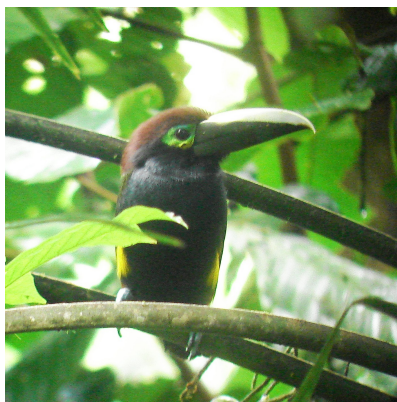


## DAY TRIP TO FANTASTIC CARIBBEAN SLOPE FOOTHILL FOREST AT QUEBRADA GONZALEZ, BRAULIO CARRILLO NATIONAL PARK



Only an hour's drive from the city, the fantastic, **Caribbean slope, foothill rain forests** of [Quebrada Gonzalez](#) are the closest, most accessible rain forests to San Jose. This is also a good day trip to take while staying in the Sarapiquí (La Selva) area as it takes a bit less than an hour to get there and hosts a number of bird species not found in the lowlands. The dense vegetation and tall canopy of the rain forests at Quebrada Gonzalez can be tough to bird but always produce rare species difficult to see elsewhere. Some of the specialties that I frequently see at this site, (a spot I have been birding since 1993) include: **King Vulture, Hawk-Eagles**, other raptors, Crested Guan, Snowcap, **Lattice-tailed Trogon (pictured above), Yellow-eared Toucanet (pictured above)**, Cinnamon Woodpecker, **Black-crowned Antpitta**, Russet Antshrike, White-ruffed Manakin, Nightingale Wren, Black-headed Nightingale Thrush, Pale-vented Thrush, and many tanager species that troop through the forest in large, mixed flocks.

### **Other animals:**

In general, this site is an excellent place to experience primary rainforest. Three species of monkeys, Northern Tamandua, and various frogs and reptiles are frequently encountered.

**Itinerary:** Arriving at Quebrada Gonzalez by 6:30 A.M., we will search for the specialties of this foothill forest along a well-maintained, short, loop trail. Around mid-morning, we will watch the sky for raptors and the forest edge for mixed flocks in the vicinity of the ranger station before driving to a nearby restaurant for a tasty, Tico lunch. As the restaurant is in the lowlands, we will likely see a different suite of bird species here before visiting a nearby river often frequented by Fasciated Tiger-Heron and Sunbittern. In the afternoon, we will visit Quebrada Gonzalez once again to clean up on species missed during the morning, leaving for San Jose elsewhere by 4 or 5 P.M.

### **Price:**

1 to 4 participants: \$90 plus expenses for lunch or \$65 for half a day.

5-8 participants: \$150 plus expenses for lunch or \$125 for half a day.

Price does not include transportation nor park entrance fees (\$10 for non-residents, \$2 for guide).

### **Site list with abundance for bird species of Quebrada Gonzalez.**

**Species in bold are easier to see at Quebrada Gonzalez than many other sites in Costa Rica.**

Species	Abundance:
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	Fairly common- Recorded most visits
	Uncommon- Recorded once every every 3 visits
	Rare- recorded once every 5 visits
	Very rare- Only recorded a few times and may no longer occur
Great Tinamou	Rare
Slaty-breasted Tinamou	Rare on the lower trail.
Little Tinamou	Rare
Great Curassow	Rare
Crested Guan	Fairly common
<b>Black-eared Wood-Quail</b>	<b>Uncommon but very inconspicuous</b>
Fasciated Tiger Heron	Uncommon
Sunbittern	Uncommon
Osprey	Uncommon migrant
<b>King Vulture</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Turkey Vulture	Fairly common
Black Vulture	Fairly common
Gray-headed Kite	Rare
Double toothed kite	Uncommon
American Swallow-tailed kite	Uncommon
Bicolored Hawk	Rare
<b>Tiny Hawk</b>	<b>Rare</b>
White Hawk	Uncommon
<b>Black-chested Hawk (Barred)</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Broad-winged Hawk	Fairly common
Short-tailed Hawk	Fairly common
Great Black Hawk	Rare (formerly fairly common)
Solitary Eagle	Rare

Swainson's Hawk	Uncommon during migration
Black Hawk-Eagle	Uncommon
<b>Ornate Hawk-Eagle</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
<b>Black and white Hawk-Eagle</b>	<b>Rare</b>
Crested Eagle	Very rare
Red-throated Caracara	Very rare
Collared Forest-Falcon	Rare
Barred Forest-Falcon	Rare
<b>Bat Falcon</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Grey-necked Wood-Rail	Uncommon
Spotted Sandpiper	Uncommon in winter
Band-tailed Pigeon	Fairly common during dry season (migrant from higher elevations)
Short-billed Pigeon	Fairly common
Olive-backed Quail-Dove	Rare
<b>Purplish-backed Quail-Dove</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Gray-chested Dove	Rare
Great Green Macaw	Very rare, former regular seasonal visitor.
Mealy Parrot	Rare, formerly more common.
Brown-hooded Parrot	Fairly common
White-crowned Parrot	Uncommon
Crimson-fronted Parakeet	Uncommon
Red-fronted Parrotlet	Rare
Squirrel cuckoo	Fairly common
Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo	Rare
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Rare migrant
Black-billed Cuckoo	Rare migrant

Crested Owl	Rare
Black and white Owl	Rare
Spectacled Owl	Rare
Mottled Owl	Rare
Vermiculated Screech-Owl	Rare
Central American Pygmy-Owl	Rare
Short-tailed Nighthawk	Uncommon
Pauraque	Uncommon
Chick-will's-widow	Rare migrant
Common Potoo	Rare
White-collared Swift	Fairly common
Chestnut-collared Swift	Uncommon
White-chinned Swift	Rare
Gray-rumped Swift	Uncommon
Chimney Swift	Fairly common migrant
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift	Uncommon
Stripe-throated Hermit	Fairly common
Long-billed Hermit	Uncommon
Green Hermit	Fairly common
White-tipped Sicklebill	Rare
Green-crowned Brilliant	Rare
Purple-crowned Fairy	Fairly common
Crowned Woodnymph	Fairly common
<b>Red-footed Plumeleteer</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Rufous-tailed Hummer	Rare
Brown Violetear	Rare
White-necked Jacobin	Uncommon
Green Thorntail	Uncommon
Black-crested Coquette	Uncommon
<b>Snowcap</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>

Violet-headed Hummer	Uncommon
Resplendant Quetzal	Rare migrant from higher elevations
Slaty-tailed Trogon	Rare
<b>Lattice-tailed Trogon</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Collared Trogon	Uncommon
Violaceous Trogon	Uncommon
Black-throated Trogon	Uncommon
Rufous Motmot	Rare
Broad-billed Motmot	Fairly common
Ringed Kingfisher	Uncommon
Green Kingfisher	Uncommon
Lanceolated Monklet	Very rare
White-whiskered Puffbird	Uncommon
Red-headed Barbet	Uncommon
Collared Aracari	Fairly common
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	Uncommon
Keel-billed Toucan	Rare
<b>Yellow-eared Toucanet</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Emerald (Blue-throated) Toucanet	Rare migrant from higher elevations
Pale-billed Woodpecker	Uncommon
Lineated Woodpecker	Rare
<b>Cinnamon Woodpecker</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Rufous-winged Woodpecker	Fairly common
Smoky-brown Woodpecker	Uncommon
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	Fairly common
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Rare
Slaty Spinetail	Rare

Plain Xenops	Uncommon
Spotted Barbtail	Uncommon
<b>Striped (Western) Woodhaunter</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner	Uncommon
Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser	Rare
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	Fairly common
Strong-billed Woodcreeper	Very rare
Spotted Woodcreeper	Fairly common
Northern Barred Woodcreeper	Uncommon
Black-striped Woodcreeper	Rare
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	Uncommon
<b>Brown-billed Scythebill</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Russet Antshrike	Fairly common
Chestnut-backed Antbird	Uncommon
<b>Dull-mantled Antbird</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Immaculate Antbird	Rare
Ocellated Antbird	Rare
Bicolored Antbird	Uncommon
Spotted Antbird	Fairly common
Dot-winged Antwren	Rare
<b>Checker-throated Antwren</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
White-flanked Antwren	Rare
Streak-crowned Antvireo	Uncommon
Plain Antvireo	Rare
Thicket Antpitta	Rare
Spectacled Antpitta	Uncommon
<b>Black-crowned Antpitta</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Black-headed Antthrush	Rare
Black-faced Antthrush	Uncommon
Brown-capped Tyrannulet	Rare

Paltry Tyrannulet	Fairly common
Golden-crowned Spadebill	Uncommon
Rufous-browed Tyrannulet	Rare
Yellow-margined Flycatcher	Uncommon
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	Uncommon
Olive-striped Flycatcher	Uncommon
Slaty-capped Flycatcher	Uncommon
Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	Uncommon
Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher	Uncommon
Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	Fairly common
Eye-ringed Flatbill	Rare
Bright-rumped Attila	Uncommon
Rufous Mourner	Uncommon
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	Fairly common
Great crested Flycatcher	Fairly common during winter months
Torrent Tyrannulet	Rare (formerly more common)
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Uncommon migrant
Eastern Wood Pewee	Fairly common migrant
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Uncommon during winter months
Acadian Flycatcher	Rare during winter months
Tufted Flycatcher	Uncommon
Black Phoebe	Rare
Tropical Kingbird	Rare
Piratic Flycatcher	Uncommon
Boat-billed Flycatcher	Uncommon
Social Flycatcher	Rare
Cinnamon Becard	Uncommon
Masked Tityra	Uncommon
Black-crowned Tityra	Uncommon
Rufous Piha	Rare, formerly more common
Speckled Mourner	Very rare
Lovely Cotinga	Very rare
Bare-necked Umbrellabird	Rare

<b>Sharpbill</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
White-collared Manakin	Uncommon on lower trail
Red-capped Manakin	Rare
White-crowned Manakin	Fairly common during early wet season
<b>White-ruffed Manakin</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Gray-headed Manakin	Rare
Thrushlike Manakin	Rare
Yellow-throated Vireo	Fairly common during winter months
Red-eyed Vireo	Fairly common migrant
Philadelphia Vireo	Uncommon during winter months
Green Shrike Vireo	Uncommon
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	Uncommon
Lesser Greenlet	Fairly common
Barn Swallow	Fairly common migrant
Cliff Swallow	Fairly common migrant
Blue and white Swallow	Rare
Tropical Gnatcatcher	Uncommon
Long-billed Gnatwren	Rare
<b>Tawny-faced Gnatwren</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Band-backed wren	Uncommon
Stripe-breasted wren	Fairly common
Bay Wren	Uncommon
Black-throated Wren	Rare
House Wren	Uncommon
White-breasted Wood-Wren	Fairly common
<b>Nightingale Wren</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Song Wren	Rare
<b>Pale-vented Robin</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Black-faced Solitaire	Rare migrant from higher elevations



Wood Thrush	Uncommon
Swainson's Thrush	Fairly common migrant
<b>Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
American Dipper	Rare
Bananaquit	Uncommon
Tennessee Warbler	Fairly common migrant
Golden-winged Warbler	Uncommon during winter months
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Fairly common
Blackburnian Warbler	Uncommon during winter months
Kentucky Warbler	Uncommon during winter months
Black-throated Green Warbler	Uncommon during winter months
Yellow Warbler	Uncommon during winter months
Bay-breasted Warbler	Uncommon migrant
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Rare during winter months
Black and white Warbler	Fairly common during winter months
American Redstart	Uncommon during winter months
Ovenbird	Uncommon during winter months
Louisiana Waterthrush	Uncommon during winter months
Slate-throated Redstart	Rare
Buff-rumped Warbler	Fairly common
Common Bush-Tanager	Uncommon
<b>Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
<b>Olive Tanager</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Dusky-faced Tanager	Fairly common
White-shouldered Tanager	Uncommon
<b>Tawny-crested Tanager</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
<b>Blue and gold Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
<b>Black and yellow Tanager</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
<b>White-throated Shrike Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Summer Tanager	Fairly common

Scarlet Tanager	Fairly common migrant
Passerini's Tanager	Rare
Crimson-collared Tanager	Rare
Blue-gray Tanager	Rare
Palm Tanager	Rare
<b>Emerald Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
<b>Speckled Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Silver-throated Tanager	Uncommon
Golden-hooded Tanager	Uncommon
<b>Rufous-winged Tanager</b>	<b>Uncommon</b>
Bay-headed Tanager	Fairly common
Green Honeycreeper	Fairly common
Shining Honeycreeper	Uncommon
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis	Uncommon
Variable Seedeater	Uncommon
Orange-billed Sparrow	Fairly common
Black-striped Sparrow	Rare
Buff-throated Saltator	Fairly common
Black-faced Grosbeak	Fairly common
Slate-colored Grosbeak	Uncommon
Black-thighed Grosbeak	Rare
Blue-black Grosbeak	Uncommon
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Rare
Chestnut-headed Oropendola	Fairly common
Montezuma Oropendola	Uncommon
Scarlet-rumped Cacique	Fairly common
Yellow-billed Cacique	Rare
Baltimore Oriole	Fairly common during winter months
<b>Tawny-capped Euphonia</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>
Olive-backed Euphonia	Fairly common

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