

Chapter 1 : Top Birdwatchers Sites - blog.quintoapp.com

A Birdwatcher's Miscellany by Rob Hume starting at \$ A Birdwatcher's Miscellany has 1 available editions to buy at Alibris.

Recent books from William R. For more info or to order copies, place the book title in the Amazon search box at: Kontos - From a young age, Shirley seemed destined to follow the journey of a famous artist. Her artistic talents brought her acclaim and recognition which led to an invitation to exhibit at the prestigious Whitney Museum in New York. She was well on her way to fame in the art world. However, a mysterious encounter with an angelic stranger changes the direction of her life. This heavenly messenger reveals the journey of a heavenly calling. She is to become famous, but not in the artistic field she believes. Before this successful moment, someone who had been very evil to her would capture her attention. If she ignored this person and turned her back in unforgiveness, all she had gained would be lost. The fascinating details of this spiritual journey are revealed in this previously untold story. I was living in Alden, New York and had no plans for that day. It was going to be a nice relaxing day. I seated myself comfortably in my front room in time to watch the motorcade of our president on television from Dallas, Texas. Kennedy slumped over in the back seat of an open convertible car in which he was riding. He was seated next to his wife, Jackie who jumped up in panic. I was so confused and shocked by what I was watching. A professional graphic arts designer stated that "The Calico Caterpillar" book is "Amazing! A thoroughly enjoyable visual feast for the eyes! I could go on picking out many details that make the images and their sequencing so terrific. The book is so well done that it is hard to find areas that could be improved. Fun Facts â€” Illustrated fun facts about animals that will both educate and entertain children. This is a lively illustrated rhyming book that will delight children with guessing games. Gerry Rising, brings that experience to informal essays which will appeal to all levels of bird and nature enthusiasts. Hanna has been beatified and on her way to full sainthood the first lay nurse to achieve such an honor in the Catholic Church. An understanding of these four number systems is important to gain insight into how computer systems operate internally. This book is an uplifting prayerful experience. It teaches young people and adults how to appreciate the beautiful manifestations of nature and life on earth utilizing excellent large colorful photographs with unique camera angles. After the war, he adopted children whose parents died in Siberia, brought them to Canada, placed them in homes and helped in bringing them up and he later officiated at their weddings and baptized their children. This book is an excellent companion and guide to piano practice, for both students, whether amateur or aspiring music major and a reference for teachers as well: This is a colorfully illustrated Bible story about Jonah and the whale written for children. Letters to a Young Math Teacher â€” by Dr. Baugher, Mercer University, Georgia. A resource guide for American made residential and non-residential products, materials and methods. This illustrated book by Donna Lewis is for young readers. This is a tender, heartwarming devotional with inspiring scriptures and true stories. It is a living witness of what God can do if given a chance. You will find encouragement on each page to seek God above all else. Gerald Rising and Dr. Bolles, writes clearly about economic principles because his views are not influenced by pecuniary interests. Maria Secaras wrote, "I love the recipes in this book! Even though I work long days, I want to prepare delicious meals for my family and entertain friends. These recipes are quick and easy to make. Early Childhood Elementary Education stated, "This book will delight my preschool and kindergarten students. This "tale of tails" will be added to my school library for young readers as well as those who may have reading challenges. My English language learners will benefit from the vivid description and animal vocabulary. Click on "products" at the following web page link: To the Class of A book that from the mind did spring Was thought to be a wondrous thing! And so it Was! For on its page Dwelt words of wisdom from the sage, With powers the seeking mind to sway And the outcome of the day, By raising questions, posing answers, Inspiring music, art, and dancers! The years roll by; the river flows, You read great books; your wisdom grows. CLSC Alumni Association President, - - - - - Here are links to video book trailers for some of the books we publish. All of our books are available on Amazon.

Chapter 2 : Republic of Cuba - Bird Watching, Resources for Bird Watching by the Fat Birder

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

Email If you are a keen birder, there are few places which can rival the sheer diversity of species in Latin America. From the huge flightless rhea, to the tiny jewel-like hummingbirds that can be found across the whole continent, there is a bird for everyone. The most famous residents are species such as penguins, macaws and toucans, however, there are thousands of other unique birds that can be found in every habitat imaginable. Here we have rounded up the best locations, and which luxury hotels to stay in, for the ultimate birding holiday. Tayrona Eco Habs, Tayrona, Colombia Colombia boasts the most bird species of any country in the world and should therefore be on every birders radar. From the Caribbean Sea to the deep Amazon, and every place in between, there are hundreds of colourful birds to be spotted. A particularly fruitful region is the coffee zone, which harbours an unbelievably rich biodiversity and endemic species such as the yellow eared parrot. The 1, acre reserve is home to hundreds of rare and endangered species, and the highest concentration of continental range-restricted bird species found anywhere in the world. Just a short distance away, close to the beautiful and also wildlife-rich Tayrona National Park one can find Tayrona Eco-Habs. This luxury coastal property is simple yet stunning. Guests can enjoy complete privacy in small thatched bungalows with views over the ocean and exclusive beach access. The whole property has been built to blend in with nature, with many natural materials being used, and is surrounded by jungle. Modern facilities are still available, making this an ideal base for a birdwatching holiday. Araras Eco Lodge, The Pantanal, Brazil The huge expanse of Brazil covers a wide variety of habitats and is home to over 1, species of bird. Similar to Colombia, it boasts some colourful and unique species that are found no where else in the world. The dense Amazon rainforest and the floodplains of the Pantanal are a haven for birdwatchers and offer outstanding opportunities to view some of the rarest species in Latin America. Our top recommendation for birding accommodation in the Pantanal is the Araras Eco-Lodge which has been built with an emphasis on comfort and harmony blending with the environment. Since the lodge has been involved in a conservation program to help the endangered Hyacinth Macaw. This bright blue parrot is an iconic species and since the program began, the lodge has increased the surrounding population of macaws from 27 to over Reachable year-round, the lodge is nestled in an ecologically diverse and impeccably preserved region. Guests at the lodge will have the opportunity to participate in first-class bird watching, trekking in pristine forests, canoeing, and horseback riding. There are also guided photo-safaris, sunrise and sunset hikes, and stunning views from tree-top lookout points. The lodge, built in regional rustic style, includes leisure facilities such as a swimming pool and a large veranda with cosy hammocks. Mashpi Lodge, Quito, Ecuador Ecuador is 5th on the list of the countries which boast the worlds most numerous bird species – an impressive feat considering the size of the country. This small corner of Latin America is a biological wonderland and has hundreds of species packed into its pristine cloud forests, jungle lowlands and of course, famous Galapagos islands. For birders on a tight time limit, this is the country for you as travelling between each birding hotspot is much less complicated and time consuming. There are many different, and wonderful, lodges which you could choose to stay in to maximise your birdwatching time, but one of the best is Mashpi Lodge. Not only is it ultra-modern and luxurious but it also boasts over species of bird including 36 endemics and has been voted the leading green hotel in Ecuador. The lodge has a strong focus on conservation and has a dedicated research team who are involved in a number of scientific projects which are helping to preserve the choco habitat which it resides in. At the end of a busy day there is a full spa to relax in, yoga classes and a menu full of delicious options in the restaurant. Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, Aguas Calientes, Peru Coming in second place on the list of the most bird species on the planet, Peru is another beautiful part of the world that should be considered for a birding holiday in Latin America. One of the biggest draws here, literally, is the Andean condor which is resident year-round in the Colca Canyon. This gigantic bird has a wingspan of over 10 feet, therefore it is unmistakable

in flight. The hotel is surrounded by 12 acres of natural beauty and has its own team of guides to show you the best of what can be seen within the grounds. There are orchid trails species of native orchid thrive here , bird watching walks and a spectacled bear project to be enjoyed by guests. This is no ordinary hotel garden, rare and beautiful species including the Andean cock-of-the-rock and golden-headed quetzal are regularly spotted among over other birds which call this place home. Back at the hotel, there are plenty of facilities to be enjoyed such as a spa, hot springs, swimming pool and restaurant serving some of the best Peruvian cuisine. Bahia Bustamente, Chubut, Argentina Little known and remote, the west coast of Argentina is certainly not somewhere that springs to mind when thinking of a trip to South America. However, the region should be on your radar if you are looking for an unusual birding holiday. The coastal habitat here is unique, hot and dry and yet home to thousands of Magellanic penguins. In addition, these waters are famous for their orca population which hunts by beaching themselves to capture young seals and sealions. Aside from these two major draws, there are hundreds of seabirds which pass by and a decent amount of land based species too. The burrowing parrot, rhea and southern flamingo are a taste of the variety of birds in the area. Although the rooms are simple, the location and sheer wilderness experience is first class. Each day a variety of options are presented to explore the surrounding region, from horseback rides to cycling and boat trips, allowing close observation of the resident species. Bespoke Latin America is a luxury travel company specialising in tailor made holidays to Latin America. If you would like to be a guest blogger on A Luxury Travel Blog in order to raise your profile, please contact us.

Chapter 3 : Madras Miscellany - The Hindu

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June 20, November 08, Together with The Spirit of the Blackbuck were released two new issues of Blackbuck, which was making an appearance after a couple of years. The author with the most articles in the compilation is, naturally, M. Krishnan, that prolific writer and photographer of Nature. Sadly, the picture on the Penguin cover was not the striking picture of a blackbuck that had appeared on the cover of the first issue of the journal, dated April my picture today. It was one day in the s that R. Mohan Rao and S. Chandra, birdwatchers both, bumped into two other birdwatchers in Guindy National Park. The latter introduced themselves as V. With Rajan taking the lead "as he was to in the society once it was formed" the four wrote to persons each knew who might be interested. Among them were G. Bhatt, who had at the time just founded a photographic society and who, with that experience, offered to draw up the constitution, and K. Sudhakar, who to this day helps with the management of the Society. Bhatt was elected its first President and Rajan its Honorary Secretary, a post he was to hold till his death in The other members of the Committee were Preston Ahimaz, T. Rajan of the Telegraphs was the moving spirit of the Society in its early years and it was he who helped it to sink roots. Then came a monthly bulletin, which still comes out, but the Society felt it should do more by way of communication. So was born Blackbuck. Rangarajan, the former still the guiding spirit of Blackbuck, now teaming with K. Sudhakar and Kumaran Sathasivam. Another associated with Blackbuck has been Dr. Rajaram, who was Editor from to Blackbuck may be focused on a serious look at Natural History, but what has been special about it is that it has welcomed contributions from people ranging from professional scientists to amateur naturalists. They have sent in material varying from scientific studies to anecdotal recollections to masterly literary descriptions. Combining all three, the curmudgeonly M. Krishnan showed the way to many. The tale of an apology V. Prabhakar, the antiquarian who first put me on the trail of Sir William Wedderburn Miscellany, May 17 , sends me a fascinating tidbit about this friend of India that might have some people making a rather different assessment of him. Gokhale and The Hindu once held in common. But over this apology, they had an exchange of words. Gokhale, in an interview in London with the Manchester Guardian in July , stated that British troops on anti-plague operations in Poona were destroying property, contaminating food, desecrating places of worship, and molesting women. He repeated these allegations at Westminster. But when Gokhale returned to Bombay and the Police asked him details about his allegations and his sources for them, Gokhale failed to confirm the charges he had made and wrote an apology to the Governor of Bombay, the Plague Committee and the Army. Gokhale is discredited and almost crushed for the present. A more sincere, well meaning, loyal Indian there does not exist. It was a fiery ordeal. But what was to be done? The situation had to be accepted as many before me had to do under similar circumstances, as an attendant evil of over zeal in a public cause. Meanwhile, we must find strength and consolation in the fact that no great or just cause is ever really served by miserable subterfuge or can be permanently injured by the honest errors of an individual no matter who he be. Jayaram, who grew up in Srirangam and studied in St. Satyanidhi, referring once again to A.

Chapter 4 : Birdwatchers Sites - blog.quintoapp.com

It turns out one of the things you tend to collect as a birder is books about birds. Birdwatching is in many ways less about watching birds as it is identifying what in heck you're watching, and properly identifying birds turns out to be, well, complicated. That challenge is a big part of what.

An aggregation of globe skimmers, *Pantala flavescens*, during migration Dragonflies live on every continent except Antarctica. In contrast to the damselflies *Zygoptera*, which tend to have restricted distributions, some genera and species are spread across continents. For example, the blue-eyed darner *Rhionaeschna multicolor* lives all across North America, and in Central America; [8] emperors *Anax* live throughout the Americas from as far north as Newfoundland to as far south as Bahia Blanca in Argentina, [9] across Europe to central Asia, North Africa, and the Middle East. Most *Anisoptera* species are tropical, with far fewer species in temperate regions. They are not native to Iceland, but individuals are occasionally swept in by strong winds, including a *Hemianax ephippiger* native to North Africa, and an unidentified darter species. Dragonflies suborder *Anisoptera* are heavy-bodied, strong-flying insects that hold their wings horizontally both in flight and at rest. By contrast, damselflies suborder *Zygoptera* have slender bodies and fly more weakly; most species fold their wings over the abdomen when stationary, and the eyes are well separated on the sides of the head. It has a chitinous exoskeleton of hard plates held together with flexible membranes. The head is large with very short antennae. It is dominated by the two compound eyes, which cover most of its surface. The compound eyes are made up of ommatidia, the numbers being greater in the larger species. *Aeshna interrupta* has ommatidia of two varying sizes, being large. The facets facing downward tend to be smaller. *Petalura gigantea* has ommatidia of just one size. These facets provide complete vision in the frontal hemisphere of the dragonfly. Also, they have three simple eyes or ocelli. The mouthparts are adapted for biting with a toothed jaw; the flap-like labrum, at the front of the mouth, can be shot rapidly forward to catch prey. This arrester system is unique to the *Odonata*, and is activated when feeding and during tandem flight. The prothorax is small and is flattened dorsally into a shield-like disc which has two transverse ridges. The mesothorax and metathorax are fused into a rigid, box-like structure with internal bracing, and provides a robust attachment for the powerful wing muscles inside it. The wings are long, veined, and membranous, narrower at the tip and wider at the base. The hindwings are broader than the forewings and the venation is different at the base. The leading edge of each wing has a node where other veins join the marginal vein, and the wing is able to flex at this point. In most large species of dragonflies, the wings of females are shorter and broader than those of males. Each has two short basal joints, two long joints, and a three-jointed foot, armed with a pair of claws. The long leg joints bear rows of spines, and in males, one row of spines on each front leg is modified to form an "eyebush", for cleaning the surface of the compound eye. The abdomen is long and slender and consists of 10 segments and a terminal appendage-bearing segment. The second and third segments are enlarged, and in males, a cleft on the underside of the second segment contains a pair of claspers and the penis. The spermaries open on the 9th segment. In females, the genital opening is on the underside of the eighth segment and is covered by a simple flap or an ovipositor, depending on species and the method of egg-laying. The lower jaw has a huge, extensible labium, armed with hooks and spines, which is used for catching prey. This labium is folded under the body at rest and struck out at great speed by hydraulic pressure created by the abdominal muscles. Water is pumped in and out of the abdomen through an opening at the tip. The naiads of some clubtails *Gomphidae* that burrow into the sediment, have a snorkel-like tube at the end of the abdomen enabling them to draw in clean water while they are buried in mud. Naiads can forcefully expel a jet of water to propel themselves with great rapidity. Their overall coloration is often a combination of yellow, red, brown, and black pigments, with structural colours. Blues are typically created by microstructures in the cuticle that reflect blue light. Greens often combine a structural blue with a yellow pigment. Freshly emerged adults, known as teneral, are often pale-coloured and obtain their typical colours after a few days, [23] some have their bodies covered with a pale blue, waxy powderiness called pruinosity; it wears off when scraped during mating, leaving darker areas. Some dragonflies, such as the green darner, *Anax junius*, have a noniridescent blue which is produced

structurally by scatter from arrays of tiny spheres in the endoplasmic reticulum of epidermal cells underneath the cuticle. In the chasers Libellulidae, however, many genera have areas of colour on the wings: Some aeshnids such as the brown hawker *Aeshna grandis* have translucent, pale yellow wings. Nymphs feed on a range of freshwater invertebrates and larger ones can prey on tadpoles and small fish. The mating system of dragonflies is complex and they are among the few insect groups that have a system of indirect sperm transfer along with sperm storage, delayed fertilization, and sperm competition. Swarms of feeding adults aggregate to prey on swarming prey such as emerging flying ants or termites. For example, the Gomphidae clubtails live in running water, and the Libellulidae skimmers live in still water. Adults may require emergent or waterside plants to use as perches; others may need specific submerged or floating plants on which to lay eggs. Requirements may be highly specific, as in *Aeshna viridis* green hawker, which lives in swamps with the water-soldier, *Stratiotes aloides*. Most species need moderate conditions, not too eutrophic, not too acid; [30] a few species such as *Sympetrum danae* black darter and *Libellula quadrimaculata* four-spotted chaser prefer acidic waters such as peat bogs, [31] while others such as *Libellula fulva* scarce chaser need slow-moving, eutrophic waters with reeds or similar waterside plants. Some defend a territory against others of their own species, some against other species of dragonfly and a few against insects in unrelated groups. A particular perch may give a dragonfly a good view over an insect-rich feeding ground, and the blue dasher *Pachydiplax longipennis* jostles other dragonflies to maintain the right to alight there. The territory contains desirable features such as a sunlit stretch of shallow water, a special plant species, or a particular substrate necessary for egg-laying. The territory may be small or large, depending on its quality, the time of day, and the number of competitors, and may be held for a few minutes or several hours. Some dragonflies signal ownership with striking colours on the face, abdomen, legs, or wings. The common whitetail *Plathemis lydia* dashes towards an intruder holding its white abdomen aloft like a flag. Other dragonflies engage in aerial dogfights or high-speed chases. A female must mate with the territory holder before laying her eggs. Females may sometimes be harassed by males to the extent that it affects their normal activities including foraging and in some dimorphic species females have evolved multiple forms with some forms appearing deceptively like males. First, the male has to attract a female to his territory, continually driving off rival males. When he is ready to mate, he transfers a packet of sperm from his primary genital opening on segment 9, near the end of his abdomen, to his secondary genitalia on segments 2-3, near the base of his abdomen. The male then grasps the female by the head with the claspers at the end of his abdomen; the structure of the claspers varies between species, and may help to prevent interspecific mating. The male attempts to prevent rivals from removing his sperm and inserting their own, [40] something made possible by delayed fertilisation [29] [38] and driven by sexual selection. The female in some families has a sharp-edged ovipositor with which she slits open a stem or leaf of a plant on or near the water, so she can push her eggs inside. In other families such as clubtails Gomphidae, cruisers Macromiidae, emeralds Corduliidae, and skimmers Libellulidae, the female lays eggs by tapping the surface of the water repeatedly with her abdomen, by shaking the eggs out of her abdomen as she flies along, or by placing the eggs on vegetation. A clutch may have as many as eggs, and they take about a week to hatch into aquatic nymphs or naiads which moult between six and 15 times depending on species as they grow. The nymph extends its hinged labium a toothed mouthpart similar to a lower mandible, which is sometimes termed as a "mask" as it is normally folded and held before the face that can extend forward and retract rapidly to capture prey such as mosquito larvae, tadpoles, and small fish. Emperor dragonfly, *Anax imperator*, newly emerged and still soft, holding on to its dry exuvia, and expanding its wings

Parts of a dragonfly nymph including the labial "mask" The larval stage of dragonflies lasts up to five years in large species, and between two months and three years in smaller species. When the naiad is ready to metamorphose into an adult, it stops feeding and makes its way to the surface, generally at night. It remains stationary with its head out of the water, while its respiration system adapts to breathing air, then climbs up a reed or other emergent plant, and moults ecdysis. Anchoring itself firmly in a vertical position with its claws, its skin begins to split at a weak spot behind the head. The adult dragonfly crawls out of its larval skin, the exuvia, arching backwards when all but the tip of its abdomen is free, to allow its exoskeleton to harden. Curling back upwards, it completes its emergence, swallowing air, which plumps out

its body, and pumping haemolymph into its wings, which causes them to expand to their full extent. In any one area, individuals of a particular "spring species" emerge within a few days of each other. The springtime darner *Basiaeschna janata*, for example, is suddenly very common in the spring, but disappears a few weeks later and is not seen again until the following year. By contrast, a "summer species" emerges over a period of weeks or months, later in the year. They may be seen on the wing for several months, but this may represent a whole series of individuals, with new adults hatching out as earlier ones complete their short lifespans which is an average of 7 months. Adult dragonflies have a high male-biased ratio at breeding habitats. The male-bias ratio has contributed partially to the females using different habitats to avoid male harassment. Unwanted mating is energetically costly for females because it affects the amount of time that they are able to spend foraging. Flight[edit] Red-veined darters *Sympetrum fonscolombii* flying "in cop" male ahead Dragonflies are powerful and agile fliers, capable of migrating across the sea, moving in any direction, and changing direction suddenly. In flight, the adult dragonfly can propel itself in six directions: This style creates more thrust, but less lift than counter-stroking; synchronised-stroking, with forewings and hindwings beating together, is used when changing direction rapidly, as it maximises thrust; and gliding, with the wings held out, is used in three situations: The wings are powered directly, unlike most families of insects, with the flight muscles attached to the wing bases. Some families appear to use special mechanisms, as for example the Libellulidae which take off rapidly, their wings beginning pointed far forward and twisted almost vertically. Dragonfly wings behave highly dynamically during flight, flexing and twisting during each beat.

Chapter 5 : Appropriate Interior Decorating – Your Lovely source of Home Interior Decorating

Miscellany. Ask the Ombudsman. Q: This is a great resource not only for hunters, but for all outdoor enthusiasts. Anglers, birdwatchers, hikers and others will.

Fatbirder - linking birders worldwide Wildlife Travellers see our sister site: The islands boast over endemic plant species, 6 endemic birds, 3 near endemics plus dozens of endemic subspecies, a few unique reptiles, and about 15, species in total. However, it is not only the species count that makes the islands special, but their huge range of habitats, ranging from coastal sand dunes to alpine scrub. From the arid semi desert of Fuerteventura to the lush, subtropical laurel forests of La Gomera and the Blue Chaffinch studded pine forests of Tenerife; each island has its own character and unique set of creatures. Add to this mean temperatures ranging between 18 and 26 degrees Celsius, a laid back approach to life and great local cuisine and the growing popularity of rural tourism in the islands becomes obvious. Another advantage is that of accessibility, both via flights from Europe and once on the islands. A thorough, if often windy and sometimes plain hair-raising road system means most habitats and their associated beasties are within easy range of day-trippers and drivers alike. A day trip to the Las Lajas picnic site is probably the best place to see the Blue Chaffinch as well as the distinctive local race of the Great Spotted Woodpecker. La Gomera is also more than worth a day trip if you are on Tenerife. The ferry trip itself is a good experience in itself, with Petrels and Shearwaters often in evidence along with Dolphins and Pilot Whales. La Gomera boasts large populations of the two laurel pigeons, plus the Kinglet and local race of the Sparrowhawk. A good tip for birding in the Canaries is to head for fresh water, as birds tend to congregate around it, especially on the very dry Eastern islands. Its most spectacular inhabitant is the Gran Canary Lizard, actually the largest of the 6 endemic Gallotia lizards on the islands. It is exceptionally common almost everywhere and is particularly fond of tomatoes. The endemic skink is also well worth watching out for, especially in the south of Gran Canaria where it sports a bright, electric-blue tail. It is also the island to dream of rediscovering the extinct Black Oystercatcher. La Palma is the only island in the archipelago where the Red-billed Chough breeds and also hosts its own endemic subspecies of Common Chaffinch and Blue Tit. All the islands boast an impressive range of migrants and stragglers, with shorebirds, African and European species predominant on the Eastern islands and American stragglers making it to the Western ones. A growing number of exotics, including seven parrot species now breed on the islands, along with Common Myna, Common and Orange-cheeked Waxbills and Sacred Ibis. Check out the individual island pages:

Chapter 6 : The bedside book of birds: an avian miscellany by Graeme Gibson (Hardback) | eBay

For birdwatchers this is probably a great time to spot winter birds appearing in this select season. Regardless of the season, a spotting scope is a Regardless of the season, a spotting scope is a.

The area, which is situated in and around Cabo Cruz in south-west Cuba, includes spectacular terraces and cliffs, as well as some of the most pristine and impressive coastal cliffs bordering the western Atlantic. Plantain and banana trees grow wild here, as do begonias, ginger, jasmine, eucalyptus, and magnolias. Pine trees as tall as feet provide adequate shade for approximately 40 species of coffee to grow. The trees are also home to various species of bird, including the Cuban ivory-billed woodpecker, the Cartacuba, the tocororo, and an assortment of hummingbirds. It is located less than kilometres 93 mi southeast of Havana. It is located on the Zapata Peninsula in the southern Matanzas province of Cuba, less than kilometres 93 miles southeast of Havana. Within the Zapata Swamp are over autochthonous plant species, species of birds, 31 species of reptiles and over species of invertebrates. Some of the most notable are local endemics to Cuba; for birds, it includes the Zapata wren, Zapata rail, and the Zapata sparrow. The Zapata Swamp is also a particular habitat of the Bee hummingbird, the smallest bird species on the planet. The Zapata Swamp is also visited by 65 species of birds during their migration pattern from North America through the Caribbean to South America. Zapata is also known for the local endemic Cuban crocodile *Crocodylus rhombifer* which are restricted to the Zapata Swamp. Within the reserve is Laguna Guanarooca, a shimmering saline lake formed by the River Arimao. An astounding density of wildlife aggregates here, including a resident colony of more than 2, flamingos. Cuba Birding Tours Andy Mitchell, Cuba tours arranged - I can arrange every aspect of your trip including driving instructions and directions to birds. Contact me on andy witsend. El Chino de Zapata Tour Operator Chino is a biologist, a naturalist and native of the Zapata Swamp with 40 years of experience as a natural history guide specializing in birds. He has been guiding for more than 40 years for thousands of ornithologists and scientists who have visited Cuba He works at the Cuban National Museum of Natural History and has researched globally endangered Cuban bird species for the last 14 years. He has considerable experience as a tour leader throughout the whole of Cuba and has been guiding for the last 20 years with Sunbird, Birdwatching breaks, Birdfinder, Birdquest, Eagle-eyed Tours etc. Ave 17 , entre 76 y 78, Playa, La Habana, Cuba. Our daily outings take you to varied habitat ensuring that you have the chance to add to your life list, see birds which are new to you, or visit with summer friends. With the relaxation of travel restrictions, this fantastic destination will soon be open to everyone. They provide a large and growing database of birding trip reports, complemented with extensive search, voting and statistical features. The group members had made their way to Cuba independently via a number of routes and finally met up on the morning of the 2nd Feb to start birding. We missed a few of the endemics but that is to be expected. There was little migration. I thought there would have been more. I presume we were too early. The people seem to make the most of a fairly poor existence. Cuban swallow and Antillean palm-swift were seen from the apartment and Magnificent frigatebird and Brown pelican over the sea [02 February] - Paul Davis Report I had a couple of hours of daylight to kill, so went for a quick stroll. The next morning I got up at dawn and wondered down to the bridge that crosses the lagoon. All are easy to see amongst the vegetation. Cuban Emerald are everywhere. The Grackles are never far away and seldom stop calling out. There were 42 species in the hotel alone and I managed 31 lifers. Early morning, we were at the Mirador Trail again to search for quail-doves. The only quaildove species that we found was a Ruddy Quail-dove. A second Yellow-throated Vireo and a couple of Indigo Buntings were the best birds that we added to our list on this morning Key-West Quaildove heard and Grey-headed Quaildove seen occurs in the forest along the acces road and this road is a reliable site for nightjars. On our morning visit it had rained which was probably bad for activity, on our return visit we heard a Cuban Nightjar reasonable soon after dusk, but would not come into tape. Continuing with our birding-adapted itinerary, we made a long drive to Soroa, in the west part of the island. This area also provided what everyone agreed upon as the best lunch for the trip: The nearby population of Cuban Martins would often fly over but only in the morning. Cuban Trogon national bird of the country , Black-cowled Cuban Oriole now

seen by everyone on the tour, and Cuban Parrot. In the other direction, the lagoons after the causeway to Cayo Guillermo hold the whistling duck, flamingo, spoonbill, ibises and a good range of waders. What a cocktail of Cuban endemics to start the tour! The dove was there, and we all enjoyed great looks as it walked along a shady trail. We wanted to combine our birding with some relaxation and a bit of time in Havana, so we did not attempt to try and see every endemic. We also did a lot of birding around Cayo Coco, off the central north coast, where a number of endemics and some other good birds can be found. Continuing south we headed to the Zapata Peninsula. At the Zapata Peninsula we enjoyed views of the largest number of endemic bird species. Later in the same morning most of us enjoyed views of Gray-fronted Quail-Dove through the scope I wanted to crack 2, this year. Cuba sounded ideal because if I could connect with most of the endemics that the island has to offer then I should easily reach my target. We were immediately assaulted by Cuban endemics: However, we had to focus on our target birds, and went straight to a pig farm to look for Cuban Grassquit. Early morning we walked through the old centre of Trinidad. We found several breeding Cave Swallows, as well as Cuban Martins perched on a construction crane. While James spent the rest of the morning wandering around town Vincent and I went out birding in Parque El Cubano just northwest of town. We saw our first Cuban Pygmy-Owl here, along with a good selection of other Cuban birds. The western foothills near San Diego de Los Baños, the northern cays around Cayo Coco, the eastern savannahs near La Belén and finally the swamps and forests of Zapata. Cuban Parrots and Parakeets showed extremely well, both flying over and perched up obligingly in the saturated colours produced by the low sun. A distant Northern Jacana was spotted across the wet pastureland.

Chapter 7 : Canary Islands - Bird Watching, Resources for Bird Watching by the Fat Birder

*Republic of Cuba Cuban Tody *Todus multicolor* ©Glenn Bartley Website. Birding Cuba. Cuba is the largest island in the Caribbean (, km²) and only slightly smaller in land area (including all the offshore cays) than England.*

Chapter 8 : Birding | BIRD-WATCHER'S DIARY

This is a beautiful little film, illustrating simply the plight of native peoples in Brazil. Not a documentary, but a dramatisation (though the actors playing the Guarani Indians - one of Brazil's oldest tribal peoples - are real Indians, with no former acting experience prior to the making of the film), it depicts the impossible place in which the Indians find themselves as an endangered.

Chapter 9 : NPR Choice page

A host of good birds including endemic species and subspecies, good transport connections to most European countries, wonderful weather and an excellent tourist infrastructure, make the Canary Islands a popular destination for birdwatchers.