



Chiapas 2023

A Greentours trip to the highlands and lowlands of the Mexican state of Chiapas. Poor weather limited what we saw in the highlands but quality rather than quantity proved to be order of the day. Some good butterflies were seen (Cloud-forest Monarch and Dot-bordered Oxeye/ Satyr in particular). We saw seven species of Clearwing too which was impressive.

Other insects, especially Assassin-bugs and Leaf-hoppers, were also well seen and iNaturalist helped get them ID'ed (and also thanks to Phil Benstead with the Odonata).

We found some decent orchids too and the terrestrial *Epidendrum radicans* so common in the highlands it could have been a weed! San Cristobal orchid garden had several species in flower but the light was not good!

Usumacinta Marshes (Tabasco State) made for a decent bird day. A flock of waders was good to see as were the Limpkins, Thick-knees and Fork-Tailed Flycatchers.

Guacamayas was great and we saw some lovely birds there and even a Tapir crossing the river (no photos as was almost dark at the time). Scarlet Macaws were plentiful and noisy as were the Howler monkeys that seemed to be everywhere!

Nigel



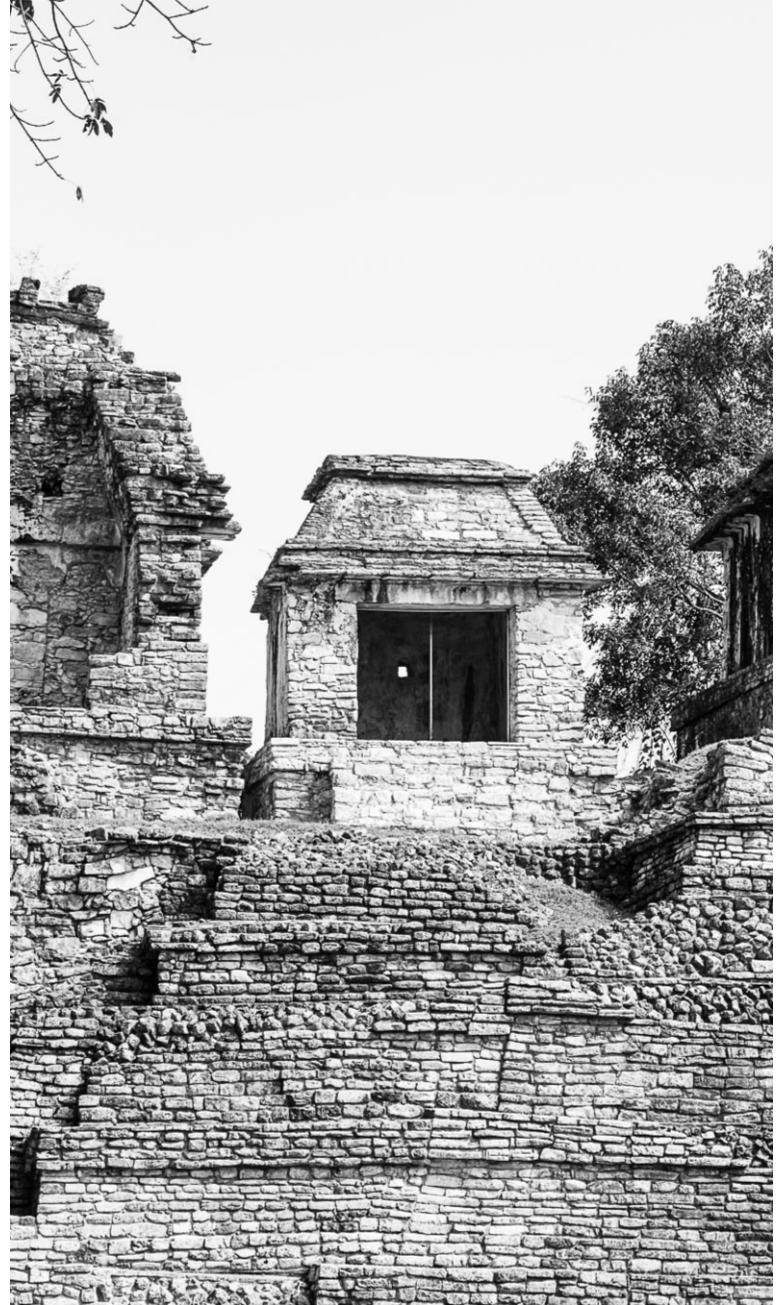
San Cristobal de las Casas



San Cristobal de las Casas



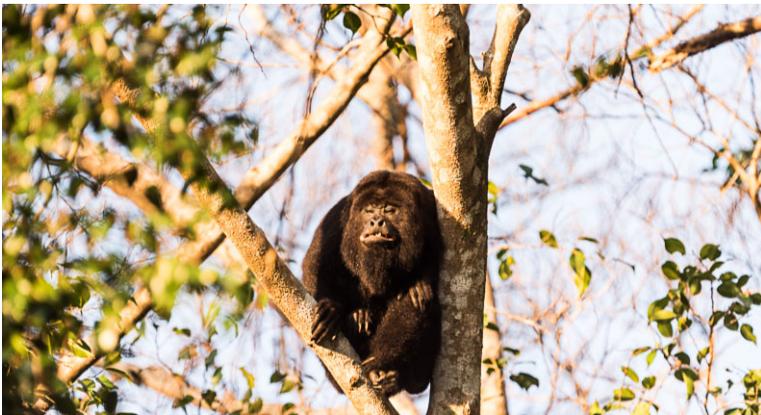
Guatemalan Border with Mexico



Archaeological site of Palenque



Central American Spider Monkey



Yucatan Black Howler Monkey - adult male and some youngsters



Orchids - Top: *Rhynchostele pygmaea* (left) and *Paphiopedilum insigne* (right)
Below: Black Orchid (Belize's national flower) and finally the common terrestrial orchid *Epidendrum radicans*



Top: Lizards - Unknown species (left) and *Sceleporus* sp. (right)
Below: Morelet's Crocodile (left) and Black Iguana (right)



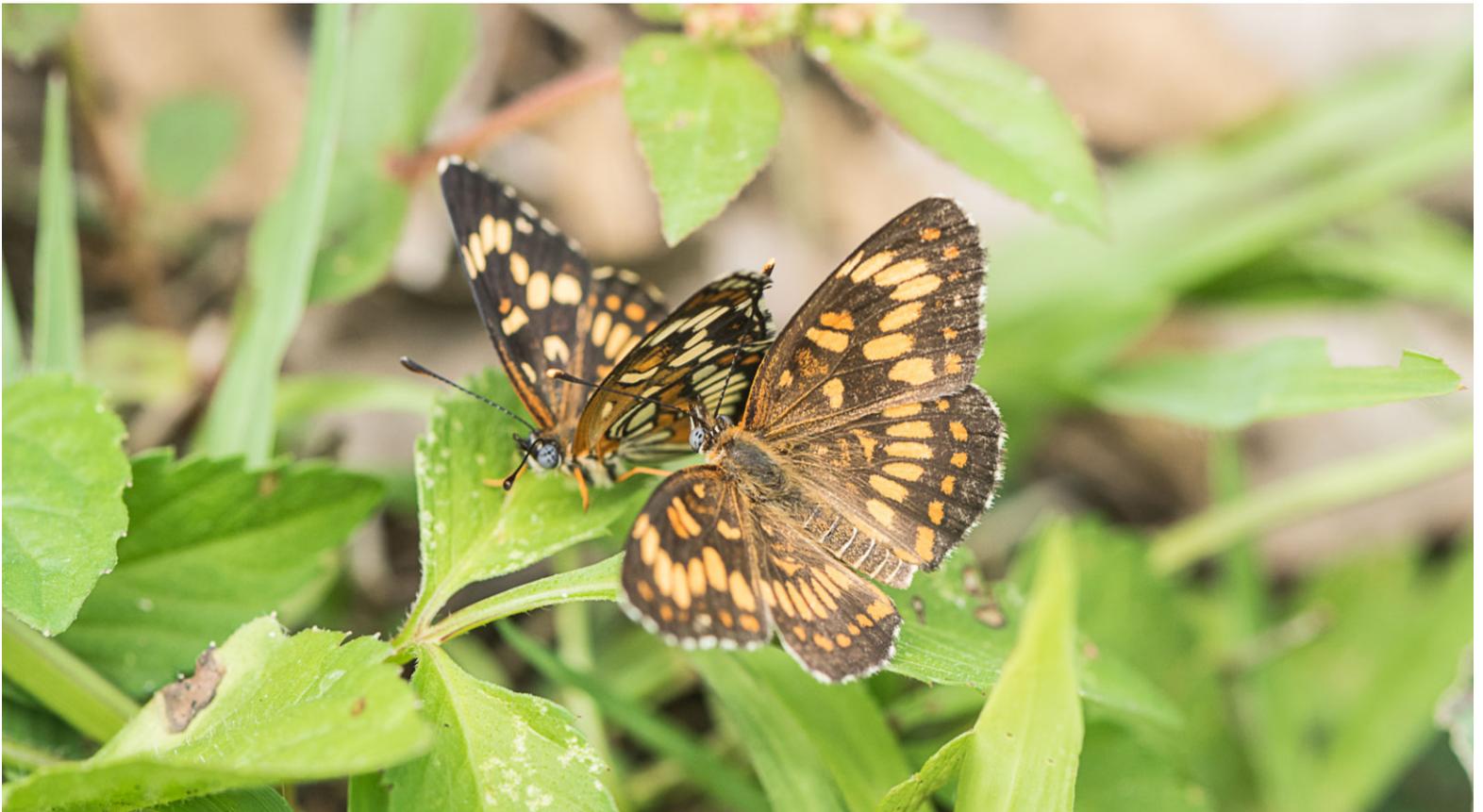
Top: Dot-Bordered Oxeye/Satyr
Below: Least Heliconian (left) and the very common Banded Peacock (right)



Top: Blue and White Heliconian (left) and Guatemalan Ithomia (right)
Below: Cloud-Forest Monarch



Cecropian Orion



Top left and below: Theona Checkerspot
Top right : Common Mestra



Metalmarks with the bottom right being Barnes Scintillant, the others are un-identifiable



Top: Chiapas Cream-streak
Below: Apricot Sulphur (left) and Tiger-Eye Hairstreak (right)



Top: Zilpa Longtail (left) and Brilliant-Blue Skipper (right)
Below: Rita's Remella (left) and Geyer's Zera (right)



Top: The rare Schaus's Scarlet-eye (left) and Radiant Brown-Skipper (right)
Below: Manual's Skipper (left) and Mimosa Skipper (right)



Assassin Bugs - Top: *Apiomerus pictipes*
Below: Unknown species (left) and *Pselliopus* sp. (right)



Leaf-hoppers - Top: *Erythrogonia jucunda* (left) and *E. areolata* (right)
Below: *Agrosoma placetis* (left) and *Mareja urbana* (right)



Top: *Omophoita quadrinotata* (left) and *Cypherotylus vicinus* (right)
Below: Shield-bug nymph (left) and Hedgehog Fly, a Tachinid Fly (right)



Top: Turquoise Shield-bug (left) and Carpenter Bee (right)
Below: Wasp Spiders, female and small male (*Agriope* sp.)



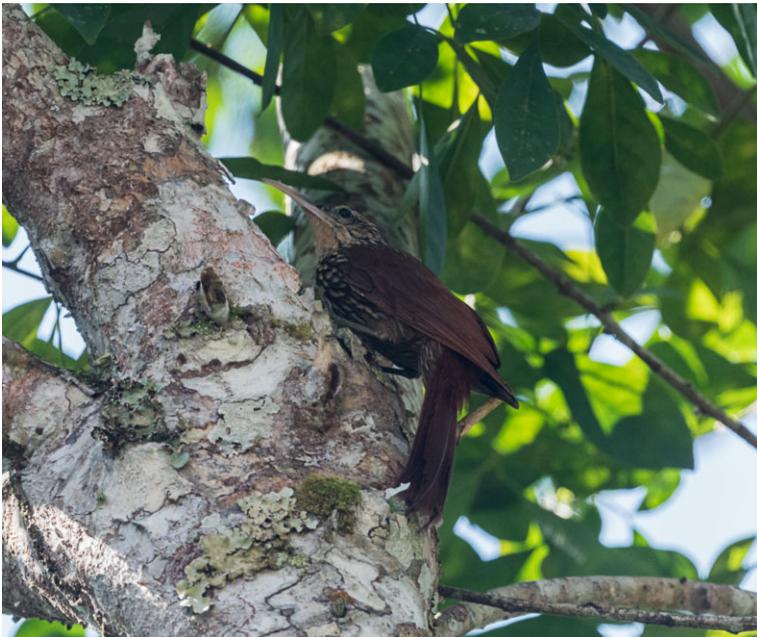
Top: Brown Setwing
Below: Red-tipped Swamptail (left) and Swamp Dancer (right)



Top: Racket-tipped Rubyspot (left) and *Argia* sp. (right)
Below: Red-mantled Dragonlet



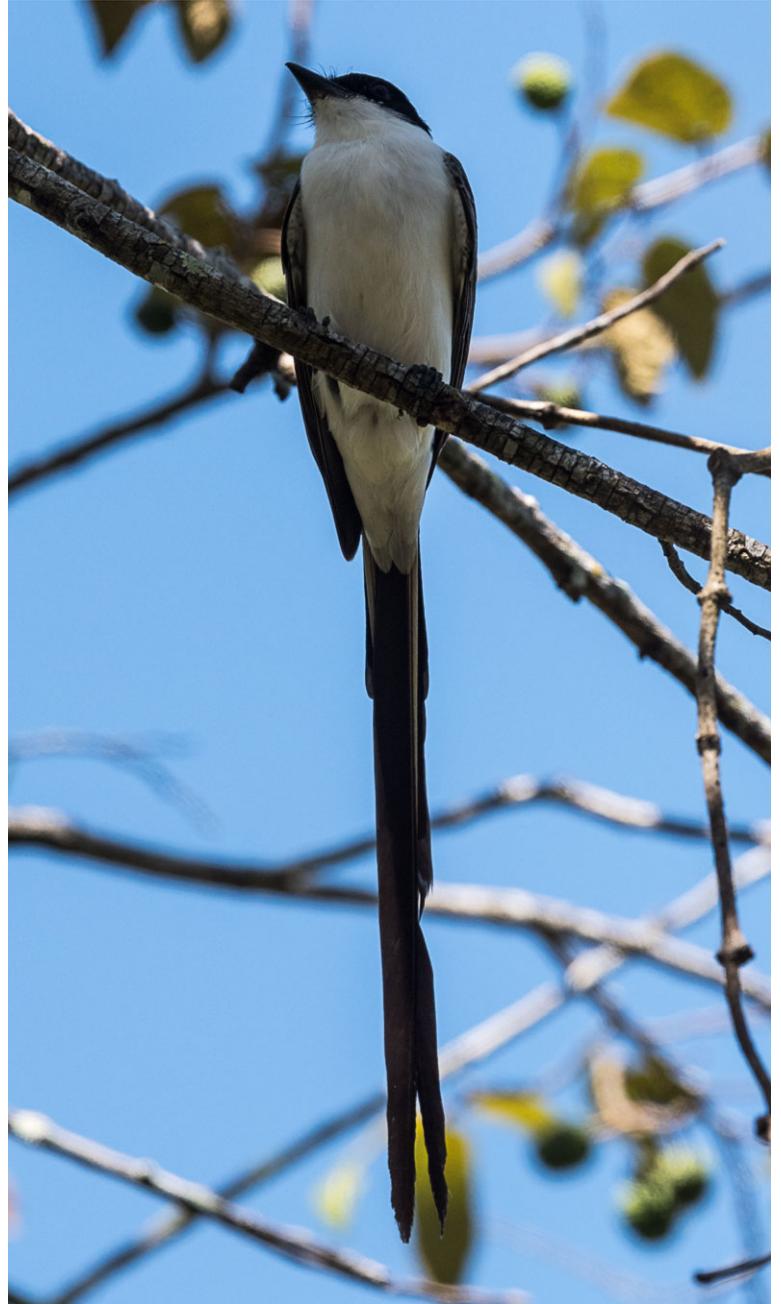
Top: Black and White Warbler (left) and Black-throated Green Warbler (right)
Below: Orchard Oriole (left) and Streak-backed Oriole (right)



Top: Summer Tanager (left) and Altamira Oriole (right)
Below: Ivory-billed Woodcreeper (left) and male American Redstart (right)



Top: Brown-crested Flycatcher (left) and Ashy-headed Flycatcher (right)
Below: Fork-tailed Flycatcher with prey (left) and Social Flycatcher (right)



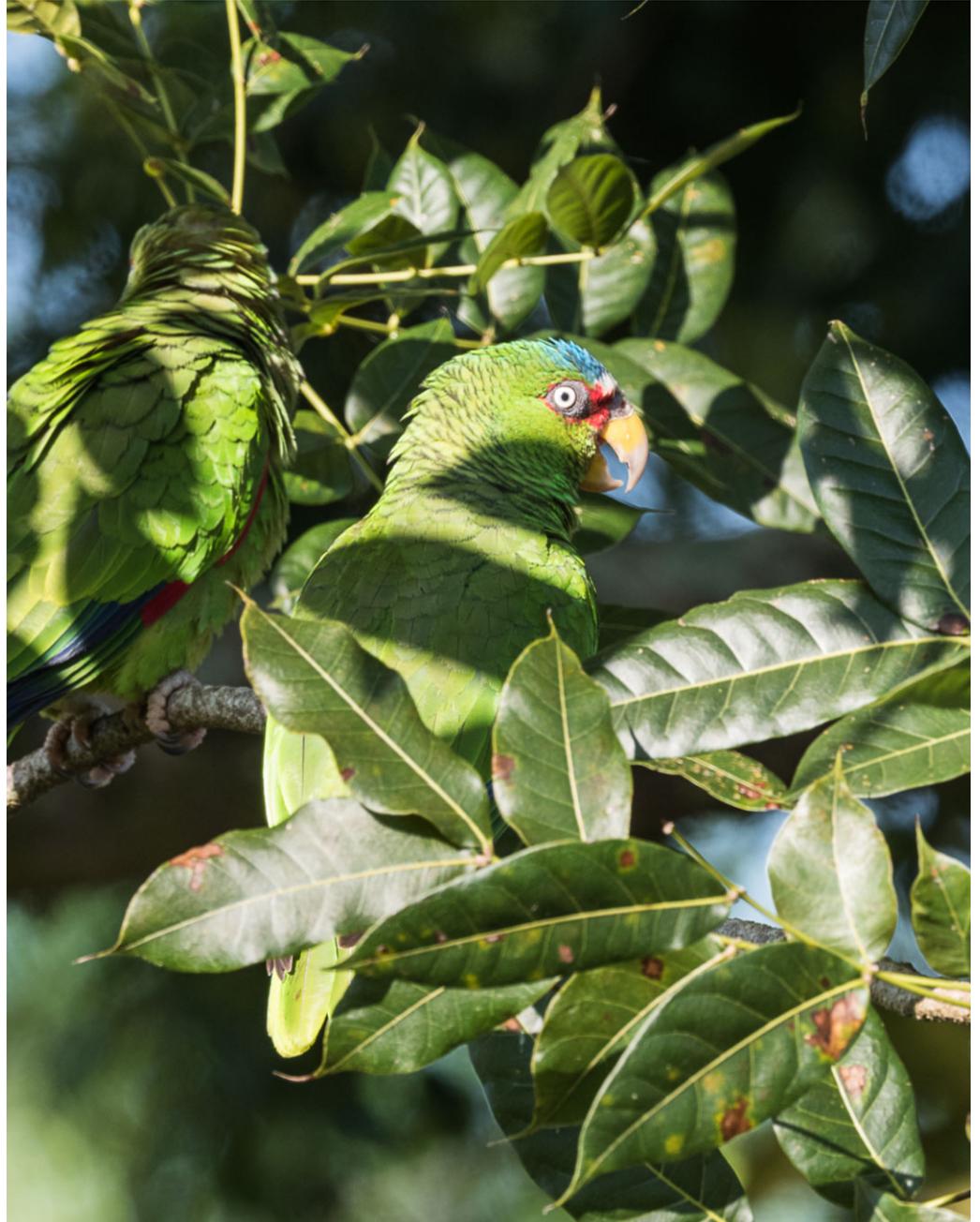
Vermilion Flycatcher (left) and Fork-tailed Flycatcher (right)



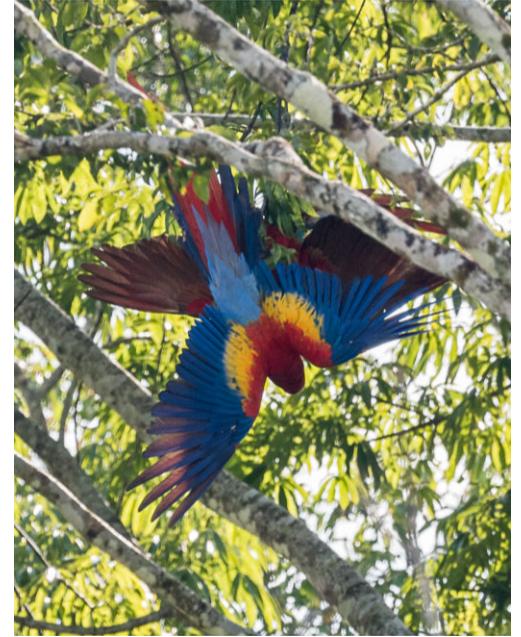
Top: Roadside Hawk
Below: Swallow-tailed Kite (left) and White Hawk (right)



Top: White-eared Hummingbird (left) and White-fronted Jacobin (right)
Below: Azure-headed Hummingbird



Top: Gartered Trogon (left), Below: Keel-billed Toucan (left) and Right: White-fronted Parrot



Guacamayas (Scarlet Macaws). Left: part of the captive breeding program and the others are wild birds



Top: Double-barred Stone-Curlew (left) and Roseate Spoonbill (right)
Below: Lesser Yellowlegs (left) and Limpkin (right)



Shaking Wood-Thrush