstar *Chaetocercus mulsant* Two at Tumbalo and small numbers at Guango
 Gorgeted Woodstar *C. heliodor* a female at Guango Lodge

TROGONIDAE TROGONS and QUETZALS

Crested Quetzal *Pharomachrus antisianus* heard only at San Isidro

Golden-headed Quetzal *P. auriceps* Three singles in the Cloud Forest
Collared Trogon *T. collaris* A male in the Cloud Forest
Masked Trogon *T. personatus* A pair at San Isidro Lodge

ALCEDINIDAE KINGFISHERS

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* Seen both in the Andes and the lowlands
Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* Four singles at Sani possibly referring to the same bird
Green Kingfisher *C. Americana* A single at Sani
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *C. inda* Three singles at Sani

MOMOTIDAE MOTMOTS

Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum* Two at Maquipucuna
Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii* Four at Maquipucuna
Highland Motmot *M. aequatorialis* One at San Isidro

GALBULIDAE JACAMARS

White-eared Jacamar *Galbalcyrrhynchus leucotis* Up to four on three dates at Sani
Brown Jacamar *Brachygalba lugubris* A pair on an island in the Napo River

BUCCONIDAE PUFFBIRDS

Collared Puffbird *B. capensis* A single at Sani
Barred Puffbird *Nystalus radiatus* A single at Maquipucuna
Brown Nunlet *Nonnula brunnea* A single at Sani
Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons* Between one and four on four dates at Sani
Swallow-winged Puffbird *Chelidoptera tenebrosa* Three at Sani

CAPITONIDAE BARBETS

Scarlet-crowned Barbet *Capito aurovirens* Between one and three on three dates at Sani
Gilded (Black-spotted) Barbet *C. auratus* Two on two dates at Sani
Red-headed Barbet *E. bourcierii* A female in the Cloud Forest

CAPITONIDAE BARBETS

Toucan Barbet *Semnornis ramphastinus* Two singles in the Cloud Forest

RAMPHASTIDAE TOUCANS

Andean Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus* A single at San Isidro (Formerly Emerald Toucanet)
Chestnut-tipped Toucanet *A. derbianus* Three at San Isidro
Crimson-rumped Toucanet *A. haematopygus* Seen on three dates in the Cloud Forest
Pale-mandibled Araçari *Pteroglossus erythropygius* Two singles in the Cloud forest
Many-banded Araçari *P. pluricinctus* A few at Sani
Ivory-billed Araçari *P. azara* A few at Sani also
Lettered Araçari *P. inscriptus* Up to four on three dates at Sani
Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan *Andigena laminirostris* Two in the Cloud Forest
Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan *A. hypoglauca* A single at Guango
Channel-billed (Yellow-ridged) Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus* Two pairs at Sani may well have referred to the same birds
Chocó Toucan *R. brevis* Two at Maquipucuna
White-throated (Cuvier's) Toucan *R. tucanus* A few at Sani on three dates

PICIDAE WOODPECKERS

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker *Piculus rivolii* Up to three a day in the Andes

Golden-olive Woodpecker *P. rubiginosus* Three birds in the Andes
Cream-colored Woodpecker *Celeus flavus* A single bird seen on two dates by just one observer
Rufous-headed Woodpecker *C. spectabilis* Two at Sani
Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* One in the Andes
Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus* Between one and four on three dates in the Rainforest
Little Woodpecker *Veniliornis passerinus* Two singles in Sani
Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos* A single in Sani
Powerful Woodpecker *C. pollens* Two singles in the Cloud Forest

FURNARIIDAE OVENBIRDS

Bar-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes fuscus* A few in Antisana and a single in the High Andes
Stout-billed Cinclodes *C. excelsior* Several at Antisana
Pacific Hornero *Furnarius cinnamomeus* Two at Maquipucuna
Andean Tit-Spintail *Leptasthenura andicola* A single at Papallacta
Azara's Spintail *Synallaxis azarae* A few scattered round the Andes
Rufous Spintail *S. unirufra* One at Papallacta
Ruddy Spintail *S. rutilans* One in Sani
Ash-browed Spintail *Cranioleuca curtata* One at Guango
Red-faced Spintail *C. erythroptus* One at Maquipucuna
White-chinned Thistletail *Schizoeaca fuliginosa* Two singles at Papallacta
Streak-backed Canastero *Asthenes wyatti* One at Antisana
Many-striped Canastero *A. flammulata* One at Antisana
Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger* A few in the Cloud Forest
Spotted Barbtail *Premnoplex brunnescens* Two at Maquipucuna and a single at Guango
Lineated Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla subalaris* A single at Maquipucuna
Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia variegaticeps* A single at Maquipucuna
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufus* Two at Maquipucuna
Flammulated Treehunter *Thripadectes flammulatus* A single at Guango

DENDROCOLAPTIDAE WOODCREEPERS

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *D. fuliginosa* A single at Sani
Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper *Dendrexetastes rufigula* Two at Sani
Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus picus* Three birds at Sani
Spotted Woodcreeper *X. erythropygius* A single at Maquipucuna
Olive-backed Woodcreeper *X. triangularis* A single at san Isidro
Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* A few in the Andes

THAMNOPHILIDAE TYPICAL ANTBIRDS

Plain-winged Antshrike *Thamnophilus schistaceus* A single at Sani
Cinereous Antshrike *T. caesioides* A single at Sani
Plain-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula hauxwelli* A single in the Rainforest
White-flanked Antwren *M. axillaris* A single at Sani
Slaty Antwren *M. schisticolor* A male at Maquipucuna
Long-tailed Antbird *Drymophila caudate* Three at san Isidro
Black-faced Antbird *Myrmoborus myotherinus* A single at Sani
Scale-backed Antbird *Hylophylax poecilinota* A single in the Rainforest
Plumbeous Antbird *Myrmeciza hyperythra* Two at Sani
White-shouldered Antbird *M. melanocephala* A single at Sani
Sooty Antbird *M. fortis* Two at Sani
Immaculate Antbird *M. immaculata* A pair at Maquipucuna
Esmeraldas Antbird *M. nigricauda* A pair at Maquipucuna

Black-spotted Bare-eye *Phlegopsis nigromaculata* Two on one of the islands in the Napo river

FORMICARIIDAE GROUND ANTBIRDS

Rufous-breasted Antthrush *Formicarius rufipectus* Single at Maquicupuna
(Noble) Striated Antthrush *Chamaeza nobilis* Single at Sani
Giant Antpitta *Grallaria gigantea* Three seen out in the open at La Paz de las Aves
Moustached Antpitta *G. alleni* Single at La Paz de las Aves
Chestnut-crowned Antpitta *G. ruficapilla* Single at Guango and a juvenile at San Isidro
Chestnut-naped Antpitta *G. nuchalis* heard only at Guango
White-bellied Antpitta *G. hypoleuca* A single seen at San Isidro
Yellow-breasted Antpitta *G. flavotincta* A single at La Paz de las Aves
Rufous Antpitta *G. rufula* Heard at Yanacocha and seen at Papallacta
Tawny Antpitta *G. quitensis* Up to four a day on five dates all in the highlands
White-lored (Fulvous-bellied) Antpitta *H. fulviventris* heard only at Sani
Ochre-breasted Antpitta *Grallaricula flavirostris* A single seen at La Paz de las Aves
Slate-crowned Antpitta *G. nana* A single seen at Guacamayos Ridge

RHINOCRYPTIDAE TAPACULOS

Rusty-belted Tapaculo *Liosceles thoracicus* Single at Sani
Blackish Tapaculo *Scytalopus latrans* Several heard and one seen at San Isidro
Equatorial Rufous-vented Tapaculo *S. micropterus* Single seen well at San Isidro
Nariño Tapaculo *S. vicini* heard only at Papallacta
Spillman's Tapaculo *S. spillmani* One seen in flight only at Guacamayos Ridge
Páramo Tapaculo *S. canus* heard only at Papallacta
Ocellated Tapaculo *Acropternis orthonyx* Heard only on three occasions in the Andes

TYRANNIDAE TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias griseiceps* Single in the Andes
Ashy-headed Tyrannulet *P. cinereiceps* Single at Sani
Golden-faced Tyrannulet *Zimmerius chrysops* Two at Sani
Southern Beardless-Tyr. *Camptostoma obsoletum* Six and a single on the first two days in the Andes
Mottle-backed Elaenia *Elaenia gigas* A single at Sani
White-crested Elaenia *E. albiceps* Single at Yanacocha
White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys* Two twos in the Andes
White-banded Tyrannulet *M. stictopterus* A few singles
White-tailed Tyrannulet *M. poecilocerus* Single at San Isidro
Torrent Tyrannulet *Serppohaga cinerea* A few in suitable mountain rivers
Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant *Stigmatura napensis* Two on an island in the Napo River
Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus* Three twos in the Andes
Agile Tit-Tyrant *Uromyias agilis* Two at Papallacta
Rufous-breasted Flycatcher *Leptopogon rufipectus* Single at Guango
Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus* An adult feeding a young at San Isidro
Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher *Poecilotriccus ruficeps* Two at San Isidro
Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum* Three in the Andes
Spotted Tody-Flycatcher *T. maculatum* Single at Sani
Flavescent Flycatcher *Myiophobus flavicans* Single at Yanacocha
Bran-colored Flycatcher *M. fasciatus* Single at Maquipucuna
Handsome Flycatcher *M. pulcher* A few in the high Andes
Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrhomyias cinnamomea* one or two at Guango and San Isidro
Eastern Wood-Pewee *Contopus virens* Two at San Isidro
Smoke-colored Pewee *C. fumigatus* A few in the Andes

Olive-sided Flycatcher *C. cooperi* Single in the Andes

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans* Frequent in the Andes

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* Six Tumbalo

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor* Five in the Andes

Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant *O. rufipectoralis* Two singles in the Andes

Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant *O. cinnamomeiventris* Two at Yanacocha

Crowned Chat-Tyrant *O. frontalis* Single at Yanacocha

Drab Water-Tyrant *Ochthornis littoralis* Single along the Napo River

Red-rumped Bush-Tyrant *Cnemarchus erythropygius* Single at Papallacta

Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant *Myiotheretes striaticollis* Single in the Andes

Smoky Bush-Tyrant *M. fumigatus* Single at Papallacta

Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant *Agiornis montana* Two at Antisana

Paramo Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola alpine* Three at Antisana

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* Single at Maquipucuna

Short-crested Flycatcher *M. ferox* Three singles at Sani

Pale-edged Flycatcher *M. cephalotes* A few at San Isidro

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* A few at Sani

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lector* A few at Sani

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* Single at Sani

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* A few at Sani

Gray-capped Flycatcher *M. granadensis* Three singles at Sani

Golden-crowned Flycatcher *M. chrycephalus*

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus* Single at Sani

Crowned Slaty Flycatcher *Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus* Single at Sani

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* Common throughout all areas

Eastern Kingbird *T. tyrannus* Common at Sani

Barred Becard *P. versicolor* Two singles at Guango and San Isidro

White-winged Becard *P. polychopterus* Two at Sani

One-colored Becard *Platypsaris homochrous* Three at Maquipucuna

Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana* Up to four on three dates at Sani

Masked Tityra *T. semifasciata* A pair at Maquipucuna

COTINGIDAE COTINGAS

Red-crested Cotinga *Amphelion rubrocristatus* Pair at Papallacta

Barred Fruiteater *Pipreola arcuata* Pair at Guango

Green-and-black Fruiteater *P. riefferii* Two or three at Guacamayos Ridge

Scaled Fruiteater *Ampelioides tshudii* Pair at Maquipucuna

White-browed Purpleuft *Iodopleura isabellae* Two at Sani from the tower

Olivaceous Piha *Snowornis cryptolophus* Single at La Paz de las Aves

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans* Two at Sani

Plum-throated Cotinga *Cotinga maynana* Two singles at Sani

Spangled Cotinga *C. cayana* One from the tower at Sani

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus* A few at Sani

Purple-throated Fruitcrow *Querula purpurata* Two at Sani

Andean Cock-of-the-rock *Rupicola peruviana* A pair in the Tandayapa Valley and a male at La Paz de las Aves

PIPRIDAE MANAKINS

Wire-tailed Manakin *Pipra filicauda* Heard only at Sani

Blue-crowned Manakin *Lepidothrix coronata* Two at Sani

Dwarf Tyrant-manakin *Tyrannetes stolzmanni* Single at Sani

CORVIDAE JAYS and CROWS

Turquoise Jay *Cyanolyca turcosa* A few in the Andes
Beautiful Jay *C. pulchra* 1 Three or more of this rare and beautiful Jay in the Tandayapa Valley
Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus* Quite common at Sani
Inca Jay *C. yncas* A few at Guango and San Isidro

VIREONIDAE VIREOS

Black-billed Peppershrike *C. nigrirostris* Two at San Isidro
Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* A few in the Andes
Yellow-green Vireo *V. flavoviridis* Quite a few at Sani
Brown-capped Vireo *V. leucophrys* A few in the Andes
Lesser Greenlet *H. decurtatus* Two seen badly at Maquipucuna

TURDIDAE THRUSHES

Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides* A single at San Isidro
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater* A single at Maquipucuna
Spotted Nightingale-Thrush *C. dryas* A male at Maquipucuna
Swainson's Thrush *C. ustulatus* Three at Sani
Great Thrush *T. fuscater* Common in the Andes
Glossy-black Thrush *T. serranus* Six at an Isidro
Black-billed Thrush *T. ignobilis* Three singles at Sani
Ecuadorian Thrush *T. maculirostris* A single at Maquipucuna
White-necked Thrush *T. albicollis* A single at Sani

MIMIDAE MOCKINGBIRDS

San Cristobal Mockingbird *Nesomimus melanotis* Only on St Cristobal where just one or two were seen
Floreana Mockingbird *N. trifasciatus* A few seen
Galapagos Mockingbird *N. parvulus* Common on Santa Cruz
Hood Mockingbird *N. macdonaldi* A few on Espanola

CINCLIDAE DIPPERS

White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus* One or two in the Andes

HIRUNDINIDAE MARTINS and SWALLOWS

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera* A few in the Rainforest
Gray-breasted Martin *P. chalybea* A few in Choco
White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* A single seen daily at Sani
Brown-bellied Swallow *Notiochelidon murina* A few in the Andes
Blue-and-white Swallow *N. cyanoleuca* Common in the Andes
Pale-footed Swallow *N. flavipes* A single at Guango
White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata* About 6 nesting along the Napo River
Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* A few in the Andes

TROGLODYTIDAE WRENS

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapillus* Up to six a day at Sani
Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* A single at Sani
Grass Wren *Cistothorus platensis* One seen and another heard at Papallacta
Plain-tailed Wren *Thryothorus euophrys* A single at Guango
Whiskered Wren *T. mystacalis* Heard only at Maquipucuna

Southern House Wren *Troglodytes musculus* A couple in the Andes
Mountain Wren *T. solstitialis* A few in the High Andes
White-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucosticte* A single at Sani
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren *H. leucophrys* One or two in the Andes
Musician Wren *Cyphorhinus arada* Great views of this lovely bird with tremendous song at Sani
Southern Nightingale-Wren *Microcerculus marginatus* heard only at Maquipucuna

MOTACILLIDAE PIPITS

Paramó Pipit *Anthus bogotensis* A single at Papallacta

PARULIDAE WARBLERS

Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi* Two or three in the Andes
Mangrove Warbler *Dendroica petechia* Possibly a subspecies of Yellow Warbler *D. aestiva*.
Common on the Galapagos
Blackburnian Warbler *D. fusca* A few in the Andes
Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia* A single at Guango
Canada Warbler *Wilsonia Canadensis* Two at an Isidro on two dates
Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus* Common in the Andes
Spectacled Whitestart *M. melanocephalus* Common in the Andes
Black-crested Warbler *Basileuterus nigrocristatus* One or two at higher altitudes in the Andes
Three-striped Warbler *B. tristriatus* A few in the Andes
Russet-crowned Warbler *B. coronatus* Two singles in the Andes

THRAUPIDAE TANAGERS & HONEYCREEPERS

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* A single at Maquipucuna
Purple Honeycreeper *C. caeruleus* A single at Sani
Golden-collared Honeycreeper *Iridophanes pulcherrima* A single at Guango
Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum* Common in the Andes
Blue-backed Conebill *C. sitticolor* A few in the Andes
Capped Conebill *C. albifrons* Two at high altitude
Bluish Flowerpiercer *Diglossopsis caerulescens* Two at San Isidro
Masked Flowerpiercer *D. cyanea* Common in the Andes
Glossy Flowerpiercer *Diglossa lafresnayii* A few in the Andes
Black Flowerpiercer *D. humeralis* Three in the Andes
White-sided Flowerpiercer *D. albilatera* A single at Sachatamina lodge
Rusty Flowerpiercer *D. sittoides* Two at Tumbalo
Rufous-chested Tanager *Thlypopsis ornate* Two single in the Andes
Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys* A male near San Isidro
Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia laniirostris* A single at Sachatamina Lodge
Golden-rumped Euphonia *E. cyanocephala* Three at Tumbalo
Orange-bellied Euphonia *E. xanthogaster* One or two in the Andes and Sani
White-lored (Golden-bellied) Euphonia *E. chrysopasta* Two singles at Sani
Golden Tanager *Tangara arthus* Three and four in the Andes
Saffron-crowned Tanager *T. xanthocephala* A few at lower altitudes in the Andes
Golden-eared Tanager *T. chrysotis* Two at Guango
Flame-faced Tanager *T. parzudakii* A few in the Andes
Golden-naped Tanager *T. ruficervix* Also a few in the Andes
Metallic-green Tanager *T. labradorides* One or two at Yanacocha
Beryl-spangled Tanager *T. nigroviridis* A few scattered around in the Andes
Blue-and-black Tanager *T. vassorii* Two at Guango
Black-capped Tanager *T. heinei* Two at Guango
Scrub Tanager *T. vitriolina* Two at Tumbalo

Blue-necked Tanager *T. cyanicollis* Two at Guango
 Turquoise Tanager *T. mexicana* Two at Sani
 Opal-rumped Tanager *T. velia* Two from the tower at Sani
 Golden-crowned Tanager *Iridisornis rufivertex* Two at Yanacocha
 Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris* Common in the mountains
 Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager *A. lacrymosus* Seen only at Guango in twos and threes
 Northern Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager *A. (sompitosus)* A few in the Andes
 Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager *A. notabilis* Six at La Paz de las Aves
 Hooded Mountain-Tanager *Buthraupis montana* A few in the Andes
 Masked Mountain-Tanager *B. wetmorei* Two at Papallacta gave good views. A rare bird!
 Black-chested Mountain-Tanager *B. eximia* A few in the mountains
 Buff-breasted Mountain-Tanager *Dubusia taeniata* Two at Papallacta
 Grass-green Tanager *Chlorornis riefferii* Two at Guango
 Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis* Singles at Yanacocha and Sani
 Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus* well distributed in both the mountains and Sani
 Palm Tanager *T. palmarum* Four at Guango and a few at Sani
 Blue-and-yellow Tanager *T. bonariensis* Six at Tumbalo
 Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo* A few at Sani on a daily basis
 Masked Crimson Tanager *R. nigrogularis* A few at Sani
 Lemon-rumped Tanager *R. icteronotus* A few in the Andes
 Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra* Two between Guango and San Isidro
 Scarlet Tanager *P. olivacea* A female at Sani
 White-winged Tanager *P. leucoptera* Two at Maquipucuna
 Common Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus* A few at Guango and San Isidro
 Dusky Bush-Tanager *C. semifuscus* Two singles in the Andes
 Gray-hooded Bush-Tanager *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris* Six at Guango on two days
 Black-backed Bush-Tanager *Urothraupis stolzmanni* Ten at Guango
 Northern Black-capped Hemispingus *Hemispingus (atropileus)* One and two at Guango
 Superciliated Hemispingus *H. superciliaris* Two twos in the Andes
 Black-eared Hemispingus *H. melanotis* A single at Guango
 Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leveriana* Two at Sani
 Plushcap *Catamblyrhynchus diadema* A single at Guango

CARDINALIDAE SALTATORS and GROSBEAKS

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* A single at Sani
 Black-winged Saltator *S. atripennis* A single at La Paz de las Aves
 Grayish Saltator *S. coerulescens* a single at Papallacta and two at Sani
 Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis* One or two at Sani
 Southern Yellow -Grosbeak *Pheucticus chrysogaster* Three at Tumbalo and a single male near Sachatamina

EMBERIZIDAE EMBERIZINE FINCHES

Black-and-white Seedeater *S. luctuosa* a few at Guango
 Yellow-bellied Seedeater *S. nigricollis* about four at Maquipucuna
 Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *S. castaneiventris* A few near Guango and two at Sani
 Blue Seedeater *Amaurospiza concolor* Two in the Andes
 Plain-colored Seedeater *Catamenia inornata* A small flock at Antisana
 Paramó Seedeater *C. homochroa* Three at Papallacta
 Band-tailed Seedeater *C. analis* A single at Tumbalo
 Plumbeous Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus unicolor* A few in the High Andes
 Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch *P. plebejus* A few in the Andes
 Grassland Yellow-Finch *S. luteola* Small numbers at Antisana

Slaty Finch *Haplospiza rustica* One at Papallacta
 Pale-naped Brush-Finch *Atlapetes pallidinucha* A few at Guango
 Rufous-naped Brush-Finch *A. latinuchus* A few in the low Andes
 Tricolored Brush-Finch *A. tricolour* A single at Sachatamina Lodge
 Slaty Brush-Finch *A. schistaceus* Six at Papallacta
 Stripe-headed Brush-Finch *B. torquatus* A single at Papallacta
 Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantirostris* A single at Maquipucuna
 Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons* Two at San Isidro
 Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* Common throughout the mountain areas

ICTERIDAE ORIOLES and BLACKBIRDS

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela* Good numbers at Sani
 Northern Mountain-Cacique *C. leucoramphus* A dozen or so Guango
 Subtropical Cacique *C. uropygialis* Seen in Guango, San Isidro and Sani
 Scarlet-rumped Cacique *C. microrhynchus* A single at Maquipucuna
 Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* Quite common at Sani
 Russet-backed Oropendola *P. angustifrons* Seen at San Isidro and Sani
 Olive Oropendola *P. yuracares* Two singles at Sani
 Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* Single at Sani
 Giant Cowbird *M. oryzivorus* Single at Sani
 Scrub Blackbird *Dives warszewiczi* Single at Sachatamina Lodge
 Oriole Blackbird *Gymnomystax mexicanus* Four in the Napo River
 Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris* Single between Guango and San Isidro in the lower agricultural areas

FRINGILLIDAE CARDUELINE FINCHES

Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica* A few at altitude in the Andes
 Olivaceous Siskin *C. olivacea* A few in the lower agricultural areas
 Lesser Goldfinch *C. psaltria* Single at Maquipucuna



John van der Dol
 November 2009