

BELIZE

February 15th - 28th 2005

Gustav Asplund, Stockholm, Sweden

gustavasplund@yahoo.se

ITINERARY

15/2 Arrival Belize City. Transport Belize City-Caye Caulker
15/2-19/2 Caye Caulker
19/2-20/2 Crooked Tree
21/2 Belize City. Day trip to Lamanai.
22/2 Transport Belize City-Placencia
23/2-27/2 Placencia, day trip to Cockscomb Basin on the 25th.
28/2 Transport Placencia-Belize City. Departure Belize City

INTRODUCTION

In February I went with my family on a two-week vacation to Belize to celebrate my mother's 60th birthday. My brother lives in USA and the rest of the family in Sweden, so Belize was chosen as a compromise, the perfect combination of adventure and relaxation. Given the nature of the trip, bird watching wasn't the prime pastime. I didn't visit all the necessary areas and I also didn't take any further notes on the numbers of birds. Hopefully, the following will give the reader some idea of what to expect when birding in Belize.

LITERATURE

The far best bird book covering Belize is *Birds of Belize* (Jones, 2003), in fact one of the best bird books anywhere. There is of course a downside: the cost and the weight of the book. I chose an alternative: the old classic *Birds of Mexico* (Peterson, 1980), combined with *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Belize* Jones/Vallely (2003). Both can be found in book shops in Belize City, the latter only there. Be also sure to equip yourself with the latest edition of *Lonely Planet*.

WHERE TO GO

Belize is mainly a lowland country, with lush jungles in the interior north to the Mexican border, wetter as you go south. Cool reef islands, cayes, stretch all along the coast out to the barrier reef, the second longest in the world. In the west, close to the border to Guatemala, you'll find peculiar pine-covered highlands, around 1000 meters above sea level. Most birders seem to head for these three different regions, but given the nature of my trip, I visited just a few of those areas. The following are places I found especially rewarding:

Caye Caulker

One of the more popular tourist areas, mostly on the budget end. It's heavily populated, but laidback, especially if you've been in the hot inland for too long, and with some areas to do some birding. A breeze comes in from the Caribbean and **Magnificent Frigatebirds** soar over your head. Since the number of species here are relatively limited, it's also a good place to get acquainted with some of the more common birds: the ever present noisy **Great-tailed Grackles**, the **Great Kiskadees**, **Tropical Kingbirds**, **Hooded Orioles** and **Mangrove Swallows**.

Caye Caulker is a very narrow island, 500 m x 4 km. Until 1961, the island was a whole lot longer, but a hurricane split it in two, at the point logically known as "The Split". A narrow strait with very strong currents separate the two parts. The northern part is now nearly uninhabited and mostly unexplored mangrove forest. It gives you a hint how the rest of Caye Caulker used to look.

You'll do the best birding towards the southern tip of the island, towards and beyond the airstrip. I found a lot of wading birds along the eastern mangrove shore. Just north of the airstrip is also a tiny sort of nature reserve. Here you'll definitely find the near endemic **Black Catbird**, as well as numerous wintering warblers. In a microscopic marsh along side the airstrip, a very unshy **Clapper Rail** was present daily. Towards the southern tip of the island I found Bananaquits, a Yucatan Vireo and the local red-headed race of Yellow Warbler, **Mangrove Warbler** – in my eyes a species candidate.

Over the sea, I found – apart from the ever present **Laughing Gulls**, **Royal Terns** and **Brown Pelicans** – nothing but some odd **Sandwich Terns**. Other species common here but not elsewhere in Belize are **White-crowned Pigeons** and **White-winged Doves**.

There's a bird watching guide on the island, but I found \$20 for a couple of hours a bit too expensive.

Crooked Tree

This place is a must. About an hour north of Belize City, Crooked Tree is a very nice village situated by a large inland lagoon. Until sometime in the 80s, you had to take a boat to get there. Once a year, the village is the center for a cashew nut festival. Be sure to bring food if you're not staying in one of the three hotels: there aren't a whole lot of stores.

The real attraction here is of course the lagoon, easily accessible with numerous trails. Apparently, there are excellent guides in Crooked Tree, and it's also possible (and from what we heard) highly recommended to go on a boat tour on the lagoon. We had too little time and money, so we strolled along the paths through the village and alongside the lagoon. Avoid going to the Boardwalk – it passes through some beautiful savannah landscapes, but the boardwalk itself is all dried up, and it's very far. I'm also dead sure that a walk along the trail marked Trogon Trail will not produce any trogons at all.

In the lagoon itself, you'll find thousands of herons, egrets, ibises, cormorants, limpkins, and among them hundreds of **Northern Jacana**, some **Jabiru Storks**, **Wood Storks** and **Rosaete Spoonbills**. Apparently **Bare-throated Tiger-Herons** are visible as well, but I didn't find them. Waterfowl is less plentiful, with large groups of **Lesser Scaups**, **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** and **Blue-winged Teals**. All five species of kingfishers are supposed to be present, I found three. Overhead are **Ospreys** and **Black Vultures**.

I also found a **Southern Lapwing** – not at all in the bird book – which made my heartbeat accelerate for a few hours. But apparently the lapwing, a South American bird, had been there for some months. The first record for Belize ever.

The area around the village is also very good for birding, broad-leaf forests, mixed with open fields. Just to the left and the junction in the village is a small pond. I found **Purple Gallinules** and **Least Grebes**. Towards the north, the vegetation changes to a drier open pine forest, with different species, such as **Acorn Woodpeckers**. A walk at night produced several **Common Pauragues** and, sadly, a lot of unidentified noises coming from the lagoon.

Lamanai

Lamanai is an old Mayan ruin city located in the jungle alongside a lake, about an hour and a half north of Belize City. There's a bad road heading there, but everybody travels by boat. It's definitely part of the attraction travelling on New River south through the wilderness, watching the ruins eventually emerge from the surrounding jungle. The trip itself is probably not unique birdwise compared to any other river trips, but it's easily accessible and the guides are great. The two hour journey produced several **Snail Kites**, a couple **Black-collared Hawks**, nesting **Jabiru Storks**, **Boat-billed Herons**, **Gray-necked Wood-Rails**, a roosting **Lesser Nighthawk**, **Pale-vented Pigeons**, **Aztek Parakeets**, three species of kingfishers and of course several egrets, herons and **Limpkins**. The big treat was an elusive but astounding **Agami Heron**.

The setting of Lamanai itself gives a clue that there definitely are birds to be found. Among the several unidentified small birds high in the canopy I found **Red-crowned Ant-Tanagers**, **Black-headed Trogons** and **Olive-backed Euphonias**, as well as many **Hooded Warblers** and the usual **American Redstarts**. **Pale-billed Woodpeckers** were also to be found, and we came across a Howler Monkey family of five, swinging their way forward between the trees. In a dead tree, a tiny **Bat Falcon** was resting.

Blue Hole

Blue Hole is a small national park along the Southern Highway, about midway between Belmopan (the world's smallest capital?) and Dangriga. It's equipped with an accessible cave system and a mysterious sinkhole, definitely bathable. We just stopped for a half hour, giving not to much time for bird watching. It's definitely a place to recommend, for the beauty, the birds and the accessibility. The half hour produced **Blue-Black Grosbeak, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Black-headed Trogons, Long-billed Hermits, Hooded Warblers, Blue-winged Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush** and a group of **Black-cheeked Woodpeckers**.

Cockscomb

Cockscomb is the world's only jaguar reserve, but also home to an amazing amount of birds. It's a large area, easy to get to and easy to explore. We went on an organized trip from Placencia, quite costly, so if you have your own vehicle, it's definitely recommended. A weird part of the organized trip is floating down the local river on an inflated inner tube of a truck tire. I was sceptical, but it turned out to be great: a relaxing way of travelling down the shallow stream. The only down side of course is not being able to bring the binoculars along.

The turnoff from the main highway at the Mayan Village is also a good place to stop. From here you have good views around, which is profoundly lacking in the lush jungle in the reserve itself. Our stop produced **Yellow-winged Tanagers, Yellow-throated Euphonias, Red-legged Honeycreepers, Brown Jays** and **Red-lored Parrots**.

In the reserve itself, it's frustratingly difficult to get a view of the birds. I saw several unidentified brown birds rushing through the dense undergrowth. If your not part of a guided tour, be sure to study some of the bird songs. You'll find the species I found in Cockscomb in the species list below.

SPECIES LIST

1. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

Common Crooked Tree

2. Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

1 Crooked Tree 20/2, from the boardwalk

3. Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors*

Common Crooked Tree

4. Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*

Large flocks Crooked Tree

5. Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens*

5 high in a tree, Cockscomb 25/2

6. Black-throated Bobwhite *Colinus nigrogularis*

5 flushed Crooked Tree 20/2

7. Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus*

3 in a pond, Crooked Tree 20/2

8. Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*

Common Crooked Tree, 4 on New River

9. American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

Large flocks Crooked Tree 19-20/2

10. Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*
Very common along the coast

11. Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*
Common Crooked Tree, New River

12. Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus*
Common along the coast

13. Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*
Singles along New River

14. Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*
Very common along the shores. Flocks fly over Belize City.

15. Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*
Common along any waterways.

16. Great Egret *Ardea alba*
Common along any waterways.

17. Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*
Singles Crooked Tree, New River

18. Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*
Common Caye Caulker, Crooked Tree, New River

19. Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*
Common Caye Caulker, Crooked Tree, New River

20. Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
Very common in agricultural areas

21. Green Heron *Butorides virescens*
Common Caye Caulker, Crooked Tree, New River

22. Agami Heron *Agamia agami*
1 New River 22/2. A very elusive beautiful bird! Our guide was thrilled: it was the third time he'd seen it, although he travels up and down the river every single day.

23. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea*
Daily Caye Caulker, several along New River 21/2

24. Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*
4 roosting birds in a tree along New River 21/2

25. White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*
20 Caye Caulker 16/2, common Crooked Tree, singles daily in Placencia

26. Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*
Common Crooked Tree

27. Rosaete Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*
Around 10 Crooked Tree

28. Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria*
1 on New River

- 29. Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana*
About 100 Crooked Tree 19-20/2. Many individuals circled over the village at any time of the day.
- 30. Black Vulture** *Coragyps atrata*
Very common
- 31. Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura*
Very common, especially in rural areas
- 32. Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture** *Cathartes burrovianus*
1-2 Crooked Tree Junction
- 33. Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*
Common along the coast, even far out at sea.
- 34. Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus*
1 Crooked Tree. Perched in a tree, a very long profile with the long tail. A flock of Brown Jays were scowling at it.
- 35. Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus sociabilis*
6 along New River
- 36. Plumbeous Kite** *Ictinia plumbea*
1 Cockscomb
- 37. Black-collared Hawk** *Busarellus nigricollis*
1-2 New River
- 38. Crane Hawk** *Geranospiza caerulescens*
2 Crooked Tree 19/2
- 39. Common Black-Hawk** *Buteogallus anthracinus*
1 Caye Caulker 16-18/2, 1 Independence
- 40. Roadside Hawk** *Buteo magnirostris*
Allmän, även bland bebyggelse. Sammanlagt ett 20-tal.
- 41. White-tailed Hawk** *Buteo albicaudatus*
1 along the Southern Highway, close to Independence, on the th
- 42. Laughing Falcon** *Herpetotheres cachinnans*
1 far away, close to Belize Zoo
- 43. Bat Falcon** *Falco ruficularis*
1 perching in a bare tree in Lamanai
- 44. Clapper Rail** *Rallus longirostris*
1 on Caye Caulker 16-17/2, in a microscopic marsh along the air strip
- 45. Gray-necked Wood-Rail** *Aramides cajanea*
1 in Crooked Tree 19/2, 3 along New River 21/2
- 46. Purple Gallinule** *Porphyryla martinica*
2 in a dam, Crooked Tree 20/2
- 47. American Coot** *Fulica americana*
Around 10, Crooked Tree 19/2
- 48. Limpkin** *Aramides guarauna*
A true personality. Common in Crooked Tree and along New River.

- 49. Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis*
1 in Crooked Tree, some hundred yards north of the Vistors' Center on the 19th. The first for Belize, the bird having been there for some months.
- 50. Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*
3 on Caye Caulker, in the mangrove SE of the air strip on the 16th
- 51. Wilson's Plover** *Charadrius wilsonia*
1 on Caye Caulker, in the mangrove SE of the air strip on the 16th
- 52. Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferous*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2, 1 Belize City 20/2, 1 Placencia 24/2
- 53. Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus*
Common in Crooked Tree
- 54. Northern Jacana** *Jacana spinosa*
10 New River, hundreds in Crooked Tree
- 55. Willet** *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*
Several on Caye Caulker, seen daily
- 56. Spotted Sandpiper** *Acitis macularia*
Common along the coast
- 57. Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus*
3 on Caye Caulker, in the mangrove SE of the air strip on the 16th
- 58. Marbled Godwit** *Limosa fedoa*
1 on Caye Caulker, in the mangrove SE of the air strip on the 16th
- 59. Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*
Common along the coast (Caye Caulker, Placencia), even out on small reef islands.
- 60. Sanderling** *Calidris alba*
Daily Caye Caulker
- 61. Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*
1 Belize City 22/2
- 62. Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus*
23 on Caye Caulker, in the mangrove SE of the air strip on the 16th
- 63. Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*
Very common along the coast
- 64. American Herring Gull** *Larus smithsonianus*
1 Belize City 22/2
- 65. Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia*
Common Crooked Tree
- 66. Royal Tern** *Sterna maxima*
Common along the coast (Caye Caulker, Placencia)
- 67. Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*
5 Caye Caulker on the 17th
- 68. Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia*

Common Belize City

69. Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioneas cayennensis*
5 New River. Daily Placencia, clearly common

70. White-crowned Pigeon *Patagioneas leucocephala*
Shy. Daily on Caye Caulker, 1 Placencia 24/2

71. Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioneas flavirostris*
2 Crooked Tree on the 19th

72. Short-billed Pigeon *Patagioneas nigrirostris*
1 New River, 1 Cockscomb

73. White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*
Common Caye Caulker

74. Common Ground-Dove *Columba passerina*
Common Placencia

75. Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti*
Very common Crooked Tree. Also Cockscomb 25/2.

76. Blue Ground-Dove *Claravis pretiosa*
1 Cockscomb 25/2

77. White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*
1 Crooked Tree 20/2

78. Olive-throated Parakeet *Aratinga nana*
Common New River 21/2

79. White-fronted Parrot *Amazona albifrons*
1 perching in Crooked Tree 20/2. Also flocks of unidentified flying parrots.

80. Red-lored Parrot *Amazona autumnalis*
A flock Cockscomb turnoff 25/2

81. Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*
1 Crooked Tree Junction

82. Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*
Common Crooked Tree

83. Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis*
1 perching on a limb along New River. I can't believe how the guide spotted it!

84. Common Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*
Common Crooked Tree. At least 4 calling simultaneously, two of them later visible in the street lights in the village.

85. Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*
2 Blue Hole

86. Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis*
Cockscomb. Interesting calls, very sharp, in large groups. They perch very low in the shrubbery, nearly invisible.

87. White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivorus*
1 Cockscomb 25/2

- 88. Green-breasted Mango** *Anthracothorax prevostii*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2, 1 Placencia
- 89. Canivet's Emerald** *Chlorostilbon canivetii*
2 Crooked Tree 19-20/2
- 90. Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** *Amazilia tzacatl*
Common inland throughout in well-wooded areas
- 91. Cinnamon Hummingbird** *Amazilia rutila*
Common in villages and towns along the coast, Caye Caulker, Placencia
- 92. Black-headed Trogon** *Trogon melanocephalus*
1 Lamanai, 1 Blue Hole, 5 Cockscomb
- 93. Violaceous Trogon** *Trogon violaceus*
1 calling Cockscomb
- 94. Ringed Kingfisher** *Ceryle torquata*
Common along New River, singles Crooked Tree
- 95. Belted Kingfisher** *Ceryle alcyon*
1 Caye Caulker 17/2, several Crooked Tree
- 96. Green Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle americana*
Common along New River, at least 15 individuals
- 100. Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda*
1 Blue Hole 22/2, 1 Cockscomb 25/2. Like a slow bee-eater.
- 101. Collared Aracari** *Pteroglossus torquatus*
1 at close range Crooked Tree, 19/2
- 102. Keel-billed Toucan** *Ramphastos sulphuratus*
2 Cockscomb, at quite a distance.
- 103. Acorn Woodpecker** *Melanerpes formicivorus*
Common in Crooked Tree, in pine-dominated areas
- 104. Black-cheeked Woodpecker** *Melanerpes pucherani*
3 Blue Hole 22/2
- 105. Yucatan Woodpecker** *Melanerpes pygmaeus*
2 Crooked Tree 20/2, by the boardwalk
- 106. Golden-fronted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes aurifrons*
Common in towns and rural areas. Caye Caulker, Placencia, Crooked Tree.
- 107. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus varius*
1 Caye Caulker 16-17/2
- 108. Pale-billed Woodpecker** *Campephilus guatemalensis*
2 Lamanai 21/2, 1 Independence and 1 Cockscomb 25/2
- 109. Dot-winged Antwren** *Microrhopias quixensis*
3 Cockscomb 25/2.
- 110. Yellow-bellied Elaenia** *Elaenia flavogaster*
1 Cockscomb turnoff 25/2, 2 Placencia 26/2

- 111. Least Flycatcher** *Empidonax minimus*
1 Placencia 27/2
- 112. Vermilion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus rubinus*
Common in rural areas: Crooked Tree, Cockscomb turnoff, along highways. Very conspicuous.
- 113. Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus*
1 Crooked Tree 20/2
- 114. Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer*
Common Crooked Tree, Cockscomb
- 115. Great Crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus crinitus*
1 Placencia 27/2
- 116. Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Common in villages, rural areas, 1 Caye Caulker 18/2. Very noisy; its call together with squeaky noises of the Great-tailed Grackle make up the soundtrack of Belizean towns and gardens.
- 117. Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua*
At least 1 Crooked Tree. Hard to distinguish, the large bill not so characteristic as one might think.
- 118. Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis*
Common in varied areas, Crooked Tree, Cockscomb, Placencia
- 119. Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus*
2 Cockscomb, calling from a tree near the Visitor's Center.
- 120. Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus*
Very common throughout in villages, along roadsides, rivers.
- 121. Couch's Kingbird** *Tyrannus couchii*
At least 1 certain, in Crooked Tree. Extremely similar to Tropical, except for the call.
- 122. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus forficatus*
Individuals seen briefly from the highways, 2 north of Belize City, 1 between BC and Belmopan.
- 123. Rose-throated Becard** *Pachyramphus aglaiae*
2 Crooked Tree 20/2. A slow species.
- 124. Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata*
1 Cockscomb 25/2, at the Visitor's Center
- 125. White-collared Manikin** *Manacus candei*
At least 4 Cockscomb 25/2. Absurd display, snapping wings.
- 126. Gray-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea*
Common Crooked Tree
- 127. Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*
A few along New River 21/2
- 128. Mangrove Swallow** *Tachycineta albilinea*
Common along waterways throughout
- 129. Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*
Common along New River
- 130. Spot-breasted Wren** *Thryothorus maculipectus*

Common Cockscomb

131. House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*
Common Crooked Tree

132. Gray Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis*
Common throughout

133. Black Catbird *Melanoptila glabrirostris*
Not uncommon Caye Caulker, seen daily. Breeding only in the Yúcatan and islands off Belize, this species is nearly endemic.

134. Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*
Very common in villages and rural areas

135. Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*
5 Lamanai, >15 Cockscomb

136. Clay-colored Robin *Turdus grayi*
Common Crooked Tree, Cockscomb

137. Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus*
1 Cockscomb 25/2

138. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Poliophtila caerulea*
Common Crooked Tree

139. Brown Jay *Cyanocorax morio*
Common in well-wooded areas: Crooked Tree, New River, Cockscomb

140. Yucatan Jay *Cyanocorax yucatanicus*
1 Crooked Tree 20/2, by the boardwalk

141. White-eyed Vireo *Vireo griseus*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2, 1 Placencia 28/2

142. Mangrove Vireo *Vireo pallens*
1 injured on road between Crooked Tree and Crooked Tree Junction

143. Yucatan Vireo *Vireo magister*
2 Caye Caulker

144. Blue-winged Warbler *Vermivora pinus*
1 Blue Hole 22/2

145. Northern Parula *Parula americana*
2 Caye Caulker 18/2

146. Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia*
Common throughout. On Caye Caulker resident red-headed *eritachoides*, very different from the nominate.

147. Magnolia Warbler *Dendroica magnolia*
Common

148. Yellow-rumped Warbler *Dendroica coronata*
Very common, seen daily

149. Yellow-throated Warbler *Dendroica dominica*
Common, Crooked Tree and Belize City (one was perching on a parked car!)

- 150. Palm Warbler** *Dendroica palmarum*
1 Caye Caulker 18/2
- 151. Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia*
2 Cockscomb 25/2
- 152. American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla*
Very common in any wooded areas.
- 153. Ovenbird** *Seiurus aurocapillus*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2
- 154. Northern Waterthrush** *Seiurus noveboracensis*
Common Crooked Tree, Placencia
- 155. Louisiana Waterthrush** *Seiurus motacilla*
1 Blue Hole 22/2
- 156. Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas*
Very common in coastal shrubbery
- 157. Hooded Warbler** *Wilsonia citrina*
Common in well-wooded areas, often together with American Redstart: Crooked Tree, Cockscomb, Blue Hole, Lamanai
- 158. Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola*
2 Caye Caulker 17/2
- 159. Red-throated Ant-Tanager** *Habia fuscicauda*
1 Lamanai 21/2, a group of 4 Cockscomb 25/2
- 160. Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra*
1 New River 21/2
- 161. Passerini's Tanager** *Ramphocelus passerinii*
1 male Cockscomb 25/2
- 162. Blue-gray Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus*
Common throughout in villages, forest edges. Not Caye Caulker.
- 163. Yellow-winged Tanager** *Thraupis abbas*
3 Cockscomb turnoff 25/2
- 164. Yellow-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia hirundinacea*
5 Cockscomb turnoff 25/2
- 165. Olive-backed Euphonia** *Euphonia gouldi*
Groups high in tree, Lamanai 21/2
- 166. Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus*
4 Cockscomb turnoff 25/2
- 167. Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina*
2 Crooked Tree 20/2
- 168. Variable Seedeater** *Sporophila americana*
5 Blue Hole 22/2
- 169. White-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila torqueola*

Very common, found wherever there's shrubbery

170. Thick-billed Seed-Finch *Oryzoborus funereus*
2 Cockscomb 25/2

171. Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina*
1 Crooked Tree 20/2

172. Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis*
1 Crooked Tree 20/2

173. Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2

174. Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanocompsa cyanoides*
1 Blue Hole 22/2

175. Blue Grosbeak *Passerina caerulea*
1 Caye Caulker 16/2

176. Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea*
Common in agriculture, villages

177. Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*
Common Crooked Tree

178. Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives*
Common Crooked Tree, Cockscomb

179. Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*
Very common, unavoidable, in towns and arid areas

180. Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prothemelas*
2 Crooked Tree Crossing 20/2, 2 Placencia 28/2

181. Orchard Oriole *Icterus spurius*
Common: at least 20 Belize City 21/2, daily in Placencia

182. Hooded Oriole *Icterus cucullatus*
Common throughout in villages, rural areas

183. Yellow-tailed Oriole *Icterus mesomelas*
1 Cockscomb 25/2

184. Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*
3 Cockscomb 25/2