Brazilian Pantanal & Iguazu Falls

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th September – 9th October 2022



The 2022 group at the start of the Transpantaneira Road



Jaguar!

Tour report by Paul Scarborough, images by Rachel Oakley & Wendy Scarborough



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Tour participants: Rafael Texeira (leader) with ten Naturetrek clients

Day 1 & 2

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September

Travel to Cuiaba

After various flights from the UK, the group of 10 Naturetrek guests met with our guide Rafael Texeira at Cuiaba Airport. Rafael explained that the temperature was over 35C and was hotter than normal, it was to remain around this level throughout most of our stay in the Pantanal.

We drove in an air-conditioned bus to Pocones where we ate a buffet lunch, priced according to the weight of food you had selected. Then on to the start of the Transpantaneira dirt and gravel road, and transfer to our open sided safari style truck for the journey to Pouso Alegre lodge, for a three-night stay.

We soon saw our first Caiman, Coatis, Capybara, Turkey and Black Vultures, Southern Caracaras and hundreds of wading birds including various egrets, storks, ibis, herons and Roseate Spoonbills on the pools that remained as it was towards the end of the dry season, along with numerous savanna and roadside hawks and a Swallow-tailed Kite along the roadside. After a few hours bumpy drive, we arrived at Pouso Alegre Lodge late afternoon, and stopped near a small pool on the 7km long driveway for a refreshment break. We soon picked out a Sunbittern, Limpkin, Wood Rails and a large Red-footed Tortoise, a Tapir was seen crossing the road just ahead of our truck.

We travelled on to the lodge itself, settled in and enjoyed a buffet style dinner. A Tapir was also seen in the lodge grounds. We finished the day with a night drive which was quiet with a Crab-eating Fox, a few Brazilian Rabbits about and Common Paraque (similar to a Nightjar) near the truck. We retired to bed, tired after a long journey.





Sunbittern

Wood Storks

Monday 26th September

Day 3

Pouso Alegre Lodge

Awake at 5am as Chaco Chachalaca were calling outside bedroom door. We had a 6am walk in lodge grounds and checked out the feeders. Birds included Blue-throated and Chestnut-bellied Guans and Bare-faced Currasow, Chaco Chachalaca. Around the feeders were Saffron Finches, Yellow-billed Cardinals, Ruddy Ground Dove,

Chestnut-eared Aracari, Crested Oropendola and Yellow-rumped Cacique. A Toco Toucan and Coati were also nearby.

After breakfast we set off for the 30m high viewing platform which was quite a climb but gave extensive views of the lodge grounds. We saw Jabiru, Greater Rhea and several hawks, many flycatchers, water tyrants, horneros, Purplish Jays, Rusty-backed Spinetails and White-winged Swallows. We returned to the lodge to rest during the hottest part of the day.

Before setting off on our afternoon trip, we did some birding in the lodge gardens and had views of a pair of Hyacinth Macaws feeding on the fruits of a palm tree, and Tegu and Giant Ameiva lizards. We set off on our drive and came upon a magnificent Great Horned Owl in a nest with one chick, and a Blue-crowned Trogon, but our drive didn't last much longer as thunder and lightning were overhead soon accompanied by rain. We returned to the lodge and set off again at 5pm for a sunset drive. We soon had great views of two Hyacinth Macaws close to the truck, and came upon a family of Coatis, and then stopped for a drink near a small pool at 530pm as the sun set, where a Crab-eating Fox appeared together with several Common Pauraque. We returned to the lodge for dinner and the bird list, Rafael was definitely not helped in this by a raucous group in the dining room enjoying a bottle of whisky!





Chestnut-eared Aracari

Blue-crowned Trogon

Day 4

Tuesday 27th September

Pouso Alegre Lodge

Up at 5am for pre breakfast drive, Whistling Heron, Muscovy Duck, Greater Rheas, Great Black and Black-collared Hawks and a family group of Guira Cuckoos amongst birds seen. A Green-barred Woodpecker was in the lodge gardens.

Post breakfast, we took a woodland walk finding Monk and Yellow-chevroned Parakeets, Turquoise-fronted Amazon, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, White-wedged Piculet, and Pale-crested Woodpecker.

Our afternoon drive was to more extensive grassland dotted with pools containing Caiman, Capybara, Wood and Jabiru Storks, Plumbeous, Buff-necked and Green Ibis, herons included Rufescent Tiger, Cocoi, Striated and Black-crowned Night, egrets such as Cattle and Great, together with Wattled Jacana and Southern Lapwing. We parked up near a pool and watched a Black-collared Hawk eating a fish. On the return drive there were many Greater Rheas including male with a brood of over 30 chicks scurrying off into longer grass for cover. Rafael then picked out an American Golden Plover on the grassland, an uncommon migratory bird passing through the area. Reptiles seen in the afternoon included Tropical Racer Snake, Red-footed Tortoise and Lava Lizard. Mammals included Agouti, Coati, Marsh Deer, Red and Grey Brocket Deer and a Black-tailed Marmoset.

Nightfall saw the appearance of Paraque, Proboscis Bat and Crab-eating Fox. Distant thunder and lightning were seen and heard so we returned to the lodge and a quieter bird list after dinner.





Bare-faced Curassow

Crested Oropendola

Day 5

Wednesday 28th September

Pouso Alegre Iodge/Jaguar Flotel

We set off from Pouso Alegre Lodge at 6:30am for the long dusty drive in our open sided truck to Porto Jofre for transfer to the Jaguar Flotel. All along the way we stopped at various points where all the usual wading birds, raptors and vultures were seen. Kingfishers were dotted all along the road wherever a pool was found, these included Green, Amazon and Ringed. In the fields were many rheas, whilst guans, currasows and chachalacas were in the roadside vegetation.

New birds along the way included Undulated Tinamou, Maguari Stork, Southern Screamers, Brazilian Teal, Neotropic Cormorant, Anhinga, Plumbeous Kite, Orange-winged Amazon, White-backed Stilt and near our destination Yellow-billed and Large-billed Tern.

Mammals and reptiles included Coati, Agouti, Capybara, Brazilian cavy, and all three types of deer. There were many Caiman concentrated in the remaining pools, Tegu Lizard and a Yellow Anaconda (shown to us by a local farmer on horseback) were seen on the road itself.

We arrived at Porto Jofre at 12:30 and were quickly transferred by small boat to the very smart suites at the Jaguar Flotel, our home for three nights, where we settled in and had lunch looking over the Cuiaba river.

Later that afternoon we took our first boat trip. Luckily it had become cloudy, as the boats have no canopy and we were to be out for several hours. We cruised up the river and as all the boats from various lodges are in radio contact, a message was received and the throttle opened, we soon saw a raft of stationary boats, cut the engine and drifted up for views of our first Jaguar. We didn't stay long as the view was obstructed by other boats and it was fast asleep anyway, many more opportunities would follow.

We moved on up various parts of the river where many kingfishers, herons, anhinga and cormorants were fishing, and also saw a Guira Cuckoo, Bananaquit, Black-capped Donacobius and Rufous-tailed Jacamar. Rafael picked out a Great Potoo atop a dead tree hoping to go unseen during the daytime by disguising itself as a part of the trunk.

We returned to the Flotel as the weather became increasingly cloudy but still had a chance to see both terns, Black Skimmers and Collared Plover on the sandy banks of the river. We enjoyed a buffet dinner and ended the night with a short talk on Jaguars by Andrew, the Flotel naturalist. Andrew explained that a database of all the Jaguars is kept according to their unique facial pattern. The finder of a new jaguar gets to name the animal. Rain had set in by now but stopped in the early hours.

Day 6

Thursday 29th September

Jaguar Flotel

A 6:30am start with cloudy weather. We saw two Neotropical Otters fishing close to the Flotel. At 8am, we took a boat trip and soon found a Jaguar making its way along the bank with good but brief views, then a call must have come in as we sped off to join the other boats watching a Jaguar relaxing on a large tree branch. After a while it began calling and was answered from the other side of the river by another cat. It then swam across the river and as it made its way through thick vegetation, a brief view of the second Jaguar (believed to be its mother), was had, before they moved out of sight. Fantastic to see the Jaguar swimming.

Our morning was not complete as on the way back to the Flotel, we encountered a family group of about seven Giant Otters moving along the riverbank, diving and playing together, we were there for over 30 minutes, a great display. We were back at the Flotel for a noon lunch. A Pandora Sphinx Moth was seen on the deck rail of the Flotel.

We gathered for our 2pm afternoon excursion. We joined a throng of boats watching a Jaguar on a large tree branch when a 10m high tree suddenly came crashing down fairly close to the riverbank where the boats were gathered. Jaguar and boat occupants were both surprised! We found another family of Giant Otters foraging along the river bank looking in various holes and fishing and enjoyed their antics. Also we found a lot of herons including our first Capped Heron, lots of kingfishers, a Great Horned Owl, Mato Grosso Antbird and Black-capped Capuchin, and as the sun set and we returned to the Flotel, 20+ Band-tailed Nighthawks flew over the river with their jerky flight apparent. Dinner was followed by another short talk, this time on Caiman.

Friday 30th September

Jaguar Flotel

An early start to spotting animals as a Jaguar was seem swimming in the river and then climbing out into the undergrowth whilst we were at the breakfast table on the Flotel.

We set off on our morning boat trip as the clouds cleared and it became hot and sunny. A quieter morning with views of one Jaguar, and Hyacinth Macaws being the highlights. Amongst birds seen were all the usual ibis, storks and herons, vultures and hawks (Roadside now Riverside!), both tern species, Black Skimmers, Pied Lapwing, Squirrel Cuckoo, many kingfishers and Rufous Cacholote. We saw several Howler and Black-capped Capuchin Monkeys as well. A Green Iguana was seen in the trees behind the Flotel.

Our afternoon boat trip started by viewing Black Skimmers with various ages of offspring, Pied Lapwing and both Yellow and Large-billed Terns. A Sunbittern was also found. Capybara and Caiman were also about in the hot sunshine. Then we were away to join the throng of boats gathered to watch a manly recumbent Jaguar for about two hours. There were many passing birds to see including Tiger, Capped and Striated Herons, Amazon and Ringed Kingfisher, Southern Rough-winged Swallows, Black-capped Donacobius and Yellow-rumped Cacique. Our return trip to the Flotel gave some lovely sunset views along the river and many Band-tailed Nighthawks appearing as it grew dark. We had not seen any Bulldog Bats and Rafael explained that there were fewer about at this time of year, but some could still be seen occasionally after dark.

After the usual excellent buffet dinner, Andrew gave a short talk on Giant Otters, explaining that individuals are recognised by their unique throat marking on their fur.



Yacare Caiman



Capybara

Day 8

Saturday 1st October

Jaguar Flotel/Southwild Lodge

A final boat trip this morning before leaving the Flotel and we saw two Neotropical Otters fishing close to the boat once again. We got underway and soon joined the boats jockeying for position as we followed a Jaguar along the river bank for over an hour until it disappeared into the forest. A ride along one of the smaller channels produced views of another Jaguar for a short time.

It was time to head for Porto Jofre where we were reunited with our luggage taken direct from the Flotel. We transferred to an open sided truck for the 3.5 hour trip up the dirt road, north to Southwild Lodge. We stopped regularly for all the herons, storks, ibis and egrets along the way, stand outs were Maguari Stork, Capped Heron, Little Blue Heron and Snowy Egrets. At one spot we also found Southern Screamers, White-backed Stilt and a migratory White-rumped Sandpiper. A Yellow Anaconda was seen rapidly exiting the road into the bushes.

We eventually arrived at Southwild Lodge, settled into our rooms for the next three nights, and ate lunch in the dining area. Lava Lizards and a Tegu Lizard were seen in the lodge grounds near the small swimming pool. Later that afternoon we went for a boat trip on the River Pixiam from a landing point next to the lodge. A much quieter river than the Cuiaba, we were on our own, and came upon a lovely Sungrebe, Boat-billed Heron, many kingfishers and a Green Iguana. We returned to the lodge as dusk approached. At 5:30pm we made our way to the Ocelot viewing area, equipped with seating and floodlit. We were all well covered and with insect repellent applied, awaited developments. A Crab-eating Fox appeared, but sadly no Ocelot, so about 7pm, we gave in and went back to the lodge. Just to add to the injustice, a Giant Anteater had made its way into the lodge dining area through a door left open, we all missed it and never saw one on the trip!

After dark, various frogs of all sizes appeared all around the lodge (and in many of the rooms), we identified Whitelipped Frog amongst them. Common Paraques were also seen flying near the river in the darkness



Boat-billed Heron

Green Kingfisher

Day 9

Sunday 2nd October

Southwild Lodge

A pre breakfast walk at 6am was attended by most of the group, a short walk around part of the lodge grounds and chachalaca, guans, Currasow, Yellow-chevroned Parakeet, Greater Thornbird, and Narrow-billed Woodcreeper were seen. After breakfast we set off for a boat ride along the Pixiam River, a group of Howler Monkeys were seen moving through the trees, Lesser Bulldog and Proboscis Bats were roosting under a bridge and a few iguanas were also spotted. New birds for the trip were Agami Heron and American Pygmy Kingfisher.

Other stand outs were Sungrebe, Sunbittern, Snail Kite, Toco Toucan and Rufous-tailed Jacamar. Returning to the lodge, Glittering-bellied Emerald and Gilded Hummingbirds were seen in the garden

Our after-lunch woodland walk was extremely hot and probably produced fewer birds than usual as a result. However we found a few ticks for the bird list during the afternoon – White-wedged Piculet, Masked Gnatcatcher, Black-fronted Nunbird, Great Antshrike, Thrush-like Wren, Orange-backed Troupial, Squirrel Cuckoo and Silverbeaked and Sayaca Tanager amongst them.

The evening Ocelot viewing was partially successful as an Ocelot did come close to the feeding area and was seen by some of the group, a Crab-eating Fox appeared as well which may have scared off the cat. The strange descending whoo call of the Grey or Common Potoo was also heard. After dinner we took a night drive back along the lodge drive to the main road and saw a Tapir, Water and Red Brocket Deer. Black-crowned night and Capped Herons were seen actively fishing in the darkness alongside many pairs of the red eyes of Caiman reflected in the torchlight. On the return to the lodge, Common Paraque were also about, and dozens of frogs around the lodge passageways.





Green Kingfisher

Guira Cuckoos

Day 10

Monday 3rd October

Southwild Lodge

As yesterday there was a 6am pre breakfast bird walk around the lodge grounds. Notable birds seen were Greater Ani, Little Woodpecker, Lineated Woodpecker and Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Streaked Flycatcher, Forktailed Flycatcher and Narrow-billed Woodcreeper. Young Jabiru storks were wandering around the farm buildings already as tall as their parents. A Green Iguana was also found.

Preparing to embark on our morning boat ride, Rachel had quite a fright when she found a 1m long Parrot Snake sitting on top of her rucksack. We left the lodge and travelled along the Pixiam River, again the only boat about. We found iguanas in the overhanging trees, Black Howler and Capuchin Monkeys and under a bridge roosting Proboscis Bats. A few new birds were added to the list – Blue-crowned Parakeet, Scaly-headed Parrot, Common Tody-Flycatcher and Epaulet Oriole. We saw all five species of kingfisher found in the area with a new bird the Green and Rufous Kingfisher and good views of American Pygmy Kingfisher.

Then we spotted an Agami Heron in quite dense undergrowth and had a brief look at this stunning bird. The boat drivers had brought some fish scraps and fed them to a few kingfishers for photographs of the birds diving into the water. We also photographed an egret in flight that was plucking the fish scraps from the surface, although not quite as elegantly as perhaps an osprey would have done.

Returning to the lodge for lunch a Glittering-bellied Emerald was on a garden feeder.

Our afternoon boat ride took us a lot further upriver than we had previously travelled. We came upon a Sungrebe, more Howler Monkeys and an iguana and then found an adult Agami Heron in quite an open position giving us a great chance to admire the beautiful plumage and colours of this bird. A surprise discovery was a family of Giant Otters which are now quite unusual in this area. They soon disappeared up the riverbank apart from one adult male who was very confiding especially after being tempted with the remaining fish scraps!

Back at sunset to the Ocelot viewing area, the Crab-eating Fox soon showed up, but it wasn't our night as no Ocelot again. We did see a Common Potoo atop a dead tree in the floodlit area and once again heard its peculiar call. A few ventured out for a night walk and by the river saw Greater Bulldog and Proboscis Bats about. Moving further from the lodge a Little Nightjar was seen sitting in a field and Common Paraque were flying around. As we returned to the lodge there was a Tapir with one calf quite close to the buildings.





Giant Otter

Agami Heron

Day 11

Tuesday 4th October

Southwild Lodge to Sao Pao

This morning we had a 9am start back up the Transpantaneira road to Cuiaba for flight to Sao Paolo. We used an air-conditioned minibus and stopped occasionally for final views of the extraordinary wildlife of the Pantanal. Amongst the birds were Greater Rhea, all the usual guans, Currasows, herons, storks, egrets and ibis that we had become accustomed to seeing, together with the Caiman and Capybara. Other birds of note were Hyacinth Macaw and Scaled Woodcreeper.

We stopped at the large sign announcing the start of the Transpantenaira road for a group photo.

It was then back on to metalled roads and the hustle bustle of the busy city of Cuiaba where we stopped for an excellent churrasco style buffet lunch, a red/green card indicating when you wanted meat of various types brought to the table. All fed and watered, we travelled on to Cuiaba airport (literally across the busy road) and awaited the 6pm flight to Sao Paolo. A number of the group were able to take advantage of the Brazilian rule giving priority at airports to over 60s (amongst others) and skipped several queues.

Sao Paolo is a huge city and we seemed to fly over it for a long time. When our group reassembled, we took a light supper in the airport and checked in to the nearby Comfort Inn by 11pm. We knew we had a very early start in just a few hours.

Day 12

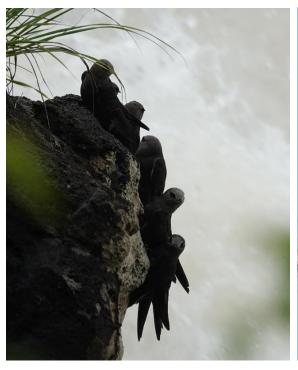
Wednesday 5th October

Sao Pao to Iguazu

We were awake at 3:30am for the 4am transfer to the airport, then a 6:15am flight to Iguazu which arrived at 8am. We met Martin who was to be our lead guide in this area. We headed off to Iguazu Falls National Park where we had breakfast. Martin explained that we had arrived at the start of the 4-day spring public holiday and it would be extremely busy around the park over the weekend. The weather was a lot cooler further south than in the Pantanal. We took a pathway leading to the falls with amazing views all along the route. Lots of photos were taken as we made our way down to the elevated platforms where you could get an even closer but much wetter view of the falls. Clouds of spray filled the air and dozens of Great Dusky Swifts were seen flying through the clouds and perching right alongside the falls. Many vultures were also around looking for thermals and an American Swallow-tailed and Plumbeous Kite were both picked out. Lunch was taken in a buffet restaurant overlooking the falls and a quick bit of birding nearby produced Eared Dove, White-eyed Parakeet, Chestnut-eared Aracari, Purple-throated Euphonia, Plush-crested Jay, Bananquit, Blue Dacnis and a colourful Green-headed Tanager amongst the more usual species. A Tegu and several Lava Lizards were there as well as a few Coatis and a Black Capuchin Monkey. A quick look in the gift shops concluded our visit.

We then crossed the border from Brazil into Argentina and completed all the necessary formalities. It was quite busy with Brazilians visiting Argentina and Paraguay to take advantage of goods with lower rates of duty that they could bring home a few times a month.

Arriving at 3:30pm at the La Cantera Lodge for our three-night stay, we all had a rest after the very early start. Sunset further south was at 6:30pm and a quick stroll around the lovely grounds of the lodge gave a few more birds for the list – Piratic Flycatcher, House Wren and a colony of nesting Red-rumped Caciques. Dinner and early to bed.





Great Dusky Swift

Toco Toucan

Thursday 6th October

Around Iguazu Falls

Thunder and lightning and heavy rain overnight persuaded a small tarantula to head under the door of one of the bedrooms. The rain continued through breakfast, so we did a little birding near the dining room from under cover. As forecast, the rain eased late morning, so we set off for the Three Borders monument high above the rivers that mark the boundaries of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. A Roseate Spoonbill flew over seen by one or two, Vermilion, Streaked, Variegated and Fork-tailed Flycatchers and Red-eyed Vireo were all seen.

We had a pizza lunch locally and headed to a private house nearby with a compact but beautiful garden. For 40 years, the owners have been feeding hummingbirds and boast an impressive list of sightings. The views were superb with birds buzzing all around you, it kept all the photographers really happy. We saw 11 species in all really amazing birds with shimmering colours and in different shapes and sizes. Standouts were the Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, Black Jacobin, White-throated Hummingbird and Black-throated Mango. There were also Bananaquit, Sayaca tanagers, and Purple-throated Euphonia present. Quite a sight in a small space.

We returned to the Lodge and stopped a few hundred metres before the entrance and birded along the woodland beside the road. There were some impressive looking birds in the trees and bushes including Variable Oriole, Magpie Tanager, Spot-billed Toucanet, Ochre-collared Piculet, Yellow-fronted Woodpecker, Spot-headed Antshrike, Saffron-bellied Sparrow, Black-crowned Tityra, Yellow Tyrannulet and Yellow-bellied Elaenia all found. Martin heard the calls of a Forest Falcon and Rufous-capped Motmot.

Lots of new birds for the list compiled whilst waiting for dinner tonight.







Swallow-tailed Hummingbird

Scale-throated Hermit

Spot-billed Toucanet

Friday 7th October

Iguazu Falls

The weather had improved and was warm and sunny for our final full day of the trip visiting the Iguazu Falls National Park once again. Martin intended to beat the crowds, so we entered the park early and took a forest trail for a few kilometres where we found a good range of birds. Black-throated Trogon, White-bearded and Bandtailed Manikin, a scarce Black-capped Foliage-gleaner, Golden-crowned Warbler, Red-crowned Ant Tanager (a first for Rafael), and a host of different flycatchers, tyrants etc.

Making our way towards our lunch stop in some large palms and the surrounding bushes, a Yellow-fronted Woodpecker gave good views along with Blue-winged Parrotlet and Double-collared Seedeater amongst the birds present. A few Great Dusky Swifts and the smaller Sick's Swift were overhead.

Another excellent buffet restaurant with an Argentine parilla style grill, different to the Brazilian side.

We then made our way to the electric mini train for the Devils Throat area, at 80m the highest part of the Iguazu Falls. Wending our way across a series of metal walkways for about 1km, over the fast-flowing water in the river below us, we spotted several herons, including a much larger Boat-billed Heron type than in the Pantanal, a Swallow-tailed Kite and several Lava Lizards along the way. The scale of the falls is breathtaking, passing sheer drop after drop with pounding waters, until we reached the Devils Throat itself – El Garganta del Diablo - an absolute maelstrom of water, spray and roaring noise. You can walk right up and look down into this and it was a popular photo spot on a very busy day in the park. Amazingly a few Great Dusky Swifts emerged from the clouds of spray and then disappeared once again. It is incredible how they live in this environment. Dozens of butterflies were also about in all shapes, sizes and colours but none of were expert enough to identify them.

It was time to leave the Park and head back to the Lodge. There was time to add a new bird as two Burrowing Owls were spotted on the edge of the main road in a hotel grounds, they gave us really good views.



Iguazu Falls

Saturday 8th October

Iguazu Falls to Sao Paolo and flights to UK

Our final day was warm and sunny at about 25C. We started off about 8am with a stop to a small lagoon near the Lodge and picked up a few birds including a Rufous-collared Sparrow, and then made our way to the National Park for a final tour – White-faced Whistling Duck was also a new bird for the trip seen along the way.

The roads were very busy with queues building up just like a UK bank holiday weekend!

Martin and our driver must have known some shortcuts and we soon made our way to the upper trail with wide ranging views over the falls towards Brazil. Again we made our way over a number of steel walkways supported on concrete pillars over what is a powerful river, so deep no fish could be seen and even birds dared not get too close. Martin told us that in 2015, the river had been 15 times as high, well above the walkways and many of them had been destroyed, the remains of twisted metal and broken concrete pillars could be seen here and there. Grey-rumped Swifts were seen in the park, probably the last new bird seen on our trip.

We returned to La Cantera Lodge and checked out at 12 noon, and once again we dodged the traffic jams and made our way back through the border from Argentina to Brazil. Our final lunch was taken at a huge 2000-seater restaurant well known in the area. The buffet was very extensive with literally hundreds of choices, although the swine ears and feet and bovine tongue stews on offer weren't amongst anyone's choices.

We then made our way to Iguazu airport, thanking Martin for looking after us so well, and boarded our flight back to Sao Paolo arriving there just after 8pm.

On arrival we all thanked Rafael for his help and guidance throughout the trip which had given us some great experiences and wonderful wildlife spotting opportunities.

The group gathered to say our final goodbyes as we were taking various flights back to the UK, with a few people staying an extra night in Sao Paolo, and all went our separate ways



Iguazu Falls

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=							Septer	nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Greater Rhea	Rhea americana	✓	√	√							√				
Undulated Tinamou	Crypturellus undulatus	✓			√										
Southern Screamer	Chauna torquata				√	√	√	√							
White-faced Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna viduata													√	
Muscovy Duck	Cairina moschata	✓	√	√				√		√					
Brazilian Teal	Amazonetta brasiliensis				√			√						√	
Chaco Chachalaca	Ortalis canicollis	✓	√												
Chestnut-bellied Guan - E	Penelope ochrogaster	✓	√	√				√	√						
Blue-throated Piping Guan	Pipile cumanensis	✓	√												
Blue Throated Piping Guan	Pipile camenensis	✓													
Bare-faced Curassow	Crax fasciolata	✓	√												
Chestnut-bellied Guan - E	Penelope ochrogaster	✓	√	√				√	√						
Blue-throated Piping Guan	Pipile cumanensis	✓	√												
Bare-faced Curassow	Crax fasciolata	✓	√												
Band-tailed Nighthawk	Nyctiprogne leucopyga			√	√	√									
Pauraque	Nyctidromus albicollis	✓	√					√	√						
Little Nightjar	Caprimulgus parvulus								√						
Great Potoo	Nyctibius grandis				√										
Common Potoo	Nyctibius griseus							Н	√						
Great Dusky Swift	Cypseloides senex										√		✓	√	
Grey-rumped Swift	Chaetura cinereiventris													√	
Sick's Swift	Chaetura meridionalis												√	√	
Black Jacobin	Florisuga fusca												✓		
Planalto Hermit	Phaethornis pretrei												✓		
Scale-throated Hermit	Phaethornis eurynome												√		
Black-throated Mango	Anthracothorax nigricollis												√		
Blue-tufted Starthroat	Heliomaster furcifer												√	√	

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=I							Septer	nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Glittering-bellied Emerald	Chlorostilbon lucidus							✓	✓				✓		
Swallow-tailed Hummingbird	Eupetomena macroura												✓		
Versicoloured Emerald	Chrysuronia versicolor	✓											✓		
White-throated Hummingbird	Leucochloris albicollis												√		
Glittering-throated Emerald	Chionomesa fimbriata												√		
Gilded Sapphire	Hylocharis chrysura							√					√		
Guira Cuckoo	Guira guira	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	√			√		
Greater Ani	Crotophaga major						√			√					
Smooth-billed Ani	Crotophaga ani	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	√			√		
Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana	✓		√		√		√	√			√			
Picazuro Pigeon	Patagioenas picazuro	✓	√		√	√	√								
Pale-vented Pigeon	Patagioenas cayennensis		√												
Scaled Dove	Columbina squammata	√	√	√				√	√	√			√		
Ruddy Ground Dove	Columbina talpacoti	√	√	√			√	√	√	√		√	√	√	
Picui Ground Dove	Columbina picui		√												
Long-tailed Ground Dove	Uropelia campestris	√	√												
White-tipped Dove	Leptotila verreauxi	√													
Eared Dove	Zenaida auriculata										√	√	√	√	
Sungrebe	Heliornis fulica						√	√	√						
Grey-cowled Wood Rail	Aramides cajaneus	√													
Purple Gallinule	Porphyrio martinica	√													
Limpkin	Aramus guarauna	✓	√	√			√	√		√					
Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis	√	√	√	√		√								
Pied Lapwing	Vanellus cayanus						√	√							
White-backed Stilt	Himantopus mexicanus(n)costas brancas				✓										
American Golden Plover	Pluvialis dominica		√												
White-rumped Sandpiper	Calidris fuscicollis						√								
Collared Plover	Charadrius collaris				√		√								
Wattled Jacana	Jacana jacana	√				√									
Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger			/	/	/	/								

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=In								nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Yellow-billed Tern	Sternula superciliaris			✓	✓	✓	✓								
Large-billed Tern	Phaetusa simplex			✓	√	✓	✓			✓					
Sunbittern	Eurypyga helias	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓						
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Maguari Stork	Ciconia maguari				✓		✓								
Jabiru	Jabiru mycteria	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Anhinga	Anhinga anhinga			√			✓								
Neotropic Cormorant	Nannopterum brasilianum			√		√	√								
Plumbeous Ibis	Theristicus caerulescens	✓	√	√	√			√	√		√				
Buff-necked Ibis	Theristicus caudatus	✓	√	√	√	√		√	√	√	√				
Green Ibis	Mesembrinibis cayennensis	√	√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√				
Bare-faced Ibis	Phimosus infuscatus	√	√		√	√	√	√		√	√				
Roseate Spoonbill	Platalea ajaja	√		√					√	√	√		√		
Rufescent Tiger Heron	Tigrisoma lineatum	√													
Agami Heron	Agamia agami								√	√					
Boat-billed Heron	Cochlearius cochlearius							√	√	√				√	
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	√		√			√								
Striated Heron	Butorides striata	√			√										
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	√	√	√			√	√	√	√					
Cocoi Heron	Ardea cocoi	√													
Great Egret	Ardea alba	√													
Capped Heron	Pilherodius pileatus	√		√	√	√	√		√						
Whistling Heron	Syrigma sibilatrix	√		√											
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	√		√			√	√	√						
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	√		√			√		√						
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	√	√	√		√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	Cathartes burrovianus	√			√										
White-tailed Kite	Elanus leucurus	√	✓	√											
Hook-billed Kite	Chondrohierax uncinatus										√				
Swallow-tailed Kite	Elanoides forficatus	√													
Plumbeous Kite	Ictinia plumbea			√							√	/	√	√	

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=Ir								nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Black-collared Hawk	Busarellus nigricollis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Snail Kite	Rostrhamus sociabilis	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			✓		
Crane Hawk	Geranospiza caerulescens		✓												
Savanna Hawk	Buteogallus meridionalis	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	√	✓	✓	✓					
Great Black Hawk	Buteogallus urubitinga	✓	√	√	√	√	√								
Roadside Hawk	Rupornis magnirostris	✓	√		√		√								
Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia											√			
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus	√	√	√	√										
Blue-crowned Trogon	Trogon curucui		√												
Surucua Trogon	Trogon surrucura											√			
Amazon Kingfisher	Chloroceryle amazona	√													
American Pygmy Kingfisher	Chloroceryle aenea							√	√						
Green Kingfisher	Chloroceryle americana	√													
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	Chloroceryle inda									√					
Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata	√													
Rufous-capped Motmot	Baryphthengus ruficapillus											Н			
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	Galbula ruficauda		√	√	√			√	√						
Black-fronted Nunbird	Monasa nigrifrons		√	√		√		√	√						
Chestnut-eared Aracari	Pteroglossus castanotis	√	√							√	√				
Spot-billed Toucanet	Selenidera maculirostris											√	√	√	
Toco Toucan	Ramphastos toco	√		√	√										
Ochre-collared Piculet	Picumnus temminckii											√			
White-wedged Piculet	Picumnus albosquamatus		√					√							
Yellow-fronted Woodpecker	Melanerpes flavifrons														
Little Woodpecker	Veniliornis passerinus									√		√	√		
Green-barred Woodpecker	Colaptes melanochloros		b												
Pale-crested Woodpecker	Celeus lugubris		√												
Cream-coloured Woodpecker	Celeus flavus									√					
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	Campephilus melanoleucos									√					
Lineated Woodpecker	Dryocopus lineatus								√						
Crested Caracara	Caracara plancus	√	√	√	√	/	√	√	/	/			√	√	

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=Int						_		nber/	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Barred Forest Falcon	Micrastur ruficollis												Н		
Monk Parakeet	Myiopsitta monachus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	Brotogeris chiriri	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Scaly-headed Parrot	Pionus maximiliani								✓				✓		
Turquoise-fronted Amazon	Amazona aestiva	✓	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Orange-winged Amazon	Amazona amazonica			✓											
Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet	Forpus xanthopterygius											√			
Maroon-bellied Parakeet	Pyrrhura frontalis												Н		
Hyacinth Macaw	Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus	✓		✓		✓				✓					
Peach-fronted Parakeet	Eupsittula aurea	✓													
Blue-crowned Parakeet	Thectocercus acuticaudatus								√						
White-eyed Parakeet	Psittacara leucophthalmus											√		√	
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes angustirostris	✓	√				√	√	√	√					
Scaled Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes squamatus										√				
Pale-legged Hornero	Furnarius leucopus			√	√	√	√	√	√						
Rufous Hornero	Furnarius rufus	√													
Black-capped Foliage-gleaner	Philydor atricapillus											√			
Greater Thornbird	Phacellodomus ruber	✓						√							
Rusty-backed Spinetail	Cranioleuca vulpina	✓	√												
Grey-crested Cacholote	Pseudoseisura unirufa		√			√			√						
Barred Antshrike	Thamnophilus doliatus	✓													
Great Antshrike	Taraba major	√						√							
Spot-backed Antshrike	Hypoedaleus guttatus												√		
Mato Grosso Antbird	Cercomacra melanaria					√									
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	Elaenia flavogaster											√		√	
Southern Beardless Tyrannulet	Camptostoma obsoletum		√												
Yellow Tyrannulet	Capsiempis flaveola											√			
Southern Antpipit	Corythopis delalandi												√		
Sepia-capped Flycatcher	Leptopogon amaurocephalus												√		
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer		√												
Eared Pygmy Tyrant	Myiornis auricularis												/		

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=Intr						S	Septer	nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum cinereum									✓			✓		
Scarlet Flycatcher	Pyrocephalus rubinus	✓									√				
White-rumped Monjita	Xolmis velatus			√											
Black-backed Water Tyrant	Fluvicola albiventer	✓	√												
White-headed Marsh Tyrant	Arundinicola leucocephala	✓	√	√			√		√						
Cattle Tyrant	Machetornis rixosa	✓	√	√		√	√	√	√				√		
Piratic Flycatcher	Legatus leucophaius									√	√	√	√		
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	Myiozetetes cayanensis	✓		√											
Social Flycatcher	Myiozetetes similis													√	
Lesser Kiskadee	Philohydor lictor	√													
Streaked Flycatcher	Myiodynastes maculatus									√		√	√	√	
Boat-billed Flycatcher	Megarynchus pitangua							√					√	√	
Variegated Flycatcher	Empidonomus varius		√									√	√	√	
Tropical Kingbird	Tyrannus melancholicus	√			√	√									
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus savana		√			√		√		√		√	√	√	
Rufous Casiornis	Casiornis rufus		√					√							
White-bearded Manakin	Manacus manacus												√		
Band-tailed Manakin	Pipra fasciicauda												√		
Black-crowned Tityra	Tityra inquisitor											/			
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Cyclarhis gujanensis		√												
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus												√		
Purplish Jay	Cyanocorax cyanomelas	√													
Plush-crested Jay	Cyanocorax chrysops										√		√	√	
White-rumped Swallow	Tachycineta leucorrhoa											√			
White-winged Swallow	Tachycineta albiventer	√				√	√								
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx ruficollis			√	/	1	1	√	/						
Brown-chested Martin	Progne tapera			√			✓	/	\ \ \	√					
Grey-breasted Martin	Progne chalybea	√		√						<u> </u>					
Black-capped Donacobius	Donacobius atricapilla				√	√	√	√					√		
Thrush-like Wren	Campylorhynchus turdinus				i	•		\ \	/			/			
Moustached Wren	Pheugopedius genibarbis	<u> </u>			√			<u> </u>				<u> </u>			

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=								nber/	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon										✓	✓	✓	✓	
Masked Gnatcatcher	Polioptila dumicola							✓							
Chalk-browed Mockingbird	Mimus saturninus	✓	✓									√	✓	√	
Creamy-bellied Thrush	Turdus amaurochalinus											√	√	√	
White-necked Thrush	Turdus albicollis												√		
Pale-breasted Thrush	Turdus leucomelas						√	√				√	√		
Hauxwell's Thrush	Turdus hauxwelli														
Rufous-bellied Thrush	Turdus rufiventris	✓	√			√		√	√	√					
House Sparrow - I	Passer domesticus										√	√	√	√	
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	Chlorophonia cyanea												√		
Purple-throated Euphonia	Euphonia chlorotica												√		
Violaceous Euphonia	Euphonia violacea											√			
Chestnut-bellied Euphonia	Euphonia pectoralis											√	√		
Saffron-billed Sparrow	Arremon flavirostris											√			
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Zonotrichia capensis													√	
Crested Oropendola	Psarocolius decumanus	√	√	√		√	√	√							
Solitary Cacique	Cacicus solitarius	√	√	√			√	√	√						
Yellow-rumped Cacique	Cacicus cela		√												
Red-rumped Cacique	Cacicus haemorrhous										√	√	√	√	
Orange-backed Troupial	Icterus croconotus	√						√	√						
Epaulet Oriole	Icterus cayanensis								√						
Variable Oriole	Icterus pyrrhopterus												√		
Giant Cowbird	Molothrus oryzivorus	√					√	√	√	√	√		√		
Shiny Cowbird	Molothrus bonariensis	√	√	√			√	√	√	√			√	√	
Scarlet-headed Blackbird	Amblyramphus holosericeus			√											
Chopi Blackbird	Gnorimopsar chopi	√						√	√						
Greyish Baywing	Agelaioides badius	√	√	√			√	√	√	√					
Unicoloured Blackbird	Agelasticus cyanopus	√		✓	√	√	✓	✓	√	√					
Riverbank Warbler	Myiothlypis rivularis												Н		
Golden-crowned Warbler	Basileuterus culicivorus												√		
Red-crowned Ant Tanager	Habia rubica												1		

E=Endemic N=Near-endemic I=	Introduced					S	Septer	nber/0	Octob	er 202	22				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Blue Dacnis	Dacnis cayana										√	√	√		
Blue-grey Saltator	Saltator coerulescens	✓	√	√			√								
Bananaquit	Coereba flaveola				√						√	√		√	
Blue-black Grassquit	Volatinia jacarina		√												
Red Pileated Finch	Coryphospingus cucullatus												√		
Silver-beaked Tanager	Ramphocelus carbo	✓	√					√	√						
Double-collared Seedeater	Sporophila caerulescens												√	√	
Rusty-collared Seedeater	Sporophila collaris	√	√												
Saffron Finch	Sicalis flaveola	√	√	√			√								
Magpie Tanager	Cissopis leverianus												√		
Red-crested Cardinal	Paroaria coronata	✓	√				√	√	√	√					
Yellow-billed Cardinal	Paroaria capitata	√													
Sayaca Tanager	Thraupis sayaca	✓	√	√				√	√			√	√	√	
Palm Tanager	Thraupis palmarum	✓	√									√	√	√	
Green-headed Tanager	Tangara seledon										√	√		√	

Mammals

						Sej	ptemb	er/Oct	ober 2	2022				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ocelot	Leopardus pardalis							√						
Jaguar	Panthera onca			√	√	√	√							
Crab-eating Fox	Cerdocyon thous	√				√	√	√	√					
South American Coati	Nasua nasua	√	√								√		√	
Neotropical Otter	Lontra longicaudis					√	√							
Giant Otter	Pteronura brasiliensis					√			√					
Lowland Tapir	Tapirus terrestris							√	√					
feral pig	Sus scrofa	/												
Marsh Deer	Blastocerus dichotomus	/	√	√			√		√					

						Sej	otemb	er/Oct	ober 2	2022				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Red Brocket	Mazama americana	✓	√				√							
Grey Brocket	Mazama gouazoubira	✓	√											
Lesser Bulldog Bat	Noctilio albiventris							√						
Greater Bulldog Bat	Noctilio leporinus								√					
Proboscis Bat	Rhynchonycteris naso							√	√					
Tufted Capuchin	Sapajus apella			√	√	√	√			√				
Black-horned Capuchin	Sapajus nigritus												√	
Black-tailed Marmoset	Mico melanurus	✓												
Black Howler Monkey	Alouatta caraya				√			√						
Azara's Agouti	Dasyprocta azarae	✓	√											
Brazilian Guinea Pig (Cavy)	Cavia aperea				√									
Capybara	Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris	✓	√											
Brazilian Rabbit	Sylvilagatus brasilienses	✓												

Others

						Se	otemb	er/Oct	ober 2	022				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reptiles and Amphibians														
Yacare Caiman	Caiman crocodilus jacare	√												
Terrestrial Tortoise species	Geochelone spp.	√	√											
Common (Green) Iguana	Iguana iguana						√	√	√					
Common Tegu Lizard	Tupinambis teguixin	√	√	√			√	√	√	√	√			
Lizard species	Teiidae spp.		√						√		√		√	√
Yellow Anaconda	Eunectes notatus				√		√							
white lipped frog	pantanal type						√		√					
white lipped frog	iguazu type												√	
Tree Frogs	Hyla spp.			√			√	√	√	√				
Parrot Snake	Leptophis ahaetulla								√					

						Sep	otemb	er/Oct	ober 2	022				
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Giant Ameiva (lizard)	Ameiva ameiva	✓	√						√	√				
Tropical racer snake	Mastigoyas boddaceti		√	√					√					
grass snake bootlace type												√		
Red-footed Tortoise	Chelonoidis carbonarius			√										
Amazon Lava Lizard	Tropidurus toruatus			✓										
Tarantula sp	therophosidae						√		√					
Tiger Ant	hormiga tigre												√	
praying mantis sp	mantidae													✓
MOTHS														
Brazilian Sphinx moth				√										
white moth	podilia orsilochnis			√										
Hieroglyph moth	Dipthera festiva					√		√						
brown moth	prochoerodes sp.											√		
Blood vein moth													✓	
BUTTERFLIES														
White Peacock	anartajatrophae			√										
Orange Butterfly	emesis cerea			√										
sulphurs/whites/yellows	pieridae										√	√	√	√
Swallowtail sp	papilionidae											√	√	√
88 Butterfly	Callicore spp.										√	√	√	√
Orange Mapwing	hypanartia lethe											√		
Agathina Emperor	doxocopa agathina											√		
Ethilia Longwing	heliconius ethilia											√		
Cracker	hamadryas sp.											√		
(blue)metalmark	lasaia sp.											√		
Orange Banner?	temenis sp.											√		
Sister	adelpha sp.											√		
heliconian	heliconius sp.											√		

			September/October 2022												
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Tropical?Chequred Skipper	burnsius sp.											√			
Glasswings	methona spp											√			