

# Brazil – Just Jaguars!

Naturetrek Tour Report

14th – 25th June 2023

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Jaguar



Ocelot



Giant Otters



Hyacinth Macaw

Tour report and images by Simon Dicks

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Tour participants: Tom Proença (leader) with ten Naturetrek clients

## Summary

This 'Brazil – Just Jaguars' tour was a triumph. Wonderful views of Jaguar were enjoyed on each of our boat trips from the flotel and Giant Otter were seen well on all but one. A real highlight was the rare sight of a Neotropical Otter which our group watched for half an hour straight after watching a pair of Giant Otter!

The wildlife was plentiful from the moment we arrived at the gate of the Transpantaneira until we passed back through on the journey home. At our first lodge, we enjoyed a sunrise walk where Rufescent Tiger Heron, Jabiru Stork, Wood Stork and Roseate Spoonbill were common. As for mammals, a pair of Crab-eating Fox were seen well, Capuchin Monkeys foraged in the trees around the lodge and South American Coati and Azara's Agouti roamed the grounds. A feeding station attracted species including Saffron Finch, Yellow-billed and Red-crested Cardinal as well as Scaled Pigeon, Ruddy Ground Dove and Crested Oropendola. We enjoyed great views of Yacare Caiman daily with Yellow Anaconda a real bonus!

The Jaguar Flotel is the perfect base for boat trips searching for Jaguar and we were successful with sightings of Jaguar hunting the riverbank and resting on the banks in the open every day. Again, excellent birdlife surrounded us with several species of heron, kingfisher and egret while raptors included Snail Kite, Crested Caracara, Black-collared Hawk, Great Black Hawk, Osprey and Bat Falcon. At dusk, Fan-tailed Nighthawks hunted above us as the sun set.

At our final lodge, there were two undoubted highlights. Wonderful views of an Ocelot at a viewing screen which allows close up views of this special feline. Then on our last night we watched a Brazilian Tapir in the spotlight. What a fabulous trip from start to finish.

## Day 1

**Wednesday 14th June**

A smooth check-in at Heathrow and we boarded the plane. After a delay on the tarmac, we finally left Heathrow, bound for São Paulo,

## Day 2

**Thursday 15th June**

We landed into a cool and cloudy Sao Paulo after an 11 hour flight. After a smooth change of terminals using the shuttle bus and checking in for our next flight, we were ready for the onward journey to Cuiaba.

We landed in Cuiaba at 10.45 local time. After collecting our luggage, we entered the arrivals hall and were greeted by Tom our guide for the tour and met the rest of our group we hadn't yet seen. It was cloudy and cool as a fairly significant cold front had moved in and would be with us for the first couple of days.

While loading the luggage into the minibus, Tom heard Scarlet Macaws calling and pointed them out as they flew by. What a start!

We then began our 100km journey to Pocone, Tom's home town, where we would stop for lunch.

On the way, we had our first views of Yellow-headed Vulture, Greater Rhea and Capybara.

Our lunch stop was at a buffet barbecue place frequented by the locals. We enjoyed our first taste of local cuisine including the obligatory beans and rice (which transpires would be available at virtually every meal bar breakfasts). There was a good choice of salad items, vegetables and a selection of meats from the buffet stand. Tom suggested we wait to choose some meat and it soon became clear why. We would be brought huge skewers of freshly barbecued meats by our servers armed with some large and very sharp knives. They would slice the meat there and then for us at the table and my goodness, were we glad we took Tom's advice! It was delicious. There was a seemingly endless stream of meats including beef, lamb, pork and chicken, all cooked to perfection and full of flavour. Even freshly barbecued cheese was brought out on one of these skewers.

Once we'd had our fill, it was time to continue on to the Transpantaneira, that famous gateway to the Pantanal.

We arrived at the famous sign and took some pictures while our guide and driver moved our luggage from the minibus onto our safari truck.

While all this was happening, the birdlife around us was plentiful and we took the time to enjoy views of Guira Cuckoo, Ringed Kingfisher, Yellow-billed Cardinal, Rufous-bellied Thrush, Bare-faced Ibis and Roseate Spoonbill. Our first sight of Hyacinth Macaws in flight and calling was a real treat. All this and more without even passing under the Transpantaneira sign in the vehicle.

We soon began our journey along the first 29 km of this famous dirt and gravel road, making our way to our first lodge.

We would make several stops along way to enjoy the plentiful wildlife. Snail Kites were seemingly everywhere. We stopped to admire a couple of White-backed Stilts, Maguari Stork, Black-bellied Whistling Duck. Herons and egrets too were numerous, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Cocoi Heron, Striated Heron and Little Blue Heron all seen towards the start of our journey.

Other than the aforementioned Snail Kite, other raptors too were seen regularly. Crested Caracara, Black Vulture, Black-collared Hawk. As you can probably gather, the birdlife is fantastic in this area. Almost every pool we passed had several species of egret, heron and raptor in close proximity. We all enjoy our first views of the numerous Caiman we would see on the trip. All frequenting the pools of water in the fields by the side of the road.

Another highlight of the journey was the magnificent Jabiru Stork, the largest stork in the world at a towering 130 cms tall. This enormous bird is spectacular to behold when stood close by and really does look monstrous when you see them fly.

On one occasion, Tom announces we are stopping for a moment for him to check something out. He climbs down from the vehicle and makes his way over to some trees he had been peering into from the truck as we neared them. He calls for us all to disembark and proceeds to show us a brilliantly camouflaged bird. It's a Great Potoo! We all have excellent views of this fabulous bird. Another highlight and we've not even reached our first lodge. At a comfort stop a little further down the road, we see our second mammal of the day, an Agouti.

We arrive at our lodge, Pouso Alegre, in the dark, spotting some more Capybara on the drive in. We enjoy a nice dinner and retire to bed. It's been a long journey but an exciting one filled with wildlife on the Transpantaneira.

## Day 3

Friday 16th June

### Pouso Alegre

Clear to start with, cool but bright morning.

We meet at 5.20am for a sunrise walk along the road by the lodge. Some of us have been woken rather earlier by the piercing calls of Limpkin. It's still dark and as we walk, we can hear ibis and Limpkin calling. The sunrise is quite beautiful and we are surrounded with birdlife in the plentiful pools by the side of the road. Buff-necked and Green Ibis, Striated and Rufous Tiger Heron, Wood Stork. A Great Kiskadee perches nearby on one of the bridge supports. Roseate Spoonbills are foraging in the pools. Caiman lurk as well, just their noses, eyes and a section of tail visible.

A couple of Greater Rhea are spotted by Tom in the distance and Nigel spots a Toco Toucan flying. Our first sight of this bird which seems more like just a large yellow bill and no body when flying.

Soon, our safari truck comes to collect us and take us for a leisurely drive along the road. Tom spots a Crab-eating Fox in a field some distance away. We enjoy more birding and ten minutes later, much better views of the Fox. This time there are two and quite obviously a male and female as they are stuck together having mated. We watch them for a while and when they eventually separate, we continue to follow them. We are rewarded with superb views as they appear by the side of the road in front of us. One crosses the road and the other proceeds to walk down the road for a time. We follow carefully and edge nearer and enjoy superb views before the fox wanders casually off the road and disappears.

We carry on the gentle drive in our safari truck enjoying the plentiful birdlife around us. We add Large-billed Tern, Roadside Hawk and on our way back to the lodge, Plumbeous Ibis which was perched beautifully at the top of a dead tree calling.

Back at the lodge, it was time for breakfast. A frog was discovered in the ladies bathroom and this would become a fairly common occurrence throughout the tour with several clients discovering a friendly amphibian companion in the bathrooms of the lodges.

After breakfast which consisted of breads, jams, cakes, fruit and cereals, we went back out to the grounds of the lodge and to a feeding station where our guide Tom had been preparing and putting out fruit and seeds. We spent an engaging hour or so admiring the birdlife that came. Numerous Yellow-billed Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Scaled Pigeon and Ruddy Ground Dove all foraged on the seeds on the ground while in the surrounding trees, Giant Cowbird and Greyish Baywing fed on the fruit available. It wasn't just small birds enjoying the feast, several Chaco Chachalaca were making short work of the fruit pieces, a Crested Oropendola also made an appearance perching in full view for us. A Narrow-billed Woodcreeper also made an appearance.

Mammals were represented too with Coati and Capuchin Monkeys enjoying their share.

Eventually, it was time to tear ourselves away from this wonderful spectacle. A metal tower around 30 meters high had been constructed in an area of the grounds around 40 minutes' walk away and this was our next destination.

Again the birdlife was abundant. A Great Antshrike showed splendidly by the footpath, Purplish Jay, another flyby by a Toco Toucan and a Black Hawk, the largest hawk in the Pantanal, all seen as we made our way through the grassy terrain. Tom spotted a distant Orange-backed Troupial. What a stunning bird!

As we neared the tower, a nearby pool held some Caiman, one of which had some babies with her. We spent some time enjoying these sizeable prehistoric creatures.

At the tower, we climbed the metal stairs to the top and enjoyed a wonderful panoramic view of the area. Below us, perched on one of the stabilising wires was a Green Kingfisher. I don't suppose many people have looked upon the bird for this angle before. The feathers almost scaled in appearance from this vantage point. On the fence line, a Little Blue Heron and Bare-faced Ibis were perched. We scanned the area for any visible mammals but sadly none were to be seen.

It was soon time to descend and start heading back for lunch. At the base of the tower, our driver Tell had found a Glittering-throated Emerald visiting the bright pink flowers on a nearby tree. Tell didn't speak a word of English but managed to get us all onto this delightful little hummingbird. It was much the same for species on the way back, but a splendid new addition was a Rufous-tailed Jacamar. Another lovely bird.

As we neared the lodge, Telo, who had carried on ahead of us came up trumps again. He had found a Yellow Anaconda in a pool. This was one of our most wanted targets and we spent some time enjoying watching this fabulous snake. It barely moved but we could see it quite well amongst the low branches of a bush in the pool. He then found another on the other side of this relatively small pool. After a packed morning, it was time for lunch, so we went back to the lodge.

After a lovely lunch which included, meats, rice, beans, salad, and a nice dessert, we had a little bit of downtime. We completed the checklist of sightings from the previous day and the morning. It had been pretty full on since arriving, so it was good to get everything logged.

Later this afternoon we were going for a drive in the safari truck to a waterhole in the grounds of the lodge. As we waited for everyone to get ready, Capuchins were in the trees just outside the lodge foraging. We enjoyed more splendid views before climbing aboard the truck to begin the safari.

The lodge has a 3km long driveway and we would be exploring this this afternoon. We passed by some pools packed with Caiman, Roseate Spoonbill and Wood Stork were commonplace. Tom then spotted a pair of Sunbittern in a pool in the shade of some trees. A beautifully marked bird. Further along the drive were some considerably larger birds, three Greater Rhea in amongst the cattle.

We continued on and turned off towards the waterhole. A Great Black Hawk was perched beautifully in a bush. We watched for a while and admired the size of this huge raptor. Suddenly a Crested Caracara swooped down at the hawk. Soon another joined in, and the three large birds began to squabble. Eventually, the Caracaras left the Hawk in peace so we continued on to the waterhole. On the way, Tom spotted an Undulated Tinamou and some

of us managed to get a glimpse as it flew off low into cover. We parked up at the waterhole and waited to see what would appear.

Before long, a new mammal arrived, or five to be exact. Collared Peccary. They emerged from the bushes and trotted through the field we were parked in. Before long, a Crab-eating Fox made an appearance. A Chestnut-bellied Guan was seen walking on the outskirts of the pool. Another group of Collared Peccary emerged. James then spotted a pair of Lineated Woodpecker on a distant tree. While we enjoyed our first sundowners, a juvenile Great Black Hawk was calling from a nearby tree, a Silver-beaked Tanager consumed pink flowers on a nearby bush and a pair of Hyacinth Macaws flew into a tree nearby. It was proving to be a lovely evening. We stayed at the waterhole until dark, after which we returned to the driveway and went in search of nocturnal wildlife. It wasn't long before Tom spotted a Common Nighthawk on the road ahead of us. As we made our way back to the lodge, another Crab-eating fox was sat by the side of the road.

Back at the lodge it was time for dinner, after which we all retired to bed after a jam-packed day.

## Day 4

Saturday 17th June

### Pouso Alegre lodge. Journey to the Flotel

Cloudy, cold.

We were up for breakfast at 5am and left the lodge at 5.30 after our luggage was loaded onto the safari truck by Telo and Tom. Today, we were heading south on the Transpantaneira to Porto Jofre and then to the Jaguar Flotel.

It was a very cold morning and we were all dressed up in warm clothes, hats and scarves. Clearly the cold front hadn't moved on overnight.

The wetlands around the Transpantaneira are very productive and support a huge assemblage of birdlife.

Plenty of storks, kingfishers and hawks were seen at start of the long journey ahead of us. Our first Chestnut-eared Aracari was spotted in flight, later a couple of Toco Toucans flew past us. Several Roadside Hawk and Black-collared Hawk were perched on the bushes and trees by the roadside. As the day goes on, the sunshine comes out and it's starting to get warm. The cold front seems to have passed.

A Turkey Vulture was spotted on the road ahead of us. It was feeding on the carcass of a Crab-eating Fox. In a tree nearby were several more along with Yellow-headed Vultures, all presumably waiting for their opportunity to feed. In a small pool by the side of the road, a mother Black-bellied Whistling Duck with six young ducklings delighted us as we stopped to have a good look at them.

A new bird for the trip was a Southern Screamer, shortly followed by another new bird spotted by James - a Scarlet-headed Blackbird. A lovely bird!

We carry on down this long and interesting road. Tom knows a spot up ahead where Hyacinth Macaws have nested previously. To our delight, as we pull up to a halt, there is a head poking out of a hole in the tree trunk. Fantastic!

The Hyacinth Macaw is the largest Macaw and the largest flying parrot species. Before this, we'd seen them flying distantly but we were much closer to this one. There was another sitting in a tree left of the one. They really are large birds. Around one metre in length. The one that was in the nest hole then climbed out and gave us the most amazing view of this spectacular bird. A beautiful deep blue colour all over apart from a yellow eye ring and a small yellow patch at the base of the mandible. We stayed here watching these beautiful birds for a while before it was time to continue our journey. We made a brief stop next to what Tom explained was his uncle's farm. He spent much of his youth here and used to work on the farm.

Our next stop was Tom's cousin's house where we had a comfort break. Little did we know at the time, but Tom's cousins would feature quite a lot in the trip. He seemingly has a great number of cousins.

After our comfort break, we continued on, wildlife all around us on this remarkable journey. Numerous pools with Caiman in them, more new birds such as Common Gallinule, Wattled Jacana and a superb Pearl Kite perched on a wire. A delightful bird, the smallest kite in the Pantanal and seemingly unfazed by our presence nearby.

We were now in a section of the Transpantaneira where wooden bridges were becoming much more frequent and slow progress was required to traverse them. The bridges are so numerous that repairs are required fairly frequently, and our progress was halted for half an hour or so as we waited for some repairs to be finished off on one bridge. We took the opportunity to stretch our legs. This gave us the chance to spot some butterflies that were stopping on the roadside bushes.

With only 10km to go, we set off again once the bridge was re-opened. We soon crossed another bridge, the longest in the Pantanal.

Eventually, after a 6 hour journey, we arrive in Porto Jofre. A comfort break while luggage was unloaded from the truck and loaded onto our transfer boat and we cast off heading to our next accommodation, the Jaguar Flotel. Two purpose-built, air-conditioned, floating hotels anchored end-to-end in the heart of Jaguarland, on the 100-metre-wide Piquiri River.

We arrive and are greeted by Xavier the resident biologist, originally from England. He gives us a short presentation and welcome before we are shown to our suites. The accommodations are fabulous, large rooms with two double beds in them. Four metre wide sliding glass doors which offer a panoramic view out onto the river. Absolute luxury.

Lunch is delicious. The usual beans and rice is an option along with salad, meats and fish. All delicious and very welcome since breakfast was quite a while ago.

After lunch, our first boat trip. After strapping on the life jackets, we were off. Wildlife watching from a boat is a completely different perspective. As usual, birdlife was plentiful and habituated to the boats, so excellent views of the multitude of herons and kingfishers were the norm. Caiman weren't fazed by the boat gliding nearby. Large-billed Terns are perched on dead trees jutting from the bank, Anhinga are striking their usual pose as they dry their wings in the glorious sunshine.

The boat driver gets a call about a Jaguar sighting. Before we know it, we're zooming down the river like we're in a bond film. Exhilarating is the perfect description of the experience and as we sweep round the bends in the river, the gunwales almost brushing the surface of the water as the boat leans.

We arrive at the sighting, but the Jaguar has moved out of view behind the tall grass. Some of us are able to make out a few spots by looking through the thick vegetation. Sadly the views are limited to this. Although it's fabulous to see some orange fur and know there is a Jaguar there.

We move on after a little while as this isn't the sighting we're after. Soon another call comes through. We're off again. We arrive at the sighting and several other boats are there. Tom scans the riverbank as we all strain to see what everyone is looking at. Tom directs us to the movement of the grasses. The Jaguar is walking along the bank, obscured by vegetation but the vegetation is moving as it moves so it's fairly easy to track its progress. Our first proper Jaguar and it's our first boat trip. We spend an hour tracking a young male called Shy as he hunts along the river bank. Although often completely obscured from view, every once in a while we get a tantalising glimpse of some spots or a flicking tip of tail. At times, we see a virtually whole cat as he emerges from the grasses closer to the bank to look around or further up the bank to look around as well. What a fantastic experience.

Finally, we watch as this beautiful cat walks through the grasses to the bank and drops down into the river. We watch as he swims across the river. Only the top of his head, ears, eyes and nose are visible. He climbs up the bank the other side and disappears from view into the vegetation. A wonderful first Jaguar sighting and we've been on the river for two and a half hours. What a place.

The light is slowly fading and we make our way slowly back to the flotel. We see Black Skimmers on the shores as we go, and Band-tailed Nighthawks are around us hunting for insects. The colours of the sunset are glorious and bring our first afternoon in Jaguarland to a close.

We're back at the flotel for 6pm. We drop our bags and go to the restaurant area for dinner and the checklist. Each evening, after dinner we'll have a short talk delivered by Xavier on the wildlife in the area. He would also tell us which Jaguars had been seen that day after being shown photos of them taken by the visitors when they get back to the flotel. There is a large catalogue of all the Jaguars in the area and new cats are still being seen fairly regularly. When a new cat is seen, they are added to the records and given a name.

Tonight's talk is on Giant River Otters. Once the interesting talk is finished, we all head off to bed. It's been a long, hot, wildlife-filled day. And we've seen Jaguar!

## Day 5

**Sunday 18th June**

### Flotel

Clear, sunny, warm

We were up for breakfast nice and early at 5:30am and on the boat at 6:30 to begin our search for Jaguars and other wildlife. There are several tributaries coming off the main stretch of the Piquiri River and over the course of the next few days we would visit most of them on this stretch.



The usual suspects of hawks, herons, egrets and kingfishers were in abundance. The Roadside Hawks had now become Riverside Hawks but weren't as numerous as the Black-collared Hawks and Crested Caracara. It was a beautiful, clear morning and the light was glorious for the photographers of the group. Rufescent Tiger Herons were perched nicely against clear blue skies. Tom spotted a Crane Hawk perched on a branch in the distance. Simon spotted an Osprey in front of the boat which took off as we neared giving us a lovely view of this wide-ranging raptor.

Capybara grazed on the banks, not at all disturbed as we drifted past. As we were drifting down one of the aforementioned channels, Simon spotted a Bat Falcon perched on a distant dead tree. Although quite a distance away, this diminutive bird was a welcome addition to the growing species list. We were enjoying our time on the river with Caiman on the banks and terns flying when soon enough, we were motoring along once more, the driver having received a call.

We arrived to see a few boats already watching a Jaguar (Juliet). A similar scenario to yesterday afternoon's sighting where this splendid cat was walking along the river bank amongst the vegetation. This time however, it was more in the open and we could admire it more fully. Clearly on the hunt, we drifted along keeping pace with the Jaguar. It was often in full view, and we spent a full hour enjoying being in the presence of this apex predator. Eventually it moved off inland and out of view, so we continued on our way.

Tom announced we were going to another Jaguar which had been found. Just as we were approaching one of the channels, we slowed right down. We turned the corner and were greeted with the sight of several boats parked up. A huge Jaguar was laid on the edge of the bank in the shade. We joined the gathered boats to look at this magnificent animal. He was enormous. Tom recognised him as Bastet. He was one of the biggest Jaguars that had ever been seen in the area. He was completely non-plussed by his gathered audience and barely moved. Just looked around occasionally, laid his head on his front paws, which you guessed it, were huge. Another couple of boats joined the party, one of which was a filming boat with a camera mounted on a gimbal. It was all very relaxed, six or seven boats with all of their occupants admiring this beautiful animal. In the hour or so we spent with Baptiste, a Blue and Yellow Macaw flew over, a pair of Crested Caracaras mated in a nearby tree, but all the time, our eyes were drawn back to the Jaguar. After five and a half hours on the water so far, it was time to go back to the flotel. We are limited to a maximum of eight hours per day on the water, so we had two and a half left for the afternoon excursion. It had been an incredible morning with two fantastic Jaguar sightings as well as the plethora of birdlife, Caiman and Capybara.

Lunch consumed, we meet at the boat for 3pm. We turn right from the flotel this afternoon looking for Otters. With no joy so far, we turn around and head back in the other direction. Again, plenty of birdlife to be seen. Two Jabiru Storks are seen on the river bank as we round a bend, a Black Skimmer is seen on one of the sandy river banks.

We carry on with no sign of Otters. We head down a tributary where Tom knows there an Otter nest. While Tom is showing us where the Otter nest is, he suddenly spots some movement under some branches behind some lily leaves. A dead Caiman is seen in the water, with a leg sticking up out of the water. Then Tom spots two Giant Otters. They are pushing the dead Caiman away from the nest.

They do this to prevent predators locating the nest. Dead animals will smell of course and risk predators such as Jaguars locating the nest. We proceed to watch two Otters move the Caiman down river. A third joins the party as they play after the work is done.

We spend the next 45 minutes watching these enormous Otters playing and fishing before they eventually move off down river and out of sight. We are about to make our way back to the flotel when another Otter is spotted. This time it's Neotropical Otter swimming up river. A real rarity Tom explains. The Neotropical Otter is around a third of the size of the Giant Otter and much more similar in appearance to our Otters in the UK.

It behaves in much the same way as the giant counterparts we've just been watching. Swimming and fishing and when it catches a fish, it heads to the branches by the shore and climbs up to eat its meal. We watch for a further 15 minutes until it's time to make our way back. We've had a fantastic 8 hours on the river with two major targets seen and a bonus of the Neotropical Otter. As we are zooming back to the flotel, the sunset is gloriously orange. Band-tailed Nighthawks are flying over our heads hunting for insects.

Back at the flotel we drop our bags into our rooms and go to the restaurant for dinner, before which we run through the checklist. With dinner over, Xavier gives us a nice talk on Hyacinth Macaws and when that ends, it's time to retire to bed with another early start tomorrow.

## Day 6

**Monday 19th June**

### Jaguar Flotel.

Hot and clear 30 degrees plus

With breakfast at 5.30am, we are on the boats and raring to go an hour later. It's another gloriously sunny morning. Three Capybara are seen sat on a small island of grass, a Red-throated Piping Guan is spotted sat on top of a broken tree trunk. As we turn down a tributary, we meet another boat coming the other way. The driver tells us of some Howler Monkeys at the end of the channel. We arrive to see 11 Black Howler Monkeys quite high up in the trees, the females a light, buff colour and the males, black. We stay and watch them for a while, but they aren't particularly mobile. We move on, keeping an eye out for any and all wildlife.

Our driver gets a call about a pair of Jaguar that have been found. We're off. As we near the sighting, an impressive roaring sound is heard. We arrive to the gathered boats and are told a pair of Jaguar have just mated. The female (Ginger) is lying on the ground still belly up and the male (Vespa) just about out of sight in the nearby bushes and trees. The female is in full view of the gathered audience. Every once in a while, some of the male comes into view. It's a fabulous sight to see two Jaguars at once. Periodically, the female gets up, moves around a little and then lays back down on the ground. We watch her for a good half hour as she dozes, moves a little, licks her fur and cleans herself. Eventually, she sloped off into the bushes and out of sight. Another fantastic Jaguar sighting.

We move on, exploring the river and its channels. Tom takes us to a spot he knows where Proboscis Bats roost. Sure enough, three of these delightful little bats are roosting on the tree trunk. As their name suggests, they have small elongated noses. Our boat driver expertly manoeuvres the boat to get us nice and close to them so we can take some pictures.

We move on slowly, still taking our time to admire the myriad bird life. A Black-crowned Night Heron is perched on top of a bush and allows us to glide slowly by, giving excellent views, ever-present Anhingas, Snail Kites and Riverside Hawks are numerous.

Then in one of the channels, we come upon a Giant Otter. It is eating a fish, completely unfazed by us watching and listening as it crunches loudly through the body of the fish. We watch for a while as it carries on hunting and swimming in the channel before swimming out of sight.

In a different channel, we find a new heron for the trip - a Capped Heron is perched on a dead tree. A lovely bird with long, streaming cream coloured feathers emerging from the back of its black capped head and bright, pale blue skin around its eye and at the base of its beak. Coming out of the channel, we rejoin the main stretch of river and soon catch sight of a family of four Giant Otters. We follow them and watch as they climb up onto the river bank. They really are impressive animals. Seeing them out of the water it becomes even clearer just how large and imposing they are. In the bright sunlight, their fur is smooth and glistening. Eventually we leave them be and they swim swiftly down river. It's been a great few hours on the river so we start heading back to the flotel. On the way, we pass Wattled Jacana as they walk along on top of the Lily pads, a Rufescent Tiger Heron stood on a dead tree, three Caiman are lazing on the edge of some Lilys. Our boat driver manages to position the boat quite close to them. It's fabulous to see them this close. They just sit there, not at all bothered by us, warming themselves in the sun. We pass four more laid out on the river bank sunning themselves. We get back to the flotel just after 11am. We have some spare time until lunch and we're due to meet back at the boat for the afternoon session at 2.30pm.

Each boat trip is made with the intention of finding Jaguar. With six trips during our time at the flotel, the plan is to maximise the chances of seeing the target species. So far, we've seen Jaguar on every trip. This trip, this afternoon would not disappoint either.

We hear news of a sighting. We arrive to a gathering of boats but the Jaguar is tucked away in the shade of the bushes. It's obscured but we manage to see some of it at least. There is news of two more further down river. Off we go only to find that one is still around, but it too is obscured by the vegetation as it sits in the shade. We wait to see if it will move to a better position. It does move, but only to an even more hidden position. We move on.

Amongst the usual birdlife, we see another new species for the trip. A Black-capped Donacobius shows very nicely for us, Wood Storks are perched on dead trees, a pair of Jabiru Stork are close to the water's edge as we glide by, a Rufous-tailed Jacamar is perched very nicely, a huge Caiman basks on the river bank. We pass several trees with Solitary Cacique nests hanging from them.

It's been another lovely afternoon on the river but as yet, we've not really had a good view of a Jaguar. Little did we know this was going to change very soon. Our driver got the call. One of the Jaguars from earlier this afternoon was now visible. It was getting late in the afternoon now, so we made our usual dash for it. We arrived to see a beautiful Jaguar laid on the bank. Another superb view. This Jaguar is Ripple, as we would find out later this evening from Xavier. We park the boat by the river bank opposite her and just admire this wonderful scene. We wouldn't have long with her as the sun was getting lower and lower but as it did, the orange of the setting sun would create a magical scene and over the next 20 minutes, we watched as she barely moved other than her head looking around at the gathered audience and occasionally licking her fur. With the light fading we had to tear ourselves away. Our driver cleverly drove the boat into the middle of the river so we could pass the Jaguar a bit

closer and quietly so not to disturb her. It was then time to dash back to the flotel before it got too dark, with the usual accompaniment of Nighthawks flying above us as well as Proboscis Bats and a Fishing Bat.

Back at the flotel, we dropped our bags and met in the restaurant for dinner, the checklist and then Xavier's talk on Jaguars. Another very successful day.

## Day 7

**Tuesday 20th June**

### Jaguar Flotel

Warm, clear, sunny, 32 degrees

Today would be our last full day at the flotel. We all met at the boat for 6.30am. A large Katydid was found on the lid of a nearby bin.

On the river, in the lovely morning light, we passed an Amazon Kingfisher, Black-capped Donacobius, an Orange-backed Troupial was seen and heard singing. Also seen were Savannah Hawk, Great Black Hawk. Pied Plover was our first new bird of the day as two flew past our boat. Ringed Kingfisher, Riverside Hawk, Black Vulture, Crested Caracara and Anhinga the usual supporting cast.

Before long, our second new bird species of the day was found. This time, four Boat-billed Herons were found sitting in a tree. Although not easy to see due to the thick foliage, some expert manoeuvring by our driver gave us good views. Two adults and two juveniles were present and seeing their large bills, their name certainly seems appropriate.

We'd been on the river just over an hour when one of our target mammals was spotted. Four Giant Otters swimming and fishing. Likely the same family of four we'd seen the previous day. Again, we followed quietly as they patrolled the river, occasionally climbing up onto the bank to mark their territory. We watch for a time as they swim, hunt and play before moving on. In between the mammal watching and searching there is always plenty of other wildlife around to keep our attention. We see more Caiman and Capybara. We spot another Black-collared Hawk and then another Bat Falcon.

News of a Jaguar sighting breaks. After a 20 minute blast along the river, we come to a gathering of boats. We arrive and no Jaguar is in sight. We search the river bank looking for any movement. Tom then spies some movement of the tops of the bushes. Ah, there it is. Just tantalising glimpses as it moves along in the bushes, mostly out of view. It's clearly hunting.

Then, the Jaguar, (yesterday morning's female, Ginger, emerges onto the bank in front of us and walks along in full view. She even comes down onto the sandy beach in front of us and the rest of the enthralled audience. We watch as she makes her way along the beach before turning inland and back into the bushes. Again, she emerges into view up on top of the river bank and continues along and then down onto the other area of sandy beach. At one section, the beach disappears and becomes a platform of bushes where the bank has collapsed. She pauses as if thinking whether to proceed on this route or go back up the bank on what looks to be more solid ground. She carries on and crosses over the fallen bushes. She's now back on a sandy beach area. This is turning into one of

the best sightings we've had. We're getting such good views of her and really quite close too as the river isn't especially wide at this section. Eventually, she turns back inland and disappears back into cover. What a fantastic experience.

We make our way back to the flotel for lunch after another superb morning out on the river.

Lunch eaten, we're back on the river at 2:30 for our last afternoon. Soon, news of a Jaguar sighting comes through, so we speed there and arrive to see it laid down on the bank just back from a sandy beach. It's Shy, the Jaguar we saw on our first afternoon here. We spend the whole afternoon watching her. It's another fantastic afternoon Jaguar watching in the Pantanal.

Our experience of watching Jaguars has either been watching them as they sit by the river bank not doing very much or actively hunting, on the move and walking along the bank in search of food. Which at this time of year, we are told is mostly Caiman.

As the afternoon progresses, some Caiman drift past her. She can clearly see them as she raises her head and looks briefly in their direction. A couple of Caiman climb up onto the bank and bask. A Rufescent Tiger Heron walks past them and they show no interest. Every now and then, Shy raises her head to see what's what and then goes back to relaxing, expending no energy, showing no interest.

Three Caiman are now on the beach basking. Shy sits up and looks in the direction of the nearest one. From where she is up the bank, she has a vantage point. The bank slopes down to the beach area and there is a section of bushes between her and the open area where the Caiman are. We all start to watch more intently, waiting to see if anything will happen. The Jaguar is on the move. She's walking slowly in the direction of the Caiman. She comes down the bank and makes her way to the bushes. She's brilliantly camouflaged and obscured by the bushes. It's very exciting to watch. She emerges from the bushes and begins to come closer towards the river. There is clearly a shallow gulley between the beach and the bank, and she walks down into the gulley and then up onto the beach. She's still about 60 yards from the Caiman but is now showing more interest in them and is in full view for us. She looks at the Caiman and then at us. She's now stretching her neck up to see the Caiman.

She then begins to stalk towards them. Her head is lower and she's crouching a little as she slowly begins to move towards them. There is a low, thin patch of bushes in front of her between her and the Caiman. She stops and lays down. She seems quite content just laid there and for the next hour makes very little movement. No further attempt to move closer to the Caiman is made, just an occasional crane of the neck to check on where they are. The sun starts to set, and this beautiful cat is bathed in the lovely orange light. We spend the rest of the afternoon into the evening just enjoying being in the presence of a Jaguar. This being our last night on the flotel, this is our last Jaguar we see. With the light fading more rapidly now, we leave the scene and speed back to the flotel. As usual, the Nighthawks are out hunting as well as bats. It's a lovely way finish the day.

Back at the flotel, it's time for dinner and the checklist. Xavier gives us a talk on Caiman, and we retire after another successful day on the Piquiri River.

## Day 8

Wednesday 21st June

### Jaguar Flotel/Southwild Pantanal Lodge

Warm, clear, sunny, 32 degrees

It's time to leave the flotel and begin our journey back to the docks and then make our way to our final lodge of the holiday. We pack up our belongings and leave our luggage outside our suites. They'll be loaded onto the boat while we have breakfast.

We leave the flotel at 7. It's another beautiful day. While only a short journey of 30 minutes to the docks, we still have time to look for Anaconda on the banks of the river. Sadly, unsuccessfully although we do see a couple of Pied Plover as well as the usual kingfisher and egret species.

Once at the docks, there is time for a comfort break and Tom goes in search of the Hyacinth Macaws that are known to frequent the area by the docks. Plenty of Crested Caracara are roaming the grounds by the houses but sadly no Macaws. Black Vultures are in the trees nearby. Two Scaled Pigeon are on the telegraph wires above. We're just about to get aboard our safari truck when Gordon jogs up to tell us that the Hyacinth Macaws have just flown in. We disembark and go to see them. We find one perched on top of a hut. It then flies up into a nearby tree next to a second one. Then a Chestnut-eared Aracari flies into a nearby tree. What a bird! It's showing brilliantly and we're all delighted to be seeing this so well. The Hyacinth Macaws then fly from the tree down onto some tree stumps. We are able to get really close to them as they are well habituated. We enjoy these wonderful views until they take off and fly away. We're still not finished here though as Tom spots a Palm Tanager, a new bird for the trip. Then a distant Dark-billed Cuckoo is seen in one of the trees.

Soon it's time to board the safari truck and head to the Transpantaneira and make our way north. Before long, we're stopped as one of the bridges is impassable due to repairs. Much as we did on the way south, we take the chance to wander along the road in search of wildlife. We find a particularly productive spot with one tree holding a Common Tody Flycatcher, another Palm Tanager. In other trees we see Rufous Hornero, Monk Parakeets, and Yellow-chevroned Parakeets. White-winged Swallows hunt over the pools nearby. Crested Caracaras fly close by, one carrying nesting material. At the base of one tree are two Giant Ameiva Lizards, a splendidly coloured male and a female. A welcome addition to the reptile count. A Glittering-throated Emerald distantly nectars on some bright pink flowers.

Soon the bridge repairs are completed, and we set off again. At around 12.30pm, we arrive at our last lodge. Southwild Pantanal Lodge or Santa Tereza its historical name. We are shown to our splendid rooms. In the grounds is a pool. The lodge is on the banks of the River Sarare. There are hammocks outside each lodge, feeders in the trees and across the entrance road is a tower which overlooks an active Jabiru Stork nest. It's a lovely scene and we'll spend our next three nights here enjoying river trips and walks in the nearby woodland.

But first, lunch. As usual, the food is great, with meat, fish, rice, salad, beans and vegetables on offer. After lunch, we have some time to relax or investigate some of the grounds. It's a lovely place. There are Capybara in the garden - not a sentence one is accustomed to saying. Even more unusual, Caiman are crossing the path leading to the woods nearby. Life in the Pantanal is great.

We meet at 3.30 for a walk and make our way to the path leading to the woodland. A Caiman is sunning itself just off the path. Tom wanders over to it and encourages it away from the path towards the river by slapping it on the tail. We're all taken aback. Tom explains that behind the caiman is a pretty safe place to be, the sides and in front are to be avoided. Ok Tom, we'll take your word for it.

A family of Capybara is bathing in a pool nearby. We walk along the path, past the warning sign advising to not walk alone, a minimum of two in a group, as we are entering a Jaguar zone.

In the woodland, there are Banana trees with fruit on them, a fallen tree branch which has been colonised by bright orange fungus, a large Katydid. Tom finds some Howler Monkeys, we also see a Crested Oropendola, Streaked Flycatcher, a pair of Little Woodpecker, Rufous Hornero, a distant Picazuro Pigeon. It's a successful first walk at our new base.

Back at the lodge, we enjoy a delicious dinner and then get ready for our evening at the Ocelot viewing area. We leave as it's just getting dark to be in position before darkness falls completely.

We pass an Owl Butterfly resting on a large leaf. After a 10 minute walk, we arrive at the viewing area and take our seats. After an hour sitting in silence, there is some movement in the bushes behind the viewing area. A small but beautifully patterned cat stealthily appears and peers through the bushes looking at the setup of branches where food has been put out for it. It silently moves forward and climbs up onto the branches first looking straight at us and then working its way along the branches in full view of its transfixed audience picking up and eating the morsels left for it. It's a mesmerising experience watching this beautiful Ocelot. It is only present for around three and a half minutes but what views we had before it melted back into the forest.

Although we didn't see the Ocelot return, a Tropical Screech Owl flew through the spotlighted viewing area and landed on a branch just behind us. It stayed for over 10 minutes, so we were quite content watching that, occasionally glancing back in case the Ocelot returned. After a while it was time to return to the lodge by torchlight. It had been a fabulous day topped off with the sight of an Ocelot.

## Day 9

Thursday 22nd June

### Southwild Pantanal Lodge

Warm, clear, sunny, 32 degrees

We were up early for a pre-breakfast walk. A Sunbittern was by the pool as we waited for Tom to arrive. Then off into the woods we went. Along the path, Tom stopped to show us a Jaguar footprint in the sand. This was on the path we'd walked back on last night after the Ocelot. Tom then informed us he had heard a Jaguar while we were waiting for the Ocelot to appear.

It was a productive walk at a new site and environment and several new birds for the trip were found. A Common Today Flycatcher which we'd seen before of course, along with Chaco Chachalaca but then Masked Gnatcatcher, Flavescent Warbler, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper and Rufous Cacholote were all new species for the trip. A brief view of a Toco Toucan was a nice bonus. And all before breakfast.

Once we'd returned to the lodge for breakfast, it was time for our first boat trip. Not before a small Water Snake was spotted outside one of our rooms.

We were on the water at 8.30am. Another glorious, still morning in the Pantanal and we gently floated along admiring the myriad birdlife. A Blue-Crowned Motmot was a super new bird for the trip. Anhinga, Neotropic Cormorant, Rufescent Tiger Heron, Little Blue Heron, then the egrets, Cattle, Great and Snowy all in good numbers. Amazon Kingfisher and Ringed Kingfisher. Our boat drivers had a trick for us, when we found a Ringed Kingfisher, they'd stop the boat and throw a fish out into the water for the Kingfisher to swoop down and pick up. A nice photographic opportunity if you were quick enough.

We carried on downriver adding Pale-legged Hornero, Crested Caracara, Snail Kite, Black-collared Hawk were raptor additions to the day as well as Wattled Jacana on the lily pads by the shore. A Toco Toucan was again spotted or rather the bill of one was. As we tried to manoeuvre the boat into a better position, it took off from the top of the tree and flew across the river above us.

On our way back up river, the Toco Toucan that had flown across the river earlier, was spotted perched on top of a dead tree. A much better view than earlier that morning. Back at the lodge, we had some free time to wander and explore. Saffron Finches were feeding under the feeders in the garden. Peach-fronted Parakeets were in the trees in the garden, two Buff-necked Ibis foraged on the ground with nearby Cattle Tyrants. Gilded Hummingbirds visited the feeders.

After lunch we loaded up into the safari truck for a safari drive along the Transpantaneira. A pair of Guira Cuckoos were perched nicely on a termite mound giving us good views, several Greater Rhea were encountered and then two Hyacinth Macaws, one of which had lost its tail. As we progressed, we came upon a well-hidden Marsh Deer which Tom spotted. Although quite close to the road, the vegetation was thick but it was great to see this new mammal. Further on, some Marsh Deer were spotted in a field. We were seeing some nice mammals on this drive and this continued when we saw some Capybara. We encountered a tractor coming the other way. It was grinding the surface of the road down and flattening out the ruts that had been formed by vehicles after the recent rains. The downside to this was the huge amount of dust it was creating making wildlife spotting difficult. The dust clouds were so thick we were soon using our jackets and scarves to cover our faces. We decided to turn around and head back to the lodge. We encountered the Hyacinth Macaws again and stopped for a time to enjoy watching them again. As we were driving along the drive to the lodge, three Crab-eating Foxes were seen. It had been a productive drive.

We had a quick turnaround and left for the Ocelot hide. It was a lot busier this evening after a large group had arrived at the lodge earlier that afternoon. Sadly, the Ocelot would not appear this evening but a brief appearance by a Crab-eating Fox was the only consolation. We left and made our way back to the lodge for dinner.



## Day 10

Friday 23rd June

### Southwild Pantanal Lodge

Warm, clear, sunny, 32 degrees

An early rise in time for a 5:30 sunrise boat trip. An absolutely beautiful morning greeted us as we floated along the river. The sky was filled with wonderful orange colours, and we drifted along accompanied by the sounds of herons, Chaco Chachalacas and a Sunbittern whistling. Caiman could be heard grunting. Egrets left their overnight roost in great numbers, a real spectacle.

Later on, we watched a Capuchin family in the trees by the river. Plenty of herons and Snail Kites were dotted along the river banks and in the trees overhanging the river. All in all, it was a beautiful, enjoyable sunrise boat safari.

Having returned to the lodge for breakfast, we had a trail walk scheduled next. We met at 8.40am and started off on the same trail we had walked the previous day into the woods. Woodland birding in the tropics is not easy. Rarely do the birds stay still very long and getting a clear view is a challenge, but nonetheless, we still found some new species for the trip. A splendid Purple-throated Euphonia, Silver-beaked Tanager and Planalto Slaty-Antshrike were all seen this morning. Mammals seen included an Agouti and more Capuchins. On our way back to the lodge, a lovely but sadly unidentified orange butterfly landed on a nearby tree trunk and a dragonfly, again sadly unidentified landed on a thin branch.

Once out of the woods, the heat of the day was quite ferocious, even though it wasn't yet 10 o'clock. We were given the option of relaxing around the pool and lodge or we could go for another walk in the grounds to an area we hadn't yet been to. Half the group chose the former option and those of us willing to brave the heat headed off. Despite the heat, we saw some good birds. Monk Parakeet, Buff-faced Ibis again just outside the lodge garden, Great-Black Hawk and Yellow-headed Vulture. Lizards rustled in the undergrowth, but we couldn't see them properly as we walked past them. Then, another new bird spotted by Nigel - a pair of Chotoy Spinetail. Fabulous looking birds with their colourful markings and long tails. We entered a small patch of woodland and stopped to watch and listen. It was rather cooler in here out of the blazing sun. Simon spotted a bird high up in the canopy, although difficult to see well, when it flew Tom identified it as a Squirrel Cuckoo. Another good bird. We watched a Crested Oropendola for a while before deciding to make our way back to the lodge. On the way, Tom pointed out a Thrush-like Wren. Back at the lodge, we had some time to relax either side of lunch at 12. An opportunity to avoid the heat in the middle of the day.

At 3pm, we had another boat trip. This would replace a safari drive as the dust kicked up by the vehicles on the Transpantaneira was going to be too thick again most likely.

It wasn't long before we were watching an Iguana in a tree above the river. As usual, the boat drivers were able to position us very well so we could all enjoy this fabulous reptile. Moving on, Tom spotted a Whistling Heron. We'd not seen one of these before. It was perched nicely so we could all see the couple of long feathers at the back of its head and see the blue skin around its eye contrasting with its pink bill. Further downriver, a large Caiman was

sunning itself on the river bank. Its mouth open as it tried to cook its body temperature. Again, the boat driver positioned us beautifully to get a full view of its huge teeth.

A Black-collared Hawk perched in a tree not too high above the river, caused the boat drivers to stop the boats. It was time for their party trick again. They threw a fish into the river and the hawk swooped down to collect it off the surface of the water. A great display. Our driver tried it again, but the hawk would not play this time.

The driver throwing a fish into the river did not go un-noticed by another bird. A huge Jabiru Stork was flying straight for us. It flew just over the boat and its awestruck occupants and landed on the banks nearby. The boat drivers carefully manoeuvred up to the stork so it was only a few metres away. The driver threw a fish over and the stork caught it in its huge bill. This Jabiru was well known and one of the pair from the active nest in the lodge grounds. It had become accustomed to the boat driver's trick of throwing fish not the river for the kingfishers and hawks and obviously wanted to get a share of the spoils. A couple more fish and we left it in peace. Or so we thought, after we'd moved downstream, we noticed it had taken off and was coming to find us again. Another superb close flyby and it landed further down river behind us. An incredible sight to see this huge bird fly so close to us.

On our way back to the lodge now and we stop to watch a group of Howler Monkeys. There are two youngsters in the group and the troop soon move off and are lost to view in the trees. We continue on, a Sungrebe flashes across the river a distance in front of us. It lands on the Lily pads but is only in for a split second as it scampers out of sight. The sun is beginning to set now and there's still time for more birdlife before we reach the lodge. A Black-fronted Nunbird, more Howler Monkeys and another Bat Falcon are all enjoyed. This view of this falcon is the best we've enjoyed so far. Its orange feathers almost glow in the orange of the lowering sun.

Back at the lodge, as it's our last night, a lovely spread of sandwiches, hams, cheese, bread and olive oil dips has been laid on. We enjoy these with a tasty and refreshing Caipirinha sundowner.

After enjoying the food, we get ready to leave for the last visit to the Ocelot viewing area. As the path enters the woods, Fireflies are displaying in front of us. These tiny insects delight us with their soft glowing luminescence, and we watch for a short time before they disperse. Sadly, there is no sign of the Ocelot this evening. A Crab-eating Fox makes a fleeting appearance but that is all the shows in the viewing area so we walk back to the lodge to have some dinner.

After dinner, which again consists of some delicious local cuisine accompanied by a drink very reminiscent of Mulled Wine, we embark on a night walk. Our first stop is to a spot where Tom knows a Tarantula nests. It's there! Another new species for the trip although not all of us 'enjoyed' seeing this one.

The walk this evening would be along the drive to the lodge. Tom is armed with a powerful spotlight and we're accompanied by our boat drivers. We're on the lookout for anything in the grounds and in the trees. Scanning one of the fields Tom spots three Brocket Deer, their eye shining in the spotlight. In the road, a leaf frog is found but we're unsure of species, next a purple crab is found in the road. A productive walk so far and the undoubted highlight was about to be found by Tom.

Walking along the road and Tom was scanning left and right with the spotlight. We were all very quiet so not to disturb whatever we might find. Suddenly Tom said Tapir in a loud whisper. We all stopped in our tracks as Tom

shone the spotlight on this wonderful creature. It was quite distant in a field and was quite undisturbed as it went about its business foraging. Absolutely fantastic! We all came here hoping to see a Tapir. It was on everyone's wish list and here we were, on the last walk of our last full day in the Pantanal watching one of our target species. As it worked its way along the field, we tracked it as we walked along the road. We lost it to view as it went behind a large clump of bushes. What a fabulous experience. We carried on walking and searching, for a time but then turned back to return to the lodge. We managed to relocate the Tapir for a final few minutes before it was lost to view again, and we wandered back to lodge and headed to bed on a high.

## Day 11

**Saturday 24th June**

### Southwild Pantanal Lodge

Warm, sunny and clear.

Our last day in the Pantanal. Tom treated us to a lie in on our last morning with breakfast being at 7am. We were going for another walk in the woodland this morning and left at 8am. Another hot day was forecast today.

The new species kept on coming even on our last day with a Sayaca Tanager and Black-tailed Tityra seen this morning along with Straight-billed Woodcreeper. We also found a group of Capuchins. Some were displaying to us trying to move us along. We enjoyed watching these athletic little monkeys as they travelled along the in the trees, occasionally performing huge leaps from one tree to another. They put on quite the show.

All too soon, it was time to return to the lodge to load up the transfer vehicle and begin the journey back up the Transpantaneira.

We left the lodge at 10am. Our first stop would be Piuval Lodge. On the journey there we would still be able to enjoy the wildlife viewing. We saw Greater Rhea, Southern Lapwing, Jabiru Stork of course as well as kingfishers and Snail Kites.

Tom spotted a snake in the road, sadly it had been run over.

We arrived at Piuval Lodge at 11.45 and said our goodbyes to Nigel who was staying here for a couple of nights then continued our journey. Tom spotted a long green snake on the road a distance ahead. We slowed down and tried to get closer, but it didn't hang around and zoomed off the road into the bushes. Although not confirmed it is thought it was a Caninana or Rat Snake.

Another interesting encounter was with a huge herd of cattle being driven down the road by Pantaneiros. Tom counted over 300 cattle. A real spectacle to see and wait for as they crossed the bridge in front of us.

Eventually we made it onto the tarmac roads and made our way to Cuiaba. We stopped at a local supermarket so we could buy some of the delicious coffee Tom had been making us throughout the trip. One of our party had been hankering for a packet of crisps for a while, so took advantage of the supermarket stop to quench her craving.

We made another stop at a souvenir shop which for some reason was not open on a Saturday to the disappointment of a couple of us.

A couple of hours later we arrived at Parque Mae Bonifacia. This was a surprise stop with one last wildlife target in mind. After a time spent searching, Tom found what he was looking for. Black-tailed Marmosets. These delightful little monkeys were as tame as can be and quite happy to come up to you and take pieces of fruit from our hands or just dropped at our feet. We spent a good hour and a quarter with the monkeys. Three or four Azara's Agoutis also joined the free fruit party, and it was great to see them so close although they were quite skittish and would occasionally dash off into the woods. A Bananaquit was heard calling and on the way back to the bus, a Squirrel Cuckoo was seen as well.

Back on the bus, we made our way to the airport arriving in good time to check in. Tom stayed with us making sure all went smoothly at check-in and bag drop and his invaluable assistance was appreciated.

Once all of us were checked in and bags dropped, we thanked Tom for being such a fantastic guide and for his assistance at the airport and said our goodbyes. He really had been superb throughout.

The flight left Cuiaba just about on time and we settled in for the 2 hour journey to Sao Paulo.

Landed at about 21:30 in Sao Paulo, we said our goodbyes to Richard, Jill, Claire and Jenny who were travelling on within Brazil to extend their holidays.

After passing through passport control and security, we made our way to terminal 3 using the walkway. A walk of around 10 mins.

Then it was just a case of waiting for our flight to London. It departed almost on time and the long journey home overnight began with memories of the tour set to live long in the memory.

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## Species lists

### Mammals

| Common name           | Scientific name                  | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|                       |                                  | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Ocelot                | <i>Leopardus pardalis</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Jaguar                | <i>Panthera onca</i>             |           |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |
| Crab-eating Fox       | <i>Cerdocyon thous</i>           |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| South American Coati  | <i>Nasua nasua</i>               |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Neotropical Otter     | <i>Lontra longicaudis</i>        |           |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Giant Otter           | <i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i>    |           |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |
| Lowland Tapir         | <i>Tapirus terrestris</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Collared Peccary      | <i>Pecari tajacu</i>             |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Marsh Deer            | <i>Blastocerus dichotomus</i>    |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Red Brocket           | <i>Mazama americana</i>          |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Proboscis Bat         | <i>Rhynchonycteris naso</i>      |           |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |
| Azara's Capuchin      | <i>Sapajus cay</i>               |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Black-tailed Marmoset | <i>Mico melanurus</i>            |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Black Howler Monkey   | <i>Alouatta caraya</i>           |           |    |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Azara's Agouti        | <i>Dasyprocta azarae</i>         |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |
| Capybara              | <i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i> | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Great Fishing Bat     | <i>Noctilio leporinus</i>        |           |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |
| Black Myotis          | <i>Myotis Nigricans</i>          |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |

### Birds (H = Heard only, E=Endemic)

| Common name                  | Scientific name               | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|                              |                               | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Greater Rhea                 | <i>Rhea americana</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Red-winged Tinamou           | <i>Rhynchotus rufescens</i>   |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Undulated Tinamou            | <i>Crypturellus undulatus</i> |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | H  |    |    |
| Southern Screamer            | <i>Chauna torquata</i>        | ✓         |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |
| White-faced Whistling Duck   | <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>    |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Black-bellied Whistling Duck | <i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i> | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  |
| Chaco Chachalaca             | <i>Ortalis canicollis</i>     | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Rusty-margined Guan          | <i>Penelope supercilialis</i> |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Chestnut-bellied Guan - E    | <i>Penelope ochrogaster</i>   |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Blue-throated Piping Guan    | <i>Pipile cumanensis</i>      |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Bare-faced Curassow          | <i>Crax fasciolata</i>        | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Band-tailed Nighthawk        | <i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i>  |           |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Pauraque                     | <i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i> |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Little Nightjar              | <i>Setopagis parvula</i>      |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Great Potoo                  | <i>Nyctibius grandis</i>      | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Glittering-throated Emerald  | <i>Chionomesa fimbriata</i>   |           | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Guira Cuckoo                 | <i>Guira guira</i>            | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Greater Ani                  | <i>Crotophaga major</i>       |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Smooth-billed Ani            | <i>Crotophaga ani</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |

|                              |                                  | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| Common name                  | Scientific name                  | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |   |
| Squirrel Cuckoo              | <i>Piaya cayana</i>              |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |   |
| Picazuro Pigeon              | <i>Patagioenas picazuro</i>      |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |   |
| Pale-vented Pigeon           | <i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>   |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |   |
| Sungrebe                     | <i>Heliornis fulica</i>          |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |   |
| Grey-cowled Wood Rail        | <i>Aramides cajaneus</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Common Gallinule             | <i>Gallinula galeata</i>         |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Purple Gallinule             | <i>Porphyrio martinica</i>       |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Limpkin                      | <i>Aramus guarauna</i>           | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| White-backed Stilt           | <i>Himantopus melanurus</i>      | ✓         | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Southern Lapwing             | <i>Vanellus chilensis</i>        |           | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Pied Plover                  | <i>Hoploxypterus cayanus</i>     |           |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Wattled Jacana               | <i>Jacana jacana</i>             | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Black Skimmer                | <i>Rynchops niger</i>            |           |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Yellow-billed Tern           | <i>Sterna fuscata</i>            |           |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Large-billed Tern            | <i>Phaetusa simplex</i>          |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |   |
| Sunbittern                   | <i>Eurypyga helias</i>           |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |   |
| Wood Stork                   | <i>Mycteria americana</i>        | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Maguari Stork                | <i>Ciconia maguari</i>           | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Jabiru                       | <i>Jabiru mycteria</i>           | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Anhinga                      | <i>Anhinga anhinga</i>           | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Neotropic Cormorant          | <i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>   | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |   |
| Plumbeous Ibis               | <i>Theristicus caerulescens</i>  |           | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Buff-necked Ibis             | <i>Theristicus caudatus</i>      |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |   |
| Green Ibis                   | <i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i> | ✓         | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Bare-faced Ibis              | <i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>       | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Roseate Spoonbill            | <i>Platalea ajaja</i>            | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓ |
| Rufescent Tiger Heron        | <i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>        | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Boat-billed Heron            | <i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>   |           |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Black-crowned Night Heron    | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>     | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |   |
| Striated Heron               | <i>Butorides striata</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Western Cattle Egret         | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>             | ✓         |    | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Cocoi Heron                  | <i>Ardea cocoi</i>               | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Great Egret                  | <i>Ardea alba</i>                | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Capped Heron                 | <i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>      |           |    |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  |    |    |    |   |
| Whistling Heron              | <i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |   |
| Little Blue Heron            | <i>Egretta caerulea</i>          | ✓         | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |   |
| Snowy Egret                  | <i>Egretta thula</i>             | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| King Vulture                 | <i>Sarcorampus papa</i>          |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Black Vulture                | <i>Coragyps atratus</i>          | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Turkey Vulture               | <i>Cathartes aura</i>            |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓ |
| Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture | <i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>     |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Osprey                       | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>         |           |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Black-collared Hawk          | <i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>    | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Pearl Kite                   | <i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>      |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Snail Kite                   | <i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>     | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |   |
| Crane Hawk                   | <i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>  |           | ✓  |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Savanna Hawk                 | <i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>  | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  |    | ✓  |    |   |

|                              |                                      | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Common name                  | Scientific name                      | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Great Black Hawk             | <i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>        |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Roadside Hawk                | <i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>         |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Tropical Screech Owl         | <i>Megascops choliba</i>             |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Amazon Kingfisher            | <i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>          | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Green Kingfisher             | <i>Chloroceryle americana</i>        |           |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |
| Ringed Kingfisher            | <i>Megaceryle torquata</i>           | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Rufous-tailed Jacamar        | <i>Galbula ruficauda</i>             |           | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |
| Chestnut-eared Aracari       | <i>Pteroglossus castanotis</i>       |           |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Toco Toucan                  | <i>Ramphastos toco</i>               | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Black-fronted Nunbird        | <i>Monasa nigrifrons</i>             |           |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| White Woodpecker             | <i>Melanerpes candidus</i>           |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Little Woodpecker            | <i>Veniliornis passerinus</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Pale-crested Woodpecker      | <i>Celeus lugubris</i>               |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Crimson-crested Woodpecker   | <i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>      |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Crested Caracara             | <i>Caracara plancus</i>              | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Bat Falcon                   | <i>Falco rufigularis</i>             |           |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Monk Parakeet                | <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>           | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Yellow-chevroned Parakeet    | <i>Brotoyeris chiriri</i>            |           | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Turquoise-fronted Amazon     | <i>Amazona aestiva</i>               | ✓         |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Hyacinth Macaw               | <i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i>    | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Peach-fronted Parakeet       | <i>Eupsittula aurea</i>              | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Orange-winged Parrot         | <i>Amazona amazonica</i>             |           |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Blue-and-yellow Macaw        | <i>Ara ararauna</i>                  | ✓         |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Red-and-green Macaw          | <i>Ara chloropterus</i>              | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Straight-billed Woodcreeper  | <i>Dendroplex picus</i>              |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Narrow-billed Woodcreeper    | <i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i> |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Pale-legged Hornero          | <i>Furnarius leucopus</i>            |           |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Rufous Hornero               | <i>Furnarius rufus</i>               | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Grey-crested Cacholote       | <i>Pseudoseisura unirufa</i>         |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Chotoy Spinetail             | <i>Schoeniophylax phryganophilus</i> |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Planalto Slaty Antshrike - E | <i>Thamnophilus pelzelni</i>         |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Great Antshrike              | <i>Taraba major</i>                  |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Common Tody-Flycatcher       | <i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>          |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Scarlet Flycatcher           | <i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>          | ✓         |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Black-backed Water Tyrant    | <i>Fluvicola albiventer</i>          | ✓         |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |
| White-headed Marsh Tyrant    | <i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>     |           |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Cattle Tyrant                | <i>Machetornis rixosa</i>            | ✓         |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Great Kiskadee               | <i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>          | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Lesser Kiskadee              | <i>Philohydor lictor</i>             | ✓         |    | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Streaked Flycatcher          | <i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |
| Tropical Kingbird            | <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>        | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Rufous Casiornis             | <i>Casiornis rufus</i>               |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |

|                          |                                 | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Common name              | Scientific name                 | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Brown-crested Flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>     |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Black-tailed Tityra      | <i>Tityra cayana</i>            |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Purplish Jay             | <i>Cyanocorax cyanomelas</i>    |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Cliff Swallow            | <i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i> | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| White-winged Swallow     | <i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>   | ✓         |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Blue-and-white Swallow   | <i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>  |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Black-capped Donacobius  | <i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>   | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Thrush-like Wren         | <i>Campylorhynchus turdinus</i> |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Masked Gnatcatcher       | <i>Poliophtila dumicola</i>     |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Purple-throated Euphonia | <i>Euphonia chlorotica</i>      |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Crested Oropendola       | <i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>    |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |
| Solitary Cacique         | <i>Cacicus solitarius</i>       |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Yellow-rumped Cacique    | <i>Cacicus cela</i>             | ✓         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Orange-backed Troupial   | <i>Icterus croconotus</i>       |           | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Giant Cowbird            | <i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>     |           | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Shiny Cowbird            | <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>    |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Flavescent Warbler       | <i>Myiothlypis flaveola</i>     |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Bluish-grey Saltator     | <i>Saltator coerulescens</i>    | ✓         | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Buff-throated Saltator   | <i>Saltator maximus</i>         |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Bananaquit               | <i>Coereba flaveola</i>         |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | H  |
| Silver-beaked Tanager    | <i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>        |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |
| Saffron Finch            | <i>Sicalis flaveola</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Red-crested Cardinal     | <i>Paroaria coronata</i>        |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Yellow-billed Cardinal   | <i>Paroaria capitata</i>        | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Sayaca Tanager           | <i>Thraupis sayaca</i>          |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Palm Tanager             | <i>Thraupis palmarum</i>        |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |

## Reptiles & Amphibians

|                    |                              | June 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Common name        | Scientific name              | 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Chaco Tree Frog    | <i>Hypsiboas raniceps</i>    |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Yacare Caiman      | <i>Caiman yacare</i>         | ✓         | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Green Iguana       | <i>Iguana iguana</i>         |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Common House Gecko | <i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i> |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  | ✓  |    |    |
| Amazon Race-runner | <i>Ameiva ameiva</i>         |           |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| Yellow Anaconda    | <i>Eunectes notatus</i>      |           | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Caninana           | <i>Spilotes pullatus</i>     |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| Water Snake sp.    |                              |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | ✓  |    |    |