

TRIP REPORT

Northwest Argentina
& extension to
Central Argentina
September-October 2007
Héctor Slongo



WWW.SERIEMATOURS.COM

Introduction

This tour to Northwestern Argentina is aimed towards looking for the specialties and endemics of the Andean valleys and high altitude habitats near this country's border with Bolivia and Chile. An extension to central Argentina in the province of Cordoba allows the possibility of adding an extra set of birds, exclusive to this region.

Central Argentina is a particularly good place for starting: A quiet setting and plenty of birds, with lots of species from the Chaco woods, several specialties and a few endemics. Among them is the Salinas Monjita, a Flycatcher adapted to a very extreme habitat: the edges of a salty area ("Salinas" in Spanish); and the Córdoba Cinclodes, a furnarid (Ovenbird Family) that occurs in the highest mountain ranges of central Argentina. The taxonomy of another two birds occurring here -Olrog's Cinclodes and Cordoba Canastero- is still controversial: They received full species status in the past, but the latter is currently accepted as a subspecies of the Puna Canastero, and the former is a matter of discussion between splitters and lumpers. We had good views of all of them (one never knows...), and also added many Chaco specialties: Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper, Black-crested Finch, Tufted-tit Spinetail, Black-bodied Woodpecker, Chaco Puffbird and Spot-winged Falconet.

The long drive to Tucuman allowed us to make several stops en route, birding chaco woods and a particular marshy area where we found another specialty: Dinelli's Doradito. Once in Tucuman, we started the climb up the Aconquija Range, alongside the famous Rio Los Sosa, where Rufous-throated Dipper and Torrent Duck occur. Birding in the three main habitats (Yungas cloudforests, high Andes grasslands and scrubby valleys), we went for the endemics that inhabit this isolated range: Yellow-striped Brush-Finch, Tucuman-mountain Finch, Buff-breasted Earthcreeper, White-browed Tapaculo and Moreno's Ground-Dove. We managed to see all of them, birding above and below Tafi.

After reaching the Infiernillo (little hell) pass we descended into the Calchaqui Valleys, a dry area where several pre-Columbian cultures inhabited in the past. Here the dominant habitat is the Monte desert, an endemic biome and an excellent place to find more endemics: Sandy Gallito, White-throated Cacholote and Steinbach's Canastero. We had the three and also enjoyed great views of a Black-legged Seriema calling from the top of a tree, the smart Black-crowned Monjita (an endemic breeder of Argentina) and spectacular Burrowing Parrots.

After that we moved on further north along the valley, where we made a night tour with very successful results: we found the Chaco Owl. Continuing northwards, we explored the valleys finding Zimmer's Tapaculo, Scribble-tailed Canastero and Spot-breasted Thornbird. We also had Andean Condors, Andean Swifts and the highly localized Rufous-bellied Saltator.

We then drove through the City of Salta and headed to Calilegua National Park, in Jujuy province. The mountain cloud forest, locally known as "Yungas", grows luxuriant in this spectacular place. Bird diversity is important and a couple of days here can be very productive, especially for diurnal and nocturnal raptors: We had King Vulture; Rufous-thighed, Hook-billed and White-rumped Hawks; and Black-and-white Owl. Other spectacular birds seen here were Golden-collared Macaw, Alder Parrot, Slender-tailed Woodstar, White-throated Antpitta and Giant Antshrike. The next destination was Yala, at the roof of the Yungas, where the Alder forest hosts Red-faced Guan and Lyre-tailed Nightjar. We had great views of both!!

The last part of the trip was on to the dry pre-Puna and Puna, a high dry area with lagoons inhabited by flamingos, ducks and other specialties of the high Andes. We found the three species of flamingo occurring in the southern cone of South America, and had very good views of Giant Coot, Andean Avocet, Puna Plover, Golden-spotted Ground-Dove, Bare-eyed Ground-Dove, Citron-headed Yellow-Finch, Andean, White-sided and Wedge-tailed Hillstars and Puna Rhea (a subspecies of Darwin's Rhea, sometimes recognized as a full species).

We finished the trip with 356 species on our lists, and many unforgettable memories of the magic Andean landscapes. Culture, History, food, and the warm people of interior Argentina makes this trip one of the best choices either for keen birders and beginners.

REFERENCES USED ON THE LIST

X = A species seen on several localities.

Global threat categories by BirdLife International

CR = CRITICAL

EN = ENDANGERED

VU = VULNERABLE

NT = NEAR THREATENED

E = ENDEMIC SPECIES

EB = ENDEMIC BREEDER

NE = NEAR ENDEMIC (90% or more of their distribution is in Argentina)

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
Family Rheidae (Rheas)				
1		Darwin's Rhea	<i>Pterocnemia pennata</i>	One seen in the Altiplano
Family Tinamidae (Tinamous)				
2		Tataupa Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus tataupa</i>	One heard in Calilegua National Park
3		Huayco Tinamou	<i>Rhynchotus maculicollis</i>	One heard close to Salta city.
4		Ornate Tinamou	<i>Nothoprocta ornata</i>	Several along the road early in the morning near Tafi
5		Andean Tinamou	<i>Nothoprocta pentlandii</i>	Many in Cordoba and in the grassland area in Tafi del Valle.
6		Darwin's Tinamou	<i>Nothura darwinii</i>	One found along a dirt road in the Sierras Grandes in Cordoba.
7		Spotted Tinamou	<i>Nothura maculosa</i>	One was flushed in a grassy spot in Cordoba
Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)				
8		White-tufted Grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>	Common throughout
9		Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>	One found in a lake on the way to Jujuy city.
10		Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Many were seen on several lakes during the trip
11		Great Grebe	<i>Podiceps major</i>	A pair close to the road in a lake in Cordoba
12		Silvery Grebe	<i>Podiceps occipitalis</i>	Groups in the Altiplano.
Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants, Shags)				
13		Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Many along the trip.
Family Ardeidae (Hérons, Egrets, Bitterns)				
14		Fasciated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma fasciatum</i>	One individual this shy bird was seen in Tucumán. This species is very scarce in Argentina.
15		Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>	Two birds in Cordoba
16		Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	We saw this species in almost all the lakes we visited.
17		White-necked Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	Seen near Carlos Paz-Cordoba
18		Great Egret	<i>Ardea (Casmerodius) alba</i>	Two birds seen in a lake in Cordoba.
19		Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	One bird seen flying by along a river on the way to Tafi del Valle
Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises, Spoonbills)				
20		White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Big flocks of this species were seen as we were driving to Salta city. Besides, we found some birds in several lowland lakes in Salta and Jujuy.
21		Puna Ibis	<i>Plegadis ridgwayi</i>	A flock of about 20 birds was photographed in the Altiplano, while they were feeding very close to the vehicle.
22		Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>	Several birds passed flying above us and some were feeding on a grassland near Salta.
Family Ciconiidae (Storks)				
23		Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Seven birds perched on a dead tree at the entrance of Calilegua National Park.
Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)				
24	NT	Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	Several birds seen in at least three different lakes around Abra Pampa
25	VU	Andean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus andinus</i>	Great views of about fifteen birds near Abra Pampa.

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
26	NT	Puna Flamingo	<i>Phoenicoparrus jamesi</i>	Three youngsters found near Abra Pampa along with the other two species of flamingoes.
Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, Swans)				
27		White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Many seen in a reservoir near Salta City
28		Andean Goose	<i>Chloephaga melanoptera</i>	Some around Abra Pampa and in some wet bogs in Humahuaca Valley.
29		Torrent Duck	<i>Merganetta armata</i>	Several pairs seen in Tucuman and Jujuy.
30		Brazilian Duck	<i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>	We saw two in the reservoir near Salta City.
31		Red Shoveler	<i>Anas platalea</i>	Many seen in a reservoir in Tafi del Valle.
32		Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	Three pairs near Tafi del Valle.
33		Silver Teal	<i>Anas versicolor</i>	Several birds found in a lake near Salta city.
34		Puna Teal	<i>Anas puna</i>	Many seen in a lake near Abra Pampa.
35		Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	This species was found in most of the ponds and lakes we visited along the trip.
36		Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>	We saw many in a lake at Tafi del Valle.
37		Andean Ruddy-Duck	<i>Oxyura ferruginea</i>	Some pairs in the lakes around Abra Pampa.
Family Cathartidae (Vultures)				
38		Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Common throughout
39		Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common throughout
40	NT	Andean Condor	<i>Vultur gryphus</i>	We had great views of a huge male that flew by the road, eye level!!
41		King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	Two birds flying very high at Calilegua National Park
Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Kites, Eagles)				
42		Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>	One seen soaring above the canopy in Calilegua National Park
43		Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Many flying in the high part of Calilegua National Park
44		White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	Seen in Cordoba and Tafi
45		Rufous-thighed Kite	<i>Harpagus diodon</i>	We had good views of this species perched near the road at Calilegua National Park
46		Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	Very common at Calilegua National Park
47		Cinereous Harrier	<i>Circus cinereus</i>	We saw one female in the grasslands near Tafi del Valle.
48		Rufous-thighed Hawk	<i>Accipiter erythronemius</i>	We spotted one single bird in the sierran chaco in Cordoba.
49		Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	Two birds perching on top of the electric poles by the road in Tucumán
50		Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>	One bird was soaring in the Sierras Grandes in Cordoba.
51		Roadside Hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>	Common throughout
52		White-rumped Hawk	<i>Buteo leucorrhous</i>	A juvenile was seen in Calilegua.
53		Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	Several seen in Calilegua.
54		Red-backed Hawk	<i>Buteo polyosoma</i>	Several along the trip.

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
Family Falconidae (Caracaras, Falcons)				
55		Mountain Caracara	<i>Phalcoeboenus megalopterus</i>	We spotted one from the car as we were driving to Abra Pampa.
56		Southern Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Common throughout
57		Chimango Caracara	<i>Milvago chimango</i>	Common throughout
58		Spot-winged Falconet	<i>Spizapteryx circumcinctus</i>	We managed to have nice views in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba.
59		American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Common throughout
60		Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>	Several along the trip.
61		Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	A pair in Pampa de Achala plateau, Cordoba.
Family Cracidae (Chachalacas, Guans, Curassows)				
62		Red-faced Guan	<i>Penelope dabbeni</i>	We had great views of this rare guan, and we even managed to take several photos.
63		Dusky-legged Guan	<i>Penelope obscura</i>	There was a group feeding on fruits in the lower part of Cuesta del Obispo.
Family Rallidae (Crakes, Rails, Coots)				
64		Grey-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	Two birds seen in Calilegua and a third near Yala.
65		Plumbeous Rail	<i>Pardirallus sanguinolentus</i>	A pair seen in the lowlands in Tucumán.
66		Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Common throughout
67		White-winged Coot	<i>Fulica leucoptera</i>	X
68		Andean Coot	<i>Fulica ardesiaca</i>	Seen near Tafi and Abra Pampa
69		Red-gartered Coot	<i>Fulica armillata</i>	X
70		Red-fronted Coot	<i>Fulica rufifrons</i>	X
71		Giant Coot	<i>Fulica gigantea</i>	We found a pair with two youngsters near Abra Pampa.
Family Aramididae (Limpkin)				
72		Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>	X
Family Cariamidae (Seriemas)				
73		Black-legged Seriema	<i>Chunga burmeisteri</i>	We could see one bird and hear another near by. One of them was calling while it was perched on the top of a tree.
Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts, Avocets)				
74		South American Stilt	<i>Himantopus melanurus</i>	Several in a lake near Salta city.
75		Andean Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra andina</i>	Three birds near Abra Pampa and several more higher up.
Family Charadriidae (Plovers, Lapwings)				
76		Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	Common throughout
77		Andean Lapwing	<i>Vanellus resplendens</i>	Many in Tafi del Valle.
78		Collared Plover	<i>Charadrius collaris</i>	Three birds seen near Tucumán.
79		Puna Plover	<i>Charadrius alticola</i>	A very close view in the coast of Pozuelos Lake
Family Scolopacidae (Snipe, Sandpipers)				
80		Puna Snipe	<i>Gallinago andina</i>	A far view of one bird, near Abra Pampa.
81		White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	Some in Pozuelos Lake.
82		Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Many seen in Pozuelos Lake.
Family Thinocoridae (Seedsnipe)				
83		Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe	<i>Attagis gayi</i>	Some individuals feeding in a wet area near La Quiaca.
84		Grey-breasted Seedsnipe	<i>Thinocorus orbignyianus</i>	We found many birds by the road not far from Yavi
Family Laridae (Skuas, Gulls, Terns, Skimmer)				
85		Andean Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus serranus</i>	We spotted five from the car near Humahuaca.
Family Columbidae (Pigeons, Doves)				

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
86		Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Common throughout
87		Picazuro Pigeon	<i>Columba picazuro</i>	Common throughout
88		Spot-winged Pigeon	<i>Columba maculosa</i>	Common throughout
89		Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Columba cayennensis</i>	Several birds seen in Calilegua.
90		Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	Common throughout
91		Picui Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina picui</i>	Common throughout
92		Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	A pair seen in Calilegua.
93		Bare-faced Ground-Dove	<i>Metriopelia ceciliae</i>	There were many around Yavi.
94	E	Moreno's Ground-Dove	<i>Metriopelia morenoi</i>	We found this endemic species around Tafi del Valle.
95		Black-winged Ground-Dove	<i>Metriopelia melanoptera</i>	Common throughout
96		Golden-spotted Ground-Dove	<i>Metriopelia aymara</i>	There were three birds feeding in the short grass near Pozuelos.
97		White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Common throughout
98		Yungas Dove	<i>Leptotila megalura</i>	Several at Calilegua and Yala
Family Psittacidae (Parrots)				
99		Golden-collared Macaw	<i>Primolius auricollis</i>	Some birds passed flying fairly low in Calilegua National Park.
100		Blue-crowned Parakeet	<i>Aratinga acuticaudata</i>	A flock in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba.
101		Mitred Parakeet	<i>Aratinga mitrata</i>	A big flock flying in the lower part of the Yungas habitat on the way up to Tafi del Valle
102	NE	Burrowing Parrot	<i>Cyanoliseus patagonus</i>	We saw them in the desert area near Cayafate. They were all over the place!!!
103		Reddish-bellied Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura frontalis</i>	Many flocks seen in Calilegua.
104		Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	Common throughout
105		Grey-hooded Parakeet	<i>Psilopsiagon aymara</i>	Some seen in Cordoba and Tafi del Valle.
106		Mountain Parakeet	<i>Psilopsiagon aurifrons</i>	three birds along the road near Humahuaca.
107	NT	Alder Parrot	<i>Amazona tucumana</i>	Many flying in the high part of Calilegua National Park
Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos, Anis)				
108		Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>	Seen in the woods of Cordoba
109		Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	Common in the Yungas habitats
110		Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Some in lowland areas in NW
111		Guira Cuckoo	<i>Guira guira</i>	Common throughout
112		Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	Heard and seen in Cordoba
Family Tytonidae (Barn Owls)				
113		Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Seen near Salta
Family Strigidae (Owls)				
114		Hoy's Screech-Owl	<i>Otus höyi</i>	Heard in Calilegua
115		Black-banded Owl	<i>Strix huhula</i>	We had an amazing look at this species. It was perched in the open in the forest at Calilegua National Park
116		Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	Seen in several places during the trip
117		Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Common throughout
118		Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Seen above Tafi
Family Apodidae (Swifts)				
119		White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	Common throughout
120		Andean Swift	<i>Aeronautes andecolus</i>	Seen in several places during the trip
Family Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)				
121		Sparkling Violetear	<i>Colibri coruscans</i>	At least three birds in Tafi del Valle and Cuesta del Obispo
122		Slender-tailed Woodstar	<i>Microstilbon burmeisteri</i>	One female in the higher part of Calilegua National Park

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
123		White-bellied Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia chionogaster</i>	Common throughout
124		White-sided Hillstar	<i>Oreotrochilus leucopleurus</i>	One male in the high grassland of Tafi del Valle
125	NT	Wedge-tailed Hillstar	<i>Oreotrochilus adela</i>	Two males seen in Yavi
126		Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>	A bird around Humahuaca feeding on insects.
127		Red-tailed Comet	<i>Sappho sparganura</i>	Common throughout
128		Blue-tufted Starthroat	<i>Heliothraupis fulvifrons</i>	One seen in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba
Family Trogonidae (Trogons)				
129		Blue-crowned Trogon	<i>Trogon curucui</i>	Several birds in Calilegua National Park
Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)				
130		Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	Seen in a reservoir near Cordoba
131		Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	Seen in a reservoir near Cordoba
Family Bucconidae (Puffbirds, Nunlets)				
132		Chaco Puffbird	<i>Nystalus striatipectus</i>	Two birds seen in Salinas area
Family Ramphastidae (Toucans)				
133		Toco Toucan	<i>Ramphastos toco</i>	A group seen flying in Calilegua.
Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)				
134		White-barred Piculet	<i>Picumnus cirratus</i>	Common throughout
135		White-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes cactorum</i>	Common throughout
136		Checkered Woodpecker	<i>Picoides mixtus</i>	One bird seen in Cordoba.
137		Smoky-Brown Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis fumigatus</i>	One bird seen in Yala
138		Dot-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis frontalis</i>	A pair let us get very close in Cuesta del Obispo
139		Golden-Olive Woodpecker	<i>Piculus rubiginosus</i>	Seen in several yungas spots
140		Green-barred Woodpecker	<i>Colaptes melanochloros</i>	Common throughout
141		Andean Flicker	<i>Colaptes rupicola</i>	Common in the high elevation habitats of the Northwest.
Family Dendrocolaptidae (Woodcreepers)				
142		Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	Common throughout
143		Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Drymornis bridgesii</i>	Some birds seen in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba
144		Great Rufous Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes major</i>	One bird seen at Calilegua National Park
145		Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i>	Common throughout
Family Furnariidae (Ovenbirds)				
146		Common Miner	<i>Geositta cunicularia</i>	Seen in Cordoba and Jujuy
147		Puna Miner	<i>Geositta punensis</i>	Individuals near Abra Pampa
148		Rufous-banded Miner	<i>Geositta rufipennis</i>	Cordoba and Tucuman
149		Slender-billed Miner	<i>Geositta tenuirostris</i>	Between Tafi and Infiernillo
150		Scale-throated Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia dumetaria</i>	A couple in the valleys
151		Plain-breasted Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia jelskii</i>	A couple in the higher elevation valleys
152		Buff-breasted Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia validirostris</i>	At least three birds in Tafi del Valle.
153		Rock Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia andeacola</i>	Found near Tafi
154		Straight-billed Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia ruficauda</i>	Beyond Infiernillo
155		Chaco Earthcreeper	<i>Upucerthia certhioides</i>	Common in Cordoba
156		Bar-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes fuscus</i>	Common throughout
157	E	Cordoba Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes comechingonus</i>	Three birds at the Sierras Grandes in Cordoba.
158	E	Olrog's Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes olrogi</i>	We saw it of the Sierras Grandes in Cordoba.
159		White-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes atacamensis</i>	A couple near Tafi and another in Jujuy
160		Rufous Hornero	<i>Furnarius rufus</i>	Common throughout
161		Crested Hornero	<i>Furnarius cristatus</i>	Two birds in a nest in the Salinas area

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
162		Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura fuliginiceps</i>	X
163	NT	Tawny Tit-spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura yanasensis</i>	X
164		Tufted Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura platensis</i>	X
165		Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura aegithaloides</i>	X
166		Sooty-fronted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis frontalis</i>	X
167		Azara' s Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis azarae</i>	X
168		Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>	X
169		Ochre-cheeked Spinetail	<i>Poecilurus scutatus</i>	X
170		Stripe-crowned Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca pyrrhophia</i>	X
171		Lesser Canastero	<i>Asthenes pyrrholeuca</i>	X
172		Short-billed Canastero	<i>Asthenes baeri</i>	X
173	NT	Maquis Canastero	<i>Asthenes heterura</i>	We found several birds in Cuesta del Obispo
174		Cordilleran Canastero	<i>Asthenes modesta</i>	X
175		Rusty-vented Canastero	<i>Asthenes dorbignyi</i>	X
176	E	Steinbach's Canastero	<i>Asthenes steinbachi</i>	One bird by the road to Cachi. This is a rare and shy canastero that is also endemic from Argentina.
177		Puna Canastero	<i>Asthenes sclateri</i>	We had good views of the endemic subspecies in Cordoba, and the nominal form in the Andes.
178		Scribble-tailed Canastero	<i>Asthenes maculicauda</i>	We could see this rare canastero in Cuesta del Obispo
179		Rufous-fronted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus rufifrons</i>	X
180		Little Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus sibilatrix</i>	We found an active nest in Cordoba. This is a species that lives exclusively in the Chaco habitat.
181		Streak-fronted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus striaticeps</i>	Several pairs along a gulley in Tafi del Valle.
182		Spotted-breasted Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus maculipectus</i>	Some pairs in the Alder forest in Yala
183		Lark-like Brushrunner	<i>Coryphistera alaudina</i>	Many in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba
184		Firewood-gatherer	<i>Anumbius annumbi</i>	X
185		Brown Cacholote	<i>Pseudoseisura lophotes</i>	We had good views of this big ovenbird in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba
186	E	White-throated Cacholote	<i>Pseudoseisura gutturalis</i>	There were two pairs in the Monte Desert area near Cafayate that got very close to us.
187		Buff-browed Foliage-Gleaner	<i>Syndactyla rufosuperciliata</i>	X
Family Thamnophilidae (Typical Antbirds)				
188		Giant Antshrike	<i>Batara cinerea</i>	A pair in Calilegua National Park
189		Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>	X
190		Variable Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus caerulescens</i>	X
191		Rufous-capped Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus ruficapillus</i>	X
Family Formicariidae (Ground Antbirds)				
192		White-throated Antpitta	<i>Grallaria albigula</i>	We could hardly see this shy species very briefly in the high part of Calilegua.
Family Rhinocryptidae (Tapaculos)				
193		Crested Gallito	<i>Rhinocrypta lanceolata</i>	X
194	E	Sandy Gallito	<i>Teledromas fuscus</i>	One bird was very cooperative and showed very nicely in the Monte Desert area near Cafayate.

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
195		Olive-crowned Crescent-Chest	<i>Melanopareia maximiliani</i>	We had fairly good views of this secretive bird in the Sierran Chaco in Cordoba.
196	E	White-browed Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus superciliaris</i>	We found this endemic bird in several gullies in Tafi del Valle.
197		Zimmer's Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus zimmeri</i>	Great views in Cuesta del Obispo
Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant-Flycatchers)				
198		Sclater's Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias sclateri</i>	X
199		Scrub-Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus modestus</i>	X
200		Suiriri Flycatcher	<i>Suiriri suiriri</i>	X
201		Small-billed Elaenia	<i>Elaenia parvirostris</i>	X
202		Slaty Elaenia	<i>Elaenia strepera</i>	Nice views of this Elaenia in Yala
203		White-throated Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus leucophrys</i>	X
204		Buff-banded Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus hellmayri</i>	We saw several birds in the high part of Calilegua National Park.
205		Sooty Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga nigricans</i>	X
206		White-bellied Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga munda</i>	X
207		Plain Tyrannulet	<i>Inezia inornata</i>	X
208		Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	<i>Stigmatura budytoides</i>	X
209		Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	<i>Anairetes flavirostris</i>	X
210		Tufted Tit-Tyrant	<i>Anairetes parulus</i>	X
211	NT-EB	Dinelli's Doradito	<i>Pseudocolopteryx dinelliana</i>	Great views of this rare and unknown Flycatcher in Tucuman
212		Subtropical Doradito	<i>Pseudocolopteryx acutipennis</i>	We found this Doradito in several mountain regions along the trip
213		Mottled-cheeked Tyrannulet	<i>Phylloscartes ventralis</i>	X
214		Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer</i>	X
215		Ochre-faced Tody-Tyrant	<i>Poecilatriccus plumbeiceps</i>	X
216		Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>	X
217		Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea</i>	X
218		Smoke-coloured Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>	X
219		Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>	X
220		Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	X
221		Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	X
222		D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca oenanthoides</i>	X
223		White-browed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca leucophrys</i>	X
224	EB	Black-crowned Monjita	<i>Xolmis coronata</i>	There was a pair in the desertic area near Cafayate. This is a breeding endemic of Argentina.
225		White Monjita	<i>Xolmis irupero</i>	Common throughout
226	NT-E	Salinas Monjita	<i>Neoxolmis salinarum</i>	Two birds were very cooperative and perched at about 2 meters from us.
227		Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant	<i>Agriornis montana</i>	X
228		Grey-bellied Shrike-Tyrant	<i>Agriornis microptera</i>	Three birds by the road on the way to Yavi
229	EB	Lesser Shrike-Tyrant	<i>Agriornis murina</i>	Two birds by the Salinas Grandes in Cordoba
230		Puna Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola juninensis</i>	X
231		Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola rufivertex</i>	Common throughout
232		Cinereous Ground-Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola cinerea</i>	X
233		Andean Negrilo	<i>Lessonia oreas</i>	Several pairs and youngsters were seen near Abra Pampa.
234		White-winged Black-Tyrant	<i>Knipolegus aterrimus</i>	X
235		Spectacled Tyrant	<i>Hymenops perspicillatus</i>	Common throughout
236		Black-backed Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola albiventer</i>	X
237		Yellow-browed Tyrant	<i>Satrapa icterophrys</i>	X
238		Cliff Flycatcher	<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i>	Common throughout

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
239		Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosus</i>	X
240		Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	X
241		Swainson's Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus swainsoni</i>	X
242		Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	X
243		Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	Common throughout
244		Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	X
245		Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	X
246		Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher	<i>Griseotyrannus aurantioatroc.</i>	X
247		Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	X
248		Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	X
Tityridae (Tityras, Becards, etc)				
249		Xenopsaris	<i>Xenopsaris albinucha</i>	One bird seen near Salinas.
250		Crested Becard	<i>Pachyramphus validus</i>	One bird seen in Calilegua National Park
Family Cotingidae (Plantcutters, Cotingas)				
251		White-tipped Plantcutter	<i>Phytotoma rutila</i>	We saw many pairs along the trip
Family Vireonidae (Vireos, Greenlets)				
252		Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	X
253		Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	X
Family Corvidae (Jays)				
254		Plush-crested Jay	<i>Cyanocorax chrysops</i>	We found many of this very handsome Jay in the lower part of Calilegua National Park.
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows)				
255		White-rumped Swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucorrhoa</i>	X
256		Grey-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	X
257		Southern Martin	<i>Progne modesta</i>	X
258		Brown-chested Martin	<i>Progne tapera</i>	X
259		Blue-and-White Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	X
260		Andean Swallow	<i>Haplochelidon andaecola</i>	One bird near Javi
261		Tawny-headed Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx fucata</i>	Many in a grassland area in Cordoba
262		Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	X
263		Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X
Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)				
264		Grass Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	X
265		House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	X
266		Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>	X
Family Cinclidae (Dippers)				
267	VU	Rufous-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus schulzi</i>	Great views of this magnificent bird in Yala
Family Sylviidae (Gnatcatchers)				
268		Masked Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila dumicola</i>	X
Family Turdidae (Thrushes)				
269		Spotted Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus dryas</i>	X
270		Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	X
271		Chiguanco Thrush	<i>Turdus chiguanco</i>	Common throughout
272		Glossy-Black Thrush	<i>Turdus serranus</i>	X
273		Andean-Slaty Thrush	<i>Turdus nigriceps</i>	X
274		Rufous-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>	X
275		Creamy-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus amaurochalinus</i>	X
Family Mimidae (Mockingbirds)				
276		Chalk-browed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus saturninus</i>	X
277	NE	Patagonian Mockingbird	<i>Mimus patagonicus</i>	Many along the trip.
278		Brown-backed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus dorsalis</i>	Several birds along the Humahuaca Valley.
Family Motacillidae (Pipits)				
279		Correndera Pipit	<i>Anthus correndera</i>	X
280		Hellmayr's Pipit	<i>Anthus hellmayri</i>	X
281		Paramo Pipit	<i>Anthus bogotensis</i>	One single bird in the high grassland area in Tafi del Valle.

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
282		Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>	X
Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)				
283		Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	X
284		Masked Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis</i>	X
285		Brown-capped Whitestart	<i>Myioborus brunnicaps</i>	X
286		Two-banded Warbler	<i>Basileuterus bivittatus</i>	X
287		Pale-legged Warbler	<i>Basileuterus signatus</i>	Many birds in the higher part of Calilegua National Park
288		Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>	X
Family Thraupidae (Tanagers)				
289		Chestnut-vented Conebill	<i>Conirostrum speciosum</i>	X
290		Orange-headed Tanager	<i>Thlypopsis sordida</i>	X
291		Rust-and-Yellow Tanager	<i>Thlypopsis ruficeps</i>	Several birds in the Alder forest in the higher part of the Yungas Forest at Calilegua National Park
292		Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus</i>	X
293		Hepatic Tanager	<i>Piranga flava</i>	X
294		Sayaca Tanager	<i>Thraupis sayaca</i>	X
295		Blue-and-Yellow Tanager	<i>Thraupis bonariensis</i>	X
296		Fawn-breasted Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea melanonota</i>	We found this beautiful Tanager in many parts of the Northwest.
297		Purple-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia chlorotica</i>	X
298		Golden-rumped Euphonia	<i>Euphonia cyanocephala</i>	A small flock passed flying in the higher part of Calilegua National Park
299		Rusty Flower-piercer	<i>Diglossa sittoides</i>	Two birds were seen and photographed in a gully in Tafi del Valle.
Family Emberizidae (Emberizid Finches)				
300		Many-colored Chaco-Finch	<i>Saltatricula multicolor</i>	X
301		Red-pileated Finch	<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>	X
302		Black-hooded Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus atriceps</i>	We found this very handsome Sierra-Finch feeding on some flowers near Humahuaca.
303		Grey-hooded Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus gayi</i>	X
304		Mourning Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus fruticeti</i>	X
305		Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus unicolor</i>	X
306	NE	Red-backed Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus dorsalis</i>	Several of this fearely rare Finch were seen near Yavi at more than 4000 meters above the sea level.
307		Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus plebejus</i>	X
308		Band-tailed Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus alaudinus</i>	X
309		Black-crested Finch	<i>Lophospingus pusillus</i>	We found this bird in the Salinas area. This is one of the Chaco specialties that can be found in the Salinas.
310		Common Diuca-Finch	<i>Diuca diuca</i>	X
311	NE	Tucuman Mountain-Finch	<i>Compsospiza baeri</i>	There were several birds of this endemic species in the grassy area in Tafi del Valle
312		Black-and-chestnut Warbling-finch	<i>Poospiza whittii</i>	Four birds seen in the Sierran Chaco.
313		Black-and-Rufous Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza nigrorufa</i>	X
314		Rufous-sided Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza hypochondria</i>	One bird in Tafi del Valle.
315		Rusty-browed Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza erythrophrys</i>	X
316		Ringed Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza torquata</i>	X
317		Black-capped Warbling-Finch	<i>Poospiza melanoleuca</i>	X
318		Blue-Black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	X
319		Double-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>	X
320	NT	Dark-throated Seedeater	<i>Sporophila ruficollis</i>	X

Trip Report

#	Ref	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	COMMENTS
321		Band-tailed Seedeater	<i>Catamenia analis</i>	X
322		Plain-colored Seedeater	<i>Catamenia inornata</i>	X
323		Dull-colored Grassquit	<i>Tiaris obscura</i>	Calilegua
324		Puna Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis lutea</i>	Common near Abra Pampa
325		Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis uropygialis</i>	Many birds in Abra Pampa
326		Citron-headed Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteocephala</i>	We found several birds roosting in a cliff around Yavi.
327		Greenish Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis olivascens</i>	Flocks in Calchaqui Valleys
328		Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	X
329		Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	X
330		Great Pampa-Finch	<i>Embernagra platensis</i>	Common throughout
331		Red-crested Cardinal	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>	Small flocks in Chaco habitats
332	E	Yellow-striped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes citrinellus</i>	Several of this endemic bird were seen in the lower part of Tafi del Valle.
333		Fulvous-headed Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes fulviceps</i>	We found some individuals of this very pretty finch in the higher part of Calilegua National Park
334		Stripe-headed Brush-Finch	<i>Buarremon torquatus</i>	Calilegua
335		Saffron-billed Sparrow	<i>Arremon flavirostris</i>	X
336	NE	Stripe-capped Sparrow	<i>Aimophila strigiceps</i>	Not uncommon in Cordoba
337		Grassland Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i>	X
338		Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	X
Family Cardinalidae (Grosbeaks, Saltators)				
339		Black-backed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus aureoventris</i>	Seen near Tafi
340		Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	X
341		Golden-billed Saltator	<i>Saltator aurantirostris</i>	Common throughout
342	NT	Rufous-bellied Saltator	<i>Saltator rufiventris</i>	A pair of this rare Saltator was seen in Cuesta del Obispo.
343		Glaucous-blue Grosbeak	<i>Cyanoloxia glaucocerulea</i>	X
Family Icteridae (Orioles, Blackbirds)				
344		Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	Calilegua
345		Golden-winged Cacique	<i>Cacicus chrysopterus</i>	X
346		Epaulet Oriole	<i>Icterus cayanensis</i>	X
347		Unicolored Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus cyanopus</i>	X
348		Chestnut-capped Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus ruficapillus</i>	X
349		Baywing	<i>Agelaioides badius</i>	X
350		Screaming Cowbird	<i>Molothrus rufoaxillaris</i>	X
351		Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	X
352		White-browed Blackbird	<i>Leistes superciliaris</i>	There were several males displaying in a grassland in Cordoba.
353		Long-tailed Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella loyca</i>	Common throughout
Family Fringilidae (Cardueline Finches)				
354		Hooded Siskin	<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>	X
355		Black Siskin	<i>Carduelis atrata</i>	Several flocks in Tafi del Valle.
356		Yellow-rumped Siskin	<i>Carduelis uropygialis</i>	One bird seen between Humahuaca and Abra Pampa
Family Ploceidae (Sparrows)				
357		House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X
OTHER WILDLIFE				
		Vicuña	<i>Vicugna vicugna</i>	Several by the road near Abra Pampa
		Guanaco	<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	Some in the Monte Desert near Cafayate
		Argentine Grey Fox	<i>Lycalopex griseus</i>	We saw one in Cordoba.



Alder Parrot (c) Hector Slongo



Black-legged Seriema (c) Hector Slongo



Andean Flower (c) Hector Slongo



Giant Hummingbird on nest (c) Hector Slongo



Cactus (c) Hector Slongo



Tafi del Valle (c) Hector Slongo