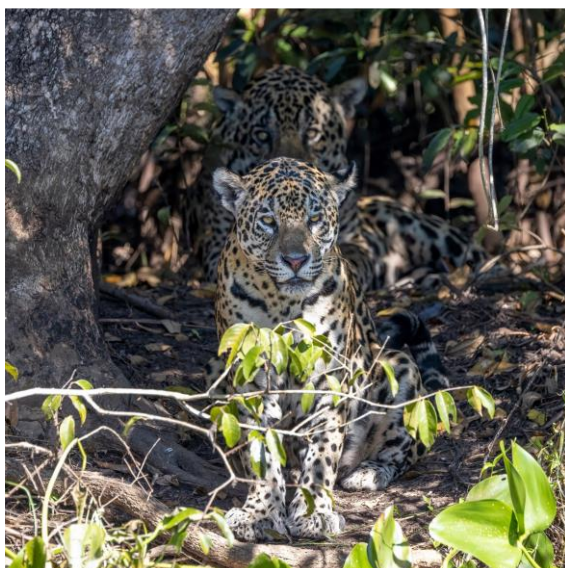


Tour Report

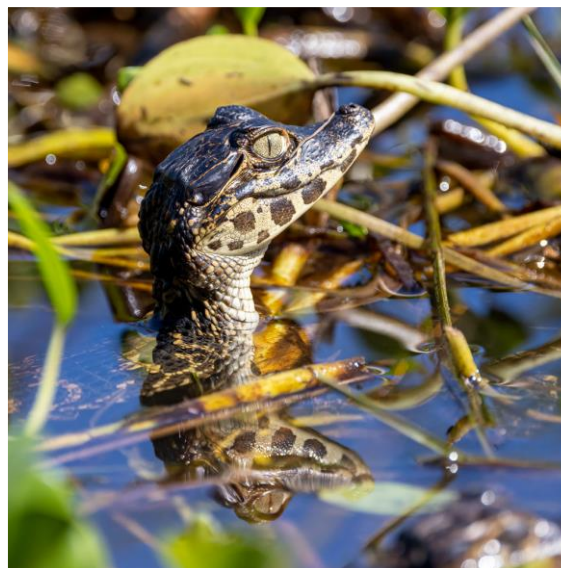
Brazil – Wildlife of the Pantanal

31 May – 11 June 2023

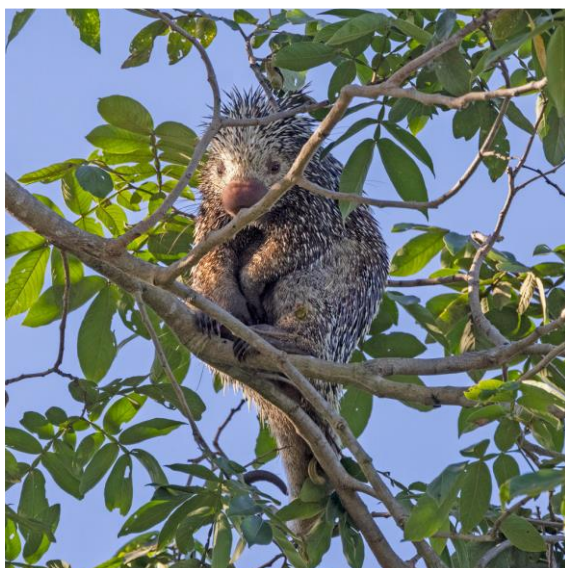
Jaguar



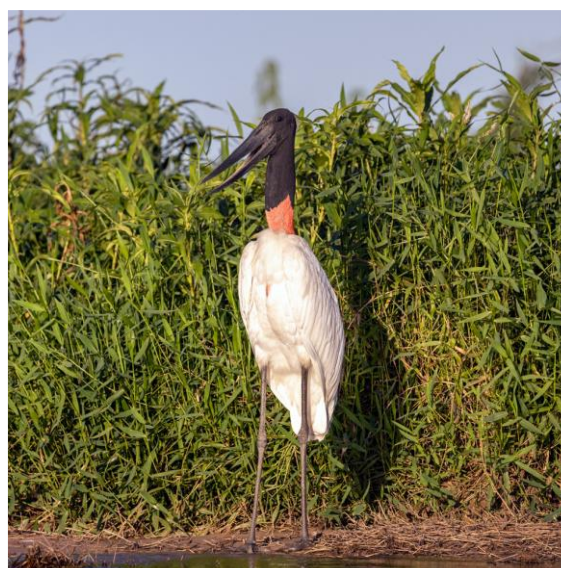
Yacare caiman



Brazilian porcupine



Jabiru stork



Compiled by Helen Cox

Tour Leader: Tom Proença

Summary

Just so much wildlife! From big hitters such as jaguar, tapir, ocelot, giant anteater and hyacinth macaws, to the myriad of other species encountered, sometimes it was hard to know where to look!

Day 1: London Heathrow to São Paulo

Wednesday 31 May 2023

The members of the group who were not already in Brazil on pre-tour extensions left London Heathrow on a direct overnight flight to São Paulo, the largest city in South America by area. It was a smooth ride and nicely on time.

Day 2: São Paulo to Pouso Alegre, Pantanal

Thursday 1 June 2023

Arriving in São Paulo in the early morning, we collected our luggage, went through customs, and then headed to the domestic terminal for our Gol flight to Cuiabá. It was amazing to think that we'd be in the Pantanal later that day! We had some time to relax and practice our Portuguese at the shops and eateries (Google Translate is such a fantastic help!) before meeting at the gate.

We had another smooth flight, with a snack and drink provided. We travelled over the city, heading north-west. The skies were cloudy at first, but they cleared as we passed over agricultural land, then an increasingly forested area with large waterholes on the outskirts of the city of Cuiabá.

As we came into land, we caught sight of southern lapwings on the airstrip. After collecting our luggage, our group assembled and we met our guide Tom, who was proudly sporting a superb Pantaneiro hat!

We walked out into sunny, tropically warm weather, before boarding an air-conditioned minibus and heading over the road to a typical Brazilian barbecue restaurant for lunch. After our meal, we journeyed south on the asphalt road to Poconé, the "Capital of the Pantanal". On the way, we spotted Amazon kingfishers, guira cuckoos, with their whacky head feathers, large flightless greater rhea in the grasslands, purple gallinule perching nicely on bushes by the side of the road, and a snail kite showing off its incredibly curved, pointy beak.

Poconé is where the famed Transpantaneira road begins its southerly path to Porto Jofre. As asphalt gave way to a dirt track, it felt as though we were heading into a very exciting wildlife area indeed. We stopped at the park gate for photos and discovered a mother yacare caiman in the river nearby, surrounded by her tiny babies – miniatures of herself - some of which had clambered onto her back and head. This was the first of many caiman encounters!

We changed our vehicle at the gate for an open-sided truck with a new driver, Antonio, and then continued along the Transpantaneira. The birdlife was abundant. We saw a savannah hawk hunting for frogs, plumbeous ibis fishing amongst the ubiquitous water hyacinth plants (known locally as aguape), black vultures soaring on thermals overhead, and another pair mating on the ground near us. Other birds included wattled jacanas, monk parakeets, cattle tyrants and rufous horneros (aka red ovenbirds) - the latter were making clay-like nests in some quite inventive places.

We'd not travelled far before we found another mother caiman with an incredible brood of 43 babies in tow. We had an exhilarating wildlife session, first watching the caiman family move from one pool to another while squawking blue and yellow macaws flew overhead, then sighting Azara's capuchin monkeys as they ran across the ground to nearby palm trees. Next, a flock of cattle egrets and monk parakeets flew past us, two beautiful green and spotted amieva lizards appeared next to us, and hyacinth macaws did several fly-bys! At the same time, southern lapwings were warning off the approaching caiman - presumably as the birds had a

nest nearby. We didn't know where to look or point our cameras or binoculars – it was overwhelming! So much wildlife at once!

After taking a moment to catch our breath and have a giggle, we continued, seeing many more birds before we reached a bridge and stopped to enjoy the sunset. As the colours in the sky changed, reflected in the water, birds flew overhead going to roost. In the water, Neotropic cormorants were catching, eating and fighting over catfish. A white-headed marsh tyrant hunted insects flying close to the water, while a diminutive green kingfisher watched from nearby and several caiman floated lazily in the clear water.

We enjoyed a sundowner beverage, then re-boarded the truck for a night drive to our first lodge, which was located down a track seven kilometres away from the Transpantaneira road. On the way, we saw nightjars and pauraques. Not far from the lodge, we caught an exciting glimpse of a lesser anteater - or Southern tamandua - as it crossed the road and ventured into the bushes. We also noticed a crab-eating fox hunting in the grasses, greater rheas laying close to the lodge, and a family of capybaras which had chosen the track as a resting place for the night. Overhead, the southern cross constellation and Venus shone brightly in the sky.

We set up a camera in the woods, a few minutes' walk from camp, to see what other creatures may be walking around unseen in the dark.

After dinner, we retired to our simple rooms at Pouso Alegre for a well-earned sleep.

Day 3: Pouso Alegre, Pantanal

Friday 2 June 2023

To make the most of our time, we were up and out by 5:15 am. It was still dark, and we enjoyed the dawn chorus as we walked from the lodge along the track to a bridge over the wetland. Along the way, we saw another crab-eating fox, which was entirely unperturbed by us as it was busy hunting for crabs. A tree frog made its morning journey across the path and the sleeping greater rhea we had discovered the night before were just where we had left them. As the various herons, egrets and other birds awoke, the unmistakable loud, grating sound of Chaco chachalacas calling began (the Pantanal's alarm clock, so they say!)

Bats were still taking advantage of the insect bounty as the light grew. Using the bat detector, we identified black mastiff bat, hoary bat, black myotis bat and more.

One of the morning's highlights was witnessing the territorial display of a caiman. A big male arched his back such that his head and tail were raised clear of the water, and then made rasping, grunting roars, combined with infrasound vibrations from his lungs (at a range below the frequency of human hearing). These vibrations generated Faraday waves in the water on his back, projecting water droplets into the air and sending out ripples. This is the famous crocodilian 'water dance' and was something truly special to witness. The inaudible sound clearly projected for quite some distance and made fish and insects in a radius of several metres jump in alarm!

Greater rheas were also displaying, with males making a loud booming noise reminiscent of bitterns in Somerset Levels, but made by a much larger bird! Storks were perched in trees, water rails chased each other on a small sandbank on an island, and monk parakeets and whistling ducks flew in large numbers overhead. An ovenbird emerged from its nest and began foraging and feeding its chicks, while a diminutive yellow-billed cardinal was a delight with its vibrant red head plumage. A limpkin also flew and landed in the wetland, ready to use its specially adapted tweezer-like bill to remove water snails from their shells to eat.

After these incredible sightings, it was time to make our way steadily back to the lodge for breakfast. Some of us chose to take a lift in the truck and enjoyed more time at a feeding station for birds and capuchin monkeys, while others walked and were rewarded with more species en route, such as an impressive great black hawk which caused quite a commotion amongst the smaller birds. Another sighting was a juvenile

rufescent tiger heron, which tried its best to be invisible on its nest. We also saw a beautiful orange-backed troupial – a brightly coloured bird with a similarly attractive call. Then a golden agouti ran past along the track and a plumbeous ibis called enthusiastically from a branch. In the taller trees, blue-throated piping guans were crashing about. There was certainly plenty to see.

Back at the lodge, bare-faced curassows, several doves and yellow-billed cardinals were enjoying the seeds at a feeding station, and capuchin monkeys were making great leaps across branches to gather fruit left out for them, whilst others foraged on the nuts of a nearby palm tree.

The wildlife gave us no time to rest after breakfast, as a band of coatis came into the lodge grounds, snuffling about for food. Then it was time to walk to an observation tower and on the way we saw an industrious line of ants carrying yellow flower petals - many times their size - as they scuttled along a bridge over a wetland area.

We stopped as a large caiman was resting in the middle of the path, which soon sloped off into the water. Jabiru storks and snail kites passed us in the air, and we saw piles of large, empty snail shells where the kites had been feasting in a favourite spot. Pink batches of snail eggs stuck to water plants, ensuring those lost to the kites would be replenished with the next generation.

We climbed the many steps of the observation tower and were rewarded with a fantastic view over the wetlands and ipê trees covered in purple flowers. We could see a jabiru stork nest, a crested caracara nest in the distance, and a caiman with its young surrounding the nest in the small, drying river below. Yellow-faced vultures circled on thermals below us and a blue heron was seen wading in the shallows. As we looked down, an Amazon kingfisher caught a fish it had seen from its perch!

After returning to the lodge to refresh ourselves with a cool drink, we headed out for another walk. This time into a nearby forest area, where we appreciated the shade! We had a near miss, almost seeing a wild boar which ventured away from us in the undergrowth. We also looked for the fantastically camouflaged giant potoo, which eluded us as well. However, when we collected the trail camera, we found that two stunning ocelots had come by in the night which was really exciting!

Our return to the lodge involved expert balancing moves over the backs of large anacondas (aka. logs), with which we were ably assisted by Tom and Antonio. After a pause to discuss the afternoon's plan and catch a glimpse of a glittering-throated emerald hummingbird in the tree above us, it was time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we headed out in the truck to see what wildlife we could find. Our options were either going along the road or heading off on a track that may not yet have been driven this season, which led to a waterhole. Being an adventurous lot, the group opted for the exploratory route. We were rewarded for our choice with the sighting of a red-footed tortoise with decorative, bright red markings on its head, legs and feet. When we reached the waterhole, we found an old termite mound to sit on and waited quietly and patiently to see what creatures would turn up. Although no mammals were seen coming to drink, a grey-necked wood rail did, and we had several fly-pasts, including a crested oropendola, toco toucan and crimson-crested woodpecker – as well as several dragonflies! It was lovely and peaceful to sit and listen to the birdsong emanating from the forest.

On the drive back, as night fell, we saw nightjars and pauraques and then, as we drew close to the lodge, there was a giant anteater crossing the path, with its big bushy tail following. Brilliant!!

After enjoying dinner, some of the group decided to rest while others headed out again on a night drive. It was not long before we came across a small waterhole close to the road, and a drinking tapir! It was lovely and relaxed as we watched, then headed away down a path that looked frequently used. Another new sighting was a boat-billed heron, which is a fantastically funny-looking bird.

On our way back, we stopped to put out the trail camera by the tapir's pool. Huge bats were hunting nearby. We continued along the road and found a family of capybaras resting, including an adorable young one. Not far from the lodge, on the other side of the wetland and up a tree, we discovered a great potoo! What a day!

Day 4: Pouso Alegre to Port of the Capybara Lodge, Pantanal

Saturday 3 June 2023

We were up and out at 5 am, with jumpers donned as the early morning air was chilly. We continued our journey south on the Transpantaneira in the open truck to Porto Jofre. This stage is renowned for sightings and oh my goodness – I could hardly keep up with all the wildlife we were seeing!

To start, a crab-eating fox was hunting in the grasses, whilst a huge full moon set and the sun rose, starting with a purple glow in the sky, which turned a deep red, then orange, as nighthawks scoured the skies.

As the light grew, and we travelled along the road, we saw an incredible number of birds, including a pair of sunbitterns, orange-winged amazons, and several parakeets and macaws - including a nice view of three hyacinth macaws feeding on palm nuts. Other wonderful sightings were a helmeted manakin, a turkey vulture, a lovely blue sayaca tanager, a vermilion flycatcher, and a superb capped heron with a pink and purple bill and magnificent head plumes – I could go on and on, and on! We were also treated to views of an Azara's agouti, several capybaras and a male marsh deer with resplendent antlers, as well as a little guinea pig, which ran across the road.

Upon arrival at Porto Jofre, we had a comfort stop before boarding our boat to the Port of the Capybara Lodge (Porto da Capivara). It was a transfer that would take around one and a half hours without any stops, but as usual, there was just too much exciting wildlife to be seen for that! We were enjoying the appearance of large-billed terns, anhinga, and black-capped donacobius, together with the lovely feeling of travelling on the river with a cooling breeze, when suddenly, just 40 minutes into our ride, JAGUAR!!!

Our guide Tom had spotted it and goodness knows how. It took a little time for all of us to see it as it was so well camouflaged, with its rosetted fur blending into the foliage in the dappled light. It looked far bigger than we expected! This was a huge male, later identified as 'Nels'. He was side-on to us, looking like he was stalking something by the river's edge. He then gave up and began walking along the river bank, where we caught a few glimpses of him before he disappeared out of sight. A short time later, as we continued along the river in his direction, we heard two more jaguars fighting in the bushes, presumably over a kill. Their growls were terrifying, and we could see the bushes being moved violently about in their tussles!

We were all braced for Nels to join in, but seemingly he had decided to avoid confrontation and swam across the river towards us, before walking along the bank on the other side. What a sighting!

We left these three jaguars to it and continued towards the lodge, but lunch had to be delayed a little longer as we found a fourth jaguar, resting in the shade on the river bank! It was just extraordinary! This jaguar was a female named Courtney who posed for us beautifully. We were fortunate to have all of these jaguar sightings to ourselves which was very special indeed.

A large green iguana and some black howler monkeys later, we arrived at our lodge and very much enjoyed our well-deserved late lunch!

As we headed back out on the boat for the afternoon, we had a fly past by a blue morpho butterfly and, as we cruised along, found a little woodpecker, silver-beaked tanager, social flycatcher, orange-backed troupial as well as more black howler monkeys feeding on leaves, and the ubiquitous Amazon and collared kingfishers, herons, ibises and great kiskadees, whose onomatopoeic 'kiskadee' (or 'peekaboo') call was becoming the soundtrack of our stay.

We returned to the lodge for a delicious dinner, and then had a fascinating and informative talk by naturalist Xavi Tobin on various aspects of jaguars, including their fearsome bite strength! One of Xavi's tasks is to identify and record jaguar sightings made, using the unique fur markings on their faces. Our photographs helped with his research, and it was interesting to find out a little more about the individuals we'd seen.

The trail camera was set looking out at the grassy airstrip to the rear of the lodge.

Day 5: Port of the Capybara Lodge, Pantanal

Sunday 4 June 2023

The morning began with bare-faced curassow, silver-beaked tanagers, rufous hornero and crested caracaras at the lodge before we boarded the boat for our morning's exploration of the rivers.

It was lovely to see a relatively small green kingfisher, as well as watch a pair of black-capped donacobius, seemingly greeting each other chattily before their busy morning of feeding on invertebrates. Green iguanas were sunning themselves high atop bushes, powering up for the day ahead.

Again, we enjoyed a huge range of species, including smooth-billed ani, squirrel cuckoo and the rarely seen little cuckoo, as well as a solitary cacique, tiger herons, savannah hawks, noisy southern screamers, grey-breasted martin, many caimans and the occasional capybara. Then there was a strong smell of otter, but search as we might, they were not to be seen. However, we found and watched a troupe of black howler monkeys feeding, which were very relaxed with us, including a black-coloured male and two brown-furred females, one with a baby clinging to her back.

Then, we had news of some mating jaguars! Off we went and parked up into the water hyacinths by the side of the river. We scanned for the black rosette pattern on the tawny-coloured fur of two jaguars, hidden in the bushes beyond. We stayed and waited, and our patience was rewarded as a few minutes later, there was a stirring and the growling noises of mating emanated from the forest. This was repeated every 20 minutes or so, with the jaguars, Patricia and Bruce, moving into more open areas during their resting time and giving us wonderful views. When they sat one behind the other, it brought home just how huge male jaguars are compared with females. Very impressive indeed!

We left the couple to it and made our way back to the lodge, via a lovely boat-billed heron, by which time we were ready for lunch.

We collected the trail camera and the memory stick revealed a nice video of a red brocket deer, jabiru storks going to and fro with nesting material, and a crested caracara scrabbling with its feet for insects in the dried grasses.

After lunch, we had a small presentation by Xavi on how to identify jaguars. Again, he used some of our photographs to identify our sightings so far.

Then, we were back out on the river at 15:00 for our afternoon boat excursion. There were many cocoi, striated, and tiger herons, as well as a black-crowned night heron, great, snowy and cattle egrets, anhingas, neotropic cormorants, plumbeous ibis, plentiful collared, Amazon and green kingfishers, great kiskadees, snail kites, roadside, savannah, great black and black-collared hawks, caiman and other common species that we were now accustomed to seeing. We headed to an island, which was the resting place for tiny collared sandpipers, yellow-billed terns, several large-billed terns and red and black-billed black skimmers, making a colourful gathering. We watched while the terns danced in pairs in the sky, and skimmers skimmed the water with their elongated lower mandible. All of a sudden, a caiman launched itself onto the island, with a big fish in its jaws!

On we went and found a crane hawk acrobatically hunting for frogs in the holes of a dead tree trunk and branches.

Progressing through a channel, we came across a heronry, where we encountered a rather pungent multi-species gathering of cormorants, wood storks, herons and egrets in the tall trees on either side, all of which were making a lot of noise!

We found a more peaceful spot to enjoy the sunset and a drink while the light faded and the air cooled, before heading back to the lodge for dinner, with band-tailed nighthawks flitting all around us.

Naturalist Xavi gave us an excellent talk on yacare caiman and other crocodilians before we retired to bed.

Day 6: Port of the Capybara Lodge, Pantanal

Monday 5 June 2023

Those up early in the morning were treated to the guttural roar of howler monkeys and grunting caiman, as well as frequent bird visitors to the lodge such as bare-faced curassow, yellow-billed cardinal, guira cuckoo, greyish saltator, black vulture, crested caracara, tiger heron and noisy rufous hornero.

Breakfast was at 06:00 and we were back on the boat at 6:30 am. Birds were plentiful again, with nanday parakeets, white-lored spinetail, pale-legged hornero, lesser kiskadee and little cuckoo featuring alongside the usual suspects, and the soundtrack of great kiskadees and Chaco chachalacas.

Not quite believing our luck, we then discovered yet another jaguar! This was a female named Ryan, who approached the riverbank, relaxed and gave some wide toothy yawns before disappearing into the bush.

Another jaguar sighting was to follow – this one more distant – of another female, hidden well in the foliage (later identified as Ophelia, Ryan's daughter). She made her way into a wetland area behind the river and swam across to an area of forest around the river bend from us. We followed around, trying to anticipate where she might emerge, but to no avail. However, as we waited amongst the water hyacinth, we were entertained by colourful damselflies and a central sipo vine snake which was hunting amongst the vegetation - perhaps looking for frogs.

On our way back to the lodge, a southern screamer screamed in flight over our heads, and we saw a floating dead caiman. We stopped to watch the carcass as it passed us and, as if on cue, two black vultures swooped down upon it. After a small tussle, one remained and the other took off. The victor readily picked meat from the carcass whilst standing on it as it floated down river.

We stopped to see some more caiman (live ones!) on a riverbank. In the talk the night before, we'd learned about their sensitive skin and it was really interesting to see how the flies were tickling them. The heat of the day was intense, so we returned to the lodge for a well-earned cool down, lunch and a rest.

In the afternoon, our boat trip revealed a rather attractive rufous-tailed jacamar, a blue-throated piping guan, a yellow-headed vulture drinking from the water's edge, as well as capybara, iguanas, caiman and numerous other birds!

After enjoying the sunset, we headed back to the lodge with the usual ballet of nighthawks and bats hunting the night-flying insects, while the stars became brighter. The southern cross and Venus seemed to guide the way - with fireflies echoing the stars as twinkling lights in the vegetation beside us – utterly magical!

We enjoyed another delicious dinner before a talk by Xavi on giant river otters, and arapaima.

Day 7: Port of the Capybara Lodge, Pantanal

Tuesday 6 June 2023

We woke to another day of beautiful weather – clear skies and a gorgeous sunrise. The last of the nighthawks and bats were patrolling the air above the river, and caiman lazed in the shallows.

As the dawn light increased, and the colours changed their hue, the rufous horneros began their loud morning wake-up calls. It was time for breakfast.

We were back on the boat at 6 am, and off in search of giant river otters, which were proving unusually elusive. The theory was that being early in the season, there was still water and trapped fish in the wetland areas away from the rivers, which would provide easier hunting grounds for otters at this time of year. We saw plenty of birds as we headed to the Three Brothers River, including a couple of mating Amazon kingfishers right by our boat.

Tom sniffed at a familiar smell, and our boat driver spotted the creatures that were making it – three Brazilian tree porcupines, undeniably adorable with their big reddish noses, small eyes, rounded spikey bodies with long claws and prehensile tails resting in the trees. What a lovely surprise!

Later, a long-winged harrier flew overhead, as did a black-collared hawk carrying a fish, and we came across howler monkeys roaring in their family group – quite a sound! We enjoyed floating silently by with the engine off while they bellowed away.

Other new species that morning were a pair of Brazilian teals and a diminutive bananaquit flittering in the bushes.

The otters continued to elude us and there were no jaguars (apparently no other boats had seen any either!), but the wildlife encounters we did have were excellent nevertheless.

Back at the lodge, we had an hour's free time before lunch, and a chance to explore the grounds. A ferruginous pygmy owl had been found in the forest close to the lodge, which was a fantastic sight. It was calling with its fluffy white chin feathers puffed out and bright yellow eyes shining. A stunning yellow-rumped cacique also called this area home.

In the grounds, two chestnut-eared aracari were spotted too - medium-sized toucans, with smart black, red and gold colouration. There were also noisy yellow-chevroned parakeets and monk parakeets in the grounds, feeding on the trees.

At 15:00, our afternoon boat excursion commenced, where our sightings included a lovely family group of capybaras, with one member of our party diligently (and wisely) posted as a lookout for jaguars!

We explored the rivers and channels, enjoying the wildlife, scenery and another sunset, but sadly no otters were to be found.

Day 8: Port of the Capybara Lodge to SouthWild Pantanal Lodge, Pantanal **Wednesday 7 June 2023**

We said a fond 'tchau' to the lovely lodge staff, as we departed to Porto Jofre. Capybaras were seen strolling around the grounds as we waved!

As we made our way by boat, a capped heron was spotted on a distant tree. It flew towards another with its magnificent head plumes trailing.

We turned around for a boat-billed heron that was seen by the water's edge under the branches of an overhanging tree. Whilst looking at this through binoculars or cameras, a jaguar swam into our viewfinders!! It was Nels – the first male jaguar we had seen. Boat-billed herons are certainly amazing birds, but we were even more grateful for the heron sighting, as it meant fate had conspired for us to be in the right place and time for another incredible jaguar sighting! We backed away from our river bank position as the jaguar approached us. It kept moving along the bank, giving us sightings at several open areas. As we followed, a tree exploded with a hundred or more great egrets, and later we could see a couple of capybaras on the

jaguar's course. It was perhaps a little macabre, but we waited near the capybaras to see what might occur! Then, after much tense anticipation, Nels was spotted beyond the capybaras as he carried on his patrol.

After checking for anacondas in the holes in a muddy bank, we arrived at Porto Jofre and disembarked. Buff-necked ibis and crested caracaras were to be found between the buildings. A short stroll away, an intelligent pair of hyacinth macaws - which were accustomed to people - allowed us to watch their comical behaviour at reasonably close quarters.

We met our driver Antonio again and boarded an open truck for our journey part way back up the Transpantaneira road to our final lodge.

There is always wildlife to see in the Pantanal, and we enjoyed sightings of black-bellied ducks, a pair of nacunda nighthawks in daylight, a large tegu lizard, southern screamers, capybaras, snail kites, roadside hawks, great kiskadees, and some lovely views of fish in the clear waters of the wetland below, as we travelling over bridges.

At one point a red brocket deer walked towards us on the road, with its big ears alert.

The capped heron was still in its pond where we'd seen it before!

After around three hours, we arrived at SouthWild Pantanal Lodge. We were glad of the comfortable rooms - it looked to be a fantastic area to spend the next three nights.

A 12-metre tall observation tower, located a short walk away, was set up at eye level with an active jabiru stork nest, the latter being in the branches of a dead tree only 16 metres away. Hummingbird feeders were set up around the lodge, and various birds as well as capybaras were enjoying the grounds, whilst caiman and a lot of fish inhabited the adjacent Pixaim River.

We ate a wonderful lunch and enjoyed some time to relax or explore the grounds before a walk at 15:30, on a trail which enters the nearby forest. It was nice to stretch our legs a little and enjoy the twisted vines, sounds and smells of the forest. We looked for great potoo that can often be seen here, and although we weren't lucky this time, we had a lovely view of a crimson-crested woodpecker and a fleeting Amazonian motmot.

At 17:30, we met again to walk around 400 metres through the forest to the ocelot hide. We sat patiently and quietly in anticipation, and although there was no ocelot, a crab-eating fox showed itself. At 19:30 the group returned to the lodge and spotted an ocelot on the way! As our visit was early in the season, it may be that the cats weren't quite used to the hide yet. Thinking it would be interesting to see if they were curious later, we set up a trail camera at the hide to see what might come by in the night after we left.

Day 9: SouthWild Pantanal Lodge, Pantanal

Thursday 8 June 2023

A wake-up call was kindly provided by the local Chaco chachalacas, and several pairs of turquoise-fronted and yellow-chevrons parakeets flying overhead to begin their day. At 06:00 we met for a birding walk in the forest, where we saw a helmeted manakin and yellow-chevrons parakeets squabbling over a mass of white fluffy kapok seeds. Back in the grounds of the lodge, a red-crested cardinal was spotted.

After breakfast, at 8 am, we boarded two boats for a trip along the Pixaim River, seeing several greater anis for the first time. The birds were making their way from tree to tree, showing off their purplish sheen as they flew. Howler monkeys were lazing in the trees, and another first was seeing a red-throated piping guan. We also enjoyed sightings of black-collared hawks and kingfishers. We stopped to try and get photographs of a kingfisher diving for fish, with variable degrees of success – they're quick!

We made our way to an area where otters had been known to den. There was a disturbance in the sediment by the side of the river where otters may have been hunting recently, but our luck wasn't in to see them.

We were enjoying the views of flowering water plants and the serenity of the river when a large snake suddenly swam across in front of us and into the water hyacinths at the side! Yellow-billed cardinals were very helpful at pointing out where it was in the vegetation by staring at it! Nevertheless, it had been too quick and was then too hidden to be identified.

On our way back, we stopped to observe a snail kite which was efficiently tackling a large water snail with its perfectly-adapted pick-like beak, then Tom had a call from the lodge manager that a large snake was on the veranda at the lodge! We made our way back and were met by a large jabiru stork on disembarkation, before we gathered to watch what was indeed a sizeable caninana (tiger rat snake), well over two metres long, with beautiful black and yellow markings. It explored a chair on the veranda outside a room, perhaps searching for frogs – an amazing sight! (It was later relocated outside the lodge grounds).

We had lunch and reviewed the footage from the trail camera which had been collected from the ocelot hide. A beautiful ocelot had turned up to the area to get its nibbles, as had a couple of crab-eating foxes!

Then it was time for a siesta during the heat of the day – but of course, it's hard to relax with all the wildlife excitement, and sure enough, soon there was a cry of "Otter! Otter! Otter!" Those of us within earshot sprang up, gathered who we could and ran to the riverside. There was a solitary giant river otter making fast progress past the lodge and swimming away upstream. We watched it as the otter and its V-shaped water trail disappeared beyond where we could follow. Finally an otter!

At 15:30 we boarded the boats for an afternoon exploration of the river and its inhabitants. A black-collared hawk squawked loudly at us, knowing we had some fish on board, and swooped down gratefully when one was thrown overboard for it.

With our hopes rekindled following the midday otter sighting, we searched again. However, although some areas smelled of otter, there were none to be seen.

A toco toucan, hyacinth macaws and parakeets flew across towards their night time roosts, and capuchin monkeys played at a canopy observation tower beside the river.

We returned to the lodge, ready for another stint at the ocelot hide. No ocelots appeared again sadly, but a crab-eating fox (or 'foxelot' as they became known) made an appearance again!

After dinner, some of the group went for another short walk in the forest, to relocate the trail camera and enjoy the sounds of the forest at night. They saw a narunda nighthawk on the path on the way. On the way back there was eyeshine from our torchlight in a nearby tree. It was a white-eared opossum. Great to see!

Day 10: SouthWild Pantanal Lodge, Pantanal

Friday 9 June 2023

We met at dawn for another wildlife walk, this time taking in the more open grounds around the lodge and along the road. This proved very productive! Howler monkeys sounded their susurrating call in the distance and we took a slow amble, watching the birds become more active for the day, and accompanied by the now-familiar 'alarm call' of Chaco chachalacas.

We watched a narrow-billed woodcreeper make its way up a tree in a very familiar way to woodcreepers in the UK, but this is a marvel of co-evolution as they are unrelated. It had burrowed into a termite nest that was in the fork of a tree, and was using the space as its own, complete with cunning entrance and exit holes.

A bright red vermillion flycatcher was catching the early morning rays of sunshine atop a small tree. Orange-backed troupials hopped about in a large ipê tree. A gilded sapphire hummingbird fed from nearby flowers. Another new bird for us this morning was a white-bellied seedeater. These were just some of many other bird sightings, which also included solitary cacique, saffron finch, and doves such as white-tipped, ruddy and pale-vented. We saw cattle tyrant, great antshrike, and a lovely view of some turquoise-fronted amazons. An Azara's agouti strolled past and, as we returned, a rather attractive whistling heron was found in the lodge grounds – another fantastic bird – a smaller and perhaps a little less flamboyant version of a capped heron, preferring a more terrestrial habitat than many herons.

An inquisitive crab-eating fox was close to the lodge too, enticed by the smell of our breakfast no doubt, and who could blame it?

We met again at 08:00 for another walk in the forest. With the heat of the day, it was quieter for birds but there were some lovely butterflies. A troupe of howler monkeys were howling quite close by, so we went to see if we could approach them. The sound was incredible so close – a belching and bellowing noise, and so loud!

The trail camera was set in an area in the forest where animals come to take salt.

Later, we heard the croaking calls of toco toucans and purplish jays. and followed the sound. When we found them, a great horned owl was sitting just a metre or two from one of the toucans and rather stole the show. It was a huge owl with fantastic ear tufts!

Back at the lodge, we cooled off before lunch and had a rest, enjoying the wildlife that came to the lodge grounds at our leisure before our next outing. It was an opportunity to spend quality time with the jabiru stork pair by the observation tower. They seemed to work as a team, tending to their eggs, fetching more nesting material, mating, then collecting water from a nearby pool to pour over their partner and nest to keep it cool. It was such a privilege to have the opportunity to watch. As a bonus, there were also the green flashes of the coming and going of monk parakeets, which were sheltering from the sun underneath a great mass of twigs.

At 15:00 we were out again on the boats, enjoying the familiar herons, kingfishers, snail kites, parakeets, jacanas ... and then there was a sunbittern! Sadly it hid itself in the undergrowth quite quickly, but we could hear its distinctive plaintive call.

We continued our search for otters, but they continued to be slippery, and after a solitary cacique and more red-throated piping guans, as well as some proboscis bats that flew out in front of our boats, we returned to the lodge.

On disembarkation, we were greeted by the familiar tall figure of a jabiru stork and surprise sundowner drinks and nibbles (including excellent caipirinha cocktails!)

Then it was our last chance at the ocelot hide. At one point the guides tried turning the lights off to see if it would help the animals' confidence. During this time, the stars shone through silhouetted tree branches, and fireflies strobed across the scene.

19:30 came and still no ocelot – nor crab-eating fox this time.... We were about to leave and then were asked to sit down again. An ocelot had just been seen behind where we were sitting! We waited again to see if it would dare to step out into the light. It wasn't long until we had a glimpse of a beautiful cat behind the feeding area – and then it was gone. The guides tried the lights off / lights on trick again and, like a theatre set, the lights went on and as if by magic there was a creature centre-stage! It was Mr Foxelot! Apparently, the ocelot doesn't come when foxes are there, so we called it a night and went back to the lodge for our last dinner. En route we saw a nightjar and a nice big tarantula lying in wait by its hole.

Day 11: SouthWild Pantanal Lodge, Pantanal to Cuiabá**Saturday 10 June 2023**

We managed to arrange a bonus boat excursion for the morning, so at 05:30 those who chose to take it set off. They had a leaving parade of wildlife, including what can only be described as an explosion of several hundred snail kites and egrets which took off from trees around us – it was quite an incredible sight! This was followed by a tapir, which swam across the river beside us before scaling the bank and crashing off into the bushes. Still no otters! However, what a fantastic send-off and it was lovely to be out on the river one last time.

Back at the lodge, we had breakfast, packed and then boarded a minibus. However, there was – of course – more wildlife to see en route. Storks were circling in the sky and we saw our first maguari stork of the trip among them. Tom saw a tinamou, but it disappeared before we saw it. There were greater rheas, roseate spoonbills and black-backed stilts in the wetlands, a toco toucan flew overhead and there was so much more.

Finally, the dust road turned to asphalt and we reached Poconé. We took an early lunch at a barbecue restaurant, where we were again filled to the brim with several items on the buffet, plus whatever we chose to take from servers holding and carving kebabs of various cuts of meats and cheese.

Whilst there, we excitedly checked the trail camera findings from the previous night and wow! We had wonderful videos of an ocelot which had come right up to the camera to investigate it with its sniffs, as well as crab-eating fox and bare-faced curassows, and a late appearance of an Azara's agouti just as the last video ended! Such fun.

As we left the restaurant, we tried some cachaça – the spirit used in caipirinhas – dispensed in a rather unusual fashion from a model cow. I won't explain more here – you had to be there – or do please go there to find out!

We continued our drive towards Cuiabá, stopping at a supermarket for gifts such as coffee and cachaça to take home. Then we headed towards the airport, which was to be the end of our time in Brazil.... But no! Tom had one more lovely surprise for us. As we had made good time, we had the opportunity to visit Mãe Bonifacia Park where within just 100 metres or so of walking into the park we saw silvery marmosets! What a treat! These small monkeys were habituated to people and happy to be photographed and cooed at by us while they looked at us, in a mildly inquisitive way, from their tree. After a quick visit, we headed to the airport.

We said our grateful farewells to Tom and flew to São Paulo, then those of us who were not extending our holiday took an overnight flight back to London Heathrow.

Day 12: Cuiabá**Sunday 11 June 2023**

We arrived at a hot London Heathrow at around 15:00 and made our journeys home, taking some incredible memories back with us of a fantastic wildlife tour.

Checklist



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
	BIRDS	<i>AVES</i>										
1	Greater rhea	<i>Rhea americana</i>	✓	✓	✓							✓
2	Undulated tinamou	<i>Crypturellus undulatus</i>		H								
3	Chaco chachalaca	<i>Ortalis canicollis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Chestnut-bellied guan	<i>Penelope ochrogaster</i>		✓	✓					✓		
5	Blue-throated piping guan	<i>Pipile cumanensis</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6	Red-throated piping guan	<i>Pipile cujubi</i>								✓	✓	
7	Bare-faced curassow	<i>Crax fasciolata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Southern screamer	<i>Chauna torquata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
9	White-faced whistling duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>		✓								
10	Black-bellied whistling duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
11	Muscovy duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>		✓	✓							
12	Brazilian teal	<i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>						✓				
13	Great potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>		✓								
14	Nacunda nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles nacunda</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		

15	Least nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles pusillus</i>	✓	✓								
16	Band-tailed nighthawk	<i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
17	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	✓	✓								
18	Little nightjar	<i>Setopagis parvula</i>	✓									
19	Glittering-throated emerald	<i>Chionomesa fimbriata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
20	Gilded sapphire	<i>Hylocharis chrysura</i>									✓	
21	Guira cuckoo	<i>Guira guira</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			
22	Greater ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>								✓	✓	
23	Smooth-billed ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
24	Little cuckoo	<i>Coccyzua minuta</i>				✓	✓					
25	Squirrel cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>				✓	✓		✓			✓
26	Rock dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓						✓	
27	Scaled pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>		✓								
28	Picazuro pigeon	<i>Patagioenas picazuro</i>		✓		✓						
29	Pale-vented pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
30	Scaled dove	<i>Columbina squammata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
31	Ruddy ground dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓
32	White-tipped dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>		✓			✓				✓	
33	Eared dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>		✓								

34	Gray-cowled wood rail	<i>Aramides cajaneus</i>		✓	✓					✓		✓
35	Purple gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	✓		✓						✓	
36	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>		✓	✓	✓						✓
37	White-backed stilt	<i>Himantopus melanurus</i>		✓								✓
38	Southern lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
39	Collared plover	<i>Charadrius collaris</i>				✓		✓				
40	Pied plover	<i>Hoploxypterus cayanus</i>				✓	✓					
41	Wattled jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>				✓						
43	Yellow-billed tern	<i>Sternula superciliaris</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
44	Large-billed tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
45	Sunbittern	<i>Eurypyga helias</i>			✓						✓	
46	Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
47	Maguari stork	<i>Ciconia maguari</i>										✓
48	Jabiru	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Neotropic cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
50	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
51	Plumbeous ibis	<i>Theristicus caerulescens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
52	Buff-necked ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓

53	Bare-faced ibis	<i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓
54	Roseate spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	✓	✓								✓
55	Rufescent tiger heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Boat-billed heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓			
57	Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓				
58	Striated heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Western cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	Cocoi heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
61	Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
62	Capped heron	<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>		✓	✓				✓			
63	Whistling heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>									✓	
64	Little blue heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>		✓								
65	Snowy egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>			✓							
67	Lesser yellow-headed vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
68	Black vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
69	Long-winged harrier	<i>Circus buffoni</i>						✓				
70	Black-collared hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
72	Snail kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

72	Crane hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>				✓					✓	
73	Savanna hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Great black hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
75	Roadside hawk	<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Great horned owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>									✓	
77	Ferruginous pygmy owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>					✓	✓				
78	Green kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Amazon kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
80	Ringed kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Amazonian motmot	<i>Momotus momota</i>							✓			
82	Rufous-tailed jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>		✓	✓		✓					
83	Black-fronted nunbird	<i>Monasa nigrifrons</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
84	Chestnut-eared aracari	<i>Pteroglossus castanotis</i>						✓				
85	Toco toucan	<i>Ramphastos toco</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
86	White-wedged piculet	<i>Picumnus albosquamatus</i>									✓	
87	Little woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis passerinus</i>			✓							
88	Pale-crested woodpecker	<i>Celeus lugubris</i>		✓								
89	Crimson-crested woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>		✓					✓			
90	Crested caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

91	Yellow-headed caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>									✓	
92	Monk parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Yellow-chevroned parakeet	<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i>		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
94	Peach-fronted parakeet	<i>Eupsittula aurea</i>	✓		✓						✓	
95	Nanday parakeet	<i>Aratinga nenday</i>			✓							
96	Orange-winged amazon	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>		✓	✓							
97	Turquoise-fronted amazon	<i>Amazona aestiva</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Yellow-collared macaw	<i>Primolius auricollis</i>			✓							
99	Blue and yellow macaw	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	✓			✓						
100	Hyacinth macaw	<i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓		
101	Great rufous woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes major</i>					✓					
102	Narrow-billed woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i>					✓				✓	
103	Pale-legged hornero	<i>Furnarius leucopus</i>					✓					
104	Rufous hornero (Ovenbird)	<i>Furnarius rufus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
105	White-lored spintail	<i>Synallaxis albilora</i>					✓					
106	Great antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>			✓							
107	Common tody-flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>									✓	
108	White-rumped monjita	<i>Xolmis velatus</i>									✓	
109	Black-backed water tyrant	<i>Fluvicola albiventer</i>		✓						✓	✓	

110	White-headed marsh tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>	✓		✓		✓		✓			✓
111	Cattle tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosa</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓
112	Social flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>		✓	✓							
113	Great kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
114	Lesser kiskadee	<i>Philohydor lictor</i>		✓			✓	✓			✓	
115	Tropical kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	✓	✓				✓				
116	Helmeted manakin	<i>Antilophia galeata</i>			✓					✓		
117	Rufous-browed peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>								✓		
118	Purplish jay	<i>Cyanocorax cyanomelas</i>		✓	H				✓	✓	✓	✓
119	Vermilion (scarlet) flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>			✓						✓	
120	Rufous cacholote	<i>Pseudoseisura unirufa</i>				✓					✓	
121	White-winged swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
122	White-rumped swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucorrhoa</i>		✓	✓							
123	Grey-breasted martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
124	Black-capped donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
125	Thrush-like wren	<i>Campylorhynchus turdinus</i>		✓							✓	
126	Masked gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila dumicola</i>					✓				✓	
127	Chalk-browed mockingbird	<i>Mimus saturninus</i>									✓	
128	Rufous-bellied thrush	<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>		✓		✓		✓				

129	Crested oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>		✓								✓
130	Solitary cacique	<i>Cacicus solitarius</i>			✓						✓	
131	Yellow-rumped cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓
132	Orange-backed troupial	<i>Icterus croconotus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓					
133	Giant cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>		✓								
134	Shiny cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>		✓								
135	Scarlet-headed blackbird	<i>Amblyramphus holosericeus</i>			✓							
136	Chopi blackbird	<i>Gnorimopsar chopi</i>		✓								
137	Grayish baywing	<i>Agelaioides badius</i>		✓				✓				✓
138	Flavescent warbler	<i>Myiothlypis flaveola</i>								H		
139	Silver-beaked tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓	
140	Sayaca tanager	<i>Thraupis sayaca</i>			✓							✓
141	Red-crested cardinal	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>								✓		✓
142	Yellow-billed cardinal	<i>Paroaria capitata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Saffron finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
144	Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
145	White-bellied seedeater	<i>Sporophila leucoptera</i>									✓	
146	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>						✓				

	MAMMALS	<i>MAMMALIA</i>										
1	Common gray four-eyed opossum	<i>Philander opossum</i>								✓		
2	Giant anteater	<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>		✓								
3	Southern tamandua	<i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i>	✓									
4	Black-tailed marmoset	<i>Mico melanurus</i>										✓
5	Azara's capuchin	<i>Sapajus cay</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓		
6	Black-and-gold howler monkey	<i>Alouatta caraya</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
7	Crab-eating fox	<i>Cerdocyon thous</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	CT	✓	✓
8	South American coati	<i>Nasua nasua</i>		✓								
9	Giant otter	<i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i>								✓		
10	Ocelot	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>		CT					✓	CT	✓	CT
11	Jaguar	<i>Panthera onca</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓			
12	Brazilian tapir	<i>Tapirus terrestris</i>		✓								✓
13	Red brocket deer	<i>Mazama americana</i>				CT			✓		✓	CT
14	Marsh deer	<i>Blastocerus dichotomus</i>			✓							
15	Brazilian porcupine	<i>Coendu prehensilis</i>						✓				
16	Capybara	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
17	Paca	<i>Cuniculus paca</i>										

18	Azara's agouti	<i>Dasyprocta azarae</i>		✓	✓						✓	✓
19	Brazilian guinea pig	<i>Cavia aperea</i>			✓							
20	Pallas's mastiff bat	<i>Molossus molossus</i>		✓								
21	Proboscis bat	<i>Rhynchonycteris naso</i>									✓	
22	Wagner's mustached bat	<i>Pteronotus personatus</i>						BD				
23	Greater sac-winged bat	<i>Saccopteryx bilineata</i>		BD				BD				
24	Black mastiff bat	<i>Molossus rufus</i>		BD	BD			BD				
25	Big naked-backed bat	<i>Pterootus gymnonotus</i>		BD		BD		BD				
26	Lesser dog-like bat	<i>Pteropteryx macrotis</i>						BD				
27	Greater dog-like bat	<i>Pteropteryx kappleri</i>						BD				
28	Riparian myotis bat	<i>Myotis riparius</i>			BD			BD				
29	Lesser sac-winged bat	<i>Saccopteryx leptura</i>						BD				
30	Shaggy bat	<i>Centronycteris maximillani</i>						BD				
31	Argentine brown bat	<i>Eptesicus furinalis</i>				BD						
32	Parnells's mustached bat	<i>Pteronotus parnellii</i>				BD						
33	Black myotis bat	<i>Myotis nigricans</i>		BD		BD						
34	Wagner's bonneted bat	<i>Eumops glaucinus</i>			BD							
35	Western mastiff bat	<i>Eumops perotis</i>			BD							
36	Hoary bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>		BD	BD							

37	Big-crested mastiff bat	<i>Promops centralis</i>			BD							
38	Southern yellow bat	<i>Lasiurus ega</i>		BD								
	AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES	AMPHIBIA & REPTILIA										
1	Cururu toad	<i>Rhinella diptycha</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2	Pointedbelly frog	<i>Leptodactylus podicipinus</i>								✓		
3	Lesser snouted tree frog	<i>Scinax nasicus</i>		✓								
4	Mato Grosso snouted tree frog	<i>Scinax acuminatus</i>									✓	
5	Lesser tree frog	<i>Dendropsophus minutus</i>		✓								
6	Yacare Caiman	<i>Caiman yacare</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Caninana (Tiger rat snake)	<i>Spilotes pullatus</i>								✓		
8	Central sipo snake	<i>Chironius quadricarinatus</i>					✓					
9	Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Ameiva lizard	<i>Ameiva ameiva</i>	✓									
11	Gold Tegu	<i>Tupinambis teguixin</i>			✓				✓			✓
12	Red-footed Tortoise	<i>Chelonoidis carbonaria</i>		✓								
	BUTTERFLIES	LEPIDOPTERA										
1	Great southern white butterfly	<i>Ascia monuste</i>	✓	✓								
2	Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho menelaus</i>			✓							

✓ = seen

H = heard

CT = seen only by trail camera

BD = identified by bat detector

