



September 2023 Newsletter

Image of the Month

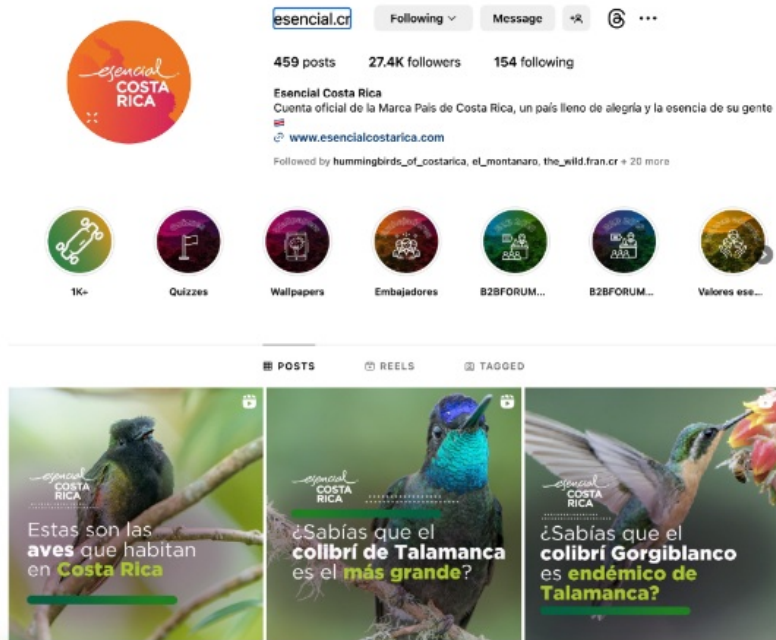


This month's featured image was difficult to choose. I had a lot of photo opportunities over the last month with family visiting. But I'm a sucker for highland hummingbirds and this is probably the best shot I've ever managed of an endemic male White-throated Mountain Gem. I made a short combination travelogue and educational video from the few days I was up in the highlands as well. Check it out!

[YouTube Video](#)

Featured Artist

This month's featured artist is... Costa Rica! Ok more specifically it is an Instagram account about Costa Rica. "Esencial" (Essential in English) Costa Rica is the official brand used by Costa Rica to promote itself abroad.



The Esencial.CR page shows off positive stats about Costa Rica ranging from wildlife to sustainability and economic statistics. They contacted me and wanted to use some of my hummingbird videos to feature on their Instagram page in a spread about the endemic hummingbirds of Costa Rica.

Instagram

Fascinating Fact



How deeply engrained is bird's territorial behavior? Recently I was out in the dry forest of northwestern Costa Rica (where I took the header image for this email) looking for a bird called the [Spotted Rail](#). They live in dense grass and rice paddies. One way to attempt to get them out into the open is by playing their call and hoping they come near where you are playing the sound from.

However, another way to coax them out is by playing the sound of another bird they compete with. In this case we had success using the call of a [Blackish Rail](#). Why is interesting? Because Blackish Rails don't exist in Costa Rica. They're only found in South America. But in South

America they exist in the same habitat and compete for resources. Their fighting spirit is ingrained in their DNA.

News



September 9th was Costa Rica's first ever Warbler Bird Count. The goal was to get people to go out and look for migratory warblers at a time when many of them are arriving or passing through the country. 26 species of warblers were reported, many of them migrants arriving for winter or passing through on their way to South America.

Results

Tyler Wenzel Photography

La Fortuna, Costa Rica
<https://tylerwenzel.com>

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