

# Oaxaca, Mexico from march 18<sup>th</sup> to april 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016:

## 11 days with family and birding activities in **Puerto Escondido**

and short visits to Oaxaca de Juárez and Puebla

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- 03/18: In the evening flight with my wife Cristina and our 9-year-old son Valentin from Bremen to Amsterdam and from there to Mexico-City (arrival there in the evening of 03/18 at local time). Valentin vomits, we spend the night at a hotel in the airport.
- 03/19: Flight to Puerto Escondido. Friends pick us up at the airport, we go to „our“ house at the upper end of the dirt road Calle Benito Juárez in the southeastern part of the village, a building with three floors and a covered roof terrace, where my scope will be standing for the next 10 days. From there I can look downwards over the village to the Pacific Ocean and gardens and thorn forest in the other directions (coordinates: 15°49'55.26“ N, 97°02'22.15“ E). We drive to the beach Carrizalillo west of the harbour of Puerto Escondido, where we meet more friends.
- 03/20: At 7 o'clock in the morning we drive to the **Manialtepec Lagoon** northwest of Puerto Escondido. We do some hours of canoing there, highly recommendable! Without camera, which might have been better for my unexperienced canoo technique...
- 03/21: On the roof terrace in the early morning, later walk through the village and its gardens nearby.  
We take part in a sea turtle release at a beach in Puerto Escondido.
- 03/22: At 8 o'clock **whale-watch-tour** from Puerto Escondido. Much better than expected with loads of Spinner Dolphins, a Humpback Whale, some sea turtles and sea birds.  
In the evening a walk eastwards from the house.
- 03/23: In the early morning walk through the village near the house, later all of us to the beach.
- 03/24: Again early morning walk in the village, later altogether to the beach **Agua Blanca** in the east of Puerto Escondido.
- 03/25-26: Puerto Escondido, village and beaches
- 03/27: Crocodile boat-tour on lagoon „**La Ventanilla**“ ca. 40 km east of Puerto Escondido.
- 03/28: In the early morning to the Colotepec River mouth ca. 3 km east of Puerto Escondido.
- 03/29: At 7 o'clock we go to the airport and fly to **Oaxaca de Juárez**. Visit some markets.
- 03/30: Seven hours tourism-bus-tour: El Tule with the thickest tree of the world, Tlacolula with its traditionell weaving mill of Felipe Hernandez, Herve el Agua with its rock water basins, Mitla with its ancient buildings and a Mezcal distillery.
- 03/31: At 11 o'clock bus to **Puebla**.

04/01: One hour tourism-bus-tour through Puebla. Bus to **Mexico-City**.  
At 8 o'clock flight to Amsterdam/Bremen.

General remarks: The people in the visited range were remarkably friendly. Especially in Puerto Escondido, where I was often walking through inhabited areas with binoculars and long-lense camera, nearly everybody greeted me friendly. There was not one moment I feared any aggression against me or my family.

All of us suffered more or less from Montezuma's revenge. The only helping medicine was „Escapar“. But the mexican food was always very tasteful and really worth trying!

During our stay we had consistently fine weather with temperatures around 28 °C. The nights were quite hot as well.

## Species List

order and names following Howell & Webb:

„A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America“,  
for bird ID Sibley's „The North American Bird Guide“ helped a lot.

001 **Least Grebe**

03/20

1

Manialtepec Lagoon



002 **Wedge-tailed Shearwater**

03/22 10+

whale-watch-tour  
incl. 1+ dark ind.

003 **Least Storm Petrel**

03/22

6+

whale-watch-tour

04 **Blue-footed Booby**

03/23

1

beach Puerto Escondido



005 **Brown Pelican**  
at all coasts and beaches

006 <b>Neotropic Cormorant</b>	10s to 100s on visited lagoons and Colotepec River mouth		
007 <b>Anhinga</b>	seen on both visited lagoons, 10+ each		
008 <b>Magnificent Frigatebird</b>	at all coasts and beaches in low numbers		
009 <b>Bare-throated Tiger Heron</b>	03/20	2	Manialtepec Lagoon
010 <b>Great Blue Heron</b>	03/20	ca. 10	Manialtepec Lagoon
011 <b>Great Egret</b>	on both lagoons and Colotepec River mouth		
012 <b>Snowy Egret</b>	on both lagoons and Colotepec River mouth		



013 <b>Little Blue Heron</b>	03/20	2-3+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/28	1-2+	Colotepec River mouth
014 <b>Tricolored Heron</b>	03/20	10-15+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/28	15-20	Colotepec River mouth
015 <b>Reddish Egret</b>	03/28	2+	Colotepec River mouth

016 <b>Cattle Egret</b>	some times seen from the car, never more than 4-5 together		
017 <b>Green Heron</b>	on both lagoons and Colotepec River mouth, 5-10 each		
018 <b>Black-crowned Night Heron</b>	03/20	2+	Manialtepec Lagoon
019 <b>Yellow-crowned Night Heron</b>	03/28	5+	Colotepec River mouth

020 **Boat-billed Heron**  
 03/20 Manialtepec Lagoon,  
 03/27 La Ventanilla-Lagoon,  
 small colonies at both sites



021 **White Ibis**  
 03/20 3-5+  
 Manialtepec Lagoon  
 03/28 ca.40  
 Colotepec River



022 <b>White-faced Ibis</b>	03/20	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
023 <b>Roseate Spoonbill</b>	03/24	3 flying	Puerto Escondido
	03/28	2 flying	Colotepec River mouth
024 <b>Wood Stork</b>	03/20	10s on nests	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/26 and 28	1 flying	N of Puerto Escondido
025 <b>Black-bellied Whistling Duck</b>	03/28	ca. 400	Colotepec River mouth
026 <b>Blue-winged Teal</b>	03/20	1m, 1f	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/28	ca. 5	Colotepec River mouth

027 **Turkey Vulture**  
 seen nearly daily



028 <b>Black Vulture</b>	seen daily		
029 <b>Osprey</b>	03/20	1	Manialtepec Lagoon

030 <b>White-tailed Kite</b>	03/23	1	Puerto Escondido
031 <b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>		1 observation	Puerto Escondido
032 <b>Common Black Hawk</b>	03/20	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
033 <b>Grey Hawk</b>	03/27	1 immat.	Puerto Escondido
034 <b>Short-tailed Hawk</b>	03/28	1	Puerto Escondido
035 <b>Zone-tailed Hawk</b>	03/26	1 ad.	Puerto Escondido
	03/28	1 immat.	Puerto Escondido

Short-tailed Hawk



Zone-tailed Hawk



036 <b>Crested Caracara</b>	03/30	7+	bus tour
037 <b>American Kestrel</b>	03/25	1m	N of Puerto Escondido
	03/27	1m	N of Puerto Escondido
038 <b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	03/19	1m, 1f	playa Carrizalillo
039 <b>Common Moorhen</b>	03/20	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
040 <b>American Coot</b>	03/20	ca. 15	Manialtepec Lagoon
041 <b>Semipalmated Plover</b>	03/20	10+	Manialtepec Lagoon

042 **Black-necked Stilt**

03/20

10+

Manialtepec Lagoon

03/28

10+

Colotepec River mouth



043 **Northern Jacana**

03/20 ca. 10

Manialtepec Lagoon

03/28 10+

Colotepec River mouth

044 **Greater Yellowlegs**

03/28

5+

Colotepec River mouth

045 **Willet**

03/20

8

Manialtepec Lagoon

03/28

ca. 45

Colotepec River mouth



046 **Wandering Tattler**

03/24

3

Agua Blanca

<b>047 Spotted Sandpiper</b>	03/19	1	Playa Carrizalillo
	03/20	2-3+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/24	2	Agua Blanca
	03/27	1	La Ventanilla-Lagoon
	03/28	3-4+	Colotepec River mouth



<b>048 Whimbrel</b>	03/28	ca. 5	Colotepec River mouth
<b>049 Ruddy Turnstone</b>	03/24	6	Agua Blanca
<b>050 Sanderling</b>	03/24	3	Agua Blanca
	03/28	ca. 20	Colotepec River mouth
<b>051 Western Sandpiper</b>	03/20	2+	Manialtepec Lagoon
<b>052 Least Sandpiper</b>	03/20	ca. 20	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/28	ca. 40-50	Colotepec River mouth
<b>053 Stilt Sandpiper</b>	03/28	ca. 6-10	Colotepec River mouth



054 <b>Red-necked Phalarope</b>	03/22	4	whale-watch-tour
055 <b>Pomarine Jaeger</b>	03/22	1	whale-watch-tour
056 <b>Laughing Gull</b>	present at all beaches and the Colotepec River mouth		

057 **Sabine's Gull**  
03/22 1 ad.  
whale-watch-tour



058 <b>Caspian Tern</b>	03/20	15-20+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/28	30-50	Colotepec River mouth
059 <b>Royal Tern</b>	03/19	1	Playa Carrizalillo
	03/20	10s	Manialtepec Lagoon
daily seen on beaches and harbour of Puerto Escondido			



060 <b>Elegant Tern</b>	03/20	10s	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/22	+	whale-watch-tour
	03/28	5+	Colotepec River mouth
061 <b>Sandwich Tern</b>	03/20	1+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	03/22	10s	Puerto Escondido harbour
	03/28	+	Colotepec River mouth



062 <b>Common Tern</b>	03/28	100s	Colotepec River mouth
063 <b>Black Tern</b>	03/22	ca. 10	whale-watch-tour



64 **Black Skimmer**  
03/28 ca. 40  
Colotepec River mouth

065 <b>Red-billed Pigeon</b>	03/20	1-2	Manialtepec Lagoon
066 <b>White-winged Dove</b>	seen daily, in Puerto Escondido up to 100+		
067 <b>Mourning Dove</b>	03/30	5+	bus tour
068 <b>Inca Dove</b>	seen daily in Puerto Escondido region		
069 <b>Common Ground Dove</b>	some seen in Puerto Escondido region		
070 <b>Ruddy Ground Dove</b>	seen daily in Puerto Escondido region		

071 **Orange-fronted Parakeet**  
03/27 2  
La Ventanilla Lagoon



072 <b>White-fronted Parrot</b>	03/27	2	La Ventanilla Lagoon
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073 **Groove-billed Ani**

seen daily in Puerto Escondido region

074 **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl**

03/22 a. 26 1  
heard there more often

Puerto Escondido,



075 **Eared Poorwill**

03/28

1 heard

Puerto Escondido



076 **Doubleday's Hummingbird**

077 **Cinnamon Hummingbird**

both seen nearly every day in and around Puerto Escondido

078 **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** 03/25

2

Puerto Escondido



**079 Citreoline Trogon**

03/25 a. 26 2

Puerto Escondido



**080 Russet-crowned Motmot**

03/23, 24, 25 2

Puerto Escondido



**081 Ringed Kingfisher**

03/20

2-3+

Manialtepec Lagoon

03/27

2+

La Ventanilla Lagoon

**082 Golden-cheeked Woodpecker** 2-3 breeding pairs nearby in Puerto Escondido

**083 Grey-breasted Woodpecker**

03/30

1

Mitla

**084 Northern Beardless Tyrannulet**

03/29

1

Oaxaca de Juárez hotel courtyard

Least/Pacific Slope Flycatcher

03/23

1

Puerto Escondido

**085 Black Phoebe**

03/30

1

Tlacolula

**086 Vermilion Flycatcher**

03/30

1

Mitla

04/1

1-2

Puebla

**087 Ash-throated Flycatcher**

03/25

1

Puerto Escondido

088 **Brown-crested  
Flycatcher**  
03/25 1  
Puerto Escondido



more unidentified Myriarchus-Flycatchers seen in and around Puerto Escondido

089 <b>Great Kiskadee</b>	seen daily		
090 <b>Social Flycatcher</b>	seen nearly daily in and around Puerto Escondido		
091 <b>Tropical Kingbird</b>	seen nearly daily in and around Puerto Escondido, not always separated from Western Kingbird		
092 <b>Western Kingbird</b>	as Tropical Kingbird		
093 <b>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher</b>	03/19 1 03/25 1		Puerto Escondido close to Puerto Escondido
094 <b>Purple Martin</b>	seen nearly daily		Puerto Escondido
095 <b>Mangrove Swallow</b>	03/20 2-3+		Manialtepec Lagoon
096 <b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>	03/30 1		Tlacolula



097 **White-throated Magpie-Jay**  
seen daily in Puerto Escondido, max. 4-5

<b>98 Rufous-naped Wren</b>			regularly in and around Puerto Escondido
<b>099 Rock Wren</b>	03/30	1	Tlacolula
<b>100 Blue-grey Gnatcatcher</b>	03/21	1-2	Puerto Escondido
	03/25	2	Puerto Escondido
<b>101 White-lored Gnatcatcher</b>	03/27	1-2	Puerto Escondido
<b>102 Clay-colored Thrush</b>	03/21	1 perched on wire	Puerto Escondido
<b>103 Rufous-backed Thrush</b>			seen nearly daily in Puerto Escondido
<b>104 Tropical Mockingbird</b>	03/23 a. 27	1	close to Puerto Escondido
<b>105 Curve-billed Thrasher</b>	03/30	1	El Tule
<b>106 Bell's Vireo</b>	03/25	1	close to Puerto Escondido
<b>107 Warbling Vireo</b>	03/25	1	close to Puerto Escondido
<b>108 Nashville Warbler</b>	03/29	1	Oaxaca de Juárez hotel courtyard
<b>109 Yellow Warbler</b>			seen and heard daily in and around Puerto Escondido
<b>110 (Audubon's) Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>	03/30	1	Oaxaca de Juárez
Waterthrush spec.	03/20	1	Manialtepec Lagoon



**111 Wilson's Warbler**  
03/29 a. 30 1+  
Oaxaca de Juárez

<b>112 Scrub Euphonia</b>	03/24	1m	Puerto Escondido
<b>113 Greyish Saltator</b>	03/23	1	Puerto Escondido
	03/28	1-2	Colotepec River mouth

114 **Blue Grosbeak**

03/26

1f

Puerto Escondido

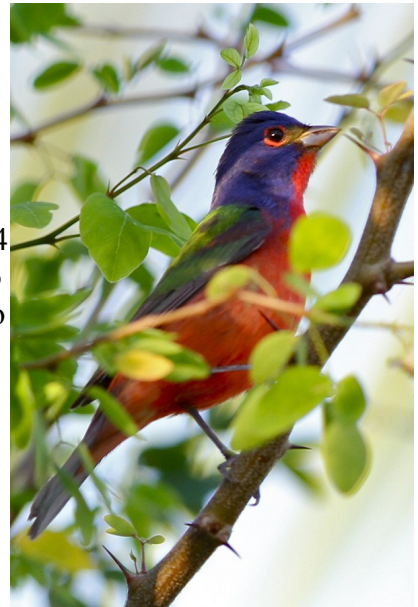


115  
**Orange-breasted  
Bunting**

nearly daily seen  
in and around  
Puerto Escondido

116  
**Painted  
Bunting**

1m 03/24  
Puerto  
Escondido



117 **Olive Sparrow**

03/25 a. 26

2-3

Puerto Escondido

118 **White-collared Seedeater**

03/20

3-4+

Manialtepec Lagoon

03/23

1m

Puerto Escondido,

ca. 2-3 more observations there

119 **Red-winged Blackbird**

03/28

ca. 5-7

Colotepec River mouth

120 **Melodious Blackbird**

03/25

1

Puerto Escondido

121 **Great-tailed Grackle**  
seen and heard daily



122 **Bronzed Cowbird**

daily in Purto Escondido, some flocks of 50+

123 **Orchard Oriole**

seen nearly daily in and around Puerto Escondido

124 **Streak-backed Oriole**

seen on some occasions in and around Puerto Escondido,  
not always seperated from other Orioles

125 **Spot-breasted Oriole**

same as species before



126 **Altamira Oriole**  
same as species before



127 **Yellow-winged Cacique**  
seen daily in and around  
Puerto Escondido

128 **House Finch** common in and around Oaxaca de Juárez



129 **House Sparrow**

rare in/near Puerto Escondido,  
much more common in and around Oaxaca de Juárez



**We had a great time in Mexico!**



