

# Birding Cuba 2017

## Trip Report

By Yeray Seminario

18 - 29 January 2017



The endemic Cuban Tody, relatively easy to see but a highlight of every trip to Cuba

Cuba has become a very popular destination for birders, and with good reason. It's the largest island in the Caribbean and holds a good number of endemics and regional endemics (shared with other islands of the West Indies) within diverse ecosystems that can be visited with ease. Our goal during our first tour in Cuba was to see all the viable Cuban endemics as well as most of the regional endemics, while learning about the biogeography, history and fascinating culture of the island.

On our first tour to Cuba we were fortunate to have a fantastic group of people join us. They were quick to help each other locate the birds, which helped create a very easy-going, friendly atmosphere. Moreover, our local guide in Cuba, Maikel Cañizares, is an accomplished ornithologist and the president of the Cuban Society of Zoology. We were certainly in good hands, and we accomplished our main target: seeing all the Cuban endemics and seeing most of the regional endemics. We believe that our final tally has been rarely equaled by other birding trips to the island: 181 species with great views for the great majority of them!

**Tour Leaders:** Marta Curti, Yeray Seminario

**Local Guide:** Maikel Cañizares

**Supporting Local Guides:** Nils Navarro, Maydiel Cañizares and Odey Martínez

## Highlights of the trip

There were many great birds and good moments during the trip, probably too many to count here, but these are some of them:

1. Learning about the different ecosystems of Cuba at the National Botanical Gardens, and driving around the gardens in a tractor!
2. Enjoying the unique landscape of Viñales while adding good numbers of endemics with Nils Navarro, renowned expert and author of the book "Endemic Birds of Cuba". Our afternoon in Rancho San Vicente with Nils was absolutely phenomenal.
3. Filling our eyes with hundreds of waterbirds in Salinas de Brito while the sun set down in the Zapata Swamp.
4. Hitting the targets during a pleasant walk in La Turba, within the Zapata Swamp, with splendid views of **Zapata Wren** and **Zapata Sparrow**.
5. Adding the smallest bird of the world, the **Bee Hummingbird**, to our list was certainly one of the highlights of the trip!
6. During our second day in Zapata, we got great views of **Fernandina's Flicker**, which had eluded us on a few occasions, and a perched **Stygian Owl** next to our hotel!
7. An excellent walk in Cienfuegos Botanical Garden, with relatively close views of a perched **Gundlach's Hawk** that we could enjoy in the scope!
8. Finding a new location for the **Giant Kingbird** in Lomas de Banao, which was one of the favorite places for the whole group.
9. The impressive numbers of **American Avocets** and **Black-necked Stilts**, beyond hundreds, in Tunas de Zaza.
10. Our full day in Cayo Coco was pretty incredible, with great views of all our targets and adding the unexpected **Bahama Swallow** to our list, and accomplishing the target of seeing all Cuban endemics on this trip.



Yeray Seminario / Whitehawk

**Bee Hummingbird, the smallest bird in the world and a big reason to visit Cuba!**

# Itinerary

## Day 1 - 18 January

Our tour began in Havana, the capital of Cuba. Since all the participants had arrived the day before, we met at the Casa Particular we were staying in for a short briefing before driving to the National Botanical Gardens in the early afternoon. There, we were given a short explanation of the different ecosystems of Cuba, and were able to see and learn about some of the most relevant species of plants of the country. The garden grounds are, in fact, an excellent place for a birding walk, and we got to add the first birds to our list, including our first Cuban endemic, **Cuban Blackbird**, and some regional endemics, like **Great Lizard Cuckoo**, **Cuban Emerald**, **Antillean Palm-Swift**, **West Indian Woodpecker**, **La Sagra's Flycatcher** and the endemic subspecies of the **Eastern Meadowlark** (ssp. *hippocrepis*), a good candidate for a future split into a full species. We also got the chance to see our first **Cuban Kestrels** (*Falco sparverius sparverioides*). This was a nice way to start our trip. In the evening we drove to Old Havana to attend the ceremony of "Cañonazo", a historical recreation that takes place everyday at 9PM where an old cannon announces the closing of the gates of the old city in colonial times.



There is some variation amongst American Kestrels in Cuba, with birds like this with almost entirely rufous underparts while others are entirely white or with only faint streaking

## Day 2 - 19 January

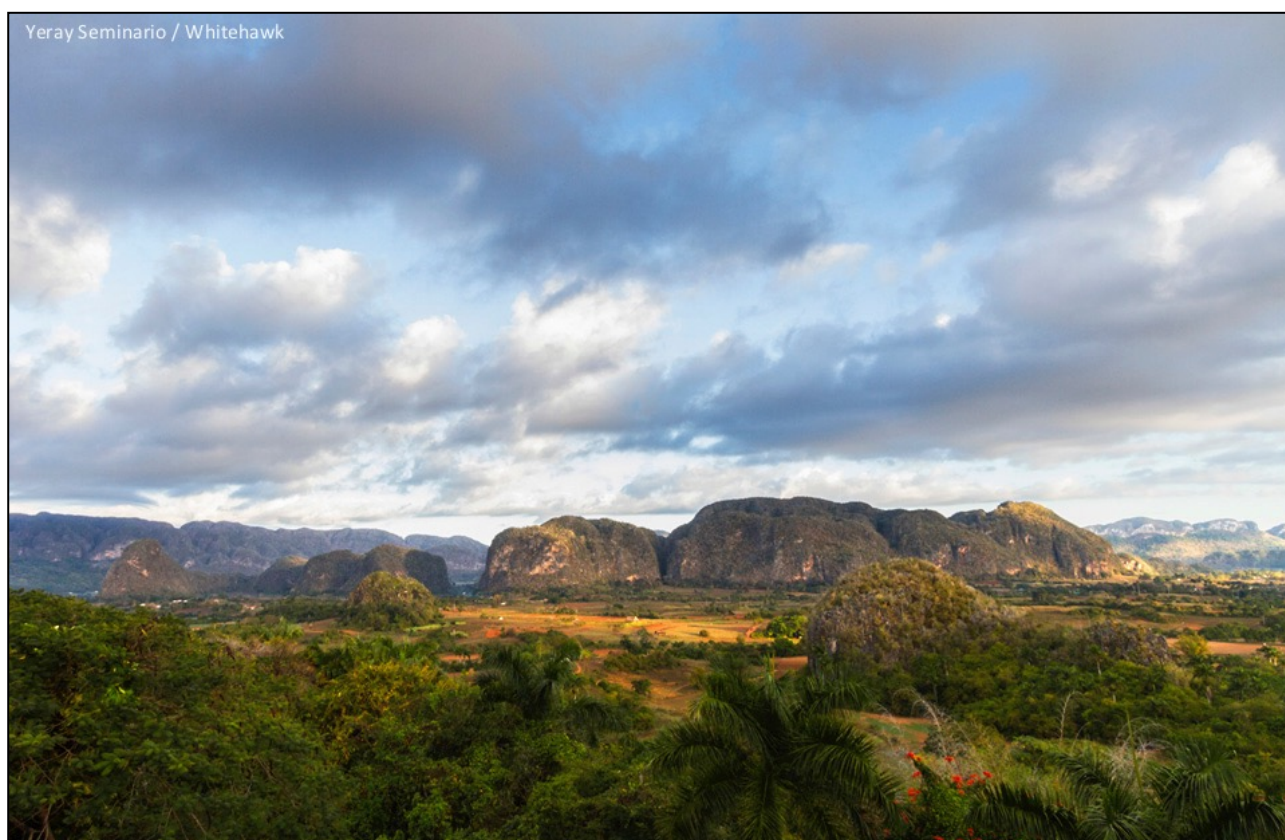
Our second day in the country began with a good breakfast on a terrace overlooking Havana. From here we began our drive to Viñales, making a few stops on our way. We stopped at the Niña Bonita Reservoir, where we spent some time looking for waterbirds, including good numbers of **Lesser Scaup**, **Ring-necked Duck** and **Ruddy Duck**. Another strategic stop along the way allowed us to see up to seven **Snail Kites** just next to the road.



After settling in our casa particular and meeting Nils Navarro, author of the book “Endemic Birds of Cuba”, we went for lunch at the Paladar (localism for restaurant) El Paraiso, where fantastic food seemed to be served endlessly on the table. Here we added **Tennessee Warbler**, which is not such a common migrant in Cuba.



Above, the Cuban Trogon is the national bird of Cuba and one of the most spectacular trogons in the world.  
Below, the unique landscape of karst Mogotes in Viñales







**Male Cuban Grassquit near Sendero Las Maravillas, Viñales**



**Olive-capped Warbler, a regional endemic that can only be seen in Cuba and Bahamas**

After a short break we headed to Rancho San Vicente, where we had a splendid birding session, with good numbers of birds, including some of the most sought after endemics on a trip to Cuba: **Cuban Trogon, Cuban Tody, Cuban Green Woodpecker**, excellent views of the **Cuban Solitaire**

and **Cuban Oriole**. April discovered a **Cuban Pygmy Owl** on top of a palm next to us, and we were able to get detailed views through the scope. At the end of the day, a **Gundlach's Hawk** flew along the horizon for a considerable time. However, there were some in the group that didn't get to see it in detail, so we would have to look for this challenging bird again.



We had excellent views of all Cuban endemics, and Cuban Vireo was no exception, like this one in El Rosario

Very satisfied we went to visit a farm nearby that Nils is familiar with. Here we were looking for **Gundlach's Hawk** and **Bare-legged Owl**, in the middle of a countryside filled with limestone mountains, which dominate the landscape in Viñales, the locally names "Mogotes", and tobacco fields. It was a bit early for the owl as the sun was just setting, but we tried anyway. We got to hear several birds, at least three of them, but couldn't get to see them, so we went back to town for dinner and a well-deserved rest.

### Day 3 - 20 January

This morning we headed to Sendero Las Maravillas, one of the most popular birding locations around Viñales. It was indeed a very productive morning, with many new birds for the group, like **White-crowned Pigeon**, **Cuban Vireo**, a loud pair of **Yellow-headed Warbler**, **Cuban Bullfinch**, **Western Spindalis**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** and **Indigo Bunting**, to name a few. After a couple of hours we moved to a nearby area in search of the **Cuban Grassquit**. We looked for them among a large flock of **Yellow-faced Grassquit**, but they were nowhere to be seen. Suddenly, Nils shouted from the distance and we approached swiftly. After sometime we saw one beautiful male that was singing on a perch, and then a female afterwards.

We had another fantastic lunch with traditional Cuban food and took a short break before heading to Costanera, a good patch of Caribbean Pine where we would keep our eyes out for **Olive-capped Warbler**, which we could hear and had a glimpse of during the morning, but couldn't see well. Here, we definitely had great views of this near endemic, together with **Red-legged Honeycreeper** and **Western Spindalis**. We continued on towards the coast, to a relatively



unexplored area called El Rosario, where we had a pleasant walk with Nils, and added some species to our list, such as **Limpkin** and **Merlin**. We also had great views of **Cuban Vireo**. Our efforts to see **Northern Bobwhite** proved unfruitful, and this came to be the biggest nemesis for Maikel, who worked hard to find us this bird, to no avail.

#### Day 4 - 21 January

Today we drove to the Zapata Swamp, one of the most popular birding destinations in the world, and certainly the most important in Cuba, as the majority of the Cuban endemics can be seen in this relatively small area. We made a strategic stop on our way to look for **Fernandina's Flicker**, but we didn't succeed. We added, however, some nice birds, like **Least Grebe**, **Wilson's Snipe** and **Shiny Cowbird**, as well as the largest number of **Cuban Grassquit** for the trip, with over fifteen individuals.

After arriving to Playa Larga, the town where we stayed to explore Zapata, and a good lunch (there were no such thing as bad meals on this trip), we headed to Salinas de Brito, a spectacular tidal flat area where thousands of waterbirds concentrate. We drove the very long road in the middle of the Salinas, stopping conveniently whenever we saw good numbers of birds, including: **American Flamingo**, **Wood Stork**, **Neotropic Cormorant**, **American White Pelican** (not so long ago they were considered rare in Cuba), **Tricolored Heron**, **Reddish Egret**, **Roseate Spoonbill**, **White Ibis**... We were also surprised to see a family group of **West Indian Whistling Ducks**, an uncommon resident in the Zapata Swamp, as well as a couple of **Black Skimmers**. Shorebirds and terns were also abundant, and included flocks of **Red Knot**, **Least Sandpiper**, **Short-billed Dowitcher**, **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Willet**, **Gull-billed Tern**, **Caspian Tern** (more than 200) and **Royal Tern**. We got the opportunity to add a new endemic to our list: **Cuban Black Hawk**, seen well in the scope. As the sun was setting, we could see a **Golden Yellow Warbler** and **Clapper Rail**, and enjoyed the phenomenal spectacle of red and orange colored skies.

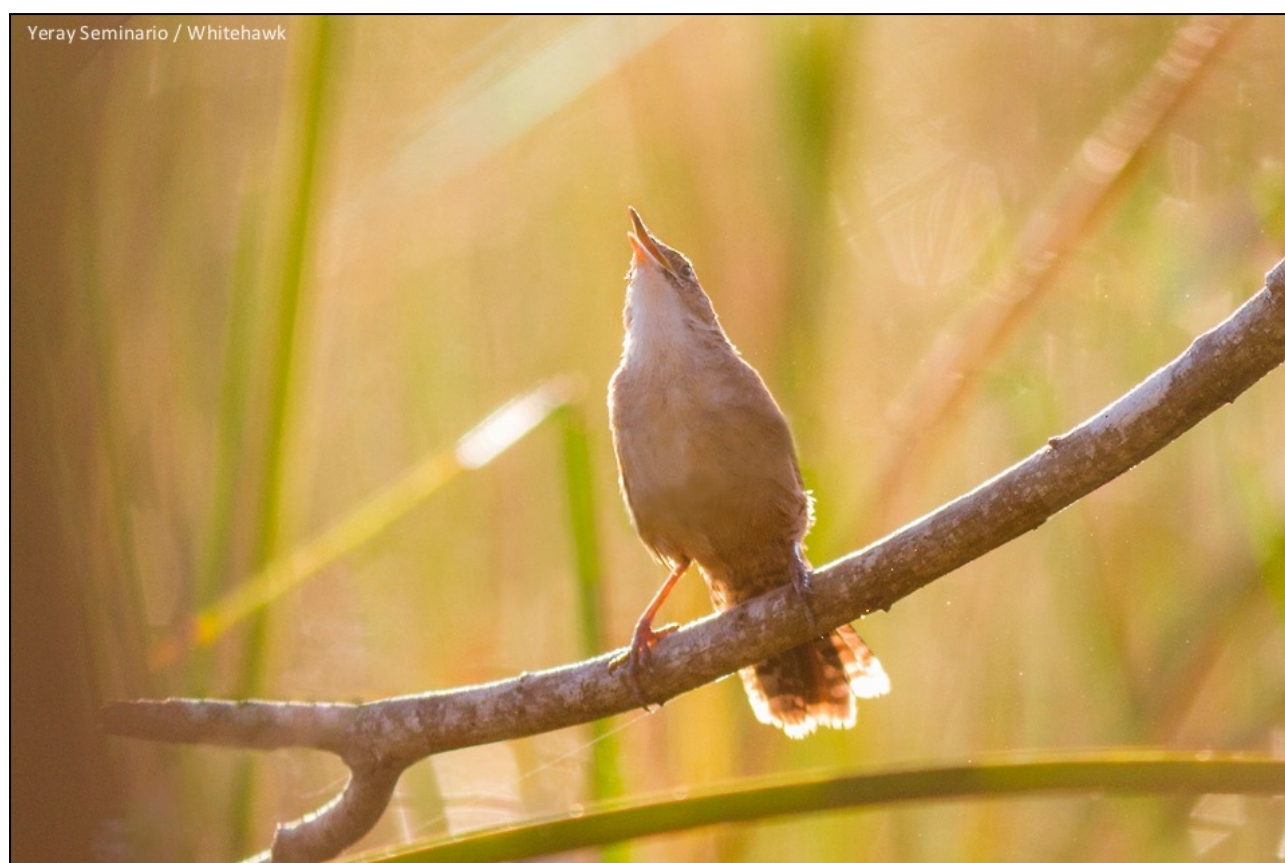


Yeray Seminario / Whitehawk

The most colorful species within the Flamingo family is certainly the American Flamingo

## Day 5 - 22 January

Zapata is the only place where one of the Cuban endemics can be found: the **Zapata Wren**, so we prepared ourselves for an early morning walk in La Turba, one of the popular locations for the wren. We started early and drove to this beautiful trail, stopped in one of the first spots where the wren has been seen, and played a tape with the wren's song. Almost immediately we heard a response, on the opposite side of the trail from where we were all positioned. To be honest, it didn't take even a minute to locate a **Zapata Wren** and for the entire group to have great full views of this extremely localized endemic. We were exultant! We didn't become complacent however, and kept going for our next target of the morning: **Zapata Sparrow**. A bit easier to find than the **Zapata Wren**, but also very localized, it can only be found in three different areas in Cuba: Zapata, Cayo Coco and Guantanamo, each locality holding its own subspecies. While we approached one of the sparrow's favorite spots, we added quite a few species, including some warblers: **Black and White Warbler**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **American Redstart**, **Northern Parula** and **Prairie Warbler**, to name a few. It's worth mentioning that Cuba is a fantastic destination to watch mixed flocks of North American warblers in their wintering grounds or during migration. When we arrived to the Sparrow's spot, there it was, calling and calmly feeding near and on the ground. It was so close, that we had trouble focusing our lenses on it!



**We were very fortunate to find the Zapata Wren very early in the morning and to see it well!**

The morning still held some little surprises for us. After another unsuccessful try for **Fernandina's Flicker** near the Crocodile Breeding Center, we went to visit Bernabé, a local farmer that's become well known for having **Bee Hummingbird** in his backyard. And there they were, at least five birds could be seen feeding in the flowers around us. With one of our most important targets in our pockets, we went for lunch to a local place, where our host, Alexis, an natural-born entertainer, addressed the group with the words "My Family!", which became a running phrase for the rest of our trip in Cuba.





**Zapata Sparrow from nominal subspecies *inexpectata* at La Turba**



**El Soplillar Savannah, one of the best places to look for Fernandina's Flicker and other endemics in Zapata**



In the afternoon we went to Soplillar Savannah, for our third attempt for Fernandina's Flicker. It was a bit windy, and everything seemed quiet, so it took some time until the unique landscape of El Soplillar seemed to come back to life, and then everything seemed to happen at once: we saw a **Bare-legged Owl** in a nest, a **Cuban Lesser Racer** looking for its next meal, later a pair of **Cuban Crows** came onto the scene, soon joined by some **Cuban Parakeets**, the only observation for this species during our trip, as they seem to have become more and more scarce. At around the same time we heard the distinctive call of **Fernandina's Flicker**, and it didn't take long until Maydiel found one nearby. We set up the scope and finally got to see this Cuban endemic, which was joined by another individual soon enough. It wasn't the last species we added to the list that day, as shortly after dinner we went to look for the **Stygian Owl** near our hotel. It took less than ten seconds, literally, to get down the bus and find one owl sitting in a tree close to us. We used our flashlights for a short time to see it better. This was the best way to end our day!

## Day 6 - 23 January

The day started with a pair of **Cuban Black Hawks** at sunrise, flying over our accommodation. Then, we had a forty-minute drive to Santo Tomás, where took a flat boat and explored good localities for **Zapata Wren**, **Zapata Sparrow** and **Red-Shouldered Blackbird**. While on our way, in the middle of the road, two really large birds sat on the pavement. All at once, we shouted "Cranes!". These were, in fact, two **Sandhill Cranes** of the endemic subspecies *nesiotes*, which are rarely seen on birding tours to Cuba. Very excited, we got out the bus and set the scopes to enjoy very close views of this great find. The rest of the morning was not as successful, as the wind began to blow harer and everything became very silent. The boat ride was very pleasant, though, and we thoroughly enjoyed it, having some more good views of the **Zapata Sparrow** and several species of passerines, including **Yellow-throated Vireo**, **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, **Cuban Bullfinch** and **Northern Waterthrush**, to name a few. After San Tomás we went to another location before lunch: Cueva de Los Peces, a popular location for **Blue-headed Quail-Dove**, as they seem to have habituated to feed on some of the leftovers from the restaurant. Soon enough, we could see at least two of these beautiful endemic birds near the entrance of the restaurant. The show, however, was partially stolen by a Curly-tailed Lizard that was eating a small crab just one meter from where we were standing, as you can see in the picture below.







Blue-headed Quail-Dove at Cueva de Los Peces, Zapata

We spent the afternoon walking in Los Sabalos, a swamp forest where all the quail-doves can be found. In the end we could only see two of those, **Ruddy Quail-Dove** and **Grey-fronted Quail-Dove**, which was another Cuban endemic we badly needed before leaving Zapata the next morning.

### Day 7 - 24 January

We left Playa Larga in the morning and headed East towards Trinidad. On our way we stopped near the town of Bermejas, to look for the **Red-shouldered Blackbird**, as it was our last chance for this bird before leaving the Zapata area. This is a very open area and we looked for them for some time until Maydiel found one further up the road. It took some additional time until we could see the red on the shoulder of this male, but our patience paid off and we got great views. A bit later more blackbirds could be seen in the scope, their red feathers flagging distinctly. Bill called our attention to a **Cuban/Purple Martin** that was flying overhead. As they are virtually indistinguishable we couldn't say which one it was with any certainty. After scanning the surroundings we continued on our way to Trinidad, with a convenient stop for lunch and a birding walk in the Botanical Gardens of Cienfuegos, which ended up being a great birding session. We saw seven different species of warblers, had very good views of **Cuban Tody**, **Cuban Green Woodpecker** and **Western Spindalis**, and added **Baltimore Oriole**, and **Scaly-breasted Munia** to the list.

However, the most exciting bird during the walk was undoubtedly a **Gundlach's Hawk**, which flew overhead and perched nearby, giving us great scope views! After settling into our accommodation in the beautiful town of Trinidad, with its colonial architecture and cobbled streets, we went to the lagoons located on the way to Playa Ancon. Here we got to see some shorebirds, including some new ones for the trip, like **Wilson's Plover** and **Solitary Sandpiper**. We ended our birding session at sunset and went back to our Casa Particular and had an excellent dinner enlivened by a virtuoso guitar player!





**Gundlach's Hawk can be very elusive during Cuban Trips, however we had great scope views!**



**Male Western Spindalis at Cienfuegos Botanical Garden**



## Day 8 - 25 January

Our main targets for the day included the regional endemic and very localized **Palm Crow** and near endemic **Giant Kingbird**, as it's most likely extinct in Bahamas. Most of the people go to Najasa to see these birds, but we had an ace inside our sleeve with a relatively little known location on our way to Banao, our next destination. We didn't have to wait long when in the first potential spot we heard the unmistakable call of the **Palm Crow**. Several could be seen on the ground, which is a distinctive behavior of the species, while others were calling nearby. Apart from the voice and behavior, this species is very similar in appearance to the **Cuban Crow**, so to be sure one needs to pay attention to both. While enjoying the crows, a **Giant Kingbird** came onto scene, calling and flying between the wires and the top of the trees around us. A magnificent Tyrant Flycatcher, and one of the most sought after species on the island!

A short drive to Lomas de Banao protected reserve allowed us some leisure time before lunch. In the afternoon we took a walk next to the river, and got good views of **Ruddy Quail-Dove**, as well as many endemic and regional endemics that we had already seen (by now there weren't many species we had left to see!). However, the major highlight of the day, and indeed for the trip, was to see a **Giant Kingbird**, which was a first record for the reserve. We were all very happy about this finding, and Maikel, who has worked extensively in Banao, was particularly excited. A night walk around the reserve produced a bird that had eluded us until then: The Cuban subspecies of the **Greater Antillean Nightjar** (considered by some authorities as a full species - Cuban Nightjar). We could also hear **Cuban Pygmy-Owl** and **Bare-legged Owl**.

## Day 9 - 26 January

In the morning we visited the wetland of Tunas de Zaza, which took less than an hour from Banao. This ended up being another highlight because of the impressive numbers of waterbirds, including



**Giant Kingbird is a very localized species. We saw two birds, including one in a new location!**

hundreds of **American Avocets**, **Black-necked Stilts** and **American Flamingos**. We also enjoyed the presence of a very dark **Merlin** and added **Forster's Tern** to our list.

After having lunch in very pleasant company at the station, we drove to Cayo Coco, where we would stay at the Melia Cayo Coco Hotel for the last part of the trip.

### Day 10 - 27 January

This was our full day in Cayo Coco, which ended up being a phenomenal birding day thanks to the assistance of Odey. In the early morning in Faro Paredón Grande, we searched for our target birds- the two remaining Cuban endemics: **Oriente Warbler** and **Cuban Gnatcatcher**, as well as regional endemics **Thick-billed Vireo** and **Bahama Mockingbird**. The morning couldn't have started better with superb views of **Oriente Warbler** as soon as we got out of the bus. A short walk to the lighthouse, while being followed by persistent midges, provided a very close look at **Bahama Mockingbird**, as well as a perched **Cuban Black Hawk**, a **Yellow Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum hypochrysea*), a rare visitor to Cuba, and a fantastic **Mangrove Cuckoo**, that stayed put from a very close distance while checking us out. We turned around on the road to look for the remaining targets, and it didn't take long until we put our eyes on a **Thick-billed Vireo**, and shortly after a **Cuban Gnatcatcher**, the last remaining Cuban endemic on our list!

With a sense of accomplishment, we kept going to look for more waterbirds and shorebirds to keep increasing our list and enjoying the beautiful surroundings of Cayo Coco. Before lunch we added **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Lesser Black-backed Gull** and **Piping Plover**, which was a fantastic addition to our trip with two individuals seen in the scope and close enough to take good pictures.



The Regional Endemic Thick-billed Vireo was one of the best birds of the morning





**One of the last Cuban endemics on our list, Oriente Warbler**



**This Mangrove Cuckoo came out of nowhere, perched in front of the whole group and checked us out**





**The Bahama Mockingbird, one of the must-see species in Cayo Coco**



**We were very happy to find up to two Piping Plovers at the beach near our hotel**



Despite our success, we didn't rest on our laurels and had another afternoon filled with interesting sites and birds. We went to Cueva del Jabalí in search of our last Quail-Dove, the **Key West Quail-Dove**. We got to see up to five individuals, along with **Zenaida Dove**, good numbers of warblers and a **Cuban Racer** *Cubophis cantherigenus*, that started drinking from a waterhole in front of us, under the cautious eyes of nearby birds. The afternoon seemed complete, but we still had a surprise waiting for us. When stopping to scan a lagoon in Cayo Guillermo, we spotted several swallows flying overhead, some of them with obvious forked tails and full white underparts. Being spotted only a few days before, these had to be **Bahama Swallows**! A small flock of around fifteen of these birds were mixed with **Cave Swallows**. We got some pictures for documentation. This is an Endangered endemic species to Bahamas and its occurrence in Cuba is very rare, so we were very fortunate to see them. After another good session of shorebirds that included **Stilt Sandpiper** and **Red Knot**, we headed back to the hotel as the sun was setting.



A composition of three pictures to show forked tail and full white underparts, which differentiates Bahama from Tree Swallow

### Day 11 - 28 January

With all our targets birds under our belts, we had a relaxed morning at the hotel with an excellent breakfast and prepared to drive back to Havana. We had time, however, to add **Herring Gull** on the causeway, and got great views of **Red-breasted Merganser**.

In Havana we had a farewell dinner with traditional Cuban music performed by an excellent trio, and we enjoyed talking about our favorite moments of the trip, the birds, the people... It was a very nice way to finish our trip.

### Day 12 - 29 January

Our last morning was dedicated to driving to the International Airport in Havana as all members of the group had an early flight back home.

**Thanks!**

We want to thank all the participants for their enthusiasm and great sense of team work to find some of the most difficult birds, as well as for putting up with some long drives. Thanks for being a part of this tour! Also, we owe a debt of gratitude to our local guides, particularly Maikel Cañizares, who did an excellent job. Without him this trip wouldn't have been half as good! Our gratitude goes as well to Nils Navarro, Maydiel Cañizares and Odey Martínez for providing our group with the best possible experience.



# Wildlife Observation List

## Birds

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, D. Roberson, T. A. Fredericks, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2016.

1	<b>West Indian Whistling-Duck</b>	<i>Dendrocygna arborea</i>	Regional Endemic, Vulnerable
2	<b>Wood Duck</b>	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	
3	<b>American Wigeon</b>	<i>Anas americana</i>	
4	<b>Blue-winged Teal</b>	<i>Anas discors</i>	
5	<b>Northern Shoveler</b>	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	
6	<b>Ring-necked Duck</b>	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	
7	<b>Lesser Scaup</b>	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	
8	<b>Hooded Merganser</b>	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Rare in Cuba - 5 seen in flight
9	<b>Red-breasted Merganser</b>	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	
10	<b>Ruddy Duck</b>	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	
11	<b>Helmeted Guineafowl (Feral)</b>	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Introduced
12	<b>Least Grebe</b>	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>	
13	<b>Pied-billed Grebe</b>	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	
14	<b>American Flamingo</b>	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	
15	<b>Wood Stork</b>	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	
16	<b>Magnificent Frigatebird</b>	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	
17	<b>Neotropic Cormorant</b>	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	
18	<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	
19	<b>Anhinga</b>	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	
20	<b>American White Pelican</b>	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	
21	<b>Brown Pelican</b>	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	
22	<b>Great Blue Heron</b>	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Both blue and white morph seen
23	<b>Great Egret</b>	<i>Ardea alba</i>	
24	<b>Snowy Egret</b>	<i>Egretta thula</i>	
25	<b>Little Blue Heron</b>	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	
26	<b>Tricolored Heron</b>	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	
27	<b>Reddish Egret</b>	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Near Threatened. We saw both regular and white morph

28	<b>Cattle Egret</b>	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	
29	<b>Green Heron</b>	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	
30	<b>Black-crowned Night-Heron</b>	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	
31	<b>Yellow-crowned Night-Heron</b>	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	
32	<b>White Ibis</b>	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	
33	<b>Glossy Ibis</b>	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	
34	<b>Roseate Spoonbill</b>	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	
35	<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	
36	<b>Osprey</b>	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Migratory subspecies <i>carolinensis</i> seen
37	<b>Snail Kite</b>	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	
38	<b>Northern Harrier</b>	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	
39	<b>Gundlach's Hawk</b>	<i>Accipiter gundlachi</i>	Endemic, Endangered
40	<b>Cuban Black Hawk</b>	<i>Buteogallus gundlachii</i>	Endangered, Near Threatened
41	<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	
42	<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	
43	<b>Clapper Rail</b>	<i>Rallus crepitans</i>	
44	<b>Purple Gallinule</b>	<i>Porphyrio martinicus</i>	
45	<b>Common Gallinule</b>	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	
46	<b>American Coot</b>	<i>Fulica americana</i>	
47	<b>Limpkin</b>	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>	
48	<b>Sandhill Crane</b>	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	Cuban subspecies <i>nesiotes</i>
49	<b>Black-necked Stilt</b>	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	
50	<b>American Avocet</b>	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	
51	<b>Black-bellied Plover</b>	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	
52	<b>Wilson's Plover</b>	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	
53	<b>Semipalmated Plover</b>	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	
54	<b>Piping Plover</b>	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	
55	<b>Killdeer</b>	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	
56	<b>Northern Jacana</b>	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>	
57	<b>Ruddy Turnstone</b>	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	
58	<b>Red Knot</b>	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	
59	<b>Stilt Sandpiper</b>	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	
60	<b>Sanderling</b>	<i>Calidris alba</i>	



61	<b>Least Sandpiper</b>	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	
62	<b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b>	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	
63	<b>Wilson's Snipe</b>	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	
64	<b>Spotted Sandpiper</b>	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	
65	<b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	
66	<b>Greater Yellowlegs</b>	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	
67	<b>Willet</b>	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	
68	<b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b>	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	
69	<b>Laughing Gull</b>	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	
70	<b>Ring-billed Gull</b>	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	
71	<b>Herring Gull</b>	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	
72	<b>Lesser Black-backed Gull</b>	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	
73	<b>Gull-billed Tern</b>	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	
74	<b>Caspian Tern</b>	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	
75	<b>Forster's Tern</b>	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	
76	<b>Royal Tern</b>	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	
77	<b>Sandwich Tern</b>	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	
78	<b>Black Skimmer</b>	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	
79	<b>Rock Pigeon (Feral)</b>	<i>Columba livia</i>	Introduced
80	<b>Scaly-naped Pigeon</b>	<i>Patagioenas squamosa</i>	
81	<b>White-crowned Pigeon</b>	<i>Patagioenas leucocephala</i>	Near Threatened
82	<b>Eurasian Collared-Dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Introduced
83	<b>Common Ground-Dove</b>	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	
84	<b>Blue-headed Quail-Dove</b>	<i>Starnoenas cyanocephala</i>	Endemice, Endangered
85	<b>Ruddy Quail-Dove</b>	<i>Geotrygon montana</i>	
86	<b>Gray-fronted Quail-Dove</b>	<i>Geotrygon caniceps</i>	Endemic, Vulnerable
87	<b>Key West Quail-Dove</b>	<i>Geotrygon chrysia</i>	Regional Endemic
88	<b>White-winged Dove</b>	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	
89	<b>Zenaida Dove</b>	<i>Zenaida aurita</i>	
90	<b>Mourning Dove</b>	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	
91	<b>Smooth-billed Ani</b>	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	
92	<b>Mangrove Cuckoo</b>	<i>Coccyzus minor</i>	
93	<b>Great Lizard-Cuckoo</b>	<i>Coccyzus merlini</i>	Cuban nominal subspecies <i>merlini</i>

94	<b>Barn Owl</b>	<i>Tyto alba</i>	
95	<b>Bare-legged Owl</b>	<i>Margarobyas lawrencii</i>	Endemic
96	<b>Cuban Pygmy-Owl</b>	<i>Glaucidium siju</i>	Endemic
97	<b>Stygian Owl</b>	<i>Asio stygius</i>	Endemic subspecies <i>Siguapa</i>
98	<b>Greater Antillean Nightjar</b>	<i>Antrostomus cubanensis</i>	Regional Endemic. Cuban Nighthawk, a full species by some authorities
99	<b>Antillean Palm-Swift</b>	<i>Tachornis phoenicobia</i>	Regional Endemic
100	<b>Bee Hummingbird</b>	<i>Mellisuga helenae</i>	Endemic, Near Threatened
101	<b>Cuban Emerald</b>	<i>Chlorostilbon ricordii</i>	Regional Endemic
102	<b>Cuban Trogon</b>	<i>Priotelus temnurus</i>	Endemic
103	<b>Cuban Tody</b>	<i>Todus multicolor</i>	Endemic
104	<b>Belted Kingfisher</b>	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	
105	<b>West Indian Woodpecker</b>	<i>Melanerpes supercilialis</i>	Regional Endemic
106	<b>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</b>	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	
107	<b>Cuban Green Woodpecker</b>	<i>Xiphidiopicus percussus</i>	Endemic
108	<b>Northern Flicker</b>	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	
109	<b>Fernandina's Flicker</b>	<i>Colaptes fernandinae</i>	Endemic, Vulnerable
110	<b>Crested Caracara</b>	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	
111	<b>American Kestrel</b>	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	
112	<b>Merlin</b>	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	
113	<b>Cuban Parrot</b>	<i>Amazona leucocephala</i>	Regional Endemic, Endemic subspecies <i>leucocephala</i>
114	<b>Cuban Parakeet</b>	<i>Psittacara euops</i>	Endemic, Vulnerable
115	<b>Cuban Pewee</b>	<i>Contopus caribaeus</i>	Regional Endemic
116	<b>La Sagra's Flycatcher</b>	<i>Myiarchus sagrae</i>	Regional Endemic
117	<b>Loggerhead Kingbird</b>	<i>Tyrannus caudifasciatus</i>	
118	<b>Giant Kingbird</b>	<i>Tyrannus cubensis</i>	Regional Endemic, but probably extinct outside Cuba
119	<b>White-eyed Vireo</b>	<i>Vireo griseus</i>	
120	<b>Thick-billed Vireo</b>	<i>Vireo crassirostris</i>	Regional Endemic
121	<b>Cuban Vireo</b>	<i>Vireo gundlachii</i>	Endemic
122	<b>Yellow-throated Vireo</b>	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	
123	<b>Palm Crow</b>	<i>Corvus palmarum</i>	Regional Endemic, Near Threatened
124	<b>Cuban Crow</b>	<i>Corvus nasicus</i>	Regional Endemic
125	<b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	



126	<b>Purple/Cuban Martin</b>	<i>Progne subis/cryptoleuca</i>	
127	<b>Tree Swallow</b>	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	
128	<b>Bahama Swallow</b>	<i>Tachycineta cyaneoviridis</i>	Endemic to Bahamas, rare in Cuba
129	<b>Cave Swallow</b>	<i>Petrochelidon fulva</i>	
130	<b>Zapata Wren</b>	<i>Ferminia cerverai</i>	Endemic, Endangered
131	<b>Blue-gray Gnatcatcher</b>	<i>Polioptila caerulea</i>	
132	<b>Cuban Gnatcatcher</b>	<i>Polioptila lembeyi</i>	Endemic
133	<b>Cuban Solitaire</b>	<i>Myadestes elisabeth</i>	Endemic, Near Threatened
134	<b>Red-legged Thrush</b>	<i>Turdus plumbeus</i>	Regional Endemic. Endemic subspecies <i>rubrics</i> seen
135	<b>Gray Catbird</b>	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	
136	<b>Bahama Mockingbird</b>	<i>Mimus gundlachii</i>	Regional Endemic
137	<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	
138	<b>Ovenbird</b>	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	
139	<b>Worm-eating Warbler</b>	<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>	
140	<b>Louisiana Waterthrush</b>	<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>	
141	<b>Northern Waterthrush</b>	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	
142	<b>Blue-winged Warbler</b>	<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	
143	<b>Black-and-white Warbler</b>	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	
144	<b>Swainson's Warbler</b>	<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	
145	<b>Tennessee Warbler</b>	<i>Oreothlypis peregrina</i>	
146	<b>Common Yellowthroat</b>	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	
147	<b>Hooded Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	
148	<b>American Redstart</b>	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	
149	<b>Cape May Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	
150	<b>Northern Parula</b>	<i>Setophaga americana</i>	
151	<b>Magnolia Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	
152	<b>Yellow Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	
153	<b>Black-throated Blue Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga caerulea</i>	
154	<b>Palm Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga palmarum</i>	
155	<b>Olive-capped Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga pityophila</i>	Regional Endemic
156	<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	
157	<b>Yellow-throated Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga dominica</i>	
158	<b>Prairie Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	

159	<b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b>	<i>Setophaga virens</i>	
160	<b>Yellow-headed Warbler</b>	<i>Teretistris fernandinae</i>	Endemic
161	<b>Oriente Warbler</b>	<i>Teretistris fornsi</i>	Endemic
162	<b>Red-legged Honeycreeper</b>	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	
163	<b>Cuban Grassquit</b>	<i>Tiaris canorus</i>	Endemic
164	<b>Yellow-faced Grassquit</b>	<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>	
165	<b>Cuban Bullfinch</b>	<i>Melopyrrha nigra</i>	Regional Endemic. Endemic nominal subspecies <i>nigra</i>
166	<b>Western Spindalis</b>	<i>Spindalis zena</i>	Endemic subspecies <i>pretrei</i>
167	<b>Zapata Sparrow</b>	<i>Torreornis inexpectata</i>	Endemic, Endangered. Two subspecies seen: <i>inexpectata</i> in Zapata and <i>varonai</i> in Cayo Coco
168	<b>Summer Tanager</b>	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	
169	<b>Rose-breasted Grosbeak</b>	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	
170	<b>Indigo Bunting</b>	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	
171	<b>Red-shouldered Blackbird</b>	<i>Agelaius assimilis</i>	Endemic
172	<b>Tawny-shouldered Blackbird</b>	<i>Agelaius humeralis</i>	Regional Endemic
173	<b>Eastern Meadowlark</b>	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Endemic subspecies <i>hippocrepis</i> . Candidate for a split and full species
174	<b>Cuban Blackbird</b>	<i>Dives atrovioleaceus</i>	Endemic
175	<b>Greater Antillean Grackle</b>	<i>Quiscalus niger</i>	Regional Endemic
176	<b>Shiny Cowbird</b>	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	
177	<b>Cuban Oriole</b>	<i>Icterus melanopsis</i>	Endemic
178	<b>Orchard Oriole</b>	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	
179	<b>Baltimore Oriole</b>	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	
180	<b>House Sparrow</b>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	
181	<b>Scaly-breasted Munia</b>	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Introduced

## Reptiles

1	<b>Cuban Slider</b>	<i>Trachemys decussata</i>
2	<b>Cuban Lesser Racer</b>	<i>Caraiba andreae</i>
3	<b>Cuban Racer</b>	<i>Cubophis cantherigenus</i>
4	<b>Knight Anole</b>	<i>Anolis equestris</i>
5	<b>Northern Curly-tailed Lizard</b>	<i>Leiocephalus caricatos</i>