

Trip report: Tenerife (Canary Islands), February 27 – March 6, 2001

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General

A family (me, my wife and our two daughters, 10 and 11 years old) vacation with some birding. Hotel in Playa de la Arena near Los Gigantes, on the west coast some 40 km north of the airport Tenerife Sur. Seemed to be a good starting-point for trips at least in the western and central parts of the island.

We rented a car (Renault Megane) by Avis. It was alright but I would certainly have appreciated a trip mileage counter. Many of the descriptions in various guides of how to get to places, sounds like “0.4 km along the road...”. The traffic, on the right hand side of the road, is intense and speedy but not really hazardous. Many roads are winding and steep and getting from one point to another is often more time-consuming than one could expect from the map.

Strong winds from SW most of the time, perhaps even storm on 4th March (“red flag” on the beach 1st – 6th March). At least it was impossible to stand upright from time to time that day. Mainly 20-23° C in the coastal areas, often not more than 12-14° C on higher altitudes (c. 1000 m above sea level). Drizzle a few minutes in the afternoon on 27th February was the only rainfall during the week, apart from some light rain inside clouds sometimes on higher altitudes, especially on 4th March. Sunrise about 7:30 a.m. and sunset about 7:00 p.m.

The language is Spanish, but many people speak English, more or less.

Books and maps

- **Alström, Per, Peter Colston & Ian Lewington. 1992. *En fälthandbok över sällsynta fåglar i Europa*. Domino Books. Jersey. ISBN 1-897583-00-1.** This is the Swedish edition of a book, covering rare birds in Europe, which also is published in English (1991). A very valuable field guide in case of any rarities, e.g. North American vagrants.
- **Ashmole, Myrtle & Philip. 1989. *Natural History Excursions in Tenerife. A Guide to the Countryside, Plants and Animals*. Kidston Mill Press. Scotland. ISBN 0 9514544 0 4.** A trustworthy and comprehensive guide. Perhaps it's underestimated by birders, but so far I can see the ornithological information given is reliable and useful as the description of different sites are. I don't have any reason to believe that the information left in other topics (plants, reptiles, etc.) is less trustworthy.
- **Chappuis, Claude. 2001 (?). *Oiseaux d'Afrique – 1 (African bird sounds – 1)*. Sahara, Maghreb, Madère, Canaries & Iles du Cap-Vert. 4 CD – 423 species. With collaboration of the British Library (London). Published by Société d'Études Ornithologiques de France.** The enclosed booklet is mainly in French, e.g. the explanations of the different sounds (song, call, etc.). Sometimes there are more than one species on one track. To be an efficient birder at Tenerife I don't think it's essential to have these CD's, but I certainly enjoyed myself prior my trip, learning some of the bird sounds, unknown to me. On the

other hand the number of species is low, so one can surely learn most of them in a couple of days anyway.

- **Clarke, Tony & David Collins. 1996. *A Birdwatchers' Guide to The Canary Islands*. Prion Ltd. Perry. ISBN 1 871104 06 8.** A useful guide but since it covers all the islands, the number of sites described for each island is limited. It's very reliable and gives, for example, the definitely best description of how to get to Chanajiga (=Ladera de Tigaiga).
- **Edberg, Etienne. 1987. *Naturguide till Tenerife*. E. E. Natur-information. ISBN 91-86638-05-X.** In Swedish and rather out-of-date now (a new edition is in preparation, I've heard somewhere), but it certainly broadens the mind about this volcanic island, plants, other wildlife and more.
- **García del Rey, Eduardo. 2000. *Where to Watch Birds in Tenerife*. Turquesa Ediciones. Santa Cruz de Tenerife. ISBN 84-95412-07-1.** A very useful and comprehensive guide. Describes more sites than any other guide I've seen. And because it's the most recent it's also the most up-to-date (e.g. concerning the best way to get to El Fraile Reservoir). Perhaps some of the maps could have been more distinct, but I really didn't have any severe problems to find the places I was looking for. It is by the way obvious that the map of site TFN3 (Ladera de Tigaiga) is upside-down.
- **Gosney, Dave. 1996. *Finding Birds in The Canary Islands*. Gostours. Sheffield. ISBN 1 898110 17 4.** A rather thin booklet but the information given seems reliable. Very little used by me since I had the more comprehensive guides.
- **Svensson, Lars, Peter J. Grant, Killian Mullarney & Dan Zetterström. 1999. *Fågelguiden. Europas och Medelhavsområdets fåglar i fält*. Albert Bonniers Förlag. Stockholm. ISBN 91-34-51038-9.** A field guide in Swedish, but I'm sure that there exists an English edition as well. In short: this field guide is simply the best!
- **Wander- & Autokarte/hiking- & roadmap. Scale 1: 75 000. Year of print unknown, perhaps 1998. Freytag & Berndt, Wien. ISBN 3-85084-276-2.** This was the only map I used since it seemed to be the most reliable of those I've seen. But this one wasn't perfect neither, especially concerning minor roads! Although one can find a blue dot labelled Chanajiga on the map, it's really not an easy task to find the place with only this map.

Itinerary

The site numbers refers to García del Rey (2000).

27th February (Tuesday). Arrived at the airport Tenerife Sur at 03:15 p.m. Transfer by buses (the first one broke down halfway). Along the roads from the airport to Playa de la Arena (c. 40 km, took about one hour, the delay with the boiling bus not counted) I saw strikingly few birds; some Spanish Sparrows at the airport, a couple of dozens of Rock Doves, one Common Kestrel (at San Juan) and one Common Blackbird (in Alcalá). That's all! But all those banana plantations and "greenhouses" for tomatoes really makes it hard to see any birds from the car/bus. After sunset we heard a couple of crickets (presumably House Crickets *Acheta domestica*) in our village.

28th February (Wednesday). During the first two hours of daylight in the gardens and banana plantations in and in the vicinity of Playa de la Arena, I saw several Chiffchaffs (singing as well as calling), Blackcap (singing) and a Eurasian Collared-dove as well as a few Spanish Sparrows. We took a short car tour in the afternoon just to try the car, the roads and the traffic. At the beach at Playa de la Arena (yellow flag today), which consists of black lava sand, we saw two Canary Lizards *Gallotia galloti subsp.*

- 1st March (Thursday). An early morning (from sunrise) in the southern part of the island. I visited Golf del Sur (TFS12), Amarilla Golf Course (TFS11), Guargacho (TFS10) and briefly El Fraile (TFS7; but only the “Abandoned Fields” (=TFS7-D) of this site, and not e.g. El Fraile Reservoir). I visited the “plains” at Guargacho (TFS10-B) in order to see Lesser Short-toed Lark, but I dipped. One of the plains, the eastern one, was now a greenhouse for tomatoes and a walk round the other one gave nothing but a barking dog. I gave up looking for Stone-curlews at about 11 a.m. When I tried to find the way/path to Guaza Mountain (TFS4) for a trip another day, I got lost in Los Cristianos.
- 2nd March (Friday). Clear blue sky and moderate winds: a rather perfect day for a trip to El Teide, for all of us. The route were roughly as follows and took the entire day (in a rather slow tempo): Playa de la Arena – Tamaimo – Chío – Boca de Tauce – Las Lajas (TFC3) – Vilaflor (TFC1) – The Leaking Pipe (TFC2) – Boca de Tauce – Siete Cañadas (TFC5) – El Camino de Chasna – La Cruz Santa – Los Realejos – Icod de los Vinos (incl. Drago Milenario) – El Tanque – Santiago del Teide – Tamaimo – Playa de la Arena. On the way down from El Teide towards La Orotava, we turned left at El Chamino de Chasna in order to find the way to Ladera de Tigaiga (TFN3), for an early morning trip another day. The turn is signposted to Benijos and another place (I think Palo Blanco, sorry for incomplete notes!). When to turn left after 4.6 km, according to Clarke & Collins, the turn is actually signposted even from this direction but only to Las Llanadas. From no direction I saw any signs to Chanajiga but the figures on the houses is still there. The Blue Chaffinches at Las Lajas obviously prefer the shadow from the Canary Pines. One way to get them out to a sunny spot, e.g. for photography, might be to bring something to feed them with. At least my kids were successful using crisps.
- 3rd March (Saturday). Clear blue sky when (6:15 a.m.) I started my trip to Ladera de Tigaiga (TFN3). I thought I’d learned something when we got lost in Los Realejos yesterday. But no. Of course I had to take that way (the shortest) instead of taking the “safe” way and of course I lost an hour of first getting lost in Los Realejos and then eventually finding the way that I’d have been taken in the first place. When I eventually got to the site, about 9 a.m., it was probably too late – I had only two sightings of pigeons in an hour! Even if you come from west it is definitely the best to stay on the main road towards La Orotava and then follow the brown signs to El Teide until you reach El Camino de Chasna. When I drove back from Ladera de Tigaiga I tried the way through Los Realejos again – guess what happened! My peremptory advice is: avoid Los Realejos, unless you have plenty of time and are fascinated by that towns alleys! On the way back I visited Erjos Ponds (part of TFNW3), only to find that they were completely dry.
- 4th March (Sunday). Strong winds and the planned dolphin and whale (and bird) safari for today, had to be cancelled. Instead I went to the north west for the rest of the day, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.: Playa de la Arena – Tamaimo – Santiago del Teide (TFNW2) – Masca (TFNW4) – Teno Alto (TFNW5) – Teno Natural Park (TFNW6) – Buenavista del Norte – Los Silos – El Tanque – Santiago del Teide – Tamaimo – Playa de la Arena. It was very windy and there were also low clouds, and upon that a lot of cars and buses (!) on the road to Masca (a real traffic jam in fact, because it was Sunday, I presume) so the trip was rather worthless, in a birding point of view, all the way from Santiago del Teide to El Palmar and Teno Alto. The target species for this part of the trip was of course Rock Sparrow but the conditions for that were accordingly bad. The road to Teno Alto was a little bit of a challenge since it’s narrow, winding and lacks guard rail. The village of Teno Alto was today covered in mist and very quiet, so the opportunity to find any Rock Sparrows was almost zero. As stated by almost everyone I had contact with prior my trip to Tenerife, the road to Punta de Teno was closed. The signs in at least four different languages (it’s impossible to miss them) are posted c. 2 km before Punta del Fraile. One or two cars hesitated at the signs but

the vast majority ignored them, both locals and tourists. Maybe there was reason enough today with the warnings because of the strong winds, because there were some stones falling down from the rock face. From a birding point of view, my advice is to park the car at the first, short tunnel (not the second one, which is longer, c. 600 m), at the viewpoint called Mirador Don Pompeyo. Look for perched Barbary Falcons on the cliffs to the west. Perhaps it's easiest to look for a cliff with droppings (in contrast to the black rock, although everything white are not droppings), indicating the birds favourite perches. Due to strong winds and a lot of visitors (preferably having a leak here and there) there wasn't too easy to find a sheltered place for seawatching at Punta de Teno. The heavy sea also made it hard to see the birds more than very short glimpses (they disappeared between the waves). The lighthouse and the headland seemed closed to the public, but I didn't really try to get there.

5th March (Monday). This day was mainly set aside for social activities, since it was my wife's birthday, but we made a brief visit to Lago Abama (TFSW4) in the afternoon. The water level was about half, but the reservoir was empty of birds, apart from two Yellow-legged Gulls.

6th March (Tuesday). Departure at 5:15 p.m. Nothing more is to say about this day since three of us were hit by the "revenge of the Guanches" (stomach disease).

Annotated species list

I follow the systematic adopted by

- Josep del Hoyo, Andrew Elliot & Jordi Sargatal. 1992-2001. *Handbook of the Birds of the World*. Vol. I – VI. Lynx Ediciones. Barcelona.
- Stanley Cramp & C. M. Perrins. 1985-1994. *Handbook of the Birds of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa*. Vol. IV – IX. Oxford University Press. Oxford.

Cory's Shearwater /Gulnåbbad lira/. *Calonectris diomedea* (SCOPOLI 1769). Seen daily off Playa de la Arena. About 15 heading south and a few remaining in the area 28/2 and about a dozen or so the other days. At Punta de Teno 4/3, on the south side of the cape, there were several fishing flocks, altogether perhaps as many as 200 individuals. The subspecies should be *C. d. borealis* (CORY 1881), but it could not be confirmed by me.

Little Shearwater /Dvärglira/. *Puffinus assimilis* GOULD 1838. 1 off Punta de Teno 4/3. The subspecies should be *P. a. baroli* (BONAPARTE 1857), but it could not be confirmed by me.

Grey Heron /Gråhäger/. *Ardea c. cinerea* LINNAEUS 1758. 1 ad. at a small reservoir near Chigora (NE Los Gigantes) 28/2; 2 at Guarchao 1/3; 1 at Los Silos 4/3. No indications of any other subspecies than the nominate.

Little Egret /Silkeshäger/. *Egretta g. garzetta* (LINNAEUS 1766). 1 flying over Golf del Sur 1/3; 22 at Amarilla Golf Course, the reservoir just north of, 1/3; 1 heading north at Playa de la Arena 2/3. No question at all about the subspecies.

Eurasian Spoonbill /Skedstork/. *Platalea leucorodia* LINNAEUS 1758. 6, probably in non-breeding plumage (the birds were frightened), at Amarilla Golf Course, the reservoir just north of, 1/3. Most probably the nominate subspecies *P. l. leucorodia*, but can *P. l. balsaci* DE NAUROIS & ROUX 1974 be totally out of question?

Eurasian Buzzard /Ormvråk/. *Buteo buteo* (LINNAEUS 1758). 2 at Aguamansa 2/3; 2 at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3; 1 at Erjos 3/3. The subspecies should be *B. b. insularum* FLOERICKE 1903, but it could not be confirmed by me.

Common Kestrel /Tornfalk/. *Falco tinnunculus* LINNAEUS 1758. Altogether c. 30 sightings, although my notes may be incomplete: 1 at San Juan 27/2; 1 at Playa de la Arena 28/2; 2 at Golf del Sur 1/3; 1 at Guarchao 1/3; 10 sightings of single individuals 2/3; 10 sightings of singles 3/3; 1 at Masca 4/3; 2 at Punta del Fraile 4/3; 1 at Lago de Abama 5/3. The subspecies should be *F. t. canariensis* (KOENIG 1890). Of the birds I saw well, or rather well, all seemed to be darker than the nominate subspecies, thus indicating the former. At the same time the subspecies *F. t. dacotiae* HARTERT 1913 could be excluded, since it's lighter than the nominate.

Peregrine Falcon /Pilgrimsfalk – Berberfalk/. *Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides* TEMMINCK 1829. 1 ad. perched at Punta del Fraile 4/3. Due to long observation time at a moderate range, in good light and with a telescope (20-60x) I can be sure of the subspecies.

- Barbary Partridge /Klipphöna/.** *Alectoris barbara* (BONNATERRE 1792). 1 flushed at Erjos Ponds 3/3, landed on the ground on one of the former ponds, and could be studied for a few seconds. I cannot be sure of the subspecies, but it should be *A. b. koenigi* (REICHENOW 1899).
- Common Quail /Vaktel/.** *Coturnix coturnix* (LINNAEUS 1758). 1 singing near El Palmar 4/3. The subspecies should be *C. c. confisa* HARTERT 1817, but it could of course not be confirmed by me.
- Little Ringed Plover /Mindre strandpipare/.** *Charadrius dubius curonicus* GMELIN 1789. 1 heard calling at Guarchao 1/3. Of course I could not confirm the subspecies by the call, but the remaining two subspecies seem to be well out of range.
- Common Sandpiper /Drillsnäppa/.** *Actitis hypoleucos* (LINNAEUS 1758). 1 at Amarilla Golf Course, the reservoir just north of, 1/3. Monotypic.
- Yellow-legged Gull /"Kaspisk trut"/.** *Larus cachinnans atlantis* DWIGHT 1922. Common along the coast. My only two notes are *c.* 30 at Punta de Teno 4/3 and the only "inland" sighting: 2 at Lago de Abama 5/3. I didn't see any gulls indicating another subspecies nor species than this, apart from one individual, see next.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull /Silltrut/.** *Larus fuscus graellsii* A. E. BREHM 1857. 1 ad. heading south off Playa de la Arena 5/3. Despite the lack of any other gulls to compare with, e.g. *L. f. intermedius* SCHIÖLER 1922, there wasn't any problem this time to be sure of the subspecies (thus I don't think there should be any risk for confusion with *L. f. heuglini* BREE 1876 in this area).
- Sandwich Tern /Kentsk tärna/.** *Thalasseus s. sandvicensis* (LATHAM 1787). 1 heading south at Playa de la Arena 1/3. Any other subspecies seems unlikely.
- Rock Dove /Klippduva/.** *Columba livia* J. F. GMELIN 1789. Common. Small groups and singles seen almost everywhere. Apparently many, perhaps 75 %, looked more or less like "true" Rock Doves, but most flocks held one or two white or otherwise typical Feral Doves. My notes are very incomplete on this point, but regarding the following two sightings, I "felt" that it could be about "true" Rock Doves: 1 at El Palmar 4/3; *c.* 15 at Lago de Abama 5/3. In case of at least some of the doves being not feral, the subspecies should be *C. l. canariensis* BANNERMAN 1914.
- Dark-tailed Laurel-pigeon /Kanarieduva/.** *Columba bollii* GODMAN 1872. 1 at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3. I also saw another individual there, but of unknown species (too short glimpse). Monotypic.
- European Turtle Dove /Turturduva/.** *Streptopelia t. turtur* (LINNAEUS 1758). Three sightings (early arrivals or resident individuals?): 1 singing at Golf del Sur, on the roof of the club house, 1/3; 1 at Amarilla Golf Course, the club house, 1/3; 1 at El Palmar 4/3. None of the birds seemed lighter than "usual", so I think there isn't any question about the subspecies.
- Eurasian Collared-dove /Turkduva/.** *Streptopelia d. decaocto* (FRIVALDSZKY 1838). 1 at Playa de la Arena 28/2; 2 at Los Gigantes 28/2; 1 singing at Golf del Sur 1/3. About 5-10 more sightings in different villages, but my notes are incomplete. The other subspecies is well out of range, but in some cases there might have been strains of other species, because of some variation in darkness.
- Plain Swift /Enfärgad seglare/.** *Apus unicolor* (JARDINE 1830). Four sightings: 1 at Playa de la Arena 28/2; 1 at Aguamansa 2/3; *c.* 10 at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3; 4 at Playa de la Arena 4/3. Monotypic.
- Eurasian Hoopoe /Härfågel/.** *Upupa epops* LINNAEUS 1758. 1 at Golf del Sur, in the scrub north of, 1/3; 1 at Amarilla Golf Course, on the fairway to green 18, 1/3. The subspecies should be nominate *U. e. epops*, but it could not be confirmed by me for sure.
- Great Spotted Woodpecker /Större hackspett/.** *Dendrocopos major canariensis* KOENIG 1889. At least 3 (one male) at Las Lajas 2/3; 1 heard in Vilaflor, inside the village, 2/3. There shouldn't be any question about the subspecies, e.g. according to the dusky underside compared with the nominate.
- Lesser Short-toed Lark /Dvärglärka/.** *Calandrella rufescens* (VIEILLOT 1820). 1 singing at Amarilla Golf Course, close to green 18, 1/3. The subspecies should be *C. r. polatzeki* HARTERT 1904, but it could not be confirmed by me.
- Berthelot's Pipit /Kanariepiplärka/.** *Anthus berthelotii* BOLLE 1862. Common. Seen in good numbers almost everywhere, except in forested areas. I have brief notes from Golf del Sur, Amarilla Golf Course, Guarchao (all 1/3) and Las Lajas 2/3. The subspecies should be nominate *A. b. berthelotii* – the other subspecies occurs on Madeira.
- Grey Wagtail /Forsärsla/.** *Motacilla cinerea* TUNSTALL 1771. 1 male in a street at El Tanque 4/3. The subspecies should be *M. c. canariensis* HARTERT 1901 and the bird I saw gave a somewhat darker impression than the nominates I've seen elsewhere.
- European Robin /Rödhake/.** *Erithacus rubecula superbus* KOENIG 1889. 1 singing in the town of Los Realejos 2/3. Commonly seen and heard singing at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3. Regarding the individuals I saw well there were not any question about the subspecies. It differs clearly in plumage, especially on the breast and belly, but also in its song.
- Common Blackbird /Koltrast/.** *Turdus merula* LINNAEUS 1758. Common, especially in the northern part of the island. The subspecies should be *T. m. cabrae* HARTERT 1901, but it could not be confirmed by me. Although the females seemed darker than the nominate.

- Spectacled Warbler /Glasögonsångare/.** *Sylvia conspicillata* TEMMINCK 1820. 1 singing at Guarchao 1/3. 1 singing near Fraile 1/3. The subspecies should be *S. c. orbitalis* (WAHLBERG 1854), but it could not be confirmed by me.
- Sardinian Warbler /Sammethätta/.** *Sylvia melanocephala* (GMELIN 1789). 1 or 2 females, two different sightings in a few minutes, at Erjos Ponds 3/3. The subspecies should be *S. m. leucogastra* (LEDRU 1810), but it could not be confirmed by me.
- Blackcap /Svarthätta/.** *Sylvia atricapilla* (LINNAEUS 1758). Less common, but I have only two notes: 1 singing at Playa de la Arena 28/2; 1 singing at Amarilla Golf Course 1/3. The subspecies should be *S. a. heineken* (JARDINE 1830), but it could not be confirmed by me.
- Chiffchaff /Gransångare/.** *Phylloscopus collybita canariensis* (HARTWIG 1886). Very common. Especially the song, but also the call (at least what I heard), differs clearly from any other subspecies I've heard in continental and Northern Europe, so there would not be any doubt about the subspecies. Not in any case I saw or heard any other Chiffchaff indicating another subspecies.
- Goldcrest /Kungsfågel/.** *Regulus regulus* (LINNAEUS 1758). At least 3 at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3. I didn't see anyone of them well, so I can't confirm the subspecies, but it should be *R. r. teneriffae* SEEBOHM 1883.
- Blue Tit /Blåmes/.** *Parus caeruleus teneriffae* LESSON 1831. A few seen at Las Lajas 2/3, Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3 (common) and Erjos 3/3. No doubt about the subspecies.
- Great Grey Shrike /Varfågel/.** *Lanius excubitor* LINNAEUS 1758. 1 at Lago de Abama 5/3. 1 near Arneñime 6/3. The subspecies should be *L. e. koenigi* HARTERT 1901, but it could not be confirmed for certain by me. Despite short glimpses I was able to notice darker upperparts than nominate and a heavier bill.
- Common Raven /Korp/.** *Corvus corax* LINNAEUS 1758. 4 at Las Lajas 2/3. 2 at Erjos 2/3. The subspecies should be *C. c. canariensis* (HARTERT & KLEINSCHMIDT 1901), but it could not be confirmed by me.
- Spanish Sparrow /Spansk sparv/.** *Passer h. hispaniolensis* (TEMMINCK 1820). Common. Heard and/or seen in most villages and towns. In addition one note from the countryside: *c.* 10 at Lago de Abama 5/3. Other subspecies than nominate seems by far out of range.
- Common Chaffinch /Bofink/.** *Fringilla coelebs* LINNAEUS 1758. 2 at Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3. 1 female at Erjos Ponds 3/3. 1 male at Teno Alto 4/3. The subspecies should be *F. c. canariensis* WEBB, BERTHELOT & MOQUIN-TANDON 1841, but it could not be confirmed by me for certain due to rather short glimpses. Although I could see that at least the males belonged to the *canariensis* subspecies group and the song differed markedly from the nominate subspecies.
- Blue Chaffinch /Blå bofink/.** *Fringilla teydea* WEBB, BERTHELOT & MOQUIN-TANDON 1841. At least 3 males and 1 female at Las Lajas 2/3. The subspecies should be nominate *F. t. teydea*. Plumage characters of the males seen well supported this.
- Atlantic Canary /Kanariefågel/.** *Serinus canaria* (LINNAEUS 1758). Common in the northern part of the island. Not seen at all south of Playa de la Arena. I have notes from Las Lajas 2/3, Ladera de Tigaiga 3/3 and Erjos 3/3. Monotypic.
- European Goldfinch /Steglits/.** *Carduelis carduelis* (LINNAEUS 1758). 2 at Lago de Abama 5/3. The subspecies should be *C. c. parva* TSCHUSI 1901, but it could not be confirmed by me. Although I was able to notice a weaker bill than nominate.
- Common Linnet /Hämpling/.** *Carduelis cannabina* (LINNAEUS 1758). 4 at Lago de Abama 5/3. The subspecies should be *C. c. meadewaldoi* (HARTERT 1901), but it could not be confirmed by me.

A total of 41 species during the week. My most regrettable dips were these eight: Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus granti* SHARPE 1890; Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicephalus distinctus* (BANNERMAN 1914); White-tailed Laurel-pigeon *Columba junoniae* HARTERT 1916; Common Barn-owl *Tyto a. alba* (SCOPOLI 1769); Northern Long-eared Owl *Asio otus canariensis* MADARÁSZ 1901; Rock Sparrow *Petronia p. petronia* (LINNAEUS 1766); Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus amantum* (HARTERT 1903); European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris aurantiiventris* (CABANIS 1851).

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