

Birding in Trinidad and Tobago

January 25 – February 4 2014

“A Devotional Experience”

The intrepid Tolka pilgrimage arrived at the Monastery of St. Benedict's former rest house, now the Pax Guest House, on Saturday evening January 25th. Dermot, our retreat director had been to T & T 15 years previously and had put together the trip. Heather and Bill Quinn celebrated their 45th anniversary that first night by buying the team drink. Also travelling were Ann Bell and Lesley Staves from Newbury in Berkshire, the keen eyed and well prepared pair, Philip Clancy and Darragh Hogg and completing the turnout was Frank Turpin indulging in his first such trip. The essential local component of the team consisted of the wonderful guide Kenny Calderon, who can see in the dark and the ever helpful Shannon Ortega who drove us, morning, noon and night and always smiled.



All of us had looked at guide books before travelling. The obvious “Birds of the Caribbean” by James Bond (yes, he was a friend of Ian Fleming, an enthusiastic birdwatcher), turned out to explicitly exclude T & T as the avifauna there is more neo tropical South American than the rest of the Caribbean but Bond does recommend Richard ffrench's “A Guide to the Birds of T & T” which has been through several editions in the last 50 years. However most of us ended up with the much more recent Helm Guide by Kenefick et al which we discovered has its limitations. Philip had copped the very recent complete redo in conjunction with Cornell and the Asa Wright Centre (2013) of ffrench, which proved an ideal complement to the Helm Guide. The knowledgeable, vastly experienced and keen eyed Kenny did, on occasion, over rule both on colour and distribution details.

That first evening, based on internet lists from other birders, reading of the literature and Dermot's experience, we all proposed species targets for the trip. The books list over 460 species for the area but many are once off accidentals, often from 50 or more years ago or are birds long since extirpated due to hunting for the cage -bird trade. One average we all hoped for about 150 species but one optimist went for 173. What follows is report of the day-to-day birding with some highlights of each called out. A complete list of species identified over the trip is appended.

Staying on the grounds of a monastery inspired our leader to a penitential regime of earlier and earlier starts. However, as Sunday is a day of rest we started in a relaxed mode and spend the day in the environs of the guesthouse which is ideally located in the hills above Tunapuna on Mount St. Benedict.



Crested Oropendola

The veranda at the back looks out over dense woodland and mountains, while the front looks out over the lower hills and the town. Both afford good views of raptors and especially **Black Vultures** and **Turkey Vultures**. That first day we also enjoyed good views of **Common Black Hawk**, **Broad-winged Hawk**, **Gray-lined hawk**, **Short-tailed Hawk** and **Zone-tailed Hawk**. We walked up the hill before lunch and down the hill afterwards with Kenny helping us find and identify birds. As the day progressed we were getting to know the commoner birds all of which seemed exotic to us. Even the names are exorbitant; **Rufous-browed Peppershrike**, **Barred Antshrike**, **Magnificent Frigatebird** and that riot of black, yellow and noise the **Crested Oropendola**. We had been hearing the short oft-repeated “hoop-ping” of a **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** so with Kenny’s expert help we tracked down this little (15cms) diurnal owl. It was well worth the effort for this handsome bird has the most striking “false eyes” in the back of his head. Day one also saw us gaining familiarity with the hummingbirds many of which come to feeders at the back of Pax, particularly the **Copper-rumped Hummingbird**, a tiny but aggressive little bird of 8 cms. length including a relatively large syringe-like nectar-sucking bill. It is like watching busy bumblebees with needles for noses. As became the norm, Dermot led the Litany of the Birds after dinner. Day one closed with over 50 species seen and a couple heard. Most of them were new to most of us.



Black Vulture & Short-tailed hawk

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl

Day 2 started promptly at 8.30. Before we got into the van we had chalked up several sightings including the striking **Yellow Oriole** and another wonderful hummingbird, the **Black-throated Mango**. We headed for the east coast. En route we picked up a few nice birds, notably an **Osprey** and our first **Smooth-billed Ani**. Our first stop was at a large government run cattle station – the Aripo Agricultural Research Station - where we saw many birds including several waders enjoying the wet conditions that the Water Buffalos wallow in. Several **Southern Lapwings** let us see how large this common lapwing is. A **Spotted Sandpiper** and close by a **Least Sandpiper** were reminiscent of a good day at Tacumshin. Then sharing a mud hole with a Water Buffalo we found a **Great White Egret** and 5 bright **Wattled Jacanas**. Among the many great birds here we had a real bonus in a **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**. This ridiculously long tailed flycatcher is a summer visitor that does not usually appear before late March. We also saw a pair of **Peregrine Falcons** with much darker colouring than the ones we see at home. Two bright finches were identified; the **Ruddy-breasted Seedeater** and the **Grassland Yellow Finch**. The latter appeared in Trinidad less than 10 years ago and remains scarce and localised. Before leaving the cattle farm a raptor worth mentioning is the **Savanna Hawk** has strikingly long yellow legs reminiscent of a scrawny farmyard chicken.



Smooth-billed Ani



Savanna Hawk

Off to lunch and while we were getting “roti”, a wonderful wrap-like sandwich featuring a thin pancake, rough-milled chickpeas and whatever filling you fancy, Phil, who finds food an unnecessary interruption of good birding, was adding another raptor to our list. A **Grey (or Grey-lined) Hawk** was doing his glide and soar over the car park. We then adjourned to the coast to enjoy our lunch. The east or Atlantic coast has very few sea birds and unlike home there was not a gull to be seen. Then it was on to the swampy old rice growing area at Nariva where we hoped to see a Bittern. As we moved about this watery flat country we spotted a **Green Kingfisher**, a **Lineated Woodpecker** with the striking red topknot, a **Striped Cuckoo** with his scruffy crest and our first duck, the **Black-bellied Whistling Duck**, a duck which likes to perch in trees. As we continued our search we got better views of various birds we had already ticked. The star was a perched **Yellow-headed Caracara**, a falcon-type BOP with a yellow head, breast and underparts. The day was dragging on and no Bittern joy but just as we boarded the van the sharp eyed Kenny called “Bittern”. In the distance in the long grass we could see the classic view of a bittern’s head pointed at the sky. With ‘scopes we got a great sighting of the **Pinnated Bittern** as this “uncommon and shy resident of freshwater marshes” almost pirouetted ensuring wonderful views. That evening the litany of the birds yielded 60 plus sighting many of them new to our list.

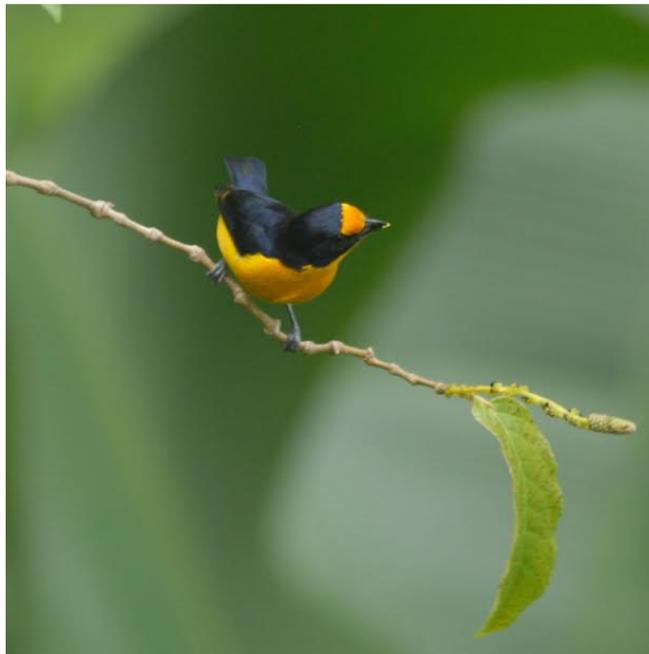


Fork-tailed Flycatcher



Grey Hawk

The penitential intensity deepened on day 3. We were loaded up and away at 7.30 am and heading for forest environment near the Caroni Area reservoir. A thoroughly enjoyable walk yielded some beauties including **Green Honeycreeper**, **Boat-billed Flycatcher**, the startlingly long-tailed **Rufus-tailed Jacamar** sporting a surgical instrument of a bill, **Cocoa Woodcreeper**, **Cocoa Thrush**, the punky **Black-crested Antshrike**, the communally nesting **Yellow-rumped Caciques** in whose nests the parasitic **Giant Cowbird** was trying to lay her eggs, and the aptly named **Squirrel Cuckoo**. But two of the real stars were first the **Guianan Trogon** with bright turquoise back, deep yellow breast and mighty “optical” black-barred white under tail and secondly a real little gem, the scarce **Bat Falcon**, sitting snoozing atop a dead bare tree. Phil disappeared over the rise to get closer and suddenly we heard “Displaying raptors!” This time a pair of stars had appeared, a pair of equally rare **Double-toothed Kites**. After lunch we returned to Pax. We searched unsuccessfully for the **Trinidad Euphonia** but did find a communal roost of the rather similar **Violaceous Euphonia**. We heard both the owl like call of the scarce and rarely seen **Rufus Nightjar** and also the **Little Tinamou** call which is reminiscent of the whinnying of a small pony. Though we heard both again most days we never succeeded in seeing either.



Violaceous Euphonia

To ensure the devoutness of the pilgrims our leader had us away at 7 am on day 4 as we headed for the Asa Wright Centre, a famous birding location in the forest on the Northern Range at about 300 metres. Among the great birds seen there was the amazing, totally nocturnal, fruit-eating **Oilbird**. The size of a Herring Gull, it roosts communally in caves during the day. Among the other stars was the **Bearded Bellbird** who really does have a beard and holds territory with a far carrying repetitive *clunking* which sounds rather like the plinking of a Jew’s harp. Then we had **Green-backed** (formally White-tailed) **Trogon**, **Gold-headed** and **White-bearded Manakins**, three delightful hummingbirds; the **White-necked Jacobin**, displaying like a little mechanical Tinkerbell and the tiny (7cms) **Tufted Coquette** with exotic false wings, and the localised **Blue-chinned Sapphire**.

We had lunch at Asa Wright watching the feeders busy with hummingbirds, tanagers and looking at flycatchers in the trees including a new one for the list the **Ochre-bellied Flycatcher**. We also got good views of a mammal that looks like a sleek brown-haired little pig. The Agouti is in fact a large rodent. Then it was off further up the mountains which provided excellent arboreal bird watching with sightings of **Golden-olive** and **Chestnut Woodpeckers**, **Red-crowned Ant Tanager**, **White-flanked Antwren**, another hummingbird, the **Rufous-chested Hermit**, and a winter-visiting North American warbler the **American Redstart**.



Tufted Cocquette



Oilbird



Bearded Bellbird.

Our retreat director had obviously discovered that monks rise to pray in the middle of the night so we would also rise early for our devotions. Day 5 we were on the road shortly after 4 am. We caught the 5 am flight to Tobago where the prime objective was a boat out to Little Tobago, home of **Magnificent Frigate Birds, Red-billed Tropicbirds, Brown Boobies and Red-footed Boobies**. However the tide was such that sailing had to be postponed until after lunch. But the time was not wasted and included a **White-tailed Sabrewing**, an uncommon hummingbird confined to the forested Main Ridge in Tobago, **Red-crowned Woodpecker, Rufous-vented Chacalaca**, and **Broad-winged Hawk**. A very pale **Peregrine** was also spotted. It appears two races of Perry commonly winter in T & T. Both differ from our race; french tells us that the dark form aka "Bonaparte" (*anatum*) is from Continental North America and the pale subspecies (*tundrius*) from Arctic N. America. A subspecies of **Blue-grey Tanager** (*berlepschi*) seen here is much brighter and darker than its Trinidad cousin and confined to Tobago. We also walked or rather squelched through some ancient rain forest which has been protected since 1765. This area on the main Ridge of Tobago gets over 300 mms of rain annually. Here we added the third and most difficult of the 3 family members that occur in T & T, **Collared Trogon**. It is also the most exotic of them.



Collared Trogan

We had a delightful lunch at Jemma's Seaview Kitchen overlooking the beach in Speyside, boarded the glass bottom boat and headed through still high seas to Little Tobago.



Little Tobago Island

We got great views of the above mentioned target species. In fact at one stage the cry of "**Royal Tern**" went up but we were looking at a **Red-billed Tropicbird** whose tail streamers had been removed by marauding **Frigate Birds**. However our excellent guide Peter Cox helped us to several bonuses on the little island; a beautiful **Red-eyed Vireo**, **Pale-vented Pigeon** and the largest of the pigeon family occurring in T & T, the rather rare **Scaly-naped Pigeon**.



Magnificent Frigatebird



Red-billed Tropicbird

Day 6 Friday 31st was a less intensely prayerful day as we headed to the west coast stopping first at the Wild Fowl Trust on the large oil processing site at Point-a-Pierre. It was here at the BP School that Richard French came to teach in 1958 and subsequently wrote his definitive Guide to the Birds of T & T. In no particular order, among additions to our list here featured **American Moorhen**, **Neotropic Cormorant**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Yellow-hooded Blackbird** and the largest of its family, the **Ringed Kingfisher**. It was here that our endeavours were blessed by a **Red-capped Cardinal**. Lunch we took to a beach area backed by a small park with the sort of short grass ideal for the **Saffron Finch**, the bird of the trip for at least one of the pilgrims. We also picked up the **Bicoloured Conebill** a common resident of the nearby mangroves.

Then it was on to Waterloo/Orange Valley, a sea site beyond the Mangroves where in front of a fast rising tide there were plenty of waders etc. The standouts here included a large flock of the only gull common in T & T the **Laughing Gulls**, we also saw **Black Skimmers**, **Semi-palmated Plovers**, **Western Sandpipers**, **Hudsonian Whimbrels**, **Short-billed Dowitchers**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, and **Willetts**.



Black Skimmers

We also picked up both **Great** and **Little Blue Herons**. Just down the coast at a Hindu temple that juts into the ocean we saw real **Royal Terns** and a **Tricoloured Heron**. This was proving a busy and productive day with more to come. Nearby we visited another temple beside a large statue of the Monkey God which gave us a dramatic sighting of a pale morph **Long-winged Harrier**, and uncommon resident of coastal mangrove swamps. Exploring the Caroni swamp was still ahead of us.



Ringed Kingfisher



Red-capped Cardinal

The Caroni swamp on the north-west coast is a mangrove swamp of brackish water consisting of about 65 sq. kms. It is home to a huge heronry and the location of one of the great T & T birding spectacles. We set out in a flat bottomed boat along the channels between the mangroves with Shawn (or Sean) Madoo, who is conducting research into Silky Anteaters, a sloth-like mammal that he observes hunting after dark. He found one for us. It was curled up asleep in a tree fork like a large tennis ball. There were lots of birds including many new ticks such as **Green-throated mango**, **Palm Swift**, **Straight-billed Woodcreeper**, and difficult to see asleep in a tree the large Nightjar, the **Potoo**. We came on a group of ringers who showed us a recently netted **Northern Water Thrush**, a winter visitor originally ringed in this area two years previously and also a tiny **American Pygmy Kingfisher** which is only one third the length of the **Belted Kingfisher**. As the sun was going down we came out into open waters and were quickly aware of a straggling flock of brightly coloured **Scarlet Ibis**, a flock, like a Disney producer's idea of wind-blown rose petals, heading to the island in the middle of the lake. They settled like

garish blossoms in the tops of the mangroves. More and more kept arriving. Then we noticed **Snowy Egrets**, **Tricoloured Herons**, with their s-bend necks and **Little Blue Herons** arriving more discretely at water level. These species disappeared into the lower reaches as did some **Neotropic Cormorants**. By now the Scarlet Ibis were arriving in their hundreds and being joined near the upper reaches by **Great Egrets**. This fascinating spectacle is a big tourist attraction. By now several boat loads were “ooing and ahing” on the lake. Apparently 4,000 of the Scarlet Ibis alone roost at this site. By now a chattering racket reminiscent of a large rookery was coming from the island of mangroves. We headed back to the dock and en route passed a compact roost of about 30 **Spotted Sandpipers**. That evening’s litany of the birds revealed how devout we had been with 76 different species of bird sighted and 2 heard in one day.



Scarlet Ibis come home to roost.

Saturday, day 7 started in relaxed fashion with a saunter up the hill in the company of two fellow guests at Pax, birding enthusiasts from Lincoln, England. Almost immediately we were rewarded with a striking raptor perched in a tree. After consulting the books and showing the photos to the experts we identified it as an immature **Gray-headed Kite**. The area above the guest house continued to be productive with **Common Ground Dove** and **Streaked Flycatcher** added but still no **Trinidadian Euphonia**. Kenny arrived and proposed we return to the woods high above Asa Wright where he felt more was to be seen. He was, of course, correct.

In addition to getting excellent views of many birds we had seen fleetingly before we added some beauties to the list. We had good views of **Channel-billed Toucan**, which though not quite the Guinness Toucan is a striking bird. A couple of notables and at the other end of the size scale were **Little Hermit** (another hummingbird), **Rufus-breasted Wren** and a tiny colourful warbler the **Tropical Parula** which hangs out high in the forest canopy. On a busy afternoon we also caught up with a **Great Antshrike** which we had heard previously, **Stripe-breasted Spinetail**, which forages in the undergrowth, a distant **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, a **Golden-fronted Greenlet** and the colourful little **Green Honeycreeper**. We marvelled at the density and diversity of birdlife in the high forest. As we moved higher we saw the tiny **Long-billed Gnatwren**, **Golden-crowned Warbler** and a **Slatey-capped Flycatcher**. It had been a busy productive day but just before we climbed aboard to head back for dinner, a bonus, the **Blue-headed Parrot**.

Sunday is not necessarily a day of rest but a day of devotion as we found out with another 4.15 am start. The objective was to be in Grande Riviere, a clearing in the forest on the north-east, or Caribbean coast, at dawn. Two hours later as a murky light emerged in the east we were driving west along a rocky coast in teeming rain. It was heavier than ever as we found our

destination. Dawn was upon us. Suddenly the rain stopped. We bailed out and minutes later we were rewarded with the arrival of several large blue-wattled turkey-like birds into the tops of fruiting nutmeg trees. The striking **Trinidad Piping-**

Guan is a very rare endemic that remains threatened by illegal hunting despite strong legislative protection. In the 1980 edition of his book Richard ffrench is pessimistic of the Piping-Guans' survival, pointing out that it is "notably indifferent to gunfire so that several birds of a flock may be shot one after another". Yet it survives, albeit in small numbers and we had great views of it. Twenty minutes later the inundation started again but not before we had also seen a **Gray Hawk** perched close by.



Trinidad Piping Guan

Later the rain stopped and climbing stiffly out of the van we went walking in forest. First up was the black and white **Black-tailed Tityra** known locally as "Benedictin", appropriate to our pilgrimage as Pax is the former visitors' house of the Benedictine monastery. Also on show were **Piatic Flycatcher, Eulers Flycatcher, Pale-breasted Spinetail** and a pair of **Common Black Hawks** displaying. We also had great close ups of Toucans. After the early start we were happy to return for a quiet afternoon at Pax where we added the **Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift**. There were various views as to how many birds we had seen on the trip so far. We agreed the number exceeded expectations. But what was it? This called for a serious audit of the first 8 days observations.

Day nine and the consolidated audit revealed that the group had seen 191 species and heard 7 more, a surprisingly good number that clearly proved our focused devotion. Our retreat director could be proud of us. There were still a few target birds to be chased. After breakfast we again sought out the Trinidadian Euphonia and though still no joy we had a real bonus. We identified what was once a common bird but is now very rare due to excessive trapping. We spotted three **Yellow-bellied Seedeaters** (m + 2f) up the road from Pax. At lunch time Kenny our guide picked us up and we set out to find the last few target birds. *(For a younger Kenny Calderon google "Birding in Trinidad with Bill Oddie.")*

Kenny demonstrated his ability again when, en route to our destination, we stopped at the entrance to the Aripo Agricultural Research Cattle Station and found deep in a tree a family of 4 roosting **Tropical Screech-owls**. A previously heard bird had moved to the spotted column.



Tropical Screech Owls

Then we drove on to our destination, a large disused airfield holding stands of Moriche Palms. As we walked along a tree-lined runway we spotted a **Sulphury Flycatcher** (194 spotted + 6 heard = a 200 long list!). Then a pair of **Bran-coloured Flycatchers** appeared as we awaited one target to show. Then there appeared, feeding on Moriche Palm dates, a pair of brightly coloured **Red-bellied Macaws**. Then nearby we had a really great find of 2 of the scarce **Moriche Orioles**. Just before we headed off for a snack while we awaited dusk and target number two a racket alerted us to 2 **Yellow-crowned Parrots**. As we eventually drove off Phil's cry went up "falcon". Brakes, u-turn and there we saw a little falcon flying along the tree line. A **Merlin** became sighting number 199. Dusk was still to come with possible nightjars. As darkness descended Kenny had us patrolling a remote corner of the airfield. Then, apparently seeing in the dark, he flashed on his light. Ahead of us, on the ground we saw a nightjar but too small to be a Pauraque. It was a juvenile **White-tailed Nightjar**. Bingo the big 200! Then we got further views of adults followed by several good sightings of **Pauraques** which though it was on our list following Dermot's spotting one on the night road to see the Piping Guan, it was an exciting addition to most of our individual lists. Tired and jubilant we returned a little late for dinner at Pax. Celebratory drinks were enjoyed as the litany of the birds confirmed our wonderful double century. If absolute nirvana had not actually been reached, clearly a state of ecstatic grace had been achieved



Red-bellied Macaws



Moriche Oriole

On the tenth day they rested. Not even the elusive Trinidadian Euphonia lured us out. Instead we did tourist things around Port of Spain. Later that day we flew home tired and satisfied.



The sanctified with retreat leader and spiritual director.

References:

Richard ffrench - *A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad and Tobago*. Revised Edition. Harrowood Books PA. 1980.

Richard ffrench - *A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad & Tobago*. Forward Carol James. Third Edition. Comstock Publishing Associates. Ithaca and London 2013.

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Trinidad Motmot



Yellow-rumped Cacique

BIRD LIST

	SPECIES	LATIN NAME	NO. OF DAYS SEEN & STATUS
1	Black-bellied Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis discolor</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
2	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	Seen once.
3	Rufous-vented Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis ruficauda</i>	Seen once. Tobago only.
4	Trinidad Piping Guan	<i>Pipile pipile</i>	A few birds at traditional site. Trinidad endemic.
5	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>	Lots on Little Tobago only.
6	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Seen most days. Common.
7	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	Some on Little Tobago only.
8	Red-footed Booby (brown & white morph)	<i>Sula sula</i>	Some on Little Tobago only.
9	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
10	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
11	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Seen on 3 days. Uncommon.
12	Pinnated Bittern	<i>Botaurus pinnatus</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon & shy.
13	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
14	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
15	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
16	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
17	Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
18	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Seen daily. Extremely common
19	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	Seen on 3 days. Uncommon
20	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon
21	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax violacea</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon
22	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>	Seen on 1 day. Big roost.
23	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
24	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
25	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Seen on 3 days. Uncommon.
26	Grey-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
27	Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	3 birds seen. Uncommon
28	Long-winged Harrier (pale morph)	<i>Circus buffoni</i>	1 bird seen. Localised and uncommon.
29	Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
30	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common in Lowlands.
31	White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	Seen on 3 days. Uncommon
32	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Seen on 2 days & both islands. Trin. = Rare Tob.= Common
33	Grey Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common
34	Short-tailed hawk (white & dark morph)	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	Seen on 3 days. White=common. Dark morph is rare on T&T.
35	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	Almost daily. Common in N. Trin.
36	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Seen on 5 days. Common
37	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon
38	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	1 bird seen. Rare resident.
39	Peregrine Falcon (two races seen)	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> (dark) & <i>tundrius</i> (light)	Seen on 4 days.
40	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.

41	Common Gallinule (moorhen)	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
42	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
43	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
44	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	1 bird seen. Common.
45	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
46	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
47	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
48	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
49	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
50	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i>	2 birds seen. Common.
51	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
52	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
53	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
54	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
55	South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiae</i>	1 bird seen. Local at Aripo Savannah, Waller Field & Caroni Marsh.
56	Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common at coast.
57	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	1 bird seen. Scarce and uncommon.
58	Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common
59	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon in January.
60	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
61	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	Seen on 1 day. Locally common.
62	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common but shy.
63	Scaly-naped Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas squamosa</i>	1 bird seen on Little Tobago. Very rare Visitor from other Caribbean Islands.
64	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
65	Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerine</i>	Seen on 1 day. Locally common.
66	Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
67	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Daily. Very common but shy.
68	Little Cuckoo	<i>Piaya minuta</i>	1 bird seen. Scarce and secretive.
69	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	3 birds seen. Uncommon.
70	Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
71	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Seen on 5 days. Common.
72	Tropical Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>	4 birds seen together roosting. Heard at 2 other locations. Uncommon.
73	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	Seen on 3 days & heard on two others. All around Pax Guesthouse. Common.
74	Common Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	Seen on 2 days. Locally common.
75	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus cayennensis</i>	Seen on 1 day. Locally common.
76	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	1 bird seen. Locally uncommon.
77	Oilbird (only member of its family)	<i>Steatornis caripensis</i>	Seen at colonial roosting cave. Uncommon and localised.
78	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	Seen most days. Very common.
79	Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicauda</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
80	Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
81	Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift	<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
82	Fork-tailed Palm-Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata squamata</i>	Seen on 2 days. Locally common.
83	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
84	Rufous-breasted Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsutus insularum</i>	Seen on 2 days. Locally common.

85	Green Hermit	Phaethornis guy guy	Seen on 4 days. Common.
86	Little Hermit	Phaethornis longuemareus	Seen on 1 day. Locally common.
87	White-tailed Goldenthrout	Polytmus guainumbi guainumbi	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
88	Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	Chrysolampis mosquitus	Seen on 2 days. Fairly common.
89	Green-throated Mango	Anthracothorax viridigula	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
90	Black-throated Mango	Anthracothorax nigricollis	Seen most days. Common.
91	Tufted Coquette	Lophornis ornatus	Seen on 1 day. Uncommon.
92	Long-billed Starthroat	Heliomaster longirostris.	Seen on 2 days. Scarce.
93	Blue-chinned Sapphire	Chlorestes notate notate	Seen on 1 day. Fairly common.
94	White-tailed Sabrewing	Campylopterus ensipennis	Seen on Tobago. Uncommon. Absent from Trinidad.
95	White-chested Emerald	Amazilia brevirostris	Seen most days. Common.
96	Copper-rumped Hummingbird (two races seen)	Amazilia tobaci tobaci = Tob. erythronota = Trin	Daily. Seen on both islands. Very common.
97	Green-backed Trogon (white-tailed trogon)	Trogon viridis	Seen on 2 days. Common.
98	Guianan Trogon (violaceous trogon)	Trogon violaceus violaceus	Seen on 2 days. Common.
99	Collared Trogon	Trogon collaris exoptatus	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
100	Trinidad Motmot (Recent split from Blue-crowned Motmot).	Motmotus bahamensis	Seen on 2 days. Endemic of Trinidad (uncommon) and Tobago (common).
101	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	Galbula ruficauda ruficauda	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
102	Channel-billed Toucan	Ramphastos vitellinus vitellinus	Seen on 2 days. Fairly common.
103	Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata	Seen on 2 days. Fairly common.
104	Green Kingfisher	Chloroceryle americana	Seen on 2 days. Common. Endemic subspecies.
105	American Pygmy Kingfisher	Chloroceryle aenea	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
106	Red-crowned Woodpecker	Melanerpes rubricapillus	1 bird seen on Tobago where common. Absent from Trinidad.
107	Golden-olive Woodpecker (two races seen)	Piculus rubiginosus trinitatis=Trin tobagensis=Tob	Seen on 4 days. Common on both islands.
108	Chestnut Woodpecker	Ceelus elegans leotaudi	1 bird seen. Uncommon. Subspecies Endemic to Trinidad.
109	Lineated Woodpecker	Dryocopus lineatus	Seen on 3 days. Common.
110	Red-bellied Macaw	Orthopsittaca manilata	Seen on 1 day. Very local in Nariva.
111	Green-rumped Parrotlet	Forpus passerines	Seen on 3 days. Fairly common.
112	Blue-headed Parrot	Pionus menstruus	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
113	Yellow-crowned Parrot	Amazona ochrocephala	Pair in Nariva swamp. Genuine & feral birds present on Trinidad. Rare. Feral birds found in urban areas.
114	Orange-winged Parrot	Amazona amazonica	Daily. Extremely common.
115	Great Antshrike	Taraba major	Seen 1 day. Heard 1day Fairly common
116	Black-crested Antshrike	Sakesphorus Canadensis	Pair seen 1 day. Fairly common.
117	Barred Antshrike (two races seen)	Thamnophilus doliatus Fraterculus=Trin tobagensis=Tob	Seen on 5 days. Common. Seen on both islands.
118	White-flanked Antwren	Myrmotherula axillaris	1 bird seen. Fairly common.
119	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	Dendrocincla fuliginosa	1 bird seen. Common.
120	Cocoa Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus susurrans	Seen on 2 days. Common.
121	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	Dendroplex picus altirostris	1 bird seen. Uncommon. Endemic subspecies confined to Trinidad.
122	Yellow-chinned Spinetail	Certhiaxis cinnamomeus	1 bird seen. Fairly common.

123	Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon & skulking.
124	Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>	1 bird seen. Common but unobtrusive.
125	Southern Beardless Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
126	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	Seen most days. Very common.
127	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	1 bird seen. Only in highest forest of Trinidad's northern range. Scarce.
128	Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleaginous</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
129	Slaty-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon superciliaris pariae</i>	2 bird seen. Uncommon. Subspecies confined to Trinidad.
130	Northern Scrub Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus arenarum</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
131	Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant	<i>Myiornis ecaudatus</i>	1 bird seen. Scarce.
132	Bran-coloured Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon
133	Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus eulerei</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon.
134	Olive-striped Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes olivaceus</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon migrant.
135	Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
136	Pied Water Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
137	Brown-crested Flycatcher (two races seen)	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus tyrannulus</i> <i>tyrannulus=Trin tobagensis=Tob</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common on Tobago. Scarce on Trinidad.
138	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pinangus sulphuratus</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
139	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>	Seen on 2 days. Fairly common.
140	Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	Seen on 2 days. Fairly common.
141	Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon in January.
142	Sulphury Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannopsis sulphurea</i>	2 birds seen.
143	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
144	Grey Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
145	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	1 bird seen. Rare in January.
146	Bearded Bellbird	<i>Procnias averano</i>	Seen on 1 day. Heard on 2 others.
147	Blue-backed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia pareola</i>	Seen on 1 day. Tobago only.
148	Golden-headed Manakin	<i>Pipra erythrocephala</i>	Seen on 2 days.
149	White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>	Seen on 3 days.
150	Black-tailed Tityra	<i>Tityra cayana</i>	2 birds seen.
151	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	1 bird seen. Uncommon in January.
152	Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
153	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	Seen most days. Common.
154	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	Almost daily. Very common.
155	Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	Seen on 5 days. Common.
156	White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
157	House Wren (two races seen)	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i> <i>albicans=Trin tobagensis=Tob</i>	Almost daily. Very common. tobagensis is endemic race to Tobago.
158	Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Pheugopedius rutilus</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
159	Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
160	Cocoa Thrush	<i>Turdus fumigatus</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
161	Spectacled Thrush (bare eyed thrush)	<i>Trudus nudigenis</i>	Daily. Very common.
162	White-necked Thrush	<i>Trudus albicollis</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
163	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus tobagensis</i>	Daily. Extremely common. Endemic subspecies of T&T.
164	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	1 bird seen.
165	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Seen on 3 days.
166	Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	1 bird seen.

167	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechial</i>	Seen on 4 days. Common.
168	Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>	1 bird seen.
169	Red-capped Cardinal (masked cardinal)	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>	2 bird seen.
170	White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	2 birds seen at Pax.
171	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
172	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	Seen on 4 days. Fairly common.
173	Blue-grey Tanager (two races seen)	<i>Thraupis episcopus nesophilus=Trin berlepschi=Tob</i>	Daily. Extremely common on both islands.
174	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Daily. Extremely common on Trinidad.
175	Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata trinitatis</i>	Seen on 2 days. Endemic subspecies On Trinidad. Uncommon.
176	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana vieilloti</i>	Almost daily. Endemic subspecies on Trinidad. Common.
177	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
178	Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Seen on 2 days. Uncommon.
179	Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus longirostris</i>	Seen on 3 days. Endemic subspecies on Trinidad. Common.
180	Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	Seen on 2 days. Common.
181	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
182	Bicolored Conebill	<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>	1 bird seen. Common.
183	Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	Seen on 1 day.
184	Grassland Yellow Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	Seen on 1 day. Rare. First arrived in Trinidad in 2004. Absent from Tobago.
185	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	Almost daily. Very common.
186	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	3 birds. Very rare in January. Was extinct on Trin. but now rare May-Oct.
187	Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	1 bird seen. Rare.
188	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
189	Black-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiasis bicolor</i>	Seen on Tob. only. Absent Trinidad.
190	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	Almost Daily. Common.
191	Red-crowned Ant Tanager	<i>Habia rubica</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
192	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	Daily. Extremely common.
193	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus icterocephalus</i>	Seen on 1 day. Common.
194	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Seen on 5 days. Common.
195	Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>	Seen on 4 days. Locally common.
196	Moriche Oriole	<i>Icterus cayanensis</i>	2 birds seen. Very scarce.
197	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	Almost daily. Common.
198	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	Seen on 3 days. Common.
199	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	Daily. Endemic subspecies on T&T. Very common.
200	Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	Daily. Very common.