

South Florida

Residents, Rarities & Exotics

April 20 - 28 2024

Tour Leader: **Zac Babbit**

Photos and Trip Report by Zac Babbit.



The Florida peninsula is one of the most unique biological hotspots in the United States. The northern portions of the state reflect the diversity of the southeastern United States. The sandhill and scrubland communities of Central Florida hold the highest levels of endemism for herpetofauna, plants and invertebrates in the state. However, south Florida is a partial combination of the two formerly mentioned bioregions, along with a diversity more representative of the Caribbean than anywhere else in the US. Some of the most remarkable birds in the ABA are “Florida specialties”, meaning they are only seen here in the sunshine state.

Throughout the tour we had many opportunities to photograph some truly epic birds. Miami’s concrete jungle has become the basis for several naturalized exotic species, now countable for the ABA. The wetlands of the west and east coasts provided nesting grounds for hundreds of wading birds, as raptors soared nearby. By the end of the trip we had seen most of these “specialty” birds, as well as Florida’s only endemic bird. Some of the trip highlights included Snail Kite, Florida Scrub Jay, Least Bittern, and even a Black Noddy! Starting in the city and ending on the isolated tropical Dry Tortugas gave the group ample opportunity to see as much diversity as possible.

Top Birds Of The Trip:

Florida Scrub Jay

Least Bittern

Antillean Nighthawk

Black Noddy (Zac's Bird of the Trip)



Itinerary

April 20	Arrival in Miami
April 21	Metro Miami
April 22	Wakodahatchee Wetlands, Green Cay NC, and Loxahatchee NWR
April 23	Delray Beach to Ding Darling and Fort Myers
April 24	Babcock-Webb WMA and Sanibel Island
April 25	Bunche Beach, Corkscrew Swamp, and Tamiami Trail
April 26	Everglades National Park and The Florida Keys
April 27	The Dry Tortugas
April 28	The Keys & Departures



Today was simply focused on making sure everyone arrived safely. Some members of the tour were locals and opted to meet with the group the following day. The people that were present today met and went for a wonderful dinner to discuss the tour and expectations. We returned back to our hotel, Holiday Inn Miami - International Airport, and settled in for the next two nights.

Day 2: Metro Miami

The morning started with a quick breakfast, where we had some very necessary coffee. We loaded up into the van and went to pick up the last two members of the group. Luckily two of our targets were doable only a few blocks from the meet up point! With the group together at last, we drove a few minutes down the road and saw a pair of **Red-masked Parakeets** working on a nest! A few more minutes down the road provided the group with great viewing and photo opportunities of **Yellow-chevroned Parakeets** and **Indian Peafowl**.

After enjoying a few ABA countable parakeets this morning we hopped back into the van and drove down the nearby Pine Woods Park. Here we were hoping to see two more established exotic birds. Almost immediately we found one of our two major targets here, the **Scaly-breasted Munia**. The munia provided several great looks and photo opportunities. As we continued searching for our last target we saw a few very common native birds like **Gray Catbirds**, **Blue Jays**, and **Northern Cardinals**. A **Prairie Warbler** suddenly began singing and the group managed to watch as the bird reminded everyone why “warbler-neck” is a real concern. We began to walk back when our last target, **Red-whiskered Bulbul**, was finally seen foraging out in the open.

We finished up and left Pine Woods Park to drive towards Black Point Marina. As we were driving I noticed a swallow colony under a bridge in the hopes it could be a **Cave Swallow** colony. This turned out to be true, and it was an exciting moment to see **Cave Swallows** on the east coast. A few of the people on the tour had never been to the New World, so even birds like **Northern Mockingbirds**, **Turkey Vulture**, **Black Vulture**, and **Red-winged Blackbirds** were worth a few additional fast roadside stops.

We arrived to Black Point Marina and immediately saw a **West Indian Manatee** emerge off the side of the entrance bridge for a brief moment. We pulled off and patiently waited for several minutes, hoping to see this marine behemoth for



a second time. Unfortunately, we did not see this individual again and left to focus on the **Mangrove Cuckoo**. We searched for about 2 hours but aside from some great views of **Spotted Sandpipers** and **Great Crested Flycatcher** we didn't find much. We left the marina and went to enjoy a delicious lunch at the nearby Black Point Ocean Grill. After recharging on some food and AC we reloaded into the van, and left to recharge our morale with some better birds.

Our next stop was Brian Piccolo Sports Park, which was a small developed park full of soccer and baseball fields. While it doesn't seem to be a good birding location on the surface we managed to find our target within 30 seconds! The **Burrowing Owls** made the search easy, and we found three individuals sitting out in the open close to their dens. While enjoying the owls we managed to spot the first **Chimney Swifts, Monk Parakeets, and Fish Crows** of the trip! We left the park and headed over to Oleta River State Park to search for a recently seen **Yellow-headed Caracara**.

As soon as we arrived at Oleta River State Park we knew the Sunday traffic would make things difficult. Hundreds of people were at the park and it was impossible to escape loud music, screaming and partying. While this was representative of “Miami party life”, it was not the ending we had hoped for. Shockingly we were given an incredible consolation prize. As we were heading back to the vehicle to leave one group member noticed a strange lump in the fronds of a nearby **Cabbage Palmetto**. Upon a closer look it became clear we had found a roosting **Eastern Screech Owl**, thank you Samantha! Feeling better about our evening at this park, we headed back to our hotel and enjoyed a delicious Italian dinner at Siamo.

Day 3: Wakodahatchee Wetlands, Green Cay NC, and Loxahatchee NWR

Today we met for a basic yet tasty hotel breakfast before packing up and heading up towards Delray Beach. The parks around Delray beach are oftentimes some of the best viewing opportunities for wading birds in the country. After a 1.5 hour drive we arrived at Green Cay Nature Center. As we got out of the vehicle the calls of **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** could be heard flying overhead.

Immediately we saw plenty of mothers and chicks from several species, the most memorable being **Common Gallinules** and **Green Herons** caring for their young. As we continued down the boardwalk we saw **Glossy Ibis**, **Red-shouldered Hawks**, **Gray-headed Swamphens** and, my personal favorite, **Purple Gallinules**.



Least Bittern photo taken by Siri

The excitement on the boardwalk was only further heightened when our first **Least Bittern** was seen! This bird is usually very tricky but the boardwalk at Green Cay Nature Center is perhaps the best place in the world to find them. We got some fantastic looks and photo opportunities of this bird until it disappeared into some pickerel weeds. We continued down the boardwalk and saw **Black-necked Stilts, Little Blue Heron, and Gray Kingbird**. The nearby hammocks provided our first views of newly arrived migrants such as **Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler and Blackpoll Warbler**. At the end of the trail we had some epic views of **Purple Martins** as they were flying around their artificial nest boxes.

After Green Cay we drove to Wakodahatchee Wetlands, upon arrival the weather turned for the worse and we decided an early lunch was a better decision. After a quick meal at Chili's the weather got better and we returned to Wakodahatchee Wetlands. These wetlands are the best place in the United States to see nesting **Wood Storks**, which can be actively working on their nests just a few feet away! The boardwalk and the birds did not disappoint. We immediately had phenomenal looks at the storks, as well as incredible views of nesting **Tricolored Herons, Western Cattle Egrets, Great Egrets, and Great Blue Herons**. Other highlights along the walk were **Blue-winged Teal, Mottled Duck**, and the first **Roseate Spoonbill** of the trip!

After wrapping up at Wakodahatchee Wetlands we decided to change the itinerary and not go to Loxahatchee NWR, since this park would not have many new species for us. Instead we traveled an hour north to Jonathan Dickinson State Park, one of the most incredible parks in the state. This park has managed to protect one of the most endangered ecosystems in the continent, Florida scrub. These scrub communities have been above sea level for over 10,000 years while the surrounding

land was under water. Meaning this part of Florida resembled a small archipelago rather than a peninsula at the time. Since this landscape has been above the ocean the longest it has formed the most unique biota in the area, meaning the highest level of endemic wildlife is found here. Aside from the endemic plants, invertebrates, reptiles, and amphibians; this is where you can find the sole endemic bird of Florida, the **Florida Scrub Jay**. As development continues to ravish these endangered lands the jay has become more scarce, so strongholds like this park are the best way to find them.

Upon arrival we saw some warblers cross the road and we pulled off to get our first looks at **Yellow-throated Warbler**, accompanied by **Blackpoll and Cape May Warblers**. After watching these birds for several minutes we tried a new spot, bringing us into a better habitat surrounded by Chapman's and Myrtle's Oaks. After 10 minutes of walking down the trails a bird flew from the oaks and landed 20 feet in front of us, revealing itself as our desired **Florida Scrub Jay**! These jays are notorious for curiosity and this individual did not disappoint as it flew in and almost landed on one person's head! Instead the handsome jay landed less than a foot away for a closer inspection of us. After several minutes of some truly epic photography opportunities the **Florida Scrub Jay** flew off and never returned. Luckily this was not an issue and everyone with a camera walked away with big smiles. A perfect ending to an amazing day filled with photography.

Day 4: Delray Beach to Ding Darling and Fort Myers

After an epic previous day we decided to clean up at a new location, Peaceful Waters Sanctuary. Upon arrival we finally saw the first **Egyptian Geese** of the trip, a native African bird with an established ABA countable population in Florida. We

snapped some quick pictures and then continued onto the boardwalk; where we had phenomenal views of **Snowy Egrets, Black-crowned Night Heron, and both Purple and Common Gallinules**. The birding continued with views of **American Redstarts, Yellow-rumped Warblers** and a small group of shorebirds which had **Black-necked Stilt, Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpipers and a Short-billed Dowitcher**. However, an absolute highlight this morning wasn't a bird at all but a family of **North American River Otters**, which gave some adorable close up views as they swam and played nearby. This park is often the most reliable place in the area to see otters, so we were beyond happy to see these aquatic members of the weasel family. With an epic mammal sighting down we continued to search for new birds. As we were watching some warblers forage near the water's edge the small yet distinct shape of a **Sora** emerged from the vegetation. These rails are often very hard to see but occasionally they walk into the open at this park!



With both **Sora** and **River Otters** checked on the list we returned to the vehicle. As we were pulling out of the parking lot a **Loggerhead Shrike** flew in front of the vehicle and landed next to young shrikes. We had to stop and watch this mother **Loggerhead Shrike** feed its two young fledglings. It is not very often that you watch a shrike care for its young, so this was an exciting experience. After getting some photographs and views of the shrike family we continued down to Sem-Chi Rice Mill to try for cowbirds. This local spot is not your typical scenic birding spot, but it can be quite productive for finding all three cowbirds. Upon arrival we immediately saw a juvenile **Bald Eagle**, our first eagle of the trip! We continued our search and after 30 minutes a **Shiny Cowbird** was found foraging with **Brown-headed Cowbirds**! Everyone got a look but unfortunately the **Shiny Cowbird** flew off before people got pictures or a closer look. We left and had a delicious meal at the nearby **Margarita Mexican Restaurant**. Despite big portions and a long wait, we enjoyed the food immensely!

After lunch we began our pilgrimage to the West coast of Florida towards Fort Myers. However, we made a quick detour along the south shore of Lake Okeechobee. The small back roads along the lake gave us some distant views of our first adult **Bald Eagles**. While photographing a **Red-shouldered Hawk** along the road a beautiful **Crested Caracara** flew overhead and perched on a nearby telephone pole! After many photographs the caracara flew off and disappeared amongst the farm fields. Happy that we had seen and photographed our target for the detour, we continued towards Fort Myers. After a few hours of driving we arrived at our next major stop, Harns Marsh. Here we were searching for Florida's strangest raptor, the **Snail Kite**. This marsh is another phenomenal birding location,

and fortunately is overlooked by many birders, meaning we had this place to ourselves aside from a few people fishing.

Almost immediately, a **Snail Kite** was seen far off and gliding low in search of apple snails. We continued further down the trail, hoping to get closer looks. We saw several others at a distance but suddenly a nearby adult male flew in and landed on a tree a few hundred meters away. While the **Snail Kite** was at a distance, everyone did manage to get great views and photos. As we continued our walk some movement in the tall grasses surrounding the marsh revealed a group of **Bobolinks**, a gorgeous grassland species that was on its way from northern Argentina to their breeding grounds throughout northern US and southern Canada. As we made our return vehicle we saw one of our last major targets for this location, **Sandhill Cranes!** A family group of two parents and two chicks crossed the path in front of us and then proceeded to walk towards us for better views. The “cherry on top” was



an awesome view of a **Limpkin** near the van.

We continued to our hotel for the night, but we had one last detour before arriving. A quick drive into some neighborhood roads around Fort Myers was necessary to find the last of Florida's three cowbirds, the **Bronzed Cowbird**. After driving for several minutes we finally found a feeder setup which had

White-winged and Mourning Doves, along with our first **Nanday Parakeet**.

While enjoying these birds our target made himself conspicuous, a handsome and dramatic male **Bronzed Cowbird** sat openly perched for everyone to see. Sadly his boldness did not last long enough for everyone to manage photos, but everyone walked away with a good look at this stunning bird. After a long day of driving and pit stops we arrived at the Hilton Garden Inn and enjoyed a dinner at their restaurant, deciding to save Ding Darling NWR for the following day.

Day 5: Babcock-Webb WMA and Sanibel Island

When thinking of Florida most people imagine sprawling cities, buggy swamps, vast marshes or perhaps even tropical Caribbean-esque beaches. However, few people think of beautiful and vast pinelands which make up a huge percentage of western Florida's ecosystem diversity. Florida Panther and Florida Black Bear lumber and lurk through the tall grasses, Florida Bonneted Bats roost in the cavities of Slash Pines, and the pineland specialty birds decorate the morning chorus with fun vocalizations. In the United States we have 17 endemic birds in the entire country, meaning these birds are found nowhere else in their native wild range. Three of those 17 endemic birds can be found in this unique landscape shaped by fire.

Today we had an early breakfast at the hotel and left to find all three of these pineland specialists at Babcock-Webb WMA. Upon arrival the morning air was decorated with the gentle and ephemeral song of the **Northern Bobwhite**, a shy quail which has been experiencing a sharp population decline. It didn't take long for us to find marked trees which indicated the presence of **Red-cockaded Woodpeckers**. We walked around the premise of these marked trees until we heard the distinct calls of this endangered and endemic woodpecker. Two individuals suddenly appeared and gave everyone some truly phenomenal views and photo opportunities. We were beyond excited about starting the day off with a major target, so we continued onward to find our other two targets. As we moved through the pinelands we saw **Northern Flickers, Pileated Woodpeckers, and Common Ground Doves**. Another exciting find was the **Swallow-tailed Kite**, another Florida specialty we were happy to see well.

We continued down the dirt tracks and periodically searched. Luckily this tactic is exactly how we found our second major target of the day, **Brown-headed Nuthatches**! Of the four nuthatch species found in the United States, this is the only endemic one. While they stayed close to the canopy, everyone got to see these tiny adorable birds and some folks even managed a few pictures. After finding the nuthatches we continued to search for our final target, **Bachman's Sparrow**. As we searched we came across another warbler for the trip, the **Pine Warbler**. The **Pine Warbler** had been singing as we drove past but luckily I heard the song, a great reason to drive with your windows open.

After trying and failing for the sparrow for another hour we decided to head to a new location where recent reports seemed more promising. On the drive out of Babcock-Webb I noticed a patch of open **Slash Pine** mixed with **Florida bluestem**

grasses (*Schizachyrium rhizomatum*), which is an indicator of **Bachman's Sparrow**. We decided to stop and check the area. It did not take long since we heard a nearby male singing as soon as we exited the vehicle. The **Bachman's Sparrow** can be very tricky to spot since they love to run in thick grasses rather than fly, however they can occasionally be seen singing above the grasses during breeding season. After looking at every stick, snag and branch nearby we were relieved when I noticed the **Bachman's Sparrow** singing in the open towards the crown of a slash pine! The bird posed for a few minutes and people got both photographs and scope views! After a long morning in the pinelands we returned to Fort Myers for lunch and allowed for a break so that people could rest up for the afternoon.

We reunited at three o'clock and headed towards J.N. Ding Darling NWR. Our time began with a quick walk down to the observation tower of Indigo Trail. The walk to the tower gave us some great views of an **Anhinga** mother with two chicks, but the highlight was at the tower itself. The view from the tower gave us close up looks at both **Roseate Spoonbills and Yellow-crowned Night Herons**. The Wildlife Auto-drive was slow but still produced a few trip firsts like **Red-breasted Merganser and Willets**. The best moments of the drive came when we got great views of **Indigo Bunting, Prairie Warbler and Savannah Sparrow** in the span of a few minutes. We left Ding-Darling and started the drive back towards Fort Myers, however we made one last stop for the day at Bunche Beach. The beach was in beautiful lighting and allowed us to get looks at the first **Western Sandpipers, Dunlins, Sanderlings, and Ruddy Turnstones** for the trip. We were on high alert for **Reddish Egret** but surprisingly didn't see one, meaning a return trip would be necessary the following day.

Day 6: Bunche Beach, Corkscrew Swamp, and Tamiami Trail

This morning our first priority was finding a **Reddish Egret**, a beautiful heron with a close association with coastal shores. Upon arrival we immediately got great looks at **Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, and Piping Plover**. A small group of gulls and terns were gathered on a nearby sandbar. A closer look revealed **Black Skimmers, Caspian Tern, Royal Tern** and even two **Sandwich Terns**! An even further sandbar had a group of 8 **American Oystercatchers**, which looked great in the viewing scope. As we were enjoying these birds, I noticed the distinct movements of a **Reddish Egret** far off in the distance. Unfortunately we were unable to approach the bird due to the tides, but we watched the **Reddish Egret**



forage through the viewing scope. Eventually our patience paid off, since a second adult came flying by at eye-level, providing us some great up close looks. With a lot more planned for the day, we reloaded into the van and headed to our next spot.

We arrived at Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve around 11 in the morning, and immediately hit the boardwalk for migrants. Things were slow at first, but that changed quickly and drastically. The first news bird on the boardwalk was not an expected one! I found a vagrant **MacGillivray's Warbler**, which had not been detected since 1996 in the county, right along the boardwalk! With photo evidence we were excited with our unlikely find! We continued down the boardwalk and saw several new birds for the trip. **Black-throated Blue Warblers, Blackpoll Warblers, American Redstarts, and Northern Parulas** all provided great views. However, the most accommodating birds today were in fact **Pileated Woodpeckers**, and we had two posing at eye level. The excitement only continued when we got good looks of a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**.

After the slough, we had lunch and then hiked at the Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. The activity was very slow but everyone saw the first **White-eyed Vireo** and **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** of the tour. The hike ended with some distinct **Barred Owl** hooting, but we were unable to locate them. We had a long drive back to the east coast, so we began the journey after this sanctuary. On the drive we stopped along the road to enjoy a few **Wild Turkey**. I decided to make a pit stop at Fakahatchee Strand State Park to try one last time for **Barred Owls**. Almost immediately we heard distant hooting, and it wasn't long until I managed to call an adult in. This handsome **Barred Owl** flew in and posed before leaving again. The **Downy Woodpecker** that was foraging by the car was a nice addition too! We

got to our hotel a little on the late side, but it was well worth it after such a productive day.

Day 7: Everglades National Park and The Florida Keys

Today our first priority was retrying for the **Mangrove Cuckoo**, so we returned to Black Point Marina. As we crossed the bridge to enter the marin we saw a massive **American Crocodile** swimming! After arriving at the marina we searched for two hours but the **Mangrove Cuckoo** managed to elude us. After the marine we went to Everglades National Park to try for several species. Along the drive we saw **Eastern Kingbird, Swallow-tailed Kites and Red-shouldered Hawks**. After a beautiful drive through the national park we arrived at Flamingo, which overlooked the Florida Bay. We managed to find another **Shiny Cowbird**,



this time the bird provided us fantastic up close views. After some prolonged views with the cowbird we returned to the marina for lunch. As we ate we watched **West Indian Manatees** and **American Crocodiles** swimming in the waters around the marina. Afterwards we reloaded the van and began the drive down to Key West.

Day 8: The Dry Tortugas & Key West

The small isolated island of Dry Tortugas lies around 68 miles off the coast of Key West. This barren island is an epicenter for pelagic bird nesting, making it an essential stop for ABA listers. The island acts as a nesting location for **Magnificent Frigatebird, Brown Noddy, Sooty and Bridled Tern**. The island also acts as a resting stop for incoming migratory birds, often providing amazing warbler photography opportunities. Upon arrival we were greeted by hundreds of **Brown Noddies and Sooty Terns**, which is truly one of the most amazing marvels in the United States. After watching these birds for a while we moved on to explore the island for other birds. Dozens of **Magnificent Frigatebirds** hovered overhead, and the south docks provided us with several **Bridled Terns**! However, the most exciting find was a **Black Noddy** which was hiding amongst the hundreds of **Brown Noddies**! It was essentially a game of “Where’s Waldo” but after some intense inspection the Black Noddy was seen by everyone! The migratory species did not disappoint either with **Summer Tanager, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Cape May Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Belted Kingfisher, and Black-and-white Warbler** all made appearances. We enjoyed a full day on the island and on the way back we got a brief view of Hospital Key. This nearby island is a well known location for **Masked Boobies**, which we saw dozens of sitting on the island.

After arriving back in Key West we went to Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park. On the drive we made an “emergency” bird stop for **White-crowned Pigeon**! These birds are typically only found in the Caribbean and Neotropics, but the northern extent of their range reaches into South Florida. Another odd inhabitant on the island is the **Red Junglefowl**, which is not native at all but instead introduced from Asia. Another great highlight was the **Great White Heron**, this unique color morph is in fact a subspecies of the **Great Blue Heron** found in the Keys! After the birding we went to Outback Steakhouse for a delicious final dinner! We had to hold

off on dessert though, since sunset was approaching and we needed to drive to the Little Hamaca City Park for one of the last targets we needed. As dusk enveloped the day we searched frantically for **Antillean Nighthawk**. The winds made our odds seem slim but as the last light began to leave we finally heard the distinctive call of an **Antillean Nighthawk**! We scanned the sky and then saw our elusive target. Happy with our achievement we celebrated with some ice cream, a fantastic way to conclude our phenomenal tour.



Day 9: Leaving The Keys & Departures

Today our main focus was to leave Key West in good time so that people could make their flights home on time. However, everyone's flights were later in the day which left us a little time for some final birding. After breakfast we left Key West and were waved off by a few final views of White-crowned Pigeons. As we drove back up through the keys we made a quick pit stop on Big Pine Key at the Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge. The **Key Deer** are a subspecies of White-tailed Deer which represent an evolutionary phenomenon known as island dwarfism. Due to the thick vegetation and limited resources on Big Pine Key the deer here have evolved to be much smaller and compact compared to their mainland counterparts. It didn't take long since we found seven deer within a few minutes! After the deer we went to Long Key State Park to try for one last bird, **Black-Whiskered Vireo**. We walked through the trails of the park which were made up of Caribbean plant species. We saw several warbler species like **Common Yellowthroat, Blackpoll Warbler, Prairie Warbler and Cape May Warbler**. Time was limited so we started walking back to the vehicle. Suddenly the distinctive song notes of the **Black-Whiskered Vireo** pierced the air, and we managed to pin-point our target in a nearby tree perched in song. After the vireo we enjoyed our last lunch at the Oceanview Inn & Sports Pub, which had both live music and tasty food!



Bird List

Taxonomy follows eBird/Clements online checklist v.2023

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl (Anatidae)		
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Egyptian Goose (I)	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Peaceful Water Sanctuary
Muscovy Duck (I)	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	In town
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	Wakodahatchee Wetlands
Mottled Duck	<i>Anas fulvigula</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR
New World Quail (Odontophoridae)		
Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies (Phasianidae)		
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Fakahatchee Strand SP
Grebes (Podicipedidae)		
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)		
Rock Pigeon (I)	<i>Columba livia</i>	Metro Miami
White-crowned Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas leucocephala</i>	Key West
Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Metro Miami
Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	Fort Myers
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Pine Woods Park
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Six Cypress Slough Preserve
Nightjars and Allies (Caprimulgidae)		

Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Flyby over the road
Antillean Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles gundlachii</i>	Little Hamaca City Park
Swifts (Apodidae)		
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Brian Piccolo Sports Park
Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	Dry Tortugas National Park
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots (Rallidae)		
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary
Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Gray-headed Swamphen (I)	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>	Wakodahatchee Wetlands
Limpkin (Aramididae)		
Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>	Six Cypress Slough Preserve
Cranes (Gruidae)		
Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	Harns Marsh
Stilts and Avocets (Recurvirostridae)		
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary
Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)		
American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Plovers and Lapwings (Charadriidae)		
Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Sem-chi Rice Mill
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Sandpipers and Allies (Scolopacidae)		
Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	Road to Key West

Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Black Point Marina
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary
Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (Laridae)		
Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Black Noddy	<i>Anous minutus</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Sooty Tern	<i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Bridled Tern	<i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Least Tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Storks (Ciconiidae)		
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wakodahatchee Wetlands
Frigatebirds (Fregatidae)		
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Boobies and Gannets (Sulidae)		
Masked Booby	<i>Sula dactylatra</i>	Hospital Key
Anhingas (Anhingidae)		

Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Cormorants and Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)		
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum auritum</i>	Black Point Marina
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)		
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Black Point Marina
Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns (Ardeidae)		
Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Harns Marsh
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Wakodahatchee Wetlands
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Bunche Beach Preserve
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Ibises and Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)		
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	Wakodahatchee Wetlands
New World Vultures (Cathartidae)		
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Along roads throughout tour
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Along roads throughout tour
Osprey (Pandionidae)		
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Black Point Marina
Hawks, Eagles, and Kites (Accipitridae)		
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Jonathan Dickinson SP

Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	Harn's Marsh
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Sem-chi Rice Mill
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Owls (Strigidae)		
Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>	Oleta River SP
Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Brian Piccolo Sports Park
Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Fakahatchee Strand SP
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)		
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Woodpeckers (Picidae)		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>	Fakahatchee Strand SP
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates borealis</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Six Mile Cypress Slough
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Falcons and Caracaras (Falconidae)		
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Lake Okeechobee
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
New World and African Parrots (Psittacidae)		
Monk Parakeet (I)	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	Brian Piccolo Sports Park
Nanday Parakeet (I)	<i>Aratinga nenday</i>	Fort Myers
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (I)	<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i>	Metro Miami
Red-masked Parakeet (I)	<i>Psittacara erythrogenys</i>	Metro Miami
Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)		

Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Black Point Marina
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Everglades NP
Gray Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Vireos, Shrike-Babblers, and Erpornis (Vireonidae)		
White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>	Audubon Corkscrew Swamp
Black-whiskered Vireo	<i>Vireo altiloquus</i>	Long Key SP
Shrikes (Laniidae)		
Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary
Crows, Jays, and Magpies (Corvidae)		
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Pine Woods Park
Florida Scrub-Jay	<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>	Jonathan Dickinson SP
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>	Brian Piccolo Sports Center
Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice (Paridae)		
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	Six Mile Slough Preserve
Swallows (Hirundinidae)		
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Metro Miami
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Cave Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon fulva</i>	Metro Miami
Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)		
Red-whiskered Bulbul (I)	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	Pine Woods Park

Nuthatches (Sittidae)		
Brown-headed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pusilla</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Gnatcatchers (Poliophtilidae)		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>	Six Mile Slough Preserve
Wrens (Troglodytidae)		
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	Six Mile Slough Preserve
Starlings (Sturnidae)		
European Starling (I)	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Metro Miami
Common Myna (I)	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Metro Miami
Mockingbirds and Thrashers (Mimidae)		
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Metro Miami
Thrushes and Allies (Turdidae)		
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Waxbills and Allies (Estrildidae)		
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Pine Woods Park
Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)		
House Sparrow (I)	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Metro Miami
New World Sparrows (Passerellidae)		
Bachman's Sparrow	<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR

Troupials and Allies (Icteridae)		
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Harns Marsh
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Everglades NP
Bronzed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus aeneus</i>	Fort Myers
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Everglades NP
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Boat-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus major</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
New World Warblers (Parulidae)		
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Six Mile Slough Preserve
MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Geothlypis tolmiei</i>	Six Mile Slough Preserve
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Black Point Marina
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Cape May Warbler	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Northern Parula	<i>Setophaga americana</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Setophaga caerulescens</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Palm Warbler	<i>Setophaga palmarum</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Pine Warbler	<i>Setophaga pinus</i>	Babcock Webb WMA
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Setophaga dominica</i>	Jonathan Dickinson SP
Prairie Warbler	<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR
Cardinals and Allies (Cardinalidae)		
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Dry Tortugas NP
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	Green Cay Nature Center
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	J.N. Ding Darling NWR