

January 2023 Newsletter

Image of the Month



I recently spent a day photographing some Black-crested Coquette hummingbirds in the valley between Tenorio and Miravalles Volcanoes. I was thrilled to get a shot that I've wanted for quite some time of the male showing his crest and tail. While that was my favorite shot of the day, the Image of the Month is a different shot. It was selected to be featured on the homepage of eBird, the largest birding platform and multimedia library in the world. To see the other shots from that day, check out my article about Birdsongs Garden, where the photo was taken.

Birdsongs Garden

Featured Artist

Jeffrey Muñoz is a National Geographic trained Costa Rican photographer and birding guide. I first met him while photographing Quetzals in Dota in 2022. So it's fitting that the image of his that recently caught my eye was this recent Quetzal image that he captured!



Jeffery's Instagram

Fascinating Fact

This past week Costa Rica added its 933rd bird species! The <u>Dark-billed Cuckoo</u>. My wife and I left at 4 am and drove 3.5 hours each way to go see it two days after it was first spotted outside of Ciudad Neily near the border with Panama. This cuckoo is common throughout South America, but has only been seen three times in Central America. In 2017 in Nicaragua, in 2021 in Belize, and now in 2023 in Costa Rica.



Read about our adventure to find this bird in this trip report on my website.

Trip Report

News and What's to Come

As I mentioned in the last newsletter in November, December and January were shaping up to be busy months. And that they have been, which is why I didn't get a chance to send out a newsletter in December. Sorry about that! January has been busy and I've got some plans for some new videos on my YouTube channel to come soon!

I've decided to indefinitely postpone the Costa Rica wildlife virtual tour. I really wanted to put that out for winter of 2022-23, but I had to accept that right now I don't have the time and resources to put together the tour that I have envisioned in my head. I don't want to just throw together some facts and pictures, I want to make something that is interactive, and high quality. It's still on my list of things I want to do, but it's currently postponed until I feel that I have enough video content to make the tour that I want to put out.

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