



**10-Day, 2-Island Classic on Trinidad & Tobago
Featuring Keith Hansen and Patricia Briceño
October 6-15, 2017**

**Participants: Jeanne, Gail, Dorothy, Cristina and Derek, Susan and Ted,
Mary Anne, Christina and Bill, Sandra and Dale, Frances and Jim, Anne,
Lynn and Hugh**



Dear Participants, Hosts, Leaders, Guides, Drivers and all the hardworking staff from the Asa Wright Nature Centre and the Cuffie River Nature Retreat, Patricia and I want to say,
THANK YOU!

When I reflect on an experience such as we've been on, my thoughts are filled with images, sounds and smiles. Some of my favorite moments and impressions, lay below.



I can't believe Barred Antshrikes!

You know they're one of those things you will NEVER experience on the way to *your* mailbox. As improbable as its pattern appears, it works.

AAAAH, the TROPICS! A hundred shades of green, punctuated by splashes of color whether avian or botanical. Forests with broad leaves offering concealment and comfort to a quartet of tiny bats. A pair of glittering turquoise jade "playing cards" a Blue Morpho bounds and zigs through the thick understory. A lofty ocean view atop Little Tobago. Tropicbirds slide past on invisible rails. Oh...that Veranda! Care for a Bananaquit-split, topped with a spoonful of Honeycreeper sprinkled with Peppershrike? Tailgate feasts with joyful recounting of creatures beheld. Easy going guides. Down to earth, patient, light and deeply knowledgeable of the diversity of their home. Feasts not only of the "eye kind" but jeez! Culinary experts creating divine meals. Local veggies, fruit, coffee. Magic with every bite. Bus excitement, an exotic bird, a new combination of colors, optics engage, shutters sing and beauty is captured. Laughter and lively conversation in the back seats. Lynn's ease of guidance, style and smile, refreshes and assures. Then, at the day's end, those rum cocktail, nearly the same color as the Scarlet Ibis arriving from all directions. CHEERS! To each, and every participant, your exuberance, inquisitive nature, patience, spirited contributions and simple companionship created the foundation of this wonderful excursion.

Thank you one and all!
Keith Hansen

PS: Stay tuned for the (hopefully) correct identification of the "mystery Tern" on day 5. I am awaiting photos from Hugh to share with experts. Additionally, the Long-winged Harrier called out on the mangrove boat ride and then later renamed as a Zone-tailed Hawk, was in fact a dark phase adult Long-winged Harrier. I got diagnostic video.



Drivers & Local Leaders

Trinidad Centre Guides

Trinidad Off-site - Mahase Ramlal and Roodal Ramlal

Trinidad & Tobago - Mukesh Ramdass

Tobago – Desmond Wright and Jason Radix

Watercraft & Guide – Trinidad

Lester Nanan, Nanan Bird Tours

Little Tobago Island

Zolani "Z" Frank

Photographer

Hugh Simmons

LOCATIONS VISITED

Asa Wright Nature Centre, Trinidad: 10/6 to 10/11/17

Cuffie River Nature Retreat, Tobago: 10/12 – 10/15/17

10/6 – Fly into Piarco International Airport, Port of Spain, Trinidad; travel to Asa Wright Nature Centre, bird the veranda and trails.

10/7 - Asa Wright Centre, Driveway and Veranda; Aripo Night Birding at E Tech Park, Old Army Airfield, Aripo Savannah.

10/8 – Full day field trip leaving Asa Wright and going north along Blanchisseuse Road, including Brasso Seco Community Center and Morne la Croix - to top and back to Asa Wright.

10/9 - Oilbird Cave “Dunston Cave” field trip at Asa Wright Nature Centre.

10/10 – Two field trips: one to Nariva Swamp, driving south on Blanchisseuse Road and on to Nariva Swamp including stops at Aripo Livestock Station and Manzanilla Beach. Second field trip to Port of Spain for cultural day including stops at Jimmy Aboud The Textile King, The Botanical Gardens, Veni Mange for lunch, and the Trinidad Art Museum.

10/11 - Asa Wright Nature Centre, morning garden/grounds tour and walk to Coffee Estate & Blind. Afternoon field trip to Caroni Rice Fields & Caroni Swamp.

10/12 – Travel to Piarco International Airport for flight to Tobago. Visit Bon Accord Water Treatment Plant and Tobago Plantation Golf Course on our way to Cuffie River Nature Retreat.

10/13 – Walk trails at Cuffie River Nature Retreat.

10/14 – Full day field trip with morning walk at Tobago Forest Reserve and Gilpin Trace; lunch at Birdwatcher’s Restaurant in Speyside, and trip from Blue Waters Inn to Little Tobago Island.

10/15 – Mid-day field trip to Blue Food Festival (Some participants), or free time at Cuffie River Nature Retreat. Most depart for airport and trip home in late afternoon (with three staying until departure on 10/16).

BIRD LIST

Species seen on Trinidad = **TR**

Species seen on Tobago = **TB**

Species seen by leader only = **(LO)**

Species heard only = **(HO)**

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck - TR

White-cheeked Pintail - TB

Rufous-vented Chachalaca - TB

Least Grebe - TB

Red-billed Tropicbird - TB

Brown Booby - TB

Red-footed Booby - TB

Brown Pelican - TR - TB

Anhinga - TR - TB

Magnificent Frigatebird - TR - TB
 Pinnated Bittern - TR
 Great Blue Heron - TR - TB
 Great Egret - TR - TB
 Snowy Egret - TR - TB
 Little Blue Heron - TR - TB
 Tricolored Heron - TR - TB
 Cattle Egret - TR - TB
 Green Heron - TB
 Striated Heron - TR
 Black-crowned Night-Heron - TR - TB (HO @
 AWNC at night by KH and Anne Sealey,
 Director. New bird record for Centre)
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - TR - TB
 Scarlet Ibis - TR
 Black Vulture - TR
 Turkey Vulture - TR
 Osprey - TR - TB
 Gray-headed Kite - TR
 Long-winged Harrier - TR - TB
 White Hawk - TR
 Gray-lined Hawk - TR - TB
 Common Black Hawk - TR
 Great Black Hawk - TB
 Savanna Hawk - TR
 Short-tailed Hawk - TR
 Zone-tailed Hawk - TR
 Crested Caracara - TR



Yellow-headed Caracara - TR - TB
 Merlin - TR
 Aplomado Falcon - TR
 Bat Falcon - TR

Gray-necked Wood-Rail - TR (HO)
 Sora - TR (HO) - TB
 Purple Gallinule - TR
 Common Gallinule - TR - TB
 Limpkin - TR
 Southern Lapwing - TR



American Golden Plover - TB
 Collared Plover - TR
 Semipalmated Plover - TR
 Black-necked Stilt - TR
 Wattled Jacana - TR - TB
 Greater Yellowlegs - TB
 Lesser Yellowlegs - TR - TB
 Spotted Sandpiper - TR - TB
 Ruddy Turnstone - TR - TB
 Sanderling - TR
 Semipalmated Sandpiper - TR - TB
 Western Sandpiper - TR
 Least Sandpiper - TR - TB
 Pectoral Sandpiper - TB
 Short-billed Dowitcher - TB
 Unidentified Tern - TR
 Least Tern - TR
 Yellow-billed Tern - TR
 Brown Noddy - TB
 Rock Pigeon - TR - TB
 Pale-vented Pigeon - TR - TB
 Scaled Pigeon - TR
 Scaly-naped Pigeon - TB
 Eared Dove - TB
 Common Ground Dove - TR
 Ruddy Ground Dove - TR
 White-tipped Dove - TR - TB

Gray-fronted Dove - TR (HO)
 Red-bellied Macaw - TR
 Blue-and-yellow Macaw - TR
 Green-rumped Parrotlet - TR
 Yellow-crowned Parrot - TR
 Orange-winged Parrot - TR - TB
 Mangrove Cuckoo - TR
 Squirrel Cuckoo - TR
 Greater Ani - TR
 Smooth-billed Ani - TR - TB
 Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl - TR
 Short-tailed Nighthawk - TR
 Common Pauraque - TR
 White-tailed Nightjar - TR - TB
 Common Potoo - TR - TB
 Oilbird – TR



White-collared Swift - TR
 Short-tailed Swift - TR - TB
 Band-rumped Swift - TR
 Gray-rumped Swift - TR - TB
 Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift - TR
 Fork-tailed Palm-Swift - TR
 Rufous-breasted Hermit - TR - TB
 Green Hermit - TR
 Little Hermit - TR - TB
 White-tailed Sabrewing - TB
 White-necked Jacobin - TR - TB
 Green-throated Mango - TR
 Black-throated Mango - TB (LO?)
 Tufted Coquette - TR
 Blue-chinned Sapphire - TR
 White-chested Emerald - TR
 Copper-rumped Hummingbird - TR - TB



Long-billed Starthroat - TR
 Green-backed Trogon - TR
 Guianan Trogon - TR
 Collared Trogon - TR - TB
 Trinidad Motmot - TR - TB
 Ringed Kingfisher - TR
 Rufous-tailed Jacamar - TR - TB
 Channel-billed Toucan- TR
 Red-crowned Woodpecker - TB
 Red-rumped Woodpecker - TR
 Golden-olive Woodpecker - TR - TB
 Lineated Woodpecker - TR
 Stripe-breasted Spinetail - TB
 Streaked Xenops - TR
 Gray-throated Leaf-tosser - TR
 Plain-brown Woodcreeper - TR
 Olivaceous Woodcreeper - TB
 Cocoa Woodcreeper - TR - TB
 Great Antshrike - TR
 Black-crested Antshrike - TR
 Barred Antshrike - TR - TB
 Plain Antwren - TR (HO?)
 White-flanked Antwren - TR (HO?)
 White-fringed Antwren - TB
 White-bellied Antbird - TR (HO?)
 Black-faced Antthrush - TR (HO)
 Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet - TR - TB
 Forest Elaenia - TR (HO?)
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia - TR - TB
 Olive-striped Flycatcher - TR - (LO)
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher - TR - TB
 Yellow-breasted Flycatcher - TB
 Fuscous Flycatcher - TB

Euler's Flycatcher - TR
 Olive-sided Flycatcher - TR
 Tropical Pewee - TR
 Pied Water-Tyrant - TR
 White-headed Marsh-Tyrant - TR
 Bright-rumped Attila - TR (HO?)
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher - TR (HO?)
 Brown-crested Flycatcher - TR - TB
 Venezuelan Flycatcher - TB
 Great Kiskadee - TR
 Boat-billed Flycatcher - TR
 Streaked Flycatcher - TR - TB
 Sulphury Flycatcher - TR
 Tropical Kingbird - TR - TB
 Gray Kingbird - TR - TB
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher - TR
 White-winged Becard - TB (LO)
 Bearded Bellbird - TR
 White-bearded Manakin - TR
 Blue-backed Manakin - TB
 Golden-headed Manakin - TR
 Scrub Greenlet - TB (LO?)
 Golden-fronted Greenlet - TR
 Rufous-browed Peppershrike - TR
 Caribbean Martin - TB
 Gray-breasted Martin - TR
 White-winged Swallow - TR - TB
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow - TR
 Barn Swallow - TR - TB
 Rufous-breasted Wren - TR
 House Wren - TR - TB
 Long-billed Gnatwren - TR (HO?)
 Yellow-legged Thrush - TR (LO) - TB
 Cocoa Thrush - TR - TB
 Spectacled Thrush - TR - TB
 White-necked Thrush - TR - TB
 Tropical Mockingbird - TR- TB
 Tropical Parula - TR
 Yellow Warbler - TR
 American Redstart - TR
 Prothonotary Warbler - TB
 Northern Waterthrush - TR - TB
 Golden-crowned Warbler - TR
 Bananaquit - TR - TB

Bicolored Conebill - TR
 White-shouldered Tanager - TR
 White-lined Tanager - TR - TB
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager - TR
 Silver-beaked Tanager - TR
 Blue-gray Tanager - TR - TB
 Palm Tanager - TR - TB
 Turquoise Tanager - TR
 Speckled Tanager - TR
 Bay-headed Tanager - TR



Blue Dacnis - TR
 Green Honeycreeper - TR
 Purple Honeycreeper - TR
 Red-legged Honeycreeper - TR - TB
 Swallow-Tanager - TR
 Blue-black Grassquit - TR
 Sooty Grassquit - TR
 Black-faced Grassquit - TB
 Saffron Finch - TR
 Grassland Yellow-Finch - TR
 Masked Cardinal - TR
 Grayish Saltator - TR
 Yellow-hooded Blackbird - TR
 Red-breasted Meadowlark - TR
 Carib Grackle - TR - TB
 Shiny Cowbird - TR - TB
 Yellow Oriole - TR
 Moriche Oriole - TR
 Yellow-rumped Cacique - TR
 Crested Oropendola - TR - TB
 Violaceous Euphonia - TR

213 Species

CRITTERS

Chevron Tarantula
Four-eyed Fish
Jumping Wabene
Stream Frog
Thin-toed Frog
Hyla Medusa
Cane Toad
Gecko

Golden Tegu Lizard
Spiny-tailed Lizard
Garden Lizard
Amiba Lizard
Rainbow Lizard
Green Iguana
Spectacled Caiman
Cooks Tree Boa

Fer-de-lance (Dead)
Common Long-tongued Bat
Miller's Long-tongued Bat
White-lined Sac-winged Bat
Red-tailed Squirrel
Red-rumped Agouti

Photos: Group shot, Hugh Simmons; Keith Hansen, Lynn Tennefoss; Barred Antshrike, Crested Caracara, Southern Lapwing, Oilbirds, Copper-rumped Hummingbird, Blue-grey Tanager and Bay-headed Tanager, Ted Beedy. Artwork, Keith Hansen

