



Another two weeks of family and birding activities in and around

## Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, Mexico from april 6<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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04/05-06: Flight with my wife Cristina and our 12-year-old son Valentin from Bremen to Amsterdam, from there to Mexico-City and further on to Puerto Escondido. Arrival at noon on the 04/06. We are three weeks later as three years before. In a rented car, we go to the house where we have already lived during our first stay in the southeast of the town (Villa Rucaani, [www.airbnb.de/rooms/6306573?guests=1&adults=1](http://www.airbnb.de/rooms/6306573?guests=1&adults=1)), where we meet our good friends again. We spend the rest of the day on the beach.

04/07: Birdwatching from our roof and around the house. We do a weekly household shopping in a big supermarket in Puerto Escondido. I hang a Kolibri-feeder in the bushes near the house, which immediately attracts birds – but will be gone (stolen?) after two days. Together we go to the beach of **Puerto Angel**, about one hour by car east of Puerto Escondido. In the evening we drive to the **Manialtepec Lagoon** in the northwest of the town and do a „**Bioluminescence-tour**“ by boat. That means, that we watch the lights produced by algae. Some of us have an unforgettable swim in the glowing water.

04/08: In the early morning I go for a walk around the house, south and east of **Punta Zicatela**. In the afternoon we go to the **Manialtepec Lagoon** again to do a paddle trip. Again very beautiful!

04/09: I go to the delta of the **Colotepec River** some km east of Puerto Escondido.



Neotropic Cormorants, Sanderlings, Laughing Gulls, Black Skimmers, where the lagoon meets the ocean.

04/10: We stay in and around the house.

04/11: We do a **dolphin-tour** by boat from Puerto Escondido, starting at 7 o'clock in the morning. Lots of Spinner Dolphins for a long time very close to the boat!



Red-necked Phalaropes at sea

For the rest of the day: Beach life.

04/12: I go to the eastern side of the rivermouth of the **Colotepec**. In the afternoon I walk through the fields on the other side of the highway above the house (Carrera Costera, No. 200). Not many birds to be found there.

04/13: Trip to the **Magic Waterfalls of Huatulco**. Very beautiful, we visit fall one and three (two is without water). Jungle-feeling!

04/14: Another day in and near the house.

04/15-17: Drive to the „**Refugio Terraza de la Tierra**“ near San José del Pacifico north of Pochutla. Beautiful forest at 2300 m altitude, totally different from all we have seen before in Oaxaca. We stay two nights, do some walks around and enjoy the tranquillity.



Quiet evening at the „Terraza de la Tierra“.

04/18: We spend the day at the beach of **Agua Blanca** about 20 km southeast of Puerto Escondido.

04/19: I repeat the walk to and around **Punta Zicatela**. We pack our bags.

04/20: We start our journey back home.

In 2016 we were in Puerto Escondido nearly three weeks earlier. That is probably the reason why 2019 I have seen less North American birds (waders, Common Tern, ...), they probably had moved to their northern breeding grounds. Some other species were new to me, maybe due to our later stay (e. g. cuckoos).

Puerto Escondido is growing, there are some new houses and less bushes around „our“ house. But still there are many birds to see. And the people of Oaxaca are still very friendly!



Outlook from the roof of „Villa Rucaani“

## Species List

order and names following *Howell & Webb*:

„*A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America*“

PE = Puerto Escondido

m = male, f = female

Wedge-tailed Shearwater	04/11	ca. 20	dolphin-tour
Blue-footed Booby	04/08	1 on rocks	Punta Zicatela (PE)
Brown Pelican		daily along the Pacific Coast, never more than ca. 20 ind.	
Neotropic Cormorant		as previous, also on the lagoons near PE	
Anhinga	04/08	10+	Manialtepec Lagoon



Magnificent Frigatebird

daily up to 10  
PE and other beaches

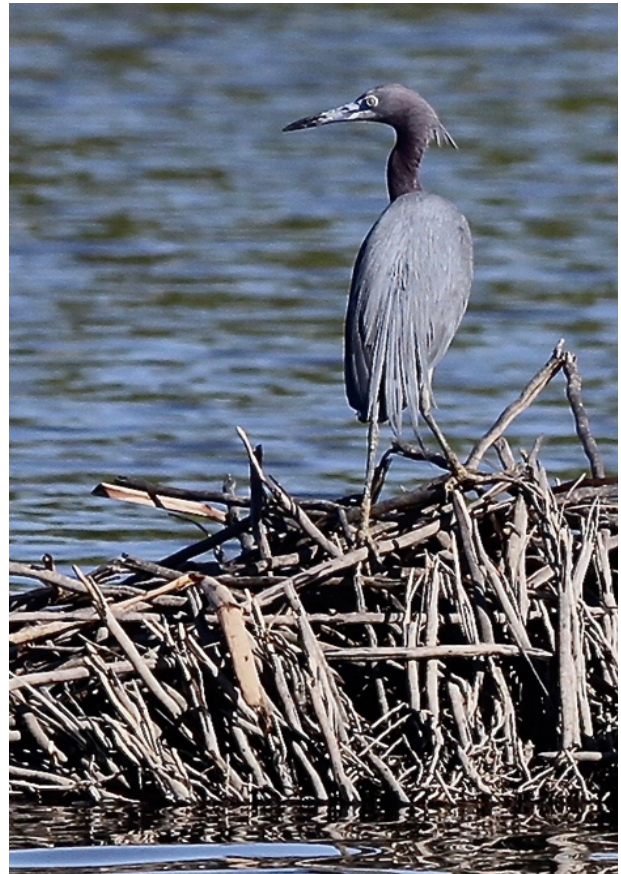
04/08  
some on trees  
Manialtepec Lagoon



Bare-throated Tiger-Heron

04/08            2  
Manialtepec Lagoon

Great Blue Heron	04/08 04/09 a. 04/12	5+ 1-3	Manialtepec Lagoon Colotepec rivermouth
Great Egret	04/08 04/09 a. 04/12	ca. 20 3-5	Manialtepec Lagoon Colotepec rivermouth
Snowy Egret	04/08 04/09 04/11 04/12	+ 10s 1 ca. 5	Manialtepec Lagoon Colotepec rivermouth harbour PE Colotepec rivermouth
Little Blue Heron	04/08 04/09 a. 04/12	2-3+ 2+	Manialtepec Lagoon Colotepec rivermouth
Tricolored Heron	04/08 04/09 a. 04/12	2+ ca. 15	Manialtepec Lagoon Colotepec rivermouth
Reddish Egret	04/09 a. 04/12	ca. 15/1+	Colotepec rivermouth
Cattle Egret		up to 20-30 ind.	around PE



Little Blue Heron, white and blue morph



Reddish Egret



Tricolored Heron

Green Heron	04/08	10+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09	4-5+	Colotepec rivermouth
	04/12	1	Colotepec rivermouth
Black-crowned Night-Heron	04/08	1+ ad.	Manialtepec Lagoon
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	04/08	1+ ad.	Manialtepec Lagoon
White Ibis	04/08	10s	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09 a. 04/12	20-30	Colotepec rivermouth
White-faced Ibis	04/08	1	Manialtepec Lagoon

Roseate Spoonbill	04/08	3 flying	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/12	2 flying	Colotepec rivermouth
	ca. 04/18	2 flying	Villa Rucaani, PE

Wood Stork  
 04/08  
 10s on nests  
 Manialtepec Lagoon

04/12  
 5 circling  
 N of Villa Rucaani, PE



Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	04/08	20-30+	Manialtepec Lagoon
Blue-winged Teal	04/08	30+	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09	20-30+	Colotepec rivermouth
Black Vulture	daily over PE		
	04/17	2	Terraza de la Tierra
Turkey Vulture	nearly (?) daily over PE		
Osprey	04/08	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
	ca. 04/11	1	harbour PE
Common Black Hawk	04/08	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/12	2	Colotepec rivermouth
Roadside Hawk	04/12	5+	E of Colotepec rivermouth
	04/13	1	Magic Waterfalls
Zone-tailed Hawk	04/07	1	Villa Rucaani, PE
Crested Caracara	04/12	1	E of Colotepec rivermouth
	04/12	1	Villa Rucaani, PE

West Mexican Chachalaca

04/09

3+ heard

E of Colotepec rivermouth

04/12

2 seen, more heard

E of Colotepec rivermouth



Common Moorhen

04/08

+

Manialtepec Lagoon

American Coot

04/08

6+

Manialtepec Lagoon



American Golden Plover

04/09

Colotepec rivermouth

Collared Plover

04/08

2+

Manialtepec Lagoon

Semipalmated Plover

04/08

10+

Manialtepec Lagoon

04/09

5+

Colotepec rivermouth

Black-necked Stilt

04/08

ca. 10

Manialtepec Lagoon

04/09

10s

Colotepec rivermouth

American Avocet

04/09

1 amongst Stilts

Colotepec rivermouth

Northern Jacana

04/08

10s

Manialtepec Lagoon

04/09

+

Colotepec rivermouth

Greater Yellowlegs	04/09	4+	Colotepec rivermouth
Willet	04/08	1	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09	ca. 30	Colotepec rivermouth
Wandering Tattler	04/11	1	harbour PE
	04/18	1	Agua Blanca
Spotted Sandpiper	04/07	1	Puerto Angel
	04/08	8-10	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09	10+	Colotepec rivermouth
	04/12	5+	Colotepec rivermouth
	04/18	1	Agua Blanca
Sanderling	04/09	ca. 30-40	Colotepec rivermouth



Western Sandpiper  
04/09  
3-4+  
Colotepec rivermouth

Least Sandpiper	04/08	10s	Manialtepec Lagoon
	04/09	10s	Colotepec rivermouth
Red-necked Phalarope	04/11	100s	dolphin-tour
Laughing Gull		daily along the beaches	
Caspian Tern	04/09	2+	Colotepec rivermouth
	04/11	35+ flying	beach PE
Royal Tern		daily along the beaches	
Elegant Tern	04/11	3+	dolphin-tour
	04/18	3+	Agua Blanca
Sandwich Tern	04/09	1	Colotepec rivermouth
	04/11	7+	harbour PE
	04/18	1+	Agua Blanca
	04/19	1	Punta Zicatela



Black Tern	04/11	16+	dolphin-tour
Black Skimmer	04/09	ca. 30	Colotepec rivermouth
White-winged Dove	daily 10s to 100s in PE		
Inca Dove	daily in PE and beache-villages around		
Ruddy Ground-Dove	(nearly?) daily in PE		
White-tipped Dove	04/18	1	PE
Eurasian Collared Dove	04/07	2-3+	Puerto Angel
	04/18	2	Agua Blanca
Orange-fronted Parakeet	04/13	ca. 10	waterfalls
	04/14	15+	N of Villa Rucaani, PE

not shy, but skulky:

Mangrove Cuckoo

04/07-18  
1 (seen 3-4 times)  
near Villa Rucaani, PE



Lesser Ground-Cuckoo	04/12	1	E Colotepec River
	04/18 (?)	2	E Punta Zicatela, PE

resembling his ancestors,  
the dinosaurs:

Groove-billed Ani

some observations in PE

04/08          6-8+  
ca. 1 hour in car E of PE

04/18          5+  
Agua Blanca



Pauraque	heard in 2 nights	Villa Rucaani, PE
Mexican Whip-Poorwill	04/15 a. 16    1-2 heard	Terraza de la Tierra
Black Swift (?)	04/13    ca. 15	waterfalls
Big Swift spec.	04/17    1	close to Terraza de la Tierra
Mexican Hermit	04/13    2+	waterfalls
Doubleday's Hummingbird	04/18    1-3 ind. nearly daily in PE 1+	Agua Blanca



female



male

Cinnamon-sided Hummingbird	04/13    1+	waterfalls
White-eared Hummingbird	04/15    1+	San José del Pacifico





Cinnamon Hummingbird  
+/- daily in PE



Plain-capped Starthroat  
04/10 1m near Villa Rucaani, PE

Citreoline Trogon	1m, 1f seen some times 04/12 a. 19 1f	near Villa Rucaani, PE E Punta Citadela
Russet-crowned Motmot	04/07 3 04/08 1 04/08 1	near Villa Rucaani, PE NE of Villa Rucaani, PE near Villa Rucaani, PE
Ringed Kingfisher	04/10 1m, 1f	Colotepec River
Green Kingfisher	04/12 1	pond E Colotepec River



Golden-cheeked Woodpecker  
daily in PE (more common than 2016)



Hairy Woodpecker  
04/16 1+ Terraza de la Tierra

Spot-crowned Woodreeper	04/16 2	Terraza de la Tierra
White-striped Woodcreeper	04/16 2	Terraza de la Tierra
Tufted Flycatcher	04/15-17 daily 1-3	Terraza de la Tierra
Black Phoebe	04/17 1	journey back to PE
Ash-throated Flycatcher	probably this species +/- daily in and around PE	

Great Kiskadee	daily in and around PE		
Social Flycatcher	daily in and around PE		
Tropical Kingbird	daily in and around PE		
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	04/12	1f	near Villa Rucaani, PE
Rose-throated Becard	04/15	2	Terraza de la Tierra
Masked Tityra	04/13	5-6+	waterfalls
Grey-breasted Martin	daily in and around PE		

Mangrove Swallow

04/08 ca. 10  
Manialtepec Lagoon

04/12 2  
Colotepec rivermouth

04/15-17 +  
Terraza de la Tierra



Barn Swallow	04/08	6-8+	Manialtepec Lagoon
Steller's Jay	04/15-17	daily 2-5	Terraza de la Tierra
White-throated Magpie-Jay	04/08 04/13	2+ 1	Manialtepec Lagoon waterfalls
Northern Raven	04/16	2	Terraza de la Tierra
Bushtit	04/16	1-2	Terraza de la Tierra
Rufous-naped Wren	+/- daily in and around PE		
Happy Wren	04/10	1	near Villa Rucaani, PE
Banded Wren	04/13	1	waterfalls



Brown-throated Wren

04/15-17      daily 2-4  
Terraza de la Tierra

Brown-backed Solitaire	04/15-17	daily 2-5	Terraza de la Tierra
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	04/15	1	Terraza de la Tierra



Russet Nightingale-Thrush

04/15-17      daily 2-4  
Terraza de la Tierra

White-throated Thrush	04/16	1f	Terraza de la Tierra
Rufous-backed Thrush	some seen in and around PE		
American Robin	04/15-17	daily 5	Terraza de la Tierra
Blue Mockingbird	04/15-17	daily 1-2	Terraza de la Tierra

Grey Silky

04/15-17 daily ca. 5  
Terraza de la Tierra



Plumbeous Vireo

04/14

1

near Villa Rucaani, PE



Crescent-chested Warbler

04/15-17  
daily 5-10  
Terraza de la Tierra

Yellow Warbler

daily in and around PE

Yellow-rumped Warbler

daily ca 20-25

Terraza de la Tierra

American Redstart

04/12

1m second year

E Colotepec River

Common Yellowthroat

04/10

1m

Colotepec rivermouth

Wilson's Warbler

04/15-17

daily 2-4

Terraza de la Tierra

Slate-throated Redstart

04/15-17

daily ca. 5

Terraza de la Tierra

Golden-crowned Warbler

04/16

1

Terraza de la Tierra

Golden-browed Warbler

04/16 a. 17

1

Terraza de la Tierra



Hepatic Tanager

04/16

1m, 1f

Scrub Euphonia

daily 1-4 in and around PE

Terraza de la Tierra



Flame-colored Tanager

04/17

1f

Western Tanager

04/08          2  
Punta Zicatela, PE

04/16          1+  
Terraza de la Tierra

Terraza de la Tierra

Red-headed Tanager

04/15-17

daily 1-2

Terraza de la Tierra



Common Bush-Tanager

04/16 a. 17          daily 1-2  
Terraza de la Tierra

Greyish Saltator

04/15

1

Pochutla

Northern Cardinal

04/08 2m PE:  
E Punta Zicatela a. Villa Rucaani

04/19 1m, 1f  
E Punta Citadela



Orange-breasted Bunting

daily 1-3+ in and around PE



Chestnut-capped Brushfinch

04/16 2  
Terraza de la Tierra

Olive Sparrow

seen/heard nearly daily near Villa Rucaani, PE

Rufous-sided Towhee

04/15-17

daily 3-5

Terraza de la Tierra

White-throated Towhee

04/16

1

Terraza de la Tierra

Blue-Black Grassquit

seen nearly every day in and around PE

White-collared Seedeater

some observations in and around PE

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater

04/08

2-3+

Puerto Angel

Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer

04/16

2-3

Terraza de la Tierra



Lincoln's Sparrow

04/15-17

daily 2-3

Terraza de la Tierra



Yellow-eyed Junco

04/15-17

daily 3-5

Terraza de la Tierra

Great-tailed Grackle

very common along the Pacific Coast

Bronzed Cowbird

some observations in and around PE, Colotepec River

Orchard Oriole

daily in and around PE, groups of up to 30 birds

Streak-backed Oriole

some observations in PE

Spot-breasted Oriole

some observations in PE

Altamira Oriole

some observations in PE

Yellow-winged Cacique

some observations in PE

House Sparrow

some observations in PE

Tufted Flycatcher



Black Vultures eating dog near Villa Rucaani



Common Basilisk

Manialtepec Lagoon



Beautiful Mexico !