

Guyana

15 – 29 November 2008

Trip Report

Principal leader: Tim Earl

Local support: Luke Johnson and Carlos Allie, Georgetown
Leon Moore, Baganara
Paulette Torres and Lawrence Edwards, Iwokrama
Gabriel Andries, Jaguar Trail, Canopy Walkway
Gary Sway, Surama
Valentine, Luis and John, Karanambu
Eddie and Roberto, Arrowpoint

Hosts: Diane McTurk and Pat Rash, Karanambu

Highlights

1. The parrot roost at Baganara was an unexpected delight.
2. Seeing a Harpy Eagle's nest in one of Guyana's biggest trees.
3. The canoe trip down the Burro Burro River.
4. Experiencing life in the treetops on the canopy walkway.
5. Children greeting us and singing at Surama.
6. The whole experience at Kaieteur Falls where Golden Frogs were found in bromeliads.
7. Sipping a sun-downers surrounded by giant *Victoria amazonica* water-lilies.
8. Walking with a Giant Anteater.
9. Airport transfer by boat... a great experience with a Three-toed Sloth and baby for good measure.
10. Bat Falcons mobbing a Peregrine.
11. Skimmers skimming the surface as they hunted for fish.
12. Our encounters with Giant River Otters.
13. The visit to Morby Pond where we saw Lesser Nighthawk, Black Cayman and daytime flowering lilies.
14. Bumping over the savannah in a clapped-out Land Rover.
15. Watching our plane land on a gravel airstrip.
16. Our first sightings of macaws and toucans.
17. The drive from rainforest to savannah in a converted Bedford truck.

Best birds by vote:

Guianan Cock-of-the-rock, 2nd Ornate Hawk Eagle, 3rd Common Potoo.

Best mammals by vote:

Giant Anteater, 2nd Giant River Otter, 3rd South American Squirrel Monkey

Daily Diary

Saturday 15 November

To Georgetown

An uneventful series of flights took us to Barbados, Trinidad and on to Georgetown. British Airways upgraded some of us trans-Atlantic. There was much confusion over bags and their routing but this was sorted in Barbados and they all arrived in Georgetown. A Tropical Screech Owl was seen on the way down from the

airport.

We checked into the Cara Lodge at 12.15am (4.15am back home) and went to bed.

Sunday 16 November

Botanical Gardens and Baganara

Sunny spells and overcast, one or two heavy showers, 32°C

A 7am breakfast seemed like a long sleep-in but was cut short for most by jetlag waking us early. Weariness was banished the moment we entered Georgetown Botanical Gardens. Here a succession of birds popped up giving us an excellent introduction to Guyana's avifauna and a few rarities to boot.

Top birds were Black-collared Hawk, lots of Snail Kites, four Pied Water Tyrants and a pair of Festive Amazons. Sadly, however, our later start (planned for 5.30am) cost us views of Blood-coloured Woodpecker. No matter. We enjoyed several species of tanager, Yellow Warbler, many Wattled Jacanas and a barrel-load of Ruddy Ground Doves. A Yellow-chinned Spinetail, a few Red-capped Cardinals and two Common Tody-flycatchers completed the list.

We picked up our luggage, checked out and were on the road to the Essequibo river by 10.30am. After admiring a Large Billed Tern, we set off for Baganara Resort arriving in time for a beer and lunch.

A short siesta was followed at 3.30 by a rest... the morning's showers merged to give an hour of heavy rain. No more excuse was needed as we snoozed or read in comfort.

A few birds were recorded from the open sitting area: Chestnut-bellied Seedeaters, Pied Plovers, Southern Lapwings, Red-bellied Blackbird and a Collared Plover.

We set off by boat for Parrot Island at 4.45pm. Here we watched Orange-winged and a Yellow-crowned Parrots pour in to roost in the island's rainforest. They were joined by Crested Oropendolas, Yellow-rumped Caciques and a few Giant Cowbirds.

The overall experience was brilliant – parties of parrots calling as they came in, others already roosted shouting encouragement. Their calls built up, occasionally reaching a crescendo as a section suddenly took to the wing and moved position.

It was the first parrot roost most of us had experienced – a real highlight.

Monday, 17 November

Baganara Island / airstrip Makoura Creek

Overcast am, solid rain pm, 30°C

We met at 5.30am for tea, coffee and a long wait for a boat booked to take us to Makoura Creek. It appeared at 6.30, too late for the trip so we explored the island instead. Walking the airstrip we had great views of a Hooked-billed Kite hunting through the forest before performing a display flight with its mate.

A Channel-billed Toucan was joined by two duetting White-throated Toucans. We wondered if someone was hauling them to the top of their song post.

Grey-breasted Martins were feeding over the canopy, occasionally gathering in the top of a leafless tree.

Leon found a pair of White-headed Marsh Tyrants, the male a spectacular bird. An Ashy-throated Crake called loudly but was not seen. Raptors included a Yellow-headed Caracara and a couple of Black Caracaras, Black and Turkey Vultures.

We enjoyed a couple of excellent sightings: a Yellow-tufted Woodpecker which seemed to be dismantling a termite nest, and a pair of Cinnamon Atillas. These were nesting in a palm and gave us excellent views.

A replacement boat appeared as arranged at 1pm to take us on the creek trip via a local "scenic" waterfall. We

sat out a heavy shower and left at 2.15. By this time the sky was very dark and it was soon raining again. However, we were comfortable under waterproof blankets and after visiting the waterfall, which was rather disappointing, went down the Essequibo River and into Makoura Creek.

Had it not been so wet the trip would have been excellent. As it was we saw Green and Amazonian Kingfishers, more toucans and firstly one, then later, five Short-tailed Nightjars. These were hawking like bats through the treetops.

We were all soaked by the time we reached the lodge and a rum-punch seemed the obvious way to celebrate: what had been a difficult day for the leaders due to rain and changes to the itinerary, turned out to be a great adventure.

Tuesday 18 November

Kaieteur Falls and Iwokrama Field Station

Sunny, some cloud, less humid inland, 33°C

Logistics proved difficult again with our flights out delayed from 9.00 to 10.30am by technical problems. We started the activities at 6am birding around the lodge where White-tipped Doves and Lineated Woodpecker were added to our list.

It was with reluctance we left comfortable Baganara Island Resort and Leon Moore who had been our guide. His parting gift was a family of Dusky-capped Flycatchers, ours to him was a copy of the Brandt Guide to Guyana.

Arriving at Kaieteur Falls late, albeit after a superb 45-minute flight over seemingly pristine rainforest, gave me concern – would the fabled Cocks-of-the-rock still be there? They were not.

We arrived at the huge rock around which the birds gather to lek but there was no sign of them. Deciding to search along the trail leading to the first viewpoint of Kaieteur Falls we found none. The falls were spectacular, however. Even in this dry season a vast amount of water flows over the edge to drop 822ft to the bottom.

A great roar accompanied the sight and small flocks of White-tipped Swifts swirled around the maelstrom, plucking up courage to dive behind the waterfall to their nests.

Several other viewpoints were to lead us to the falls but with a two-hour limit before our flight continued we had to press on. Retracing our steps Leroy our guide stopped dead - two male Cocks-of-the-rock had returned to their lekking site. Everyone had good views of at least one of the birds before they slipped away leaving us elated.

Kaieteur Golden Frogs were seen in bromeliads, vultures over the falls and cryptic frogs matching the pink stone that they lived on. All were exciting but it was the amazing falls and the canyon beyond which dominated our thoughts until we re-boarded the aircraft (a Caravan) for the 25-minute flight to Iwokrama Field Station.

A White Hawk was seen eating prey as we arrived.

After a good (but late) lunch we walked around the station watched by a pair of Red-and-green Macaws which were nesting in a tall tree nearby. Silver-billed and Palm Tanagers were common, especially the latter.

Our adventurous day ended with a night boat-trip on which we were shown Emerald Boas, loads of bats and a spectacular Ladder-tailed Nightjar, one of five which had been roosting on a rock. It flew around the boat for a minute or so.

Wednesday 19 November

Turtle Mountain and the Screaming Phia Trail

Sunny with increasing cloud resulting in heavy rain from nightfall, 33°C

A 5.30 start saw us back on the Essequibo River watching Black Skimmers, Bat Falcons, many parrots and all to the whistles of Screaming Phias. Howling Howler Monkeys had thrilled us over early-morning tea.

A Great Black Hawk flew past us and perched obligingly nearby while Black-collared Swallows circled the boat. Views of a Dusky-capped Flycatcher were cut short when our guide Paulette found a Swallow-winged Puffbird.

Our return to the field station was punctuated by views of Anhinga, eight Muscovy Ducks, and five Southern Long-nosed Bats roosting on a branch sticking out of the river. Sadly they flew off as we approached. A pair of White-winged Swallows were nesting in a hole in a larger dead branch.

Swallow-winged Puffbirds were numerous along the river later in the morning. They obligingly perched up high making occasional sallies for passing insects. Alistair spotted a pair of Blue Headed Parrots over breakfast which was followed by a boat/hiking trip up Turtle Mountain.

Greater Yellow-headed Vultures were seen on our arrival at the landing site with one Lesser during the morning. The hike was quiet for birds except Screaming Phias which were common but impossible for most to locate.

We did get great views of Ferruginous Antbird and later in the walk I found a lek of Long-winged Antwrens which was great fun.

Some people managed poor views of Rufescent Tiger Heron through the scope but it buried itself in undergrowth before we could all see it.

Returning to the lodge we saw a pair of Orange-breasted Falcons and a Cocoli Heron. Two Red-fan Parrots flew over as we docked.

It is difficult to have a wildlife walk with absolutely nothing seen but it almost happened. We took the Screaming Phia trail in overcast drizzle and saw not a bird.

Salvation came in the form of four Red Howler Monkeys, one carrying an infant, high in a tree close to the river. We stared at them and they gave us the once over. After about 10 minutes they moved off and so did we. Bats began hunting early and we were buzzed many times by several species as we neared the trail's end.

Thursday 20 November

Stanley Lake and a forest walk

Sunny with increasing cloud, thundery in the pm, 33°C

A 6am start slipped to 6.45 as problems with the boats were sorted. We watched Green Ibis and Cocoli Heron on a nearby sand-bar while waiting.

The trip down to Stanley Lake took almost three hours thanks to many stops watching birds. Some were becoming familiar but we also added eight Green Aricari and American Pygmy Kingfisher to our list.

The Pygmy Kingfisher was in the company of a (not so) Drab Water Tyrant, while a Peregrine was given an extremely hard time by a pair of Bat Falcons which mobbed it relentlessly. A Capped Heron posed for us allowing excellent views of its rather weird blue face and black crown.

Breakfast was at a spot used by Amerindians to gut fish – we thought the vultures overhead were eyeing us

up. A party of about 10 Guyanan Squirrel Monkeys investigated us, delightful creatures with trendy orange legs and inquisitive faces.

Reaching the lake we flushed an Osprey before the first boat stopped to watch White-faced Saki Monkeys. We disembarked at the head of a lake and went to stretch our legs. A King Vulture was spotted soaring above the canopy while a Pygmy Kingfisher had several unsuccessful attempts close by. We had seen one of the largest and smallest birds in close succession. A pair of noisy Painted Parakeets flew over.

Our return to the lodge for lunch was uneventful. We were greeted by three screeching Red-faced Caracaras. A walk down the access road produced an immature Laughing Falcon and a serenade by Screaming Phias. Drumming alerted us to the presence of a woodpecker (Crimson-headed) but only one or two people glimpsed the bird as it flew off. Three Spix's Guans were more obliging. I was able to scope them for all to see. A Great Jacamar posed well for us but a Wedge-billed Woodcreeper shot past in a flash.

We walked to the ferry terminal where boats from the lodge arrived at the same time as us.

Our time at Iwokrama was coming to an end – it is appropriate to mention that there is more to experiencing this pristine place than a list of birds and animals. The forest is a huge living system of which we had just a glimpse. But it gave us all an insight into its mysteries and complexity.

Besides this account each of us took away personal memories – Sankar the Black Cayman showing its foot-less left leg when it came to be fed, the Black Curassows seen wandering past the main building while most of the group were watching... no birds at all on the Screaming Phia Trail.

Our final evening was spent afloat again watching a Capped Heron fishing in the darkness. Two of its pals were caught napping in the spotting beam minutes later.

Friday 21 November

Canopy walkway and the road to Surama

Sunny morning with increasing thundery showers in the afternoon, 33°C.

Our minibus arrived on time and by 5.30am we were on the road.

A few stops were made to watch a Tiny Hawk and Lineated Woodpecker at one, a Jabiru and a Cocoli Heron at another. The poor Jabiru was being troubled by wasps which appeared to be stinging it on the head. A Little Chachalaca crossed the road but was seen by only one or two of us.

A cameraman was chatted to: "I'm waiting to film Capuchins," he said. Seconds later a troop rushed across the road in front of us – sadly for him we must have been 'in shot' thus ruining the poor man's morning. Two Black Curassows were seen at the roadside by some before we turned off to the canopy lodge.

A quick cuppa before we set off was welcome and by 8.30am we had climbed the steep hill and crossed the walkways to platform 3. Here we soaked up the atmosphere and amazing spectacle of Guyana's pristine rainforest canopy. A sea of treetops stretched out at our feet. The early rains had dampened activity throughout the forest and here was no exception. Few birds were singing but they were welcome and appreciated.

Several Red-and-green Macaws flew past but star of the morning were three Scarlet Macaws feeding in a fruiting fig tree.

We had good scope of the views of them until they slipped away. Twenty were seen in the same tree a few days earlier – perhaps the fruit had gone over.

A party of 12 Blue-headed Parrots flew past followed by a pair of Dusky Parrots. Their flight pattern was quite different, bat-like, and calls too.

A Fasciated Antshrike put in an appearance close to us, its colour much darker than the field-and guides might suggest. Two or three Masked Tityras were seen before a pair of Violaceous Trogons came through. The need for breakfast was felt by 9.30 and we left the walkway with reluctance.

Hummers were coming to the feeders at the dining area and we enjoyed great views of Fork-tailed Woodnymphs, Reddish and Eastern Long-tailed Hermits.

A walk along the Jaguar Trail was terrific until the heavens opened. We had good views of Purple-throated Fruitcrow, Black-tailed and White-tailed Trogons, Black-headed Parrot and a Pompadour Cotinga brilliantly spotted by guide Gabriel Andries.

It was a soggy group who piled back into the bus arriving at Surama about an hour later. It was too late for birding and we retired early after a delicious supper.

Saturday 22 November

Surama area

Sunny, increasing cloud later, 31°C

Plans change occasionally. Today we hired a bus to take us to a secret location where, after an hour's walk we arrived at a vast tree which held an equally huge nest – made by a Harpy Eagle.

Sadly, its sole occupant, an immature bird hatched about a year ago and now independent, was not in residence. It had been seen by a group two days earlier but we were not so fortunate.

The walk through delightful jungle was a superb adventure, however. It was hot and humid, involved crossing streams on makeshift bridges and much climbing over fallen trees.

Two Red-fan Parrots were seen and Screaming Phias became oppressive although we did manage to scope one.

Skulkers included a Guianan Warbling Antbird, Spotted Antpitta and a feeding party containing Black-chinned Antbirds Olivaceous Woodcreeper and Long-winged Antwren. Macaws and parrots were heard also. A Glittering-throated Emerald was flitting around the lodge flowers during lunch which was followed by a siesta. As the day cooled we set off to do a savannah/gallery forest walk which was quiet until we came across a Red-necked Woodpecker followed swiftly by a Lineated Woodcreeper.

Several troops of Weeping Capuchin Monkeys were seen - one led us to the discovery of a Buff-throated Woodcreeper. One of the largest leaf-cutter ant colonies I have ever seen was found at the junction of the trail and a main road. A huge 'compost heap' covered at least 10sqm while next to it was a mound, equal in area, of sand grains meticulously dug out during the formation of underground chambers. A Marail Guan was found nearby.

Walking back to the lodge as night fell we heard Spix's Guan, Black Curassow and a Barred Forest Falcon. Latecomers which stole the show were Blackish Nightjar, Common Paroquet and a couple of White-tailed Nightjars. A Savannah Hawk flew over on dusk – our last bird of the day.

Sunday 23 November

Burro Burro River, village cultural visit

Sunny all day, some cloud later, 31°C

Crossing the savanna we had good views of Lesser Elaenia, Wedge-tailed Grassfinch, a delightful little bird, and Cayenne Jays.

The majority of a three-mile walk was through rainforest where a number of specialities were seen including

Golden-headed Manikins and a stunning Ringed Woodpecker. The latter was feeding hard on ants some of which it picked off its own legs without drawing blood...

Coraya Wrens were singing loudly as we boarded two dug-out canoes to explore the Burro Burro River. The songs accompanied us all the way down and back as we watched White-banded Swallows, many kingfishers, Squirrel Cuckoos and a large bird of prey which rose up off the bank.

It perched in vines close to a dead palm leaf and we were able to see its chestnut, black and white head markings, crest and commanding presence. It was a Ornate Hawk Eagle. Better views were had when it crossed the river into a secropia tree. Its crop was distended indicating that the bird had eaten well. It was a stunner.

White-shouldered Tanager and Green-tailed Jacamar were seen on the way back along with a Black Nunbird and Basilisk Lizard.

Paddling meant that we could enjoy the calls and peace of the river, a pleasant and calming contrast to some of our motor-boat trips.

Walking back through the forest we saw a Golden-collared Woodpecker and a pair of Violaceous Trogons. We were picked up after a couple of miles and taken back to the lodge. An invitation to join a cultural afternoon in the village was accepted and we enjoyed dancing, singing and poetry recitals by local youngsters. A couple of Barn Swallows were seen over the football pitch. We also recorded Roadside Hawk and Southern Caracara as we explored the village.

Monday 24 November

To Karanambu - Victoria Lilies

Sunny, some cloud later, 33°C

A rattling, gear-crunching Bedford truck turned up for us at 6am and after loading it we set off for the Ginep Landing. Two Fork-tailed Flycatchers were seen as we left the village, a taster of more to come later.

Great Egrets, Cocoi Herons and Roadside Hawks were seen along the way once we left rainforest behind and entered the rolling savanna landscape.

A stop was made at the Oasis Cafe, part of the Rock View complex, and we set off again at 8.45am. Bridge repairs gave us the opportunity to walk ahead birding: hanging, bottle-shaped nests of Crested Oropendolas and Yellow-rumped Caciques were examined.

We stopped next to a pool in which six Wood Storks, two Jabirus and a Cocoi Heron were feeding. Sadly, all flew but at least we had good views of the Jabiru in flight.

The journey to Karanambu was completed by 12.45pm after a long but interesting boat trip. Many stops were made for birds: Slate-coloured Hawk and Black-and-white Hawk Eagle being new to our lists.

We were greeted by our hosts Diane McTurk and Pat Rush and escorted to our accommodation. A siesta followed a delicious lunch.

The afternoon activity was a boat trip to see Victoria Lilies on Buffalo Pond, a great adventure. Slipping into Riverburst Lake we came up upon two Giant River Otters hiding under overhanging shrubs. A number of huge Arapaima were rolling on the surface to breathe. Skimmers were slicing the surface with their huge lower mandibles but we saw no fish caught.

After negotiating another creek, flooded for the first time in months by the early rains, we entered Buffalo Pond and were immediately in an enchanted world of giant water-lilies, Jacana lily-trotters, singing Band-tailed Nightjars and a multitude of bats.

Mooring among the lilies we enjoyed a sun-downer as their flowers started to open. The fresh a first-timers were white to attract a nocturnal flying beetle. At the end of their beetle-hunting night the flowers close trapping the insects which crawl around and become covered in pollen.

The second-nighters open to reveal a purple 'spent' bloom which flops onto the water-surface releasing the beetle which flies off to pollinate its next prison.

Enjoying a rum-punch, watching the flowers open to form glorious white half-balls or floppy purple seed-pods-in-the-making, Bulldog Fishing Bats skimming the surface while Band-tailed Nightjars, Rufescent Tiger Herons and Black-crowned Night Herons flew over our heads, was a wonderful experience.

Tuesday 25 November

Anteaters and Giant River Otters

Sunny, some cloud, 33°C

Coffee and tea were waiting at 5.30am before we set off to look for Giant Anteaters. We were squeezed into two Landrovers each with a 'spotter' on its roof.

A couple of White-tailed Hawks were found but there was no sign of anteaters.

We split up to search more widely, flushing Fork-tailed Flycatchers, Grassland Sparrows and Yellowish Pipits along the way. Eventually an outrider on horse-back found an anteater and we gathered on foot to admire the animal.

Keeping a distance and staying down-wind of it we were able to escort the Giant Anteater across savanna for a short distance. More extraordinary than a camel (designed by a committee) its features were admired in depth: a long nose (more like a continuation of its skull) small piggy eyes, largish ears, a stumbling gait and long fluffy tail (used as a blanket when it sleeps in 'nests' of twigs and leaves during the day, we were told).

To have seen the world's largest otter, scaled fish, water-lily and anteater in just 12 hours was a crowning highlight. Our outing continued with great views of two Sharp-tailed Ibises, Eastern Meadowlarks and a Double-striped Thick-knee.

Some of the group went down to see Diane's Giant River Otter and a Neotropical Otter cub being fed after breakfast.

As the afternoon cooled we set off for a repeat visit to Riverburst Lake where we all had excellent views of the Giant River Otter family – this time six animals were available for our delight. They hid in bank-side bushes, heads together as they gazed at us. It was a delightful experience made the better by having Guyana's 'Otter Woman' Diana McTurk with us.

Cutting loose, we set off down the river to another set of lakes, the Sumuni River ponds. To our astonishment, perched on the broken top of a palm stem, was a juvenile Common Potoo. It was in full sun, hunched up like a slightly rotten branch. A closed eye and its beak could be seen clearly. Already the half grown youngster was showing cryptic adult markings.

We slipped away and had a sun-downer to celebrate as six Band-tailed and a Lesser Nighthawk swooped over our heads. It was another delightful experience.

Wednesday 26 November

Morby Pond and off to Arrowpoint

Overcast and occasional light showers, 33°C

We took to the boats again to go upstream where we moored and walked to Morby Pond. Many stops were

made to watch old favourites, and a Plain-brown Woodcreeper was added to the list.

Walking to the lake we had good views of several male Blue-backed Manikins before reaching a super viewpoint. The lake was covered in Victoria Lilies, many of which still had open flowers. Their lily pads were perches for lots of Black-crowned Night Herons, Striated Herons and Wattled Jacanas, including many chicks.

Indeed, we had a heart-stopping moment when three Jacana chicks wandered close to a Black Cayman lurking among the lilies. Happily, they noticed it and scuttled away.

The most amazing bird of the morning was a Lesser Nighthawk roosting invisibly along a branch over our heads, a brilliant piece of camouflage. How the boys found it we could not work out.

Packing was done after breakfast and we left Karanambu by plane for Georgetown at 2pm – two hours late – having eaten our packed lunches. Chores in Georgetown resulted in our arrival at the Arrowpoint Marina at 4.45, leaving at 5pm. We arrived at Arrowpoint Nature Resort to a warm welcome (and almost dry bar) at 6.15pm.

Thursday 27 November

Crimson Topaz and Arrowpoint explored

Sunny, some cloud, humid, 34°C

A 6.10am start saw us motoring slowly or paddling up the Pokerero Creek watching the world wake-up. Blue-chinned Sapphires were sipping to dew from reed stems, lots of Red-shouldered Macaws were seen, 17 clinging to just one dead as tree stem, and a Cinnamon Atilla was seen briefly.

Entering a tunnel of overhanging trees we spotted our main quarry - a male Crimson Topaz was hawking mosquitoes a few feet away from us. We watched silently in awe.

It performed an aerial ballet for us zipping across the stream and hanging in mid-air, tail streamers dangling downwards. Light shone through the bird's feathers revealing its crimson hews. Our best view was when it perched a few metres away looking like a small Carmine Bee-eater. The bird left but was replaced by another male with even more impressive tail-streamers.

Our walk after breakfast, one of the best for birds of this trip, was through secondary forest. We found a feeding flock which contained Spot-tailed Antbird, Plain Xenops, Dusky-throated Antbird and Wedge-billed Woodcreeper.

A Black-eared Fairy hung above us for several seconds flashing its white tail and a White-capped Manikin perched obligingly. The best bird of the morning was a Black-bellied Cuckoo which gave us all great views. We were also pleased to see the rootings of a Nine-banded Armadillo.

We returned by two-man canoe under our own power to spend the rest of the day at leisure around the lodge. A rum-punch accompanied our late afternoon roost-watch as macaws and parrots said their farewells to us. We had our last dinner under the stars in front of a large bonfire.

Friday 28 November

Homeward bound

Hot, sunny and humid, 30C even in the airport

Some folk missed yesterday's early morning boat trip which was repeated with success - male and female Crimson Topaz were seen along with Black-capped Donacobius.

We left Arrowpoint at 7:30am and saw a least 20 species of bird, including Red-shouldered Macaws, and a

female Three-toed Sloth with its baby.

A bus whisked us from Arrowpoint Marina to the international airport in just 10 minutes, the best transfer from hotel to airport ever.

Our flights back to London Gatwick were uneventful and we arrived on time with all our luggage.

Footnote: This was our first trip to Guyana and quite an adventure it proved to be. The country is stunning with vast tracts of untouched primary rainforest. It also has savanna which we would have liked to see more of. The people were friendly and most accommodating although the country is almost untouched by tourism which made souvenir-hunting, buying postcards and retail therapy difficult. Even the provision of drinks was an effort in some places (no bars!). Much of our travel was by boat resulting in visits to some amazing wildernesses. The trip was not without some logistical problems, although these had little effect on the overall experience. Chiggers were an unexpected problem brought on by the start of the short rains. Rain also stopped play in the jungles with many of the skulking birds silent. Food was delicious local dishes and accommodation largely rustic and comfortable, although not exclusively. The group made this holiday the fun it was with great enthusiasm and a little patience. I hope we travel again together one day.

ANNOTATED LIST OF SPECIES

BIRDS

TINAMOUS			Family Tinamidae
1	Great Tinamou	Tinamus major	Heard on two days at Iwokrama.
CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS, GUANS			Family Cracidae
2	Little Chachalaca	Ortalis motmot	One crossed the road to the canopy walkway.
3	Marail Guan	Penelope marail	One at Surama.
4	Spix's Guan	Penelope jacquacu	Five at Iwokrama; heard at Surama.
5	Black Curassow	Crax alector	Seen at Iwokrama and on the way to the canopy walkway; heard at Surama.
WILDFOWL			Family Anatidae
6	Muscovy Duck	Cairina moschata	Seen on the rivers at Iwokrama and Arrowpoint.
STORKS			Family Ciconiidae
7	Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	Ten on the way to Karanambu; two over Morby Pond.
8	Jabiru	Jabiru mycteria	An immature on the way to the canopy walkway; five near Oasis Cafe; two at Karanambu, one standing on a nest.
IBISES, SPOONBILLS			Family Threskiornithidae
9	Sharp-tailed Ibis	Cercibis oxycerca	Two on a savannah marsh at Karanambu.
10	Green Ibis	Mesembrinibis cayennensis	Seen on six days.
HERONS, BITTERNES			Family Ardeidae
11	Rufescent Tiger Heron	Tigrisoma lineatum	Recorded on four days.
12	Boat-billed Heron	Cochlearius cochlearius	A total of six at Karanambu.
13	Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Seen on four days; lots on giant lilies at Morby Pond.
14	Striated Heron	Butorides striata	Seen on eight days.
15	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Common, seen daily.
16	Cocoi Heron	Ardea cocoi	Common, seen on seven days.
17	Great Egret	Ardea alba	Common at Karanambu.

18	Capped Heron	<i>Ptilerodius pileatus</i>	Five at Iwokrama.
19	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	One at Baganara.
20	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Seen on five days.
21	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Up to 13 seen on four days.
ANHINGAS			Family Anhingidae
22	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Seen on seven days.
NEW WORLD VULTURES			Family Cathartidae
23	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common, seen most days.
24	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	Common inland.
25	Greater Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	Common inland.
26	American Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Abundant, seen daily.
27	King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	Singles seen at Iwokrama and Surama.
FALCONS, CARACARAS			Family Falconidae
28	Black Caracara	<i>Daptrius ater</i>	A total of six seen at Baganara.
29	Red-throated Caracara	<i>Ibycter americanus</i>	Three seen daily at Iwokramer.
30	Southern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Common on the savannas at Karanambu.
31	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Common, seen on nine days.
32	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpotheres cachinnans</i>	One Baganara and an immature at Iwokrama.
33	Barred Forest Falcon	<i>Micrastur ruficollis</i>	One heard at Surama.
34	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	Seen on three days with eight at Iwokrama.
35	Orange-breasted Falcon	<i>Falco deiroleucus</i>	Two seen at Iwokrama.
36	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	One at Iwokrama; one in Trinidad on the way home.
KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES			Family Accipitridae
37	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Seen on six days.
38	Grey-headed Kite	<i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>	One Aseen on the way to the canopy walkway.
39	Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>	Two seen as Baganara.
40	Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	At least 10 in the Botanical Gardens.
41	Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	Singles at the Botanical Gardens and Baganara.
42	Tiny Hawk	<i>Accipiter superciliosus</i>	One seen on the way to the canopy walkway.
43	Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>	One at Iwokrama.
44	Slate-coloured Hawk	<i>Leucopternis schistaceus</i>	One seen on the way to Karanambu.
45	White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	One at Iwokrama.
46	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	Singles seen on five days.
47	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	Singles seen on three days at Surama and Karanambu.
48	Black-collared Hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>	An adult and immature at Baganara; 2 at Karanambu.
49	Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	Seen on four days with a maximum of six at Karanambu.
50	White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	One seen on the way to Karanambu.
51	Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizastur melanoleucus</i>	One seen at Karanambu.
52	Ornate Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus ornatus</i>	One seen on the Burro Burro River.
FLUFFTAILS, RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS			Family Rallidae
53	Ash-throated Crake (H)	<i>Porzana albicollis</i>	One heard calling at Baganara.
FINFOOTS			Family Heliornithidae
54	Sungrebe	<i>Heliornis fulica</i>	One seen briefly at Iwokrama.
TRUMPETERS			Family Psophiidae
55	Grey-winged Trumpeter	<i>Psophia crepitans</i>	Three seen on the Harpy Eagle walk (leader only).
STONE-CURLEWS, THICK-KNEES			Family Burhinidae
56	Double-striped Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	One at Karanambu.

PLOVERS

57	Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis
58	Collared Plover	Charadrius collaris
59	Pied Plover	Hoploxypterus cayanus

JACANAS

60	Wattled Jacana	Jacana jacana
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SANDPIPERS, SNIPES

61	Wilson's Snipe	Gallinago delicata
62	Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS

63	Yellow-billed Tern	Sterna superciliaris
64	Large-billed Tern	Phaetusa simplex
65	Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger

PIGEONS & DOVES

66	Common Pigeon	Columba livia
67	Band-tailed Pigeon	Patagioenas fasciata
68	Pale-vented Pigeon	Patagioenas cayennensis
69	Plumbeous Pigeon	Patagioenas plumbea
70	Ruddy Pigeon	Patagioenas subvinacea
71	Common Ground Dove	Columbina passerina
72	Ruddy Ground Dove	Columbina talpacoti
73	White-tipped Dove	Leptotila verreauxi

COCKATOOS & PARROTS

74	Scarlet Macaw	Ara macao
75	Red-and-green Macaw	Ara chloropterus
76	Red-shouldered Macaw	Diopsittacanobilis
77	Brown-throated Parakeet	Aratinga pertinax
78	Painted Parakeet	Pyrrhura picta
79	Golden-winged Parakeet	Brotogeris chrysoptera
80	Black-headed Parrot	Pionites melanocephalus
81	Blue-headed Parrot	Pionus menstruus
82	Dusky Parrot	Pionus fuscus
83	Festive Amazon	Amazona festiva
84	Yellow-crowned Amazon	Amazona ochrocephala
85	Orange-winged Amazon	Amazona amazonica
86	Mealy Amazon	Amazona farinosa
87	Red-fan Parrot	Deropteryx accipitrinus

CUCKOOS

88	Greater Ani	Crotophaga major
89	Smooth-billed Ani	Crotophaga ani
90	Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana
91	Black-bellied Cuckoo	Piaya melanogaster

OWLS

92	Tropical Screech Owl	Megascops choliba
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POTOOS

93	Common Potoo	Nyctibius griseus
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Family Charadriidae

Six seen at Baganara; two at Karanambu.
A pair seen daily at Baganara.
Common, up to 10 seen on eight days.

Family Jacanidae

Six at Baganara; up to 20 daily at Karanambu.

Family Scolopacidae

Singles seen on two days at Baganara.
Common, up to 10 seen on six days.

Family Laridae

Quite common near the coast, seen on five days.
Common on rivers inland.
Common on inland rivers; max 52 at Karanambu where 3 were skimming.

Family Columbidae

Common in towns and villages.
Two seen at Iwokrama.
Common, seen daily.
Two seen on the Burro Burro River.
Seen and heard that Iwokrama.
Common, seen on seven days.
Common in the Botanical Gardens.
Seen on four days, probably overlooked.

Family Psittacidae

Four seen at the canopy walkway; two at Surama.
Common, up to 10 seen on 10 days.
Common house Baganara and Arrowpoint - 17 seen in one tree.
Two seen at Baganara (leader only).
Up to 10 seen on three days.
Two seen at Surama (leader only).
Two seen at the canopy walkway.
Seen on four days.
Two seen at the canopy walkway.
Two seen in the Botanical Gardens.
Common, seen daily with a max of 300 roosting on Parrot Island.
Common, seen daily with a max of 100 roosting on Parrot Island.
A pair seen on two days at Iwokrama.
Two seen at Iwokrama; two at Surama.

Family Cuculidae

Common, seen almost daily.
Common, seen in parties on seven days
Seen on only two days with three at Surama.
One seen at Arrowpoint.

Family Strigidae

One seen in Georgetown on the way down from the airport; one heard at Surama.

Family Nyctibiidae

A juvenile seen at Karanambu - one of the top birds of the trip.

NIGHTJARS

94	Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>
95	Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>
96	Band-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i>
97	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>
98	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus cayennensis</i>
99	Blackish Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus nigrescens</i>
100	Ladder-tailed Nightjar	<i>Hydropsalis climacocerca</i>

SWIFTS

101	Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus</i>
102	Grey-rumped Swift	<i>Chaeturacineriventris</i>
103	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>
104	White-tipped Swift	<i>Aeronautes montivagus</i>
105	Neotropical Palm Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata</i>
106	Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift	<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>

HUMMINGBIRDS

107	Western Long-tailed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis superciliosus</i>
108	Reddish Hermit	<i>Phaethornis ruber</i>
109	Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>
110	Crimson Topaz	<i>Topaza pella</i>
111	Blue-chinned Sapphire	<i>Chlorestes notatus</i>
112	Fork-tailed Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania furcata</i>
113	White-chested Emerald	<i>Amazilia brevirostris</i>
114	Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>
115	Black-eared Fairy	<i>Heliophryx auritus</i>

TROGONS

116	Amazonian White-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon viridis</i>
117	Violaceous Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>
118	Black-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>

KINGFISHERS

119	American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>
120	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>
121	Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>
122	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>

TOUCANS & BARBETS

123	Green Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>
124	Black-necked Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>
125	Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>
126	White-throated Toucan	<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>

WOODPECKERS

127	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>
128	Golden-collared Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis cassini</i>
129	Ringed Woodpecker	<i>Celeus torquatus</i>
130	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>
131	Red-necked Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus rubricollis</i>
132	Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>

Family Caprimulgidae

Six seen on the Makoura Creek trip.
 One seen at Karanambu, one roosting on a branch above Morby Pond.
 Up to six seen on both nights at Karanambu.
 Four seen at Surama.
 Three seen and heard at Surama.
 Two seen at Surama.
 Five seen on the night trip at Iwokrama.

Family Apodidae

Three seen of Arrowpoint.
 Six at Baganara; six at Iwokrama; three at Arrowpoint.
 Seen on two days, max 20 at Surama.
 Flocks seen diving behind Kaieteur Falls where they nest.
 Seen on two days with six at Surama.
 Seen on two days at Karanambu.

Family Trochilidae

At least six at the canopy walkway.
 Ten at the canopy walkway.
 Up to six at Baganara.
 At least two males and a female at Arrowpoint.
 A few at Arrowpoint.
 Three of the canopy walkway.
 A few at Karanambu.
 Seen at Surama and Karanambu.
 One seen on the jungle walk at Arrowpoint.

Family Trogonidae

Two seen at the canopy walkway; two at Surama.
 Up to four seen at Iwokrama; two at Surama; one heard at Arrowpoint.
 A pair seen that the canopy walkway.

Family Alcedinidae

Two seen at Iwokrama; two at Surama.
 Common, seen on most waterways.
 Common, seen on most waterways.
 Fairly common, recorded on five days.

Family Ramphastidae

Seen on only two days with a maximum of 10 at Iwokrama.
 One seen out Arrowpoint.
 A pair at Baganara; two at Iwokrama.
 Common, up to four seen most days.

Family Picidae

One at Baganara.
 One at Surama.
 One at Surama, a star bird.
 Four seen over three days.
 A pair seen at Surama.
 One heard at Iwokrama; a female seen at Arrowpoint

JACAMARS

- 133 Green-tailed Jacamar Galbula galbula
 134 Great Jacamar Jacamerops aureus

PUFFBIRDS

- 135 Black Nunbird Monasa atra
 136 Swallow-winged Puffbird Chelidoptera tenebrosa

MANIKINS

- 137 Blue-backed Manikin Chiroxiphia pareola
 138 White-crowned Manikin Pipra pipra
 139 Golden-headed Manikin Pipra erythrocephala

COTINGAS

- 140 Masked Tityra Tityra semifasciata
 141 Guianan Cock-of-the-rock Rupicola rupicola
 142 Screaming Piha Lipaugus vociferans
 143 Pompadour Cotinga Xipholena punicea
 144 Purple-throated Fruitcrow Querula purpurata

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- 145 Yellow-bellied Elaenia Elaenia flavogaster
 146 Lesser Elaenia Elaenia chiriquensis
 147 Common Tody-Flycatcher Todirostrum cinereum
 148 Drab Water Tyrant Ochthornislittoralis
 149 Pied Water Tyrant Fluvicola pica
 150 White-headed Marsh Tyrant Arundinicola leucocephala
 151 Long-tailed Tyrant Colonia colonus
 152 Social Flycatcher Myiozetetes similis
 153 Great Kiskadee Pitangus sulphuratus
 154 Lesser Kiskadee Philohydor lictor
 155 Tropical Kingbird Tyrannus melancholicus
 156 Fork-tailed Flycatcher Tyrannus savana
 157 Dusky-capped Flycatcher Myiarchus tuberculifer
 158 Cinnamon Attila Attila cinnamomeus

ANTBIRDS

- 159 Fasciated Antshrike Cymbilaimus lineatus
 160 Great Antshrike Taraba major
 161 Dusky-throated Antshrike Thamnomanes ardesiacus
 162 Long-winged Antwren Myrmotherula longipennis
 163 Spot-tailed Antwren Herpsilochmus sticturus
 164 Grey Antbird Cercomacracinercens
 165 Warbling Antbird Hypocnemis cantator
 166 Ferruginous-backed Antbird Myrmeciza ferruginea
 167 Black-throated Antbird Myrmeciza atrothorax

ANTTHRUSHES & ANTPITTAS

- 168 Spotted Antpitta Hylopezus macularius

OVENBIRDS

- 169 Yellow-chinned Spinetail Certhiaxis cinnamomeus
 170 Plain Xenops Xenops minutus

Family Galbulidae

- One at Surama.
 A female at Iwokrama.

Family Bucconidae

- Two at the Surama.
 Common along most waterways.

Family Pipridae

- Two males at Arrowpoint.
 Two males at Surama; one at Arrowpoint.
 Two at Surama.

Family Cotingidae

- Two at the canopy walkway.
 Two males at Kaieteur Falls - bird of the trip.
 Common, lived up to its name in rainforests.
 A male seen on the Jaguar Trail at the canopy walkway.
 Before seen on the Jaguar Trail at the canopy walkway.

Family Tyrannidae

- Two at Baganara.
 A pair at Surama.
 Seen on four days.
 One at Iwokrama; one at Karanambu - a character bird.
 Four at Baganara; two at Karanambu.
 One male at Baganara; a female at Karanambu and a pair nest-building at Arrowpoint.
 One at Karanambu (leader only).
 One at Iwokrama.
 Common daily.
 Common, seen on eight days.
 Common, seen daily.
 Good numbers in the savanna.
 Three at Baganara; one at Iwokrama.
 A pair nesting at Baganara; one at Surama.

Family Thamnophilidae

- A male at the canopy walkway.
 Males heard singing on two occasions.
 Seen in feeding flocks on the Harpy Eagle trail and at Arrowpoint.
 A lek on the Turtle Mountain trail at Iwokrama; two at Surama.
 Singles at Surama and Arrowpoint.
 One in a feeding flock at Arrowpoint (leader only).
 Two at Surama.
 One at Iwokrama.
 Three at Surama.

Family Formicariidae

- One on the Harpy Eagle trail.

Family Furnariidae

- One, Botanical Gardens.
 One in a feeding flock at Arrowpoint.

WOODCREEPERS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 171 Plain-brown Woodcreeper | <i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i> |
| 172 Olivaceous Woodcreeper | <i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i> |
| 173 Wedge-billed Woodcreeper | <i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i> |
| 174 Buff-throated Woodcreeper | <i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i> |
| 175 Lineated Woodcreeper | <i>Lepidocolaptes albolineatus</i> |

CROWS, JAYS

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 176 Cayenne Jay | <i>Cyanocorax cayanus</i> |
|-----------------|---------------------------|

SWALLOWS, MARTINS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 177 White-winged Swallow | <i>Tachycineta albiventer</i> |
| 178 Grey-breasted Martin | <i>Progne chalybea</i> |
| 179 Brown-chested Martin | <i>Progne tapera</i> |
| 180 White-banded Swallow | <i>Atticora fasciata</i> |
| 181 Black-collared Swallow | <i>Atticora melanoleuca</i> |
| 182 Southern Rough-wing | <i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i> |
| 183 Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> |

WRENS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 184 Coraya Wren | <i>Thryothorus coraya</i> |
| 185 House Wren | <i>Troglodytes aedon</i> |
| 186 Black-capped Donacobius | <i>Donacobius atricapilla</i> |

GNATCATCHERS

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 187 Tropical Gnatcatcher | <i>Polioptila plumbea</i> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|

MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 188 Tropical Mockingbird | <i>Mimus gilvus</i> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|

THRUSHES

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 189 Pale-breasted Thrush | <i>Turdus leucomelas</i> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|

WAGTAILS & PIPITS

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 190 Yellowish Pipit | <i>Anthus lutescens</i> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|

FINCHES

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 191 Finsch's Euphonia | <i>Euphonia finschi</i> |
| 192 Thick-billed Euphonia | <i>Euphonia laniirostris</i> |

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 193 American Yellow Warbler | <i>Dendroica petechia</i> |
| 194 Blackpoll Warbler | <i>Dendroica striata</i> |

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 195 Crested Oropendola | <i>Psarocolius decumanus</i> |
| 196 Yellow-rumped Cacique | <i>Cacicus cela</i> |
| 197 Red-rumped Cacique | <i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i> |
| 198 Moriche Oriole | <i>Icterus chryscephalus</i> |
| 199 Yellow Oriole | <i>Icterus nigrogularis</i> |
| 200 Giant Cowbird | <i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i> |
| 201 Shiny Cowbird | <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i> |
| 202 Carib Grackle | <i>Quiscalus lugubris</i> |

Family Dendrocolaptidae

- One at Karanambu.
 One at Surama.
 Singles seen at Iwokrama, Surama and Arrowpoint.
 One seen at Surama.
 One seen at Surama.

Family Corvidae

- About 14 at Surama; two at Arrowpoint.

Family Hirundinidae

- Common, seen nesting in branch holes along most waterways.
 Common, seen most days.
 Six seen at Baganara.
 Six seen at Karanambu.
 Seen on two days at Iwokrama.
 Seen on five days.
 Two over the football pitch at Surama (leader only).

Family Troglodytidae

- Many heard singing as we canoed down the Burro Burro River.
 Seen on eight days.
 One on our extra trip to watch Crimson Topaz.

Family Polioptilidae

- One in a bush on the side of Riverburst Lake.

Family Mimidae

- Common daily.

Family Turdidae

- Two at the canopy walk.

Family Motacillidae

- Several on the savanna at Karanambu.

Family Fringillidae

- Small parties seen twice at Karanambu.
 Four at Baganara.

Family Parulidae

- One at the Botanical Gardens
 One at Surama.

Family Icteridae

- Common, seen almost daily.
 Common, seen almost daily.
 Eight seen at Baganara.
 One seen at Iwokrama.
 Seen on three days at Baganara and Karanambu.
 Three seen at Baganara.
 Up to 15 seen on four days.
 Six seen on the way to Baganara.

203	Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>	Common at Baganara.
204	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Four seen at Karanambu.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS & ALLIES

205	Grassland Sparrow	<i>Myospiza humeralis</i>	A few seen at Surama and Karanambu.
206	Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>	Common, seen on eight days.

Family Emberizidae

TANAGERS & ALLIES

207	Hooded Tanager	<i>Nemosia pileata</i>	Five seen at Karanambu.
208	White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	A male seen at Surama.
209	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	Abundant, seen daily.
210	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Abundant, seen daily.
211	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Abundant, seen daily.
212	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	Four seen at Baganara.
213	Burnished-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>	Two seen at Karanambu.
214	Wedge-tailed Grass Finch	<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	A pair seen at Surama.
215	Chestnut-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i>	Common at Baganara.
216	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	Two seen at Karanambu.

Family Thraupidae

MAMMALS

AMERICAN OPOSSUMS

1	Brown Four-eyed Opossum	<i>Metachirus nudicaudatus</i>	Family Didelphidae One seen at Baganara.
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ARMADILLOS

2	Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>	Family Dasypodidae Rootings at Arrowpoint.
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AMERICAN ANTEATERS

3	Giant Anteater	<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>	Myrmecophagidae One seen on the savanna at Karanambu.
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THREE-TOED SLOTHS

4	Pale-throated Three-toed Sloth	<i>Bradypus tridactylus</i>	Family Bradypodidae Female with a well-grown baby on the final boat-transfer to the airport.
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AGOUTIS & PACAS

5	Red-rumped Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta leporina</i>	Family Agoutidae One at Arrowpoint.
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CAPYBARAS

6	Capybara	<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i>	Family Hydrochoeridae Two on a sand-bar during a night river-trip at Karanambu.
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OTTERS, WEASELS & BADGERS

7	Neotropical River Otter	<i>Lutra longicaudis</i>	Family Mustelidae One rescued animal in the river at Karanambu.
8	Giant Otter	<i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i>	A family of six, Riverburst Lake, Karanambu.

RACCOONS

9	Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Family Procyonidae One juvenile in captivity, Karanambu.
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SHEATH-TAILED BATS

10	Lesser White-lined Bat	<i>Saccopteryx leptura</i>	Family Emballonuridae Several seen roosting on a stick at Iwokrama, about 12 on a log in the Burro Burro River, Surama.
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BULLDOG BATS

11	Greater Fishing Bat	<i>Noctilio leporinus</i>	Family Noctilionidae Several seen skimming the surface while we were sipping sun-downers in a Victoria Lily pond at Karanambu.
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AMERICAN LEAF-NOSED BATS

12 Southern Long-nosed Bat *Leptonycteris curasoae*

Family Phyllostomidae

Five emerged from lakeside vegetation at the Common Potoo pond, Karanambu.

APES

13 Human (Naked Ape) *Homo sapiens*

Family Hominidae

One, possibly British, at Iwokrama.

NEW WORLD MONKEYS

14 South American Squirrel Monkey **Family Atelidae**
Saimiri sciureus
15 Weeping Capuchin *Cebus olivaceus*
16 Guianan Saki *Pithecia pithecia*
17 Black Spider Monkey *Ateles paniscus*
18 Guyanan Red Howler Monkey *Alouatta macconnelli*

Ten seen at the picnic breakfast at Iwokrama, a few seen on the way to Arrowpoint.
A maximum of eight seen on three days at Surama and Karanambu.
Four seen at Iwokrama.
Three seen near the canopy walkway.
Heard howling on four days; four adults plus an infant at Iwokrama.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

POISON-DART FROGS

1 Kaieteur Golden Frog *Colostethus beebei*

Family Dendrobatiidae

Several seen inside the leaves of giant bromeliads, *Brocchinia micrantha*.

CROCODILES

2 Spectacled Cayman *Caiman crocodylus*
3 Black Cayman *Melanosuchus niger*

Family Crocodylidae

Common, night boat rides.
Up to six seen on six days; one with a missing foot coming for food at Iwokrama.

FRESHWATER TURTLES

4 Giant South American River Turtle **Family Pelomedusidae**
Podocnemis expansa

One seen briefly at Iwokrama.

GECKOES

5 Amazon Gecko *Coleodactylus amazonicus*

Family Gekkonidae

Common in inland accommodation.

TYPICAL LIZARDS

6 Green Amevia *Amevia amevia*
7 Brown Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*

Family Lacertidae

A common lizard inland.
One seen beside a river at Karanambu.

IGUANAS

8 Land (Green) Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Family Iguanidae

One seen at Karanambu.

BOAS

9 Emerald Boa *Corallus caninus*

Family Boidae

Two immatures (pink) and an adult (green) seen on night boat-trips.

FLUTS

BRUSH-FOOTED BUTTERFLIES

1 Blue Morpho *Morpho deidamia*

Family Nymphalidae

Common in rainforests.

FISH

LUNG FISH

1 Arapaima *Arapaima gigas*
2 Arowana *Osteoglossum bicirrhosum*

Family Osteoglossidae

Several seen rolling on the surface at Karanambu.
A few seen at Karanambu.

OTHER TAXA

FIREFLIES

1 Firefly *Oculogryphus* sp.

Family Coleoptera

One seen early in the trip.

PLANTS

WATER LILIES

- 1 Giant Amazon Water Lily Victoria amazonica

Family Nymphaeaceae

Ponds full of these amazing lilies seen with both white and red flowers at Karanambu.

HEAVENLY BODIES

- 1 Orion: Rigel, Betelguise, the Orion Nebula
- 2 Jupiter with its moons Io, Europa, Callisto and Ganymede
- 3 Venus, the evening star
- 4 The Plough
- 5 Polaris, the Pole Star
- 6 Sirius, the brightest star in the sky, in Canui Major.

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