



Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

The Birds & Wildlife of **Guyana**

Trip Report: 28th January – 14th February 2009



Guianan Cock-of-the-rock and Giant Anteater in the Rupununi All photos by David Shackelford

Top dozen birds as voted by participants:

1. Guianan Cock-of-the-rock
2. Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo
3. Sun Parakeet
4. Crimson Fruitcrow
5. Crimson Topaz
6. Crestless Curassow
7. White-winged Potoo
8. Pompadour Cotinga
9. Capuchinbird
10. Spotted Antpitta
11. Red-fan Parrot
12. White-plumed Antbird



Black Curassow and Group Photo celebrating Sun Parakeet success!

Tour Summary

When our native guide with years of local birding experience exclaimed to us that he'd just shared the greatest birding day in all his life, we were already soaking in the splendor of another incredible day exploring the birds and wildlife of Guyana! That particular day had dawned for us in the mature tropical forest of Iwokrama with us marveling at the maniacal growls of Capuchinbird displaying above our heads followed by a dignified perched Crested Eagle, the absolutely stunning Guianan Cock-of-the-rock on the lek, Crested Owl on the day roost, five staggering Crimson Fruit-Crows visible in the scope, and a huge army-ant swarm containing both White-plumed Antbird and crippling views of the sought-after Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo!

Guyana, a small South American country nestled on the Atlantic Coast east of Venezuela and west of Suriname, is one of the last unexplored wild places on earth yet offers incredible access into a great variety of pristine habitats. It is also a land of great contrasts as you leave behind the coastal city of Georgetown traveling into the interior. Here we spoke to local Amerindians who still scar themselves by burning unique patterns into their skin after passing the right of manhood by losing themselves in the forest only to return to their families with the kill of a Puma or Jaguar.

Our initial afternoon in the Georgetown Botanical Garden was extremely productive as we warmed up to a host of more common Neotropical birds such as Yellow Oriole building pendulous hanging nests, Boat-billed Heron, Snail Kite patrolling for aquatic apple snails, Spotted Tody-Flycatcher, and noisy flocks of Red-shouldered Macaw joined by specialties such as the scarce White-bellied Piculet and outrageous scope views of several Festive Parrot, the latter a species that continues to decline due to demand from the illegal pet-trade. The nearby mangrove mudflats were also accessed at low tide with the help of a local fisherman, which yielded several startlingly bright Scarlet Ibis among others.

We departed early the next morning from our coastal hotel where we loaded onto a small boat passing rickety floating houses surrounding sugar cane and rice fields somewhat reminiscent of portions of Asia. Here we found our first Red Howler Monkeys of the tour soaking in the morning sunshine as the primitive Hoatzin made several appearances awkwardly creeping through water philodendrons where the vocal Silvered Antbird and Green-tailed Jacamar made appearances. Continuing eastward to Abary, we followed a dirt track through mangroves and secondary scrub coaxing out awesome views of Black-crested Antshrike and Little Cuckoo while we hunted down Golden-spangled Piculet and with determined efforts we managed

incredible views of the very attractive Blood-colored Woodpecker, a localized near-endemic restricted to these coastal forests. We ended the day looking out over the Atlantic Ocean surf where we scoped the localized Rufous Crab Hawk pulling apart a crustacean on a barnacle-covered piling.

The lightweight aircraft we boarded the next morning flew for more than an hour southward into the depths of Guyana across seemingly endless pristine forest. Passing just east of Kaieteur Falls, the world's highest freefalling waterfall with an unbroken vertical drop of 741 feet, we looked down over an untamed terrain where human survival subsisting in harmony with the natural surroundings still exists despite the ever-threatening noxious frontier of gold and oil exploration.

We were greeted on the gravel runway of Annai by the local Amerindians before loading into the back of an open-air off-road vehicle heading towards the immense reserve of Iwokrama. Raucous Red-and-green Macaws and White-throated Toucans welcomed us by calling noisily above our heads at the entrance; this tract of nearly one million acres protects a unique ecosystem in the heart of the Guianan shield at the crossroads between Amazonian and Guianan flora and fauna resulting in one of the highest species diversities in the world. Even our initial passage through the reserve was fascinating as we admired the amount of prime tropical forest as Red-rumped Agouti scurried across the dirt roadway, an eye-catching Sunbittern displayed at the edge of a small waterhole, several Black Curassow fed casually at the edge of the forest, calling Gray-winged Trumpeter strutted brazenly into the open almost beside our vehicle, and we scoped a brilliant Red-fan Parrot fully erecting its flamboyant red and blue crest!

The next three nights were spent at the surprisingly comfortable Iwokrama Field Station in modern cabins complete with wrap-around wooden balconies overlooking the scenic Essequibo River, a large calm waterway that is unmatched in the Neotropics for sheer beauty. The calls of Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon and Spectacled Owl awoke us daily just before dawn as we covered a wide variety of surrounding habitats and trails teeming with bird life such as the secretive Spotted Antpitta that we watched singing at length, Rufous-capped Antthrush, the tricky arboreal Lineated Woodcreeper, Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant, nice views of the widespread Laughing Falcon, both Ringed and Waved Woodpeckers that pierced the air with their strident calls, and a very responsive Amazonian Pygmy-Owl being mobbed by a pair of Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo. The river edge provided views of a variety of parrots as well as the intricately patterned Pied Lapwing and good numbers of Black-collared Swallows that acrobatically snatched insects out of the air.

A hike ascending the slopes of Turtle Mountain offered one of our first huge mixed flocks of the tour that covered all the forest layers in a dizzying wave of avian activity. After reaching the top of the mountain we gazed over a broad vista of extensive biologically intact forest alive with the harsh calls of Blue-and-yellow and Scarlet Macaws that are still present in healthy numbers. Here we were also able to scan out over the Tepuis, unique table-top mountain landforms to the west bordering Venezuela literally meaning "house of the gods" in the native tongue of the region's indigenous people. A journey to the east bank of the Essequibo River offered slightly different forest where we found the bizarre Brown-bearded Saki Monkey including a full adult staring us down with two knobby buns on top of its forehead accompanied by Common Squirrel Monkeys. Here the localized Rufous-crowned Elaenia was fairly common and an ant swarm allowed us to obtain close views of goodies such as a cooperative Spotted Puffbird, the beautiful Ferruginous-backed Antbird that approached to within a few feet of where we motionlessly crouched, Amazonian Scrub Flycatcher, Amazonian and the scarce Black-throated Antshrike, Cinnamon Attila, and several pairs of Black-headed Antbird among others.

Both Green and Black-necked Aracari proved to be constant companions throughout our time in Iwokrama

often feeding on the ripened fruits of Cecropia trees while scarcer visitors included the colorful Guianan Toucanet and territorial Weeping Capuchin Monkeys. We next hiked into the stunted sandy forest locally known as Mori Scrub which provided outstanding views of the localized Black Manakin, a calling Red-legged Tinamou that approached incredible close but still remained invisible and our first encounter with the gaudy male Guianan Red Cotinga perched above our heads. That afternoon while walking quietly along a blackwater tributary we managed full-frame views of perched Blue-cheeked Amazons, both Black-chinned Antbird and the delicately patterned Guianan Streaked Antwren, a close look at the tiny but vibrant Rose-breasted Chat, and mind boggling views of a gorgeous male Crimson Topaz flycatching insects out of the air. This last mentioned species is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful of the world's hummingbirds which is quite a tribute from such an extravagant bird family!

Of course Guyana is well known for its great diversity of spectacular cotingas and at our next stay at the Atta Camp we really cashed in by staking out an adjacent fruiting ficus tree. Here we soaked in scope views of Purple-breasted, brilliant blue Spangled, and Pompadour Cotingas, the latter of which is a combination of rich iridescent purple and white that has to be seen to be believed! We were able to settle into the simple open-air hammock-style accommodation with relative ease but perhaps this was made easier by the 154 meter canopy walkway nearby that allowed a sensational experience in the crown of the rainforest overlooking the Iwokrama forest expanse. Here Red-throated Cararas called at us noisily, a Pied Puffbird all but sat in our laps, we found grand arrays of bright tanagers and parrots, the seldom reported Curve-billed Scythebill called below us, and by night we were able to whistle in cracking spot lit views of the rare White-winged Potoo.

At dusk on most evenings we were out exploring the dirt roadway through the reserve listening for nocturnal birds and searching for tell-tale eye-shine. At one point we located a Crab-eating Raccoon near a swampy area that also produced the poorly-known Dwarf Caiman. At another wetland near a small village we heard Uniform, Ash-throated, and Russet-crowned Crakes as well as a Zigzag Heron that responded aggressively to playback. An assortment of unidentified bats flitted around us on yet another evening while we located several Bushy-tailed Olingos and the arboreal Kinkajou. On this particular night drive Mottled Owl and an unexpected Striped Owl made for a good show as we came across several species of nightjar and all five possible potto species including Long-tailed and the tough Rufous Potoo. As an additional highlight, an adult Jaguar sauntered across the road behind our vehicle!

There are some birds that because of their sheer beauty simply defy imagery in words, and three such species of cotingas during the course of our stay near the small Amerindian village of Surama nearly took our breaths away. First we gawked not only at the sight of the weird Capuchinbird but at its wacky cow-like resonating wails produced by several lekking birds above our heads. Next we stared down a remarkably colorful adult male Crimson Fruitcrow that we scoped in full sunlight for a luminous vision of intense coloration. As if this wasn't enough we continued our cotinga extravaganza trekking through the forest to a fascinating area where limestone rocks protruded through the tangled undergrowth. Here, as if searching for the primitive picathartes of West Africa, we found a dark female Guianan Cock-of-the-rock peacefully incubating her eggs on its nest securely fastened with viscous mud to the slope of a rock face. A peculiar call nearby alerted us and we peered around the rock face to behold our first views of the male Guianan Cock-of-the-rock clinging to the side of a thick twisted vine. Its luminous orange coloration, extraordinary feather plumes outstretched in display, and outrageous headdress-like crest must make this astonishing creature one of the most extraordinary birds on earth!

Treading excitedly through a swarm of army ants that covered the forest floor in a moving mosaic, we

snuggly tucked our pants into our socks in efforts to fully absorb one of those magical birding moments in the Neotropics. That same morning we had already watched White-tailed, Blackish, and Rufous Nightjars spot lit on the road and later stared down a nearly mature Crested Eagle in the scope plus found a few other localized denizens such as Finch's Euphonia and White-throated Manakin. As we sifted through the forest birds frantically snatching insects escaping from the furry of army ants we enjoyed awesome views of both the near-endemic Rufous-throated Antbird and one of my personal favorites, the ostentatious White-plumed Antbird that can only reliably be found with ant swarms. Next we were watching a Crested Owl that flushed from its day roost but were distracted when a sharp bill-clapping soon put us onto full alert. We had all but forgotten about the surrounding ants as I quickly moved us into position and we waited motionlessly with sweat trickling down our faces. A flash of motion across the ground broke the tension and within seconds a gorgeous Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo, one of South America's most sought-after birds, jumped up onto a fallen trunk into the full sunlight and perched with tail cocked for amazing jaw-dropping views!

We then endured the long journey to Karasabi on the border of Brazil beginning by crossing the great Rupununi Savannah that stretches across the central ranges of Guyana where stately Jabiru Stork and hunting pair of Aplomado Falcon entertained us. Here we also had a fantastic experience with a bold Giant Anteater that roamed curiously near the vehicle for unforgettable views! The road continued deteriorating into an eroded disaster as we crossed over the Pakaraima Mountains balancing over narrow bridges supported by rickety planks. Several nocturnal Double-striped Thick-knee were standing in the surrounding grasslands as we began approaching the river where we were welcomed into the small village of Karasabi by the exceptionally friendly locals.

With the permission of the village we forged ahead through a flooded roadway and across a vegetated stream where a nesting band of Cayenne Jays scolded us austerely. Trekking to the edge of the mountains where a healthy stand of mature riparian hardwood was turning color, we eagerly scanned our surroundings with high hopes of encountering the pot of gold for which we had journeyed, the critically endangered Sun Parakeet. This vivid species once ranged widely across Suriname into northern Brazil but after years of feverish illegal trapping including rumors of entire planes jammed full of thousands of ill-fated birds, the world population now hangs in the balance with less than two hundred individuals though to be remaining in the wild. A series of strident chimes alerted us to look towards the sky as seven radiant Sun Parakeets spiraled towards us and landed in a fruiting tree where we studied their movements and interactions for nearly an hour! The intense combination of yellow and red combined with the sheer sensation of scoping one of the rarest and most beautiful birds on earth was a very emotional experience for which we will always be grateful to the village of Karasabi for their intensive efforts conserving the last of the Sun Parakeet and allowing us to share this joy with them.

We stopped periodically along the winding adjacent river to explore suitable riverine habitat where we worked out an assortment of confusing elanias plus found Green-rumped Parrotlet, Gray Seedeater, Yellow-hooded Blackbird, the colorful Orange-backed Troupial, White-fringed Antwren, and to our surprise a pair of Red Siskin, a scarce species that's habits and local movements are poorly understood. Trading our tough vehicle endearingly named 'The Little Goat' for a sturdy boat, we next motored our way past vast stretches of remote savannah inhabited only by scattered indigenous Amerindians and the nomadic vaqueros herding cattle.

Hours later we were greeted at the Karanambu Ranch by Diane McTurk, legendary for her work with abandoned otters and gracious hospitality. After settling into traditional clay brick and thatched cabins we were off again traipsing through tall wetland grass that yielded a pair of honking Sharp-tailed Ibis and later

found us scoping several delicately patterned Bearded Tachuri, a highly localized species of tyrant. By twilight we watched the oversized Nacunda and agile Least Nighthawks cruising over the open savannah and admired one of the finest expanses of unspoilt night sky illuminated for miles only by the stars above.

After avidly fending off an undisciplined Crab-eating Raccoon from the breakfast table we loaded into a small boat to discover the series of narrow waterways that allow access to the riverine forest ecosystem meandering through the savannah. All five possible kingfishers were soon noted including both American Pygmy and Green-and-rufous Kingfisher as we made our way into the quiet backwaters. Traveling slowly alongside a profusion of waterbirds such as Capped Heron and Rufescent Tiger-Heron that caught our attention we found ourselves being inspected by something up ahead that was gradually moving closer – a playful family of six Giant River Otters! This charismatic species, the largest of the world's otters, is endangered due to loss of pristine habitat and we delighted as they humorously spied out of the water with their cream colored necks punctuated by random dark splotches. At one point several even climbed out of the water onto the bank where we were afforded dynamite views before they retired into an underground burrow.

We finished the day carefully scanning up the embankments peering into the undergrowth searching for one more specific target of this environment. We had almost given up near dusk when a silhouetted movement caught my eye and we quickly turned our boat into position to watch as a rare unobstructed view of a lovely Crestless Curassow strolled over the fallen vegetation through a small gap in the forest. We celebrated our success with sundowner drinks in a blackwater oxbow lagoon surrounded by hundreds of massive Victoria Water Lily, the largest lily in the world that can span nearly nine feet across. As Band-tailed Nighthawks and Greater Bulldog Bats hunted around us we observed the nearly soccer-sized white and pink blooms unfold before our eyes.

We concluded our tour heading towards the border town of Lethem inhabited mostly by the native Amerindian people who originated from nine original tribes throughout the savannahs plus a mixture of Caribbean and African heritage. A lone Crab-eating Fox wandered across the road near town and we found a blonde Tayra, an omnivorous member of the weasel family that we watched curiously searching in a tree for nests to rob. We departed aboard a small boat onto the Takutu River forming the border with Brazil where stately Maguari Storks and oversized Capybara fed along the shallow sand banks and later veered onto the southern Ireng River where we could see the unique mixing process of white and black water rivers converging. We found the specific habitat we were searching for and within short time had located both remote specialties that few other birders have ever encountered, the inexplicably localized Rio Branco Antbird and endangered Hoary-throated Spinetail we watched singing almost with an arms-length in the thick undergrowth!

Overall during our travels in Guyana we encountered over 470 bird species accompanied by some excellent local guides, unique eco-conscious accommodations, and great wildlife sightings including Jaguar, Giant Anteater, and Giant River Otter. We cleaned up the cotingas with 19 representatives from the family including Guianan Cock-of-the-rock and Crimson Fruitcrow, incredible Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo perched in the sunlight, all five possible potto species, 41 species of antbirds (!), Crimson Topaz, Crestless Curassow, we scored on Sun Parakeet at Karasabi – and most of all we had an tremendous time enjoying the adventure of it all!

We look forward to you joining us on our next journey into the wildlife-rich wonders of Guyana, South America's last untouched wilderness!



Black-crested Antshrike and a Day Moth.

Birds encountered:

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the IOC (International Ornithological Committee) including all recent updates.

Key to abbreviations:

ENDEMISM

(E): endemic (NE): near-endemic (BE): breeding-endemic (I): introduced

STATUS

(T): threatened (Nt): near-threatened (Vu): vulnerable

Tinamous Tinamidae

Great Tinamou

Tinamus major

We heard this widespread species almost daily in the forest of Iwokrama.

Cinereous Tinamou

Crypturellus cinereus

This retiring species was heard only on a few occasions throughout the tour in inundated forest areas.

Little Tinamou

Crypturellus soui

This is another familiar sound of the Neotropics that we heard many days of the tour in the forest reserve of Iwokrama.

Undulated Tinamou

Crypturellus undulatus

We only heard this species in the seasonally flooded forest along the river system near Karanambu.

Red-legged Tinamou

Crypturellus erythropus

We had one of these individuals calling within only a few meters of us in the Mori scrub in Iwokrama but it remained unseen.

Variiegated Tinamou

Crypturellus variegates

Although less common than Great Tinamou, we still heard this species regularly throughout the tour especially in the Iwokrama forest.

Curassows, Guans Cracidae

Little Chachalaca

Ortalis Motmot

We first found a small group of five birds at the roadside in Iwokrama and then later had further encounters in the scrub surrounding Karanambu.

Marail Guan

Penelope marail

Not uncommon in Iwokrama and seen especially well roosting above us on a forest trail near Surama.

Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu*

Surprisingly common and commonly seen especially in the Cecropias on a daily basis in Iwokrama.

Crestless Curassow *Mitu tomentosa*

What a bird! We devoted some time searching for this scarce curassow and were rewarded on the boat at Karanambu where we had incredible views of one bird walking along the edge of the water.

Black Curassow *Crax alector*

Fairly common in Iwokrama and easy to see and hear while driving the road after a rain as well as several birds that made a strong appearance in the clearing at Atta Camp.

New World Quails *Odontophoridae*

Crested Bobwhite *Colinus cristatus*

We flushed numerous coveys totaling more than one hundred birds en route to Karasabi and were able to see several individuals very well, plus another sighting in the grasslands near Karanambu.

Marbled Wood-Quail *Odontophorus gujanensis*

We flushed two coveys of these retiring wood-quails from a trail near Surama.

Ducks, Geese *Anatidae*

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

We had several sightings of this widespread duck throughout the tour with more than one hundred birds encountered on a single morning along the southern Ireng River.

Storks *Ciconiidae*

Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria*

This is such an amazing bird and we had many incredible views of close birds throughout the Rupununi especially near areas inundated with stands of water.

Wood Stork *Mycteria Americana*

We had several sightings of this widespread stork throughout the tour starting near Georgetown and continuing to our final day on the southern Ireng River where we found in excess of two hundred birds resting on the sandbanks.

Maguari Stork *Ciconia Maguari*

One bird was first seen near Karanambu in the open savannah and later another thirty birds were found on the sandbanks of the southern Ireng River.

Ibises *Threskiornithidae*

Scarlet Ibis *Eudocimus ruber*

Several of these beautiful ibis were enjoyed at a mangrove mudflat near the coast of Georgetown.

Sharp-tailed Ibis *Cercibis oxycerca*

A pair of this large attractive ibis was scoped near Karanambu in a small wetland while we listened to them trumpeting to each other.

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*

We encountered this species in small numbers throughout the tour near waterways with especially nice sightings in the north of Iwokrama and in the vicinity of Karanambu.

Buff-necked Ibis *Theristicus caudatus*

This colorful ibis species was seen regularly in inundated areas of the Rupununi Savannah.

Roseate Spoonbill *Ajaia ajaja*

Two birds were seen flying over the southern Ireng River near Lethem.

Hérons Ardeidae

Zigzag Heron

Zebrilus undulates

A responsive bird responded aggressively to playback and came in quite close in the flooded undergrowth near Surama.

Rufescent Tiger-Heron

Tigrisoma lineatum

Only one bird was seen, an intricately patterned immature, on a narrow waterway near Karanambu.

Cocoi Heron

Ardea cocoi

This large attractive heron was seen throughout the tour with large numbers of up to twenty birds daily near Karanambu.

Great Egret

Ardea alba

This is a very widespread species that was seen throughout the tour in small numbers.

Snowy Egret

Egretta thula

Another heron that we found in suitable habitat throughout the tour.

Little Blue Heron

Egretta caerulea

Both the blue and white phases were encountered throughout the tour with our first sightings at rookeries near Georgetown.

Tricolored Heron

Egretta tricolor

One of the first birds of the trip and seen while departing the airport and regularly in suitable habitat especially in the vicinity of Georgetown.

Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

Numerous and widespread.

Striated Heron

Butorides striatus

Regularly sighted along waterways throughout the tour.

Capped Heron

Pilherodius pileatus

This elegant heron is always a pleasure to see and we found several sleek individuals along the waterways near Karanambu.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax

The botanical gardens in Georgetown held large roosting numbers of this cosmopolitan species and we had regular encounters in small numbers thereafter during the tour.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Nyctanassa violacea

This species was seen in the mangrove mudflats near Georgetown.

Boat-billed Heron

Cochlearius cochlearius

A single bird was seen mixed in the Black-crowned Night-Heron rookery in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.

Frigatebirds Fregatidae

Magnificent Frigatebird

Fregata magnificens

Several birds were seen flying effortlessly in the vicinity of the coast.

Pelicans Pelecanidae

Brown Pelican

Pelecanus occidentalis

Found in small numbers along the Atlantic coastline.

Cormorants Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic Cormorant

Phalacrocorax brasilianus

A common species seen throughout the tour with especially memorable views of birds feeding on fish

beside us while we explored the waterways of Karanambu.

Anhingas *Anhingidae*

Anhinga

Anhinga anhinga

Another widespread species seen throughout the tour in suitable habitat.

New World Vultures *Cathartidae*

Black Vulture

Coragyps atratus

Common and widespread throughout the tour.

Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura

Fairly common and seen in scattered numbers throughout the tour.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture

Cathartes burrovianus

An attractive vulture species that often flies low over open habitat, we found it especially numerous in the Rupununi Savannah.

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture

Cathartes melambrotus

Fairly common during the tour over forested areas such as the Iwokrama forest.

King Vulture

Sarcoramphus papa

This normally scarce species was encountered on at least eight occasions during this tour with excellent perched views our first day in the Iwokrama forest.

Falcons, Caracaras *Falconidae*

Barred Forest-Falcon

Micrastur ruficollis

This retiring species was only heard calling in the forest of Iwokrama one morning.

Lined Forest-Falcon

Micrastur gilvicollis

We enjoyed amazing scope views of a bird perched at eye-level no more than twenty meters away while on the trail for the Guianan Cock-of-the-rock.

Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon

Micrastur mirandollei

We heard this scarce forest-falcon calling from the river island across from the Iwokrama Field Station on two consecutive mornings.

Collared Forest-Falcon

Micrastur semitorquatus

This is the most widespread forest falcon and was heard on two occasions calling near Surama.

Red-throated Caracara

Ibycter americanus

A noisy but attractive raptor that we found in small groups on numerous occasions in forested areas along our tour; often including incredible views.

Southern Crested Caracara

Caracara plancus

We found this open-country scavenger throughout the tour in small numbers becoming increasingly common in the Rupununi.

Yellow-headed Caracara

Milvago chimachima

This is another widespread raptor of South America that we found in good numbers in open habitats.

Laughing Falcon

Herpetotheres cachinnans

I never get tired of seeing this charismatic raptor and we enjoyed great views on several occasions with our first scope view of a close bird on the Abary Road near Georgetown.

American Kestrel

Falco sparverius

Just a few scattered birds seen in the open grasslands of the Rupununi.

Aplomado Falcon

Falco femoralis

We enjoyed a great experience watching a pair successfully hunt down a Grassland Yellow-Finch in the Rupununi and later had another individual near Karanambu.

Bat Falcon

Falco ruficularis

This crepuscular raptor was amazingly common in Iwokrama where we had up to twelve birds in a single day!

Peregrine Falcon

Falco peregrinus

We had three sightings of this cosmopolitan falcon all in the vicinity of Georgetown.

Hawks, Eagles *Accipitridae*

Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

This is another widespread raptor that we found to be numerous in suitable coastal and riverine habitat especially common near Karanambu.

Grey-headed Kite

Leptodon cayanensis

We found a single bird soaring over the forest of Iwokrama that we watched for several minutes.

Swallow-tailed Kite

Elanoides forficatus

This elegant raptor was common throughout the tour especially over forested areas where we found up to a dozen birds daily.

Pearl Kite

Gamsonyx swainsonii

The grasslands near Surama produced a great view of this tiny but attractive raptor flying just over our heads and soaring above us.

White-tailed Kite

Elanus leucurus

Apparently a tough species in Guyana, we scoped one perched bird en route to Karasabi in the open savannah.

Snail Kite

Rostrhamus sociabilis

Never have I seen so many Snail Kites on a single tour with literally hundreds surrounding our travels near Georgetown and scattered sightings thereafter over wetland areas.

Double-toothed Kite

Harpagus bidentatus

Two birds were seen soaring together near Iwokrama showing the distinctive white tussocks near the thighs.

Plumbeous Kite

Ictinia plumbea

This sleek migratory species was abundant throughout the tour.

Black-collared Hawk

Busarellus nigricollis

We enjoyed several sightings of this species most often found watching for prey at the edge of water with our first sightings in the Botanical Gardens of Georgetown.

Crane Hawk

Geranospiza caerulescens

One bird was seen as it cruised low over the secondary growth near our lodging at Karanambu.

Black-faced Hawk

Leucopternis melanops

A scarce but attractive forest raptor, we enjoyed outrageous scope views of a calling bird for about twenty minutes near the Atta Camp before we finally walked away!

White Hawk

Leucopternis albicollis

An adult bird soared over the clearing one mid-day at Atta Camp.

Grey Hawk

Asturina nitida

This widespread species was seen several times throughout the tour mostly in degraded habitats.

Rufous Crab-Hawk

Buteogallus aequinoctialis

A wonderful specialty of the coastal areas, we scoped several birds along the Abary area including an individual ripping apart a crustacean.

Great Black-Hawk

Buteogallus urubitinga

This raptor was seen in small numbers throughout the tour including several perched views.

Savanna Hawk

Buteogallus meridionalis

We enjoyed remarkable views of this bold hawk often perched on the top of Sandpaper Trees in the open savannah of the Rupununi.

Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris*

Another very widespread raptor like the Gray Hawk that we found regularly in degraded habitats throughout the tour.

White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus*

One we reached the Rupununi Savannah this species was almost as common as the Savannah Hawk often perched conspicuously in the open.

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus*

One individual flew along the mountain ridge in Karasabi offering excellent views.

Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*

We were very fortunate to watch one sub-adult perched and calling for about ten minutes allowing for incredible views of its hefty body mass, exquisite plumage including an almost completely formed crest, and massive talons and bill while on the Iwokrama Road.

Sunbitterns *Eurypygidae*

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias*

It is always a pleasure to watch this splendid monotypic bird and we spent several minutes observing its remarkably African bustard-like movements while the bird walked cautiously through the undergrowth and then flew a short distance offering views of the bold eye-spots across the wings.

Rails *Rallidae*

Russet-crowned Crake *Anurolimnas viridis*

We heard this species on two occasions, once responding to playback to within only about ten feet, both times in wetlands south of the Iwokrama Reserve.

Uniform Crake *Amaurolimnas concolor*

This widespread but tough rallid was heard calling in one of the same wetlands we heard the Russet-crowned Crake.

Ash-throated Crake *Porzana albicollis*

This is yet another species that is heard more often than seen and we called one in quite close but never managed views in a wetland near Surama.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyryula martinica*

Several birds were found in the tall grasses at a wetland en route to Karasabi.

Finfoots *Heliornithidae*

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*

One of these finfoots was seen swimming back into a small stream while boating along the southern Ireng River.

Trumpeters *Psophidae*

Grey-winged Trumpeter *Psophia crepitans*

Remarkably common in the Iwokrama forest and we encountered birds seven of the eight days we explored different areas of the forest including several magnificent views of small groups.

Limpkins *Aramidae*

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*

This aquatic mollusk specialist was found along wetlands throughout the tour especially near

Karanambu along the waterways.

Thick-knees *Burhinidae*

Double-striped Thick-knee

Burhinus bistriatus

A nocturnal bird that stands boldly upright in open areas during the daytimes, we found several birds during our journey to Karasabi and again near Karanambu.

Plovers *Charadriidae*

Pied Lapwing

Hoploxypterus cayanus

This complexly patterned species was seen along sandy embankments on most waterways trips throughout the tour with especially memorable views of a dozen birds that loitered much of the day near our cabins at the Iwokrama Field Station.

Southern Lapwing

Vanellus chilensis

We found this widely distributed lapwing in scattered numbers throughout the tour.

Collared Plover

Charadrius collaris

First encountered on a sandbank along the Essequibo River and another individual was noted while searching for Scarlet Ibis near Georgetown.

Jacanas *Jacaniidae*

Wattled Jacana

Jacana jacana

Regularly sighted in overgrown wetland areas and especially memorable when walking picturesquely over the Victoria Water Lilies, the largest lily in the world.

Sandpipers *Scolopacidae*

Greater Yellowlegs

Tringa melanoleuca

We found a large flock of these migrants along the coast near Georgetown.

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes

One bird was seen in a roadside pond near Lethem.

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularia

This is another migrant that was fairly common during our tour while traveling along waterways.

Gulls, Terns, Skimmers *Laridae*

Royal Tern

Sterna maxima

We scoped one bird perched on a coastal piling while en route to Abary Road.

Yellow-billed Tern

Sterna superciliaris

We first encountered this smaller tern near Georgetown and later found several more birds along the southern Ireng River.

Large-billed Tern

Phaetusa simplex

This is a striking species that we enjoyed in small numbers along waterways throughout the tour with great views of perched birds near the Karanambu Ranch.

Black Skimmer

Rynchops niger

Two individuals were seen flying low along the waterways of the Karanambu Ranch.

Pigeons, Doves *Columbidae*

Common Pigeon (I)

Columba livia

Available in urban areas.

Scaled Pigeon

Columba speciosa

We heard this attractive species of pigeon on several occasions during the trip in forested areas and enjoyed great scope views of one bird.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Columba cayennensis*

Especially common in secondary growth areas and forest edge, we encountered numerous birds throughout the tour in suitable habitat.

Plumbeous Pigeon *Columba plumbea*

Especially numerous in forested areas where we saw several and heard everywhere.

Ruddy Pigeon *Columba subvinacea*

This is another forest pigeon that we heard on many occasions and saw several times during the tour.

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*

We found this widespread species, a nuisance further south on the continent, to be common in the open areas of the Rupununi Savannah especially on the journey to Karasabi.

Common Ground-Dove *Columbina passerine*

This species was abundant in the open forest growth of the Rupununi Savannah.

Plain-breasted Ground-Dove *Columbina minuta*

Numerous birds were encountered in the Rupununi Savannah and around Karanambu Ranch.

Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti*

This species was common throughout our trip in variable numbers beginning with sightings our first day in Georgetown.

Blue Ground-Dove *Claravis pretiosa*

We only heard this species calling in the forest lining the southern Ireng River.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

We saw many of these ground dwelling pigeons throughout the tour often venturing onto the roadway.

Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla*

Two birds were seen in the Iwokrama forest along a trail and many others were heard.

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana*

We only heard this species calling in the forest just south of the Iwokrama Forest Reserve.

Parrots *Psittacidae*

Painted Parakeet *Pyrrhura picta*

Fairly common in the Iwokrama Forest where we encountered numerous flocks and several great views of perched birds feeding on fruits.

Fiery-shouldered Parakeet *Pyrrhura egregia*

We found a small flock of this localized species along the southern Ireng River.

Brown-throated Parakeet *Aratinga pertinax*

Numerous and conspicuous in open secondary areas and especially common in the Rupununi Savannah.

Red-bellied Macaw *Ara manilata*

We only had a couple sightings of this small macaw first in the Iwokrama Forest and later at Karanambu; both times nicely sunlit flight views.

Red-shouldered Macaw *Ara nobilis*

This noisy species was especially common in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens and we found many others throughout our tour.

Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloropterus*

What a wonderful sight to find this species so common in the Iwokrama Forest where we encountered numerous birds daily.

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*

Although not as common as the preceding species we still enjoyed several sightings of this gorgeous

bird in the Iwokrama forest.

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna*

We enjoyed several sightings of this huge macaw first in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens and then on several occasions in the Iwokrama Forest.

Sun Parakeet (NE, T) *Aratinga solstitialis*

Certainly one of the finest experiences of the trip, we endured the mission to Karasabi and were rewarded with seven fine birds that flew over us and landed in a fruiting tree that we scoped at length.

Green-rumped Parrotlet *Forpus passerinus*

We found this species at a couple locations during the tour with exceptional views first at the Abary Road and again in Karasabi along the river.

Golden-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris chrysopterus*

This species was often heard before it was seen and often we saw flocks flying over the forested areas as well as numerous scope views of perched birds.

Sapphire-rumped Parrotlet *Touit purpurata*

We only found this species on one occasion flying over the Essequibo River near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Black-headed Parrot *Pionites melanocephala*

This attractive parrot is also an incredible songster that we observed daily during our time in the Iwokrama Reserve including multiple scope views of perched birds.

Caica Parrot *Pionopsitta caica*

Although not as numerous as the preceding species, we still found small numbers almost daily in the Iwokrama area with some magical views of individuals feeding on fruits both from the canopy walkway and near Surama.

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*

The distinctive calls of this common parrot was heard throughout the forested areas of the tour with several daily sightings in proper habitat.

Dusky Parrot *Pionus fuscus*

We only encountered this parrot species twice during the tour, both in the Iwokrama Forest.

Blue-cheeked Amazon (T) *Amazona dufresniana*

This scarce bird can be a tough customer to see perched but after several flight views in the Iwokrama Reserve we finally managed awesome scope views of three perched birds from the canopy walkway.

Yellow-crowned Amazon *Amazona ochrocephala*

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this widespread parrot with especially large numbers near Karanambu including raucous birds even perched above our cabins.

Orange-winged Amazon *Amazona amazonica*

This was the most common parrot species of the tour with almost daily totals sometimes numbering more than forty birds.

Mealy Amazon *Amazona farinosa*

Smaller numbers of this distinctive species were found throughout the tour especially in the Iwokrama Forest.

Festive Amazon *Amazona festiva*

Smaller

Red-fan Parrot *Deropterus accipitrinus*

What a great bird! We had several flight views, a few perched views, and one outrageous scope view for twenty minutes of an adult in the sunlight flipping around a bare branch while flaring its incredible head decorations!

Hoatzins *Opisthocomidae*

Hoatzin

Opisthocomus hoazin

A scarce bird in Guyana, we found several small groups totaling about fifteen of these bizarre birds creeping through the water philodendrons on a boat journey near Georgetown.

Cuckoos *Cuculidae*

Pearly-breasted Cuckoo

Coccyzus euleri

This can be a very tricky species to catch up with due to its quiet demeanor and poorly understood movements; one bird was found along the Abary Road near Georgetown.

Squirrel Cuckoo

Piaya cayana

We either heard or saw this widespread Neotropical species on every day in appropriate forest habitat.

Black-bellied Cuckoo

Piaya melanogaster

This cuckoo can be a little tougher than the previous species but we still managed views of two separate birds both in the canopy of the Iwokrama Forest.

Little Cuckoo

Piaya minuta

This species proved to be fairly common in the dense undergrowth along the Abary Road.

Striped Cuckoo

Tapera naevia

We first heard this species singing its double note song near the Abary Road and once again at the Karanambu Ranch.

Rufous-winged Ground Cuckoo

Neomorphus rufipennis

Simply unbelievable views of two birds while walking inside an army ant swarm along a forest trail south of the Iwokrama Forest; an incredible experience to watch one of these shy birds jump onto a fallen log and perch in the sunlight!

Greater Ani

Crotophaga major

We only found this species on the first three days of the tour both in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens and along the Abary Road.

Smooth-billed Ani

Crotophaga ani

Common and conspicuous in open areas and scrub throughout the tour.

Typical Owls *Strigidae*

Tropical Screech Owl

Otus choliba

We could hear this small owl calling near our cabins at Surama and again at the Karanambu Ranch.

Crested Owl

Lophotrix cristata

We were fortunate to flush an adult bird from its roosting site in the Iwokrama Forest and were pleased to be able to scope it perched at length.

Spectacled Owl

Pulsatrix perspicillata

We heard this large owl on three occasions during the tour, all in the Iwokrama Reserve.

Great Horned Owl

Bubo virginianus

A single bird flew across an open area of the Georgetown Botanical Gardens presumably changing day roosts although it was not being mobbed.

Amazonian Pygmy Owl

Glaucidium hardyi

We whistled in one of these tiny owls that perched above us for several minutes near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl

Glaucidium brasilianum

We heard this little owls calling on two occasions both in scrubby forest of the Rupununi Savannah.

Burrowing Owl

Athene cunicularia

One bird was seen perched conspicuously on a fence row while driving from the Karanambu Ranch

towards Lethem.

Striped Owl

Pseudoscops Clamator

An unexpected sighting, we saw one bird fly in front of us amazingly close – almost close enough to touch! – while on a night drive in the northern portion of Iwokrama.

Potoos *Nyctibiidae*

Great Potoo

Nyctibius grandis

We called in a responsive bird that perched near us and growled while on a night drive in the Iwokrama Forest.

Long-tailed Potoo

Nyctibius aethereus

The eye-shine of this scarce species gave away its presence while on a night drive in the Iwokrama Forest and it stayed put for several minutes until we departed.

Common Potoo

Nyctibius griseus

Several responsive birds were seen or heard almost nightly during our stay in the various lodges in or near the Iwokrama Forest.

White-winged Potoo

Nyctibius leucopterus

We marveled at simply amazing views of two responsive birds that we called in at night while on the canopy walkway of Atta. At one point we had one of these attractive birds perched within twenty feet of where we stood!

Rufous Potoo

Nyctibius bracteatus

A single bird was spotted on a night drive in the Iwokrama Forest and seen well from a distance although when we tried to approach closer it flew.

Nighthawks, Nightjars *Caprimulgidae*

Short-tailed Nighthawk

Lurocalis semitorquatus

Several birds were seen flying over the forest before dusk near the Atta Camp in the Iwokrama Forest.

Least Nighthawk

Chordeiles pusillus

Early in the morning we had great views of a couple birds at Surama and again near the airstrip of Karanambu.

Lesser Nighthawk

Chordeiles acutipennis

We first found this species flying over the grasslands near Surama followed by further views near the Karanambu Ranch.

Band-tailed Nighthawk

Nyctiproge leucopyga

While watching the Victoria's Water Lilies opening up in an oxbow lagoon near the Karanambu Ranch we found up to eight birds hawking insects around us.

Nacunda Nighthawk

Podager nacunda

We approached to within fifteen feet of a perched bird along the airstrip of Karanambu before leaving it and returning to the vehicle where several other individuals were seen flying over the grasslands.

Common Pauraque

Nyctidromus albicollis

We saw this widespread species near Surama where several other birds were heard calling.

Rufous Nightjar

Caprimulgus rufus

Only one bird was seen while leaving Surama on a very early morning departure towards Karasabi.

White-tailed Nightjar

Caprimulgus cayennensis

We enjoyed great views of this species on more than one occasion with especially close views on the entry road into Surama where there was a vocal bird that perched on the road only a stone's throw from our cabins.

Spot-tailed Nightjar

Caprimulgus maculicaudus

Two separate sightings, both on night drives, were enjoyed in the Iwokrama Forest.

Blackish Nightjar *Caprimulgus nigrescens*

Several birds were seen first on a night drive in the Iwokrama Forest and again near Surama.

Ladder-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis climacocerca*

Three birds were found roosting on a sandy bank along the southern Ireng River.

Swifts Apodidae

White-chinned Swift *Cypseloides cryptus*

We only saw this species one time flying over the dirt road above the Iwokrama Forest.

White-collared Swift *Streptoprogne zonaris*

A few birds were seen flying high above the southern Ireng River.

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyuran*

This species was fairly common throughout the trip especially over forested areas where we observed numerous birds daily.

Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicauda*

Often flying lower than the preceding species, we found numerous birds in forested habitat sometimes even flying at our eye level.

Neotropical Palm Swift *Tachornis squamata*

This distinctive swift was common in secondary areas near palms.

Hummingbirds Trochilidae

Pale-tailed Barbthroat *Threnetes leucurus*

We had great views of this species feeding on a heliconias flower near the Surama village.

Long-tailed Hermit *Phaethornis superciliosus*

This attractive forest dweller was seen several times during the tour with a particularly inquisitive bird that visited the Atta Camp dining area every few hours.

Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber*

A small distinctive hummingbird, we had many nice views in the Iwokrama Forest including some nice perched views.

Grey-breasted Sabrewing *Campylopterus largipennis*

Near the Iwokrama Field Station we found a perched individual that showed well.

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*

One bird showed an affinity for a bridge crossing along the Iwokrama Road.

Green-throated Mango *Anthracothorax viridigula*

A perched adult male showed very well for several minutes along the same waterway near Georgetown where we observed the Hoatzin.

Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis*

Several birds were seen during the tour beginning with a pair in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.

Blue-tailed Emerald *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*

We found a few scattered birds during the tour mostly at the edge of forest including very nice views of a perched adult male in a patch of forest in the Rupununi Savanah.

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata*

Both glittering male and more somber female birds were observed on separate occasions in forested habitat during the tour.

Rufous-throated Sapphire *Hylocharis sapphirina*

One very gaudy male perched in the sunlight for us while we birded from the canopy walkway.

White-tailed Goldenthrout *Polytmus guainumbi*

We first encountered this species at the edge of the Rupununi Savannah followed by several more birds near the Karanambu Ranch.

Green-tailed Goldenthrout *Polytmus theresiae*

We found a this species visiting an unfamiliar red flower near Georgetown.

White-chested Emerald *Amazilia chionopectus*

At least six birds were seen very well along the Abary Road the second day of our tour.

Velvet-browed Brilliant *Heliodoxa xanthogonys*

One male perched quite close above us responding to a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl whistle along the southern Ireng River.

Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata*

Probably the most numerous hummingbird of the tour, we found many birds along the forest edge and especially in the Rupununi Savannah were there were small patches of shrubs.

Plain-bellied Emerald *Amazilia leucogaster*

Several birds were seen daily either in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens or along the Abary Road.

Copper-rumped Hummingbird *Amazilia tobaci*

This species was unexpected but we had several good views of one individual along a flowering section of forest edge along the Iwokrama Road.

Crimson Topaz *Topaza pella*

This is just an amazing bird that defies explanation other than to say you have to see a male to believe it! We encountered a male and female pair feeding on insects along a small stream in Iwokrama that we watched for about twenty minutes sometimes within only ten feet from where we stood!

Black-eared Fairy *Heliothryx aurita*

Several birds were seen in the canopy of the Iwokrama Reserve with especially nice views of one perched bird from the canopy walkway.

Trogon *Trogonidae*

White-tailed Trogon *Trogon viridis*

This species was either heard or seen daily while in forested habitat during the tour.

Violaceous Trogon *Trogon violaceus*

Although not as common as the preceding species we still heard or saw this attractive trogon almost daily while in forested habitat.

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*

We found a female bird showing the distinctive brown hood near Surama and heard several other birds during the tour.

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*

We enjoyed several sightings of this large trogon species often perched in the canopy of the Iwokrama Forest.

Kingfishers *Alcedinidae*

Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquata*

This massive kingfisher was numerous during the tour with our first sightings in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

A slightly smaller kingfisher but still quite widespread, we found this species on most days of the tour near water with more than twenty individuals seen in a single day at the Karanambu Ranch.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle Americana*

We enjoyed numerous sightings of this kingfisher throughout the tour.

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher

Chloroceryle inda

A scarcer species and usually quite shy, we found three individuals including nice perched views along the waterways of the Karanambu Ranch.

American Pygmy Kingfisher

Chloroceryle aenea

The tiniest of the New World kingfishers, we found a few birds near Georgetown and again along the waterways of the Karanambu Ranch.

Motmots *Momotidae*

Blue-crowned Motmot

Momotus momota

One bird flew in front of us in the Iwokrama Forest and otherwise we heard this widespread species in the vicinity on several occasions.

Barbets, Toucans *Ramphastidae*

Green Aracari

Pteroglossus viridis

A Guianan Shield endemic, we found this small toucan to be numerous in the forests

Black-necked Aracari

Pteroglossus aracari

This toucan was also fairly numerous in the Iwokrama reserve and we found several birds daily feeding mostly in the roadside Cecropia trees.

Guianan Toucanet

Selenidera culik

An uncommon but very attractive toucan of our tour that we observed on four occasions during the tour in the Iwokrama Forest normally found either by the croaking call or feeding in a fruiting tree.

Toco Toucan

Ramphastos toco

We were fortunate to have great views of a single bird, a scarce species in Guyana that move into the Georgetown Botanical Gardens seasonally to take advantage of fruiting trees.

Channel-billed Toucan

Ramphastos vitellinus

A common, attractive, and noisy toucan that was seen many times daily during our time in the Iwokrama Forest.

White-throated Toucan

Ramphastos tucanus

The high pitched yelp of this large toucan was omnipresent while we explored the forest of Iwokrama and surrounding of Surama with up to twenty sightings per day.

Black-spotted Barbet

Capito niger

Our first drive into the Iwokrama Reserve produced our first pair of this species feeding on a Cecropia followed by further views at Atta camp and once more near Surama.

Woodpeckers *Picidae*

Golden-spangled Piculet

Picumnus exilis

We enjoyed great views of two tiny birds in the dense scrub along the Abary Road.

White-bellied Piculet (NE)

Picumnus spilogaster

This is a localized species that we found first in the Botanical Gardens in Georgetown, again along the Abary Road, and finally along the southern Abary River.

Lineated Woodpecker

Dryocopus lineatus

This large woodpecker was common throughout much of the tour and we found individuals in most forest habitats.

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker

Melanerpes cruentatus

Several birds were found in the Iwokrama Reserve.

Blood-colored Woodpecker (NE)

Veniliornis sanguineus

After extensive searching in the surrounding areas of Georgetown we were finally rewarded with great

scope views of one bird that posed for several minutes in the sunlight.

Golden-collared Woodpecker *Veniliornis cassini*

We scoped a pair in the Iwokrama Forest feeding on grubs and heard another individual near Surama.

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula*

First we heard this species and then found a beautiful adult bird in a large mixed flock near the Atta Camp.

Golden-green Woodpecker *Piculus chrysochloros*

We only heard this species calling in the Iwokrama Forest.

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Piculus rubiginosus*

One bird was seen well on our first day entering into the Iwokrama Forest.

Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans*

The blonde-crested subspecies of this attractive woodpecker was seen well near the Iwokrama Field Station and later heard at the forest of Surama.

Waved Woodpecker *Celeus undatus*

This is a localized species that we found on four separate days while birding in the Iwokrama Forest.

Cream-colored Woodpecker *Celeus flavus*

Several birds were seen and heard throughout our birding days in the Iwokrama Forest.

Ringed Woodpecker *Celeus torquatus*

A scarce bird throughout much of its range, we enjoyed multiple views of this woodpecker including great scope views in the Iwokrama Forest.

Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis*

We sighted this large attractive woodpecker on three days and heard it almost daily in the Iwokrama Forest.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos*

This widespread South American species was seen in multiple habitats throughout the tour with our first sightings along the Abary Road near Georgetown.

Jacamars *Galbulidae*

Green-tailed Jacamar *Galbula galbula*

First sighted along a waterway near Georgetown, we later found several more birds in the Iwokrama Forest and at the Karanambu Ranch.

Paradise Jacamar *Galbula dea*

This elegant canopy dweller was seen on three occasions throughout the tour while birding in the Iwokrama Forest.

Great Jacamar *Jacamerops aurea*

We commonly heard this species in the Iwokrama Forest and had outrageous views of a pair while hiking up a mountain near the Field Station.

Puffbirds *Bucconidae*

White-necked [Guianan] Puffbird *Notharchus macrorhynchos*

This canopy dweller was sighted on several occasions in the Iwokrama Forest. Some authorities have split this subspecies off as Guianan Puffbird.

Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus*

Another subspecies unique to this region, we enjoyed several nice views including a bold individual on the canopy walkway that approached to within only a few feet of where we watched!

Spotted Puffbird *Bucco tamatia*

This great looking Puffbird was seen within ten feet of where it sat attending an arm ant swam near the

Iwokrama Field Station.

Black Nunbird

Monasa atra

This vocal species was fairly common and confiding throughout our time birding in forested areas during the tour.

Swallow-wing

Chelidoptera tenebrosa

A canopy dwelling Puffbird that often sits conspicuously on open perches, we found numerous birds throughout the tour with up to thirty birds on a single day.

Manakins *Pipridae*

Black Manakin

Xenopipo atronitens

This localized species of manakin prefers the stunted sandy forest in the Iwokrama Reserve where we found seven individuals.

White-throated Manakin

Corapipo gutturalis

One bird was seen along the entry road into Surama.

Blue-backed Manakin

Chiroxiphia pareola

We enjoyed several very nice views of colorful adults in the scrubby forest surrounding the Karanambu Ranch.

White-crowned Manakin

Pipra pipra

This noisier from this tiny forest dweller gave away its presence on numerous occasions throughout our birding through the central forests of Guyana.

Golden-headed Manakin

Pipra erythrocephala

Often in small leks, we enjoyed numerous views of displaying males and attending females in the Iwokrama Forest.

Cotingas *Cotingidae*

Black-tailed Tityra

Tityra cayana

We found this species to be the more common of the two tityra species in the Iwokrama Forest and generally we found a few birds each day.

Black-crowned Tityra

Tityra inquisitor

A few birds were seen moving through the forest canopy of Iwokrama on two separate occasions.

Thrush-like Mourner

Schiffornis turdinus

We heard this species' distinctive song on several occasions in the Iwokrama Forest and had one bird respond to playback.

Cinereous Mourner

Laniocera hypopyrra

This can be a tricky bird in Guyana and we were fortunate to watch a beautiful adult in the scope bathing in a small forest puddle near Surama illuminated by the morning sunlight.

Dusky Purple-tuft

Iodopleura fusca

This cute little cotinga was first spotted along the Iwokrama road perched quite low compared to its normal affinity for excessive heights where we later found a few more birds near Surama.

White-winged Becard

Pachyramphus polychopterus

One male was watched in the Sandpaper Trees before entering the main forest west of Surama.

Cinereous Becard

Pachyramphus rufus

A pair was first seen well along the Abary Road followed by another male the following morning in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.

Pink-throated Becard

Pachyramphus minor

One pair was watched feeding in a mixed flock from the Atta Camp forest opening.

Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock (NE)

Rupicola rupicola

Few birds can compare with the male of this species in sheer gaudiness. We first found a dark female on a nest clinging to the rock face south of the Iwokrama Reserve followed by an amazing prolonged experience with the fantastic brilliant orange male on the lek.

Guianan Red-Cotinga *Phoenicircus carnifex*

Five separate birds showed for us during our time birding through the various areas of the Iwokrama Forest including a couple males and several females; the fact that this species wasn't a contender for the top ten list is a tribute to the number of incredible birds we found in Guyana.

Purple-breasted Cotinga *Cotinga cotinga*

An stunning male was first scoped near the Iwokrama Field Station followed by a distinctive female that showed well near Atta Camp.

Spangled Cotinga *Cotinga cayana*

This brilliant species proved to be fairly common visiting a fruiting tree in the Atta Camp clearing and we enjoyed numerous scope views of glittering males and more somber females here and also along the main roadway.

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans*

A ubiquitous sound of the Guianan forests and we had numerous sightings throughout the tour in proper habitat.

Pompadour Cotinga *Xipholena punicea*

The male of this species has to be seen to be believed and we enjoyed amazing scope views of the iridescent red-purple male with contrasting white wings as well as a couple female birds first near the Atta Camp and again near Surama.

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus*

We found a single bird that posed nicely in a forest patch near the Karanambu Ranch.

Purple-throated Fruitcrow *Querula purpurata*

Several noisy groups were seen during our explorations of the Iwokrama Forest including some nice sunlit views showing off the bright throat patch.

Crimson Fruitcrow *Haematoderus militaris*

This is another one of those amazing cotingas that is simply outrageous and we had sighting on four separate days in the Iwokrama Forest including incredible scope views of both male and female birds that seared our eyes with intense color!

Capuchinbird *Perissocephalus tricolor*

The bizarre cow-like calls of this bizarre cotinga were enjoyed before we scoped one bird that showed nicely while we marveled at its bare blue crown and disproportionate body.

Tyrant Flycatchers *Tyrannidae*

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias griseiceps*

One bird was seen well in a mixed flock in the Iwokrama Forest.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus*

The calls of this small flycatcher were common in the forested areas during the tour and we had several nice views of different birds.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*

A cooperative bird showed well near the Atta Camp.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*

We heard and saw many of these birds in the open scrub surrounding the Rupununi Savannah as well as earlier in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.

Small-billed Elaenia *Elaenia parvirostris*

We had nice views of a calling pair in the riparian habitat of Karasabi.

- Plain-crested Elaenia** *Elaenia cristata*
This species was first heard and later seen in the open scrub near Surama.
- Lesser Elaenia** *Elaenia chiriquensis*
A couple birds were found in the Rupununi Savannah.
- Rufous-crowned Elaenia** *Elaenia ruficeps*
One of the most distinctive elaenias, we enjoyed great scope views of several birds in the white sand forest near the Iwokrama Field Station.
- Great Elaenia** *Elaenia dayi*
One responsive bird showed well just above our heads in the forest along the southern Ireng River.
- White-lored Tyrannulet** *Ornithion inerme*
A couple birds were found near Georgetown in a forested area.
- Southern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum*
We had a couple scattered sightings of this widespread species throughout the tour with our first view in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens.
- Mouse-colored Tyrannulet** *Phaeomyias murina*
Several birds were seen well near Surama.
- Yellow Tyrannulet** *Capsiempis flaveola*
Along the Abary Road we found a single attractive bird that sat still long enough for great views.
- Bearded Tachuri (NE)** *Polystictus pectoralis*
This localized species was located along the edge of wetlands near the Karanambu Ranch and we enjoyed great scope views two males and on female.
- Slender-footed Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius gracilipes*
The call of this tiny flycatcher was heard regularly in the Iwokrama Forest and we had nice views especially from the canopy walkway.
- Guianan (Olive-green) Tyrannulet (NE)** *Phylloscartes virescens*
We were very fortunate to find this scarce species in the clearing of the Atta Camp moving with a mixed flock. Our local guide had never seen it and heard a call he didn't know so we located the bird and had great scope views.
- Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleaginous*
Two birds were heard in the Iwokrama Forest.
- McConnell's Flycatcher** *Mionectes macconnelli*
In a large mixed flock we found a distinctive individual that showed well for us.
- Northern Scrub Flycatcher** *Sublegatus arenarum*
One bird was seen in a forest patch near the Karanambu Ranch.
- Amazonian Scrub Flycatcher** *Sublegatus obscurior*
We found one bird that was moving through the white sand forest near the Iwokrama Field Station.
- Pale-tipped Inezia (Tyrannulet)** *Inezia caudate*
Two birds were found along the riverine habitat near Karasabi.
- Boat-billed Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus josephinae*
A single bird was found and watched for several minutes along the Abary Road; this can be a tough species.
- White-eyed Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus Zosterops*
A single bird was scoped in a mixed flock moving through the forest opening of the Atta camp.
- Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant** *Myiornis ecaudatus*
We heard and briefly saw one bird moving through the same mixed flock as the previous species.
- Helmeted Pygmy Tyrant** *Lophotriccus galeatus*
This was a very common sound in the forests throughout the tour and we eventually had several views

of different birds often calling above head height in vine tangles.

Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant *Lophotriccus pilaris*

One bird was seen well in the riparian habitat near Karasabi.

Spotted Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum maculatum*

We saw this highly decorated species in the undergrowth surrounding Georgetown and along the Abary Road where we watched a pair building a nest.

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*

There were a few scattered sightings of this widespread species throughout the tour.

Painted Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum pictum*

We heard this arboreal flycatcher calling persistently above us while we were watching the Guianan Cock-of-the-rock.

Olivaceous Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*

One bird showed well in a large mixed flock near the Atta Camp.

Yellow-margined (Zimmer's) Flatbill *Tolmomyias assimilis*

We had a few scattered sightings of this species while birding in the Iwokrama Forest.

Ochre-lored (Yellow-breasted) Flatbill *Tolmomyias flaviventris*

Two brightly colored birds showed well in the riverine forest near Karasabi.

Grey-crowned Flatbill *Tolmomyias poliocephalus*

We located two individuals in a mixed flock near the Atta Camp.

Cinnamon-crested Spadebill *Platyrinchus saturatus*

This can be a tough bird to catch up with and we found a single bird at the edge of the white sand forest near the Atta Camp that perched quietly in the undergrowth.

White-crested Spadebill *Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*

We enjoyed amazing views of two responsive birds near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Whiskered Myiobius (Flycatcher) *Myiobius barbatus*

A couple individuals with bright sulfur rumps showed well near Atta Camp and from the canopy walkway.

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher *Terentotriccus erythrurus*

This tiny flycatcher was seen well on two occasions in the Iwokrama Forest both times located by its high pitched call.

Pale-bellied Neopelma (Tyrant-Manakin) *Neopelma pallescens*

After some searching we eventually had very nice views of two birds showing the yellow crest in the dry forest near the Karanambu Ranch.

Tiny Tyranneutes (Tyrant-Manakin) *Tyranneutes virescens*

This was a distinctive song we heard throughout the forested central areas of Guyana and we enjoyed nice scope views of one bird near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*

Several birds including gaudy males were found in the Rupununi Savannah en route to Karasabi.

Pied Water Tyrant *Fluvicola pica*

Near Georgetown we found a few birds near wetlands and again near Karasabi.

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala*

This sharp-looking species was found first near Georgetown, again near Karasabi, and several times in wetland grasses near the Karanambu Ranch.

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*

Apparently a scarce species in Guyana, one bird was seen in the Iwokrama Forest that showed well on an open dead branch.

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus*

We heard this widespread species calling in the forest near Surama.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis*

Numerous birds were observed throughout the tour especially near water.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*

A strangely absent species from most of the country, we had only two sights first near Georgetown and later a calling bird along the southern Ireng River.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*

Common, conspicuous, and noisy throughout the tour.

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lector*

We only found two birds feeding near a roadside wetland en route to Karasabi.

Yellow-throated Flycatcher *Conopias parvus*

First we heard this species in the Iwokrama Forest and later saw two birds along the southern Ireng River.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculates*

This species posed nicely on two occasions for us near Surama and Karasabi allowing for fine scope views.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*

We regularly encountered this widespread species throughout the tour in small numbers.

White-throated Kingbird *Tyrannus albogularis*

An easily overlooked species with the high number of tropical kingbirds, we found eight individuals in a single day while traveling east of Georgetown.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*

Common and conspicuous throughout the tour.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savanna*

Once we reached the Rupununi Savannah this attractive bird was numerous.

Grey Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis*

We found this hefty flycatcher daily in the Georgetown surroundings.

Greyish Mourner *Rhytipterna simplex*

Only two birds were seen in the southern section of the Iwokrama Forest.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*

A couple birds were seen well and heard in the Iwokrama Forest.

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*

A few birds were found in the white sand forest on the east side of the Essequibo River.

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus*

This flycatcher was fairly common in the forest of Abary Road as well as scrubby areas near Karasabi.

Cinnamon Attila *Attila cinnamomeus*

A cooperative bird sowed well in response to playback near the Iwokrama Field Station and we later heard another bird near Surama.

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*

The mournful song of this species was heard several times near Atta and Surama.

Typical Antbirds *Thamnophilidae*

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus*

We enjoyed fine scope views of a male near the Atta Camp and heard several others in the Iwokrama Forest.

Black-throated Antshrike *Frederickena viridis*

An uncommon and localized species, we called out a responsive bird near the Iwokrama Field Station

that responded very cooperatively as well as hearing others later during the tour.

Great Antshrike *Taraba major*

We only heard this species calling in the forest near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus Canadensis*

This is a charismatic species that sometimes lifts its crest and we enjoyed numerous views beginning near Georgetown throughout the tour with especially nice views for several minutes of a male in the sunlight near Karasabi.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*

One bird was found in the dense undergrowth of the Georgetown Botanical Gardens followed by another pair along the southern Ireng River.

Mouse-colored Antshrike *Thamnophilus murinus*

We heard this species throughout the Iwokrama Forest and enjoyed several nice views on various occasions.

Northern Slaty Antshrike *Thamnophilus punctatus*

A couple birds were seen near the Iwokrama Field Station in a small antbird flock followed by another view near the Karanambu Ranch.

Amazonian Antshrike *Thamnophilus amazonicus*

First we saw a female in the white sand forest near the Iwokrama Field Station followed by a couple attractive pairs foraging together near Surama.

Dusky-throated Antshrike *Thamnomanes ardesiacus*

We saw several pairs in forested area during the tour with especially nice views of a fine male near the Atta Camp.

Cinereous Antshrike *Thamnomanes caesius*

Often accompanying other antbirds, we found several cooperative pairs in the Iwokrama Forest.

Pygmy Antwren *Myrmotherula brachyuran*

Several of these tiny but complexly patterned birds showed well throughout our time in forest areas often moving above our heads through vine tangles.

Streaked Antwren [Guianan] *Myrmotherula surinamensis*

Also a tiny species, we had nice looks at several birds during our birding in Iwokrama often in the dense undergrowth at the forest edge. Sometimes authorities promote this subspecies to full species status.

Rufous-bellied Antwren *Myrmotherula guttata*

This is a neat looking antwren of the forest undergrowth and we found a couple different individuals in the Iwokrama Reserve with our first encounter near the Field Station.

Brown-bellied Antwren *Myrmotherula gutturalis*

A fairly localized species, we were able to get nice looks at two different pairs gleaning from dead leaves in the Iwokrama Forest both times mixed in with other antbirds.

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaries*

This was one of the most common antwrens in the forested areas and seen in small numbers most days.

Long-winged Antwren *Myrmotherula longipennis*

Many of the forest undergrowth antbird flocks contained a pair of this species often gleaning insects from leaves.

Grey Antwren *Myrmotherula menetriesii*

This small understory antwren was found on two consecutive days near Surama.

Spot-tailed Antwren *Herpsilochmus sticturus*

A fairly common canopy sound of the Iwokrama Forest that we saw on several occasions, especially well from the canopy walkway.

Todd's Antwren

Herpsilochmus stictocephalus

This species was heard or seen almost everywhere we found the preceding species.

Roraiman Antwren

Herpsilochmus roraimae

This species was found by locating a calling bird in the forest lining the southern Ireng River.

White-fringed Antwren

Formicivora grisea

First we found this attractive species in the drier forest near Karasabi followed by further views along the southern Ireng River.

Ash-winged Antwren (NE)

Terenura spodioptila

We had nice views of one bird near the Field Station and later heard other birds calling from the canopy near the Atta Camp and from the canopy walkway.

Grey Antbird

Cercomacra cinerascens

The harsh call of this mostly arboreal species was often heard and we managed several nice views of birds usually near vine tangles.

Dusky Antbird

Cercomacra tyrannina

We found several birds at scattered sites in the Iwokrama Forest often associated with antbird flocks.

Rio Branco Antbird (NE, Nt)

Cercomacra carbonaria

This very localized species was not too difficult to find once we were in proper habitat along the southern Ireng River. In total we saw at least six different birds.

White-browed Antbird

Myrmoborus leucophrys

This attractive antbird was seen a couple times in the dense roadside vegetation of the southern Iwokrama Forest and again near the Karanambu Ranch.

Warbling Antbird [Guianan]

Hypocnemis cantator

Sometimes split off by some authorities as a separate species, we found the attractive Guianan subspecies first at the Atta camp area in tangled secondary growth followed by a few subsequent sightings near Surama.

Black-chinned Antbird

Hypocnemoides melanopogon

This is a species that prefers vegetation near watercourses and we first found several in the Iwokrama Reserve followed by further sightings near the Karanambu Ranch.

Silvered Antbird

Sclateria naevia

A noisy antbird of water edge vegetation, we first had great views of a pair along a waterway near Georgetown followed by further vocalizations by the Karanambu Ranch.

Black-headed Antbird

Percnostola rufifrons

After following in an ant swam in a white sand forest patch in the Iwokrama Forest we found three pairs of this localized species hopping around us!

Spot-winged Antbird

Schistocichla leucostigma

One bird was heard calling in the central Iwokrama Forest early one morning during the dawn chorus.

White-bellied Antbird

Myrmeciza longipes

In the forest scrub near the Karanambu Ranch we eventually caught up with one vocal bird that we watched for several minutes.

Ferruginous-backed Antbird

Myrmeciza ferruginea

One of the most attractive antbirds, we had outrageous views of a responsive bird that slowly approached to within only ten feet of where we crouched in the Iwokrama Forest and then it proceeded to sing!

Scale-backed Antbird

Hylophylax poecilinota

We first heard this species in the Iwokrama Forest and later a bird showed in the undergrowth along the southern Ireng River.

White-plumed Antbird

Pithys albifrons

This is one of the greatest antbirds of the world and we were rewarded with exceptional views of four incredible individuals attending an army ant swarm near Surama.

Rufous-throated Antbird *Gymnopithys rufigula*

We enjoyed great views of this responsive antbird on a couple occasions while birding in the Iwokrama Forest with out most memorable views of several birds attending an army ant swarm near Surama.

Ground Antbirds *Formicariidae*

Rufous-capped Antthrush *Formicarius colma*

We enjoyed outrageous views of a pair of these attractive skulkers that walked along the ground to within only ten feet of where we watched in the north of Iwokrama and several others were heard at various forest sites elsewhere.

Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis*

Surprisingly we only heard a few of this widespread and normally common forest understory bird in the Iwokrama Forest.

Variiegated Antpitta *Grallaria varia*

The haunting calls of this scarce bird in Guyana was heard as we climbed a mountain near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Spotted Antpitta *Hylopezus macularius*

After playing the recording near the Iwokrama Field Station we had a bird vocally respond that we tracked down and watched singing in the sunlight for several minutes. We also heard it again near Surama.

Thrush-like Antpitta *Myrmothera campanisona*

One bird showed in our binoculars while hopping along the forest ground near the Atta Camp although we heard numerous birds in proper forested habitats throughout our tour.

Ovenbirds *Furnariidae*

Pale-legged Hornero *Furnarius leucopus*

We first encountered this noisy species near Karasabi followed by two more sightings along the southern Ireng River.

Pale-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albescens*

Two individuals were seen and heard calling in from thick undergrowth near Georgetown.

Plain-crowned Spinetail *Synallaxis gujanensis*

We located only one bird in secondary scrub along a wetland near Georgetown.

Hoary-throated Spinetail (NE, T) *Poecilurus kollari*

After traveling by boat up the southern Ireng River we located suitable habitat and within a few minutes had located a responsive bird that approached within only a few feet of where we stood in the dense tangled undergrowth. This is an endangered species with an exceptionally localized range.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomea*

This was the most common spinetail and we had numerous sightings beginning in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens to the wetlands of the Karanambu Ranch.

Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner *Philydor ruficaudatus*

One bird moved quickly through a vine tangle in the Iwokrama Foest with a mixed species flock.

Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus*

We only heard this foliage-gleaner calling in a mixed species flock near Surama.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*

A few birds were seen in the Iwokrama Forest with especially nice views later of one cooperative bird along the Guianan Cock-of-the-rock Trail.

Woodcreepers *Dendrocolaptidae*

Plain-brown Woodcreeper

Dendrocincla fuliginosa

We had several sightings of this simple-looking woodcreeper showing a diagnostic malar-line in the forests of Iwokrama.

White-chinned Woodcreeper

Dendrocincla merula

Two dark individuals were seen one day birding near the Iwokrama Field Station associated with a mixed feeding flock.

Olivaceous Woodcreeper

Sittasomus griseicapillus

We heard this widespread species only once in the Iwokrama Forest and had brief views.

Long-tailed Woodcreeper

Deconychura longicauda

Four separate birds were seen in the Iwokrama Forest with especially nice views of a cooperative pair attending an army ant swarm.

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper

Glyphorhynchus spirurus

This was the most common woodcreeper in the forest and we either saw or heard it every day in proper habitat.

Red-billed Woodcreeper (NE)

Hylexetastes perrotii

A scarce species often tough to catch up with, we worked hard for this bird after hearing it call off the Iwokrama Road at dawn by trekking in after it managing to watch the bird as it called only ten meters away on a tree trunk.

Amazonian Barred Woodcreeper

Dendrocolaptes certhia

Several sightings of this woodcreeper were enjoyed in forested areas during the tour including some nice sunlit views where we could clearly see the patterning.

Black-banded Woodcreeper

Dendrocolaptes picumnus

A scarce woodcreeper, we found two birds over the course of the tour once in the Iwokrama Forest near the Field Station and very good views of a single bird attending an army ant swarm near Surama.

Straight-billed Woodcreeper

Xiphorhynchus picus

We only saw this species near Georgetown both in the Botanical Garden and again along the Abary Road.

Striped Woodcreeper

Xiphorhynchus obsoletus

One bird was first seen along a stream in the Iwokrama Forest followed by another individual near the Karanambu Ranch.

Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper

Xiphorhynchus pardalotus

This woodcreeper was never especially common but we still managed several sightings in the forest of Iwokrama over the course of several days.

Buff-throated Woodcreeper

Xiphorhynchus guttatus

We heard this species throughout the time birding in forest with several great sightings throughout the tour in suitable habitat.

Lineated Woodcreeper

Lepidocolaptes albolineatus

A canopy dwelling specialty, we had good sightings including scope views of two separate birds both of which were associated with mixed flocks.

Curve-billed Scythebill

Campylorhamphus procurvoides

This species is rarely reported from Guyana and we were fortunate to encounter a bird calling below us while birding from the canopy walkway in the Iwokrama Forest.

Vireos *Vireonidae*

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

Cyclarhis gujanensis

Two birds were seen while singing at the top of a bare shrub near Karasabi.

Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo *Vireolanius leucotis*

It was easier to hear these birds in the canopy but eventually we nailed down a pair that responded above us for reasonable views.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*

In the riverine scrub near Karasabi we found several singing birds.

Lemon-chested Greenlet *Hylophilus thoracicus*

This was one of the most common sounds in the forests throughout Guyana and we found numerous birds first on the Abary Road and then daily in Iwokrama.

Ashy-headed Greenlet *Hylophilus pectoralis*

We first heard this species near the Karanambu Ranch and later whistled in a responsive bird on the southern Ireng River.

Buff-cheeked Greenlet *Hylophilus muscicapinus*

We heard this bird throughout the Iwokrama Forest and saw three individuals total including scope views of one bird in the canopy.

Jays *Corvidae*

Cayenne Jay *Cyanocorax cayanus*

A neat looking jay, we found several small family groups along the southern edge of the Iwokrama Forest especially near Surama and again at Karasabi.

Swallows *Hirundinidae*

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*

This was the first *hirundid* of the trip as we left the airport and was seen regularly throughout the tour thereafter.

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera*

Once we reached the Rupununi Savannah we found this species at scattered locations often in small groups.

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*

This was the most common swallow along waterways where we found numerous birds throughout the tour.

White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata*

Only two birds were sighted as they flew over us along the Essequibo River.

Black-collared Swallow *Atticora melanoleuca*

An impressive and localized swallow, we enjoyed several great views of sleek individuals flying over the river and surrounding areas of the Iwokrama Field Station.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

We had scattered sightings of this species throughout the tour with the greatest numbers near the Karanambu Ranch.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

This migrant was seen on several occasions throughout the tour often flying in groups over pastureland.

Wrens *Troglodytidae*

Bicolored Wren *Campylorhynchus griseus*

An open country wren, once we reached the Rupununi Savannah we found numerous confiding and noisy birds often building massive clumped nests.

Coraya Wren *Thryothorus coraya*

We found several individuals often located by their explosive song given from dense tangles of vines or undergrowth in the Iwokrama Forest.

Buff-breasted Wren *Thryothorus leucotis*

A single bird was found along a scrubby waterway in the Iwokrama Forest.

Southern House-Wren *Troglodytes musculus*

This is a widespread species that we heard and saw throughout the tour especially in degraded habitats.

Musician Wren *Cyphorhinus arada*

What an incredible song! We heard this species nearby, but since everyone on the tour had seen this species before we decided to concentrate on the Red-billed Woodcreeper calling in the Iwokrama Forest.

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapillus*

We first found this aberrant wren along a waterway near Georgetown followed by a couple further sightings in wetlands later in the tour.

Gnatwrens, Gnatcatchers *Sylviidae*

Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus*

A common sound of the forest in Guyana, we also managed several nice views with a very cooperative bird in a mixed flock near the Atta Camp.

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*

We first located several pairs along the Abary Road with a few scattered sightings thereafter during the tour.

Mockingbirds *Mimidae*

Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*

Common and conspicuous, we found this songster in most degraded habitats throughout the tour.

Thrushes *Turdidae*

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas*

This was the most common thrush of the tour and regularly seen especially in more open habitats beginning with the Georgetown Botanical Garden.

Cocoa Thrush *Turdus fumigatus*

Two shy birds showed in the Iwokrama Forest before disappearing not to be relocated.

American Bare-eyed Thrush *Turdus nudigenis*

Only two birds were found in the dry scrub near the Karanambu Ranch.

White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis*

Several birds were seen in the Iwokrama Forest with our first sightings near the Atta Camp.

Finches *Fringillidae*

Plumbeous Euphonia *Euphonia plumbea*

One pair was scoped in the riverine habitat near Karasabi while hiking to the site for the Sun Parakeet.

Finsch's Euphonia *Euphonia finschi*

Once we reached the Rupununi Savannah this species was relatively numerous and easily located by its distinctive call.

Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea*

This was the commonest euphonia in more open scrub where we found good numbers of birds at scattered locations during the tour.

White-vented Euphonia *Euphonia minuta*

Several individuals were seen often associated with mixed flocks around the Atta Camp.

Golden-sided Euphonia *Euphonia cayennensis*

We saw a couple birds near the Atta Camp high in the canopy and finally had brilliant scope views of a singing male with a little persistence.

Red Siskin (NE, T) *Carduelis cucullata*

This was an unexpected sighting of a pair in the riverine forest near Karasabi.

New World Warblers *Parulidae*

Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia*

This migrant was fairly common in suitable waterside scrub throughout the tour.

Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata*

One migrant bird in basic plumage was found in the open scrub near the Surama Village.

Riverbank Warbler *Phaeothlypis rivularis*

Only a single bird was seen briefly and heard singing along a stream in the Iwokrama Forest.

Rose-breasted Chat *Granatellus pelzelni*

We were fortunate to call in a pair of the glamorous little bird that approached to within only a few feet in dense scrub for close inspection at the edge of the Iwokrama Forest.

New World Blackbirds *Icteridae*

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*

Colonies of nesting birds were seen in several places in Iwokrama plus further sightings at the Karanambu Ranch.

Green Oropendola *Psarocolius viridis*

This species, like most oropendolas, has an incredible liquid song that we enjoyed throughout much of our time in Iwokrama including several colonies with nesting birds.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*

One of the finest mimics in the Neotropics, we found this vocal and attractive species in good numbers daily during our forest birding during the tour.

Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous*

Not as numerous as the preceding species but still fairly common in the Iwokrama Forest.

Orange-backed Troupial *Icterus croconotus*

In scrubby secondary areas often near wetlands we found several pairs with our highest number of sightings near Karasabi.

Moriche Oriole *Icterus chryscephalus*

One pair was seen working in the palm tree near the international airport in Georgetown.

Yellow Oriole *Icterus nigrogularis*

Common and conspicuous, we enjoyed numerous sightings of this pretty oriole throughout the tour including our first nesting individuals in the Georgetown Botanical Garden.

Yellow-hooded Blackbird *Agelaius icterocephalus*

A pair was found in the long grasses of a roadside wetland en route to Karasabi and again on the return journey.

Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris*

This colorful species was fairly common in the grasslands of the Rupununi Savannah.

Carib Grackle *Quiscalus lugubris*

We only found this grackle near Georgetown along coastal secondary areas.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*

This is a widespread species that was fairly numerous in open pastures throughout the tour especially

near cattle.

Giant Cowbird *Scaphidura oryzivora*

We enjoyed numerous sightings of this species throughout the tour with some nice views of birds feeding around our cabins at the Iwokrama Field Station.

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna*

A familiar North American species for many, we found numerous birds in the open grasslands of the Rupununi Savannah.

Bananaquits *Coerebidae*

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

The buzzing song of this tiny bird gave it away every time while birding in secondary habitat throughout the tour.

Buntings, Allies *Emberizidae*

Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis*

The male of this species is really dazzling and we found numerous birds in scrubby habitats often near water throughout the tour.

Tanagers, Allies *Thraupidae*

Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata*

This unique looking tanager was not uncommon in the riparian habitat in Karasabi with another sighting near the Karanambu Ranch.

Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus*

We found one pair feeding with a mixed feeding flock near Surama.

Fulvous-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus surinamus*

A telescope from the canopy tower allowed for awesome views of a pair perched in the sunshine drying from the rain followed by another couple pairs seen later in different areas of the Iwokrama Forest and Surama.

White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus*

Our first sighting of this black tanager with white flashes in the wing in flight was in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens followed by a subsequent sighting on the edge of the Iwokrama Reserve.

Fulvous Shrike-Tanager *Lanio fulvus*

We found this uncommon tanager on two occasions in the Iwokrama Forest, both times a pair closely associated with mixed flocks.

Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*

In secondary scrub near water this is the predominant tanager and in such habitat on several occasions during the tour we found numerous birds.

Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

This was the most commonly encountered tanager throughout the trip and we had numerous birds on most days during the tour.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

Although not quite as common as the preceding species, this widespread tanager was still seen almost daily and often quite confiding.

Turquoise Tanager *Tangara mexicana*

We first found this pretty tanager on the Abary Road followed by further scattered sightings throughout the tour at most birding sites.

Paradise Tanager *Tangara chilensis*

This species was heard on several occasions but only seen once briefly from a distance in the canopy walkway.

Spotted Tanager *Tangara punctata*

During our time birding in Iwokrama we enjoyed several nice sightings of this attractive tanager including a pair building a nest from the canopy walkway.

Speckled Tanager *Tangara guttata*

This species was one of the biggest surprises of the tour and possibly the first record for Guyana. We found a single bird that showed a distinctive yellow head and turquoise chest in a massive mixed flock that must have contained more than forty species near the Atta Camp.

Dotted Tanager *Tangara varia*

This is a tough and localized species in Guyana and we were fortunate to pick up a pair that showed well in the same large mixed flock as the preceding species.

Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*

First we found this attractive tanager feeding on fruits from the canopy walkway and later feeding along the edge of the main Iwokrama road on Cecropia fruits.

Burnished-buff Tanager *Tangara cayana*

We found several birds during the tour once we reached more scrubby habitats in the Rupununi Savannah.

Opal-rumped Tanager *Tangara velia*

A single bird was seen in forest habitat near Georgetown on the second day of the tour.

Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis*

Apparently a very localized bird in Guyana, we had great scope views of one adult male perched on a dead branch near the entrance road to the Iwokrama Field Station.

Black-faced Dacnis *Dacnis lineata*

This is not an especially common species in Guyana but we enjoyed two sightings of pairs first near the Atta Camp in a large mixed flock and again along the main Iwokrama Road.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

A widespread but attractive bird, we found this species in forest habitats almost daily during the tour often perched conspicuously at the tops of dead branches.

Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus*

The bright yellow legs of this attractive species were an easy way to identify it compared to the next species, and we found several pairs throughout our tour in forest habitats.

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*

Several pairs were seen throughout the tour in forested areas with some close males seen well in the sunlight.

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*

This species was seen on most days in forest habitats throughout the tour including several very nice views of brilliant males.

Yellow-backed Tanager *Hemithraupis flavicollis*

One bird was scoped from the canopy walkway after a short burst of rain.

Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum*

Three birds were first seen near the river in Karasabi followed by further views of two birds responding to a Ferruginous Owl whistle in scrub along the southern Ireng River.

Bicolored Conebill *Conirostrum bicolor*

We found this species in the low mangrove scrub along the Abary Road.

Grassland Yellow Finch *Sicalis luteola*

Several large flocks were seen in the Rupununi Savannah en route to Karasabi.

Plumbeous Seedeater

Sporophila plumbea

This was the most numerous seedeater we encountered in the Rupununi Savannah with up to fifty birds on several occasions.

Grey Seedeater

Sporophila intermedia

The large yellow bill on this species made for an easy identification while driving through moist grasslands en route to Karasabi.

Wing-barred Seedeater

Sporophila Americana

We enjoyed great views of several birds near Georgetown with our first sightings in the Botanical Gardens.

Yellow-bellied Seedeater

Sporophila nigricollis

We found this seedeater on several occasions always associated with small flocks of other seedeaters.

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater

Sporophila minuta

This species was fairly common in small numbers in suitable grassland throughout the tour.

Lesser (Chestnut-bellied) Seed Finch

Oryzoborus angolensis

First we found a bird in an open patch of grasses in the Iwokrama Forest followed by another bird near Georgetown.

Hepatic Tanager

Piranga hepatica

A pair of this brightly colored species was scoped near the river in Karasabi.

Grosbeaks, Saltators *Cardinalidae*

Slate-colored Grosbeak

Pitylus grossus

We had nice views of one vocal bird near the Atta Camp.

Grayish Saltator

Saltator coerulescens

Often a denizen of secondary growth, we first located a couple birds in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens followed by further views on the southern Ireng River.

Yellow-green Grosbeak

Caryothraustes canadensis

A common sound in the canopy, we were able to observe small groups of this species on three occasions always accompanying mixed flocks.

Blue-black Grosbeak

Cyanocompsa cyanoides

This vocal species was seen very well on the east side of the Essiquibo River and heard several times during the tour thereafter.



Pied Puffbird and Crimson Fruit-Crow.

Mammals encountered:

New World Monkeys *Cebidae*

Red Howler Monkey

Alouatta seniculus

The outrageous noises made by this attractive species were just as enjoyable as the many sightings we had throughout our tour.

Black Spider Monkey

Ateles paniscus

We found a couple different troops of this long-armed primate first near the Atta Camp where an aggressive male threw branches at us and again near Surama.

Brown-bearded Saki

Chiropotes satanas

What a crazy-looking monkey! We first found this unique species feeding with a Common Squirrel Monkey on the east side of the Essequibo River followed by further views of a troop leaping over our heads on the Karanambu Ranch.

Guianan (White-faced) Saki

Pithecia pithecia

We only heard the sharp call of this species while in the forest Surama but we were highly detracted looking for the Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo!

Common Squirrel Monkey

Saimiri sciureus

A single animal was seen feeding with the Brown-bearded Sakis on the east side of the Essequibo River

Brown Capuchin

Cebus apella

A small troop moved through the trees near the Iwokrama Field Station.

Weeping Capuchin

Cebus olivaceus

A couple groups of this distinctive primate were found along the forest trails near Surama.

Bats *Chiroptera*

Large Fruit-eating Bat

Artibeus amplus

We found several of these large bats flying around the Iwokrama Field Station and we managed to identify it to species; of course there were numerous other bat species encountered during the Guyana tour that remain unidentified.

Greater Sac-winged Bat

Saccopteryx bilineata

We found about twenty distinctive individuals roosting on the size of an open tree along the edge of the water near Abary Road.

Pallas's Mastiff Bat

Molossus molossus

This interesting bat seemed to be fairly common around the Iwokrama Field Station but it was only identified because one individual accidentally flew onto the floor where I was able to catch it for close study before releasing it again.

Little Yellow-shouldered Bat

Sturnira lilium

We had nice looks at several individuals clinging to the underside of a rock cave near the Guianan Cock-of-the-rock site.

Greater Bulldog Bat

Noctilio leporinus

We enjoyed the antics of several of these large bats as they flew above the surface of the water near Karanambu in attempt to catch small fish.

Agoutis, *Dasyproctidae*

Red-rumped Agouti

Dasyprocta leporina

Numerous individuals were seen scurrying along the roadway in the Iwokrama Reserve.

Capibara *Hydrochaeridae*

Capibara

Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris

Several of these oversized rodents were seen along the bank while motoring along the southern Ireng River.

Racoons, etc *Procyonidae*

Bushy-tailed Olingo

Bassaricyon gabbii

We found this species to be surprisingly common while spotlighting along the Iwokrama Road.

Kinkajou

Potos flavus

This is another arboreal nocturnal animal that we found at night along the Iwokrama Road.

Crab-eating Raccoon

Procyon cancrivorus

One individual was seen briefly along the Iwokrama Road and another was nothing but a nuisance at the Karanambu Ranch!

Peccaries, Javelinas *Tayassuidae*

Collared Peccary

Pecari tajacu

Several animals were found on a forest trail near the canopy walkway at Atta Camp and we watched them feeding by unearthing roots and foraging for fallen fruits.

Cats *Felidae*

Jaguar

Panthera onca

One of these majestic cats was seen as it crossed the dirt roadway behind our vehicle in Iwokrama and disappeared back into the forest.

Squirrels *Sciuridae*

Guianan Red Squirrel

Sciurus aestuans

Only a single animal was seen very well only twenty feet away in Iwokrama before it realized our boat had approached so closely while paddling.

Otters, etc *Mustelidae*

Neotropical River Otter

Lontra longicaudis

One animal was seen on two occasions at the Karanambu Ranch and was originally raised by Diane McTurk.

Giant River Otter

Pteronura brasiliensis

We were very fortunate to find two separate families of these charismatic otters along the waterways of the Karanambu Ranch including excellent views and an unforgettable experience!

Tayra

Eira barbara

It was unusual to have three separate sightings of this shy species including both darker individuals in Iwokrama and later a completely blonde animal that we watched scavenging for eggs in tree cavities near Karanambu.

Dogs, Wolves, Foxes, Jackals *Canidae*

Crab-eating (Savannah) Fox

Cerdocyon thous

This small fox was seen crossing the dirt road near Lethem.

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