Introduction

We decided Cuba would be a nice escape of European winter with a good number of endemics, beaches and snorkelling. And of course to experience the unique culture that still exists in present day Cuba; colourful houses and empty roads with a nice selection of ancient cars and horse carts. While making the itinerary it turned out we had some days left and decided to spend these on an extra trip to Jamaica.

Itinerary

22-Feb  Arrival at Varadero airport at 1 PM, drive to San Diego de los Banos
23-Feb  La Guira: morning at cabines then drive to Playa Larga
24-Feb  Playa Larga: morning around Soplillar, afternoon several different sites
25-Feb  Playa Larga: Morning at Punto Perdiz, Afternoon La Turba
26-Feb  Playa Larga: Morning at La Turba, afternoon drive to Camagüey
27-Feb  Najasa: birding around cemetary, afternoon: drive to Santiago de Cuba
28-Feb  Some birding around Santiago, flight to Jamaica
1-Mar   Jamaica
2-Mar   Jamaica
3-Mar   Arrival @ Santiago  4 PM, drive to Bayamo
4-Mar   Bayamo to Cayo Coco, afternoon at Cayo Paredon Grande
5-Mar   Cayo Coco: Flamenco Beach road and Cayo Guillermo, drive to Playa Larga.
6-Mar   Playa Larga to Havana
7-Mar   Havana
8-Mar   Havana to Varadero (flight at 2 PM)
The greyed out bit of the itinerary was all part of our Jamaica trip. All Cuba endemics should be possible at the following sites:

- La Guira (1 morning)
- Playa Larga (2,5 days)
- Najasa (1 morning)
- Cayo Coco (1 day)

Although spending some more time around La Guira (maybe add a day divided over a morning Soroa and an afternoon La Guira) and bird a full day around Najasa may expand your chances of Gundlach’s Hawk.

We had difficulties with two species: Gundlach’s Hawk (a nesting tree at Playa Larga had been cut down 15 days before our visit) and Cuban Nightjar (just bad luck?). See triplist for further explanations. We did not try for Bahama Mockingbird (Cayo Coco) and West Indian Whistling Duck (Cayo Coco, Najasa) since we saw them on Jamaica.

A visit in early March means we saw no Greater Antillean Nighthawk, Black-Whiskered Vireo and Grey Kingbird.

**Practicalities**

**Weather**

The weather was perfect throughout the trip, combination of sun, clouds and warm temperatures. On two or three days we had some late afternoon showers but each time this happened we were driving so there was no impact on the birding.

**Guiding**

We arranged a guide at Playa Larga. All other sites were birded independently. For Playa Larga we contacted Chino upfront (chino.zapata@gmail.com) who answered that his brother Angel was available during our 3 day stay. Although Angel knows its birds really well he and Chino turned out to be unrealiable in making commitments. It feels like they are optimizing their own profits instead of giving good guiding service to birders to their best effort.

Once we got to Playa Larga it turned out that we weren’t the only ones they made arrangements with. The first morning two people (casual birders, UK) and in the afternoon and additional two (Dawn & Malcolm – world birders, UK) joined us. The second day Angel had to go to a meeting so we birded some places ourselves. The third day Dawn & Malcolm joined us as well. We still found most of our targets within 2,5 days, but had not expected to be a day without guide and/or be guided in a group (can be a pain when there are different targets for different people). So be prepared to find some birds on your own. See trip list for some pointers.

**Travelling**

We arranged a direct flight Amsterdam – Varadero through ArkeFly. At the airport in Varadero we hired a car via [www.havanautos.com](http://www.havanautos.com) for the entire trip. We did all the navigating with the help of the following app for iPhone: Cuba GPS map (Kaart data LLC). This worked fine for most parts, only in busy city centers it did not know the one-way streets.

**Eating & Sleeping**

We did not book anything in advance.
There are two options for sleeping in Cuba: government run hotels or casa particulares. We tried both: we opted for a hotel (Hotel Mirador – San Diego de los Banos, Camagüey, Santiago de Cuba, Playa Larga (way back)) when we needed an easy, close to the road place to sleep and the preferred casa particulares (Playa Larga, Bayamo, Havana) when there was more time. On Cayo Coco we stayed at some cheap cabinas (mentioned in Lonely Planet) instead of driving back to Moron because we wanted to try for the nightjars.

**Cost**

Flight ticket (ArkeFly): 1000 euros per person. Car hire: 700 euros in total for two weeks (14 days – we already hired our car before we decided to visit Jamaica). Daily expenses (eating, sleeping, gas etc): 550 euros per person.

**Literature**

All places we visited are described in: *A birdwatchers' guide to Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico & The Caymans* – Kirwan et al.

In addition we gathered information from tripreports. The following tripreports were very usefull for our itinary (al found on [www.cloudbirders.com](http://www.cloudbirders.com)). :

- Birdquest – 2013 -March
- Hottola – 2013 – December
- Heylen – 2006 – April
- Merrill – 2013 – March
- Woude – 2001 – March

We used the field guide *Birds of the West Indies*. Bird sounds where obtained from [xeno-canto.org](http://xeno-canto.org) and some from [macaulaylibrary.org](http://macaulaylibrary.org).

**Visited Sites**

A complete list of GPS points of sites and specific birds is available here http://goo.gl/3ZwDvj, and can also be requested in e.g. .kml (for Google Earth), .gpx (for GPS devices and GPS software) format.

**La Guïra**

Birded here one morning until 9 AM, where we easily found the Cuban Solitaire, Scaly-naped Pigeon and a bonus Giant Kingbird (near cabins: 22°39'29.53"N, 83°26'38.90"W) en the Olive-capped warbler (22°39'5.86"N, 83°26'38.44"W). We got directions to a reliable site for Cuban grassquit (22°38'23.73"N, 83°22'42.70"W) near San Diego de los Banos (thanks to Dave Bickerton). We found them here within 20 minutes. Another site for the grassquit we got when preparing for this trip was near Soroa in the direct surroundings of casa particular Villa Mayte – 500 meters before the entrance of the waterfall on the lefthand side of the road (arriving from the highway). (Thanks to Theo Admiraal). Evidently we did not try here.

Spending some more time in the area can lead to a sighting of Gundlach’s hawk and Blue-headed Quaildove (Soroa).
Zapata (Playa Larga)

There are several sites around Playa Larga that you have to visit in order to see all targets here:

La Turba:
The site for Zapata wren en Zapata Sparrow. Key-West Quaildove (heard) and Grey-headed Quaildove (seen) occurs in the forest along the access road and this road is a reliable site for nightjars. On our morning visit it had rained which was probably bad for activity, on our return visit we heard a Cuban Nightjar reasonable soon after dusk, but would not come into tape. The Gundlach’s Hawk nest had been in this area as well, but had been cut down, apparently the birds had left the site as well. The road between La Turba and the Crocodile farm is a reliable site for Red-shouldered blackbird. We tried a late afternoon at the GPS-point mentioned by Heylen and found nothing, the next morning we drove slowly back from La Turba and found two flying along the road.

Cueva de los Peces:
A popular site for snorkelling is also one of the easiest sites for Blue-headed Quail doves. Sometimes they are seen on the ground around the restaurant (mainly the western sides in the morning) but they also visit the restaurant (kitchen) in the afternoon. On our fourth try we decided to have lunch there and halfway through our chicken we were called by the staff, followed by excellent views of one bird.

Soplillar:
Our first morning in Playa Larga was spent here. Angel had roosts for Stygian Owl, and nesting trees for Fernandina’s Flicker and Bare-legged Owl. Otherwise a nice area with quite a few Grey-headed Quail doves.

Bermejas
A site we did not visit but could be very good in March. Apparently the local caretaker is feeding Quail-doves on a site visible from a hide and all three Quail-doves visit (see Birdquest 2013). I do not know about access details, but could be worth checking out (we should have tried on our guideless day).

Najasa
We drove up to the cemetery site near Najasa (21° 0'16.48"N, 77°44'37.94"W) and easily found Plain Pigeon, Giant Kingbird, Cuban Palm Crow and luckily three Cuban Parakeets flew over. That left us with Gundlach’s Hawk as a target in the area, so we drove around and tried a few spots but it felt useless and we had some long distance driving to do so we left the area. We did not have good site information for Eastern Meadowlark and hoped to see it at the roadside / on farm-fences, but this was not successful.

Cayo Coco
Cayo Paredon Grande: we drove there, had a swim to wait for lower temperatures and then found Thick-billed Vireo, Oriente Warbler and Cuban Gnatchatcher easily. We waited for dusk to try for the Cuban Nightjar (Merrill had flushed one from a day roost so they should be here). No response to our tape or nightjars on the road.

Cueva Jabali: drove around before dawn in attempt to for Cuban Nightjar. Again nothing, but a Key-West Quail dove was nice just after dawn.

Flamenco Beach road: tried here for Zapata Sparrow, found one after quite a bit of searching, others see this species now along the causeway road (e.g. Hottolía). The Flamenco beach road was quite busy with busses and trucks, not an ideal birding road.

Cayo Guillermo: did not try for Bahama Mockingbird since we saw them on Jamaica, but the roadside pools were good for some waders and ducks.
ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST

Subspecies
We have tried to accurately indicate the proper subspecies for all our observations, usually based on geographic locations based on the IOC World Bird List version 4.1.

+ = several
++ = common
+++ = very common

Endemic: Endemic to Cuba
Near Endemic: Endemic to Cuba and surrounding island(group)s
Caribbean Endemic: Endemic to Caribbean region

GPS points
A complete list of GPS points of sites and specific birds is available here http://goo.gl/3ZwDvj, and can also be requested in e.g. .kml (for Google Maps), .gpx (for GPS devices and GPS software) format.

1. **Blue-winged Teal** - *Anas discors*
   - 24/2: ++, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   - 05/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

2. **Northern Shoveler** - *Anas clypeata*
   - 05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

3. **Ring-necked Duck** - *Aythya collaris*
   - 23/2: 250+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;

4. **Lesser Scaup** - *Aythya affinis*
   - 23/2: 50+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;

5. **Red-breasted Merganser** - *Mergus serrator*
   - 05/3: 10+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

6. **Ruddy Duck** - *Oxyura jamaicensis jamaicensis*
   - 23/2: 100+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;

7. **Pied-billed Grebe** - *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*
   - 23/2: 10+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;

8. **American Flamingo** - *Phoenicopterus ruber*
   - 05/3: 50+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

9. **Wood Stork** - *Mycteria americana*
   - 24/2: 1, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   - 25/2: +, Playa Larga – Cueva de los Peces;

10. **Great Blue Heron** - *Ardea Herodias occidentalis*
    - 23/2: 1, Playa Larga
    - 04/3: +, Cayo Coco – causeway;
    - 05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

11. **Great Egret** - *Ardea alba egretta*
    - 23/2: 5+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;
    - 24/2: +, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area

12. **Snowy Egret** - *Egretta thula thula*
    - 24/2: 20+, Playa Larga – Soplillar area

13. **Little Blue Heron** - *Egretta caerulea*
    - 23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños – fields;
    - 24/2: +, Playa Larga;

14. **Tricolored Heron** - *Egretta tricolor ruficollis*
    - 24/2: 1, Playa Larga;
    - 05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;
15. **Western Cattle Egret - Bubulcus ibis**
   Common throughout.

16. **Green Heron - Butorides virescens maculata**
   23/2: 1, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   26/2: +, Playa Larga – La Turba;
   27/2: +, Najasa;

17. **Black-crowned Night-Heron - Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli**
   24/2: 2, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   26/2: ++, Playa Larga – La Turba;

18. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - Nyctanassa violacea bancrofti**
   24/2: 1, Playa Larga;

19. **White Ibis - Eudocimus albus**
   23/2: 10+, Playa Larga;
   24/2: 10+, Playa Larga;
   05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

20. **Brown Pelican - Pelecanus occidentalis occidentalis**
   22/2: +, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;
   23/2: 20+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga;
   28/2: +, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   04/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   07/3: +, Havana;

21. **Magnificent Frigatebird - Fregata magnificens**
   23/2: 1, Playa Larga;
   25/2: +, Playa Larga;
   28/2: 1, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   04/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   07/3: +, Havana;

22. **Neotropic Cormorant - Phalacrocorax brasilianus mexicanus**
   23/2: 10+, en route – first reservoir outside Havana;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga;

23. **Double-crested Cormorant - Phalacrocorax auritus heuretus**
   24/2: +, Playa Larga
   04/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

24. **Anhinga - Anhinga anhinga leucogaster**
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area;

25. **Turkey Vulture - Cathartes aura aura**
   Very common throughout;

26. **Osprey - Pandion haliaetus ridgwayi**
   23/2: 1, Playa Larga;
   28/2: 1, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   04/3: 1, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;

27. **Sharp-shinned Hawk - Accipiter striatus**
   27/2: +, Camaguey – garden of hotel;

28. **Gundlach’s Hawk - Accipiter gundlachi wileyi – Endemic – Endangered**
   27/2: 1, Crossing highway 30km before Santiago de Cuba
   Very difficult, sadly a nesting tree had been cut down at La Turba, we tried a couple of different areas which should be good around Playa Larga, but without result. Is possible near La Guira, Playa Larga, Najasa and even Cayo Coco (although rare).
   Birdquest saw two in a hotel garden in Santa Clara. Maybe we should have checked there (Hotel Villa Los Caneyes?).

29. **Cuban Black-Hawk - Buteogallus gundlachii – Endemic – Near-threatened**
   24/2: 2, Playa Larga;
   05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;

30. **Broad-winged Hawk - Buteo platypterus cubanensis**
   26/2: 1, Playa Larga – Palpite;

31. **Red-tailed Hawk - Buteo jamaicensis umbrinus**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25/2</td>
<td>+, Playa Larga – Cueva de los Peces;</td>
<td>Purple Gallinule - <em>Porphyrio martinicus</em></td>
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<td>Common Gallinule - <em>Gallinula galeata cerceris</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>100+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Grey Plover - <em>Pluvialis squatarola</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>5+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Semipalmated Plover - <em>Charadrius semipalmatus</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>1+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Killdeer - <em>Charadrius vociferus tenuimanus</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>3+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Northern Jacana - <em>Jacana spinosa violacea</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>23/2</td>
<td>1, Playa Larga;</td>
<td>Spotted Sandpiper - <em>Actitis macularius</em></td>
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<td>24/2</td>
<td>+, Playa Larga;</td>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs - <em>Tringa flavipes</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>++, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Red Knot - <em>Canutus canutus</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>20+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Least Sandpiper - <em>Calidris minutilla</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>30+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Semipalmated Sandpiper - <em>Calidris pusilla</em> - Near-threatened</td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>20+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher - <em>Limnodromus griseus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>++, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Laughing Gull - <em>Leucophaeus atricilla atricilla</em></td>
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<td>05/3</td>
<td>1, Cayo Coco – Cayo Guillermo area;</td>
<td>Caspian Tern - <em>Hydroprogne caspia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>22/2</td>
<td>+, en route al long Via Blanca;</td>
<td>Royal Tern - <em>Thalasseus maximus maximus</em></td>
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<td>23/2</td>
<td>1+, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;</td>
<td>Scaly-naped Pigeon - <em>Patagioenas squamosal</em> - Caribbean Endemic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
53. **White-crowned Pigeon** - *Patagioenas leucocephala* - Caribbean Endemic - Near-threatened

23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;
24/2: 2, Playa Larga - Sopillar area;
25/2: +, Playa Larga - Punto Perdiz area;

54. **Plain Pigeon** - *Patagioenas inornata inornata* - Caribbean Endemic - Near-threatened

27/2: 1, Najasa - Cemetery;

55. **White-winged Dove** - *Zenaida asiatica macroura* - Caribbean Endemic - Near-threatened

25/2: +, Playa Larga - Cueva de los Peces;
05/3: +, Cayo Coco - Cueva Jabali area;

56. **Zenaida Dove** - *Zenaida aurita zenaida* - Caribbean Endemic

24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area;
25/2: +, Playa Larga - Punto Perdiz area;
05/3: +, Cayo Coco - Cueva Jabali area;

57. **Mourning Dove** - *Zenaida macroura macroura* - Common throughout, often at roadsides.

58. **Common Ground-Dove** - *Columbina passerina insularis*

23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;
05/3: +, Cayo Coco - Cueva Jabali area;

59. **Key West Quail-Dove** - *Geotrygon chrysia* - Caribbean Endemic

24/2: ++, merlini, Playa Larga - Sopillar area;
25/2: +, merlini Playa Larga - Palpite marsh area;
26/2: +, merlini Playa Larga - Sopillar area;
04/3: 2, santamariae, Cayo Coco - Cayo Paredon Grande area;
05/3: +, santamariae, Cayo Coco - Cueva Jabali area;

60. **Cuban Pygmy-Owl** - *Glaucidium siju siju* - Endemic

24/2: ++, Playa Larga - Sopillar area - several seen, commonly heard
25/2: +HO, Playa Larga - Punto Perdiz area;
05/3: +HO, Playa Larga - La Turba;

61. **Stygian Owl** - *Asio stygius siguapa*

24/2: 2, Playa Larga - Sopillar area

62. **Barn Owl** - *Tyto alba furcata*

05/3: 1, Playa Larga - La Turba;

63. **Bare-legged Owl** - *Margarobyas lawrencii lawrencii* - Endemic

24/2: 1, Playa Larga - Punto Perdiz area;
1, Playa Larga - Cueva de los Peces;

64. **Cuban Nightjar** - *Antrostomus cubanensis cubanensis* - Endemic

06/3: 1 HO, Playa Larga - La Turba;

Tried for three times at a site near Playa Larga, along the road towards La Turba and the road at La Turba itself on our first visit without result. We decided to try for this species at Cayo Coco (Cayo Paredon Grande and Cueva Jabali area) but again without
result. When deciding between trying again at Cayo Coco or going back to Playa Larga we decided that this site is probably more reliable (and on the way back to Havana anyway). Thankfully this decision paid off and we got our nightjar at La Turba.

69. **White-collared Swift** - *Streptoprocne zonaris pallidifrons*
   04/3: +, en route;

70. **Antillean Palm-Swift** - *Tachornis phoenicobia iradii* - Caribbean Endemic
   22/2: +, en route along Via Blanca;
   ++, San Diego de Los Baños
   22/2: 5, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   06/3: +, Havana;
   Only found on Greater Antilles

71. **Bee Hummingbird** - *Mellisuga helenae* - Endemic - Near-threatened
   24/2: 1 male, Playa Larga – Palpite;
   25/2: 1 female, Playa Larga – Palpite;

72. **Cuban Emerald** - *Chlorostilbon ricordii* - Near Endemic
   22/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños – Hotel Mirador;
   23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;

73. **Cuban Trogon** - *Priotelus temnurus temnurus* - Endemic
   23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   27/2: +, Najasa – Cemetery;
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;

74. **Cuban Tody** - *Todus multicolor* - Endemic
   24/2: 5+, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   26/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area;
   27/2: +, Najasa – Cemetery;
   28/2: +, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;

75. **Belted Kingfisher** - *Megaceryle alcyon*
   23/2: 1, Playa Larga;
   24/2: 2, Playa Larga;
   04/3: +, Cayo Coco – causeway;

76. **West Indian Woodpecker** - *Melanerpes superciliaris superciliaris* - Near Endemic
   23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   27/2: +, Najasa – Cemetery;
   Only found on Cuba, Grand Cayman & Bahamas

77. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** - *Sphyrapicus varius*
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Cueva de los peces
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;

78. **Cuban Green Woodpecker** - *Xiphidiopicus percussus percussus* - Endemic
   23/2: 4, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: 1, Playa Larga – Sopíllar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   26/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopíllar;
   27/2: 1, Najasa – Cemetery;

79. **Fernandina’s Flicker** - *Colaptes fernandinae* - Endemic - Vulnerable
   24/2: 3, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   25/2: 2, Playa Larga – Paliptie marsh area;
   26/2: 2, Playa Larga – Sopíllar;

80. **Northern Crested Caracara** - *Caracara cheriway*
   24/2: 1, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area;
   25/2: 1, Playa Larga;
   04/3: +, Cayo Coco – Caño Paredon Grande area;
   05/3: 1, Cayo Coco – Caño Guillermo area;

81. **American Kestrel** - *Falco sparverius sparverioides*
   Common throughout, both rufous and white morphs seen.
82. **Cuban Parakeet** - *Aratinga eops* – Endemic – Vulnerable
   26/2: 3, Najasa - Cemetery;

83. **Cuban Amazon** - *Amazona leucocephala leucocephala* – Near Endemic – Near-threatened
   24/2: 50+, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery;
   06/3: ++, Playa Larga – most near hotel Playa Larga
   Only found on Cuba, Grand Cayman & Bahamas

84. **Cuban Pewee** - *Contopus caribaeus* – Near Endemic
   24/2: 5+, *morenoi*, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   25/2: +, *morenoi*, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   28/2: +, *caribaeus*, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   04/3: +, *caribaeus*, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   05/3: +, *caribaeus*, Cayo Coco;
   Only found on Cuba & Bahamas

85. **La Sagra's Flycatcher** - *Myiarchus sagrae sagrae* – Near Endemic
   23/2: 2, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: 5+, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   Only found on Cuba, Grand Cayman & Bahamas

86. **Loggerhead Kingbird** - *Tyrannus caudifasciatus caudifasciatus* – Caribbean Endemic
   23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   27/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery;
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco;

87. **Giant Kingbird** - *Tyrannus cubensis* – Endemic – Endangered
   23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   27/2: 2, Najasa - Cemetery;

88. **White-eyed Vireo** - *Vireo griseus cubensis* – Near Endemic
   05/3: 1, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;
   No information on wintering subspecies

89. **Thick-billed Vireo** - *Vireo crassirostris* – Near Endemic
   04/3: 3+, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   Only found on Cayo Paredon Grande, Caymans, Bahamas & Tortuga

90. **Cuban Vireo** - *Vireo gundlachii* – Endemic
   24/2: 5+, *gundlachii*, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   25/2: +, *gundlachii*, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
   27/2: +, *orientalis*, Najasa - Cemetery;
   28/2: +, *orientalis*, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   05/3: ++, *gundlachii*, Cayo Coco;

91. **Yellow-throated Vireo** - *Vireo flavifrons* – Near Endemic
   23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: 3+, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;

92. **Cuban Palm Crow** - *Corvus minutus* – Endemic – Near-threatened
   27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery (common in whole area);

93. **Cuban Crow** - *Corvus nasicus* – Near Endemic
   24/2: 4+, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   27/2: ++, Najasa;

94. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** - *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*
   24/2: 20+, Playa Larga;
   No information on subspecies

95. **Cuban Martin** - *Progne cryptoleuca* – Breeding Endemic
   04/3: 1, Cayo Coco;
   07/3: 50+, Habana Vieja
   08/3: ++, en mític numeros along Via Blanca between Havana and Varadero, including birds at the airport;

*Wintering grounds unknown, so effectively endemic to Cuba. We only saw one very briefly at Cayo Coco but were not worried because we expected to see them in Havana. After our first full day we still hadn’t seen them, after spending a couple of hours on*
a rooftop terrace we finally saw 1 at the end of the afternoon. But then an hour later the air above Havana Vieja was filled with Cuban Martins. On our final morning we saw loads along Via Blanca (Matanzas) including birds at the airport, probably recent returned, or had we been blind our whole trip!

96. **Tree Swallow** - *Tachycineta bicolor*
   
   24/2: 50+, Playa Larga - Palpite marsh area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga;

97. **Barn Swallow** - *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*
   
   22/2: +, en route;

98. **Cave Swallow** - *Petrochelidon fulva*
   
   27/2: 30+, Santiago de Cuba;

99. **Zapata Wren** - *Ferminia cerverai* - Endemic - Endangered
   
   26/2: 3, Playa Larga - La Turba;

100. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** - *Polioptila caerulea caerulea*
    
    24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area

101. **Cuban Gnatcatcher** - *Polioptila lembeysi* - Endemic
    
    04/3: ++, Cayo Coco - Cayo Paredon Grande area;

102. **Cuban Solitaire** - *Myadestes elisabeth elisabeth* - Endemic - Near-threatened
    
    22/2: ++HO, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;

103. **Red-legged Thrush** - *Turdus plumbeus* - Caribbean Endemic
    
    Common throughout, including in Havana;
    Two subspecies occur on Cuba, schistaceus (east) & rubripes (central & west), unclear (to me) where the divide lies;

104. **Gray Catbird** - *Dumetella carolinensis*
    
    24/2: 4, Playa Larga - Soplillar area

105. **Northern Mockingbird** - *Mimus polyglottos orpheus*
    
    Common throughout.

106. **Ovenbird** - *Seiurus aurocapilla*
    
    24/2: 3, Playa Larga - Soplillar area

107. **Worm-eating warbler** - *Helmitheros vermivorum*
    
    24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area (Helen only)

108. **Northern Waterthrush** - *Parkesia noveboracensis*
    
    25/2: 1, Playa Larga - Palpite;

109. **Blue-winged Warbler** - *Vermivora cyanoptera*
    
    24/2: 1, Playa Larga - Soplillar area;

110. **Black-and-white Warbler** - *Mniotilta varia*
    
    23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;
    24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area
    05/3: 1, Cayo Coco - Cueva Jabali area;

111. **Tennessee Warbler** - *Oreothlypis peregrina*
    
    23/2: 1, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;

112. **Common Yellowthroat** - *Geothlypis trichas*
    
    24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area
    26/2: +, Playa Larga - La Turba;
    27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery;

113. **American Redstart** - *Setophaga ruticilla*
    
    23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;
    24/2: +, Playa Larga - Soplillar area

114. **Northern Parula** - *Setophaga americana*
    
    23/2: 2, San Diego de Los Baños - La Güira;
    26/2: +, Playa Larga - La Turba;
    27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery;

115. **Magnolia Warbler** - *Setophaga magnolia*
    
    24/2: 5+, Playa Larga - Soplillar area

116. **Black-throated Blue Warbler** - *Setophaga caerulescens*
23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
24/2: 1, Playa Larga – Sopillar area
25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;
27/2: +, Najasa - Cemetery;
05/3: +, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;
No information on wintering subspecies

117. **Palm Warbler** - *Setophaga palmarum*
   Common throughout, including Havana;

118. **Olive-capped Warbler** - *Setophaga pityophila* – Near Endemic
   23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   Only found on Cuba & Bahamas

119. **Myrtle Warbler** - *Setophaga coronata*
   05/3: 1, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;

120. **Yellow-throated Warbler** - *Setophaga dominica*
   23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   No information on wintering subspecies

121. **Prairie Warbler** - *Setophaga discolor discolor*
   22/2: 5, San Diego de Los Banos – Hotel Mirador;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopillar area
   27/2: 1, Najasa - Cemetery;

122. **Black-throated Green Warbler** - *Setophaga virens*
   23/2: 5+, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;

123. **Yellow-headed Warbler** - *Teretistris fernandinae* - Endemic
   23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Sopillar area
   25/2: +, Playa Larga – Punto Perdiz area;

124. **Oriente Warbler** - *Teretistris fornsi* - Endemic
   28/2: +, turquinensis, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   04/3: ++, fornsi, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;

[**Red-legged Honeycreeper** - *Cyanerpes cyaneus*]
   23/2: ++, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   Probably introduced to Cuba

125. **Cuban Grassquit** - *Tiaris canorus* - Endemic
   23/2: 2, San Diego de Los Baños – fields;

126. **Yellow-faced Grassquit** - *Tiaris olivaceus olivaceus*
   22/2: 5, San Diego de Los Banos – Hotel Mirador;
   23/2: 5, San Diego de Los Baños – fields;
   27/2: ++, Najasa - Cemetery;
   28/2: +, Santiago de Cuba – Coastal scrub;
   05/3: +, Cayo Coco;

127. **Cuban Bullfinch** - *Melopyrrha nigra nigra* - Near Endemic
   23/2: +, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   04/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area (Rob);
   Only occurs on Cuba & Grand Cayman

128. **Western Spindalis** - *Spindalis zena pretrei* - Near Endemic
   23/2: 5+, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: 5, Playa Larga – Cueva de los Peces
   04/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area;
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco – Cueva Jabali area;
   Occurs on Cuba, Bahamas, Grand Cayman & Cozumel

129. **Zapata Sparrow** - *Torreornis inexpectata* – Endemic – Endangered
   26/2: 1, Inexpectata, Playa Larga – La Turba;
   05/3: 1, varoni, Cayo Coco - Flamengo beach road (Rob);

130. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - *Pheucticus ludovicianus*
   22/2: 3, San Diego de Los Baños – La Güira;

131. **Blue Grosbeak** - *Passerina caerulea*
   23/2: 2, San Diego de Los Baños – fields (Rob only);
132. **Red-shouldered Blackbird - Agelaius assimilis assimilis** - **Endemic**
   26/2: 3, Playa Larga – main road between La Turba & Crocodile farm;

133. **Tawny-shouldered Blackbird - Agelaius humeralis** - **Near Endemic**
   22/2: 5+, San Diego de los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: 20+, Playa Larga – Palpite marsh area
   26/2: 1, Playa Larga – La Turba;
   27/2: ++, Najasa – Cemetery;
   07/3: +, Havana;
   Only occurs on Cuba and NW Haiti

134. **Eastern Meadowlark - Sturnella magna hippocrepis**
   04/3: 1, en route along the road between Camagüey and Ciego de Ávila;
   Distinct subspecies, may merit full species rank.

135. **Cuban Blackbird - Dives atroviolaceus** - **Endemic**
   22/2: +, San Diego de los Baños – Hotel Mirador;
   23/2: +, San Diego de los Baños – La Güira;
   24/2: +, Playa Larga – Soplillar area
   27/2: +, Najasa – Cemetery;
   05/3: ++, Cayo Coco

136. **Greater Antillean Grackle - Quiscalus niger gundlachi** - **Caribbean Endemic**
    Common throughout.

137. **Cuban Oriole - Icterus melanopsis** - **Endemic**
   24/2: 2, Playa Larga – Cuevas de los Peces
   04/3: 1, Cayo Coco – Cayo Paredon Grande area (Helen);