

Kabalebo Nature Resort  
Birding 23 – 25 Januari 2020



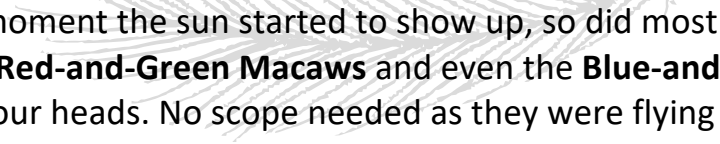
*Figure 1 The Osprey has been accompanying us during all our boattrips.*

During the 3-day birding tour we encountered a little challenge and that was due to the low water in the Kabalebo river, our options were limited. Either go upstream until we have reached Kron Sula or go downstream a little bit further from Kilo 3. And since we also experienced extreme hot weather conditions, we combined the boat trips with early morning hikes.

**Morning Hikes:**

- Area near the lodge/airstrip:

The area surrounding the lodge was a great place to start. It was an open spot and the pace was moderate. We started a little bit before breakfast, **Smooth-billed Ani's** greeted us every morning and the **Plain-crowned Spinetail** was one that was playing hide and seek with us. Flycatchers were well represented by the **Great Kiskadee**, the **Lesser Kiskadee** and the always present **Rusty-margined**



**Flycatcher.** The moment the sun started to show up, so did most of the birds. **Scarlet macaws, Red-and-Green Macaws** and even the **Blue-and-Yellow Macaws** were flying over our heads. No scope needed as they were flying over very low. A bit further from the lodges we heard a **Lineated Woodpecker** announcing his territory and on the same tree we spotted some nesting **Blue-headed Parrots**. The Suite garden was filled with nests of the **Common Tody-flycatcher** and right near the pineapple plants we noticed a small group of **Yellow-bellied Seedeaters**. They are migrant birds and they announced their arrival too.

We stayed near a blossoming Monkey Brush Vine and a tree full of small seed pods. Our patience was rewarded as we were greeted by the **Crimson Topaz**, the **Grey-breasted Sabrewing**, the **Fork-tailed Woodnymph** and the **White-chinned Sapphire**. The tree with the seed pods was like a little restaurant; **Silver-beaked Tanagers, Palm Tanagers** and the **Blue-gray tanagers** were all filling their little stomach and from time to time we even spotted a couple of **Yellow-crowned Tyrannulets**.

Right before we headed back to the lodge for breakfast, we noticed a **Blue Dacnis** joining the others and so did the **Dusky-capped Flycatcher**.



Figure 2 This is how the morning started for us every day





*Figure 3 Can you spot the Blue Dacnis?*



*Figure 4 The female Crimson Topaz seen perched on a Monkey Brush Vine*



Figure 5 Since the last 3 years the Great Kiskadees also claimed Kabalebo as their hometown.

### **Morning Hikes:**

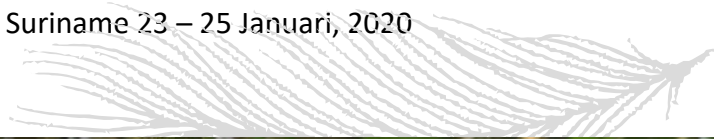
#### **- River cabin and River cabin trail**

Mornings are the best when it comes to birding by foot. The sun is not yet excruciating hot and most of the animals just started their day. On the trail heading to the River Cabin we heard the **White bearded manakin**. A couple of minutes later we were able to see the **Amazonian Antshrike** and the **White-browed Antbird** at the same spot. **Black Curassows** were seen resting between the dense vegetation. We also managed to see the **Tropical Gnatcatcher** and the **Green-tailed Jacamar**. Soaring above we spotted the **Plumbeous Kite**, the **White hawk** and the **Greater yellow headed Vulture**.





*Figure 6 When walking on the River Cabin trail you are greeted by a friendly giant.*

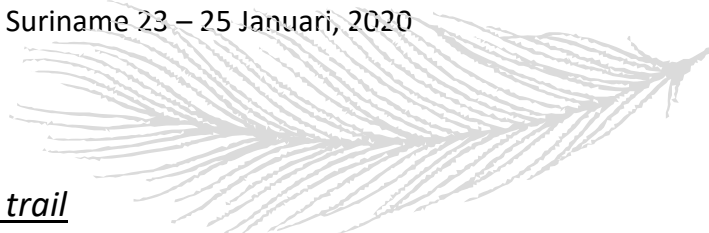


*Figure 7 Sometimes they don't make a sound; the Black Curassow*



*Figure 8 Amazonian Antshrike hidden between the dense bushes*





**Morning Hikes:**

- *Beechcraft trail*

The introduction trail is full of surprises. A short walk that can turn into almost a half day. We spotted a **Three-toed Sloth** moving to nowhere. We also managed to spot the **Crested Owl**, hiding again in plain view. Its plumage resembles the dry leaves perfectly too. Sometimes we see a couple but this time it was just one. The **Little Cuckoo** was also spotted on an open spot and after several moments of patience we also saw the **Helmeted Pygmy Tyrant** and the **Ferruginous Backed Antbird**.



*Figure 9 A soaring White Hawk spotted*

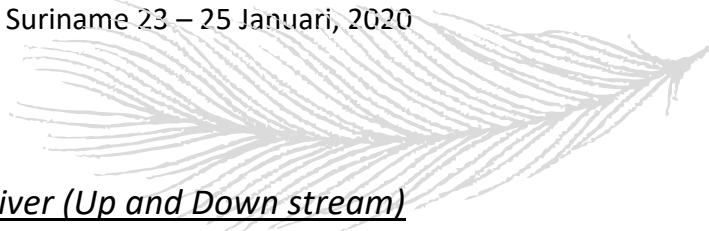




*Figure 10 Spot the Three-toed Sloth*



*Figure 11 This was a challenge for the guests; try to spot the Crested Owl*



**Afternoon trips:**

- *Kabalebo river (Up and Down stream)*

Even though Sandcreek is the place to be when it comes to photography and birding, we were limited this time. Impossible to even try, so we tried our luck both upstream and downstream of the Kabalebo river. As usual it was easy to spot the different Swallows like the **White-banded Swallows** and the **White-winged Swallows**. We also managed to see 4 out of 5 Kingfishers; the **Ringed Kingfisher**, the **Amazon Kingfisher**, the **Green Kingfisher** and **Green-and-Rufous Kingfisher**. Both the **Crested** and the **Green Oropendola's** were seen on different locations. **Ospreys** and **Green Ibises** never disappointed us either, seen continuously. The **Cocoi Heron**, **Striated Heron** and the **Rufescent Tiger Heron** were also seen and after a very long time I saw the **Fasciated Tiger Heron**. We also noticed a **Giant Cowbird** sitting on a **Capybara's** back. Sleeping **Red Howler Monkeys** were seen too and also both the **Spectacled** and the **Smooth-fronted Caimans**.





*Figure 12 Trying to spot some wildlife on the river*





*Figure 13 Spectacled Caiman all covered in mud.*



*Figure 14 Green Ibis seen almost everywhere along the river*





*Figure 15 This was a great excuse to say that we were looking at the Giant Cowbird behind the Capybara*



*Figure 16 Stranded on an island? The Cocoi Heron*





*Figure 17 A raptor also seen a lot near the river; the Great Black Hawk*



*Figure 18 After a long time finally saw the Fasciated Tiger Heron again*





*Figure 19 At the end of the day*

In the end we saw 85 Bird species, some mammals and some caimans. Below is the complete list of what we've seen during this period.

1. Spix's Guan
2. Blue-throated Piping Guan
3. Variable Chachalaca
4. Black Curassow
5. Anhinga
6. Rufescent Tiger Heron
7. Fasciated Tiger Heron
8. Cocoli Heron
9. Striated Heron
10. Green Ibis
11. Greater Yellow Headed Vulture
12. Black Vulture
13. Osprey
14. Plumbeous Kite
15. Gray-lined Hawk
16. Great Black Hawk
17. White Hawk
18. Swallow-tailed Kite
19. White-tipped Dove
20. Little Cuckoo
21. Smooth billed Ani
22. Crested Owl
23. Ladder tailed Nightjar
24. Band rumped Swift
25. Crimson Topaz
26. Rufous breasted Hermit
27. Long tailed Hermit
28. Gray breasted Sabrewing
29. Fork tailed Woodnymph
30. White chinned Sapphire
31. Green backed Trogon
32. Ringed Kingfisher
33. Amazon Kingfisher
34. Green Kingfisher
35. Green and Rufous Kingfisher
36. Brown Jacamar
37. Green tailed Jacamar
38. Black Nunbird
39. Swallow winged Puffbird



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40. White throated Toucan
  41. Channel billed toucan
  42. Lineated Woodpecker
  43. Crimson crested Woodpecker
  44. Red throated Caracara
  45. Black Caracara
  46. Bat Falcon
  47. Red fan parrot
  48. Blue headed parrot
  49. Orange winged parrot<sup>1</sup>
  50. Mealy parrot
  51. Blue and yellow macaw
  52. Scarlet macaw
  53. Red and green macaw
  54. Chestnut fronted macaw
  55. Black crested antshrike
  56. White browed antbird
  57. Ferruginous backed antbird
  58. Amazonian Antshrike
  59. Plain crowned spinetail
  60. Buff throated woodcreeper
  61. Yellow crowned tyrannulet
  62. Helmeted Pygmy Tyrant
  63. Common Tody flycatcher
  64. Rusty Margined flycatcher
  65. Great Kiskadee
  66. Lesser Kiskadee
  67. Tropical kingbird
  68. Dusky capped flycatcher
  69. Black tailed tityra
  70. White banded swallow
  71. White winged swallow
  72. Gray breasted martin
  73. Tropical Gnatcatcher
  74. Silver beaked tanager
  75. Blue gray tanager
  76. Palm tanager
  77. Blue dacnis
  78. Bananaquit
  79. Buff throated saltator
  80. Wing barred seedeater
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81. Yellow bellied seedeater
82. Green oropendola
83. Crested Oropendola
84. Yellow rumped cacique
85. Giant cowbird

Red rumped agouti  
Lowland tapir  
Red howler monkey  
Capibara  
Spectacled caiman  
Smooth fronted caiman

