

sweat my telescope. Finally, they clear me and I finish the run to the gate, which is already closed.

Luckily, the plane has been held to take on passengers from another flight that had a problem with the engine overheating during the taxi. Weather probably held it up a little, too. The couple behind me are transfers from the other flight. They spend most of the time bitching because their plane didn't take off and they haven't smoked in three hours, and won't be able to for another three. Where is the logic?

We fly through a light show over Tampa, a heavy thunderstorm with lots of turbulence. More and worse weather later on. The flight attendant starts freaking out when it gets bad over Philadelphia. He jumps into the seat next to me, buckles up and starts up a very loud and nervous conversation. I try to politely point out that he could be scaring us all to death. I'm ready to puke, but manage to make it until we hit the ground. We land at 19:50 and I have plenty of time for my next connection. This is good, because my stomach needs the rest. The flight into Allentown is fairly calm and very short.

Greg is waiting at the luggage carousel for me, but my luggage is not. Not a big problem, though. It just got held back during my late arrival at Miami and I get it the next afternoon. Still a perfect record.



Bolivia

**16 November
to
6 December
1996**

Notes from a Bird Bonanzas/ Expediciones
Manu Field Trip
leaders:
Barry Walker
Eustace Barnes

Report by Sherri LaBar
printed Sunday, April 23, 2000



THE GROUP:

Sol Satin, from Belchertown, Massachusetts

Joel Abramson, from Miami, Florida

Howie Nielson, from Alna, Maine

Louise Augustine, from Chillicothe, Illinois

Sherri LaBar, from Bangor, Pennsylvania

Barry Walker, from Peru and Great Britain

Eustace Barnes, from Great Britain

a cleaner set of traveling clothes, throw my shoes away and get my field boots shined for a Boliviano (less than 20¢). I feel like a new person. Well, maybe slightly used. 19:30 comes and goes and still no plane. They keep saying that it's coming and we'll leave at 20:30. A plane does arrive at that time, but then we are told that it is the Santa Cruz plane after we gather at the gate. Apparently, the only person who didn't know it was going to Santa Cruz was the pilot. The Santa Cruz passengers get on and leave, then the plane returns 15 minutes later after they find out it is going to La Paz.

The Santa Cruz passengers de-plane and Barry talks with the ground crew about baggage, which may or may not be on the right plane. Then we are told to board the plane. We leave

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Wattled Jacana	Undulated Tinamou - H
Saffron Finch	Picui Ground-Dove	Capped Heron
Cocoi Heron	White-tipped Dove	Southern Screamer
Grayish Saltator	Yellow-browed Sparrow	Green Ibis
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	Barred Antshrike	Red-crested Cardinal
Snail Kite	Savanna Hawk	Great Antshrike
Small-billed Tinamou - H	Cattle Tyrant	Common Tody-Flycatcher
Black-collared Hawk	Palm Tanager	Ringed Kingfisher
White-eyed Parakeet	Black-capped Donacobius	Great Pampa-Finch
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Streaked Flycatcher

just after 21:00. The flight is a lot smoother on the way back. Louise is without her luggage when we arrive in La Paz, so Barry is stuck at the airport straightening it out. Bummer.

Barry shows up at our room in under 1½ hours with the luggage. No way! Not in Bolivia. Louise is ecstatic. We are both up until midnight packing. I can't even think about writing notes, I am so tired. Even so, it's hard to fall asleep. I have trouble breathing. It feels like someone is sitting on my chest. And I've only been away a couple of days.

7 December

I awake early in the morning from a dream that I am drowning. I remember calling out for help, but fortunately, Louise sleeps right through it. I can't decide whether to call the doctor--what's he going to do anyway? I fall back asleep, but awake at 04:00, even as tired as I was last night. I feel dizzy. I get up at 04:30. We have to be at the airport early.

Our flight out of La Paz is again delayed due to weather at the next stop, Santa Cruz. We stay on the ground in Santa Cruz a little longer than scheduled, too. Then we hit weather coming into Miami. All of us have close connections with our next planes. I run to the US Air counter and ask if there's a chance of making my plane--it's 5 minutes to takeoff. The agent tells me to run to the gate with all my bags. I get harassed at gate X-ray for having bags that are oversized for carry-on, but I explain that I was told to bring them. Then they

6 December

Another 05:30 start again this morning, but Barry made sure that they bring us an enclosed second car. We start out on the Trinidad-La Havana road to see if we can get in the direction of a Blue-throated Macaw, but they didn't lie. We can't make it 200 meters down the road without getting hopelessly bogged down.

Trinidad; Clear, Sunny, 25°C, 05:30

Trinidad-la Havana Road; 05:45-06:30

We bird the road by the Trinidad Airport, where the tail of an airplane sticks up out of the marsh, marking a crash site from a few years ago. Eustace says the pilot tried three times to take off that day. That's where he ended up on the last run. Then we move on past a ceramic factory and eventually reach a Bolivian Naval Base! (Bolivia is landlocked). We get in the cars and drive around there so as not to create an international incident. From there we bird a mosquito-infested track along the river until lunch. The drivers bring us some fresh-fried Pacu made by a local lady. Outstanding!

At lunch we get rained on again for five minutes, then we walk on further. A kilometer or so out we get another good half-hour shower which turns the road into a minor stream with

Rufous-collared Sparrow	Sayaca Tanager	Great Kiskadee
Rufous Hornero	Tropical Kingbird	House Wren

slippery clay underneath. We huddle under umbrellas to protect equipment. Sure that we'll

Guira Cuckoo	Crested Caracara	Bay-winged Cowbird
House Wren	Orange-winged Parrot	White-faced Whistling-Duck
Rufous Hornero	Wattled Jacana	Shiny Cowbird
Smooth-billed Ani	Limpkin	Southern Rough-winged Swallow
Ruddy Ground-Dove	Great Kiskadee	Tropical Kingbird

have to push the cars back to the airport, we turn around as soon as the rain eases and slide back to the lunch spot. The drivers are smarter than we gave them credit for. They already moved the cars to higher ground, so we are able to bird the road back from the Naval Base. We drive around it again and walk back towards the airport until it's time to catch the flight. We are running out of birds anyway.

Trinidad-loma Suarez Road; Clear, to 32°C, 07:00-16:30

We arrive at the airport at 17:00 for the 19:30 flight. There's plenty of time to relax a little. All of us are caked in mud, sweat and insect repellent and looking pretty bad. I change into

The Itinerary

- 16 November 1996
AM, tropical savanna on the road from Viru Viru Airport to Montero, 440 m.
PM, tropical gallery woodland on the road to Rio Piray, 435 m.
- 17 November
All day, tropical savanna at Lomas De Arena Regional Reserve
- 18 November
AM, tropical deciduous forest (Chaco) 4 km E of Pedro Lorenzo, 600 m.
PM, flooded savanna with farms, Okinawa 1 to 2, 435 m.
- 19 November
AM, dry deciduous forest in Samaipata Canyon, 850 m.
PM, dry deciduous forest at Laguna Volcan, 1150 m., and further along in Samaipata Canyon; to 1600 m.
- 20 November
Early AM, Samaipata Pipeline, 1650 m.
PM drive to Tambo with stops at a dry creek bed @ 1525 m., and in cactus scrub near Tambo, 1650 m.
- 21 November
AM, xerophytic scrub behind Tambo Mission School, 1600 m.
PM, irrigated farmlands in the Rio Mizque Valley, 1400 m.
- 22 November
AM, humid temperate forest at Siberia, 2500-3000 m.
PM, deciduous woodland on Tunal Road, 2100-1700 m.
- 23 November
AM, humid temperate forest, Siberia Chica to Pojo, 2500 m., arid temperate valleys with Polylepis scrub, 2850 m.
PM, drive to Cochabamba
- 24 November
AM, humid temperate forest, Chapare Road - Tablas Montes turnoff, 2770 m.
PM, humid tropical forest, Puente Avispas trail 20 km. before Villa Tunari, 400 m.
- 25 November
AM, humid upper tropical forest, Chapare Road 1500-1000 m.
PM, remnant humid subtropical forest, Inca-chaca Road, 2150-2000 m.
- 26 November
AM, humid tropical forest, turnoff to San Rafael, and coca fields, 650 m. and humid upper tropical forest on Chapare Road, 1500-1700 m.
PM, elfin forest, Tablas Montes turnoff, 2900 m.
- 27 November
All day, arid temperate scrub and Polylepis woodland on Quillacolla Road, 2800-4000 m.
- 28 November
AM, xerophytic scrub at Sipe Sipe, 2600 m., then Puna grassland and Polylepis scrub on the Cochabamba to Oruro road,
PM, hot Springs 8 Km from Oruro, 3850 m.
- 29 November
AM, Saline flats on near-dry lake bed at Lago Uru-uru, 3800 m. and xerophytic hillside near the lake.
PM, puna grassland, Ingenio, 3800 m.
- 30 November
AM, xerophytic hillside at Lago Uru-uru, 3800 m., and near-dry lake

- bed at Lago Viru-viru, 3950 m.
PM, free in La Paz
- 1 December
All day, humid temperate and humid subtropical forest, La Cumbre to Sacramento Bajo on Coroico Road, 3200-2500 m.
- 2 December
AM, alpine lake surrounded by puna grassland at Laguna Ajuyani, 4350 m., and intermontane valley with arid scrub and terrestrial bromeliads at Churupata, 3200-3600 m.
PM, lake and puna grassland at Lago Titicaca
- 3 December
AM, roadside trail at Cotopata, 3200 m.
PM, alpine valley with puna grass slopes and scree slopes in the upper Pongo Valley and La Cumbre Pass, 4730-4840 m.
- 4 December
AM, eroded sand valley and public zoo at Mallasa, outskirts of La Paz
PM, fly to Trinidad
- 5 December
All day, flooded tropical savanna with pasture on the Santa Rosa road, returning via Laguna Suarez. 180 m.
- 6 December
All day, dry deciduous gallery woodland with scrubby flooded savanna on the Trinidad-Loma Suarez road, 180 m.
PM, fly to La Paz

MAMMALS & Other critters

Dusicyon thous - Fox sp.
Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth, *Bradypus variegatus*
Pampas Deer - *Odocoileus* or *Ozotoceros bezoarticus* (Joels thinks)
or
Red Brocket Deer - *Mazama americana* (I think)
Brazilian Squirrel- *Sciurus aestuans*
Bolivian Squirrel - *Sciurus ignitus*
Cavia aperea - lowland Guinea Pig
Cavia tshudii - highland Guinea Pig, 2000-3800m (Quillacolla Road)
Bolivian Cavy - *Microcavia niata*
South American Coati - *Nasua nasua*
European hare - *Lepus europaeus*
Dusky Titi Monkey - *Callicebus moloch*
White (Spectacled) Caiman

Great Antshrike	Thrush-like Wren	Toco Toucan
White-rumped Monjita	Short-crested Flycatcher	Southern Scrub-Flycatcher
Black Vulture	Streaked Flycatcher	Olivaceous Woodcreeper
Brown-chested Martin	Brown-crested Flycatcher	Yellow-chinned Spinetail
American Kestrel	Silver-beaked Tanager	Buff-necked Ibis
Snail Kite	Capped Heron	Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Plain-crowned Spinetail	Masked Tityra	Dusky-headed Parakeet
Bay-winged Cowbird	Small-billed Tinamou - H	Purple-throated Euphonia - H
Blue-crowned Trogon	Greater Ani	Lineated Woodpecker
Fawn-breasted Wren	Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Greater Thornbird
Masked Gnatcatcher	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	Gray-breasted Martin
Yellow-rumped Cacique	*Slender-billed Kite	Troupial 'Campo Oriole'
Hooded Tanager	White-tipped Dove	Pale-vented Pigeon
Solitary Sandpiper	Rufous Cacholote	Campo Flicker
Wood Stork	Lesser Elaenia	Crane Hawk
Crested Oropendola	Grayish Saltator	Rusty-collared Seedeater
Barred Antshrike	Rufous Casiornis	Barn Swallow
Giant Cowbird	Masked Yellowthroat - H	
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	White-wedged Piculet	
Solitary Cacique	Creamy-bellied Thrush	
Sayaca Tanager	Boat-billed Flycatcher	
Plumbeous Kite	Black-billed Thrush	
Roadside Hawk	Mato Grosso Antbird	
House Wren	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	
Dull-capped Attila - H	Chestnut-eared Aracari - H	

Trinidad; 18:30
Rock Dove
House Sparrow

We have a whole hour before meeting for supper, which is a nice change. Louise and I both have time to shower and wash clothes. Mine got pretty disgusting today in the rain and mud. I don't really feel much like anything else. I'm very tired from hanging on to the roll bar and standing on the deck all day. It's raining again when we meet for dinner. We eat in town at a place on the plaza. I can barely stay awake until the food comes, but it's worth the wait. The meal is excellent.

Gray-necked Wood-Rail	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	Southern Lapwing
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Large-billed Tern
Blue-and-yellow Macaw	Red-eyed Vireo	Yellow-billed Tern
White-tailed Goldenthrout	Plush-crested Jay	
Common Tody-Flycatcher	Black-billed Thrush	
Neotropic Cormorant	Yellow-browed Sparrow	
Campo Flicker	Crested Oropendola	
Nacunda Nighthawk	Black-fronted Nunbird	
White-winged Swallow	Palm Tanager	
Long-winged Harrier	Plumbeous Ibis	

plastic bags and hide in the vehicle. And since our vehicle is short of places to hide, I get soaked. This is where the open bed has a definite disadvantage. I get fairly well dried off

Rufous Hornero
Cattle Tyrant
Great Kiskadee
Guira Cuckoo

Sayaca Tanager
White-eyed Parakeet
House Sparrow
Rock Dove

Black-billed Thrush
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet

walking along and during the short driving spurts, then we get hit by a much longer and harder storm in the afternoon and I get soaked all over again.

Trinidad/santa Rosa Road; Clear, Sunny, 33°C, 07:00-14:00

We decide to try to drive through the storm on the way to Rio Mamore and find a spot to bird where it clears. It takes some skillful driving to get us through the mud that the road has turned into. I put my equipment in the cab and ride out in the back to dry out. It's not too bad. It's real warm out. It actually feels good when the hot sun starts scorching us again later, but that wears out real fast. We stop for drinks at Laguna Suarez, then continue birding the area until the sun goes down. Barry snags us a couple Plumbeous Ibis on the way back into town just before dark.

Trinidad-laguna Suarez to Rio Mamore; 14:00-18:00

Wattled Jacana
Smooth-billed Ani
Azure Gallinule
Limpkin
Peach-fronted Parakeet
White-faced Whistling-Duck
Chestnut-fronted Macaw
Anhinga
Roseate Spoonbill
Muscovy Duck
Cattle Tyrant
Golden-collared Macaw
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck
Blue-winged Parrotlet
Maguari Stork
*Large Elaenia
Great Kiskadee
Brazilian Tinamou
Greater Rhea
Chopi Blackbird
Southern Screamer

Red-crested Cardinal
Savanna Hawk
Rufous Hornero
Unicolored Blackbird
Ringed Kingfisher
Chotoy Spinetail
Blue-black Grassquit
Guira Cuckoo
Ruddy Ground-Dove
White-bellied Seedeater - 'bicolored'
White-eyed Parakeet
Chalk-browed Mockingbird
Orange-winged Parrot
Great-billed Seed-Finch
Crested Caracara
Striped Cuckoo
Red-capped Cardinal
Southern Lapwing
Cocoi Heron
Great Egret
Striated Heron

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture
Purplish Jay
Golden-tailed Sapphire
Rufescent Tiger-Heron
Whistling Heron
Amazon Kingfisher
White Monjita
Black-collared Hawk
Jabiru
Green Ibis
Great Black-Hawk
Bare-faced Ibis
Saffron Finch
Gray Monjita
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet
Tropical Kingbird
Turkey Vulture
Rufous-tailed Jacamar
Shiny Cowbird
Black-capped Donacobius
Undulated Tinamou - H

15 November 1996

It's 4°C and clear, a real nice day for traveling. My flights are from Allentown to Philadelphia at noon, then from Philadelphia at 14:30 to Miami. The first flight is short. We're only in the air 23 minutes. The layover in Philadelphia passes pretty quickly, but a little shorter would have been nice. We land in Miami at 17:18, buffeted by a strong wind. I search the concourses in vain for a locker--it seems they've all been taken out of service. Maybe a security thing. I'm stuck waiting with my luggage until I can check in for the La Paz flight. Fortunately, it's only an hour and a half. I do that at 19:00, then wander around the shops a little, then go to the gate. There are only a few people around.

I wanted to spend some of the waiting time studying, because I really didn't get much of a chance to do any yet. I didn't get a lot of sleep last night, though, and I'm feeling it now. I decide to settle in and nap a little before the flight. I put my Birds of the High Andes book out next to me so others from the group will be able to locate me. Within a few minutes, Louise Augustine sees the book and introduces herself to me. We are to be roommates for the trip. Joel Abramson arrives a few minutes later, then Sol Satin and Howie Nielson. That's all of us--a nice small group. Louise and Howie have travelled together before, and the rest of us are strangers, but not for long. I've got a feeling Louise and I are going to get along real well.

The plane to La Paz is small, 6 seats across, and not very full, so there's room to stretch out. We take off at 21:17 and it's still very windy.

16 November

We land in La Paz at 05:40 (06:40 local time). As soon as we depressurize I can feel the altitude. My watch reads 3920 meters. It's a good thing we don't start from here.

La Paz Airport; 06:40

Rufous-collared Sparrow

After a re-supply, we take off at 07:35 and land in Santa Cruz at 08:40. We have luggage and are out of the airport by 09:00. Our drivers, Roberto and Juan Carlos, and our guide, Eustace Barnes, are waiting outside with an 11-passenger Ford van from La Paz. They said it takes 10 to 16 hours to drive from La Paz. I guess that depends if you're Bolivian or American.

We take a few minutes to get some gear together in the parking lot, then take off birding immediately down an unused road parallel to the airport runway.

Santa Cruz, Viru Viru Airport; 440 m, 09:10-11:15

We are forced to stop when a heavy rain hits while we are out tramping through a grassy

area. We turn back right away, but by the time we get to the van we are soaked from

White-browed Blackbird	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Sayaca Tanager
Burrowing Owl	Blue-black Grassquit	Chotoy Spinetail
Chopi Blackbird	Red-winged Tinamou-H	Small-billed Elaenia
Rock Dove	Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	Tropical Kingbird
Whistling Heron	White-faced Whistling-Duck	Roadside Hawk
Grassland Sparrow	American Kestrel	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Smooth-billed Ani	Limpkin	Yellow-browed Tyrant
Cattle Tyrant	Southern Lapwing	
Long-winged Harrier	Saffron Finch	
Savanna Hawk	Ruddy Ground-Dove	
Black Vulture	Guira Cuckoo	

crossing through the fields. At least I had enough presence of mind to stick an umbrella in my pocket when we walked away from the van. Eustace decides to take us to the hotel in town to unpack and change while the weather is bad. We are staying in the Hotel La Paz, close to the Plaza Mayor. We dry off and re-pack our stuff into day packs, then regroup at 13:00. By then the rain is done and it is bright and sunny again.

Santa Cruz; 13:00

Rock Dove
House Sparrow

It takes us half an hour to get out of town. We bird along the new Cochabamba highway for a few miles, then turn left onto a side road that cuts through cattle pastures towards the Rio Piray. The road is red clay which is very slick after the rains, and the drivers don't make it very far with the van. We walk "five minutes" further, which turns out to be over an hour. Eustace finally decides we've seen enough birds by 16:00 and we have our first meal of the day. The drivers dish up some Spam type meat and goat cheese on dry bread, with apples and bananas for dessert. Tastes great.

While we're eating, an Ash-throated Crake begins to call. We chase after the sound into the palm swamp, but can't seem to get close enough to it for a reasonable attack, so we give up. We decide to stop for the day, just keeping an eye out for anything interesting on the way back to the hotel. We're all pretty tired. What kind of birding trip is this anyway?

We flush a small tinamou from the edge of a field on the way back out and give that a try. The first thing we kick up is the larger Red-winged Tinamou, then on the way back to the van we find the original bird, a White-bellied Nothura. Very good stop.

Barry mentioned that his wife Charo had already called the hotel to check on him. She heard that the flight was cancelled and she had become panicky. Now it clicks why Barry's name is so familiar and he is so scared of plane rides. John Arvin had mentioned his name on one of my trips last year. He's the one whose wife and friend were killed in a plane crash going into a research area a few years ago. He was supposed to be with them, but stayed back at the last minute because he felt he had too much work to do back at the office.

I set the alarm for 03:00 so that I can listen for night things later. It's still just as noisy at that hour. The town must never sleep.

5 December

We start at 05:30, but there's a little snag. The driver Barry hired shows up on time, but with only one vehicle, a Nissan Safari. We try to make do and cram three people in the cargo area with the cooler and gear, but it is obviously a bad idea. Barry asks the driver how long to get a second vehicle, and we are told 15 minutes. Eustace and the others go on ahead while Barry, Howie and I wait at the hotel for a second car.

In retrospect, we should have gone to the first birding spot and waited there while the car came to us. At 06:00 we get a call that the driver is 5 minutes away. It is 06:30 before the vehicle shows up. It is an endless wait, knowing that we are missing the best activity of the day. Barry is about ready to launch himself. The second vehicle is a Dodge truck with a bench seat. Still not enough room for all of us, but we are happy just to have transport. Howie and I stand up in the truck bed, hang onto the roll bar and enjoy the fresh air.

Trinidad; 180m, Clear, Sunny, 28°C, 05:30-06:30

We catch up with the others outside town and get the rundown of what they've already tallied. They have a huge list already. They show us the catch-up birds quickly. We continue on the Trinidad-Santa Rosa road, birding while the drivers follow. They are quickly bored to death, but Howie shows them some stuff in the Questar and they seem to enjoy that. Barry had warned them ahead of time to bring reading material, but no one ever seems to realize that people could actually be doing this. They always think we are exaggerating.

We get hit by a 5-minute shower at our lunch stop. It's just enough to make us dash for

Gray-necked Wood-Rail	White-tailed Goldenthrout	Campo Flicker
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	Common Tody-Flycatcher	Nacunda Nighthawk
Blue-and-yellow Macaw	Neotropic Cormorant	White-winged Swallow

little outside while waiting. They open the gate ten minutes late, so we have just under an hour to run around the place.

Mallasa, Zoo; Calm, Sunny, to 25°C, 09:00-11:00

We catch a Turbo (in name only) for B\$2 to take us back to town just after 11:00. It stops so many times that we don't reach the drop-off point four blocks from the hotel until 12:20, and we were supposed to be back by noon. We hike hard up the steep Calle Santa Cruz to get back, but Sol and Howie are just getting back, too. They spent the morning exploring museums. We check out of the hotel and Barry takes us a few blocks away to the Hotel Presidente for the lunch buffet. Grand food; this is where the celebrities eat.

Our flight out of town is delayed for at least 45 minutes while they wait for weather to clear in Trinidad. At 17:00, we get news that the plane might leave at 20:00. Barry starts

Tropical Kingbird	Picui Ground-Dove	White-bellied Hummingbird
Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant	Rock Dove	Chiguanco Thrush
Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant	Band-tailed Seedeater	Rufous-collared Sparrow
Andean Gull	Solitary Sandpiper	Andean Swallow
Golden-billed Saltator	Puna Yellow-Finch	Brown-backed Mockingbird
Turkey Vulture	Bare-faced Ground-Dove	
Mountain Caracara	Red-tailed Comet	
Eared Dove	Sparkling Violet-ear	

scrambling around making arrangements for whatever might happen if the flight doesn't go. And we wait some more. We are given vouchers for sodas in the cafeteria and we spend the time up there. That's where Barry gives us the news that Hillary Clinton is leaving La Paz and is probably the real reason why we aren't going anywhere. We watch the goings on with her departure, which takes over an hour. Then after her plane leaves, a military transport lands to pick up the ten Chevy Suburbans that were flown into the country to chauffeur her around. At 19:30 it's announced that our plane has arrived and we will be able to leave. Hurray! Now we just have to make it over Illampu, then we should be home free into Trinidad. I get a big WOW! from the security guy at X-ray, but he lets me go through without a hand check.

We finally leave at 20:20 in an eighteen passenger plane. We land at 21:40 and are checked into our 5 star hotel (!!!) by 22:00. The place even has a Jacuzzi and tub in the room, air-conditioning, and a TV with remote. The best place we've stayed. The only drawback is that it is located on the intersection of two busy avenidas, and the main occupation around here seems to be cruising the streets on mini bikes. It's pretty noisy.

Santa Cruz, New Cochabamba Road; 13:30-14:30

Road to the Rio Piray; 14:30-17:30

Eastern Kingbird	Cattle Egret	Bobolink
Swainson's Hawk - hundreds	Rufous Hornero	Red-winged Tinamou
Black Vulture	Tropical Kingbird	Rusty-collared Seedeater
Turkey Vulture	Greater Rhea - 4	Common Nighthawk
Common Moorhen	White-rumped Swallow	Campo Flicker - at the golf course
Creamy-bellied Thrush	Crested Caracara	Guira Cuckoo
Great Kiskadee	Great Egret	
	Grassland Sparrow	

I counted 77 birds today, a short day. We take a long break before meeting for supper @ 19:30. We walk to the plaza to look for something. Eustace knows of a good pizza joint on

Southern Lapwing	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Little Woodpecker
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	Neotropic Cormorant	Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher
Cattle Tyrant	Capped Heron	Roseate Spoonbill
Red-winged Tinamou	Speckled Chachalaca	Barred Antshrike
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	White-eyed Parakeet	Turkey Vulture
*Gray-and-chestnut Seedeater	Solitary Sandpiper	Alder Flycatcher
Chopi Blackbird	Guira Cuckoo	Thrush-like Wren
Wattled Jacana	Purplish Jay	Blue-winged Parrotlet
Smooth-billed Ani	Saffron Finch	Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Crested Oropendola	Roadside Hawk	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird	Brown-chested Martin	Ash-throated Crake - H
Greater Ani	Masked Yellowthroat	Golden-collared Macaw
White-browed Blackbird	Savanna HawkRuddy	Striated Heron
Limpkin	Ground-Dove	Lined Seedeater
Burrowing Owl	House Wren	Purple Gallinule
Bare-faced Ibis	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	*White-bellied Nothura
Blue-black Grassquit	Social Flycatcher	
	Small-billed Tinamou - H	

the corner, but they are closed, so we pick a churascaria on another side of the square. The plaza is loaded with people out enjoying the relative coolness of the evening. Our other guide for the trip, Barry Walker, pops in on us a little after 20:00. He said never to take the Varig flight from Sao Paulo to Lima. It was the scariest one he's ever been on. They had a four hour delay right at the start because the first plane they took couldn't get over the Andes.

We immediately start to grill him about what's in store for us. He tries to be as vague as possible so as not to get us too excited. Eventually, we ease up and let him calm himself down with a good meal and a few beers.

17 November

We put in for a 04:00 wake-up call to be on the road at 04:15. We arrive at the first location on the road to Lomas de Arena at 05:00, right at dawn. Lomas de Arena means hills of sand, and the entire road in is soft sand. The first stop is determined by where the van gets stuck. While we bird a little, the drivers extract the van, then make breakfast there.

Fairly deep puddles from recent rains have made it even worse to navigate the road. We don't make it more than a mile before we have to push the van out of a mudhole. Mudhole number two is fairly deep, and we all get out to lighten the load. The van gets totally bogged down in this one. We abandon the drivers while we continue to bird on foot to the entrance to the park. This involves crossing a couple of flooded areas that are nearly over our boots, then fording a small stream.

We bird the park itself for a little over an hour, then begin walking back to the van. They had followed us almost to the entrance when the engine completely died. The water in the last ditch had sucked up into the exhaust pipe. Then the fine clay particles made a mess of the engine.

Juan Carlos makes us a lunch of tuna-corn sandwiches with tomato and cucumber. While we eat, Roberto keeps trying to get the engine started. It will sometimes turn over, but he can't keep it running. It sounds awful. It's 12:30 and it's obvious the van is going nowhere. They call into town for someone to come out and help them.

We salvage the rest of the afternoon by walking out to the turnoff to the park. It takes two and a half hours during the hottest part of the day to walk the 8 kilometers. There is no shade anywhere along the road, but there is a nice breeze blowing. I register 45° maximum temperature, so we're glad for any breeze. I get sunburned pretty badly and we get very few new birds.

When no help had come by the time we get to the main road, we decide to get back to the

back. What a guy!

Upper Pongo Valley; 4000-4220m, storm, 13°C, 13:30-16:30

The last stop of the day is to walk to a bog above La Cumbre Pass, where it has been reported that Diademed Sandpiper-Plover can be seen. We don't feel like it's too probable, but we don't have any better ideas, so we embark on the trek. Mostly, we just find a ton of Bright-rumped Yellow-Finches.

La Cumbre Pass; 4730-4840m, 13°C, 17:00-18:00

Enough for one day. We go back to the hotel, where we find out that our flight for tomorrow has been moved from 09:00 to 17:00, so we have the whole day to waste in La Paz. We aren't sure what we're going to do yet. It starts to pour around 23:00. The thunder echoes

Andean Tapaculo - Puna or Vilcabamba	White-winged Cinclodes Plain-capped Ground-Tyrant	*D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant Tawny Tit-Spinetail
*Blue-mantled Thornbill Bar-winged Cinclodes	*Cinereous Ground-Tyrant *Short-tailed Finch - 13	Scribble-tailed Canastero Andean Swallow
Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	Andean Flicker	Peruvian Sierra-Finch

forever through the valley. It really sounds great.

4 December

Louise and I are both awake by 04:00, but doze and enjoy the warm covers until 06:30, then get up to go for the buffet breakfast at the hotel. We decide to spend the morning

Silvery Grebe	Andean Hillstar
Streak-throated Canastero	Andean Lapwing
Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch	Andean Gull

exploring an area called the Valley of the Moon. The desk clerk gives us instructions on how to catch a Micro (Bus 11 to Mallasa for B\$1.20) and says it will take about 30 minutes. We only wait ten minutes until the bus comes by and we flag it down. After about 40 minutes, we are getting to an area that looks like the guidebooks describe, but we have no way of knowing when we are where we want to be. I ask a local guy sitting next to us if Mallasa is ahead, and he points it out to us when we get there. Very nice people. We hop off the bus at the top of a ridge, then hike down a kilometer to the local zoo. The Valley of the Moon itself is a bit unusual, but not very birdy. It's kind of like a mini Grand Canyon, deeply eroded sand deposits.

The zoo is closed when we get there and we have to wait until ten to get in. We explore a

Lower Pongo Valley; 3800m, Mod Wind, 28°C, 11:15-13:00

White-rumped Hawk	Spectacled Redstart	Band-tailed Pigeon
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Sierran Elaenia	Common Bush-Tanager
Tufted Tit-Tyrant	Light-crowned Spinetail	Turkey Vulture
*Moustached Flower-piercer	Pearled Treerunner	Pale-footed Swallow
Unicolored Tapaculo - Diademed	Capped Conebill	Stripe-faced Wood-Quail - H
Three-striped Hemispingus	*Orange-browed Hemispingus	Tyrian Metaltail
Black-throated Thistletail	Golden-collared Tanager	White-crested Elaenia
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher	Chiguanco Thrush
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	*Rufous Antpitta - H	Blue-backed Conebill
Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Black-winged Parrot	
Citrine Warbler	Pale-legged Warbler	
Amethyst-throated Sunangel	Mountain Caracara	
Violet-throated Starfrontlet	Masked Flower-piercer	

After lunch we embark on a killer hike through the upper Pongo Valley looking for Short-tailed Finch. We have to get very high in elevation and up onto the rock scree in order to have a chance to find the bird. Every step is exhausting. We finally locate a small flock of

Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	Plush-capped Finch
Puna Hawk	Band-tailed Seedeater
Glossy-black Thrush - H	Slaty Finch

finches and some ground-tyrants a couple kilometers in and high up on the slope. The last couple hundred yards involves a little bit of climbing. Every step I take is followed by half a minute of gasping for air. When I finally make it to where the others have the birds scoped out I can barely hold my binocs up. It's pretty pitiful.

Eustace volunteers to climb up behind the birds and push them around a little, but it begins to rain while we wait, and we abandon him. By the time we reach the end of the valley the

Bar-winged Cinclodes	Peruvian Sierra-Finch	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch
White-browed Conebill	House Wren	Mountain Caracara
Great Sapphirewing	Brown-bellied Swallow	Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant
Black-throated Flower-piercer	Torrent Duck	Great Thrush
Aplomado Falcon	Plain-colored Seedeater	

rain has stopped. Howie and Louise are already birding again and are waiting for us with a Scribble-tailed Canastero close to the van. Howie rounds up Sol and we all get great looks of what seems to be a breeding pair that isn't too shy or is too busy to notice us.

Shortly after that Eustace and Barry arrive, griping at us for ditching them. Barry had gone ahead and had two finches staked out, not knowing that we already had some and weren't following anymore. He waited for us until it started to rain, then ran into Eustace on the way

hotel on our own, using a local bus. They stop a lot through the barrios on the way in and it takes 40 minutes to get near the main square. Then it's another ten minute walk to get to the hotel. Barry tries to give us a three-hour break before meeting for the list, but no one wants it. A little time to shower and change is all that's necessary.

We meet at six in the lobby to do the list, then walk to the square to change money with one of the money changers on the street. Brown-throated three-toed sloths live in the trees in the square, and Barry finds one for us to look at. Back at the hotel, we find out that the van isn't as dead as we thought. The mechanics are cleaning it out and it'll be ready by morning. I write notes while the others are at supper, but I'm still not done by the time Louise gets back. It's nearly midnight by the time I turn in.

Lomas de Arena; elevation 500m, partly sunny, 25-45°C, moderate wind, 05:00-14:00

Santa Cruz; 1530

Rock Dove
House Sparrow

[Fox species, Dusicyon thous]
Nacunda Nighthawk
Red-winged Tinamou - H
Chopi Blackbird
Solitary Sandpiper
Striated Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Small-billed Tinamou - H
Crested Caracara
Grayish Saltator
Great Egret
Ruddy Ground-Dove
Red-crested Finch
Greater Thornbird
Striped Cuckoo
Smooth-billed Ani
Barred Antshrike
Great Antshrike
Limpkin
Wood Stork
Tropical Kingbird
Gray-necked Wood-Rail
Grassland Sparrow
Eastern Kingbird
White-bellied Seedeater - 'bicolor'
Ringed Kingfisher
Wattled Jacana

White-browed Blackbird
Greater Ani
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet
Picui Ground-Dove
Rufous Hornero
Plain Tyrannulet
Masked Gnatcatcher
Southern Lapwing
White Woodpecker
Fork-tailed Flycatcher
Spotted Sandpiper
Lined Seedeater
Pinnated Bittern-1st Bolivian record
Brazilian Teal
White-faced Whistling-Duck
Comb Duck
White-cheeked Pintail
Burrowing Owl
Lesser Yellowlegs
Chalk-browed Mockingbird
Lesser Elaenia
Small-billed Elaenia
Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Blue-winged Parrotlet
Black Vulture
Savanna Hawk
Greater Yellowlegs

Whistling Heron
White-tailed Kite
*White-rumped Monjita
Campo Flicker
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant
Saffron Finch
White-eared Puffbird
Blue-crowned Parakeet
Ash-throated Crane - H
Sayaca Tanager
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch
Chotoy Spinetail
Shiny Cowbird
Guira Cuckoo
Gray-breasted Martin
Brown-chested Martin
White-rumped Swallow
Thrush-like Wren
House Wren
Common Thornbird
Alder Flycatcher - H four
American Kestrel
Straight-billed Woodcreeper - H
Yellowish Pipit
White-bellied Nothura
Upland Sandpiper
South American Snipe
Turkey Vulture

Rufescent Tiger-Heron	Plush-crested Jay	Bran-colored Flycatcher
Snail Kite	Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher	Black-faced Tanager
Cattle Egret	Great Kiskadee	Purplish Jay
Common Moorhen	Rufous-browed Peppershrike - H	
Bobolink	Solitary Caciue	
Ultramarine Grosbeak	Creamy-bellied Thrush	
Barn Swallow	Neotropic Cormorant	
Cattle Tyrant	Plumbeous Seedeater	
Broad-winged Hawk	*Spot-backed Puffbird	
Roadside Hawk	Streaked Flycatcher	
White-tipped Dove	Glittering-bellied Emerald	

[Brown-throated three-toed sloth]

18 November

We get to leave at 05:00 this morning. I'm not sure why so late, since it's an hour to the target area, and it's already hot when we get there. It is an area of chaco 4 kilometers east of Pedro Lorenzo. There are a couple of houses in the area, and signs that indicate some development is going on, but for now it's pretty undisturbed. We find a captive Greater Rhea, Common Piping-Guan and Red-and-green Macaw at a rancher's house. A worker there tells us that there are birds all around. Thanks, we'll be sure to keep our eyes open. We explore in the area until 11:00, then have a quick lunch and get back on the road for a long drive to the afternoon location.

Santa Cruz to Pedro Lorenzo; 05:00-06:00

4 KM East of Pedro Lorenzo; 600m, Sunny, 28-35°C, 06:00-11:00

From 11:30 to 14:00, We drive to the Japanese settlements of Okinawa I and Okinawa II by way of Montero. Past Montero, the road is unpaved; ungodly dry and dusty and bumpy.

House Sparrow	Peach-fronted Parakeet	Black Vulture
Rock Dove	Ruddy Ground-Dove	Turkey Vulture
Tropical Kingbird	Picui Ground-Dove	Smooth-billed Ani
Eastern Kingbird	Chopi Blackbird	Grassland Sparrow
Yellow-headed Caracara	Yellow-billed Cardinal	
Crested Caracara		

There is a bridge under repair every hundred meters. It pretty much looks like there won't

Undulated Tinamou - H	Blue-crowned Parakeet	Blue Dacnis
Red-legged Seriema - H	Peach-fronted Parakeet	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker
Burrowing Owl	Blue-black Grassquit	Dusky-headed Parakeet
Small-billed Tinamou - H	Chopi Blackbird	Greater Ani
Grassland Sparrow	American Kestrel	Blue-winged Parrotlet
Red-winged Tinamou - H		

sections of road and some trucks block the way. The detour that we are sent on isn't passable by our van, so we have to wait while Eustace and Juan Carlos discuss the matter with the road workers. This gets nowhere (surprise!) and eventually Roberto decides to try to drive over the ditch that bars our way. We scrape the bumper a little, but manage to get through and back into town for an early dinner. Barry gives us the most awful news. We won't be going to see the Blue-throated Macaw because the roads running to the site have turned into rivers due to heavy rains. Everyone is very disappointed. That was the reason most of us came on this trip. I get the impression Barry has known for a couple of days but put off telling us in hopes that the roads might get better. No such luck.

*Short-winged Grebe - seven	Wren-like Rushbird	Yellow-billed Pintail
White-tufted Grebe	Many-colored Rush-Tyrant	Andean Duck
Chilean Flamingo	Andean Gull	Cinnamon Teal
Wilson's Phalarope	Puna Teal	Burrowing Owl
Common Moorhen	Andean Swallow	*Peruvian Sierra-Finch
Slate-colored (Andean) Coot	Barn Swallow	Andean Flicker
White-backed Stilt	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Plumbeous Sierra-Finch
Plumbeous Rail	Yellow-winged Blackbird	

3 December

We have a late departure at 05:00 because our first stop is closer to La Paz. We go back up Coroico Road and over La Cumbre pass again and bird a track near Cotopata before breakfast.

Cotopata; 3350m, Clear, Sunny 20°C, 06:30-08:30

After we eat, we try to walk the road a little further, but a lot of construction has taken away the road-edge habitat. We try two different paths that end up leading nowhere.

Old Road to Chuspipata; 3350M, 10:30

We decide to move up higher in elevation and work on some different species instead. We search the area of the fish hatchery at Pongo for Scribble-tailed Canastero without any luck, then decide to break for lunch there.

way in. We end up finding another pair at that location. We also find Black-hooded Sunbeam feeding at a red and blue flowered plant. It is not supposed to be here. An interesting fact is that five of the birds we found this morning are not on the Peru list, even though we are within eyesight of the border. Barry and Eustace begin formulating the plans for an expedition to come out to the border next year and try to add them to the country list.

Rock Dove	Black-crowned Night-Heron	House Sparrow
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Mountain Caracara	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch
Cattle Egret	American Kestrel	
Snowy Egret	Puna Ibis	

Giant Coot - 49	Greater Yellowlegs	Yellow-winged Blackbird
Slate-colored (Andean) Coot	Andean Lapwing	Andean Gull
Neotropic Cormorant	Crested Duck	Bar-winged Cinclodes
Andean Duck	Puna Teal	Mountain Caracara
Andean Goose	Silvery Grebe	Speckled Teal
Lesser Yellowlegs	Yellow-billed Pintail	Common Moorhen

Churupata; 3200-3600m, to 30°C, 09:00-11:30

We drive back to Lago Titicaca and have lunch by the lake. A local lady washing clothes near where we park comes over after we are done and asks for our leftovers. We walk as close to the lake as we can and find the grebe just as a driving hailstorm hits. We wait it out in the van after shoring up Roberto's window. It lasts less than an hour, then we go out again and scope the lake until the end of the day. The weather clears nicely, giving us good views of the mountains and better views of the birds we had been looking at before.

Lake Titicaca; Ptly Cloudy, Lt Wind, 23°C, 13:00-16:00

Getting back into town is a little tougher than leaving. There is construction on one of the

White-winged Black-Tyrant	Chiguanco Thrush	Andean Flicker
Eared Dove	American Kestrel	*Black-hooded Sunbeam
Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	Picui Ground-Dove	Andean Tinamou - H
*Berlepsch's Canastero - five	Band-tailed Seedeater	Turkey Vulture
Cinereous Conebill	Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail	Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant
House Wren	Green-tailed Trainbearer	Golden-billed Saltator
*Black-throated Flower-piercer	Great Sapphirewing	

Saffron Finch	Plush-crested Jay	Creamy-bellied Thrush
Streaked Flycatcher	Purplish Jay	Campo Flicker
Sayaca Tanager	Comb Duck	White Woodpecker
Canary-winged Parakeet	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	Striped Cuckoo
White-collared Swift Guira Cuckoo	Plumbeous Kite	Alder Flycatcher
Magpie Tanager	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher
Pale-vented Pigeon	Roadside Hawk	Barred Antshrike
Cocoi Heron	Grayish Saltator	Red-crested Finch
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Common Thornbird	House Wren
Red-eyed Vireo	Swainson's Hawk - 400	Gilded Sapphire
Lineated Woodpecker	White-eared Puffbird	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Crested Oropendola	Spot-backed Puffbird	[Deer species - small, rounded
Chestnut-eared Aracari	Rufous Hornero	ears, redder on the rump - Red
Scaly-headed Parrot	Shiny Cowbird	brocket?]
Picazuro Pigeon	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	
Thrush-like Wren	Troupial	

be any nice habitat at all. Eventually, we find a good stretch of marsh before reaching Okinawa II. We stay in that area until almost dark.

Okinawa I to II; hazy, overcast, 35°C, 14:00-17:30

19 November

Grayish Saltator	Sand Martin (Bank Swallow)	Black-capped Donacobius
Solitary Sandpiper	Rusty-collared Seedeater	Ash-throated Crane - H
Cattle Tyrant	Unicolored Blackbird	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet
Wattled Jacana	Barred Antshrike	White-browed Blackbird
Golden-collared Macaw	White-tailed Kite	Whistling Heron
Southern Lapwing	Blue-black Grassquit	White-bellied Seedeater
Tropical Kingbird	Chestnut-capped Blackbird	Yellow-billed Cardinal
Cattle Egret	Undulated Tinamou - H	Striated Heron
Neotropic Cormorant	Gray-breasted Martin	Common Moorhen
Barn Swallow	Striped Cuckoo	Yellow-chinned Spinetail
Eastern Kingbird	White-bellied Nothura	Red-crested Cardinal
Red-crested Finch	Bat Falcon	Double-collared Seedeater
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Thrush-like Wren	Rufous-sided Crane - H
Greater Thornbird	Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	Social Flycatcher
White-backed Stilt	White-eyed Parakeet	Black-backed Water-Tyrant
Limpkin	American Kestrel	Gilded Sapphire
Snail Kite	Crested Oropendola	Purple Gallinule
Great Egret	Lined Seedeater	Blue-fronted Parrot
White-rumped Swallow	Saffron Finch	Green-cheeked Parakeet
Small-billed Tinamou	Scarlet-headed Blackbird	Long-winged Harrier
Red-winged Tinamou - H	Ruddy Ground-Dove	Cocoi Heron

Wood Stork

We deliver bags at 04:00 to get a good head start on the day. The drivers have our gear loaded and we're on the road at 04:30. We have an addition to the roster today - another guy from the tour company. Now we are starting to get cramped. We take the old road to Cochabamba and stop at different places along the way to bird. At dawn we are at the entrance checkpoint for Cochabamba road and tick off the day's trash birds.

Cochabamba Road Checkpoint; 05:30

Rufous Hornero
House Sparrow

As soon as we get out away from civilization, we pick a spot and start walking. The road follows the Samaipata Canyon, with steep, forest covered hillsides and hardly a sign of civilization most of the way. We take a side trail up the hill and then walk the road until traffic starts to increase.

Samaipata Canyon; 850m, clear, 23°C, 06:00-08:30

A side trip up a steep dirt road takes us into a little park called Laguna Volcan. It produces a few new birds, most notably a skyfull of Swallow-tailed Kites swirling over the lake. I take

Plush-crested Jay	Silver-beaked Tanager	King Vulture
Purplish Jay	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	*Solitary Eagle
Tataupa Tinamou - H	Turkey Vulture	Cliff Flycatcher
Little Tinamou - H	Black Vulture	Ultramarine Grosbeak
White-tipped Dove	Green-cheeked Parakeet	Yellow-browed Sparrow
Crested Oropendola	Blue-crowned Trogon	Blue-and-yellow Tanager
Lineated Woodpecker	White-winged Becard - H	House Wren Thrush-like Wren
Streaked Flycatcher	Buff-bellied Hermit	Sayaca Tanager
Blue-fronted Parrot	Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant	Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	Barred Antshrike - H	Roadside Hawk
Blue-crowned Motmot - H	Swallow-tailed Kite	Red-eyed Vireo
Yellow-headed Caracara	Guira Cuckoo	Smooth-billed Ani
Squirrel Cuckoo	Mitred Parakeet	Fork-tailed Woodnymph
Moustached Wren	Bicolored Hawk	Pale-vented Pigeon
Bat Falcon	Grayish Saltator - H	[Butterfly - all black, long tails, white spot on tip of forewing]
Gray-necked Wood-Rail - H	Chestnut-eared Aracari	
Swainson's Thrush	Ochre-cheeked Spinetail	
Two-banded Warbler	Black Phoebe	
Rufous-bellied Thrush	Dusky-green Oropendola	
Blue Ground-Dove	Tropical Kingbird	
White-faced Dove - H	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	

speeding bus that slides sideways on the rocky road at a corner. The only thing they hit was a side mirror, but that was pushed into Roberto's window and broke it. He ended up

^Undulated Antpitta - H	Pale-footed Swallow	Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant - H
Brown Tinamou - H	Unicolored Tapaculo - 'Diademed' S. schulenbergi	Common Bush-Tanager
Stripe-faced Wood-Quail - H	Blue-backed Conebill	Grass-green Tanager
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	Blue-capped Tanager	Barred Becard
Spectacled Redstart	White-browed Conebill	Mountain Wren
Sierran Elaenia	White-rumped Hawk	Blue-and-white Swallow
Scaly-naped Parrot - H	Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	Blue-and-black Tanager
*Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher	Red-crested Cotinga	Beryl-spangled Tanager
Scaled Metaltail	*Barred Fruiteater	Tropical Kingbird Plain-breasted Hawk
Great Thrush	*Mountain Cacique	Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher
Speckle-faced Parrot	Pearled Treerunner	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren - H
Amethyst-throated Sunangel	Superciliaried Hemispingus	Broad-winged Hawk
Band-tailed Pigeon	*Three-striped Hemispingus	*Capped Conebill
*Greenish Puffleg	Citrine Warbler	Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager
*Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet	Saffron-crowned Tanager	Blue-banded Toucanet
Rufous-collared Sparrow	*Golden-collared Tanager	Cliff Flycatcher
*Slaty Finch	Chestnut-bellied Mountain-Tanager	*Hazel-fronted Pygmy-Tyrant
Violet-throated Starfrontlet	Hooded Mountain-Tanager	Crimson-mantled Woodpecker
Plush-capped Finch	Dusky-green Oropendola	Andean Solitaire - H
Pale-legged Warbler	Light-crowned Spinetail	Glossy-black Thrush - H
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	Black-throated Thistletail	*White-eared Solitaire - H
Rust-and-yellow Tanager	Rufous-faced Antpitta	House Wren
Masked Flower-piercer	Turkey Vulture	*White-throated Quail-Dove- H
Chestnut-collared Swift	Bolivian Tyrannulet	
Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Azara's Spinetail	
Long-tailed Sylph	Collared Inca	
Band-tailed Seedeater	Cinnamon Flycatcher	

with a cut on his hand. It could have been much worse. I thought we were going to get sideswiped, and that could have flipped us off the road, which was on a raised bed.

Andean Gull

Mountain Caracara

We stop shortly after that town at a small lake called Laguna Ajuyani for breakfast. We find 49 Giant Coot and a few other water birds. We walk a kilometer on that section of road, but that produces nothing new, so we move on. I am still getting winded when I walk, but at least I don't feel like I'm going to die.

La Paz to Laguna Ajuyani; 04:30-07:00

Laguna Ajuyani; 4350m, Clear, Calm, 15°C, 07:00-08:00

We arrive at the designated location before the town of Sorata at about 09:00. Eustace finds the bird instantly when it calls as we get out of the van. It takes about 20 minutes to relocate it and get everybody a good look. We have plenty of time left, so we walk up the road a few kilometers from a point where a canastero flushed as the van drove by on the

to bird. Some places there is barely enough room for a car, let alone a person and a car. The cliff is so steep and the road so dangerous that cars drive on the left on the lower

Andean Flicker

Andean Gull

(Chiguanco Thrush)

portion of the road so they can better judge if their outside wheels are on the road. We have to put up with periodic horn blowing as drivers announce their presence to other drivers. And it's always when you're trying to tape.

The clouds drop in around ten and it gets really chilly. We break for lunch at noon because the action is so slow, then continue on downhill for a little while. The highlight is probably an Antpitta we chase when there's nothing else going on. It is close to the road in a bamboo patch, so it seems like we might have a good chance.

We climb into the center of the patch and Barry plays the tape. We seem to be getting a response to the snatch of tape that he plays back, so we settle in to wait for it to move in. Then we get a second response from a Hazel-fronted Pygmy-Tyrant, which must have also gotten on the tape. That's a pretty good and unexpected bird. We work the Antpitta first, getting him to climb in circles around us three or four times until everyone gets a fantastic look. Once, he's so close that he almost walks over Howie's shoe. Then we work on the Pygmy-Tyrant. I was taping it while Barry worked the Antpitta, and it goes nuts when we play it back. It starts wing-snapping and jumping around like a manakin. That's what I thought it was until we taped it in. Great little bird.

About 15:00, things begin picking up again and we run into a few more nice groups of birds. We finish at 17:30 and get back into town at 19:30. We have supper at a little pizza joint on the corner called Los Lobos, so we're back by 21:30 and I have lots of time to write.

La Cumbre/coroico Road; 3200-2500m, 12-22°C, 06:00-17:30

La Cumbre Pass; 18:30

2 December

Yesterday we asked Barry if we could possibly arrange the birding schedule to include a trip for Berlepsh's Canastero, a four-hour drive out of La Paz, and he was able to oblige without changing things around too much or losing any birding locations. So we start out at 04:30 for the long drive to Sorata. Just after the town of Achucachi, our van is clipped by a

a few pictures, but they never look like the real thing. After eating lunch at the laguna, we walk back down to the main road. Eustace finds some birds at an ant swarm close the the road, but they don't stay long.

Laguna Volcan; 1150m, 32°C, 11:30-12:30

Laguna Volcan Road; 34°C, 12:30-14:30

We stay in the town of Samaipata tonight, and we have the rest of the day to get there. We

Least Grebe

Common Moorhen

Swallow-tailed Kite

Wattled Jacana

Snowy Egret

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Pale-vented Pigeon

Squirrel Cuckoo

White-faced Dove

stop at different places along the road and bird stretches while the van follows. Our first stop is a roadside eatery in a bend of the road where a creek runs down. Eustace was told

American Kestrel

Plumbeous Kite

White-backed Fire-eye

Giant Cowbird

Shiny Cowbird

Palm Tanager

Great Kiskadee

Social Flycatcher

Swainson's Flycatcher

Ringed Kingfisher

Smooth-billed Ani

Roadside Hawk

Chestnut-backed Antshrike - H

Rufous Hornero - H

(Piculet sp. heard)

that a Streamcreeper was seen there, and we thought we would give it a little time. We don't find it. Two American birders stop to talk with us while we are there. They are on their own out of Cochabamba for a couple days and are looking for information.

After the Streamcreeper spot, we walk the road until the birding slows down, which is actually pretty much the whole time. It's not too good the rest of the afternoon.

Samaipata Canyon; to 1600m, 15:00-17:00

Our scheduled motel is hard to find. We asks three different people before we locate it on a hill above town. The rusty iron gate is locked and the yard is full of weeds, so we go down into town. It's not the kind of place that has a lot of choices for lodging, but we locate a hostel that can take us. The front desk is in the living area of the house. Behind that, the

Yellow-olive Flycatcher

Tropical Parula

Guira Cuckoo

Common Bush-Tanager

Southern Scrub-Flycatcher

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

Black-capped Warbling-Finch

Buff-bellied Hermit

Blue-and-white Swallow

Purple Martin - OR SOUTHERN

Variegated Flycatcher

Saffron-billed Sparrow

White-collared Swift

Orange-headed Tanager

kitchen and the family's rooms flank a hall leading to a courtyard in the back. The rooms are all off the courtyard. It's pretty bad, but probably one of the better places in town.

The lady owner runs around scrambling to get everything ready for us. They are happy to have the business. Preparing the rooms involves sweeping the cockroaches out and spraying them with some kind of chemical. Louise and I move into our room before she gets to spray it, and when she comes back I tell her not to do ours. God knows what she might be using. Showering is not really an option, nor is washing clothes. The water is the color of mud, and browner than our clothes are. Besides, it looks like an electrocution waiting to happen -- the wires to the shower heater are all but bare. So we wash up with as little water as possible and meet the others for supper.

Dinner is arranged at a place a block away. The drivers went down ahead of us and warned them that there'd be a few people coming, so they set up a little salad buffet to go with the meal. The food is pretty acceptable. I order fried chicken and fill myself at the salad bar despite Joel's assurances that we could get real sick. I take the approach that you should expose yourself a little to some weird bacteria once in a while, as long as you're not too far away from civilized help. Keeps the immune system on its toes.

20 November

No ill effects from the food as of wake-up time this morning, so I guess I survived. We meet at 05:00 in the lobby for breakfast snacks and coffee before starting the morning hike on the pipeline that runs below town. It's only a short distance from the hostel.

Samaipata Pipeline; 1650m, Clear, light wind, 22-30°C, 05:30-10:00

We hike the pipeline until ten, then go back to the hostel for an early lunch. Today it's sardine sandwiches, onion & tomato salad, yogurt and fruit. Yummy.

As soon as everyone's eaten we start the long drive to Tambo, with two birding stops

House Sparrow	Sooty-fronted Spinetail	Rufous-capped Antshrike
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Red-eyed Vireo	White-bellied Tyrannulet
Chiguanco Thrush	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	White-tipped Dove
Saffron Finch	Shiny Cowbird	*Andean Tinamou - H
Tropical Kingbird	Black-capped Warbling-Finch	Guira Cuckoo
Rufous-bellied Thrush	Ringed Warbling-Finch	Smooth-billed Ani
Tataupa Tinamou	Hooded Siskin	Planalto Hermit
Creamy-bellied Thrush	Red-crested Finch	Saffron-billed Sparrow
Picui Ground-Dove	Ruddy Ground-Dove	Striped Cuckoo - H
Golden-billed Saltator	Masked Gnatcatcher	Blue-crowned Parakeet
White-tailed Kite	Stripe-crowned Spinetail	Giant Antshrike
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Variiegated Flycatcher	Black Vulture

Lago Viru-viru; 3950m, Partly Cldy to Rain, 15°C,09:15-11:15

Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant	Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail	Andean Hillstar
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant	Andean Swallow
Mountain Parakeet	Black-hooded Sierra-Finch	Greenish Yellow-Finch
House Wren	Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	Brown-backed Mockingbird
Creamy-breasted Canastero - 'rusty-vented' form	Plain-breasted Earthcreeper - H	

We go directly from the lake to La Paz with no stops. It takes almost three hours. We eat

Tropical Kingbird	Rock Dove	American Kestrel
-------------------	-----------	------------------

in town at the Paris restaurant before going to our hotel. We are staying at the Rosario, just off the Witches' Market. It caters to budget minded tourists, including a lot of hikers. We have a nice room on the second floor, furnished with beautiful old wooden furniture. We have a few hours free for shopping while Barry and Eustace take care of some logistics for the Trinidad trip. We pass through the witches' market, which specializes in folk remedies and local herbs. Of the items for sale, dried llama fetuses for burying in the foundation of your house (brings good luck), and various colored brews to drink (can produce any number of desired effects) are some of the more common. It'd be interesting to give one of the potions a try, but it seems awful scary. I buy a few things quickly, then go back to the

Hellmayr's Pipit	Baird's Sandpiper	Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch
Andean Lapwing	Chilean Flamingo	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Golden-spotted Ground-Dove	Common Miner
Mountain Caracara	Puna Yellow-Finch	*Puna Tinamou
Hooded Siskin	(Cordilleran Canastero)	Andean Negrito

hotel to shower and organize my luggage. Louise isn't far behind me. We eat at the hotel, then listen to some musicians for a little while.

Lago Viru Viru to La Paz;

1 December

We are up and out at 04:30 to bird the La Cumbre/Coroico Road. The tranca (checkpoint) is closed, but we drive around it and go on, since there are no police around. We start out birding after the pavement ends, just past Cotopata, at an elevation of 3200 meters. We spend all day walking down to Sacramento Bajo at an elevation of 2500 meters. We encounter a couple of good flocks early, then it slows down considerably. It's a tough place

flushing a tinamou or two. A local lady out in the field asks what we are doing. We tell her we're studying birds and she says there aren't any. We tell her small birds. She still insists there aren't any.

Ingenio; Sandstorm, Clearing, 26°C, 15:00-18:00

Rock Dove	Plain-breasted Earthcreeper	Andean Hillstar
Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail	Hooded Siskin	Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant
Puna Yellow-Finch	Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	Tropical Kingbird
Creamy-breasted Canastero - 'rusty-vented' form	Rufous-collared Sparrow	Greenish Yellow-Finch
Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch	Mountain Caracara	(Black-hooded Sierra-Finch)
	Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant	

30 November

Yesterday morning at the cactus ravine, Howie had an unidentified Shrike-Tyrant that he thinks might possibly have been a White-tailed. We decide to have an optional chase for it this morning before breakfast. Everybody goes out, and in short order, we fan out over the hillside and find the bird. It turns out to be Black-billed, not the rarer White-tailed. Too bad, but still a nice romp before breakfast. We go directly back to the hotel for breakfast, then leave for La Paz at 08:30.

Canyon by Lago Uru-uru; Clear, Light Wind, 13°C, 06:15-07:30

Oruro; 08:30

Common Miner	*Short-billed Pipit	Bare-faced Ground-Dove
Great Egret	Burrowing Owl	Andean Negrito
Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch	Golden-spotted Ground-Dove	Cordilleran Canastero
Spot-winged Pigeon	Andean Lapwing	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch
Hooded Siskin	Andean Flicker	(Am. Kestrel)
Puna Miner	*Darwin's Nothura	

We stop at Lago Viru-viru on the way out of Oruro. The lake doesn't exist. A tiny spot of mud contains one Chilean Flamingo, which spooks as we approach. We walk around the edge areas of what used to be the lake, then cover some brushy areas by the ridge. A storm is developing off in the south. It gets really cold when the clouds come over. Until then it was very comfortable, but a tee-shirt is good enough as long as we are walking. When the shower hits, we go running across the lakebed for the van. The storm doesn't last long, but we have pretty much seen it all, and we have a long ride to the capital city.

Turkey Vulture	Brown-crested Flycatcher	Plush-crested Jay
Masked Yellowthroat	Great Antshrike	Bay-winged Cowbird
Squirrel Cuckoo	Blue-and-white Swallow	Rock Dove
Purplish Jay	Ocellated Piculet	Roadside Hawk - H
Ashy-tailed Swift	Tropical Parula	White-crested Tyrannulet

planned along the way. The first is a dry creek bed about 20 kilometers from Tambo. The other is an area of cactus scrub about 4 kilometers from town. We run into the two guys from yesterday again at the dry creek bed. They haven't seen nearly as much as we have. Barry tells them about seeing Giant Antshrike, but that's just teasing, because they don't know what it sounds like. I have a snatch of the call on tape, so I play it for them after Barry walks on. At least that gives them a little chance of finding it.

Dry Creek Bed @ 1525m; Lt Breeze, 32°C, 13:00-14:30

Samaipata-Tambo Road

Tataupa Tinamou		
American Kestrel		
Yellow-browed Tyrant	Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	Swainson's Thrush - H
White-tipped Plantcutter	Stripe-crowned Spinetail	Red-eyed Vireo
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	*Gray-crested Finch	Southern Scrub-Flycatcher
Black-capped Warbling-Finch	Glittering-bellied Emerald	Sayaca Tanager
Tropical Kingbird	Brown-capped Redstart	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper
Andean Condor	Cliff Flycatcher	Squirrel Cuckoo
Hepatic Tanager	House Wren	Bran-colored Flycatcher
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	Golden-billed Saltator	Great Kiskadee
Giant Antshrike	White-bellied Hummingbird	

Cactus Scrub near Tambo; 1650m, overcast, 28°C, 15:00-17:15

We arrive at the Mission School in Tambo about 17:30, just in time for dinner. A host greets us and gives us our room assignments, but we go to eat right away while the drivers unload the van. If you don't make the dining room on time, you go without, so we can unpack later. We eat with the staff and kids from the school, about seventy people, from

Blue-crowned Parakeet	Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	White-winged Black-Tyrant
Rufous Hornero	Spot-backed Puffbird	Eared Dove
Golden-billed Saltator	Glittering-bellied Emerald	Mitred Parakeet
Ringed Warbling-Finch	White-bellied Hummingbird	Green-cheeked Parakeet
White-fronted Woodpecker	Blue-and-yellow Tanager	Scaly-headed Parrot
Gray-crested Finch	Rufous-collared Sparrow	
Masked Gnatcatcher	Golden-breasted Woodpecker	

infants to retirement aged people. Supper consists of Chicken-peanut soup and cheese empanadas. Dessert is jelly bread and fresh milk from the mission school farm. Weird combination, but real good food and plenty of it. The cook comes out to extend his hospitality and explains that they only have market day on Sunday, so as the week progresses, there are less and less perishable things available. Everyone seems very friendly.

Our rooms are on the second floor of one of the classroom buildings. Louse and I share a room with a double and two single beds. The double we use for our stuff, and we use the singles for sleeping. So, in fifteen minutes, we are spread all over the place. Quite comfortable. The guys are a little less fortunate. They are in a dormitory room, but there are way more beds than men.

We get together at seven for the checklist, but have a little trouble finding a place to do it. The kids are still using the rooms for studying. We end up in a kindergarten room in tiny chairs. Afterwards, we line up to use the one shower and bathroom, but we're still done by eight. The lights go off at nine. I'm still writing notes and have to convert to using a flashlight till I'm done.

21 November

We get to sleep late, since the birding is right at the Mission School. We meet at dawn to take a short walk before breakfast is served at 07:00. They feed us a huge meal of eggs, sausage, banana muffins and fresh milk. Then we go right back out and hike the canyon behind the school. The whole area is dry cactus scrub. The target bird is Bolivian Earthcreeper, a non-descript little brown furnariid. Eustace locates one, then we lose it, then get a glimpse of it and lose it again. We're ahead of the others, who, it turns out, are back the canyon looking at another one. Joel is somewhere in the middle. He didn't get any look, and I didn't get a good one, so we go back and forth between the two locations. The only thing we find is what we think is a Streak-fronted Thornbird at its nest. When we get back to Eustace, he tells us that is was the Earthcreeper that we were looking at. The nests of the two species are nearly identical, as are the birds. One of the best ways to tell them apart is the vocalizations. All the running around is tiring -- it's extremely hot in the canyon, with very little shade. It's good to have a noon deadline to get out of here and back to the dining room.

Tambo Mission School; 02:30
Tropical Screech-Owl - H

Tambo Mission School; Clear, Calm, 13-34°C, 05:30-12:00
Lunch is chicken nuggets. Not all-you-can eat, as the cook announces at the beginning of the meal. He underestimated at the market, so there's only one bowl per table. That's

29 November

Andean Lapwing	Crested Duck	Baird's Sandpiper
Puna Plover	Puna Teal	White-backed Stilt
Puna Ibis	Speckled Teal	Andean Avocet
Andean Negrito	Cinnamon Teal	Mountain Caracara
Yellow-billed Pintail	Common Moorhen	Chilean Flamingo
Common Miner	Lesser Yellowlegs	Puna Miner
Paramo Pipit	Greater Yellowlegs	Barn Swallow

We start at the ridiculous time of 07:30 after a 07:00 breakfast. We drive just outside the city to Lago Uru-uru. It isn't really a lake at all, but a large water puddle a few inches deep filled with hummocks of vegetation and surrounded by salt flats. We have to do some hopping around on clumps to get out to where we can even use a scope to check out the flamingoes. It takes 2½ hours of scanning, sneaking, hopping, slugging through muck and more scanning before we find two Puna Flamingoes, then locate a third. By then the temperature is in the thirties, so we call it a wrap so we can get some drinks. I counted 500 Andean and someone guessed that there were eight times as many Chilean Flamingoes.

Lago Uru-uru; Clear, Lt Wind, 24-35°C, 08:00-11:30

From there, we drive across the flats to the hillside and bird the cactus scrub in a ravine next to the lake. We have only one real target bird for here, a tit-spinetail, so once we get it, we go to town for a late lunch at a restaurant near the plaza. The food is average. A family near us has their dog sitting at the table with them.

Arid Canyon by Lago Uru-uru; 29°C, 12:00-13:00

In the afternoon, we go out of town about 20 kilometers and bird the ichu grassland and puna scrub habitats along the roadside. The target is Golden-spotted Ground-Dove and tinamous. We start out in a windstorm with sand blowing everywhere, but it calms down by the end of the day. We get the doves quickly, then wander around a little in hopes of

Wilson's Phalarope	Common Moorhen	Andean Avocet
Puna Teal	Andean Flamingo - 500 actual	Barn Swallow
Speckled Teal	count	*Mountain Parakeet
Puna Ibis	Peregrine Falcon	Andean Swallow
Cinnamon Teal	Andean Lapwing	Baird's Sandpiper
Yellow-billed Pintail	Andean Goose	Puna Plover
Chilean Flamingo - 4000	Crested Duck	Puna Flamingo - three
estimated	White-backed Stilt	Common Miner

Cochabamba Road; 4300m, 14:00-15:00

We then make our way through the passes to Oruro. The highest pass is 4500 meters. It's marked on the rocks on the side. My altimeter is pretty close, even after almost two weeks. Our last stop of the day is at a hot springs area eight kilometers outside of Oruro. It is actually a large salt pan on the altiplano. A very small area still has some water. We pick

Blue-and-yellow Tanager	Tawny Tit-Spinetail	Black-hooded Sierra-Finch
Greenish Yellow-Finch	Red-tailed Comet	American Kestrel
Hooded Siskin	Cinereous Conebill	(Ringed Kingfisher)
Streak-fronted Thornbird	White-browed Chat-Tyrant	
Chiguanco Thrush	Bare-faced Ground-Dove	
Andean Hillstar	*Streak-throated Canastero	

up a bunch of new birds quickly, then walk out onto the flats to try for a better look around. The wind is incredible, sand is flying everywhere. It's very tough to bird. Eustace takes great pleasure in pointing out the dust and garbage swirling around Oruro. He and Barry have spent a considerable amount of time preparing us for what will be the worst accommodations of the trip, and he wants to rub it in some more. We locate a weird miner with a long curved bill like a curlew. We guess it's actually a common miner with a deformity. Eustace says he saw the same bird here in August.

Rufous-banded Miner	Aplomado Falcon	Plain-breasted Earthcreeper
Cordilleran Canastero	Band-tailed Sierra-Finch	

Hot Springs 8 Km from Oruro; 3850m, Windy, 25°C, 16:30-18:00

Our entry into Oruro looks about like the way Eustace and Barry painted it. The road is rutted and dusty and unpaved except in the downtown. The hotel and city center are actually pretty nice. We're on the sixth floor of a nine story building attached to the bus terminal, so there's a lot of bustle outside. We eat in the hotel restaurant. Food is excellent and portions are huge. They serve ice cream but I don't have room for it. After talking with Joel in the hall for a while, I take a short walk around town., It's pretty scary, and there's nothing going on away from the terminal. I can't even locate a plaza anywhere. After that, I sit in the lobby watching the local equivalent of "Sally Jesse Raphael" while writing notes.

plenty, but he offers extra rice to make up for those who will miss the couple extra pieces of chicken. Dessert is chocolate pudding. They feed us very well.

You should see the size of the spider in the web above the bathroom building. The legs are wider than the spread of my hand. I hope he doesn't decide to jump on one of us.

Tropical Kingbird	Blue-crowned Parakeet	Streak-fronted Thornbird
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Creamy-bellied Thrush	Ultramarine Grosbeak
Golden-billed Saltator	Tawny-headed Swallow	Sierran Elaenia
House Wren	Crested Caracara	Turkey Vulture
Eared Dove	Green-cheeked Parakeet	Brown-crested Flycatcher
House Sparrow	Swainson's Thrush - H	Black Vulture
Picui Ground-Dove	Great Kiskadee	Great Antshrike - H
Saffron Finch	Stripe-crowned Spinetail	Dull-colored Grassquit
Ringed Warbling-Finch	Mitred Parakeet	Double-collared Seedeater
Tropical Parula	Glittering-bellied Emerald	Band-tailed Seedeater
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	Roadside Hawk	Black-backed Grosbeak
Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	Southern Scrub-Flycatcher	Lesser Elaenia
Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher	Black-capped Warbling-Finch	Andean Condor - 5
Sayaca Tanager	*Gray-hooded Parakeet	Striped Cuckoo
White-bellied Hummingbird	White-tipped Dove	*Bolivian Earthcreeper
White-tipped Plantcutter	[Guinea Pig species]	Crested Becard
Blue-and-white Swallow	(Rufous-capped Antshrike)	Saffron-billed Sparrow
Blue-and-yellow Tanager	Rufous Hornero	Purple-throated Euphonia
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	Cliff Flycatcher
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	White-fronted Woodpecker	Bran-colored Flycatcher
Comb Duck	Guira Cuckoo	
Bay-winged Cowbird	Red-eyed Vireo	
Shiny Cowbird	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	
Chiguanco Thrush	Spot-backed Puffbird	
Gray-crested Finch	Hepatic Tanager	

We were supposed to go out right away to look for Red-fronted Macaws at a site about 30 kilometers away, but all the guys laid down after lunch and fell asleep. When they didn't show, Barry when off and found them all in the bunk house snoring away.

We finally get on the road at 13:15 and wind through San Isidro and Pulquina on a windy road down into the valley of the Rio Mizque at the town of Saipan. Barry hears the birds almost immediately after entering the road to the river. We pull the screeching-halt-dive-out-of-the-van-crawl-through-the-thicket maneuver and locate about eight birds perched in trees around a corn field.

Two guards come over to us when they see three of us aiming shotgun mikes at the birds. I guess they thought they were guns, because they are OK when they come over to talk to us. They even asked the drivers if we wanted to buy a pair of the birds. They had two at the house that they'd sell for B\$80 each (about \$16.00 U.S.). That means that you could

probably bargain them down to that price for the pair! What do you say to an offer like that? The birds are worth thousands on the end market because of their rarity. It is very difficult to stop the trade when the birds are worth so little to the local people.

We bird at the river and around the fields in the valley until 17:30. We have dinner at a local joint in San Isidro because its too late to catch dinner at the Mission School. The food is great. Again, a cook whips us up some meals at a moment's notice. They don't get very much action in these places.

Rio Mizque Valley; 1400m, 42°C, 14:30-17:30

Pond Between Pulquina & San Isidro; 18:00

Common Moorhen
Least Grebe

22 November

*Red-fronted Macaw	Lesser Elaenia	Great Pampa-Finch
Cattle Egret	Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher	Epaulet Oriole
Snowy Egret	Blue-crowned Parakeet	Blue-fronted Parrot
Collared Plover	Double-collared Seedeater	Southern Rough-winged Swallow
Spotted Sandpiper	Barred Antshrike - H	Cliff Swallow
Masked Gnatcatcher	Black-and-chestnut	Aplomado Falcon
Spot-backed Puffbird	Warbling-Finch	
Hooded Siskin	Boat-billed Flycatcher	
Smooth-billed Ani	Sayaca Tanager	

We didn't hear the alarm, but Howie yells for us when he notices our lights aren't on. Good man! He knows we're always first up. We leave a little after 04:00 for the long drive to Siberia to get there near dawn. The elevation there is 2500 meters, so it's quite cool at first, but warms up nicely in a short time. What a difference from yesterday morning and the exhausting heat. We bird a little while and have breakfast at one spot, then move a little further on and bird a side road. It gets very hot rather quickly and the birding slows down, so we give up there by ten.

Siberia; 2500m, Clear, Lt Wind, 14-32°C, 05:45-10:00

From that location, we climb to a trail in an alder ravine which leads to some farmland at an elevation of 3000 meters. We bird the upper area until some campesinos begin yelling at us to get off their land. We oblige, but only because of the scarcity of birds. They don't really own the land, they are just squatters, but they are probably worried that in some way

We move on up along Cochabamba road to areas of puna habitat. We choose a side road at 4000 meters first. We are greeted by a curious shepherd boy who runs over to shake our hands. We spend about an hour there. Walking is very difficult. I feel very nauseous with every step and have to rest every 100 meters. I can't imagine what it would have been like had we started in La Paz, and I don't think I want to know.

Cochabamba Road; 4000m, partly Cloudy, light Wind, 25°C, 10:15-11:30

We go down a little in altitude for lunch at a bridge at 3800 meters. We look for canasteros in the gully running down to the bridge. We don't have much luck because everybody wants to stay down in the ravine rather than climb around on the higher trails. The effort is exhausting.

House Sparrow	Bolivian Blackbird	Brown-backed Mockingbird
Rock Dove	Stripe-crowned Spinetail - H	House Wren - H
Gray-crested Finch	Rufous Hornero	White-crested Tyrannulet
Shiny Cowbird	Creamy-breasted Canastero -	White-winged Black-Tyrant
Blue-and-white Swallow	'rusty-vented' form	Rufous-collared Sparrow
Creamy-bellied Thrush	Blue-and-yellow Tanager	Black Vulture
White-tipped Plantcutter	Saffron Finch	Rufous-browed Peppershrike - H
Picui Ground-Dove	Sayaca Tanager	Black-backed Grosbeak
Bay-winged Cowbird	Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	Rufous-bellied Thrush
Hooded Siskin	Ringed Warbling-Finch	Great Pampa-Finch
Gray-hooded Parakeet	Golden-billed Saltator	Red-eyed Vireo - H
Eared Dove	Cliff Flycatcher	Turkey Vulture
Tropical Kingbird	Andean Tinamou	
Great Kiskadee	Chiguanco Thrush	
Band-tailed Seedeater	Glittering-bellied Emerald	
(Sparkling Violetear)	*Striped Woodpecker	
(Hepatic Tanager)	White-collared Swift	

Cochabamba Road; Lunch Stop @ 3800m, 12:00-13:30

After lunch, we continue on the road until Barry finds a turnoff to a dirt road that we can bird (downhill!) while the van follows. We see only single individuals of a few species--but most are new for the trip list. It's pretty tough. The scenery is beautiful though, with huge rock outcroppings in an otherwise stark landscape.

Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	Red-backed Hawk	Paramo Pipit
Bar-winged Cinclodes	Mountain Caracara	Andean Flicker - H
*Slender-billed Miner	Rufous-collared Sparrow	Plumbeous Sierra-Finch

Andean Tinamou -H	Black-hooded Sierra-Finch	Picui Ground-Dove
Stripe-crowned Spinetail	Golden-breasted Woodpecker	Bare-faced Ground-Dove
Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail	Black-winged Ground-Dove	

puna birds, making the effort worthwhile.

Quillacolla Road; Puna @ 4000m, 16°C, 15:15-16:00

We go back to town and choose a different restaurant for dinner. The silpancho was so good last night that I decide to try it again. It's prepared a little differently, but still is excellent.

Red-crested Cotinga	Bar-winged Cinclodes	Band-tailed Seedeater
*Tawny Tit-Spinetail	Andean Condor	Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant
Tufted Tit-Tyrant	Greenish Yellow-Finch	
White-browed Chat-Tyrant	*Andean Swallow	
Red-tailed Comet	Cinereous Conebill	
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	*Giant Conebill	
Plain-colored Seedeater	American Kestrel	

Quillacolla Road; 17:00
Mountain Caracara

28 November

We are down at the van early and the drivers have us loaded and on the road by 05:15. We have a long drive to our next area. Our first stop is just past the checkpoint on the road

Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	*White-winged Cinclodes	*Black Siskin
Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch	*White-winged Diuca-Finch
Andean Swallow	*Plain-capped Ground-Tyrant	*Plain-breasted Earthcreeper
Bar-winged Cinclodes	Andean Flicker	*White-fronted Ground-Tyrant

to Oruro, at an elevation of 2600 meters in arid desert scrub. We eat breakfast there and then walk up a canyon and onto the ridge. The target birds here are Brown-banded Mockingbird and Striped Woodpecker, which we haven't been able to locate yet. We find both eventually, but get so high up on the ridges that it is a long trek back down circumventing the various gullies.

Sipe Sipe; 2600m, Clear, Lt Wind, to 29°C, 06:00-09:20

we are trying to take their land away. Barry is wearing camo pants, and that may scare them, too.

Mountain Caracara	White-crested Elaenia	Mountain Wren
Chiguanco Thrush	Broad-winged Hawk	Roadside Hawk
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Great Thrush	*Pale-footed Swallow
*Scaly-naped Parrot	Bicolored Hawk	*Scaled Metaltail
Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Tyrian Metaltail	*Buff-banded Tyrannulet
Sparkling Violet-ear	Andean Tyrant	Spotted Nightingale-Thrush
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	White-collared Swift	Andean Condor
Sierran Elaenia	*Black-winged Parrot	Common Bush-Tanager
White-bellied Tyrannulet	Golden-headed Quetzal - H	Band-tailed Pigeon
Pale-legged Warbler	White-throated Tyrannulet	Pearled Treerunner
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Mitred Parakeet	Spot-crowned Woodcreeper -
Band-tailed Seedeater	Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager	'Montane'
*Blue-backed Conebill	*Violet-throated Starfrontlet	Spectacled Redstart
Masked Flower-piercer	Green Violet-ear	Masked Trogon
*White-browed Conebill	*Spot-billed Ground-Tyrant	Unicolored Tapaculo - Diademed
Cinereous Conebill	*Rufous-faced Antpitta - H	(S. schulenbergi)

Alder Ravine; 3000m, 32°C, 10:30-13:00

It's a long ride back to Tambo. We break it up by taking a side road to Tunal and birding there for the afternoon. There's not a whole lot going on there either until near dark at the main road. We give nightbirds a try just after dusk. We get a pair of Scissor-tailed Nightjar that respond well to the tape twice, flying right over the recorder. Then we try Tropical Screech-Owl and get two close by in a tree.

Tunal Road; 2100-1700m, Lt Wind, 32°C, 14:30-20:00

*Black-throated 'Cochabamba'	House Wren	*Spot-breasted Thornbird
Thistletail	Rufous-sided Warbling-Finch	Brown-capped Redstart
*Gray-bellied Flower-piercer	Fawn-breasted Tanager	White-winged Black-Tyrant
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	Red-crested Cotinga	Turkey Vulture
Sparkling Violet-ear	Red-tailed Comet	Rock Dove - Comarapa
White-tipped Plantcutter	Plain-colored Seedeater	Tropical Kingbird - Comarapa
Great Thrush	Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	

We have dinner at last night's restaurant in San Isidro, then back to the school. It's almost 21:30 by the time we get in but the lights are still on until 22:00. The chaos outside lasts much longer, until after midnight. The kids are outside playing around, blowing whistles, and generally going nuts. Apparently, they don't have a curfew on Friday nights, and they think they are being really rowdy. I suppose it provides them a little bit of a release from

their very structured lives here.

Striped Cuckoo - H	Mitred Parakeet
Sooty-fronted Spinetail	Masked Gnatcatcher
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Andean Tinamou - H
Greater Wagtail-Tyrant	Lesser Elaenia
Blue-crowned Parakeet	Black Vulture
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Andean Condor
Southern Scrub-Flycatcher	Smoke-colored Pewee
White-bellied Hummingbird	Tropical Parula
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Stripe-crowned Spinetail
Gray-crested Finch	Blue-and-yellow Tanager
Sayaca Tanager	Ringed Warbling-Finch
Saffron-billed Sparrow	Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Red-eyed Vireo	Picui Ground-Dove
Glittering-bellied Emerald	White-tipped Plantcutter
Yellow-browed Tyrant	Eared Dove
American Kestrel	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper

Tropical Kingbird
 Golden-billed Saltator
 White-fronted Woodpecker
 Gray-hooded Parakeet
 White-tipped Dove
 Bran-colored Flycatcher
 Rufous Hornero
 Purple-throated Euphonia - H
 *Olive-crowned Crescent-chest
 Spot-backed Puffbird - H
 Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher
 Blue-fronted Parrot
 Saffron Finch
 Scissor-tailed Nightjar - 2
 Tropical Screech-Owl - 2

Our route today was a little confusing, and the maps I have are not very detailed. Barry explained it to me this way:

Tambo -- Comarapa -- Siberia -- Alder Ravine

Tunal

23 November

We start at 04:30 again to get to Siberia at dawn. It rained heavily at Tambo last night and when we get to Siberia it is raining there, enough to dampen everyone's spirits. We decide to eat breakfast in the van to save time, then drive further on and see if we can get out of the weather. We find a spot where it's only drizzling and bird from there. It's cold and I'm not ready for it. Most of my gear is inaccessible on top of the van.

As we walk, it gradually clears, and we see a good number of birds at various stops. It's so good that we get a little behind our intended schedule. We have a six hour drive that passes through Epizana on the way to Cochabamba. The habitat gradually changes from cloud forest to polylepis scrub and then mixes with high-altitude grassland. We spend a little too much time trolling for Crescentchest and Spot-breasted Thornbird in the Polylepis areas. But the birding and weather are too nice to quit and get in the van for a long drive. At 16:00, we decide to give in and only stop if we see Citron-headed Yellow-Finch, a bird that we have to get here. We stop once for what turns out to be only a Saffron Finch. The

We search further up the road for a while, but then run into farmland and decide to quit that area. I pass a local boy on his way to school. When he sees me walking up the road with all my gear, he gets this scared look on his face and steps way off into a field as I go by. He doesn't say a word when I say hello, then after I pass, he bolts down behind the shrubs

House Sparrow	Rufous Hornero
Tropical Kingbird - H	Rock Dove

to avoid passing the others.

Another group of boys come over to the van while we are waiting for Eustace to get back from a side jaunt. They are a little younger and more curious about us. Howie puts my scope up and points it at some stuff for them. They act a little scared at first, but once he gets the oldest boy to look through it, they all take turns. They don't seem as impressed with the scope as they do just looking at us.

Quillacolla Road; 2800-3200m, Hazy, 18°C, 06:00-12:00

We move on up to a Polylepis area at 3500 meters for a lunch stop. It begins to thunderstorm, but calms down to a drizzle after half an hour, so some of us decide to walk up the road a little while the others wait it out at the van. After another half hour it is mostly over and the others join us. We walk a section of road until we get the species we need for this area. We have some extra time, so we go up to the puna for a change of pace.

Quillacolla Road; 3250-3600m, 18°C, 13:30-15:00

There's a little farming village at 4000 meters consisting of about a dozen brick buildings near a creek. Some of the ladies are at the creek washing the laundry and hanging it out on the grass to dry. We hike around the valley for about an hour, which is about all we can take at this altitude. Even in a flat area, every step is exhausting. We pick up a couple good

Golden-billed Saltator	Olive-crowned Crescent-chest	White-crested Elaenia
Shiny Cowbird	Bay-winged Cowbird	Band-tailed Pigeon
White-winged Black-Tyrant	Brown-capped Redstart	Blue-and-yellow Tanager
House Wren	Red-tailed Comet	Gray-bellied Flower-piercer
Blue-and-white Swallow	Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	Sayaca Tanager
Ringed Warbling-Finch	Gray-hooded Parakeet Great	Rufous-browed Peppershrike
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Kiskadee	Sparkling Violet-ear
Creamy-breasted Canastero-'rusty-vented' form	Rufous-webbed Tyrant	*Rufous-bellied Saltator
Great Thrush	*Bolivian Blackbird	Rufous Hornero
Chiguanco Thrush	Hooded Siskin	*Andean Hillstar
Eared Dove	Rock Earthcreeper	Yellow-browed Tyrant
Rufous-collared Sparrow	*Cochabamba Mountain-Finch	Streak-fronted Thornbird
Rufous-sided Warbling-Finch	Giant Hummingbird	Fulvous-headed Brush-Finch

Spectacled Redstart	Pale-legged Warbler	'Diademed'
Light-crowned Spinetail	Tyrian Metaltail	Plush-capped Finch
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Blue-and-white Swallow	Black-winged Parrot
White-throated Tyrannulet	Glossy-black Thrush	Roadside Hawk
Common Bush-Tanager	Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Red-billed Parrot
Swainson's Hawk	House Wren	Rust-and-yellow Tanager
Turkey Vulture	Rufous-faced Antpitta - H	Violet-throated Starfrontlet
Swallow-tailed Kite	Cinnamon Flycatcher	
*Sooty Swift	Mountain Wren	Light-crowned Spinetail
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	Unicolored Tapaculo -	Rufous-collared Sparrow

Tablas Montes Road to Cochabamba; 18:00

Blue-capped Tanager	Amethyst-throated Sunangel	Mountain Caracara
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	Blue-and-black Tanager	Band-tailed Pigeon
Chestnut-bellied	Great Thrush	Great Tinamou
Mountain-Tanager	Gray-bellied Flower-piercer	
Masked Flower-piercer	Hooded Mountain-Toucan	

27 November

Cochabamba; 05:30

We spend all day birding Quillacolla road. The first area is dry arid scrub at 2800 meters. We walk up a ravine, then climb up on the hill, scramble across a slope and intersect a trail back to the ravine. It's a steep, tough walk. There are more than a couple places that I really worry that I'm going to fall down the mountain. I dressed too warmly this morning, assuming it would be cold at altitude. I am dying by the time we are done. One of the birds we are looking for is Cochabamba Mountain-Finch. We find that right away. Another is Wedge-tailed Hillstar, but we only manage to find Andean.

Rufous-collared Sparrow	Rock Dove
Saffron Finch	House Sparrow
Chiguanco Thrush	

highest pass we travel through is 3550 meters.

Siberia Chica; 2500m, Drizzle, Lt Wind, 10°C, 07:30-08:30

Polylepis; 2850m, Clearing, 15°C, 11:00

The name Cochabamba means 'lake in the middle of a broad plain'. It's the first thing we see on the way in. We arrive on the outskirts of town at just before dark at 18:45. The town sprawls out over the whole valley. We get the cheap tour of town during the rush of market day. The going is very slow. Public transportation appears to be 30 people stuffed into a 14-passenger van or 20 stuffed into the smaller Nissan vans. A flat tire that our driver's been babying for two days finally goes for good and he has to change it in the middle of traffic. Then someone steals the jack while he's putting the tools away.

Andean Guan	Black-winged Parrot	Gray-hooded Parakeet
White-crested Elaenia	White-tipped Dove	Blue-and-white Swallow
Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager	Lesser Elaenia	Brown-bellied Swallow
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Blue-crowned Parakeet	Band-tailed Seedeater
Variable Antshrike	Great Pampa-Finch	White-winged Black-Tyrant
Azara's Spinetail -	Mitred Parakeet	Ocellated Piculet
'BUFF-BROWED'	Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Brown-capped Redstart
Scaled Metaltail	Golden-billed Saltator	Creamy-breasted Canastero
White-throated Tyrannulet	Red-tailed Comet	Saffron Finch
Rust-and-yellow Tanager	Glittering-bellied Emerald	Black-backed Grosbeak
Stripe-headed Brush-Finch	Green Violet-ear	Andean Tinamou - H
Spectacled Redstart	Eared Dove	White-bellied Hummingbird
Pale-legged Warbler	Violet-throated Starfrontlet	Ringed Warbling-Finch
Blue-capped Tanager	Great Thrush	*Bolivian Warbling-Finch
Tyrian Metaltail	House Wren	Rufous-sided Warbling-Finch
Scaly-naped Parrot	Sayaca Tanager	Rufous-capped Antshrike

Bicolored Hawk	White-tipped Plantcutter	Rufous Hornero
Olive-crowned Crescent-chest	Blue-and-yellow Tanager	Picui Ground-Dove
Tufted Tit-Tyrant	Great Kiskadee	Black-winged Ground-Dove
*Straight-billed Earthcreeper	White-browed Chat-Tyrant	Red-tailed Comet
Gray-bellied Flower-piercer	(Citron-headed Yellow Finch)	Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant
Rufous-sided Warbling-Finch	Bay-winged Cowbird	Sparkling Violet-ear
White-winged Black-Tyrant	Hooded Siskin	*Andean Swift
Spot-breasted Thornbird	Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant	Black-hooded Sierra-Finch
Brown-capped Tit-Spinetail	Shiny Cowbird	Bar-winged Cinclodes
Green-tailed Trainbearer	Fulvous-headed Brush-Finch	
Andean Flicker	*Iquico Canastero	
Chiguanco Thrush	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	
American Kestrel	*Rufous-webbed Tyrant	

Our hotel is in a section of town that reminds me of some of the seedier parts of New York City, but somehow not as scary. There are lots of friendly people out and about. To quote Howie, "I knew I was going to like Cochabamba the minute I stepped in dog shit (at least I hope it was dog)." The hotel itself is pretty cheesy. There are a couple ratty parrots and macaws in the courtyard, along with a flea-infested squirrel monkey. The electrical connections in the rooms are bare-wired and hanging out of the wall. And, as Eustace puts it, there's not enough room to swing a cat. He says he tried.

The kid at the desk suggests the Americana as a good place to eat a few blocks away. We walk right by it the first time, but a local lady points it out to us. She also says it's good. In fact, she's going there. The food is very good and in huge portions. I order local fish and am served two filets that look like they came off of 50-pound fish.

Drive to Cochabamba; 17:30

24 November

We leave at 04:30 for the Chapare Road. At 06:30 we reach the road to Villa Tunari and bird the forest above the turnoff after breakfast. We try and mostly fail, for Rufous-faced Antpitta. I get a very quick look at it. It responds well to tape, then finally flies in and nails itself to a perch for a second. I happen to pick the right place in the the thicket that it comes to, but it only stays an instant before realizing we are phonies. Not very satisfying.

Turkey Vulture
Andean Gull

Rock Dove
Bare-faced Ground-Dove

House Sparrow
Black-crowned Night-Heron

Next, we walk down the road. It rains intermittently, often clearing enough to lull us into thinking it might stop. But we persevere until 13:00 and then move down in elevation on the Chapare Road, hoping we can get out of the bad weather.

Villa Tunari Road; 2000-2500m, Rain, 15-22°C, 06:30-13:00

We have lunch at 14:00 along the road, then drive on, crossing the Rio Antehucana before stopping on the Rio Chapare at Puente Avispas (Wasp Bridge) at 400 meters elevation. We walk a trail up a side stream there until 17:30. What a change of habitats. It's very Amazonian in feel.

Chapare Road; 1860m, 14:00-14:30

At 11:30, we decide to end the dust bath and go further up onto the paved section. We stop at 2500 meters at a trail just below the Tablas Montas Road, then work another one just above it. We get socked in at the top and have to come down lower to see again. We hear a mountain-toucan and it responds to tape. The fog wraps itself around the bird, teasing us with misty views, but then it finally lifts long enough for us to look at it well enough that we

Chestnut-tailed Antbird - H
Pectoral Sparrow
Yellow-browed Sparrow
Silver-beaked Tanager
Bay-headed Tanager
House Wren

Smooth-billed Ani
Blue-crowned Trogon - H
Blue-black Grassquit
Gray-fronted Dove - H
Black-faced Antthrush - H
Crested Oropendola

Two-banded Warbler
Russet-backed Oropendola
Tropical Kingbird
Buff-throated Saltator
Giant Cowbird
Bay-winged Cowbird

can try to count all the colors on it (bout 8 or ten). We spend the rest of the time birding a flower meadow next to the trail for hummingbirds.

Chapare Road; 2500m, Partly Cloudy, 25-18°C, 13:00-15:00

Chapare Road; to 2900m, Clouds, 18-11°C, 15:00-17:00

Plumbeous Pigeon
Purplish Jay
Crimson-mantled Woodpecker
Spotted Nightingale-Thrush - H
Russet-crowned Warbler - H
Fork-tailed Woodnymph
Dusky-green Oropendola
Tropical Kingbird
Golden-olive Woodpecker
Swallow-tailed Kite
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren - H
Masked Tityra

Azara's Spinetail
*Speckle-faced Parrot
Masked Trogon
Bolivian Tyrannulet
Saffron-crowned Tanager
Squirrel Cuckoo
Golden-crowned Flycatcher
Western Wood-Pewee (or Eastern?)
Green-cheeked Parakeet
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper,
'MONTANE' L. LACRYMIGER

(Speckled Hummingbird)
(Blue-capped Puffleg_
(Yungas Tody-tyrant)
(Orange-bellied Euphonia)
(Andean Solitaire)
(River Warbler)
(Hooded Siskin)
*Crested Quetzal - 1700 meters
Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch
Streak-necked Flycatcher
Gray-necked Wood-Rail

The ride back to the hotel in Cochabamba takes an hour. We quickly throw stuff in the rooms and hire a couple of taxis to take us to a good restaurant. They drop us on a street with a bunch of eateries, but it's early for supper by Bolivian standards. We randomly pick one of the restaurants, and it turns out to be fabulous. They have a large salad and dessert buffet. For the main course, I order a traditional dish called Silpancho. It is a bed of rice, tomatoes and french fries covered with a thin steak the size of the dinner plate. On top of the steak are two eggs and cheese and a spicy mix of tomatoes, peppers and onions. It's enough food for a lumberjack. The cost for the meal -- \$2.75 American. And it's probably one of the more elegant places in town.

We are up and out by 05:30 to bird our way back to Cochabamba. Our plan was to start at

Saffron-crowned Tanager	Andean Solitaire	White-collared Swift
Dusky-green Oropendola	Green-cheeked Parakeet	Band-tailed Pigeon
Squirrel Cuckoo	Masked Trogon - H	Giant Cowbird

the same place we did yesterday, but go up in elevation. However, due to recent information, plans have changed a little. Two very proper British birders, Thomas Cook, of traveler's check fame, and his guide, Tom Gullick, are also staying at the hotel. Eustace knows them and got some information last night. The told him that they had a location nearby for Ashy Antwren and Bolivian Recurvebill. It's basically on our way out, and the two birds are so local that we decide to give it a try.

They instructed us to take the old road out to Cochabamba for 22 kilometers, but before we go 15, we run into coca plantations. When it looks like we can't drive any further, we ask one of the farmers if we can get into the primary forest, and he tells us the trail leads up there. Barry explains to them that we want to look for birds, because they all looked horrified when we pulled up. We eat breakfast there before starting out. The hotel packed us a special breakfast of steak and egg sandwiches. Outstanding!

We head out on what looks like a trail, but we don't get very far before it's obvious that it's too cut over right here and way too far to forested areas. We decide to turn back. On the way in, we had passed a lady washing in the stream and she looked scared to see us. By the time we turn around she is gone. The whole place pretty much looks like a ghost town, but it's obvious that people have very recently been here. Back at the van, Eustace is missing, but he comes popping out of the woods a few minutes later. He says he wandered off looking for us and ended up taking a different side trail. As he got out a bit, he could hear people moving off into the woods, so he turned around and took our trail. When he came upon the lady washing her hair, he asked if a group had gone by and she said no, that she hadn't seen anyone. But he did see our tracks there and decided he'd better get back to the van. That's when we showed up. We sent the whole plantation into a panic. I guess they didn't believe our birding story. Barry says that the government occasionally comes into the coca plantations and burns them down to make a show of being in control of the drug trafficking. Because of this, the locals are suspicious of strangers.

San Rafael Road Coca Fields; 650m, overcast, 24°C, 06:00-07:00

Having had our little cultural diversion for the trip, we decide to continue with our original plan. We stop at 1500 meters and walk up the road. Traffic and dust are awful, but we get a few birds and find one productive side trail.

Chapare Road; 1500-1700m, Dusty, 29°C, 08:00-11:30

(Cinnamon Flycatcher)

Great Thrush	Blue-capped Tanager	Rust-and-yellow Tanager
Glossy-black Thrush	Gray Tinamou - H	*Light-crowned Spinetail
Masked Flower-piercer	*Bolivian Tyrannulet	Spectacled Redstart
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Brown-bellied Swallow	Blue-and-black Tanager
Masked Trogon	Little Ground-Tyrant	*Chestnut-bellied
Pale-legged Warbler	Pale-footed Swallow	Mountain-Tanager
Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager	White-throated Tyrannulet	Hooded Siskin
Tyrian Metaltail	Blue-and-white Swallow	Azara's Spinetail
Common Bush-Tanager	*Hooded Mountain-Toucan	Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher
Blue-backed Conebill	Mountain Wren	(Long-tailed Sylph)
Black-throated Thistletail	Band-tailed Pigeon	Streak-necked Flycatcher
Rufous-faced Antpitta - H	House Wren	Black-winged Parrot
Pearled Treerunner	Scaly-naped Parrot	(Sword-billed Hummingbird)
*Bar-bellied Woodpecker	Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant	Roadside Hawk
Buff-banded Tyrannulet	Yellow-bellied Siskin	Broad-winged Hawk
Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	Tropical Kingbird	Andean Solitaire
Sparkling Violet-ear	Barred Becard	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren
White-crested Elaenia	Golden-billed Saltator	
Sierran Elaenia	Crimson-mantled Woodpecker	
Amethyst-throated Sunangel	Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant	
(Cinnamon Flycatcher - H)	Dusky-green Oropendola	
White-tipped Swift	Unicolored Tapaculo	

(White-collared Jay)

Puente Avispas; 400m, 15:30-17:30

The hotel is right after the Rio Chapare. It is located in a clearing in the forests and consists of three sets of cabins with four double rooms in each. Black-capped Tinamous can be heard just inside the woods. The only bad thing is the generator that goes on at dusk. Some owls start calling as soon as it kicks on, but we can't hear them until the generator is shut down for the night.

Villa Tunari; 18:00

Tropical Kingbird

Silver-beaked Tanager	Fork-tailed Woodnymph	White-chinned Sapphire
Turkey Vulture	Fiery-capped Manakin	Thrush-like Schiffornis
Purplish Jay	Swainson's Thrush	Yellow-browed Sparrow - H
Southern Nightingale-Wren - H	Gray-breasted Sabrewing	*Stripe-faced Wood-Quail - H
Russet-backed Oropendola	Chestnut-tailed Antbird	
Crested Oropendola	*Olive Tanager	
Amazonian Oropendola - 'Olive'	*Round-tailed Manakin	

Smooth-billed Ani
Giant Cowbird

Cabanas Campestre; 18:30
*Black-capped Tinamou - H

We eat and do the checklist on the veranda of the fourth building, where the hotel has a little bar and dining room. It's nice to be right here for supper. Afterwards, I write until well after the generator goes off, but by then the owls seem to have quieted down. The calls are odd--we never do identify them.

25 November

Cabanas Campestre; 05:00
Tawny-bellied Screech Owl - H
Black-capped Tinamou - H
(Mottled Owl? - H)
(Neotropic Cormorant - flock of 50 flew over at dawn)

We meet at 05:00 and drive back up the Chapare Road to 1500 meters elevation and work our way down. On the lower portion of the road, as traffic builds up, it's like being in a dust storm most of the time. Barry informs us that Bolivia is dust and we probably should get used to it. Maybe they should have mentioned this in the pre-trip literature. Other than that, the scenery is beautiful, the weather is chilly at first, building up to downright hot at noon. We try to take a side trail at 1000 meters, but it leads up to a farm plot after a few hundred meters and we have to give it up.

Chapare Road below 1000m; 05:30
Chapare Road; 1500-1000m, Clear, Light Wind, 13-32°C, 06:00-12:00
We have lunch by a shack alongside the road by the farm trail. Then we move to higher elevations, starting at 2150 meters and going down to 2000. The Inca Chaca road, which leads to an archeological site, is where we end up spending most of the time. We can't get into the site, since it's gated off and we don't want to take the time trying to find someone to get permission to go in. It is overcast and cool and the birds seem to be quieting down already, except for Ochre-faced Tody Flycatchers every 50 meters. The group is occupied with a pair of them when a campesino and his wife come walking up the road. They both say hello and shake my hand. The man is very friendly and quite excited to meet foreign

Tropical Kingbird
Purplish Jay

Giant Cowbird
Gray-necked Wood-Rail

Silver-beaked Tanager

visitors. I try to talk to him a little, but can't understand him very well. I explain to him that I

Russet-backed Oropendola	Blue-capped Tanager	Olivaceous Siskin
Silver-beaked Tanager	Black Phoebe	Andean Solitaire
Amazonian Umbrellabird	Speckled Chachalaca	Turkey Vulture
Plumbeous Pigeon	House Wren	Andean Cock-of-the-rock
Red-billed Parrot	Hooded Siskin	Social Flycatcher
Red-eyed Vireo - H	Torrent Tyrannulet	Solitary Eagle
Blue-headed Parrot	Purplish Jay	Golden-crowned Flycatcher
Russet-crowned Warbler	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	*Chestnut-tipped Toucanet
Streaked Flycatcher	Blue-and-white Swallow	Roadside Hawk
Long-tailed Sylph	Smoke-colored Pewee	Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant Montane
Spotted Nightingale-Thrush	Band-tailed Pigeon	Foliage-gleaner
*Blue-banded Toucanet	Golden-olive Woodpecker	Two-banded Warbler
Yellow-browed Sparrow	Maggie Tanager	Pale-legged Warbler
Scaly-naped Parrot	Azara's Spinetail	Fork-tailed Woodnymph
Broad-winged Hawk	(Palm Tanager)	Tropical Kingbird
Spot-crowned Woodcreeper - H	Slate-throated Redstart	Olive-backed Woodcreeper
'montane'	Scaled Antpitta - glimpsed	
(Crimson-crested Woodpecker)	Tropical Parula	
Red-necked Woodpecker	Violet-headed Hummingbird	
Swallow-tailed Kite	Sparkling Violet-ear	

don't speak much Spanish, but he doesn't seem to care. He just keeps right on asking me questions. When the others come past, he greets them and shakes their hands too.

Chapare Road; 2000m, Overcast, 18°C, 13:30
Inca-chaca Road; 2150-2000m, Overcast, 15°C, 14:30-16:00

We quit at 16:00 because it is just too dead. We are back at the cabanas at 17:15. We spend a nice, leisurely night, and I manage to get all caught up again.

Chapare Road; 1870m, 20°C, 16:30

26 November

Cinnamon Flycatcher	Rufous-collared Sparrow
White-throated Antpitta - H	Azara's Spinetail

Hotel Villa Tunari; 05:15

Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher	Common Bush-Tanager	Mountain Wren
Blue-capped Tanager	Rufous-naped Brush-Finch	Spectacled Redstart
Hooded Mountain-Toucan - H	Black-winged Parrot	Rufous-faced Antpitta - H

Black-capped Tinamou - H
Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl - H
(Mottled Owl? - H)