

# An annotated checklist of the Birds of Mindo Lindo

Compiled by Heike Brieschke

This list gives you an idea of all the bird species found so far on the property (28 acres) of Mindo Lindo, situated in the Cloud Forest at around 5.600 feet at the north-western slopes of the Ecuadorian Andes and the probability of seeing them during a visit of 3-4 days. Following Mitch Lysinger's example of Cabañas San Isidro, it presents a probability rating of 1 to 6 with 1 being the easiest and 6 the hardest, designed for those who have little birding experience in the area and are not familiar with the vocalizations and who do not make use of tape-recording equipment. The accompanying notes provide further helpful – but brief – information for each species. If you find any new species not registered so far, please let us know. The taxonomic order used here follows Ridgely, R.S. and Greenfield, P.J. 2001, The Birds of Ecuador.

Enjoy your visit at Mindo Lindo's!

- \_ **Cattle Egret** – 1. Groups regularly fly over the property at around 7.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.
- \_ **Turkey Vulture** – 2. Individuals soar quite regularly over the property.
- \_ **Black Vulture** – 1. Even more common than Turkey Vulture.
- \_ **Swallow-tailed Kite** – 3. Soars fairly regularly over the property. In groups quite vocal.
- \_ **Double-toothed Kite** – 6. Seen once in the entrance area.
- \_ **Gray-headed Kite** – 5. Seen a few times down in the valley and the tree nursery. Usually a more lowland bird species.
- \_ **Hook-billed Kite** – 5. Infrequently seen flying over the valley.
- \_ **Barred Hawk** – 5. Only a few sightings. Quite vocal.
- \_ **Variable Hawk** – 6. Seen once flying over the forest.
- \_ **Roadside Hawk** – 1. The most common raptor. Very vocal.
- \_ **Broad-winged Hawk** – 3. Regular winter resident.
- \_ **Semicollared Hawk** – 6. Seen twice (feeder area and giant bamboo stand).
- \_ **Barred Forest-Falcon** – 5. Heard regularly at dawn, but very difficult to see.
- \_ **Collared Forest-Falcon** – 5. Heard less regularly at dawn than Barred F.-F. Difficult to see.
- \_ **American Kestrel** – 6. Once seen in the entrance area.
- \_ **Crested Guan** – 4. Heard often in the valley. Sometimes groups in the alder forest next to the house.
- \_ **Wattled Guan** – 5. Heard sometimes at dawn. Seen a few times in the alder forest next to the house.
- \_ **Sickle-winged Guan\*\*** – 4. Sometimes seen from the balcony in the forest.
- \_ **Dark-backed Wood-Quail** – 2. Groups heard and seen often on the trails in the forest.
- \_ **Band-tailed Pigeon** – 4. Flocks flying over irregularly.
- \_ **Plumbeous Pigeon** – 3. Fairly common in pairs around the property.
- \_ **Ruddy Pigeon** – 2. Common in pairs around the property. Heard more often than Plumbeous Pigeon.
- \_ **Ruddy Quail-Dove** – 4. Sometimes seen walking in pairs in the vegetable garden.
- \_ **White-throated Quail-Dove** – 5. Very elusive on the trails or next to the compost box.
- \_ **White-tipped Dove\*\*** – 1. The most common dove species in the region.
- \_ **Barred Parakeet** – 4. Flocks fly over the property irregularly.
- \_ **Maroon-tailed Parakeet** – 3. In small groups flying over or feeding on the *Inga*-fruit-trees.
- \_ **Red-billed Parrot** – 1. The most common parrot species. Very vocal.
- \_ **Bronze-winged Parrot** – 4. Two individuals seen for the first time in July 2009 next to the house. Since then seen more often. Usually in lower altitudes.
- \_ **Squirrel Cuckoo** – 3. Seen and heard regularly.
- \_ **Smooth-billed Ani** – 5. Seen sometimes in the pasture next to the environmental training centre.

- \_ **Striped Cuckoo** – 6. Last time seen in 1999.
- \_ **Rufescent Screech-Owl** – 4. Heard sometimes in the valley.
- \_ **Cloud-Forest Pygmy-Owl** – 4. Sometimes seen next to the trails. Heard regularly.
- \_ **Black-and-white Owl** – 4. Registered in Mindo Lindo since 2008. Heard and seen next to the house.
- \_ **Mottled Owl** – 3. The most common owl on the property. Seen and heard regularly.
- \_ **Oilbird** – 6. When Guava trees with fruits, individuals feed on them and make a lot of noise.
- \_ **Common Potoo** – 5. Vocalizes especially at full moon nights. Difficult to see.
- \_ **Rufous-bellied Nighthawk** – 3. Flies regularly over the main road (entrance road).
- \_ **Common Nighthawk** – 6. One individual found dead in front of the entrance road.
- \_ **Lyre-tailed Nightjar** – 5. Several times found sitting on the main road next to the entrance area.
- \_ **Pauraque** – 4. Sits irregularly on the entrance road. More heard than seen.
- \_ **White-collared Swift** – 1. The most common swift in the region.
- \_ **Chestnut-collared Swift** – 3. Appears seasonally. Distinctive voice.
- \_ **Band-rumped Swift** – 5. Shows up very irregularly.
- \_ **Tawny-bellied Hermit\*** – 2. Seen regularly zipping through the forest. Sometimes at flowers around the house.
- \_ **Green-fronted Lancebill\*** – 4. Sometimes seen at long tubular flowers (Ericaceae) in the forest and in the yard.
- \_ **Purple-crowned Fairy\*** – 6. A lowland species. Showing up once in November 2008.
- \_ **White-necked Jacobin\*** – 3. Showing up seasonally at the feeders and flowers around the house.
- \_ **Brown Violetear\*** - 3. Visits the feeders regularly.
- \_ **Green Violetear\*** - 4. Visits the feeders seasonally.
- \_ **Sparkling Violetear\*** - 3. Visiting the feeders seasonally.
- \_ **Green Thorntail\*** - 5. Shows up rarely at the feeders.
- \_ **Western Emerald\*** - 5. Shows up very irregularly at the feeders.
- \_ **Green-crowned Woodnymph\*** – 3. Visits the feeders regularly.
- \_ **Andean Emerald\*** – 1. One of the most common species on the property and at the feeders.
- \_ **Rufous-tailed Hummingbird\*** – 1. Very common, but not going into the forest.
- \_ **Speckled Hummingbird** – 6. Seen only a few times in the forest.
- \_ **Purple-bibbed Whitetip\*** – 1. Very common at the feeders.
- \_ **Fawn-breasted Brilliant\*** - 2. Common at the feeders.
- \_ **Green-crowned Brilliant\*** - 3. Increasingly visiting the feeders.
- \_ **Empress Brilliant\*** - 2. Regularly at the feeders, but not in big numbers.
- \_ **White-tailed Hillstar\*** - 5. Rarely seen on the property.
- \_ **Brown Inca\*** - 2. Common at the feeders, but not in big numbers.
- \_ **Collared Inca\*** - 6. Seen a few times at the feeders.
- \_ **Buff-tailed Coronet\*** - 3. Visits the feeders regularly.
- \_ **Velvet-purple Coronet\*** - 2. Common at the feeders.
- \_ **Booted Racket-tail\*** - 1. Very common on the property and the feeders.
- \_ **Violet-tailed Sylph\*** - 1. Very common on the property and the feeders.
- \_ **Wedge-billed Hummingbird** – 3. Seen regularly at the *Datura* flowers next to the house.
- \_ **Gorgeted Sunangel\*** - 5. Seen sometimes at the feeders.
- \_ **Purple-throated Woodstar\*** - 3. Seen regularly at the feeders.
- \_ **White-bellied Woodstar\*** - 6. Has shown up a few times at the feeders.
- \_ **Masked Trogon** – 2. Quite common around the house and in the forest. Very vocal.
- \_ **Golden-headed Quetzal** – 2. Often heard, less often seen around the house and in the forest.
- \_ **Green Kingfisher** – 5. During the rainy season in the valley fishing at the creek.
- \_ **Broad-billed Motmot** – 4. Heard regularly in the valley.
- \_ **Rufous Motmot\*\*** – 3. Heard often at dawn in the valley. Easier to see than Broad-billed.
- \_ **Barred Puffbird** – 6. After many years without registration once again heard close to the house at the beginning of December 2015.
- \_ **Red-headed Barbet\*\*** – 4. Sometimes seen in the *Inga* trees and at the Pico Pico.
- \_ **Toucan Barbet\*\*** – 2. Seen and heard regularly. Especially at the Pico Pico in front of the house.
- \_ **Crimson-rumped Toucanet** – 3. Heard more often than seen. Feeding on *Palicourea* fruits.
- \_ **Pale-mandibled Aracari\*\*** – 2. Often in noisy groups around the house.

- \_ **Chestnut-mandibled Toucan** – 4. Sometimes heard and seen in groups in the alder forest.
  - \_ **Choco Toucan** – 2. Seen and heard often next to the house.
  - \_ **Smoky-brown Woodpecker** – 3. Common outside and inside the forest.
  - \_ **Golden-olive Woodpecker** – 2. The most common woodpecker. Often outside the forest.
- Very vocal.
- \_ **Crimson-bellied Woodpecker** – 6. Seen so far just once from the watch tower at the end of 2015.
  - \_ **Powerful Woodpecker** – 4. In pairs, regularly heard and seen.
  - \_ **Guayaquil Woodpecker** – 5. Appearing rarely in the alder forest.
  - \_ **Slaty Spinetail** – 4. In the grass and shrubby vegetation around the buildings.
  - \_ **Red-faced Spinetail** – 2. Commonly heard and seen in the more open areas around the buildings.
  - \_ **Spotted Barbtail** – 4. Tricky to see in the forest slope going down to the creek.
  - \_ **Pacific Hornero** – 4. Sometimes shows up in the entrance area. Often heard calling on the neighboring property.
  - \_ **Lineated Foliage-Gleaner** – 3. Seen and heard often in the forest.
  - \_ **Scaly-throated Foliage-Gleaner** – 3. Often on the mossy Guava trees next to the house.
  - \_ **Buff-fronted Foliage-Gleaner** – 4. Less often seen in the same area as Scaly-throated.
  - \_ **Streaked Xenops** – 5. Seen for the first time during the Christmas Bird Count in 2015 right next to the guest house.
  - \_ **Uniform Treehunter** – 5. Rarely seen in more mature forest.
  - \_ **Streak-capped Treehunter** – 4. Seen in the more shrubby part of the forest and outskirts.
  - \_ **Tyrannine Woodcreeper** – 5. Foraging in the mature forest.
  - \_ **Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** – 4. Next to the trails in the forest.
  - \_ **Strong-billed Woodcreeper** – 2. Commonly seen and heard (dusk) around the house and in the forest foraging in bromeliads.
  - \_ **Spotted Woodcreeper** – 3. Heard more often than seen.
  - \_ **Montane Woodcreeper** – 1. The most common woodcreeper inside and outside the forest.
  - \_ **Uniform Antshrike** – 5. Difficult to see in the forest slope next to the pasture area.
  - \_ **Rufous-breasted Antthrush** – 3. One of the most commonly heard voices, but difficult to see. On the trails.
  - \_ **Scaled Antpitta** – 4. Heard often, but difficult to see, walking on the trails.
  - \_ **Ochre-breasted Antpitta** – 5. In mature forest, very difficult to see.
  - \_ **Nariño Tapaculo** – 3. Very vocal, but tricky to see.
  - \_ **Ashy-headed Tyrannulet** – 4. Quite vocal, but easily overlooked.
  - \_ **Golden-faced Tyrannulet** – 3. Often seen in shrubs and trees in the more open area.
  - \_ **Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet** – 4. Sometimes in pairs in the open area. Very vocal.
  - \_ **Sierran Elaenia** – 3. In groups foraging often high up around the house.
  - \_ **White-tailed Tyrannulet** – 2. Conspicuous while foraging, distinctive voice.
  - \_ **Rufous-winged Tyrannulet** – 4. Less common than White-tailed. Mostly in the alder areas.
  - \_ **Olive-striped Flycatcher** – 3. Quite common foraging in lower stratum, but inconspicuous.
  - \_ **Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant** – 3. Fairly common in the open as well the forest areas.
  - \_ **Bronze-olive Pygmy-Tyrant** – 5. Prefers the wet and mossy areas of the forest. Difficult to see.
  - \_ **Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant** – 3. Seasonally common, but more often heard than seen.
  - \_ **Common Tody-Flycatcher** – 4. Not common. Shows up especially during the dry season.
  - \_ **Pacific Flatbill** – 5. Very inconspicuous inside the forest.
  - \_ **Ornate Flycatcher** – 1. Very common. Several pairs around the house and inside the forest.
  - \_ **Tawny-breasted Flycatcher** – 4. Mostly along small creeks inside the forest.
  - \_ **Flavescent Flycatcher** – 5. Rarely seen in the outskirts of the forest.
  - \_ **Orange-crested Flycatcher** – 5. Rarely seen in the outskirts of the forest.
  - \_ **Bran-coloured Flycatcher** – 5. Seen infrequently in the alder forest.
  - \_ **Western Wood-Pewee** – 3. Boreal migrant, relatively common during the rainy season.
  - \_ **Smoke-coloured Pewee** – 1. Very common in the open areas around the house.
  - \_ **Olive-sided Flycatcher** – 4. Boreal migrant, showing up infrequently in the open areas.
  - \_ **Bright-rumped Attila** – 4. Seasonally quite vocal, but in spite of its size, difficult to see.
  - \_ **Masked Water-tyrant** – 5. Recently showing up in the area of our tree nursery. A more lowland species.
  - \_ **Dusky-capped Flycatcher** – 2. Often seen and heard around the house.
  - \_ **Social Flycatcher** – 5. Not often seen or heard in the open areas.

- \_ **Rusty-margined Flycatcher** – 4. In the pasture areas with scattered trees. Uncommon.
- \_ **Golden-crowned Flycatcher** – 1. The most common of the big flycatchers. Very vocal.
- \_ **Piratic Flycatcher** – 6. Seen only once on the property.
- \_ **Tropical Kingbird** – 2. Common in the open area.
- \_ **Barred Becard** – 4. In pairs in the forest as well as in the pasture with scattered trees.
- \_ **Cinnamon Becard** – 3. The most common one of the becards. More in the open than in the forest.
- \_ **Black-and-white Becard** – 4. Uncommon in pairs, mostly in the open.
- \_ **One-coloured Becard** – 4. Uncommon, mostly in the open.
- \_ **Masked Tityra** – 3. Shows up infrequently, but then quite vocal.
- \_ **Green-and-black Fruiteater** – 5. Inconspicuous inside the forest.
- \_ **Scaled Fruiteater** – 4. Uncommon inside the forest.
- \_ **Olivaceous Piha** – 5. Rarely seen, but sometimes next to the house.
- \_ **Long-wattled Umbrellabird** – 4. Seen sometimes in the alder forest or at fruiting trees (Moraceae), even in the yard!
- \_ **Andean Cock-of-the-Rock** – 4. Occasionally a male sometimes flies through the river valley. Females are sometimes found feeding at *Palicourea* fruits next to the cabin.
- \_ **Golden-winged Manakin** – 3. Quite common inside the forest.
- \_ **Club-winged Manakin** – 2. A traditional lek exists at the Manakin Trail (5 minutes from the house).
- \_ **Turquoise Jay** – 6. One individual showed up next to the feeder area in March 2009.
- \_ **Red-eyed Vireo** – 2. Common throughout the property.
- \_ **Brown-capped Vireo** – 1. Very common and highly vocal.
- \_ **Andean Solitaire** – 3. Very vocal but difficult to see.
- \_ **Swainson's Thrush** – 2. Boreal migrant, common during the rainy season.
- \_ **Pale-eyed Thrush** – 4. Common and beautiful voice, but difficult to see.
- \_ **Ecuadorian Thrush\*\*** – 2. Very common voice and easy to see.
- \_ **Blue-and-white Swallow** – 1. Nearly all the time present around the house and the environmental training centre.
- \_ **Southern Rough-winged Swallow** – 4. Showing up seasonally.
- \_ **Sepia-brown Wren** – 3. Quite regularly seen in the forest slope next to the pasture.
- \_ **House Wren** – 1. Very common in the open areas.
- \_ **Mountain Wren** – 3. Commonly heard voice, not difficult to see.
- \_ **Grey-breasted Wood-Wren** – 2. The common understory wren. Very vocal but not easy to see.
- \_ **Golden-winged Warbler** – 6. Boreal migrant. One individual shows up every two years on the property.
- \_ **Tropical Parula** – 1. Together with Slate-throated Whitestart the most common warbler in the area.
- \_ **Blackburnian Warbler** – 2. A common boreal migrant.
- \_ **Black-and-white Warbler** – 5. Boreal migrant, seen very rarely.
- \_ **Olive-crowned Yellowthroat** – 5. During the last years very few records in overgrowing pasture. Distinctive voice.
- \_ **Slate-throated Whitestart** – 1. Very common in the open as well as in the forest.
- \_ **Three-striped Warbler** – 2. Common in flocks inside the forest, foraging in tree ferns.
- \_ **Buff-rumped Warbler** – 5. Heard more often than seen in the valley next to the river.
- \_ **Masked Flowerpiercer** – 3. More or less common inside and outside the forest.
- \_ **White-sided Flowerpiercer\*\*** – 2. Common in the more open areas (*Impatiens* flowers).
- \_ **Rusty Flowerpiercer** – 6. Only seen a few times on the property.
- \_ **Bananaquit\*** – 5. An immature appeared for the first time at the end of 2010 trying to feed from the hummingbird feeders.
- \_ **Fawn-breasted Tanager** – 3. In pairs in the more open areas.
- \_ **Yellow-collared Chlorophonia** – 4. Showing up in small flocks seasonally (rainy season). Very vocal but difficult to see.
- \_ **Thick-billed Euphonia\*\*** – 3. Heard more often than seen. Often imitates other voices.
- \_ **Golden-rumped Euphonia** – 4. Seen infrequently on the property.
- \_ **Orange-bellied Euphonia\*\*** – 1. Very common. Very vocal.
- \_ **Glistening-green Tanager** – 4. Inconspicuous in the canopy.
- \_ **Rufous-throated Tanager** – 6. Rarely seen on the property.
- \_ **Golden Tanager\*\*** – 1. Very common, often together with Beryl-spangled Tanager.

- \_ **Silver-throated Tanager\*\*** – 4. Seen only twice inside the forest and once at the bananas.
- \_ **Saffron-crowned Tanager** – 5. Rarely seen in the alder forest.
- \_ **Flame-faced Tanager\*\*** – 3. Quite common in flocks with other tanagers.
- \_ **Golden-naped Tanager\*\*** – 2. Common in pairs or together with Metallic-green Tanager.
- \_ **Metallic-green Tanager** – 3. Common in pairs or together with Golden-naped Tanager.
- \_ **Beryl-spangled Tanager** – 1. Common in pairs, often with Golden Tanager.
- \_ **Blue-and-black Tanager** – 5. Showing up infrequently on the property.
- \_ **Black-capped Tanager\*\*** – 3. A species of the more open areas. Quite vocal.
- \_ **Blue-necked Tanager** – 3. Like the previous species more in the open.
- \_ **Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager\*\*** – 1. Very common and conspicuous.
- \_ **Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager** – 5. Inconspicuous inside the forest.
- \_ **Swallow Tanager** – 4. Sometimes in flocks in the open areas.
- \_ **Blue-gray Tanager\*\*** – 1. Very common and vocal.
- \_ **Palm Tanager\*\*** – 2. Quite common and similar voice to more common Blue-gray Tanager.
- \_ **Lemon-rumped Tanager\*\*** – 1. Common in family groups in the open areas.
- \_ **Summer Tanager\*\*** – 3. Quite common boreal migrant.
- \_ **Scarlet Tanager** – 6. Two individuals seen for the first time from the tower at the end of December 2015.
- \_ **White-winged Tanager** – 4. Uncommon. When seen unmistakable. Distinctive voice.
- \_ **White-lined Tanager\*\*** – 4. Recently more often registered. Visits the bananas.
- \_ **Dusky Bush-Tanager\*\*** – 3. Quite common, mostly foraging in pairs.
- \_ **Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager** – 4. Recently showing up in the forest next to the river.
- \_ **Buff-throated Saltator\*\*** – 2. Has become quite common.
- \_ **Black-winged Saltator\*\*** – 2. Common and loud voice, often seen in pairs.
- \_ **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – 6. One male in full breeding plumage on our window sill in July 2013. Since then seen once more.
- \_ **Blue-black Grosbeak** – 5. Rarely seen in the dense areas of the forest.
- \_ **Blue-black Grassquit** – 5. Uncommon in the pastures.
- \_ **Yellow-faced Grassquit** – 5. Shows up sometimes in the pastures.
- \_ **Variable Seedeater** – 4. Uncommon in the pastures.
- \_ **Yellow-bellied Seedeater** – 4. Uncommon in the pastures.
- \_ **Tricolored Brush-Finch\*\*** – 2. Common and noisy in groups in the more bushy areas.
- \_ **Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch\*\*** – 4. Inconspicuous on the ground in the forest. Distinctive voice. Recently quite often feeding at the provided bananas.
- \_ **Rufous-collared Sparrow\*\*** – 1. Common in the open areas around the house and the entrance road.
- \_ **Shiny Cowbird** – 6. Sometimes in groups in the open areas.
- \_ **Scrub Blackbird** – 5. Seen for the first time at the end of March 2014 singing loudly.
- \_ **Hooded Siskin** – 4. Showing up when the alder are fruiting.
- \_ **Yellow-bellied Siskin** – 4. Showing up when the alder are fruiting.
- \_ **Lesser Goldfinch** – 6. One pair seen once foraging in the alder trees.

\* = visiting the **hummingbird feeders**. Best time for observation at the feeders: Mid August to the beginning of May. Then sometimes up to 17 hummingbird species, within half an hour, are visiting the feeders at the same time!

Generally during 2 up to 2 ½ months (usually beginning in May), the hummingbirds stop to visit the feeders. Though they are still on the property, you have to make more effort to see them. At the end of July, they use to come back to the feeders.

\*\* = visiting the provided **banana feeders** around the house.

**Total number of bird species on Mindo Lindo property: 220** (including 28 species of hummingbirds).

Last update: February 2016

We would like to thank Robert Jonsson, Tony Nunnery, Vinicio Pérez and Rolf Ryser for their contributions to this list.