

TROPICAL BIRDING

BRAZIL: The Pantanal and Amazon

1-15 July 2015

TOUR LEADER: Nick Athanas

Report and photos, except for the Blue Finch, by Nick Athanas. Thanks to Mark Gawn for sharing his Blue Finch photo



Bare-eyed Antbird was one of many highlights from this fun trip

From the unparalleled biodiversity of the primeval Amazonian forest to the amazing abundance of wildlife in the Pantanal, this tour is always fascinating and great fun, and the superb lodges and tasty food make it especially enjoyable. This year was wetter than normal and we even got soaked once in the Pantanal, which is almost unheard of in July; the extra water definitely helped the overall bird numbers, so I certainly was not complaining, and it was still pretty darn dry compared to most South American tours. When I asked the group at the end of the trip for favorite sightings, everyone mentioned something totally different. There were so many memorable sightings that trying to pick one, or even a few, was almost futile. Some that were mentioned, in no real order, included: superb close-ups of **Bare-eyed Antbirds** at an antswarm at Cristalino (photo above); the “ginormous” **Yellow Anaconda** we saw crossing the Transpantanal Highway on our last full day, the minute and fabulous **Horned Sungem** from the Chapada, a superb encounter with the rare **White-browed Hawk** from one of the towers at Cristalino, our very successful hunt for the newly-described **Alta Floresta Antpitta**, and last but not far from least, the magnificent **Jaguar** we saw for an extended period of time along the banks of the Três Irmãos River. That only scratches the surface – a few other notable ones include unprecedented

numbers of **Pompadour Cotingas**, a rare **Crested Eagle**, a great encounter with a family of **Giant Otters**, a **Blue Finch** foraging almost at our feet, and hard-to-beat views of a pair of **Brown-banded Puffbirds**.



Our tour began in the early morning hours as we gathered in the lobby of our hotel in Cuiabá, where they sadly were out of coffee; however the excitement and anticipation of the great birds to come had us all wide awake. Our excellent driver, José, helped us load up and we were on our way in record time, heading north towards the Chapada dos Guimarães. After climbing up the dramatic escarpment, we reached a dusty road through the *cerrado* habitat just before sunup, giving a few moments to work on our packed breakfasts as the birds woke up. **Chalk-browed Mockingbirds** and **Chopi Blackbirds** perched on wires started things off, but we were quickly drawn away from them by hummingbirds feeding in a nearby tree, with **Swallow-tailed Hummingbird**, **Versicolored Emerald**, **White-vented Violetear**, and **Blue-tufted Starthroat** starting what turned out to a better than average hummer trip. Loud screeching announced a flock of **Red-shouldered Macaws** flying past, and over the course of the morning we would see them again along with massive **Red-and-green Macaw**, and their smaller parakeet cousins, **Peach-fronted**, **Yellow-chevroned**, and **White-eyed** – it was a surprise to see parrots in such numbers in these desolate surroundings. Continuing down the road, we enjoyed a steady stream of target birds like the evil-looking **Gray Monjita**, boisterous **Black-throated Saltators**, a fierce **White-eared Puffbird** (*photo below*), handsome **Rufous-winged Antshrikes** and **Rusty-backed Antwrens**, and the unique **White-banded** and **White-rumped Tanagers**. There were good numbers of the nice-looking **Coal-crested Finch** (*photo above*), which is always a favorite and often missed. After picking out some last few species like **Red-crested Finch**, **Pale-breasted Spinetail**, and **Plumbeous Seedeater**, we sought some shade in some gallery forest nearby, birding a wide dirt road through some surprisingly tall trees. Here the birds were totally different, from big, flashy species like **Blue-crowned Trogon**, **Black-fronted Nunbird**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, and **Pale-crested Woodpecker**, to smaller yet no less charming ones like **Large-billed Antwren**, **White-wedged Piculet**, **Plain Antvireo**, **Masked Tityra**, **Golden-crowned Warbler**, and **Crested Becard**. We found our first mammals in the form of a troop of curious **Black-tailed Marmosets** and a lone, sad-looking **Black-striped Capuchin**. A **Gilded Hummingbird** rounded the morning off before we decided to break for lunch, which turned out to quite a feast at a nice restaurant near the edge of the cliffs. Along with the great food and scenic views, this spot also gave us the tour's only **Cliff Flycatchers** and **Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers**. After checking into our hotel and taking a short break, we headed back out again east of town. After some more forest birding, where we found **Black-tailed Tityra**, **Swallow-Tanager**, and **Purple-throated Euphonia**, we drove out to a lookout located at the geodesic center of South America. A flock of **Biscutate Swifts** was flying around below us when we arrived, their broken collars



sometimes visible as they circled. I'd heard reports of **Blue Finch** being seen here recently, so we set off down a trail to look for it, and after only a few minutes we managed to locate one which flew in and then foraged on the edge of the trail right in front of us for a very satisfying sighting (photo below courtesy of Mark Gawn). Returning to the parking area, we spent some time watching **Crested Black-Tyrants** and a **Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch** before returning to the hotel, stopping to admire a **Burrowing Owl** just before we got there. It was a full and satisfying day to kick off the trip.

With a few targets still remaining in the *cerrado*, we headed back out to try for them early in the morning. During an unsuccessful hunt for a crescentchest, we lucked into a superb male **Horned Sungem** that perched long enough for everyone to see it in the scope, along with a brilliant **Glittering-bellied Emerald**. So far we had had no luck with a major target, the recently-described **Chapada Flycatcher**, but we finally connected with it on the way out, where a bunch of flycatchers were feeding at insect swarm. Their active feeding made them difficult to get on, but we finally nailed it down and enjoyed watching its distinctive wing-lifting display. **Yellow-bellied** and **Plain-crested Elaenias** were also present. With a bit of time left, we headed back into the gallery forest, where a **Saffron-billed Sparrow** showed really nicely along with **Planalto Tyrannulet** and **Forest Elaenia**, among other birds we had seen yesterday. Mark hit the jackpot by seeing **Friiled Coquette** that took off before the rest of us got on it, but with a flight looming, we had to give up after a short search and head to the airport.



The Saffron-billed Sparrow we found on the Chapada dos Guimarães

After the short flight to Alta Floresta, staff from Cristalino Lodge were waiting, and we were quickly on our way out of town. We stopped to watch striking **Red-breasted Blackbirds** in a pasture, and our driver mentioned that the local name for them was “English Policeman”; after the latest Clements/eBird update, this is now called Red-breasted Meadowlark. Our next stop was a palm grove where we hoped to spot a Point-tailed Palmcreeper. It has been pretty unresponsive on my last few visits, and we only managed to hear it. We did get to see two other palm specialists, **Fork-tailed Palm-Swift** and **Red-bellied Macaw**, along with **Short-tailed** and **Pale-rumped Swifts**, **Scaled Doves**, our first **Blue-and-yellow Macaws**, **Lesser Kiskadees**, and **Greater Yellow-headed Vultures**. Other stops on the way to the river got us **Short-tailed** and **Gray-lined Hawks**, and a **Pearl Kite**. We reached the edge of the Teles Pires River a little while later, boarded a boat, and crossed over to the mouth of the Cristalino River. A **Green-and-rufous Kingfisher** flew right in front of us, causing us to detour to try and track it down. We couldn’t relocate it, but it was the first of four kingfishers we would encounter that afternoon, along with **Ringed**, **Amazon**, and **Green**. Continuing our trip, we slowly headed up the Cristalino River, taking in the beautiful surroundings for the first time. **White-banded Swallows** perched photogenically, and there was a lot of excitement when a pair of **Sunbitterns** came down to the edge of the river; they were a new family for some of the group! **Capped Herons** were also a big hit. We reached the lodge at dusk, and after a briefing by the lodge manager, he showed us to our rooms where we unpack and relax a bit before dinner.



White-banded Swallows perched along the Cristalino River

Early next morning found us crossing the river in the dark, and set out towards the new canopy tower with our flashlights. Those in the front of the line managed to spot an **Ocellated Poorwill**, and our early start allowed us to climb all those stairs without rushing and be up just before the sun peeked over the distant forested horizon. **Spangled Cotinga** was very first bird we saw, but the bar was soon raised when a male **Pompadour Cotinga** was spotted. Several of these stunning birds ended up hanging around the tower all morning and never before had I seen so many or seen them so well. I had to pry the scope away from someone looking at a cotinga when I spotted a huge raptor in the distance. Huge raptors are an acceptable reason to do that! It was either a Harpy or Crested, and after zooming the scope in it was clearly a **Crested Eagle**, only third one I’d ever seen; it was opposite the sunrise, so despite the distance it was in perfect light, and not a bad view at all. Everything started happening at once and I had to move the scope to other things, but in quiet moments we’d look at it again, since it stayed perched in the same spot for a long time.



Pompadour Cotinga next to the tower

After the eagle came a steady stream of superb birds that made those first couple of hours simply unforgettable. **White-throated** and **Channel-billed Toucans** called from exposed perches, marauding flocks of **Curl-crested Aracaris** moved through the canopy, a family of **Black-girdled Barbets** perched on some bare branches, a pair of **Scarlet Macaws** glowed in a nearby tree, but a flock of colorful **White-bellied Parrots** were arguably even more beautiful. **Kawall's Parrots** were scoped in the distance but they were rather dull in comparison, and **Golden-winged Parakeets** were only fly-overs. After a lot of playback, two **Brown-banded Puffbirds** flew in and landed right next to the tower, one of my favorite sightings of the whole trip. **Woodpeckers** were much in evidence and **Ringed**, **Scale-breasted**, and **Yellow-throated** all came in close; **Red-necked** only gave us a glimpse but we would have more chances. More and more birds came in and we added **Amazonian Swift**, **Amazonian Trogon**, **White-fronted Nunbird**, **Paradise Jacamar**, **Gould's Toucanet**, **Lineated (Layard's) Woodcreeper**, **Gray Elaenia**, **Grayish Mourner**, **Sulphury Flycatcher**, **Flame-crested**, **Turquoise Paradise**, and **Yellow-backed Tanagers**, **Black-faced Dacnis**, **Purple** and **Green Honeycreepers**, and others before it finally got hot and quiet. We headed down to the relative cool of the forest floor, and were greeted by a **Royal Flycatcher** going in and out of a nest right at the base of the tower. A drab bird flitting around nearby turned out to be a **Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin**. Walking back towards the river on a different trail, we manage to find a **Gray Antbird**, **Great Jacamar**, and had surprisingly good views of a miniscule **Pygmy Antwren**, but some shy **Spix's Guans** disappeared before many people saw them. A mixed species flock had many of the birds we had seen from the tower, but also had **Bar-breasted Piculet**, and very surprisingly, the very rare **White-bellied Dacnis**. It had been quite a morning, but we were far from done. During our post-lunch "break", **Tufted Capuchins** were feeding near the restaurant, and we searched the eaves of the cabins to find the **Blackish Nightjars** that are always there, and a **White-cheeked Spider Monkey** swung in and did some rather disgusting things. At 3pm we set out again down the river...(to be continued after some photos for the morning).



Brown-banded Puffbirds perched next to the tower



Two more birds we saw from the tower this morning: Channel-billed Toucan and Yellow-throated Woodpecker



Blackish Nightjar roosting in the eaves of one of the cabins



White-whiskered Spider Monkey

Back down at the Teles Pires river, we first checked the rapids for **Black-collared Swallow** and quickly found one that flew right past the boat. A smaller island nearby did not have the expected Amazonian Tyrannulet, but we did flush up some sleeping **Ladder-tailed Nightjars** and found our first **Pale-vented Pigeons** and **Pied Lapwings**. **Brown-chested Martins** were perched on a treefall, and surprisingly we would not find any more for the tour. Next we headed over to the much larger Ilha Ariosto, where we quickly racked up a whole bunch of targets, including the endemic **Glossy Antshrike**, gorgeous **Chestnut-backed Antshrike**, cute **Spotted Tody-Flycatcher**, along with **Amazonian Streaked-Antwren** and **White-chinned Sapphire**. Hideous screeching drew our attention to a pair of **Red-throated Caracaras**, and they perched where we could get them in the scope. With no time to spare, we piled back into the boat and headed up the river to another island, and soon located an **Amazonian Umbrellabird** perched in the exact same tree as last year. We watched him flare out his wattle a few times, then started heading back to Cristalino. **Large-billed Terns** and **Black Skimmers** joined us as we motored down the Teles Pires, and we saw a **Short-tailed Nighthawk** along the Cristalino River as it was getting dark.

Next morning we were back on the river in the twilight, heading up to the trailhead to Cristalino's famous Serra trail. It's the only difficult trail on the entire tour, and we wanted enough time to get up to the top without having to rush. We were delayed a little by spotlighting a **Common Potoo** along the river, but we still made good time and emerged onto the rocky outcrops near the ridge as it was getting light. A Barred Forest-Falcon teased us by calling incessantly from a hidden perch, but despite our best efforts we could not locate it before it went silent. It was a surprisingly cool and overcast day, which was really unusual, and while it made being out on the exposed rocks exceptionally pleasant, it was a bit quieter than usual. We still had great birds, it just took a bit more work to find them. **White-necked Jacobin** and **Black-throated Mango** started things off feeding in a flowering tree, and soon we had flocks of tanagers coming in

including **Blue-necked**, **Bay-headed**, and the very cool-lookig **Red-billed Pied Tanagers**. **Epaulet Orioles** flitted about in the treetops, and we were able to track down a singing **Natterer's Slaty-Antshrike**. Tiny **Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrants** were darting back and forth and hard to get on, though some did manage a view. Moving on, we kept finding great new birds like **Striolated Puffbird**, **Lettered** and **Chestnut-eared Aracaris**, **Red-stained Woodpecker**, **Santarem Parakeet**, **Rufous-throated Sapphire**, **Amethyst Woodstar**, **Rufous-winged** and **White-fringed Antwrens**, **Yellow-breasted Flycatcher**, **Rufous Casiornis**, **Swainson's Flycatcher**, **Black-crowned Tityra**, and **White-browed Purpletuft**. A ventriloquial Spotted Puffbird gave me fits by singing like crazy seemingly right on top of us, but never showed itself, and only one of the group managed to get a look at **Sclater's Antwren** that was moving with a mixed flock. A scenic lookout provided a panoramic view of the forest and the river below, along with a perched **King Vulture** and a **Pied Puffbird**. It was getting late in the morning, and we had not been able to pick out any **Fiery-tailed Awbills** among the dozens of Black-throated Mangos – most groups had been getting it here lately and it would be frustrating to miss it. We were on the verge of giving up when Martin came through in a big way, getting us on a perched male right on the edge of the forest. The scope showed clearly the sharply upturned tip of the bill. Relieved, we headed back to the lodge for lunch. A flock of **Dusky-billed Parrotlets** flew over as we approached the dock, and those who chose to stay back at the lodge this morning even managed to get some video of these tiny parrots. We spent the afternoon mostly cruising the Cristalino River, though we did get out in a couple places. The first stop produced the hoped-for **Bronzy Jacamar** along with **Amazonian Antshrike** and **Collared Trogon**, while another landing got us a **Cinnamon Attila**. It was nice to spend some time on the river getting better views of the likes of **Red-throated Piping-Guan**, **Bat Falcon**, and **Black Caracara**, and we even had a brief view of a panicked **Brazilian Tapir** that splashed out of the river and crashed into the forest. Heading back down the river, our boat driver managed to spot a pair of **Razor-billed Curassows** coming into roost, which we were all happy to see. Night fell and the spotlights came out – we tracked down eyeshine to see some **Pauraques**, **Ladder-tailed Nightjars**, another **Short-tailed Nighthawk**, a **Boat-billed Heron**, and several **Dwarf Caimans**. Our planned owling session after dinner was cancelled by an epic downpour unlike anything I had ever experienced during the “dry” season in Cristalino!

The rain stopped before morning, and the dry ground had soaked it up like a sponge, so there wasn't much mud to worry about. After breakfast, we headed to the older tower at Cristalino, which is still well worth a visit and much closer, but harder to get up and a little scarier since it moves a bit more. The top is well over the canopy and provides a view that never fails to impress. Only one tree comes near the top of the highest platform, and it was there that we finally got a great view of a **Tooth-billed Wren**. It's so tiny and sticks to such high levels in the canopy, that even though we could hardly have gotten a better view, the photo (*right*) didn't come out all that well. **Opal-rumped Tanagers** also came into the same tree

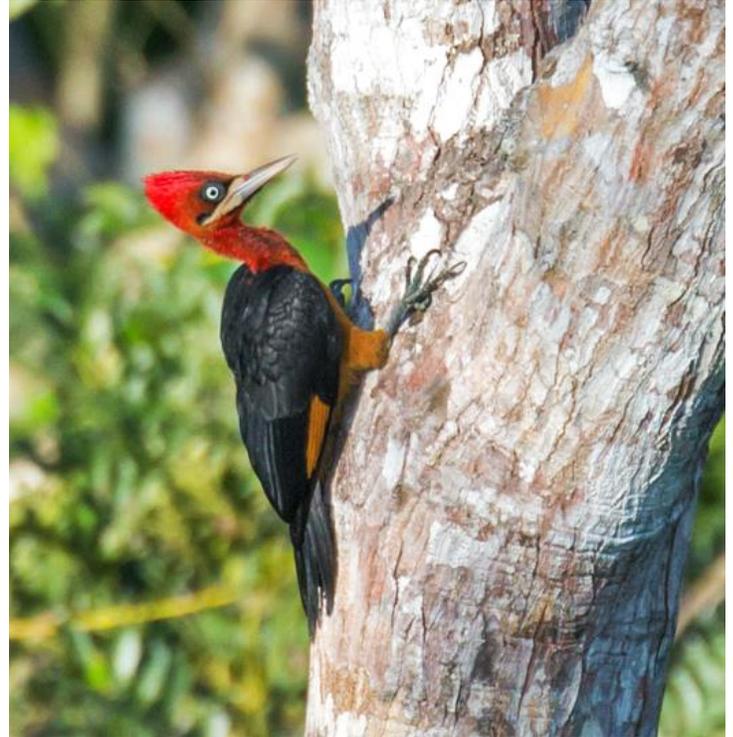


along with **Red-necked Aracari**, **Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher** and **Golden-bellied Euphonia**. One bird we had somehow missed from the other tower was the bizarre **Bare-necked Fruitcrow**, and we finally managed to nail one down perched on a dead tree, which it was sharing with a flock of superb **Red-fan Parrots**. A pair of **Chestnut-fronted Macaws** flew past, drawing out attention away from the parrots. Suddenly, a not-so-distant “KYeer, KYeer...” of a **White-browed Hawk** had us searching intently, and soon it flew into view. Scopes were quickly trained on it and it was amazing to see it so well. It hung around the tower for a while, and we decided to go down a level to try to photograph it better.

No luck with that (the photo here is the best I managed), but the middle platform proved to be a great place to be anyway. Soon were looking at **Black-bellied Cuckoo**, **Long-billed Starthroat**, **Black-tailed** and **Green-backed Trogons**, **Red-necked Woodpecker**, **Blue-and-yellow Macaw**, **Yellow-crowned Parrot**, **Crimson-bellied Parakeet**, **Dusky-chested Flycatcher**, **Olive Oropendola**, **Rufous-bellied Euphonia**, and others we had seen previously.



White-browed Hawk



Red-necked Woodpecker



Olive Oropendola



Blue-and-yellow Macaw

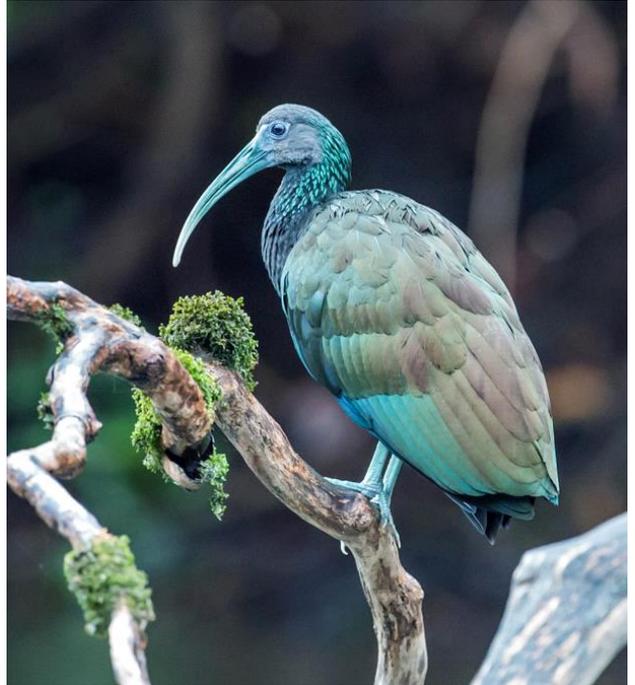


By mid-morning, it felt like we had seen as much as we were going to see from the tower, so we went down and spent the rest of the morning birding the trails. Trail birding in the dry season can be pretty slow, but with patience and persistence it always pays off. After seeing a **Red-headed Manakin**, we managed to call in a **Speckled Spinetail**, a scarce species I hadn't seen in ages. Near a little clay lick in the forest, we tracked down both **Spix's Warbling-Antbird** and a pair of **Rufous-faced Antbirds**. The latter would have been easily photographable, except I had left my camera on the trail! Oh well, it was still an amazing view. Next up was a **Lineated Woodcreeper** giving an odd call, then a mixed flock with **Cinereous Antshrike**, **White-eyed Antwren**, and **White-winged Shrike-Tanager**. We passed through some bamboo on the way back to the lodge, where singing **Dot-winged Antwren** and **Striated Antbird** were located for our last sightings of the morning. The afternoon was a bit slow as we worked trails near the river, but we did find the beautiful **Blue-cheeked Jacamar** (*photo left*) as well as a **Gray-chested Greenlet**, and a surprisingly good view of the often-difficult **Brown-winged Schiffornis**.

We did not have to get up quite so early the next morning. Most of our targets were forest interior species, and it takes a while for it to get light enough to see well along the trails. Before we headed up the river, we stopped by the staff buildings to see a family of **Bare-faced Curassows** (*below*) feeding on breadcrumbs – these birds seem so tame that some people wonder if they are wild, but they really are. They have just become habituated to people.



After getting our best views of **Green Ibis** (*photo right*), we started out on a different trail about 15 minutes upriver. Things began pretty well with nice flock activity, and one flock was so big, and stayed around so long, that we probably spent over an hour at it. Some birds we found with the flocks included **Fasciated**, **Plain-winged**, **Saturnine**, and **Spot-winged Antshrikes**, **Ornate** and **Gray Antwrens**, **Cinnamon-throated**, **Amazonian Barred**, and **Spix's Woodcreepers**, and **Slender-billed Xenops**. After that it got pretty slow. We did finally get a **Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant** whose common call had been teasing us over the previous days, and found a lek of **White-bearded Hermits**. Later in the morning, we headed down the Cristalino to a different trail, seeing **Little Cuckoo** and **Red-capped Cardinal** along the way. We were still hoping for Flame-crested Manakin, which had been strangely silent at the usual stakeouts, and wanted to try a different spot. Sadly we had no luck with it, though we did find a pair of **Band-tailed Antbirds**. In the afternoon, we hit the trails again behind the lodge, where we soon struck gold with an antswarm and the **Bare-eyed Antbird** that graces the front page of this report. It was well worth the few ant bites we suffered to see this very near and very localized bird so well! Also at the antswarm were a **White-chinned Woodcreeper** which we saw well, and a couple of Black-spotted Bare-eyes, which we did not. The rest of the afternoon was predictably a bit slow, but we did get better views of **Striated Antbird** along with **White-backed Fire-eye**, **Large-headed Flatbill**, and **Gray-breasted Sabrewing**. Owling later in the evening got us a **Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl**, which had been singing at various times in the night over the previous days (Mark had already managed to see one when it had woken him up at 1am a few days before).



More heavy rain in the morning had us worried our last chance to bird at Cristalino would be a washout. Luckily it stopped during breakfast. We waited a bit for the forest to stop dripping and brighten up, having a nice look at a **White-nosed Saki Monkey** from the deck and a couple of **White-shouldered Tanagers**. Then we hit the trails, hoping for a last-minute “mega” before we had to leave. The recent rain made things quiet, and after a while the only “new” bird we had seen was a **Wedge-billed Woodcreeper**. Then the distant hoots of an **Alta Floresta Antpitta** were clearly heard – it sounded like it might be close to the trail, and the chase was on! Off we went, getting closer and closer to the sound, trying not to be distracted by the calling Snow-capped Manakins nearby, and before long it seemed like we might actually have a shot at it. We crept off the trail, moving as quietly as possible, getting really close... and the antpitta scooted away and stopped singing. The rain was starting again – had we blown it? The antpitta started singing again on the other side of the trail, and we tried again; this time it stayed put, and we nailed it down for superb views. It’s a rarely-encountered species that was only described in 2012, having previously thought to be Spotted Antpitta. The rain picked up, possibly costing us the manakin, but we were still happy with the outcome.

It was time to leave Cristalino and move on to the next chapter of our trip. After a sumptuous lunch in Alta Floresta, we headed to the tiny airport where our flight was perfectly on time. José met us as we arrived in Cuiabá, and we were soon motoring down the highway to the Pantanal. All the birding was from the van (we would see them all again) but the **Toco Toucans** with their huge beaks glowing orange in the late afternoon light were perhaps the most memorable. We reached Piuval just after dark, having time to unpack and relax a bit before dinner.



It's hard to adequately describe your first morning in the Pantanal. After the hard rainforest birding over the previous six days, to have everything just right there in front of you, and in such large numbers, is a dramatic and welcome change. At dawn we stood in front of the lodge and just took it all in. Handsome **Nacunda Nighthawks** were still flying around, but they would soon settle to the ground to slumber. **Snail Kites**, **Limpkins**, and **Black-necked Stilts** dotted the landscape in front of us, and flocks of **Buff-necked Ibis** marched around on the low-cropped pasture. Farther away were **Bare-faced Ibis** and a lone **White-faced Ibis**, somewhat of a rarity around here. The unusually wet conditions were good for **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks**, and there were more around than I had ever seen here before. A pair of **Brazilian Teal** were also scoped. Distant squawking announced our first **Hyacinth Macaws** – those first two were hard to appreciate,

but the views would get better and better over the morning as well as the rest of the trip; you can never see enough of these mind-blowing meter-long deep-blue parrots. There were hordes of **Wood Storks**, **Roseate Spoonbills**, a few **Jabirus**, and a couple of hulking **Southern Screamers** to add to the marvelous sight. After admiring this scene for a while, we started walking across the plains, first tracking down a calling **Yellowish Pipit** and then connecting with a pair of **Great Rufous Woodcreepers** in record time. They were soon followed by a pair of **Narrow-billed Woodcreepers**, which are perhaps less impressive but much prettier. **Orange-winged** and **Turquoise-fronted Parrots** started flying over, and the latter perched for very nice views. Everywhere we looked there were more and more birds coming fast: **Chaco Chachalaca**, **Plumbeous Ibis**, **Gray-headed Kite**, **Black-collared Hawk**, **Little Woodpecker**, **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**, **Monk Parakeet**, **Rufous Cacholote**, **Vermilion Flycatcher**, **Thrush-like Wren**, **Yellow-billed** and **Red-crested Cardinals**, **Variable Oriole**, and on and on. One especially memorable moment came when a pair of **Yellow-collared Macaws** circled around over us several times, calling, then landing in a nearby tree. In mid-morning, we got in the van and drove a short distance to check a spot for **Red-legged Seriema**, and it didn't take any time at all to find some (*photo above*), along with what turned out to be the only **Yellow-headed Caracara** of the trip, another **Pale-crested Woodpecker**, and a pair of **White-lored Spinetails**. As it was getting a bit warm, we headed into denser forest to find some shade. The birding didn't slow down at all and we soon were finding **White-wedged Piculet**, **Barred Antshrike**, **Large-billed Antwren**, **Mato Grosso Antbird**, **Olivaceous**, **Buff-throated**, and **Straight-billed Woodcreepers**, **Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant**, **Ashy-headed Greenlet**, **Masked Gnatcatcher**, and **Guira Tanager**. It was nice to catch up with **Planalto Slaty-Antshrike** after having missed it in the Chapada – it's pretty scarce in the Pantanal and we could easily have missed it. Our last stop of the morning was near the boat dock, where we found a **Black-backed Water-Tyrant**, **Common Tody-Flycatcher**, and **Hooded Tanager**, but it was the scary-looking and well-named **Caiman Lizard** that really caught our eye. After a flock of **Long-tailed Ground-Doves** on the drive back, we had a long break in the middle of the day, but some of the group still braved the heat and birded near the lodge – it's always lively with birds.



Caiman Lizard at Piuval

The lake was too choked with hyacinth to take a boat ride, so we instead took a safari pickup south through the flooded fields. The truck made a great platform for wildlife viewing and for photography, and we stopped to shoot **Greater Rhea**, **White-rumped Monjita**, **Southern Lapwing**, and a **Yacare Caiman** as we went along, and also flushed up a flock of **White-faced Whistling-Ducks**.



A Greater Rhea roams through the pastures at Piuval



Yacare Caimans are abundant in the Pantanal

At the end of the track we crossed a boardwalk and climbed a small tower that gave a great view of the surrounding wetlands, which were jam-packed with many thousands of birds. Perhaps the only “new” bird we got from up there was a calling **Gray-necked Wood-Rail**, which Amy was determined to find after I said that a tower is not the best place to look for one. The awesome spectacle alone was well worth a visit. Back on the boardwalk, Amy came through again by spotting an **American Pygmy Kingfisher** perched quietly nearby, and we also managed to find some **Greater Thornbirds** and an **Orange-backed Troupial**, on fire in the golden afternoon sun. What a day it had been, with overwhelming numbers of birds, and by far the highest “day list” of the trip, close to 150! When we got back to the lodge, enormous **Greater Bulldog Bats** had invaded, feeding on the clouds of bugs that were swarming around the lights.



The American Pygmy Kingfisher we saw this afternoon



After our 5:30am breakfast, we headed back out to the Transpantanal road, where a couple of **Crab-eating Foxes** were sneaking about. The main reason for going out there was to check a stakeout for **Scarlet-hooded Blackbird**; they must have had a good year, because there were whole flocks of them flying around including lots of young birds. A bit of time out here also got us **Purple Gallinule**, **Campo Flicker**, **Chotoy Spinetail**, **Suiriri Flycatcher**, **White-tailed Goldenthrout**, **Rusty-collared** and **Double-collared Seedeaters**, **Grassland Sparrow**, **Unicolored Blackbird**, and **Solitary Black Cacique**. Later in the morning, we headed back out to the gallery forest, getting better views of several species including **Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher** and **Moustached Wren**, and a squeaky troop of **Black-tailed Marmosets** (*left*) tried but failed to look fierce and dangerous.

Leaving Piuval after lunch, he headed deeper into the Pantanal, stopping occasionally to look at birds such as **Chestnut-bellied Guan**, **Laughing Falcon**, and **White Woodpecker**. After arriving at our next lodge on the banks of the sluggish Pixaim River, we checked in, dumped our bags in the rooms, then went out on a boat ride for the last couple of hours of daylight. One word sums up our boat trip that day: **Sungrebe!** I'd never seen so many as we found that afternoon - a lot of it is a matter of luck since often they hide out of sight under the vegetation overhanging the edge of the river. We also saw our first **Blue-throated Piping-Guans**, had a brief view of a **Giant Otter**, and stopped to photograph various birds like **Rufescent Tiger-Heron** and **Black-collared Hawk**. On the way back at dusk, large numbers of **Band-tailed Nighthawks** were flying overhead, much more than I've been seeing the previous few years.



One of several Sungrebes we saw during the afternoon boat ride on the Pixaim River.



A Rufescent Tiger-Heron perched along the Pixaim River.



A Band-tailed Nighthawk circling over the river

The Pixaim River is fringed with some dense gallery forest, which can be accessed by excellent trails from the lodge. We hit those trails after breakfast for our last forest-interior birding of the tour. As he headed out, we found a pair of pretty **Whistling Herons** stalking the fields, which we had only seen in flight two days before. By this point in the tour, we had a rather limited number of targets, and with persistence we found almost all of them. A male black and scarlet **Helmeted Manakin** was the real star of the morning, though we also had nice looks at **Golden-green Woodpecker**, **Rusty-backed Spinetail**, **Pale-legged Hornero**, **Green-backed Becard**, **Rufous-browed Peppershrike**, and **Buff-breasted Wren** along the way. We'd heard **Flavescent Warbler** in a few other places, and I had kept "almost" promising we would see it again, and today we finally did. As is always the case with the Pantanal, we had repeat views of dozens of other birds as well. After a few days in the Pantanal, I find that most people enjoy the trip more if they stop focusing so much on lifers, and rather just enjoy the abundance of wildlife, the repeated superb views, and the great photo opportunities. **Great Antshrike**, **Plain Tyrannulet**, and **Fuscous Flycatcher** are a few such birds that I didn't mention in the write-ups of the last few days.



Heavy rain in the Pantanal in July is pretty rare, but the dark clouds in the distance had me recommend bringing rain before we started our afternoon boat ride. Glad I did! About 20 minutes later, the skies opened up and the rain came down in sheets. I ended up using my raincoat to protect my camera and got absolutely drenched as we raced back to the lodge. Five minutes later the rain had stopped. As we waited to dry off a little, hordes of birds came down to the feeders, such as **Purplish Jays** (*photo left*), **Bay-winged Cowbirds** (now split as **Grayish Baywing**), and **Picazuro Pigeons**. With the sun coming out again and the afternoon waning fast, we headed back out on the river. Our boat driver had brought some fish with him, and he tossed some to an enormous and totally fearless **Jabiru**. It was so huge and so close that my big camera was overkill and I could barely get his head in the frame. Later on, hungry **Black-collared Hawks** and **Great Black Hawks** glared hungrily at us, clearly

hoping for some of those fish. Even knowing what's coming, it's really hard to get a perfect shot of these birds diving after the tasty morsel. We tried a couple times, and my best result is on the next page, though that photo is more bizarre than beautiful. After dinner, an impromptu night spotlighting drive was successful with a **Brazilian Tapir** seen well, along with a perched **Spot-tailed Nightjar**.

*Jabiru**Black-collared Hawk**Spot-tailed Nightjar*

The next day before breakfast, we walked out along the landing strip behind the lodge, finding a **White-bellied Seedeater** and an overflying flock of **Blue-crowned Parakeets** among the dozens of other more common species. We spent time photographing **Long-tailed Ground-Doves** on the “runway” as well as a flock of superb **Chestnut-eared Aracaris** that came down to the fruit feeder. After breakfast we packed up and continued our journey south along the Transpantanal Highway.

*Long-tailed Ground-Dove**Chestnut-eared Aracari*

We stopped a few times along the way (it's hard not to on this amazing road...), finding **Picui Ground-Dove**, **Buff-bellied Hermit**, **Cinereous-breasted Spinetail**, **Southern Scrub-Flycatcher**, **Fawn-breasted Wren**, **Marsh Deer**, and a roosting **Great Horned Owl** (*below*) at a well-known stakeout. We arrived in Porto Jofre at the end of the road, and checked into



the superb lodge there just in time for lunch. After a short break, we headed to the dock; it was a beautiful afternoon, and as we headed up the Cuiabá River, we were full of anticipation for the chance to see a Jaguar, one of the most magnificent creatures on this planet.

Things started off uneventfully as we scanned the river banks for any signs of movement. About 45 minutes later, the radio crackled, and our boat driver got a determined look in his eyes as he gunned the motor. That could only mean one thing – the RPM's hit the roof and he took river bends at precarious angles before a small flotilla of boats came into view. Sometimes there is a long wait, but this time we saw him almost immediately, emerging from the vegetation to walk along the river, totally ignoring the several dozen spectators.



We watched the **Jaguar** for an hour or so as he ambled along the bank, disappearing and reappearing through the grass and bushes, and once briefly going into the water. It was a great sighting, and it was nice to have one the first afternoon so we didn't have to stress about it later. The light had gotten perfect for photography, so we went to a nearby sandbar and spent time watching and shooting **Pied Lapwing**, **Collared Plover**, **Yellow-billed** and **Large-billed Terns**, **Black Skimmer**, and **Yacare Caiman** before we started heading back to the lodge, gawking at the thousands of **Snail Kites** that darkened the sky as they headed off to roost.



Yacaré Caiman



Collared Plover

The following day, we cruised the rivers again, stopping to look at our photograph anything we wanted to. Surprisingly, we had no further Jaguar sightings; only two were reported the whole day, and neither stayed long enough to chase. It made us appreciate our good fortune for seeing one so well the day before. **Giant Otters** were probably the highlight of the day, and we spent nearly an hour watching one family group that swam down the river, then climbed up a bank and frolicked around.



Giant Otters

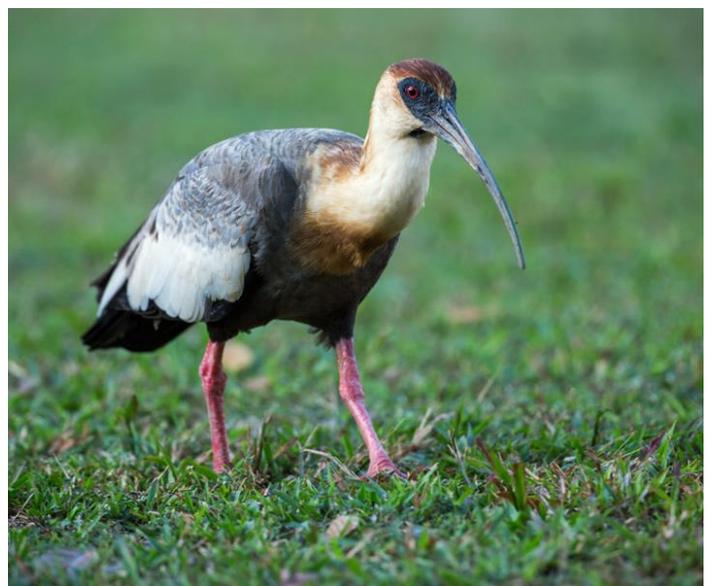
We also had our best views of **Crane Hawk**, **Orange-backed Troupial**, and **Black Howler Monkey** – a red female with a baby clutching her neck. Here are a few more photos from the day:



Pied Lapwing on a sand bar along the Rio Três Irmãos



Capybaras are common in the Pantanal



A Buff-necked Ibis at the Hotel Porto Jofre

While another boat ride would have been available on the morning of our last full day, the whole group was happy with our one Jaguar sighting, and preferred to have more time birding on the way back to Cuiabá. Before we left, we spent time wandering around the lodge grounds, taking in our last views of the very entertaining and almost tame **Hyacinth Macaws**, and getting up close and personal with a **Black-capped Donacobius** – photos of both are below.



With few new “trip birds” we could hope for, we were pretty fortunately on the way back, finding **Masked Yellowthroat**, **Subtropical Doradito**, **White-bellied Tyrannulet**, **Large Elaenia**, **Rufous-fronted Thornbird**, and **White-browed Blackbird**, and obtained better views of **Cinereous-breasted Spinetail** and **Scaly-headed Parrot**. There were also a few **Collared Peccaries**, and of course numerous photogenic birds such as **Rusty-backed Antwren**, **Barred Antshrike**, **Crimson-crested Woodpecker**, and **Rusty-collared Seedeater**.



Rusty-collared Seedeater



Crimson-crested Woodpecker



Rusty-backed Antwren



Barred Antshrike

We had almost departed the Pantanal when we saw a taxi stopped in the middle of the dirt road, doors open, with a young couple cavorting about seemingly trying to take a selfie with something with their tablet... and then we saw it. An enormous snake stretching across the side of the road into the bushes. We got out of the van in a hurry and ran up to it. It was a **Yellow Anaconda** (not to be confused with the larger and better-known Green Anaconda). It was an especially large one, probably approaching four meters, though we of course had no way to measure it before it slithered away. I don't usually put photos of snakes, since some people are freaked out by them, but this was pretty special and even mentioned as favorite sighting of the trip.



It was certainly a unique way to end a great tour! We made it back to civilization and our hotel in Cuiabá without any other interruptions, and had a nice farewell dinner to reminisce over the trip. I hope to see you all again on another trip in the future.

BIRD LIST

This list includes all the bird species that were recorded by at least one of the group, including the leader. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow **Clements, James F. *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*. Sixth Edition, 2007, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press**, including all updates through August 2014 (version 6.9)

Totals:

432 bird species seen

51 heard only

H=Heard only

GO=Guide only

RHEAS

Greater Rhea

TINAMOUS

- H Cinereous Tinamou
- H Undulated Tinamou
- H Brazilian Tinamou
- H Variegated Tinamou
- H Small-billed Tinamou

SCREAMERS

Southern Screamer

DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL

White-faced Whistling-Duck

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Muscovy Duck

Brazilian Teal

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS

Chaco Chachalaca

Spix's Guan

Chestnut-bellied Guan

Blue-throated Piping-Guan

Red-throated Piping-Guan

Razor-billed Curassow

Bare-faced Curassow

STORKS

Jabiru

Wood Stork

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

ANHINGAS

Anhinga

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS

- H Least Bittern
- Rufescent Tiger-Heron
- Cocoi Heron

RHEIDAE*Rhea americana***TINAMIDAE***Crypturellus cinereus**Crypturellus undulatus**Crypturellus strigulosus**Crypturellus variegatus**Crypturellus parvirostris***ANHIMIDAE***Chauna torquata***ANATIDAE***Dendrocygna viduata**Dendrocygna autumnalis**Cairina moschata**Amazonetta brasiliensis***CRACIDAE***Ortalis canicollis**Penelope jacquacu**Penelope ochrogaster**Pipile cumanensis**Pipile cujubi**Mitu tuberosum**Crax fasciolata***CICONIIDAE***Jabiru mycteria**Mycteria americana***PHALACROCORACIDAE***Phalacrocorax brasilianus***ANHINGIDAE***Anhinga anhinga***ARDEIDAE***Ixobrychus exilis**Tigrisoma lineatum**Ardea cocoi*

Great Egret
 Snowy Egret
 Little Blue Heron
 Cattle Egret
 Striated Heron
 Whistling Heron
 Capped Heron
 Black-crowned Night-Heron
 Boat-billed Heron

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

White-faced Ibis
 Green Ibis
 Bare-faced Ibis
 Plumbeous Ibis
 Buff-necked Ibis
 Roseate Spoonbill

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture
 Turkey Vulture
 Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture
 Greater Yellow-headed Vulture
 King Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES

Pearl Kite
 Gray-headed Kite
 Swallow-tailed Kite
 Crested Eagle
 Black-collared Hawk
 Snail Kite
 Crane Hawk
 Savanna Hawk
 Great Black Hawk
 Roadside Hawk
 White-browed Hawk
 Gray-lined (Gray) Hawk
 Short-tailed Hawk

SUNBITTERN

Sunbittern

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS

Gray-necked Wood-Rail

H Ash-throated Crake

Purple Gallinule

FINFOOTS

Sungrebe

LIMPKIN

Limpkin

STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-necked (White-backed) Stilt

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Pied Lapwing
 Southern Lapwing

Ardea alba
Egretta thula
Egretta caerulea
Bubulcus ibis
Butorides striata
Syrigma sibilatrix
Pilherodius pileatus
Nycticorax nycticorax
Cochlearius cochlearius

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Plegadis chihi

Mesembrinibis cayennensis

Phimosus infuscatus

Theristicus caerulescens

Theristicus caudatus

Platalea ajaja

CATHARTIDAE

Coragyps atratus

Cathartes aura

Cathartes burrovianus

Cathartes melambrotus

Sarcoramphus papa

ACCIPITRIDAE

Gampsonyx swainsonii

Leptodon cayanensis

Elanoides forficatus

Morphnus guianensis

Busarellus nigricollis

Rostrhamus sociabilis

Geranospiza caerulescens

Buteogallus meridionalis

Buteogallus urubitinga

Rupornis magnirostris

Leucopternis kuhli

Buteo nitidus

Buteo brachyurus

EURYPYGIDAE

Eurypyga helias

RALLIDAE

Aramides cajaneus

Porzana albicollis

Porphyrio martinicus

HELIORNITHIDAE

Heliornis fulica

ARAMIDAE

Aramus guarauna

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Himantopus mexicanus melanurus

CHARADRIIDAE

Vanellus cayanus

Vanellus chilensis

Collared Plover

JACANAS

Wattled Jacana

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS

Yellow-billed Tern

Large-billed Tern

Black Skimmer

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Pale-vented Pigeon

Picazuro Pigeon

Plumbeous Pigeon

H Ruddy Pigeon

Ruddy Ground-Dove

Scaled Dove

Picui Ground-Dove

H Blue Ground-Dove

Long-tailed Ground-Dove

White-tipped Dove

Gray-fronted Dove

CUCKOOS

Little Cuckoo

Squirrel Cuckoo

Black-bellied Cuckoo

Guira Cuckoo

H Striped Cuckoo

Smooth-billed Ani

OWLS

H Tropical Screech-Owl

Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl

H Crested Owl

Great Horned Owl

H Amazonian Pygmy-Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

Burrowing Owl

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES

Nacunda Nighthawk

Short-tailed Nighthawk

Band-tailed Nighthawk

Blackish Nightjar

Common Pauraque

Spot-tailed Nightjar

Ladder-tailed Nightjar

Ocellated Poorwill

POTOOS

H Long-tailed Potoo

Common Potoo

SWIFTS

Biscutate Swift

Amazonian Swift

Short-tailed Swift

Charadrius collaris

JACANIDAE

Jacana jacana

LARIDAE

Sternula superciliaris

Phaetusa simplex

Rynchops niger

COLUMBIDAE

Columba livia

Patagioenas cayennensis

Patagioenas picazuro

Patagioenas plumbea

Patagioenas subvinacea

Columbina talpacoti

Columbina squammata

Columbina picui

Claravis pretiosa

Uropelia campestris

Leptotila verreauxi

Leptotila rufaxilla

CUCULIDAE

Coccyzua minuta

Piaya cayana

Piaya melanogaster

Guira guira

Tapera naevia

Crotophaga ani

STRIGIDAE

Megascops choliba

Megascops watsonii

Lophotrix cristata

Bubo virginianus

Glaucidium hardyi

Glaucidium brasilianum

Athene cunicularia

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Chordeiles nacunda

Lurocalis semitorquatus

Nyctiprogne leucopyga

Nyctipolus nigrescens

Nyctidromus albicollis

Hydropsalis maculicaudus

Hydropsalis climacocerca

Nyctiphrynus ocellatus

NYCTIBIIDAE

Nyctibius aethereus

Nyctibius griseus

APODIDAE

Streptoprocne biscutate

Chaetura viridipennis

Chaetura brachyura

Gray-rumped Swift
 Pale-rumped Swift
 Fork-tailed Palm-Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

White-necked Jacobin
 White-bearded Hermit
 Buff-bellied Hermit
 White-vented Violetear
 Horned Sungem
 White-tailed Goldenthrout
 Fiery-tailed Awlbill
 Black-throated Mango
 Frilled Coquette
 Long-billed Starthroat
 Blue-tufted Starthroat
 Amethyst Woodstar
 Glittering-bellied Emerald
 Gray-breasted Sabrewing
 Swallow-tailed Hummingbird
 Fork-tailed Woodnymph
 Versicolored Emerald
 Glittering-throated Emerald
 Rufous-throated Sapphire
 White-chinned Sapphire
 Gilded Hummingbird (Sapphire)

TROGONS

Black-tailed Trogon
 Green-backed (White-tailed) Trogon
 Amazonian (Violaceous) Trogon
 Blue-crowned Trogon

Collared Trogon

KINGFISHERS

Ringed Kingfisher
 Amazon Kingfisher
 Green Kingfisher
 Green-and-rufous Kingfisher
 American Pygmy Kingfisher

PUFFBIRDS

- H** White-necked Puffbird
 Brown-banded Puffbird
 Pied Puffbird
H Spotted Puffbird
 Striolated Puffbird
 White-eared Puffbird
 Black-fronted Nunbird
 White-fronted Nunbird
 Swallow-winged Puffbird (Swallow-wing)

JACAMARS

Blue-cheeked Jacamar
 Rufous-tailed Jacamar
 Bronzy Jacamar

Chaetura cinereiventris
Chaetura egregia
Tachornis squamata

TROCHILIDAE

Florisuga mellivora
Phaethornis hispidus
Phaethornis subochraceus
Colibri serrirostris
Heliactin bilophus
Polytmus guainumbi
Avocettula recurvirostris
Anthracothorax nigricollis
Lophornis magnificus
Heliomaster longirostris
Heliomaster furcifer
Calliphlox amethystina
Chlorostilbon lucidus
Campylopterus largipennis
Eupetomena macroura
Thalurania furcata
Amazilia versicolor
Amazilia fimbriata
Hylocharis sapphirina
Hylocharis cyanus
Hylocharis chrysura

TROGONIDAE

Trogon melanurus eumorphus
Trogon viridis viridis
Trogon ramonianus
Trogon curucui
Trogon collaris

ALCEDINIDAE

Megaceryle torquata
Chloroceryle amazona
Chloroceryle americana
Chloroceryle inda
Chloroceryle aenea

BUCCONIDAE

Notharchus hyperrhynchus
Notharchus ordii
Notharchus tectus
Bucco tamatia
Nystalus striolatus torridus
Nystalus chacuru
Monasa nigrifrons
Monasa morphoeus
Chelidoptera tenebrosa

GALBULIDAE

Galbula cyanicollis
Galbula ruficauda
Galbula leucogastra

Paradise Jacamar

Great Jacamar

NEW WORLD BARBETS

Black-girdled Barbet

TOUCANS

Lettered Aracari

Chestnut-eared Aracari

Curl-crested Aracari

Red-necked Aracari

Gould's Toucanet

Toco Toucan

White-throated (Cuvier's) Toucan

Channel-billed Toucan

WOODPECKERS

Bar-breasted Piculet

White-wedged Piculet

White Woodpecker

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker

Little Woodpecker

Red-stained Woodpecker

Yellow-throated Woodpecker

Golden-green Woodpecker

Campo Flicker

Scale-breasted Woodpecker

H Chestnut Woodpecker

Pale-crested Woodpecker

Cream-colored Woodpecker

Ringed Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Red-necked Woodpecker

Crimson-crested Woodpecker

SERIEMAS

Red-legged Seriema

FALCONS AND CARACARAS**H** Barred Forest-Falcon**H** Cryptic Forest-Falcon

Black Caracara

Red-throated Caracara

Southern Caracara

Yellow-headed Caracara

Laughing Falcon

American Kestrel

Aplomado Falcon

Bat Falcon

Orange-breasted Falcon

PARROTS

Monk Parakeet

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet

Golden-winged Parakeet

H Orange-cheeked Parrot

Scaly-headed Parrot

*Galbula dea**Jacamerops aureus***CAPITONIDAE***Capito dayi***RAMPHASTIDAE***Pteroglossus inscriptus**Pteroglossus castanotis**Pteroglossus beauharnaesii**Pteroglossus bitorquatus**Selenidera gouldii**Ramphastos toco**Ramphastos tucanus cuvieri**Ramphastos vitellinus culminatus***PICIDAE***Picumnus aurifrons**Picumnus albosquamatus**Melanerpes candidus**Melanerpes cruentatus**Veniliornis passerinus**Veniliornis affinis**Piculus flavigula magnus**Piculus chrysochloros**Colaptes campestris**Celeus grammicus**Celeus elegans**Celeus lugubris**Celeus flavus**Celeus torquatus**Dryocopus lineatus**Campephilus rubricollis**Campephilus melanoleucos***CARIAMIDAE***Cariama cristata***FALCONIDAE***Micrastur ruficollis**Micrastur mintoni**Daptrius ater**Ibycter americanus**Caracara plancus**Milvago chimachima**Herpetotheres cachinnans**Falco sparverius**Falco femoralis**Falco ruficularis**Falco deiroleucus***PSITTACIDAE***Myiopsitta monachus**Brotogeris chiriri**Brotogeris chrysoptera**Pyrilia barrabandi**Pionus maximiliani*

	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>
	Yellow-crowned Parrot	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>
	Turquoise-fronted (Blue-fronted) Parrot	<i>Amazona aestiva</i>
	Kawall's Parrot	<i>Amazona kawalli</i>
	Orange-winged Parrot	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>
	Dusky-billed Parrotlet	<i>Forpus modestus</i>
	White-bellied Parrot	<i>Pionites leucogaster</i>
	Red-fan Parrot	<i>Deropterus accipitrinus</i>
	Crimson-bellied Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura perlata</i>
	Santarem Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura amazonum lucida</i>
	Hyacinth Macaw	<i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i>
	Peach-fronted Parakeet	<i>Eupsittula aurea</i>
H	Nanday Parakeet	<i>Aratinga nenday</i>
	White-eyed Parakeet	<i>Psittacara leucophthalmus</i>
	Red-bellied Macaw	<i>Orthopsittaca manilata</i>
	Yellow-collared (Golden-collared) Macaw	<i>Primolius auricollis</i>
	Chestnut-fronted Macaw	<i>Ara severus</i>
	Red-and-green Macaw	<i>Ara chloropterus</i>
	Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>
	Blue-and-yellow Macaw	<i>Ara ararauna</i>
	Blue-crowned Parakeet	<i>Thectocercus acuticaudatus</i>
	Red-shouldered Macaw	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i>
	TYPICAL ANTBIRDS	THAMNOPHILIDAE
	Fasciated Antshrike	<i>Cymbilaimus lineatus</i>
	Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>
	Glossy Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus luctuosus</i>
	Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>
	Rufous-winged Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus torquatus</i>
	Chestnut-backed Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus palliatus</i>
	Plain-winged Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus schistaceus</i>
	Natterer's Slaty-Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus stictocephalus</i>
	Planalto Slaty-Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus pelzelni</i>
	Amazonian Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus amazonicus</i>
	Plain Antwren	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>
	Saturnine Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes saturninus</i>
	Cinereous Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes caesius</i>
	Spot-winged Antshrike	<i>Pygmyptila stelleris</i>
	White-eyed Antwren	<i>Epinecrophylla leucophthalma</i>
	Ornate Antwren	<i>Epinecrophylla ornata</i>
	Pygmy Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula brachyura</i>
	Sclater's Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula sclateri</i>
	Amazonian Streaked-Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula multostriata</i>
GO	White-flanked Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula axillaris axillaris</i>
	Gray Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula menetriesii</i>
	Large-billed Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus longirostris</i>
	Rufous-winged Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus</i>
	Dot-winged Antwren	<i>Microrhophias quixensis emiliae</i>
	White-fringed Antwren	<i>Formicivora grisea</i>
	Rusty-backed Antwren	<i>Formicivora rufa</i>
	Striated Antbird	<i>Drymophila devillei subochracea</i>
	Spix's Warbling-Antbird	<i>Hypocnemis striata</i>

Gray Antbird
 Mato Grosso Antbird
 White-backed Fire-eye
H White-browed Antbird
GO Black-faced Antbird
 Band-tailed Antbird
 Rufous-faced Antbird
H Black-throated Antbird
 Bare-eyed Antbird
GO Dot-backed Antbird
H Black-spotted Bare-eye
ANTPITTAS
 Alta Floresta Antpitta
H Thrush-like Antpitta
OVENBIRDS
 Olivaceous Woodcreeper
 Long-tailed Woodcreeper
 White-chinned Woodcreeper
 Wedge-billed Woodcreeper
 Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper
 Amazonian Barred-Woodcreeper
 Great Rufous Woodcreeper
 Spix's Woodcreeper
 Buff-throated Woodcreeper
 Straight-billed Woodcreeper
 Red-billed Scythebill
H Curve-billed (Tapajos) Scythebill
 Narrow-billed Woodcreeper
 Lineated (Layard's) Woodcreeper
 Slender-billed Xenops
H Plain Xenops
H Point-tailed Palmcreeper
 Pale-legged Hornero
 Rufous Hornero
H Chestnut-winged Hookbill
 Rufous-fronted (Common) Thornbird
 Greater Thornbird
 Rusty-backed Spinetail
 Speckled Spinetail
 Rufous (Gray-crested) Cacholote
 Chotoy Spinetail
 Yellow-chinned Spinetail
 Pale-breasted Spinetail
 Cinereous-breasted Spinetail
 White-lored Spinetail
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS
 White-lored Tyrannulet
 Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet
 Suiriri Flycatcher
 Chapada Flycatcher
 Subtropical Doradito

Cercomacra cinerascens
Cercomacra melanaria
Pyriglena leuconota
Myrmoborus leucophrys
Myrmoborus myotherinus
Hypocnemoides maculicauda
Schistocichla rufifacies
Myrmeciza atrothorax
Rhegmatorhina gymnops
Hylophylax punctulatus
Phlegopsis nigromaculata
GRALLARIIDAE
Hylopezus whittakeri
Myrmothera campanisona
FURNARIIDAE: FURNARIINAE
Sittasomus griseicapillus transitivus
Deconychura longicauda
Dendrocincla merula
Glyphorhynchus spirurus
Dendrexetastes rufigula
Dendrocolaptes certhia concolor
Xiphocolaptes major
Xiphorhynchus spixii
Xiphorhynchus guttatus
Dendroplex picus
Campylorhamphus trochilirostris
Campylorhamphus procurvoides cardosoi
Lepidocolaptes angustirostris
Lepidocolaptes albolineatus layardi
Xenops tenuirostris
Xenops minutus
Berlepschia rikeri
Furnarius leucopus
Furnarius rufus
Ancistrops strigilatus
Phacellodomus rufifrons
Phacellodomus ruber
Cranioleuca vulpina
Cranioleuca gutturata
Pseudoseisura unirufa
Schoeniophylax phryganophilus
Certhiaxis cinnamomeus
Synallaxis albescens
Synallaxis hypospodia
Synallaxis albitor
TYRANNIDAE
Ornithion inerme
Camptostoma obsoletum
Suiriri suiriri suiriri
Suiriri islerorum
Pseudocolopteryx acutipennis

H	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet	<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>
	Forest Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>
	Gray Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis caniceps</i>
	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>
	Large Elaenia	<i>Elaenia spectabilis</i>
	Plain-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia cristata</i>
	White-bellied Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga munda</i>
H	Sepia-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon amaurocephalus</i>
	Planalto Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias fasciatus</i>
	Southern Scrub-Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus modestus</i>
	Plain Tyrannulet	<i>Inezia inornata</i>
	Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Euscarthmus rufomarginatus</i>
	Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Myiornis ecaudatus</i>
	Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus galeatus</i>
H	White-bellied Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus griseipectus</i>
H	Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus striaticollis</i>
	Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer</i>
H	Zimmer's Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus minimus</i>
	Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Poecilotriccus latirostris</i>
	Spotted Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum maculatum</i>
	Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>
	Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum</i>
	Yellow-olive Flycatcher	<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens pallescens</i>
	Yellow-breasted (Ochre-ored) Flycatcher	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris subsimilis</i>
	White-crested Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus platyrhynchos</i>
	(Amazonian) Royal Flycatcher	<i>Onychorhynchus coronatus coronatus</i>
H	Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Terentotriccus erythrurus</i>
	Cliff Flycatcher	<i>Hirundinea ferruginea bellicosa</i>
H	Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>
H	Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>
	Fuscous Flycatcher	<i>Cnemotriccus fuscatus</i>
	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>
	Crested Black-Tyrant	<i>Knipolegus lophotes</i>
	Drab Water Tyrant	<i>Ochthornis littoralis</i>
	Gray Monjita	<i>Xolmis cinereus</i>
	White-rumped Monjita	<i>Xolmis velatus</i>
	Black-backed Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola albiventer</i>
	White-headed Marsh Tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>
	Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>
	Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosa</i>
	Large-headed Flatbill	<i>Ramphotricon megacephalum</i>
	Cinnamon Attila	<i>Attila cinnamomeus</i>
H	Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>
H	Sibilant (Eastern) Sirystes	<i>Sirystes sibilator</i>
	Rufous Casiornis	<i>Casiornis rufus</i>
	Grayish Mourner	<i>Rhytipterna simplex</i>
	Swainson's Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus swainsoni</i>
	Short-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus ferox</i>
	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>
	Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus lictor</i>
	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>

Boat-billed Flycatcher
 Rusty-margined Flycatcher
 Dusky-chested Flycatcher
 Piratic Flycatcher
 Crowned Slaty Flycatcher
 Sulphury Flycatcher
 Tropical Kingbird

COTINGAS

Amazonian Umbrellabird
 Spangled Cotinga
 Screaming Piha

H Purple-throated Cotinga
 Pompadour Cotinga
 Bare-necked Fruitcrow

MANAKINS

Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin
 Helmeted Manakin
 White-crowned Manakin
 Red-headed Manakin
 Band-tailed Manakin

H Snow-capped Manakin

TITYRAS AND ALLIES

Black-tailed Tityra
 Black-crowned Tityra
 Masked Tityra
 Brown-winged (Thrush-like) Schiffornis
 Cinereous Mourner
 White-browed Purpletuft
 Green-backed Becard
 Pink-throated Becard
 Crested Becard

VIREOS

Red-eyed Vireo
 Gray-chested Greenlet
 Ashy-headed Greenlet

H Dusky-capped Greenlet

H Tawny-crowned Greenlet

H Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES

Purplish Jay

SWALLOWS

Black-collared Swallow
 White-banded Swallow
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow
 Gray-breasted Martin
 Brown-chested Martin
 White-winged Swallow

WRENS

Thrush-like Wren
 Tooth-billed Wren

Megarynchus pitangua
Myiozetetes cayanensis
Myiozetetes luteiventris
Legatus leucophaeus
Empidonomus aurantioatrocristatus
Tyrannopsis sulphurea
Tyrannus melancholicus

COTINGIDAE

Cephalopterus ornatus
Cotinga cayana
Lipaugus vociferans
Porphyrolaema porphyrolaema
Xipholena punicea
Gymnoderus foetidus

PIPRIDAE

Tyranneutes stolzmanni
Antilophia galeata
Dixiphia pipra
Ceratopipra rubrocapilla
Pipra fasciicauda
Lepidothrix nattereri

TITYRIDAE

Tityra cayana
Tityra inquisitor
Tityra semifasciata
Schiffornis turdina
Laniocera hypopyrra
Iodopleura isabellae
Pachyramphus viridis viridis
Pachyramphus minor
Pachyramphus validus

VIREONIDAE

Vireo olivaceus
Hylophilus semicinereus
Hylophilus pectoralis
Hylophilus hypoxanthus
Hylophilus ochraceiceps
Vireolanus leucotis
Cyclarhis gujanensis

CORVIDAE

Cyanocorax cyanomelas

HIRUNDINIDAE

Pygochelidon melanoleuca
Atticora fasciata
Stelgidopteryx ruficollis
Progne chalybea
Progne tapera
Tachycineta albiventer

TROGLODYTIDAE

Campylorhynchus turdinus
Odontorchilus cinereus

	Moustached Wren	<i>Pheugopedius genibarbis</i>
	Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Cantorchilus leucotis</i>
	Fawn-breasted Wren	<i>Cantorchilus guarayanus</i>
	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
	GNATCATCHERS	POLIOPTILIDAE
H	Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>
	Masked Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila dumicola</i>
	DONACOBIUS	DONACOBIIDAE
	Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>
	THRUSHES AND ALLIES	TURDIDAE
	Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>
H	Hauxwell's Thrush	<i>Turdus hauxwelli</i>
	Rufous-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>
H	Lawrence's Thrush	<i>Turdus lawrencii</i>
	Creamy-bellied Thrush	<i>Turdus amaurochalinus</i>
	MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS	MIMIDAE
	Chalk-browed Mockingbird	<i>Mimus saturninus</i>
	WAGTAILS AND PIPITS	MOTACILLIDAE
	Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>
	NEW WORLD WARBLERS	PARULIDAE
	Masked Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis velata</i>
H	Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitiauyumi</i>
	Golden-crowned (White-bellied) Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus hypoleucus</i>
	Flavescent Warbler	<i>Myiothlypis flaveola</i>
	TANAGERS AND ALLIES	THRAUPIDAE
	Red-crested Cardinal	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>
	Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>
	Yellow-billed Cardinal	<i>Paroaria capitata</i>
	White-banded Tanager	<i>Neothraupis fasciata</i>
	Red-billed Pied Tanager	<i>Lamprospiza melanoleuca</i>
	Hooded Tanager	<i>Nemosia pileata</i>
	White-rumped Tanager	<i>Cypsnagra hirundinacea</i>
	Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>
	Flame-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus cristatus</i>
	White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>
	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>
	White-winged Shrike-Tanager	<i>Lanio versicolor</i>
	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>
	Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>
	Sayaca Tanager	<i>Thraupis sayaca</i>
	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>
	Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanicollis</i>
	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana boliviana</i>
	Paradise Tanager	<i>Tangara chilensis</i>
	Opal-rumped Tanager	<i>Tangara velia</i>
	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>
	Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>
	White-bellied Dacnis	<i>Dacnis albiventris</i>
	Black-faced Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata</i>
H	Yellow-bellied Dacnis	<i>Dacnis flaviventer</i>
	Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>

Purple Honeycreeper
 Green Honeycreeper
 Guira Tanager
 Yellow-backed Tanager
 Chestnut-vented Conebill
 Blue Finch
 Saffron Finch
 Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch
 Blue-black Grassquit
 Plumbeous Seedeater
 Rusty-collared Seedeater
 Yellow-bellied Seedeater
 Double-collared Seedeater
 White-bellied Seedeater
 Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch
 Coal-crested Finch
 Red-crested Finch
 Bananaquit
 Grayish Saltator
 Black-throated Saltator
 Slate-colored Grosbeak

SPARROWS

GO Pectoral Sparrow
 Saffron-billed Sparrow
 Grassland Sparrow

CARDINALS AND ALLIES

H Red-crowned Ant-Tanager
TROUPIALS AND ALLIES
 Red-breasted Blackbird (Meadowlark)
 White-browed Blackbird (Meadowlark)
 Chopi Blackbird
 Scarlet-headed Blackbird
 Unicolored Blackbird
 Bay-winged Cowbird (Grayish Baywing)
 Shiny Cowbird
 Giant Cowbird
 Epaulet Oriole
 Variable Oriole
 Orange-backed Troupial
 Solitary Black Cacique (Solitary Cacique)
 Yellow-rumped Cacique
 Crested Oropendola
 Olive (Amazonian) Oropendola

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS, AND ALLIES

Purple-throated Euphonia
 Thick-billed Euphonia
 Golden-bellied (White-lored) Euphonia
H White-vented Euphonia
 Orange-bellied Euphonia
 Rufous-bellied Euphonia

Cyanerpes caeruleus
Chlorophanes spiza
Hemithraupis guira
Hemithraupis flavicollis
Conirostrum speciosum
Porphyrospiza caerulescens
Sicalis flaveola
Emberizoides herbicola
Volatinia jacarina
Sporophila plumbea
Sporophila collaris
Sporophila nigricollis
Sporophila caerulescens
Sporophila leucoptera
Sporophila angolensis
Charitospiza eucosma
Coryphospingus cucullatus
Coereba flaveola
Saltator coerulescens
Saltator atricollis
Saltator grossus

EMBERIZIDAE

Arremon taciturnus
Arremon flavirostris
Ammodramus humeralis

CARDINALIDAE

Habia rubica

ICTERIDAE

Sturnella militaris
Sturnella superciliaris
Gnorimopsar chopi
Amblyramphus holosericeus
Agelasticus cyanopus
Agelaioides badius badius
Molothrus bonariensis
Molothrus oryzivorus
Icterus cayanensis cayanensis
Icterus pyrrhopterus periporphyrus

Icterus croconotus

Cacicus solitarius

Cacicus cela

Psarocolius decumanus

Psarocolius bifasciatus

FRINGILLIDAE

Euphonia chlorotica

Euphonia laniirostris

Euphonia chrysopasta

Euphonia minuta

Euphonia xanthogaster

Euphonia rufiventris

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow

PASSERIDAE*Passer domesticus***MAMMALS**

Greater Bulldog Bat

Black-tailed Marmoset (Silvery Marmoset)

Tufted Capuchin (Brown Capuchin)

Black-striped Capuchin

White-nosed Saki

H Red-handed Howler

Black Howler

White-cheeked (White-whiskered) Spider Monkey

Crab-eating Fox

Jaguar

Giant Otter

Brazilian Tapir

Collared Peccary

Marsh Deer

Gray Brocket

Capybara

Azara's Agouti

*Noctilio leporinus**Callithrix melanura**Cebus apella**Cebus libidinosus**Chiropotes albinasus**Alouatta belzebul**Alouatta caraya**Ateles marginatus**Cerdocyon thous**Panthera onca**Pteronura brasiliensis**Tapirus terrestris**Pecari tajacu**Blastocerus dichotomus**Mazama gouazoubira**Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris**Dasyprocta azarae***A FEW OTHER NOTABLE SIGHTINGS**

Dwarf Caiman

Yacare Caiman

Geoffroy's Side-necked Turtle

Argentine Black-and-white Tegu

Caiman Lizard

Giant Ameiva

Yellow Anaconda

Yellow-tailed Cribou

*Paleosuchus palpebrosus**Caiman yacare**Phrynops geoffroanus**Salvator merianae**Dracaena paraguayensis**Ameiva ameiva**Eunectes notaeus**Drymarchon corais*