

Brazilian Pantanal & Iguazú Falls

Naturetrek Tour Itinerary

Outline itinerary

Day 1	Depart London
Day 2	Arrive São Paulo, fly Cuiabá and transfer to Pouso Alegre
Days 3	Excursions from Pouso Alegre
Days 4 – 6	Transfer to Jaguar Flotel and take excursions of the Central Pantanal
Days 7 - 9	Transfer to SouthWild Pantanal Lodge and explore the Pixaim River
Day 10	Fly Cuiabá to São Paulo , overnight
Days 11 – 13	Fly to Iguazú and explore the Falls
Day 14	Fly Iguazú to São Paulo and on to London
Day 15	Arrive London

Departs

June – October

Focus

Birds and Mammals

Grading

A. Gentle walks only

Dates & Prices

See website (tour code BRA03) or brochure

Highlights

- Jaguars and Giant River Otters never missed
- The world's largest parrot, the Hyacinth Macaw
- Agami Heron, Sunbittern and Sungrebe
- Excellent chance of Ocelot, Tapir, Maned Wolf
- Admire the awe-inspiring Iguazú Falls



Jaguar, Toco Toucan, Iguazú Falls



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 3HJ UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Introduction

The Pantanal is the world's largest contiguous wetland and is widely regarded as the finest wildlife destination in the New World. Lying in an enormous sedimentary basin, surrounded by uplands, the Pantanal is dominated by the Paraguay River and its tributaries. During the rainy season, the extensive network of rivers back up and burst their banks, flooding an area the size of Greece and



Yacare Caiman

dispersing a vital mix of nutrients and organic material across the region. However, it is the shrinking of the wetlands during the dry season that creates the spectacular concentrations of wildlife for which the area has become world famous. As the flood waters retreat, considerable numbers of fish and amphibians become trapped in pools, providing a rich source of food for an enormous array of species. Over 500 species of birds, 80 mammals and 50 reptiles have been recorded in the area, including an estimated 10 million Yacare Caiman, the largest concentration of crocodilians in the world.

The tour will visit all of the major habitats of the Pantanal, giving tour participants the chance to witness this incredible environment. Travelling along the Transpantaneira, the only road to penetrate deep into the Pantanal, we will cross a wide range of habitats as dry grasslands and open scrub in the north gradually give way to large semi-deciduous forests and extensive swamps. This habitat gradient ensures that each of our lodges in the Pantanal has its own distinctive wildlife, with an excellent mix of bird and mammal viewing available, including, with luck, some of the region's most charismatic mammals such as Giant River Otter, Giant Anteater and Jaguar.

Iguazú on the border with Argentina is regarded as one of the greatest waterfalls in the world and the damp tropical forests that surround the falls contain a wonderful variety of bird species which can be observed from a network of trails. After a thorough exploration of the Pantanal we spend three nights at Iguazú enjoying the contrast in both scenery and birds.

Itinerary

Please note that the itinerary below offers our planned programme of excursions. However, adverse weather & other local considerations can necessitate some re-ordering of the programme during the course of the tour, though this will always be done to maximise best use of the time and weather conditions available.

Day 1

Depart London

We will leave London Heathrow late evening on a scheduled service flight to São Paulo in Brazil.

Day 2

Land São Paulo, fly Cuiabá and transfer to Pouso Alegre

Following an early morning arrival in Sao Paulo, we board a domestic flight to Cuiabá, the capital of Mato Grosso State. From here we drive approximately 3 hours into the Pantanal, to our first lodge, Pouso Alegre, where we stay for our first two nights.

Heading southwest on asphalt roads, we drive for 100km, to the town of Poconé, which, with 25,000



Hyacinth Macaw

inhabitants, is the county seat for the 5 million acres of the north Pantanal. These 100km's run through different types of tropical dry forest that go by the name of "cerrado" and "cerradão". As you leave the south end of Poconé on your way into the Pantanal proper, you see the dry forests and fields drop slightly into the large flat floodplain of the Pantanal proper, and the 122 bridges begin. After 17km we will encounter the first wooden bridges, often seeing the first assemblage of herons, caimans, and Capybaras. Pouso Alegre's entrance gate is located 12km further south along the well-known 145-km-long "Transpantaneira" raised dirt and gravel road. The lodge is famous for its excellent mammal viewing and birding, much of which one does along the lodge's private 7-km-long, raised driveway. Slow drives on this long entrance road often yield good views of species such as Brown Brocket Deer, Bare-faced Curassows, Chestnut-bellied Guans, Brazilian Tapir, and even Giant Anteaters! On the first 29km of the Transpantaneira, and on the last 500m before reaching the Pouso Alegre Lodge, you will also enjoy your first good views of hundreds of Paraguayan Caimans and dozens of Capybaras. Other wildlife species often seen at Pouso Alegre include Azara's Agouti, Black-tailed Marmoset and Lesser Anteater.

Days 3

Excursions from Pouso Alegre

At Pouso Alegre we shall explore all the major habitats of this incredible ranch, enjoying a mix of drives in our open sided safari truck and gentle walks in easy terrain. As dawn breaks we are likely to hear the raucous calls of the world's largest parrot, the stunning Hyacinth Macaw, as they emerge from their onsite nests, whilst



Brazilian Tapir

fruiting trees attract the attention of beautiful Chestnut-eared Aracari's and Toco Toucans. Venturing into the forest, fly catching Rufous-tailed Jacamar's vie for our attention alongside Blue-crowned Trogons and we shall target other specialist birds of the region including Mato Grosso Antbird, White-lored Spinetail and Ashy-headed Greenlet, to mention a few. The rich forest is also home to three species of monkey and we will be alert to their distinctive social calls. Black-and-Gold Howler Monkeys are highly arboreal, and typically spend much of their time in the upper reaches of the forest and can prove somewhat inconspicuous, unless of course a male unleashes one of his amazing lion-like roars, a sound which resonates through the jungle for up to 3km.

Smaller and more lightly built, Tufted Capuchin Monkeys are very active and forage at all levels of the forest, from the canopy to the forest floor. Their diet is broad, consisting mainly of ripe fruit and insects, but also includes bird eggs, young birds, young squirrels and small lizards. The last of the three species, the Black-tailed Marmoset, is also the smallest of the monkeys in the area and restricted entirely to the Pantanal. Unlike the other primates in the area, Black-tailed Marmosets lack a prehensile tail and have feet with claws instead of flattened nails. Travelling in small family troops, they readily gouge tree bark to extract sap and gum, and can often be located by their bird like twittering and whistles.

The areas of wetland and small freshwater pools lining the approach track to the lodge attract a fabulous mix of waterbirds, including Rufescent Tiger, Striated, Cocoi and Whistling Herons, Roseate Spoonbills, egrets, storks and ibises. One of the most striking of these birds is the enormous Jabiru Stork, a scarce bird throughout most of its range but a familiar sight in the Pantanal.

With the onset of dusk, nocturnal mammals, hidden from view during the day, become active and any evening spotlighting sessions have the potential to yield a fascinating array of mammalian

species. There is an excellent chance of Brown Brocket Deer and Crab-eating Fox and with a little luck we can hope for such delights as Brazilian Tapir, Ocelot or possibly Giant Anteater.

Day 4

Transfer to Jaguar Flotel

We leave Pouso Alegre Lodge early in the morning and drive towards the end of the Transpantaneira Road, which is in the locality called "Porto Jofre". During the 6 hour long, 120 km drive, a wildlife safari in itself, we will be on the lookout for a variety of wildlife that could include family groups of South American Coatis, large aggregations of wading birds and of course, the world's largest rodent, the Capybara, which are always found near water and can occur in groups of up to 20.



Jaguar

As the sun warms the dusty road before us, cold blooded reptiles will be drawn out from cover and with luck we may see Yellow Anaconda, Black and White Tegu Lizard (a kind of Monitor Lizard), Green Iguana, Amazonian Whiptail lizards and Paraguayan Caiman Lizard basking by the roadside. Roadside birds are likely to include an impressive array of raptors, with Snail Kites, Black-collared, Savanna, Roadside and Great Black-Hawks amongst the most commonly seen species. At the opposite end of the spectrum, we will also try our luck at a known stakeout for the highly localized diminutive Fawn-breasted Wren.

Upon reaching Porto Jofre, which lies on the north bank of the 170-m-wide Cuiabá River, we board our radio-equipped search boat and cruise upstream for 15 km to the Jaguar Flotel, arriving in time for lunch, before taking to the water for a late afternoon boat safari on the Piquiri River, where we begin our search for the most elusive of the big cats, the mighty Jaguar! We shall spend the next three nights at the Flotel, using the suites.

Days 5-6

Excursions from Flotel

We will spend two full days at the Flotel, following a routine of morning and afternoon boat safaris, exploring the most Jaguar-rich sections of the Cuiabá, Piquiri, and Three Brothers Rivers, returning back to the Flotel in the middle of the day for lunch and some downtime. Whilst on the boat safari, we are likely to cover a great deal of ground, systematically checking the sandy banks, patches of dense tropical forest on the riverbank, and rush-beds along the water's edge in search of the biggest predator in the Pantanal. These excursions will always be subject to possible changes

following suggestions by local guides and depending on the appearances of other mammals in the area that may also include the arboreal Brazilian Porcupine, Brazilian Tapir and of course, families of Giant River Otters. Four half-day boat trips are scheduled during our stay, in addition to the journey to and from the Flotel where we also be able to enjoy the incredible wildlife of the rivers.

Whilst looking for our quarry, and during our periods ashore, we will doubtless meet with a varied selection of birds and mammals; Capybara, a favourite prey of the Jaguar, are common along the river margins and birds are likely to include flocks of Black Skimmer, Yellow-billed & Large-billed Tern, as well as Pied Lapwing and Collared Plover and a range of other species.

As dusk approaches, thousands of Greater and Lesser Bulldog Bats, descend on the waterways of the Pantanal, creating a magnificent finale to our day on the water. Equipped with long legs and sharp-clawed feet, the two species skim the water surface in search of fish and insects, respectively, storing them in Bulldog-like cheek pouches before returning to the colony.

Maned Wolf Opportunity

An opportunity became possible late in the 2024 season to try to see the spectacular Maned Wolf on an outing from the Flotel. On one afternoon from the Flotel we will attempt to see this iconic creature, the largest canid in the Americas and tallest canid in the world! On one afternoon we will leave the Flotel at around 2pm and travel by motorboat for around 2-hours, wildlife spotting as we go, to a remote lodge. This lodge, which is often used as a research station and where tourists cannot stay, is on the banks of the Piquiri River and beyond the lodge are areas of Cerrado (vast tropical savanna) which the Maned Wolf particularly enjoys and relies on. Each evening between around 5pm and 8pm one to three different Maned Wolf have been visiting the grounds of the lodge where a small offering of food is left for them. Maned Wolf are omnivorous, feeding on small rodents, fruits and seeds. After a short time around the lodge grounds they will continue on their way. The lodge staff can monitor the small population here and provide them with a small helpful offering of food. Water is also available to them in the lodge grounds. Maned Wolf are under great threat across their range, chiefly due to degradation of the habitat they need and it is hopeful that the population here will continue to thrive. Not only will this outing provide us with a unique and privileged opportunity to see Maned Wolf, we will also have the chance to see other wildlife as we travel to and from the site. Jaguar, Tapir, Neotropical Otter, Agami Heron, Sungrebe - there is a lot we may see as we travel. At the lodge itself, while we wait for the appearance of the Maned Wolf, we can scan the area for wildlife. White-lipped Peccaries may be seen around the grounds and Hyacinth Macaws are a frequent sight here. Photography of the Maned Wolf is very much possible. An animal may appear before dark or if they appear after dark, there is some lighting in the grounds which allows excellent views and the chance for photos using this light rather than flash. There are toilets, air conditioning, cold water, hot drinks and snacks available at the lodge while we wait. Depending on the time the animal(s) visit, we will either journey back to the Flotel for dinner or have dinner at the lodge. This is sure to be an exciting outing and another highlight of our visit here.

N.B: Should the Maned Wolf stop visiting the grounds of the lodge or the opportunity to see them becomes very small, we will continue with the usual outing to try and see Jaguar and other species.



Maned Wolf taken at the site by leaders Marcos Felix and Tom Mabbett

Days 7 - 9 Transfer to and excursions from SouthWild Pantanal Lodge

We will use the morning to continue our exploration of the waterway, before beginning the drive back north along the Transpantaneira to the area around Rio Pixaim, taking the opportunity to stop on route and admire the massed ranks of wetland birds that inhabit the open wetland areas around 'Campo Jofre'.

Our destination is the intimate SouthWild Pantanal Lodge (also known by its two older names: Pantanal Wildlife Center and Santa Tereza), our final lodge in the Pantanal and our base for the next three nights. Here we settle into our air conditioned rooms, lunch and have a short nap before heading out in the late afternoon for a boat outing on the 60-m-wide wildlife-rich Pixaim River or a slow wildlife stroll through the 5km of marked, clean forest trails designed by our biologist host.



Toco Toucan

After 3 nights on the flotel, SouthWild Pantanal Lodge offers a different range of wildlife and activities and we will spend the next two full days undertaking a mix of safari drives, walks and boat rides. The lodge benefits from two wildlife observation towers: one in the riverine forest and the other next to a nest of thoroughly-habituated Jabiru Storks, allowing fantastic photographic opportunities. The riverine forest also holds several troops of very confiding Brown Capuchins,

whilst the unmistakable call of the areas resident troop of Howler Monkeys is likely to become a familiar sound as dawn breaks.

The lodge's bird feeders are also regularly visited the world's largest toucan, the emblematic Toco Toucan, as well as a number of very colorful passerines, Red-crested and Yellow-billed Cardinals, Giant and Bay-winged Cowbirds, Scaled and White-tipped Doves and Picazuro Pigeons. The paddocks and pools just outside the lodge garden are loud with the calls of Chaco Chachalacas, Green and Plumbeous Ibis, Yellow-chevroned Parakeets, and Turquoise-fronted Parrots.



Agami Heron

Just beyond the lodge are patches of wooded savannah and regenerating scrub where White-rumped Monjitas, Chotoy Spinetails, Greater Thornbirds, White Woodpeckers, Narrow-billed Woodcreepers and exquisite Long-tailed Ground-Doves are all to be found. A little further, in the gallery forest along the Pixaim River, there are Undulated Tinamous, Blue-crowned Trogons, Chestnut-vented Conebills and startlingly lovely Helmeted Manakins.

The Rio Pixaim is swathed in rich gallery forest and, during the dry season, holds some of the last remnants of water in the area, making it a magnet for wildlife. It also harbors one of the Pantanal's most iconic residents, the rare Giant River Otter. Often found hunting in small family groups of up to 8 individuals, Giant River Otter can measure up to 6.5 feet in length and weigh over 75 pounds. With webbed-feet, a dense-furred coat and broad, flattened tail, they are mobile and ferocious predators that are known in Spanish as 'lobo del rio', meaning 'River Wolf.' Highly sociable by nature, they are the most vocal of the otter species, producing a haunting mix of whistles, screams, and hums, which will hopefully make our task of finding them all the easier. Exploring the rivers and surrounding areas, by boat, gentle walks and vehicle safaris, we have the potential to see all five of the resident kingfishers in South America: Ringed, Amazon, Green-and-rufous, Green & American Pygmy; as well some of the more furtive wetland birds such as the enigmatic Sunbittern and Sungrebe along with a range of heron species including the spectacular Agami Heron. Other mammals live in the drier stretches of countryside where fortunate observers may occasionally see Lesser and even Giant Anteaters feeding on the termites which dot the landscape with their mounds. Another cat we now have a superb chance to observe here is the Ocelot. A small, open air viewing area is set up around 300m from the lodge and this beautiful cat visits now with great regularity and a great majority of our groups succeed in sightings and photographic opportunities are excellent.

Unusual amongst land based lodges in the North Pantanal, over the years; SouthWild Pantanal Lodge has enjoyed some fantastic sightings of Jaguars in the lodge grounds and along the Pixaim River. With only a small number of boats operating on this stretch of the river, if we are lucky enough to see a Jaguar in this area, it is likely to be a very exclusive sighting, but it should be noted such a sighting would be a fantastic bonus and should not be expected.

Finally, we may enjoy a 1-hour spotlighting drive in our open sided safari truck have the potential to reveal yet more wonders of the Pantanal, with the lodge grounds and roadside habitat along the Transpantaneira, providing excellent habitat for Ocelot, Brazilian Tapir and both Anteater species. With the aid of the spotlight, we are also likely to pick up the incredible



Ocelot

eye shine of the Great Potoo, alongside the eloquent Scissor-tailed Nightjar and the impressive Magellan Horned Owl.

All in all, with the productive wildlife watching, the food, service, and air-conditioning, this lodge is a perfect complement to the time we had while at the Jaguar Flotel.

Day 10

Fly Cuiabá to São Paulo

Having already journeyed along much of the Transpantaneira, we are well placed for our return journey to Cuiaba. Enjoying any final early morning sightings, we shall bid farewell to the Pantanal and drive a short distance north along the Transpantaneira to the town of Poconé where we rejoin the tarmacked road to Cuiaba and make our way to the airport.

Here we shall board a mid-afternoon flight back to São Paulo where we will overnight at an airport hotel before taking the onwards journey to The Falls the following morning. The meal this evening in Sao Paulo is at your own expense.

Day 11

Fly São Paulo to Iguazú and explore Falls (Brazil)

Following a good night's sleep, after taking breakfast we shall take a transfer back to São Paulo and board our internal flight to Iguazu airport, where we can expect to land in the early afternoon. By breaking the journey from the Pantanal with a night in São Paulo, this allows us to reach The Falls earlier this day, and a lot more refreshed!

Two National Parks around the falls protect some 240,000 hectares of compact, multi-tiered forest, twenty or thirty metres tall, comprising at least a hundred evergreen tree species, distributed into

stratas intermixed with epiphytes and lianas, and a dense understory dominated by bamboos. This is a forest which is extremely rich in bird species, many of them typical of the Atlantic Rainforest. Most of our time at Iguazú is spent on the Argentine side of the border for the very good reason that the National Park there offers much easier access to the forest via a series of well-maintained trails and dirt roads. However, this does not mean that the Brazilian side of the falls does not have plenty to offer, so we will explore both parks.

All three nights will be spent on the Argentinian side and before crossing the border we will enjoy the spectacular views from

the Brazilian park. The views presented of the falls in this half of the National Park, arguably cannot be rivalled elsewhere. Whilst taking in the falls there will of course be opportunities to see some special birds with may include Red-rumped Cacique, Toco Toucan and Suracua Trogon. Ashy-tailed Swifts may be seen overhead while in the surrounding



Spot-billed Toucanet

Atlantic Rainforest habitat Blue-naped Chlorophonia or Purple-throated Euphonia are possible. We hope also at some point to observe the Great Dusky Swifts which nest on the falls themselves and sometimes can be seen gathering overhead before diving down through the cascading water to their night-time roost..

We will continue to explore the area until late afternoon before crossing over the border and into Argentina where we will be based for the next three nights.

Day 12

Iguazú Falls (Argentina)

This morning we shall rise early and take a morning walk through the grounds of the rainforest owned by the hotel. There is good reason for spending the majority of our time over the Argentinian side of the border, as easier access to and a greater number of extensive forest trails will allow us to, hopefully, encounter a number of species not seen in the preceding days. Our mornings will be devoted to looking for such species including various woodcreepers, flycatchers and tanagers, and in particular we will be hoping to find the exquisite Swallow-tailed and White-bearded Manakins. Of course there are many other possibilities during our walks so we will constantly be on the lookout for who may be lurking in the trees. Birdlife tends to slow down dramatically in the afternoon and we will then largely devote our time to admiring the spectacular waterfalls for which Iguazú is so rightly renowned.

At some stage we will visit the nearby Hummingbird Garden (Jardin de los Picaflores). The garden, which provides fantastic photographic opportunities is home a range of species including the Versicoloured Emerald, Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, Glittering-bellied Emerald and Purple throated Euphonia.

We will also make a stop at the Tri-Border Landmark as the falls also share their borders with not only Brazil and Argentina but also Paraguay.

Day 13

Iguazú Falls (Argentina)

Breakfast this morning will again be early as we prepare to continue our exploration of the Argentinian National Park. Exploration of both the lower and upper trails will be taken to try and locate species which may have yet alluded us, and lunch will be taken inside the park at a local restaurant. This afternoon will give us a chance to gain some further views of the falls. We will take a mini-train up the trails until we reach the Devil's Throat canyon; over half of the water flowing through the river system is channeled into this canyon, and it hosts some of the tallest waterfalls in the area!



Iguazú Falls

Once we have had our fill of the falls, we will take the train back down to the entrance of the park in the late afternoon/early evening, where we will return back to the hotel and take dinner.

Day 14

Fly Iguazu to São Paulo, depart for London

Although we shall be heading home today, there will still be time for a morning excursion after an early breakfast. We shall spend our time birding along the infamous route 101, where a plethora of birds await. From Chestnut-bellied Euphonias to Epaulet Orioles and stunning Long-tailed Tyrants, this area offers a different experience to that found elsewhere in the National Park. As we approach mid-morning it will be time to head back and check out of our hotel, before making the journey back across the border to Brazil.

On the way to the airport we shall take time to stop and enjoy a Brazilian Barbecue lunch and recount our days' and even week's adventures. As early afternoon approaches, we will continue to Iguazu and board our flight to São Paulo where we will catch our international flight back to London.

Day 15

Land London

We are scheduled to land at London Heathrow mid-afternoon.

Focus & Tour Grading

Grade A/B. This is a conventional wildlife viewing tour but please note that some of the excursions may take place at night through uneven terrain and there will be river outings in a small boat. The tour consists of day walks only alongside vehicular and boat safaris and is suitable for those of all ages and degrees of fitness. However please note that as the season progresses, tours departing in September and October (the latter of which also sees an increase in heat and humidity) are substantially warmer than those in June and therefore such excursions may seem more physically demanding if travelling at this time of year. One of the main objectives will be to provide participants with observations of Jaguar in the wild as well as Giant Otters and a range of other mammals. With the aid of local expertise every effort will be made to locate Jaguar but even on the most favourable of days it is unlikely that the animals will be viewable for more than a fraction of the time spent in the field. At all times, including during the searches for Jaguar, due attention will be paid to the wider natural history of the country and as the most conspicuous and widespread members of the fauna, it is probable that a significant amount of time will be spent looking at birds. We see a mouthwatering array of mammals on this tour but we will also be birdwatching every day and seeing a special array of birds too as we seek the mammals. At the Iguazu Falls, there are far fewer mammals possible, so the focus is more heavily centered on the birds here. Please do not hesitate to talk to the Operations Manager if you have any doubts about the suitability of this tour.

Transport in the Pantanal

The Safari Truck will be used around the lodge grounds. When on the main Transpantaneira Road we will be using an enclosed minibus. There may be some occasions where we use the open sided safari truck on the main Transpantaneira Road but with the increasing traffic on this road and likely very dusty, hot conditions, it is better to use an enclosed, air conditioned minibus. The leaders will make the best judgment call. We will still stop and get out to view wildlife and sightings have been prolific in recent seasons. In a minibus it also gives us longer to walk in lodge grounds to break up the longer journeys. In recent years,, the general increase in temperatures and the increased flow of traffic on the Transpantaneira means that even if one car passes, it can leave a long trail of dust. We recommend taking a face covering with you just in case.

Weather

Generally hot (or very hot) and sunny in the Pantanal with temperatures in the daily range 25-35°C but rain is possible at any time and may be prolonged on occasions. Temperatures tend to be at the lower end of the above range in the June time and progress towards the higher end of the scale with increased humidity by October. The weather at Iguazú, is more variable ranging from similar to the Pantanal, although typically a little cooler, to noticeably chillier, especially at either end of the day.

Food & Accommodation included in the price

Accommodation in the Pantanal is in small comfortable lodges, which may lack the amenities of more luxurious establishments but compensate by being in ideal locations. Elsewhere we stay in tourist class hotels throughout. Accommodation is in air-conditioned twin-bedded rooms with private facilities but single rooms may be available on request subject to a supplementary cost.

Wi-Fi will be available at the Flotel and SouthWild Pantanal lodges, whilst the airport hotels and accommodation at The Falls will also have Wi-Fi access. Tea and coffee making facilities are not present in the rooms, but can be found in dining room areas at the Pantanal lodges for free upon request.

All food is included in the price apart from dinner on the one evening we stay in Sao Paulo before flying to Iguazu. Food starts with lunch on arrival day and ends with lunch on the final day of the tour.

Flights from London

As standard we will be using scheduled service flights operating out of London Heathrow direct to Sao Paulo overnight with LATAM Airlines. LATAM provide an excellent service and a schedule that fits our itinerary. If you would prefer, it is possible to fly with British Airways. Doing so will require staying a night near to Sao Paulo Airport on the final day and flying home a day later due to the flight timings. We can of course book this extra night for you. There may be a small surcharge for flying with British Airways and we can advise you if so and the cost.

It is worth mentioning here that should you want a more relaxed start to your holiday we can of course fly you out a day early and book a hotel at Sao Paulo airport for you. This will mean you will get a good night's sleep before then flying on to Cuiaba and starting your holiday. Please let us know on booking if this is of interest.

Pre-holiday

It is worth mentioning here that should you want a more relaxed way to begin your holiday you can of course fly out early and we can book a hotel for you. You would fly to Cuiaba and spend the night there before meeting the rest of the group the following day. This will mean you will get a good night's sleep before the main tour begins. Please let us know if would like to do this and we can provide more information and a price.

Extensions

Should you wish to spend longer in Brazil, you may add an extension either to the beginning or end of your main group tour. There are various options including the spectacular Iguazu Falls, Rio De Janeiro, Giant Anteaters or the Atlantic Rainforest from Sao Paulo. The option to add more nights to target Giant Anteater (at a lodge on the Transpantaneira) and Atlantic Forest (2 hour drive from Sao Paulo) require no extra flying. On the main tour webpage under "tour downloads" there is more information on some of these popular extensions and should you wish to discuss these options the tour's manager Tom Mabbett will be more than happy to help. Please email tom@naturetrek.co.uk or call 01962 733051.



Giant River Otter

How to book your place

In order to book your place on this holiday, please give us a call on 01962 733051 with a credit or debit card, book online at www.naturetrek.co.uk, or alternatively complete and post the booking form at the back of our main Naturetrek brochure, together with a deposit of 20% of the holiday cost plus any room supplements if required. If you do not have a copy of the brochure, please call us on 01962 733051 or request one via our website.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Thank you to Erik Koeslag, Robert Kilby, Gill Hammond and Emma Greenwood for photos.