

# CUBA



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(text and photos)

# Introduction

Our dream of going to Cuba became even more prominent once we had started our trip. This was due to a conglomeration of absurdities concerning the Danish railway connections, fog in Copenhagen, storm in Amsterdam and over-booking in Madrid with which we do not have the nerves to go into details. We drowned ourselves in intoxicating mojitos and Cuban music in “La Negra Tomasa” in the centre of Madrid for two nights before succeeding in boarding the plane to true Cuba.

It was worth waiting for. It was a nice and easy-going place to go birding in spite of the lack of road signs. It seems Fidel put up Che’s slogans instead. However, the population was not only eager to help but also very knowledgeable about how to get round.

We had rented and paid a car from home. Unfortunately Cubamar did not see fit to keep their part of the deal, so we had to rent another one. Now we have received the money, but I must admit it took a while.....

It was a Peugeot 405, which was OK as such at \$ 920 for ten days. On our way, however, we learnt that it would have been wise to check not only the spare parts as advised, but also the parts themselves, i.e. to see if there were enough screws and such. It is also advisable to check the tires before setting out! Gasoline was 95 cents/litre.

We stayed at the private “casas particulares” throughout, which was very good value indeed. We paid \$ 25 a night for a double, \$ 3 for breakfast and \$ 10 for lunch or dinner each person. It was excellent apart from one place, which was lousy, but we will come back to that. The weather was fine throughout. Of course a bit hot in the middle of the day, but that was to be expected. Sometimes it was quite windy, but nothing in excessive.

Do not bring US \$ as they charge 10 percent when changing into Pesos Convertibles (PC). We brought Euros and had no problems. However, the PC still follows the US dollar.

Apart from the many informative reports on the Internet we would like to thank the Danish birders Lilly Sørensen, Niels Bomholt and Sune Jepsen for their advice and help.

## Itinerary

In the following all birds observed are mentioned and there is an attempt to follow the order and names of O. H. Garrido et al, Birds of Cuba, 2000. Sites are only characterized if they are not considered to have been described elsewhere or there are no photos of them in the following.

Sunday 20th

It was hard work to get out of La Habana, actually we were out of it already at the airport, but to get further south in the direction of Zapata proved difficult. We brought a rip-proof waterproof plastic map from home, but as the scaling did not live up to the rest of the standard (1:850,000) we needed further help. We also brought a compass, and it might have helped us somewhat after the second time we saw the airport. Actually our excuse is that first of all we tried to find one of the only hotels close to the airport. When we finally succeeded it was not only well

hidden away from the road without a sign leading to it, but it was also closed down. It was now three a.m. so we decided to skip hotels that night to go straight south. As might be expected we did not go directly south however hard we tried, though. On our way in the dark we came across a baker, who paid us back in Cuban pesos. This transaction is a way to ensure cheap coffee, pizzas, even beer at small stalls around the country. Besides we met

Killdeer 1, Barn Owl 3

before finding a nice introduction to Cuban birdlife at dawn:

**Cuatro Caminos** 5.55-8.50. Some meadows, groves and cultivated fields surrounding a river.

Cattle Egret 40, Little Blue Heron 6, Turkey Vulture 4, Osprey 1, Broad-winged Hawk 1, American Kestrel 1, American Gallinule 2,

Mourning Dove 25, Rock Dove 75, Common Ground-Dove 8, Smooth-billed Ani 14, Great Lizard Cuckoo 2, Antillean Palm-Swift 1, Cuban Emerald 2, Grey Kingbird 1, N. Rough-winged Swallow 1, Red-legged Thrush 8, N. Mockingbird 9, Palm Warbler 3, Black-throated Blue Warbler 2, Yellow-rumped Warbler 12, Yellow-throated Warbler 3, Common Yellowthroat 1, American Redstart 4, House Sparrow 5, Eastern Meadowlark 1, Cuban Blackbird 25.

**Cuatro Caminos – Entrance to Zapata**  
9.00 – 14.30

Pied-billed Grebe 19, Double-crested Cormorant 1, Great Egret 1, Snowy Egret 1, Cattle Egret 60, Glossy Ibis 38, Turkey Vulture 384, American Kestrel 12,

Moorhen 1, Killdeer 2, Mourning Dove 4, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1, Grey Kingbird 3, Purple/Cuban Martin 3, Bank Swallow 3, N. Mockingbird 2, Palm Warbler 1, American Redstart 1, Eastern Meadowlark 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 4, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 1, Cuban Blackbird 6.

We now entered the reserve of Zapata (Parque Nacional Ciénaga de Zapata), where we stayed three nights at Playa Larga at Fidel Silvestre's booked from home through el Chino, a guide at Zapata. Fidel's "casa particular" was situated right on the Bay of Pigs (Bahía de Cochinos) in the hamlet of Caletón so we could spend the hot siestas enjoying the very local beach and the birds passing at sea while being served a cold Buccanero – an excellent beer by the way. El Chino knew his job and how to make the best out of the limited time finding endemics by means of a very efficient tape recorder. He can be contacted on [dmscz.mtz@infomed.sld.cu](mailto:dmscz.mtz@infomed.sld.cu). It should be mentioned that you need a guide in Zapata (enforced by law). The price is \$ 20 a person a day, and half of it goes to the reserve.

**Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga** 14.30 – 19.30

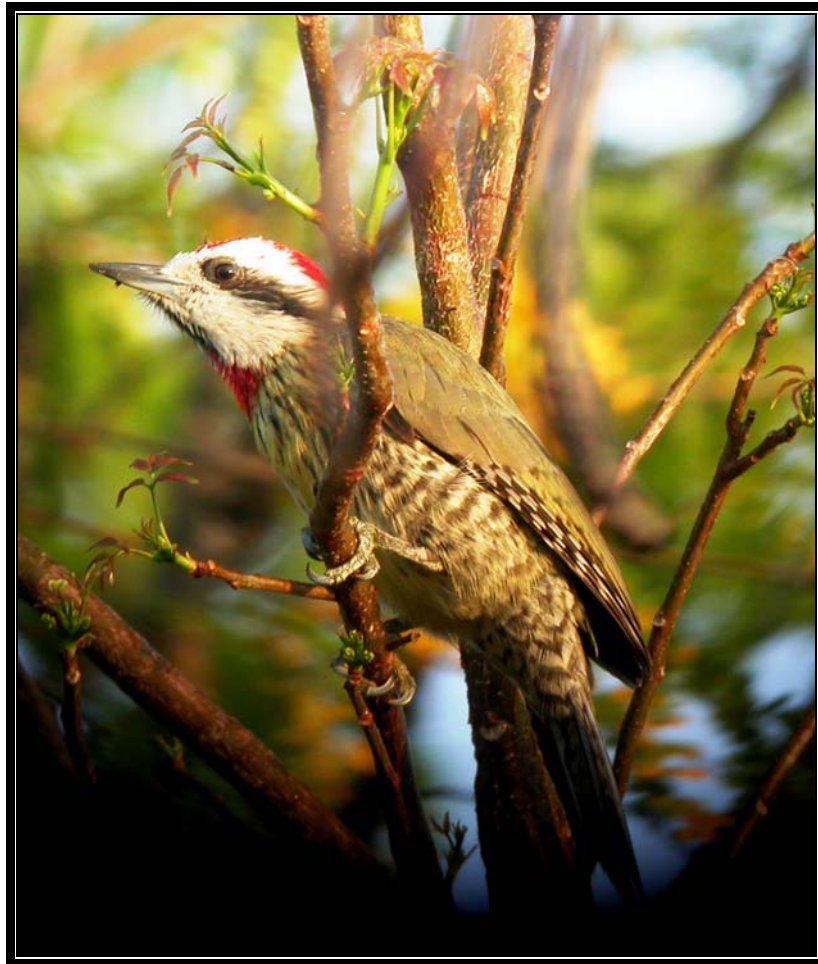
Brown Pelican 1, Cattle Egret 3, Turkey Vulture 50, Blue-winged Teal 2, Osprey 2, Purple Gallinule 3, Northern Jacana 3, Common Moorhen 6, Spotted Sandpiper 1, Royal Tern 7, Mourning Dove 15, White-winged Dove 3, Common Ground-Dove 2, Northern Rough-winged Swallow 1, Barn Swallow 1, Louisiana Waterthrush 1, Palm Warbler 1, American Redstart 2, House Sparrow 3, Cuban Blackbird 10.

Monday 21st

**Zapata: Playa Larga – Soplillar**

7.40 – 11.40

Turkey Vulture 30, Broad-winged Hawk 1, Crested Caracara 1, American Kestrel 4, White-crowned Pigeon 11, Mourning Dove 3, White-winged Dove 8, Zenaida Dove 6, Common Ground-Dove 10, Cuban Parrot 9, Great Lizard Cuckoo 4, Cuban Pygmy Owl 1, Cuban Trogon 4, Cuban Emerald 2, Cuban Tody 2, West-Indian Woodpecker 7, Cuban Green Woodpecker 4, Fernandina's Flicker 2, La Sagra's Flycatcher 4, Cuban Pewee 1, Loggerhead Kingbird 4, Cuban Vireo 1, Northern Rough-winged Swallow 1, Cuban Martin/Purple Martin 1 male, Bank Swallow 5, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher 2, Grey Catbird 2, Red-legged Thrush 1, Northern Mockingbird 6, Black-and-white Warbler 3, Prairie Warbler 3, Palm Warbler 1, Common Yellowthroat 1, American Redstart 3, Yellow-headed Warbler 2, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 5, Cuban Blackbird 12.



*Cuban Green Woodpecker*

**Zapata: Bahía de Cochin**

12.00 – 15.00

Brown Pelican 1, Little Blue Heron 10, Turkey Vulture 14, American Wigeon 30, Spotted Sandpiper 1, Royal Tern 2, Cuban Crow 2.

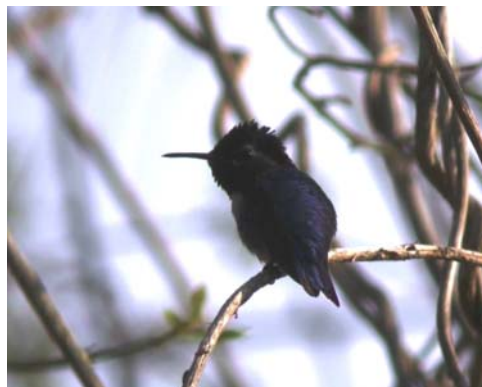
**Zapata: Soplillar** 15.30 – 19.15  
Forested area

Little Blue Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 30, American Kestrel 6, Zenaida Dove 2, Common Ground-Dove 10, Smooth-billed Ani 10, Cuban Parrot 2, Cuban Pygmy-Owl 1, Cuban Screech-Owl 1, Cuban Emerald 30, Cuban Green Woodpecker 2, West Indian Woodpecker 10, Fernandina's Flicker 1, Bee Hummingbird 1, Cuban Pewee 1, Cuban Vireo 3, Red-legged Thrush 8, Northern Mockingbird 3, Black-and-white Warbler 1, Palm Warbler 1, Yellow-throated Warbler 1, Ovenbird 1, Yellow-headed Warbler 10, American Redstart 5, Stripe-headed Tanager 3, Cuban Bullfinch 3, Cuban Blackbird 15.

Tuesday 22nd

**Zapata: Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos** 7.15 – 11.00. A canal and a lake surrounded by high trees and lush vegetation. Los Sábalos is mainly forest.

Pied-billed Grebe 1, Double-crested Cormorant 2, Great Blue Heron 2, Great Egret 1, Snowy Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 1, Little Blue Heron 1, Green Heron 1, White Ibis 3, Blue-winged Teal 25, Turkey Vulture 30, Osprey 1, Broad-winged Hawk 1, Crested Caracara 4, American Kestrel 4, Purple Gallinule 4, Moorhen 300, Limpkin 2, Northern Jacana 30, Semipalmated Plover 1, Spotted Sandpiper 4, Common Snipe 1, White-crowned Pigeon 6, Mourning Dove 5, Zenaida Dove 20, Key West Quail-Dove 1, Blue-headed Quail-Dove 5, White-winged Dove 2, Common Ground-Dove 3, Grey-headed Quail-Dove 3, Smooth-billed Ani 12, Great Lizard Cuckoo 2, Cuban Emerald 10, Bee Hummingbird 2, Cuban Trogon 20, Cuban Tody 5, West Indian Woodpecker 4, Cuban Green Woodpecker 3, Fernandina's Flicker 2, Cuban Pewee 1, La Sagra's Flycatcher 8, Loggerhead Kingbird 1, Black-whiskered Vireo 10, Cuban Crow 2, Barn Swallow 2, Red-legged Thrush 5, Grey Catbird 1, Black-and-white Warbler 4, Chestnut-sided Warbler 1, Black-throated Blue Warbler 1, American Redstart 8, Ovenbird 3, Louisiana Waterthrush 2, Common Yellowthroat 3, Yellow-headed Warbler 10, Stripe-headed Tanager 2, Cuban Bullfinch 1, Cuban Blackbird 10, Black-cowled Oriole 5.



*Bee Hummingbird performed to everybody's satisfaction*



*Passing Canal de Soplillar*

**Zapata: Playa Larga – Playa Girón** 13.20 – 15.00. We followed the road along the coast the 32 km and back again. Though having been warned against crashing the crabs on the road we managed to have punctures on two tyres. They were simply all over, which the Turkey Vultures

Magnificent Frigatebird 1, Cattle Egret 4, Turkey Vulture 36, American Kestrel 6, Killdeer 8, Mourning Dove 1, Royal Tern 2, Cuban Green Woodpecker 1, Northern Mockingbird 2, Greater Antillean Grackle 1 - and then this impressive guy (length 1½ metres):



**Zapata: Bahía de Cochinos** 15.30-17.20

Magnificent Frigatebird 1, Double-crested Cormorant 2, Little Blue Heron 8, Turkey Vulture 18, American Wigeon 43, Blue-winged Teal 13, Laughing Gull 4, Royal Tern 22, Common Ground-Dove 1. Brown Pelican 2,

**Zapata: El Carmelo**

17.45 – 19.15

Open forested area

Turkey Vulture 20, Red-tailed Hawk 1, American Kestrel 4, Smooth-billed Ani 10, Cuban Pygmy-Owl 1, Cuban Emerald 2, Cuban Pewee 1, Eastern Kingbird 1, Tree Swallow 1, Zapata Wren 1, Northern Mockingbird 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 8, Red-shouldered Blackbird 3.

On our way home we had a fruitless try for Stygian Owl in Playa Larga.



*Cuban Pygmy-Owl on the watch-out*

Wednesday

We left the Zapata peninsula, drove back to A1 at Jagüey Grande and went in an easterly direction. At road mark 167 km on A1 we crossed an interestingly looking river, Río Hanábana, took a turn south towards some paddy fields and a dam. At the entrance we easily got a permit to enter when stating the reason to our visit.

**Río Habánana 7.45 – 10.00**

Double-crested Cormorant 6, Great Blue Heron 4, Great Egret 2, Snowy Egret 5, Cattle Egret 500, Green Heron 4, Black-crowned Night-Heron 1, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron 2, Turkey Vulture 1, Osprey 1, Gundlach's Hawk 1, Broad-winged Hawk 1, Common Black-Hawk 2, Crested Caracara 1, American Kestrel 1, Killdeer 5, Greater Yellowlegs 20, Lesser Yellowlegs 70, Common Snipe 1, Caspian Tern 1, Mourning Dove 20, Common Ground-Dove 8, Smooth-billed Ani 20, Tree Swallow 500, Barn Swallow 10, Cave Swallow 100, Grey Catbird 1, Palm Warbler 8, Common Yellowthroat 1, American Redstart 1, Yellow-faced Grassquit 6, Chestnut Mannikin 150, House Sparrow 10, Indigo Bunting 1.

**Río Habánana – River West of  
Taguasco 10.00 – 13.30**

Great Egret 1, Snowy Egret 1, Cattle Egret 250, Turkey Vulture 733, American Kestrel 6, American Gallinule 1, Killdeer 1, Mourning Dove 15, Common Ground-Dove 7, Barn Owl 1 (found dead), Northern Mockingbird 9, American Redstart 1, House Sparrow 60, Eastern Meadowlark 2, Greater Antillean Grackle 2, Cuban Blackbird 4.

**River West of Taguasco**

*13.30 – 14.00. Only a short-stop at a broad river crossing the road.*

Pied-billed Grebe 1, Anhinga 1, Blue-winged Teal 3, Turkey Vulture 5, American Coot 1, Common Moorhen 65, Limpkin 1, Killdeer 2, Black-necked Stilt 2, Spotted Sandpiper 4, Caspian Tern 1, White-winged Dove 1, Belted Kingfisher 1, Grey Kingbird 1, Black-and-white Warbler 1.

**Taguasco – Camagüey**

*14.00 – 17.00*

Great Blue Heron 2, Cattle Egret 900, Turkey Vulture 547, American Kestrel 5, Common Moorhen 1, Black-necked Stilt 1, Mourning Dove 59, Common Ground-Dove 7, Rock Dove 50, Smooth-billed Ani 1, Northern Mockingbird 2, Cuban Blackbird 1.

Thursday 24th

**Camagüey – Najasa – Belén**

*5.50 – 8.00 + 12.05 – 13.00 + 16.00 – 17.00*

Little Blue Heron 2, Cattle Egret 15, Turkey Vulture 215, American Kestrel 6, Common Moorhen 1, Limpkin 1, Smooth-billed Ani 7, Northern Mockingbird 1, Eastern Meadowlark 2, House Sparrow 2.



*Red-legged Thrush*



**Belén** 8.05 – 12.05 + 17.00 – 20.00  
Forested area and open patches with high trees

Cattle Egret 12, Turkey Vulture 20, American Kestrel 12, Helmeted Guineafowl 120, Limpkin 1, Killdeer 3, Mourning-Dove 17, White-winged Dove 2, Common Ground-Dove 6, Plain Pigeon 3, Scaly-naped Pigeon 3, Cuban Parakeet 21, Cuban Parrot 16, Great Lizard-Cuckoo 3, Smooth-billed Ani 30, Antillean Palm-Swift 6, Cuban Emerald 4, Cuban Trogon 2, Cuban Tody 28, West-Indian Woodpecker 10, Fernandina's Flicker 1, Cuban Green Woodpecker 6, Cuban Pewee 4, Cuban Vireo 3, La Sagra's Flycatcher 6, Grey Kingbird 3, Loggerhead Kingbird 6, Cuban Crow 100, Northern Mockingbird 9, Black-and-white Warbler 4, Worm-eating Warbler 2, Black-throated Blue Warbler 2, Palm Warbler 4, Yellow-throated Warbler 1, American Redstart 1, Bananaquit 2, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 25, Cuban Blackbird 30.

It seemed we suddenly needed a guide to be allowed to enter the reserve itself. We paid \$ 10/person, but the guide, a young girl, was too shy to tell us anything. Another woman, who charmingly took over, was more interested in nursing our palates with fresh papaya than serving the much wanted Giant Kingbird and Cuban Grassquit .....Our fault, we lost focus.

We stayed two nights in Camagüey, in two houses very close to each other as there was only one room for rent in both. El Chino had phoned (53 - 322 29 5378) Milayda Bermejo Orozco, Carretera Central 266 (Este) e/ Sociedad Patriótica y Coronel Bringas Rpto. La Caridad. \$ 25 a double. She then contacted the other house, and they took turns serving us a pleasant dinner at \$ 10/person.

Friday 25th

**Camagüey – Ciego de Ávila - Morón**  
6.30 – 12.45

Reddish Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 1, Black-crowned Night-Heron 1, Cattle Egret 237, Little Blue Heron 4, Green Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 97, Snail Kite 1, American Kestrel 3, Killdeer 2, Mourning Dove 7, Collared Dove 1, Smooth-billed Ani 18, Cuban Tody 1, Loggerhead Kingbird 1, Cave Swallow 60, Northern Mockingbird 11, Yellow-throated Warbler 1, Yellow-faced Grassquit 9, House Sparrow 20, Eastern Meadowlark 6, Greater Antillean Grackle 7, Cuban Blackbird 7.



*Snail Kite*

**North of Morón**

12.45 – 13.55

(Abandoned?) fish ponds to the west and - 500 m further to the north - a lush canal to the east.

Great Blue Heron 3, Great Egret 1, Cattle Egret 1, Little Blue Egret 2, Glossy Ibis 1, Turkey Vulture 10, Osprey 3, Common Moorhen 15, Purple Gallinule 1, Mourning Dove 8, White-crowned Pigeon 1, Smooth-billed Ani 2, Belted Kingfisher 1, Northern Mockingbird 7, Prairie Warbler 1, Palm Warbler 10, Northern Parula 1, Common Yellowthroat 4, American Redstart 9, Yellow-faced Grassquit 6.

**Ponds North of Morón – Cayo Coco**

13.55 – 17.30

Magnificent Frigatebird 78, Brown Pelican 15, Double-crested Cormorant 17, Neotropic Cormorant 1, Great Blue Heron 1, Reddish Egret 3, Tricoloured Heron 3, Little Blue Heron 1, Green Heron 1, Roseate Spoonbill 5, White Ibis 1, Greater Flamingo 3800, Red-breasted Merganser 176, Turkey Vulture 15, Crested Caracara 1, Greater Yellowlegs 1, Lesser Yellowlegs 1, Ruddy Turnstone 4, Sanderling 14, Least Sandpiper 14, Laughing Gull 22, Herring Gull 1, Sandwich Tern 3, Royal Tern 80, Caspian Tern 10, Black Skimmer 80, Zenaida Dove 1, Common Ground-Dove 1, Palm Warbler 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 12.

**Cayo Paredón**

17.30 – 19.00

Magnificent Frigatebird 35, Double-crested Cormorant 40, Neotropic Cormorant 10, Great Blue Heron 7, Little Blue Heron 2, Green Heron 1, Common Black-Hawk 2, Black-bellied Plover 1, Spotted Sandpiper 1, Ruddy Turnstone 3, Willet 5, Royal Tern 2, Caspian Tern 50, Cuban Emerald 3, Northern Mockingbird 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 10.

We stayed two nights at two adjacent places in Morón making the same arrangement as in Camagüey as the houses only had one room each. Nice places, nice food, same price. Casa de Hospedaje, Calle 8 No 1 - Calle entre Sordo y C. Morón (meaning: place to stay, street 8 no. 1, street between Sordo and the street called Morón).

Saturday 26th

**Cayo Coco**

7.00 – 13.30

Tricoloured Heron 1, Green Heron 1, Cattle Egret 1, Turkey Vulture 10, Crested Caracara 1, American Kestrel 1, Black-necked Stilt 1, Black-bellied Plover 2, Whimbrel 1, Spotted Sandpiper 1, Mourning Dove 8, White-crowned Pigeon 8, Common Ground-Dove 6, Mangrove Cuckoo 1, Cuban Emerald 20, Cuban Tody 15, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1, Cuban Green Woodpecker 1, La Sagra's Flycatcher 12, Cuban Pewee 5, Loggerhead Kingbird 7, Cuban Vireo 10, Barn Swallow 1, Cuban Gnatcatcher 3, Grey Catbird 5, Red-legged Thrush 15, Northern Mockingbird 5, Prairie Warbler 3, Common Yellowthroat 5, American Redstart 1, Oriente Warbler 11, Stripe-headed Tanager 25, Yellow-faced Grassquit 3, Cuban Bullfinch 12, Greater Antillean Grackle 10.



*Stripe-headed Tanager – a common beauty all over Cuba*

**Cayo Paredón**

*13.30 – 16.30*

Magnificent Frigatebird 1, Neotropic Cormorant 1, Snowy Egret 2, Reddish Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 22, Little Blue Heron 2, White Ibis 2, Roseate Spoonbill 6, Turkey Vulture 6, Osprey 1, Black-necked Stilt 23, Greater Yellowlegs 2, Willet 5, Ruddy Turnstone 11, Least Sandpiper 9, Caspian Tern 1, Common Ground-Dove 1, Cuban Emerald 6, Belted Kingfisher 2, Thick-billed Vireo 2\*, Cuban Gnatcatcher 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 3.

\* at a path to the west of the road 800 m before the parking lot at the lighthouse.

**Cayo Guillermo**

*17.30 – 18.30*

Double-crested Cormorant 3, Great Blue Heron 7, Reddish Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 1, Little Blue Heron 8, White Ibis 44, Greater Flamingo 1, Turkey Vulture 16, Common Black-Hawk 4, Semipalmated Plover 69, Killdeer 1, Black-necked Stilt 11, Ruddy Turnstone 20, Red Knot 44, Dunlin 1, Spotted Sandpiper 2, Short-billed Dowitcher 53, Laughing Gull 50, Ring-billed Gull 1, Sandwich Tern 4, Royal Tern 6, Caspian Tern 10, Mourning Dove 1, Barn Swallow 2, Northern Mockingbird 1, Bahama Mockingbird 1\*\*, American Redstart 1.

\*\* 3 km east of the start of the gravel path.



*Yellow-faced Grassquit*

Sunday 27th



*Luxuriant site 31 km west of Ciego de Ávila at El Perico*

**Site 31 km West of Ciego de Ávila at El Perico**

7.30 – 9.15

Snowy Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 1, Snowy Egret 1, Little Blue Heron 6, Green Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 10, Purple Gallinule 2, Common Moorhen 2, Mourning Dove 8, Zenaida Dove 1, Common Ground-Dove 2, Smooth-billed Ani 3, Cuban Emerald 4, Cuban Tody 2, Grey Kingbird 2, Cuban Vireo 1, Cave Swallow 5, Black-and-white Warbler 2, Worm-eating Warbler 2, Palm Warbler 1, Black-throated Blue Warbler 5, Yellow-throated Warbler 1, American Redstart 5, Common Yellowthroat 10, Northern Waterthrush 2, Ovenbird 1, Stripe-headed Tanager 2, Yellow-faced Grassquit 15, Indigo Bunting 12, Blue Grosbeak 8, Chestnut Mannikin 400, Greater Antillean Grackle 5, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 2, Cuban Blackbird 8.

We left the car at the roadside, but when we were on our way westwards the police stopped us because they had seen the car presumably abandoned. We had to prove that we had rented it before we were allowed to go on.

**El Perico – Güines (A1)**

9.15 – 14.15

Cattle Egret 384, Turkey Vulture 1146, American Kestrel 3, Mourning Dove 29, Zenaida Dove 3, Common Ground-Dove 3, Antillean Palm-Swift 1, Cave Swallow 110, Northern Mockingbird 14, Palm Warbler 1, House Sparrow 8, Greater Antillean Grackle 14.

**Paddyfields between Güines – La Melena del Sur**

14.15 – 15.20

Great Blue Heron 2, Snowy Egret 1, Cattle Egret 50, Little Blue Heron 7, Green Heron 3, White Ibis 1, Turkey Vulture 3, Common Moorhen 4, Limpkin 1, Killdeer 12, Black-necked Stilt 38, Solitary Sandpiper 7, Lesser Yellowlegs 80, Greater Yellowlegs 20, Semipalmated Sandpiper 3, Least Sandpiper 8, “peeps” 50, Stilt Sandpiper 33, Short-billed Dowitcher 5, Mourning Dove 3, Common Ground-Dove 6, Smooth-billed Ani 6, Antillean Palm-Swift 3, Cuban Blackbird 4.

**La Melena del Sur – Soroa***15.25 – 19.15*

Least Grebe 4\*, Great Blue Heron 4, Snowy Egret 6, Cattle Egret 350, Little Blue Heron 15, Ruddy Duck 4\*, Turkey Vulture 165, Snail Kite 10\*\*, Hen Harrier 1, American Kestrel 3, Killdeer 4, Black-necked Stilt 3, Mourning Dove 6, Zenaida Dove 10, Antillean Palm-Swift 110, Cuban Martin 20\*\*, Northern Mockingbird 4, Greater Antillean Grackle 2, Cuban Blackbird 1.

\* Ponds at Camacho at 16.20 / \*\* Ponds east of Batabano at 16.05.

**Soroa***19.00*

Cattle Egret 400, Great Lizard Cuckoo 1, Grey Kingbird 5.

It was impossible to find accommodation in any of the eight or nine “casas particulares” in Soroa so we had to drive on to San Diego de los Baños, some further 40 km. We stayed at a “casa particular” close to Hotel Mirador (which was also full) for two nights but avoided the greasy kitchen and the sour old hag after the first try. Food at Hotel Mirador was good, though.

Monday 28th

**La Güira***6.30 – 12.30*

Pied-billed Grebe 1, Snowy Egret 1, Cattle Egret 58, Little Blue Heron 3, Turkey Vulture 62, Broad-winged Hawk 2, Black-necked Stilt 2, White-crowned Pigeon 2, Mourning Dove 7, White-winged Dove 2, Common Ground-Dove 2, Smooth-billed Ani 4, Great Lizard Cuckoo 3, Antillean Palm-Swift 21, Cuban Trogon 8, Cuban Emerald 30, Cuban Tody 11, West-Indian Woodpecker 2, Cuban Green Woodpecker 5, Cuban Pewee 6, Grey Kingbird 3, Loggerhead Kingbird 8, Black-whiskered Vireo 4, Cuban Martin 5, Red-legged Thrush 16, Northern Mockingbird 9, Worm-eating Warbler 1, Olive-capped Warbler 15\*, Palm Warbler 2, Yellow-headed Warbler 2, Red-legged Honeycreeper 14\*, Stripe-headed Tanager 24, Yellow-faced Grassquit 8, Cuban Bullfinch 7, Rose-breasted Grosbeak 2, Eastern Meadowlark 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 10, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 26, Cuban Blackbird 5.

\* Both species were particularly prominent at km 4.0 and 5.2 from the sign saying “Cabaña de los Piños 6”



*La Güira*



*Olive-capped Warbler was locally abundant at La Güira*

**Consolación del Sur – El Jibaro**

13.30 – 14.45

Great Blue Heron 1, Purple Gallinule 1, Common Moorhen 1, Northern Mockingbird 2.

**El Jibaro**

14.45 – 16.15

A lake between Viñales and Pinar del Río, close to the road.

Pied-billed Grebe 162, Anhinga 1, Great Blue Heron 17, Snowy Egret 10, Reddish Egret 1, Tricoloured Heron 5, Cattle Egret 5, Little Blue Heron 6, Green Heron 2, Ruddy Duck 40, Turkey Vulture 133, Osprey 4, Snail Kite 11, American Kestrel 1, American Coot 3, Common Moorhen 12, Black-necked Stilt 3, Mourning Dove 5, Smooth-billed Ani 2, Belted Kingfisher 2, Cuban Martin 3, Red-legged Thrush 2, Northern Mockingbird 10, Common Yellowthroat 1, Stripe-headed Tanager 4, Yellow-faced Grassquit 2, Eastern Meadowlark 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 5, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 25.

**El Jibaro – Viñales**

16.15 – 17.20

Turkey Vulture 71, American Kestrel 1, Mourning Dove 1, White-winged Dove 3, Tennessee Warbler 1, Stripe-headed Tanager 1.

**Parque Nacional Viñales**

17.30 – 19.20

Cattle Egret 45, Little Blue Heron 4, Green Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 20, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, American Kestrel 2, Mourning Dove 4, White-winged Dove 1, Smooth-billed Ani 7, Cuban Trogon 1, Cuban Pewee 1, Loggerhead Kingbird 4, Cuban Solitaire 7\*, Grey Catbird 3, Red-legged Thrush 5, Greater Antillean Grackle 30, Cuban Blackbird 10.

\* At the parking lot



*Viñales - the place for Cuban Solitaire*

Tuesday 29th

**Soroa, Mirador Trail**

*7.30 – 11.00*

Path leading upwards to a watch-point, wooded area.  
Keep to the right all the way up.

Cattle Egret 40, Turkey Vulture 20, Mourning Dove 2, Scaly-naped Pigeon 7, White-winged Dove 1, Ruddy Quail-Dove 1, Great lizard Cuckoo 2, Cuban Trogon 20, Cuban Emerald 10, Cuban Tody 12, West-Indian Woodpecker 2, Cuban Green Woodpecker 5, Cuban Pewee 3, La Sagra's Flycatcher 5, Loggerhead Kingbird 3, Black-whiskered Vireo 4, Cuban Solitaire 3, Grey Catbird 7, Red-legged Thrush 15, Tennessee Warbler 3, Black-and-white Warbler 3, Worm-eating Warbler 3, Black-throated Blue Warbler 4, Black-throated Green Warbler 2, Yellow-throated Warbler 1, Common Yellowthroat 3, Yellow-headed Warbler 4, American Redstart 2, Stripe-headed Tanager 4, Cuban Bullfinch 1, Greater Antillean Grackle 15, Cuban Blackbird 10, Black-cowled Oriole 5.

**Las Terrazas**

*11.30 – 13.10*

Reforestation area at a river (Río Bayate). Paths.

Turkey Vulture 8, Zenaida Dove 4, Cuban Trogon 12, Cuban Emerald 12, Cuban Tody 6, West-Indian Woodpecker 1, Cuban Green Woodpecker 3, Cuban Pewee 4, La Sagra's Flycatcher 2, Grey Kingbird 1, Black-whiskered Vireo 25, Red-legged Thrush 10, Common Yellowthroat 2, Yellow-headed Warbler 30, Red-legged Honeycreeper 5, Cuban Bullfinch 3, Greater Antillean Grackle 5, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird 8, Black-cowled Oriole 1.



*A Cuban Emerald had put its tiny nest over the path*

**Las Terrazas – La Habana (airport)**

*13.10 – 15.00*

Pied-billed Grebe 23, Cattle Egret 79, Ruddy Duck 25, Turkey Vulture 443, Snail Kite 1, American Kestrel 3, American Coot 2, Common Moorhen 3, Limpkin 1, Herring Gull 2, Mourning Dove 2, Antillean Palm-Swift 2, Barn Swallow 1, Red-legged Thrush 2, Palm Warbler 1, House Sparrow 30.

## Systematic List of Birds Recorded

It should be noted that date, time and other specifications do not occur on this list as they are supposedly easy to find in the itinerary once you know the place of observation. Observations are mentioned chronologically. In the rare case of a spot being visited more than once counts varying are mentioned by means of /. All in all 158 species were recorded.

**Least Grebe** *Tachybaptus dominicus*

4 Camacho.

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps*

Besides observations of single birds: **19** Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, **163** El Jibaro, **23** Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens*

**1** Playa Larga – Playa Girón, **1** Bahía de Cochinos, **78** Morón – Cayo Coco, **1/35** Cayo Paredón.

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis*

**1/2** Bahía de Cochinos, **15** Morón – Cayo Coco.

**Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus*

**1** Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, **2** Canal de Soplillar, **2** Bahía de Cochinos, **6** Río Habánana, **17** Morón – Cayo Coco, **40** Cayo Paredón, **3** Cayo Guillermo.



**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

1 Morón – Cayo Coco, **10/1** Cayo Paredón.

**Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga*

1 River west of Taguasco, **1** El Jibaro.

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias*

2 Canal de Soplillar, **4** Río Habánana, **2** Taguasco – Camagüey, **3** north of Morón, **1** Morón – Cayo Coco, **7** Cayo Paredón, **7** Cayo Guillermo, **2** Güines – La Melena del Sur, **4** La Melena del Sur – Soroa, **1** Consolación del Sur – El Jibaro, **17** El Jibaro.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

1 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, **1** Canal de Soplillar, **2** Río Habánana, **1** Río Habánana – River west of Taguasco, **1** North of Morón.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula*

1 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, **1** Canal de Soplillar, **5** Río Habánana, **1** Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco, **2** Cayo Paredón, **1** 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, **1** Güines – La Melena del Sur, **6** La Melena del Sur – Soroa, **1** La Güira, **10** El Jibaro.

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea*

6 Cuatro Caminos, **10/8** Bahía de Cochinos, **4** Camagüey – Morón, **8** Cayo Guillermo, **6** 31 km West of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, **7** Güines – La Melena del Sur, **15** La Melena del Sur – Soroa, **3** La Güira, **6** El Jibaro, **4** Parque Nacional Viñales. Apart from that often seen in pairs or singly.

**Tricoloured Heron** *Egretta tricolour*

1 Canal de Soplillar, **1** Camagüey – Morón, **3** Morón – Cayo Coco, **1** Cayo Coco, **22** Cayo Paredón, **1** Cayo Guillermo, **1** 31 km West of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, **5** El Jibaro.

**Reddish Egret** *Egretta rufescens*

1 Camagüey – Morón, **3** Morón – Cayo Coco, **1** Cayo Paredón, **1** Cayo Guillermo, **1** El Jibaro.

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*

Many gatherings all over, most **500** Río Habánana, **250** Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco, **900** Taguasco – Camagüey, **384** El Perico – Güines, **350** La Melena del Sur – Soroa, **400** Soroa.

**Green Heron** *Butorides virescens*

Apart from many single sightings **4** Río Habánana, **3** Güines – La Melena del Sur, **2** El Jibaro.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

1 Río Habánana, **1** Camagüey – Morón.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea*

2 Río Habánana.

**White Ibis** *Eudocimus albus*

3 Canal de Soplillar, **1** Morón – Cayo Coco, **2** Cayo Paredón, **44** Cayo Guillermo, **1** Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Roseate Spoonbill** *Ajaia ajaia*

5 Morón – Cayo Coco, 6 Cayo Paredón

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*

38 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 1 north of Morón.

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus ruber*

3800 Morón – Cayo Coco, 1 Cayo Guillermo.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Anas discors*

2 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 25 Canal de Soplillar, 13 Bahía de Cochinos, 3 river west of Taguasco.

**American Wigeon** *Anas americana*

30/43 Bahía de Cochinos.

**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator*

176 Morón - Cayo Coco.

**Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis*

4 ponds at Camacho, 40 El Jibaro, 25 Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura*

Seen most places, biggest counts being: 733 Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco, 547 Taguasco – Camagüey, 1146 El Perico – Güines.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

Many single birds, besides 2 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 3 North of Morón, 4 El Jibaro.

**Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus sociabilis*

1 Camagüey – Morón, 10 ponds east of Batabano, 11 El Jibaro, 1 Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Northern Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*

1 La Melena del Sur – Soroa.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus*

1 Parque Nacional Viñales.

**Gundlach's Hawk** *Accipiter gundlachi*

1 Río Habánana.

**Common Black-Hawk** *Buteogallus anthracinus*

2 Río Habánana, 2 Cayo Paredón, 4 Cayo Guillermo.

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus*

1 Cuatro Caminos, 1 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 1 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 Río Habánana, 2 La Güira.

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis*

1 El Carmelo.

**Crested Caracara** *Caracara plancus*

1 Soplillar, 4 Canal de Soplillar, 1 Río Habánana, 1 Morón – Cayo Coco, 1 Cayo Coco.

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*

Many observations, most 12 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 6 Soplillar, 6 Playa Larga – Playa Girón, 6 Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco, 6 Camagüey – Belén, 12 Belén.

**Helmeted Guineafowl** *Numida meleagris*

120 Belén.

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyryla martinica*

2 Cuatro Caminos, 3 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 4 Canal de Soplillar, 1 Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco, 1 North of Morón, 2 31 km west of Ciego de Ávila at El Perico, 1 Consolación del Sur – El Jibaro.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

Commonly noted, most 300 Canal de Soplillar, 65 River west of Taguasco.

**American Coot** *Fulica americana*

1 river west of Taguasco, 3 El Jibaro, 2 Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna*

2 Canal de Soplillar, 1 river west of Taguasco, 1 Camagüey – Belén, 1 Belén, 1 Güines - La Melena del Sur, 1 Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*

1 Cayo Paredón, 2 Cayo Coco.

**Semi-palmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus*

1 Canal de Soplillar, 69 Cayo Guillermo.

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus*

Many scattered observations, most 8 Playa Larga – Playa Girón, 5 Río Habánana, 12 Güines -La Melena del Sur.

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus*

Seen around singly, besides 23 Cayo Paredón, 11 Cayo Guillermo, 38 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Northern Jacana** *Jacana spinosa*

3 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 30 Canal de Soplillar.

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca*

20 Río Habánana, 1 Morón – Cayo Coco, 2 Cayo Paredón, 20 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

70 Río Habánana, 1 Morón – Cayo Coco 80 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*

7 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Willet** *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*

5 Cayo Paredón.

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*

1 Bahía de Cochinos, 4 Canal de Soplillar, 4 river west of Taguasco, 1 Cayo Paredón, 1 Cayo Coco, 2 Cayo Guillermo.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

1 Cayo Coco.

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

4 Morón – Cayo Coco, 3 Cayo Paredón, 11 Cayo Paredón, 20 Cayo Guillermo.

**Red Knot** *Calidris canutus*

44 Cayo Guillermo.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

14 Morón – Cayo Coco.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla*

3 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla*

14 Morón – Cayo Coco, 9 Cayo Paredón, 8 Güines – La Melena del Sur (+ 50 “peeps”).

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

1 Cayo Guillermo.

**Stilt Sand piper** *Calidris himantopus*

33 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus*

53 Cayo Guillermo, 5 Güines – La Melena del Sur.

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

1 Canal de Soplillar, 1 Río Habánana.

**Laughing Dove** *Larus atricilla*

4 Bahía de Cochinos, 22 Morón – Cayo Coco, 50 Cayo Guillermo.

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis*

1 Cayo Guillermo.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*

1 Morón – Cayo Coco, 2 Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia*

1 Río Habánana, 1 river west of Taguasco, 10 Morón – Cayo Coco, 50/1 Cayo Paredón, 10 Cayo Guillermo.

**Royal Tern** *Sterna maxima*

7 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 2/22 Bahía de Cochinos, 2 Playa Larga – Playa Girón, 80 Morón – Cayo Coco, 2 Cayo Paredón, 6 Cayo Guillermo.

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*

3 Morón – Cayo Coco, 4 Cayo Guillermo.

**Black Skimmer** *Rynchops niger*

80 Morón – Cayo Coco.

**Rock Dove** *Columna livia*

75 Cuatro Caminos, 50 Taguasco – Camagüey were the biggest counts.

**Scaly-naped Pigeon** *Columna squamosa*

3 Belén, 7 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**White-crowned Pigeon** *Columna leucocephala*

11 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 6 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 North of Morón, 8 Cayo Coco, 2 La Güira,

**Plain Pigeon** *Columna inornata*

3 Belén.

**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*

1 Morón.

**White-winged Dove** *Zenaida asiatica*

3 Entrance to Zapata – Playa Larga, 8 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 2 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 river west of Taguasco, 2 Belén, 2 La Güira, 3 El Jibaro – Viñales, 1 Parque Nacional Viñales, 1 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Zenaida Dove** *Zenaida aurita*

Noted frequently, most 6 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 20 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 10 La Melena del Sur – Soroa.

**Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura*

Commonly noted, most 25 Cuatro Caminos, 20 Río Habánana, 59 Taguasco – Camagüey, 29 El Perico – Güines.

**Common Ground-Dove** *Columbina passerina*

Seen at many places, highest numbers **8** Cuatro Caminos, **10** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **10** Soplillar, **8** Río Habánana.

**Key West Quail-Dove** *Geotrygon chrysis*

**1** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.

**Grey-headed Quail-Dove** *Geotrygon caniceps*

**3** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.



*Grey-headed Quail-Dove, Los Sábalos, Zapata*

**Ruddy Quail-Dove** *Geotrygon Montana*

**1** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Blue-headed Quail-Dove** *Starnoenas cyanocephala*

**5** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.

**Cuban Parakeet** *Aratinga enops*

**21** Belén.

**Cuban Parrot** *Amazona leucocephala*

**9** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **2** Soplillar, **16** Belén.

**Mangrove Cuckoo** *Coccyzus minor*

**1** Cayo Coco.

**Great Lizard Cuckoo** *Saurothera merlini*

**2** Cuatro Caminos, **4** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **2** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **3** Belén, **1** Soroa, **3** La Güira, **2** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Smooth-billed Ani** *Crotophaga ani*

**14** Cuatro Caminos, **10** Soplillar, **12** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **10** El Carmelo, **20** Río Habánana, **30** Belén, **18** Camagüey – Morón. Besides minor gatherings.

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

**3** La Habana – Cuatro Caminos, **1 found dead** Río Habánana – River west of Taguasco.



*Smooth-billed Anis Going to Sleep, Viñales*

**Cuban Screech-Owl** *Otus lawrencii*

**1** Soplillar.

**Cuban Pygmy-Owl** *Glaucidium siju*

**1** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **1** Soplillar, **1** El Carmelo.

**Antillean Palm-Swift** *Tachornis phoenicobia*

**1** Cuatro Caminos, **6** Belén, **1** El Perico – Güines, **3** Güines – La Melena del Sur, **110** La Melena del Sur – Soroa, **21** La Güira, **2** Las Terrazas – La Habana.

**Cuban Emerald** *Chlorostilbon ricordii*

Frequently observed, most **30** Soplillar, **10** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **20** Cayo Coco, **6** Cayo Paredón, **30** La Güira, **10** Mirador Trail, Soroa, **12** Las Terrazas.

**Bee Hummingbird** *Mellisuga helenae*

**1** Soplillar, **2** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.

**Cuban Trogon** *Priotelus temnurus*

**4** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **20** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **2** Belén, **8** La Güira, **1** Parque Nacional Viñales, **20** Mirador Trail, Soroa, **12** Las Terrazas.

**Cuban Tody** *Todus multicolour*

This wonderful creature was often seen and heard, most **5** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **28** Belén, **15** Cayo Coco, **11** La Güira, **12** Mirador Trail, Soroa, **6** Las Terrazas.

**Belted Kingfisher** *Ceryle alcyon*

**1** River west of Taguasco, **1** north of Morón, **2** Cayo Paredón, **2** El Jibaro.

**West Indian Woodpecker** *Melanerpes superciliaris*

Most 7 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 10 Soplillar, 4 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 10 Belén.  
Otherwise scattered observations.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus varius*

1 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 1 Cayo Coco.

**Cuban Green Woodpecker** *Xiphidiopicus percussus*

Singles seen at intervals, besides 4 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 2 Soplillar, 3 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 6 Belén, 5 La Güira, 5 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 3 Las Terrazas.

**Fernandina's Flicker** *Colaptes fernandinae*

2 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 1 Soplillar, 2 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 Belén.



*Fernandina's Flicker, Soplillar*

**Cuban Pewee** *Contopus caribaeus*

1 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 1 Soplillar, 1 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 El Carmelo, 4 Belén, 5 Cayo Coco, 6 La Güira, 1 Parque Nacional Viñales, 3 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 4 Las Terrazas.

**La Sagra's Flycatcher** *Myiarchus sagrae*

4 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 8 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 6 Belén, 12 Cayo Coco, 5 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 2 Las Terrazas.

**Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus*

1 El Carmelo.

**Grey Kingbird** *Tyrannus dominicensis*

Singles noted at intervals, besides 3 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 3 Belén, 2 31 km west of Ciego de Ávila at El Perico, 5 Soroa, 3 La Güira.

**Loggerhead Kingbird** *Tyrannus caudifasciatus*

Frequently observed, most 4 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 6 Belén, 7 Cayo Coco, 8 La Güira, 4 Parque Nacional Viñales, 3 Mirador Trail, Soroa.



**Thick-billed Vireo** *Vireo crassirostris*

2 Cayo Paredón at a path to the west of the road 800 m before the parking lot at the lighthouse.

**Cuban Vireo** *Vireo gundlachi*

1 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 3 Soplillar, 3 Belén, 10 Cayo Coco, 1 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Black-whiskered Vireo** *Vireo altiloquus*

10 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 4 La Güira, 4 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 25 Las Terrazas.

**Cuban Crow** *Corvus nasicus*

2 Bahía de Cochinos, 2 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 100 Belén.

**Cuban Martin** *Progne cryptoleuca*

20 La Melena del Sur – Soroa, 5 La Güira, 3 El Jibaro.

**Purple/Cuban Martin** *Progne subis/ cryptoleuca*

3 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 1 m Playa Larga – Soplillar.

**Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*

1 El Carmelo, 500 Río Habánana.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stegidopteryx serripennis*

1 Cuatro Caminos, 1 Entrance of Zapata – Playa Larga, 1 Playa Larga – Soplillar.

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia*

3 Cuatro Caminos – Zapata, 5 Playa Larga – Soplillar.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

10 Río Habánana, otherwise few noted.

**Cave Swallow** *Petrochelidon fulva*

100 Río Habánana, 60 Camagüey – Morón, 5 31 km West of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 110 El Perico – Güines.

**Zapata Wren** *Ferminia cerverai*

1 El Carmelo – a few metres from Red-shouldered Blackbird.

**Blue-grey Gnatcatcher** *Poliptila caerulea*

2 Playa Larga – Soplillar.

**Cuban Gnatcatcher** *Poliptila lembeyi*

3 Cayo Coco, 1 Cayo Paredón.

**Cuban Solitaire** *Myadestes elisabeth*

7 Parque Nacional Viñales at the parking lot, 3 Mirador Trail, Soroa.



*Zapata Wren, El Carmelo, Zapata*

**Red-legged Thrush** *Turdus plumbeus*

Highest counts: **8** Cuatro Caminos, **8** Soplillar, **15** Cayo Coco, **16** La Güira, **15** Mirador Trail, Soroa, **10** Las Terrazas.

**Grey Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis*

**2** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **1** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **1** Río Habánana, **5** Cayo Coco, **3** Parque Nacional Viñales, **7** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Northern Mockingbird** *Mimus polyglottos*

A common sight, most **9** Cuatro Caminos, **9** Río Habánana – River west of Taguasco, **9** Belén, **11** Camagüey – Morón, **14** El Perico – Güines, **9** La Güira, **10** El Jibaro.

**Bahama Mockingbird** *Mimus gundlachi*

**1** Cayo Guillermo, 3 km east of the start of the gravel path.

**Tennessee Warbler** *Vermivora peregrine*

**1** El Jibaro – Viñales, **3** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Northern Parula** *Parula Americana*

**1** north of Morón.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Dendroica pensylvanica*

**1** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** *Dendroica caerulescens*

**2** Cuatro Caminos, **1** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **2** Belén, **5** 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, **4** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Dendroica coronata*  
12 Cuatro Caminos.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** *Dendroica virens*  
2 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Yellow-throated Warbler** *Dendroica dominica*  
3 Cuatro Caminos, 1 Soplillar, 1 Belén, 1 Camagüey – Morón, 1 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 1 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Olive-capped Warbler** *Dendroica pityophila*  
15 La Güira, especially at km 4.0 and 5.2 from the sign saying “Cabaña de los Piños 6”.



*Olive-capped Warbler was abundant at places at La Güira*

**Prairie Warbler** *Dendroica discolor*  
3 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 1 north of Morón, 3 Cayo Coco.

**Palm Warbler** *Dendroica palmarum*  
Seen very often but in small numbers, highest counts being 3 Cuatro Caminos, 8 Río Habánana, 4 Belén, 10 north of Morón.

**Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia*  
3 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 1 Soplillar, 4 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 river west of Taguasco, 4 Belén, 2 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 3 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla*  
Recorded most places, most 4 Cuatro Caminos, 5 Soplillar, 8 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 9 north of Morón, 5 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Worm-eating Warbler** *Helmitheros vermivorus*  
2 Belén, 2 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 1 La Güira, 3 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Ovenbird** *Seiurus aurocapillus*

1 Soplillar, 3 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 1 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Common Waterthrush** *Seiurus noveboracensis*

2 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Louisiana Waterthrush** *Seiurus motacilla*

1 Entrance of Zapata – Playa Larga, 2 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos.

**Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas*

Scattered observations, most 3 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 4 north of Morón, 5 Cayo Coco, 10 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Yellow-headed Warbler** *Teretistris fernandinae*

2 Playa Larga – Soplillar, 10 Soplillar, 10 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 2 La Güira, 4 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 30 Las Terrazas.

**Oriente Warbler** *Teretistris fornsii*

11 Cayo Coco.

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola*

2 Belén.

**Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus*

14 La Güira, especially at km 4.0 and 5.2 from the sign saying “Cabaña de los Piños 6”, 5 Las Terrazas.

**Stripe-headed Tanager** *Spindalis zena*

3 Soplillar, 2 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 25 Cayo Coco, 2 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 24 La Güira, 4 El Jibaro, 1 El Jibaro – Viñales, 4 Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Cuban Bullfinch** *Melopyrrha nigra*

3 Soplillar, 1 Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, 12 Cayo Coco, 7 La Güira, 1 Mirador Trail, Soroa, 3 Las Terrazas.

**Yellow-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris olivacea*

6 Río Habánana, 9 Camagüey – Morón, 6 north of Morón, 3 Cayo Coco, 15 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico, 14 La Güira, 2 El Jibaro.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Pheucticus ludovicianus*

2 La Güira.

**Blue Grosbeak** *Guiraca caerulea*

8 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Indigo Bunting** *Passerina cyanea*

1 Río Habánana, 12 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.

**Red-shouldered Blackbird** *Agelaius assimilis*  
3 El Carmelo, at the very same spot as Zapata Wren.

**Tawny-shouldered Blackbird** *Agelaius humeralis*  
Seen at intervals, most **25** Belén, **26** La Güira, **25** El Jibaro.

**Eastern Meadowlark** *Sturnella magna*  
Observed often singly, most **6** Camagüey – Morón.

**Cuban Blackbird** *Dives atroviolacea*  
Commonly seen, most **25** Cuatro Caminos, **12** Playa Larga – Soplillar, **15** Soplillar, **30** Belén.

**Greater Antillean Grackle** *Quiscalus niger*  
A regular sight most places, highest scores being **12** Morón – Cayo Coco, **14** El Perico – Güines, **30** Parque Nacional Viñales, **15** Mirador Trail, Soroa.

**Black-cowled Oriole** *Icterus dominicensis*  
**5** Canal de Soplillar + Los Sábalos, **5** Mirador Trail, Soroa, **1** Las Terrazas.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*  
Flocks seen from time to time, most **60** Río Habánana – river west of Taguasco.

**Chestnut Mannikin** *Lonchura malacca*  
**150** Río Habánana, **400** 31 km west of Ciego de Àvila at El Perico.



Bins on stand-by. Siesta at Fidel's