



Trinidad and Tobago Caligo Ventures Tour December 4-13, 2014

Annotated Species List

This ten-day Classic Two Island tour was organized by Caligo Ventures and led by expert local guides from the Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC), on Trinidad and by Gladwyn James and Cuffie River's lead guide, Desmond, on Tobago. Six nights at AWNC allowed for field trips around the island, though a road closure prevented the group from getting in to traditional sites of the Nariva Swamp, an alternate site proved very productive. Tour escort Woody Wheeler provides a lively narrative which can be found on caligo.com. 172 species were recorded. Sites visited included: Asa Wright Nature Centre, Blanchisseuse Road of the Northern Range, Brasso Seco, Morne la Croix, the Aripo Agricultural Station, Arena Forest, Caroni National Park, Yerette Hummingbird Garden, a remote section of Nariva Swamp not typically visited, and on Tobago, several pond areas, Cuffie River Nature Retreat, Gilpin Trace on the Main Ridge Preserve, and Little Tobago Island.

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* (heard only)

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* – hundreds seen in Nariva Swamp

Rufous-vented Chachalaca *Ortalis ruficauda* – abundant at Cuffie River Retreat, Tobago

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus* – hundreds on cliffs of Little Tobago Island

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* – abundant all around Little Tobago Island

Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* – a few nesting on cliffs of Little Tobago Island

Brown Pelican *Pelicanus occidentalis* – Common in coastal Tobago

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* – Seen in large pond on first day in Tobago

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* – First seen over Trinidad's Northern Range; many over Tobago - especially on Little Tobago Island harassing Red-billed Tropic Birds

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* – One seen in ponds on Trinidad

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* – A few individuals seen on both islands in wetland areas

Great Egret *Ardea alba* – Several seen in wetland areas on Trinidad

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* – Common in Nariva Swamp and Caroni National park

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* – On both islands; young white-phase bird seen on Tobago

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* – Hundreds heading to roost with Scarlet Ibis at Caroni National Park

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* – Common roadside bird and denizen of agricultural areas

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* - Two at Nariva Swamp

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* – half a dozen at pond near airport, Tobago

Yellow-crowned Night Heron *Nyctanassa violacea* – Caroni National Park

Boat-billed Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* – Two in dense Mangroves, Caroni National Park

Scarlet Ibis *Eudocimus ruber* – Thousands in spectacular roosting display at Caroni N.P.

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* – Many seen most days on Trinidad

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* – Common on Trinidad

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* – Several at Caroni National Park

Long-winged Harrier *Circus buffoni* – At Agricultural Station and Nariva Swamp

Gray-lined (Gray) Hawk *Buteo nitida* – Roadside bird on way up Northern Range, Trinidad

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* – Seen most days on Trinidad – even on verandah at AWNC

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* – 3 seen on Tobago, including 2 soaring together

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis* – Several on Trinidad in open marsh areas

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus* – Trinidad roadside bird and also seen perched in tree from verandah at AWNC

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* – Over Northern Range, Trinidad

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus* – Mixed in with soaring Turkey Vultures over Trinidad
Ornate Hawk Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus* – Soaring and calling over Northern Range, Trinidad
Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* – Nariva Swamp
Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* – Perched on water drum at Nariva Swamp
Merlin *Falco columbarius* – One perched at Brasso Seco; another at Nariva Swamp
Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* – Several in Trinidad Savannah areas; one on way to Little Tobago Island
Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* – Two on pond near Tobago airport
Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* – Five in Nariva Swamp
Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* – Common in wet agricultural fields on Trinidad
Pied Lapwing *Vanellus cayanus* – A few in moist agricultural areas, Trinidad
Wattled Jacana *Jacana Jacana* – Common in wetlands on Trinidad
Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria* – Several in moist agricultural fields, Trinidad
Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* – Common in wetlands and along shorelines - both islands
Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* – In wetland and agricultural areas, Trinidad
Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* – Several dozen seen off dock in Atlantic Ocean, Tobago
Rock (Feral) Pigeon *Columba livia* – Urban areas on Trinidad
Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti* – Common in urban and rural areas of Trinidad
White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* – Common in forested areas of Tobago
Gray-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla* – At entrance to former airfield, Trinidad
Green-rumped Parrotlet *Forpus passerines* – Several in tree top at agricultural station
Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus* – Near small village of Blanchissuesse
Orange-winged Parrot *Amazona amazonica* – Seen and heard daily on both islands
Squirrel Cuckoo *Playa cayana* – Two seen just behind ARNC on Discovery Trail
Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* - At Arena Forest and in Agriculture station
Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* – Common road and trailside bird on both islands
Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* – Two in trees at entrance to ag. Station, Trinidad
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* – Calling nightly at AWNC
Common Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* – Along road to AWNC and at ag. Station, Trinidad
White-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus cayennensis* – Ag station on Trinidad; Cuffie River Retreat
Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus* – Perched high in Mangroves, Caroni National Park
Oilbird *Steatornis caripensis* – A dozen roosting in Dunston Cave behind AWNC
Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyuran* – Flocks seen on both islands over wetlands and streams
Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicaudus* – In valleys of Northern Range and over wetlands on Trinidad
Gray-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris* – Above river valleys on both islands
Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsutus* – Seen at feeders and countryside of both islands
Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy* – On feeders and in Trinidad forests
White-tailed Saberwing *Campylopterus ensipennis* – Many on Cuffie River Retreat feeders
White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* – Ever-present on feeders on both islands
Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae* – On feeders at Yurette
Green-throated Mango *Anthracothorax viridigula* – On feeders at Yurette
Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis* – On feeders and countryside of Trinidad
Ruby-topaz Hummingbird *Chrysolampis mosquitus* – Several at Yurette Hummingbird Sanctuary
Tufted Coquette *Lophornis ornatus* – AWNC feeders and flowers; Yurette Hummingbird Sanctuary
Blue-chinned Sapphire *Chlorestes notate* – Common at AWNC and Yurette feeders
White-chested Emerald *Amazilia brevirostris* – Most common hummingbird seen on Trinidad
Copper-rumped Hummingbird *Amazilia tobaci* – Most common hummingbird on Tobago, also common on Trinidad
Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris* – Daily visitor to AWNC feeders
Green-backed Trogon *Trogon viridis* – Most common trogon, including 3 seen together at Arena Forest on Trinidad
Vioaceous (Guiana) Trogon *Trogon violaceus* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* – On the way up the Northern Range, Trinidad

Trinidad (Blue-crowned) Motmot *Momotus (momota) bahamensis* – Common around both lodges: AWNC and Cuffie River, plus in rainforest areas on both islands

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* – Roadside bird seen on wire overhanging river near sewage ponds on Trinidad

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle Americana* - Caroni National Park, Trinidad; Cuffie River, Tobago

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* – Perched low in Mangroves, Caroni N.P.

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda* – At Brasso Seco; more at Cuffie River Retreat

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus* – In tree tops behind AWNC and in North Range forests

Red-crowned Woodpecker *Melanerpes rubricapillus* – On hummingbird feeders at Cuffie River Retreat

Golden-Olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* – Common on AWNC grounds

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* – At quarry between AWNC and Arima

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos* – Together with Lineated WP on same snag near quarry below AWNC

Stripe-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis cinnamomea* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* – Arima Agriculture Station, Trinidad

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad

Gray-throated Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus albigularis* – On hike to see Oilbirds, AWNC rainforest

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincia fuliginosa* – Gilpin Rainforest Trail, Tobago

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus* – Gilpin Rainforest Trail, Tobago

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus* – Nariva Swamp, Tobago

Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus Canadensis* – Aripo Savanna, Trinidad

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* – Common at both lodges on both islands

Plain Antwren *Dysithamnus mentalis* – Gilpin Rainforest Trail, Tobago

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris* – Northern Range, Trinidad

White-fringed Antwren *Formicivora grisea* – Cuffie River Retreat, Tobago

White-bellied Antbird *Myrmeciza longpipes* – Arena Forest, Trinidad

Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* – Aripo Livestock Station, Trinidad

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleaginous* – AWNC rainforest, Northern Range, Trinidad

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad

Yellow-breasted Flycatcher *Empidonax flaviventris* – Arena Forest, Trinidad

Bran-colored Flycatcher *Myiophobus fasciatus* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad

Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus eulerei* – AWNC rainforest, Trinidad

Tropical Pewee *Contopus cinereus* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Pied Water-Tyrant *Fluvicola pica* – Arima Agriculture Station, Trinidad

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala* – Arima Agriculture Station, Trinidad

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* – Cuffie River Retreat

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* – Almost a daily species

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* – Two at Brasso Seco

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus* – Northern Range, Trinidad

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* – Seen most days on both islands

Gray Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis* – On drive to Gilpin Rainforest Trail, Tobago

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad

Bearded Bellbird *Procnia averano* – Seen most days and heard daily at AWNC

White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus* – Seen daily in AWNC vicinity

Blue-backed Manakin *Chiroxiphia pareola* – Gilpin Rainforest Trail and Cuffie River

Golden-headed Manakin *Pipra erythrocephala* – Rainforest behind AWNC

Golden-fronted Greenlet *Hylophilus qurantifrons* – AWNC rain forest

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* – Brasso Seco and Aripo Savannah
 Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* – Northern Range, Trinidad
 White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* – Outside former air base, Trinidad
Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Steigodopteryx ruficollis* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad
Rufous-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius rutilus* – Common bird in AWNC rain forest
House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* – Common near both lodges on both islands
Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad
Yellow-legged Thrush *Platycichia flavipes* – Gilpin Rainforest, Tobago
Cocoa Thrush *Turdus fumigates* – AWNC grounds, Northern Range, Trinidad
Spectacled Thrush *Turdus nudigenis* – Almost daily visitor at feeders, both islands
White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis* – Common rainforest bird on both islands
Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* – Seen and heard daily on both islands
Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi* – AW rainforest
American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla* – Northern Range, Trinidad
Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis* – Frequented roadside ditches near both lodges
Masked Yellowthroat *Geothlypis aequinoctialis* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad
Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus* – AWNC rainforest, Northern Range, Trinidad
Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* – One of most common birds of trip in most habitats and always on feeders
Bicolored Conebill *Conirostrum bicolor* – Sewage ponds, Trinidad
White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus* – Almost daily forest bird on both islands
Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo* – Common forest bird on Trinidad
Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus* – Seen daily in most habitats on both islands
Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum* – Daily birds perching in tree tops on both islands
Turquoise Tanager *Tangara Mexicana* – Northern Range forest canopy, Trinidad
Speckled Tanager *Tangara guttata* – Northern Range forest, Trinidad
Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola* – AWNC grounds and Northern Range, Trinidad
Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* – Seen most days on Trinidad in multiple habitats
Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza* – Daily feeder bird at AWNC
Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus* – Daily AWNC feeder visitor
Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus* – On citrus fruit trees, Cuffie River Retreat
Blue-black Grasquit *Volatinia jacarina* – Aripo Savannah, agricultural areas on Trinidad
Black-faced Grassquit *Tiaris bicolor* – In grassy tufts alongside road, Cuffie River Retreat
Grassland Yellow-Finch *Sicalis luteola* – Arima Agricultural Station, Trinidad
Orange-fronted Yellow Finch *Sicalis Columbiana* – Caroni National Park, Trinidad
Grayish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens* – Aripo Savannah, Trinidad
Yellow-hooded Blackbird *Chrysomus icterocephalus* – Arima Agricultural Station and Sewage Ponds, Trinidad
Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris* – Arima Agricultural Station, Trinidad
Carib Grackle *Quiscalus lugubris* – Common roadside bird, Trinidad
Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* – Arima Agricultural Station, Trinidad
Yellow Oriole *Icterus nigrogularis* – Daily visitor on AWNC grounds
Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela* – Northern Range, Trinidad
Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* – Common bird, seen daily on both islands
Trinidad Euphonia *Euphonia trinitatis* – Several seen foraging behind AWNC
Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea* – Common bird seen near both lodges

172 species

Other Taxa:

Mammals:

Red-rumped Agouti
Red-tailed Squirrel
Brazilian Long-eared Bat
Tent Bat
White-lined Sac-winged Bat

Reptiles, Amphibians:

Spectacled Caiman
Golden Tegu Lizard
Ocellated Gecko
Giant Tiger Snake
Tree Boa
Giant Tree Frog
Stream Frog

A few Butterflies and Moths:

Giant Tiger Butterfly
Owl Butterfly
Red-rimmed Butterfly
Frangipani Hawkmoth Caterpillars