

PEREGRINE BIRD TOURS

JAGUARS AND BIRDS OF BRAZIL

9th - 28th AUGUST 2014

TOUR REPORT

LEADERS: Chris Doughty and Braulio Carlos

This tour was billed as 'Jaguars and Birds of Brazil', and the tour lived up to its name, we did eventually see a Jaguar and we also saw a total of 329 species of birds, including the much-prized White-winged Nightjar and the magnificent Hyacinth Macaw. The tour had four main areas of focus; the first, being the Pantanal, the largest wetland in the Americas, world famous for its huge numbers of wetland birds and for being a place where you had a very real chance of seeing a Jaguar in the wild, surely one of the most beautiful and illusive of the big cats. The second area of focus was Emas National Park, one of the largest protected areas of the endangered campo-cerrado habitat, in South America. Our third area of focus was the scenically attractive Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and our fourth area of focus, was Currupira Lodge, where we would search for the magnificent Harpy Eagle. We had a brief look at an adult female Jaguar and enjoyed a host of wetland birds and gallery forest birds in the Pantanal, saw almost all of the target birds at Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks, but unfortunately the Harpy Eagles had not yet started to breed at Currupira. During the tour we saw a whole host of Brazilian endemics, globally threatened species and many special birds such as Greater Rhea, Little, Undulated and Tataupa Tinamous, Boat-billed Heron, the magnificent Jabiru, both Horned and Southern Screamers, Gray-headed Kite, Chestnut-bellied Guan, Bare-faced Curassow, Sungrebe, the dazzling Sunbittern, the rather bizarre Red-legged Seriema, Long-tailed Ground-Dove, a total of six species of magnificent macaws, which included Hyacinth, Blue-and-yellow, Red-and-green, Blue-winged, Golden-collared and Red-shouldered, the highly localised Yellow-faced Parrot, three rarely observed species of cuckoo, Striped, Pheasant and Pavonine, no less than 12 species of nocturnal birds, Campo Miner, Point-tailed Palmcreeper, Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, Mato Grosso Antbird, Black-throated Antbird, Collared Crescent-chest, Fiery-capped Manakin, Chapada Flycatcher, Sharp-tailed Tyrant, Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant, the worlds smallest passerine, both Cock-tailed and Streamer-tailed Tyrants, Dull-capped Attila and Black-faced Tanager. We also encountered a superb selection of no less than 29 species of mammals, highlights included Giant Anteater, Southern Tamandua, Jaguar, Hoary and Crab-eating Foxes, Maned Wolf, Neotropic River and Giant Otters, the rarely observed Crab-eating Raccoon, Black-tailed Marmoset, Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk and White-lipped Peccary.

Following 30 hours of flying, we were more than pleased to arrive at our very pleasant hotel in Cuiaba, in the wild west of Brazil, situated in the state of Mato Grosso, where we were able to stretch out in a real bed, and enjoy a well earned, good nights sleep. The following morning we were up early and after breakfast, we had a quick look around the grounds of our hotel. Where we encountered Feral and Pale-vented Pigeons, Rufous Hornero, Great Kiskadee, Brown-chested Martin, Rufous-bellied and Creamy-bellied Thrushes, Sayaca Tanager and the introduced House Sparrow.

Leaving Cuiaba, we drove southwards along the Transpantaneira Road and entered the immense watery world of the world-famous Pantanal, the largest wetland wilderness in the Americas. It is a vast, seasonally flooded region of marsh and savanna, lying in the basin of the Paraguay River, which straddles the Brazilian-Bolivian border. In the space of a few hours we were treated to a wide assortment of the characteristic birds of the Pantanal. One of the first things we noticed was the numbers of Jabirus; groups of several individuals were common, while some drying pools attracted parties of more than a dozen of these imposing giants. Wood Storks and Limpkins were also unusually abundant and along some stretches of the Transpantaneira it seemed that every other fence post was topped by a Snail Kite, or a Black-collared Hawk. The receding marshes served to concentrate huge aggregations of Yacare Caimans, Capybaras, and a diverse array of waterbirds and bush birds, which included Greater Rhea, Neotropic Cormorant, Bare-faced, Plumbeous and Buff-necked Ibis, Whistling, Little Blue, Capped, Cocoi and Striated Herons, Great, Snowy and Cattle Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Maguari Stork, Roseate Spoonbill, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Black, Turkey and Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures, Pearl Kite, the very large Great Black-Hawk, Roadside and Savanna Hawks, Southern Caracara, Wattled Jacana, Gray-necked Wood-Rail, Purple Gallinule, Black-necked Stilt, Southern Lapwing, Large-billed Tern, Ruddy, Picui and Long-tailed Ground-Doves, Picazuro Pigeon, Monk Parakeet, Smooth-billed Ani, Guira Cuckoo, White-tailed Goldenthrout, Ringed, Amazon and Green Kingfishers, Toco Toucan, Little Woodpecker, White-lored Spinetail, Vermilion Flycatcher, Cattle Tyrant, Rusty-margined Flycatcher, Tropical Kingbird, Short-crested Flycatcher, Grey-breasted Martin, Black-capped Donacobius, Chalk-browed Mockingbird, Curl-crested and Purplish Jays, Silver-beaked Tanager, Solitary Black Cacique, Scarlet-headed Blackbird, Orange-backed Troupial, Yellow-billed Cardinal, Grayish Saltator and Saffron Finch. We also encountered a South American Coati and a couple of Marsh Deer. We arrived at the Canto do Arancua Lodge just in time for lunch and a short siesta.

In the late afternoon we did some birding in a nearby patch of forest, which revealed such gems as Boat-billed Heron, Chaco Chachalaca, Blue-throated Piping-Guan, the beautiful Blue-and-yellow Macaw, Yellow-chevroned Parakeet, Scaly-headed and Blue-fronted Parrots, Great Potoo, Common Pauraque, White-wedged Piculet, Campo Flicker, Lineated Woodpecker, Common Thornbird, Great Rufous and Narrow-billed Woodcreepers, Red-billed Scythebill, Great Antshrike, Mato Grosso Antbird, Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant, Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher, White-rumped Monjita, Rufous Casiornis, Thrush-like Wren, the delightful Red-crested Finch, Greyish Baywing, Shiny and Giant Cowbirds, Red-crested Cardinal and the attractive Crested Oropendola. We also saw a small troop of Brown-tufted Capuchins.

The following morning we took an early morning boat trip along the Rio Clarinho, where new birds came thick and fast, these included Anhinga, the simply stunning Sunbittern, Orange-winged Parrot, Band-tailed Nighthawk, Green-and-rufous and American Pygmy Kingfishers, Cream-colored Woodpecker, Rusty-backed Spinetail, Large-billed Antwren, Euler's Flycatcher and Lesser Kiskadee. We had breakfast back at the lodge and then continued south to Mato Grosso Lodge, on the banks of the Pixaim River, where we spent the night. While driving to the Transpantaneira Road and still in the grounds of the Canto do Arancua Lodge, we saw Yellow-chinned Spinetail and Chopi Blackbird.

We then continued southwards along the Transpantaneira Road, between Canto do Arancua Lodge and the Pixaim River. New birds along this stretch of the Transpantaneira included Green Ibis, real Muscovy Ducks, Brazilian Teal, Scaled Dove, Squirrel Cuckoo, Chestnut-eared Aracari, Rufous Cacholote, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Southern Rough-winged Swallow and Rusty-collared Seed eater. We also observed an Azara's Agouti, a Crab-eating Fox and both Red and Grey Brockets.

We enjoyed lunch at the lodge and also enjoyed watching the multitude of birds that paid a visit to the bird feeders. New birds in the grounds of the lodge included the delicate Buff-bellied Hermit, the beautiful White-winged Swallow, incredibly tame White-tipped Doves, Boat-billed Flycatcher and Black-backed Water-Tyrant. Following a brief siesta, we enjoyed a late afternoon boat trip along the picturesque Pixaim River, which produced a never-ending variety of birds, new birds included Chestnut-bellied Guan, Bare-faced Curassow, great looks at the difficult to observe Sungrebe, the range restricted Golden-collared Macaw, Nacunda Nighthawk, Variable Oriole and Yellow-rumped Cacique. We also observed a troop of Black Howler Monkeys. A little spot-lighting in a patch of nearby forest, after dinner, enabled us to see Common Potoo, a stunning Scissor-tailed Nightjar, a Great Fruit-eating Bat and a Forest Rabbit.

Following breakfast the next day, a morning walk through gallery forest along the Pixaim River, proved very rewarding, producing our only sighting of the Blue-crowned Parakeet, as well as Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Glittering-throated Emerald, Blue-crowned Trogon, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Black-fronted Nunbird, Golden-green and Pale-crested Woodpeckers, Pale-legged Hornero, Buff-throated and Straight-billed Woodcreepers, Barred Antshrike, Plain Antvireo, Band-tailed Antbird, the stunningly attractive Helmeted Manakin, Forest Elaenia, Sepia-capped Flycatcher, Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant, Yellow-olive, Fuscous and Brown-crested Flycatchers, Green-backed Becard, Buff-breasted Wren, Ashy-headed Greenlet, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Flavescent Warbler, Bananaquit, Chestnut-vented Conebill and Hooded, Gray-headed, Palm and Swallow Tanagers. We also very much enjoyed watching the antics of a large troop of beautiful Black-tailed Marmosets.

Following lunch, we continued southwards along the Transpantaneira Road, birding as we did so, stopping to admire the many large concentrations of waterbirds in the wetlands and checking out patches of woodland along the roadside. We added a few new birds during the drive, several huge Southern Screamers, Peach-fronted Parakeet, Greater Thornbird and Unicolored Blackbird. We arrived at the Jaguar Ecological Reserve Lodge at dusk, where we were greeted by a beautifully marked Crane Hawk and several stunning Hyacinth Macaws, in the grounds of the lodge.

The following morning, after an early breakfast, there was much excitement amongst the group, as we prepared to drive to Porto Jofre and begin our search for a Jaguar, not in a zoo, but in the wild! Somewhat surprisingly, in the grounds of the lodge we added three more new birds, while boarding our two open-top vehicles, the diminutive Bat Falcon, a small flock of White-eyed Parakeets and a beautiful Black-crowned Tityra. During the drive to Porto Jofre we made a stop at a day time roost of the huge Great Horned Owl, which we greatly admired. We also saw a surprisingly large number of other new birds here, which included Gray-fronted Dove, Large Elaenia, Common Tody-Flycatcher, Masked Gnatcatcher and White-bellied Seedeater. During the drive we also saw a Brazilian Guinea-Pig, which crossed the road ahead of us. We spent the next ten hours slowly cruising along the Cuiaba and Three Brothers River systems, carefully examining the river bank and sandbanks in search of Jaguar, but unfortunately, to no avail. However, all was not in vain, as we did enjoy watching an Osprey, a very beautiful White-tailed Hawk, a pair of Collared Plovers, several Yellow-billed Terns and best of all, several Black Skimmers, some of them even flew alongside our boats, skimming the water with their bills, as they did so.

We spent the whole of the following day searching the Cuiaba River and its tributaries, and although we added Pied Lapwing, Little Cuckoo and Blue-black Grassquit to our ever growing birdlist, we once again failed to find a Jaguar. However, we did very much enjoy watching the antics of a large family party of Giant Otters.

The following day, was our last chance to see a Jaguar and we were determined to find one. During the drive to Porto Jofre we found two new birds for the tour, the splendid White-headed Marsh-Tyrant and the attractive White-browed Blackbird, we also saw a Neotropic River Otter. We searched diligently all morning for a Jaguar but failed to find one, but we did find a Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch, yet another new bird. It was late in the afternoon, when we got the message that there was a Jaguar nearby. Our boat was opened up to full throttle and we shot off at full speed! A few minutes later we rounded a bend in the river to find several tourist boats along the side of the river. We parked alongside and in no time at all we saw a Jaguar sitting in the shade, on the riverbank, unfortunately, it suddenly stood up, took a few steps to the right and then disappeared deeper into the riverside vegetation. It was only a brief look, but non the less, it was a Jaguar, in the wild!

After breakfast the following morning we did some birding in a patch of nearby gallery forest where we found a few new birds for the tour, these included Chotoy and Cinereous-breasted Spinetails, Plain Tyrannulet and the range restricted Fawn-breasted Wren. We then travelled northwards along the Transpantaneira Road, where we taped in the uncommon Striped Cuckoo. We arrived at the entrance gate to the Pouso Alegre Lodge, just as the light was beginning to fade and during the 7 kilometre drive to the actual lodge, we enjoyed super looks at both the Giant Anteater and the Brazilian Tapir. We arrived at the lodge in very high spirits.

We spent the whole of the following day birding in the grounds of the Pouso Alegre Lodge, where spot-lighting before breakfast produced great looks at the large Mottled Owl and the diminutive Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl. Later in the day we added White and Green-barred Woodpeckers, Streaked Xenops, Planalto Slaty-Antshrike, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, White-winged Becard and the unobtrusive Dull-capped Attila. A little spot-lighting following dinner produced two brilliant mammals, the stunning Southern Tamandua and the very cute Crab-eating Raccoon.

Following breakfast the next day, we spent the morning birding in the grounds of the Pouso Alegre Lodge and we were delighted when Braulio enticed a pair of Undulated Tinamous out into the open by skill-full use of his playback equipment. An afternoon walk produced an Eared Dove before we began the long drive eastwards, to Rondonopolis, where we spent the night.

Following breakfast at our hotel, we continued our drive to the east and we broke the long drive, with a birding stop at a small marsh not far from the small town of Pedra Preta. The main target bird here was the Horned Screamer, a bird at the very southern end of its range. In no time at all, we were all enjoying super scope views of this very handsome bird. The small marsh also produced Laughing Falcon, Common Gallinule, our first of many delightful Burrowing Owls, a large flock of White-collared Swifts and several White-rumped Swallows. Continuing our drive, we stopped to admire our first Red-legged Seriemas of the tour, which we found along the roadside. At our lunch stop, we added American Kestrel, to the birdlist. In the cooler hours of the afternoon, we arrived at Emas National Park and new birds came thick and fast, they included Plumbeous Kite, Aplomado Falcon, Red-shouldered Macaw, White-bellied and White-striped Warblers, Yellow-rumped Marshbird, White-banded and White-rumped Tanagers, Blue Dacnis, Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch, Grassland Sparrow and Black-throated Saltator. We also saw our first Pampas Deer, feeding just outside the park.

We spent all of the following day birding in Emas National Park, one of the largest protected areas of campo-cerrado habitat in South America. As we approached the entrance to the park, a little after dawn, we found a magnificent Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk walking along in a field. It was a great start to the day; the park yielded up a great many more new birds and a couple of new mammals,

before the end of the day. New birds included Yellow-headed Caracara, the extremely range restricted Yellow-faced Parrot, a couple of superb Short-eared Owls, the endangered White-winged Nightjar, Grey-rumped Swift, Fork-tailed Palm-Swift, White-vented Violetear, Gilded Hummingbird, Pale-breasted Spinetail, Rusty-backed Antwren, Collared Crescent-chest, Yellow-bellied and Highland Elaenias, the range restricted Chapada Flycatcher, Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant, Gray Monjita, Cock-tailed Tyrant, White-throated Kingbird, Masked Yellowthroat, Yellowish Pipit, Burnished-buff Tanager, Coal-crested Finch, Plumbeous Seedeater and Pectoral Sparrow. Spot-lighting after dark produced great looks at a Hoary Fox and a fleeting glimpse at a Maned Wolf.

We enjoyed a second full day in Emas National Park, where new birds included super looks at the stunning Gray-headed Kite, the beautiful Crimson-crested Woodpecker, the range restricted Campo Miner, Olivaceous Woodcreeper, both Sharp-tailed and Streamer-tailed Tyrants, Southern Antpipit, Swainson's Flycatcher, Pale-breasted Thrush, Purple-throated and Thick-billed Euphonias and Tropical Parula. We also enjoyed prolonged looks at a large group of White-lipped Peccaries, to add to our, by now, very impressive mammal list.

The following morning, as we were loading up our vehicle with luggage in the small town of Costa Rica, we spotted a flock of Blue-winged Parrotlets in a nearby tree and we were able to view them in the scope. The day was off to a good start, as we prepared ourselves for the long drive to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. During the drive we enjoyed good looks at the White-tailed Kite along the roadside. We broke the long drive with a birding stop at a small river, close to Alto Araguaia; here a few stunningly beautiful Swallow-tailed Kites were much appreciated, a Blackish Rail put in a brief appearance, a Swallow-tailed Hummingbird was greatly admired and best of all, we enjoyed great good looks at the very uncommon Point-tailed Palmcreeper.

The following day, amongst the canyons of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park, we enjoyed Scaled Pigeon, both Red-and-green and Blue-winged Macaws, Blue-headed Parrot, Glittering-bellied Emerald, Long-billed Starthroat, White-eared Puffbird, Yellow-tufted Woodpecker, the habitat-restricted Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, Rufous-winged Antshrike, Band-tailed Manakin, Plain-crested Elaenia, Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant, Cliff and Streaked Flycatchers, Black-faced and White-lined Tanagers, Red-legged Honeycreeper, Saffron-billed Sparrow and Green-winged Saltator, Braulio even managed to conjure up, the rarely observed Pavonine Cuckoo. We also saw one new mammal, the Southern Amazon Red Squirrel. Back at the lodge, both Yellow-bellied and Double-collared Seedeaters, were observed on the bird feeders.

A final morning in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park produced the rarely observed Little Tinamou, the very shy Pheasant Cuckoo, the amazing Amazonian Motmot, the stunningly beautiful and rare Fiery-capped Manakin, as well as the very vocal Moustached Wren. We then drove to Currupira Lodge, on the southern edge of Amazonia. Here new birds included Least Grebe, White-faced Whistling-Duck, Dusky-headed Parakeet, Black-tailed Trogon, Swallow-winged Puffbird, Lettered Aracari, Red-necked Woodpecker, Masked Tityra and the incredible Magpie Tanager.

On our last day of the tour we spent the morning birding in the grounds of the Currupira Lodge; here a pair of Tataupa Tinamous responded very well to tape playback, we enjoyed watching several Greater Yellow-headed Vultures, observed a pair of Spix's Guans, a couple of Lesser Yellowlegs, a large flock of Short-tailed Swifts, the beautiful Collared Trogon, the large White-throated Toucan, an obliging pair of White-backed Fire-eyes, the uncommon Black-throated Antbird, a Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant, the smallest passerine in the world, and best of all a stunning Hook-billed Kite. We also added our last mammal of the tour, the Black-striped Tufted Capuchin. In the afternoon we

drove back to Cuiaba, and the following morning we departed for Australia.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

RHEAS *RHEIDAE*

Greater Rhea *Rhea americana* The South American equivalent of the Emu, we saw good numbers in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife International's *Threatened Birds of the World*, the total population of this species is unknown.

TINAMOUS *TINAMIDAE*

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* We were very fortunate to observe this rarely seen species, which responded fairly well to tape playback just outside Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Undulated Tinamou *Crypturellus undulatus* We all enjoyed great looks at a pair of this species in forest within the grounds of the Pouso Alegre Lodge, in the Pantanal. When a pair responded well to tape playback.

Tataupa Tinamou *Crypturellus tataupa* With skilful use of his playback equipment, Braulio managed to coax a pair of these rarely observed birds, into view in the grounds of Currupira Lodge.

GREBES *PODICIPEDIDAE*

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus* The Least Grebe does not occur in the Pantanal, although the habitat there is perfect for it. However, it does occur in Amazonia and we recorded a few birds very well in the grounds of Currupira Lodge, on the southern edge of Amazonia.

CORMORANTS *PHALACROCORACIDAE*

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Abundant in the Pantanal.

ANHINGA *ANHINGIDAE*

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* Good numbers observed in all wetland areas.

HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNES *ARDEIDAE*

Whistling Heron *Syrigma sibilatrix* This attractive species of heron was seen well on many occasions, particularly in the Pantanal.

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus* Small numbers of this uncommon but attractive species of heron were observed throughout the Pantanal and at Currupira Lodge.

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi* Commonly encountered throughout the Pantanal.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* Abundant in the Pantanal, where we saw concentrations of dozens of birds, with smaller numbers scattered throughout most other wetland areas.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* Half a dozen or so birds observed in the Pantanal, right at the southern edge of this birds range.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* Very common in the Pantanal, with smaller numbers at all other wetland areas.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Common and widespread throughout cattle country.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* Huge numbers present throughout the Pantanal, with small numbers recorded at other wetland sites.

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* Large numbers present throughout the Pantanal.

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius* Small numbers of this uncommon species were scattered throughout the Pantanal. We saw them extremely well during the boat trip along the Pixaim River.

Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum* Large numbers of this attractive species were present throughout the Pantanal, where we saw it at very close range on many occasions. We also saw small numbers at other wetland areas.

STORKS *CICONIIDAE*

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* Abundant in the Pantanal, most of these birds will have moved out by the end of the dry season.

Maguari Stork *Ciconia maguari* Small numbers observed in the Pantanal, where a few were nesting.

Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria* Large numbers present throughout the Pantanal, many pairs were nesting and some already had quite large chicks.

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS *THRESKIORNITHIDAE*

Plumbeous Ibis *Theristicus caerulescens* Small numbers scattered throughout the Pantanal, they woke us up every morning at the Jaguar Ecological Reserve.

Buff-necked Ibis *Theristicus caudatus* Fairly common in the Pantanal with small numbers scattered throughout other wetland areas.

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis* A handful of birds of this uncommon species were observed in the Pantanal and also at Currupira Lodge.

Bare-faced Ibis *Phimosus infuscatus* Small numbers present throughout the northern part of the Pantanal.

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja* We enjoyed many good close looks at this very attractive species, during our time in the Pantanal.

SCREAMERS *ANHIMIDAE*

Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta* We saw a large group of this huge species of waterfowl at a small marsh close to Pedra Preta, in Mato Grosso and we saw a few more during the drive from Emas National Park to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This species is at the southern edge of its range in these areas.

Southern Screamer *Chauna torquata* Small numbers of this huge species of waterfowl, were present in small numbers throughout the Pantanal.

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS *ANATIDAE*

White-faced Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* A large flock of approximately 24 or so birds were present at a large dam at Currupira Lodge.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* Small flocks were present throughout the Pantanal, during our stay there.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* Small numbers present in the Pantanal and at other sites visited later in the tour.

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis* Small present throughout most of the wetlands we visited.

NEW WORLD VULTURES *CATHARTIDAE*

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* Observed on almost every day of the tour, it is a common and conspicuous bird, throughout the whole of Brazil.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* Not as common as the Black Vulture, however, small numbers were observed throughout the tour, including in the Pantanal, where it was greatly outnumbered by the following species.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* Small numbers observed throughout the Pantanal.

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus* We saw a few birds of this uncommon species, flying above the forest canopy, during our time at Currupira Lodge.

OSPREY *PANDIONIDAE*

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* We enjoyed two sightings of Osprey, during our time in the Pantanal. These will be breeding birds from North America, which would have recently arrived in the Pantanal. The Osprey has never bred in South America.

KITES, HAWKS AND EAGLES *ACCIPITRIDAE*

Gray-headed Kite *Leptodon cayanensis* We very much enjoyed watching an adult of this very beautiful and uncommon species, as it flew close to us, on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* We enjoyed close scope views of one of these uncommon but distinctive birds, on the last day of the tour, at Currupira Lodge.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* A small group of this extremely attractive species, were observed in flight at a small river, close to Alto Araguaia, in Mato Grosso.

Pearl Kite *Gampsonyx swainsonii* I saw one perched on a fence post at the very beginning of the Pantanal, unfortunately, we never saw another!

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus* We enjoyed a few sightings of this attractive species during our time spent in the state of Goais, in and around Emas National Park.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* Large numbers of this highly specialised feeder, were present throughout the Pantanal.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* We enjoyed scattered sightings of this species, during the second half of the tour.

Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens* We enjoyed an unusually large number of sightings of this uncommon species, both in the Pantanal and during the second half of the tour.

Great Black-Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* A bird very much associated with large rivers, we enjoyed daily sightings, during our time in the Pantanal.

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis* We enjoyed many good sightings of this attractive species, throughout the tour.

Black-collared Hawk *Busarellus nigricollis* Commonly encountered throughout the Pantanal.

Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris* Observed on almost every day of the tour.

White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus* We observed both pale and dark morph birds, with scattered sightings throughout the tour.

CARACARAS AND FALCONS *FALCONIDAE*

Southern Caracara *Caracara plancus* Widespread and common, especially in the Pantanal.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* We observed the same pair, on two separate occasions, during our time in Emas National Park.

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* We enjoyed several good sightings throughout the tour, the first occurred at a small marsh at Pedra Preta, we enjoyed several sightings in Emas National Park and our last sighting occurred at Currupira Lodge.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* We enjoyed several sightings of this very beautiful species, during the second half of the tour.

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis* We very much enjoyed three separate sightings of this stunning looking falcon, in Emas National Park.

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis* We enjoyed a few very good sightings of this attractive species, during our time in the Pantanal.

CHACHALACAS, GUANS AND CURASSOWS *CRACIDAE*

Chaco Chachalaca *Ortalis canicollis* Abundant throughout the Pantanal.

Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu* We observed a pair of this species, on the last day of the tour, at Currupira Lodge, at the southern edge of this birds range. Johann Baptist Von Spix (1781 – 1826) was a German naturalist who is best known for his work in Brazil, from 1817 until

1820. He studied theology for three years in Wurzburg, then medicine and the natural sciences, qualifying as a physician in 1806. He had already gained his PHD at the age of 19! In 1808 he was awarded a scholarship by the King of Bavaria and went to Paris to study zoology. In 1810 the King appointed him assistant to the Bavarian Royal Academy of Sciences with special responsibility for the natural history exhibits. In 1817 he travelled to Brazil and returned in 1820 with specimens of 85 mammals, 350 birds, 130 amphibians, 116 fish and 2,700 insects as well as 6,500 botanical items. The collections formed the basis for the Natural History Museum in Munich. The king awarded him a knighthood and a pension for life. After his return from Brazil, Spix catalogued and published his findings despite extremely poor health, caused by his stay there. In 1824 he published *Avium Brasiliensium Species Novae*, which included a description of the Hyacinth Macaw *Anodorhynchus maximilani*, which he dedicated to his royal sponsor King Maximilian I. Wagler described the Spix's Macaw in 1832 after Spix's death, when he realised that it was not a subspecies of the Hyacinth Macaw, but a distinct species.

Chestnut-bellied Guan *Penelope ochrogaster* Small numbers of this uncommon species, were observed during our time in the Pantanal. This species is listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife International's *Threatened Birds of the World*, with a population of between 600 – 1700 mature individuals.

Blue-throated Piping-Guan *Pipile cumanensis* Commonly encountered, during our time in the Pantanal.

Bare-faced Curassow *Crax fasciolata* We enjoyed many good close sightings of this beautiful species, both in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park. This species is listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife International's *Threatened Birds of the World*, the population is unknown.

LIMPKIN ARMIDAE

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* Huge numbers present throughout the Pantanal.

RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS RALLIDAE

Gray-necked Wood-Rail *Aramides cajanea* Proved to be common throughout the Pantanal.

Blackish Rail *Pardirallus nigricans* Fortunately for us, a bird responded to tape playback, by running along the edge of a small river, close to Alto Araguaia, during the drive from Emas National Park to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica* This uncommon species was observed on two separate occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* We saw a single individual at a small marsh at Pedra Preta and we saw it again, on a dam at Currupira Lodge.

FINFOOTS HELIORNITHIDAE

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica* We were very fortunate to enjoyed super looks at this very shy and uncommon species, during our boat trip on the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

SUNBITTERN EURYPYGIDAE

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias* We enjoyed great looks at this spectacularly plumaged bird during the tour. We particularly enjoyed the two birds displaying to each other at the Pouso Alegre Lodge.

SERIEMAS CARIAMIDAE

Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata* We enjoyed several very good sightings of this amazing species throughout the tour.

JACANAS *JACANIDAE*

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana* Very common in the Pantanal and also observed at one or two other wetland areas.

STILTS AND AVOCETS *RECURVIROSTRIDAE*

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* A pair flew by our vehicle at the northern end of the Pantanal and then a few birds were present at a large dam, at Currupira Lodge.

LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS *CHARADRIIDAE*

Pied Lapwing *Vanellus cayanus* We enjoyed close looks at this attractive species, including a pair with small chicks, on sandbanks in the Rio Cuiaba, in the Pantanal.

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* Common and conspicuous throughout the whole tour.

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris* Close views of half a dozen on sandbanks in the Rio Cuiaba, including a pair with small chicks.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES *SCOLOPACIDAE*

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* A migrant from North America, three birds were present at a large dam, at Currupira Lodge.

TERNES *STERNIDAE*

Yellow-billed Tern *Sternula superciliaris* First encountered over one of the smaller rivers along the Transpantaneira and then found commonly along the Rio Cuiaba.

Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex* Good numbers observed throughout the Pantanal.

SKIMMERS *RYNCHOPIDAE*

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* We observed small numbers along the Rio Cuiaba, in the Pantanal.

PIGEONS AND DOVES *COLUMBIDAE*

Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* Feral populations were abundant in the larger cities and towns.

Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa* We observed a handful of birds, mainly in flight, in the Chapada Dos Guimaraes National Park and in the grounds of Currupira Lodge.

Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro* Much the commonest large pigeon throughout the tour, which we observed on every day of the tour.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis* Small numbers observed, on most days of the tour.

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* Small numbers observed at Pouso Alegre Lodge and in Emas National Park.

Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti* Small numbers present in the Pantanal, with larger numbers during the second half of the tour.

Picui Ground-Dove *Columbina picui* Very common throughout the Pantanal.

Scaled Dove *Columbina squammata* Less common than the above species, we observed small numbers on many occasions throughout the tour.

Long-tailed Ground-Dove *Uropelia campestris* Less common again than the previous two species, however, we enjoyed several sightings of small numbers in the Pantanal. This attractive species is restricted to south-central Brazil and adjacent Bolivia.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* Extremely common in the Pantanal, and remarkably tame around some of the lodges there.

Gray-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla* Single birds were observed in the Pantanal, Emas National

Park and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

PARROTS *PSITTACIDAE*

Hyacinth Macaw *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus* Wonderful views of this splendid bird on several occasions in the Pantanal, almost from the moment we arrived to the moment we left. There were at least half a dozen roosting in the garden of the Jaguar Ecological Reserve Lodge, and we had extraordinary views of several pairs, at Porto Jofre and at the Pouso Alegre Lodge. It is not surprising that this beautiful species was voted 'Bird of the Tour' by tour participants. The extreme tameness of these birds would suggest that at least in the Pantanal, the birds are well protected. Although still quite common in the Pantanal, this is a globally threatened species. There is massive illegal trapping of this species for the cage-bird market. At least 10,000 birds were taken from the wild in the 1980s with 50% destined for the Brazilian market alone. This species is listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. The total population is believed to number about 4,300 mature individuals and continues to decrease.

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna* One bird observed in the grounds of the Canto do Arancua Lodge, had been reintroduced to the area and then we saw huge numbers in and around Emas National Park.

Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloropterus* We enjoyed good looks at both perched and flying birds, during our time in the Chapada Dos Guimaraes National Park.

Blue-winged Macaw *Primolius maracana* We observed a bird well in flight, flying alongside one of the spectacular canyons in Chapada Dos Guimaraes National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. The total population is believed to numbered between 1500 - 7000 mature individuals.

Yellow-collared Macaw *Primolius auricollis* We observed a pair very well indeed, during our boat trip on the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

Red-shouldered Macaw *Diopsittaca nobilis* We enjoyed several large flocks of this species in Emas National Park and in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Blue-crowned Parakeet *Aratinga acuticaudata* Only observed on one occasion, we enjoyed good close looks at a single individual in farmland along the edge of the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalma* We observed a small flock in the Pantanal and then it became much more common in the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and at Currupira Lodge.

Dusky-headed Parakeet *Aratinga weddellii* Small flocks observed around the Currupira Lodge, where we saw it very well. These birds were at the southern edge of their range here.

Peach-fronted Parakeet *Aratinga aurea* Small numbers observed in the Pantanal, with much larger numbers observed in Emas National Park.

Monk Parakeet *Myiopsitta monachus* This was by far the commonest species of parrot in the Pantanal, we also saw several of their communal nests.

Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius* We enjoyed good scope views of a small flock perched in trees, close to our hotel, in the township of Costa Rica.

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet *Brotogeris chiriri* This species proved to be common throughout the Pantanal and we also saw smaller numbers at Emas National Park and at Currupira Lodge.

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus* We enjoyed good looks at both perched birds and birds in flight, in Chapada Dos Guimaraes National Park and at Currupira Lodge.

Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani* We observed small flocks in flight, on a few occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Yellow-faced Parrot *Alipiopsitta xanthops* We enjoyed very good looks at this uncommon species

in and around Emas National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife International's *Threatened birds of the World*. The total population is unknown.

Blue-fronted Parrot *Amazona aestiva* This species proved to be very common throughout the Pantanal, with smaller numbers regularly observed throughout the second half of the tour.

Orange-winged Parrot *Amazona amazonica* One pair observed in flight, during the boat trip on the Rio Clarinho, in the Pantanal. We also saw a second pair in flight, at Currupira Lodge.

CUCKOOS *CUCULIDAE*

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* This very large species of cuckoo was observed on many occasions throughout the tour.

Little Cuckoo *Coccyzina minuta* We enjoyed great looks at a single bird during one of our boat trips on the Cuiaba River. This unobtrusive little cuckoo, is easily overlooked.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* Small family parties observed on almost every day of the tour.

Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira* Small family parties of this attractive species were observed very well in open country throughout the tour.

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* Observed very well on one occasion, along the Tranpantaneira Road, in the northern end of the Pantanal.

Pheasant Cuckoo *Dromococcyx phasianellus* This very uncommon and rarely observed species of cuckoo, was eventually lured into sight by skill-full use of playback equipment. After considerable effort, we enjoyed great scope views of this attractive species, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Pavonine Cuckoo *Dromococcyx pavoninus* This species is also very uncommon and rarely observed, once again, skill-full use of playback equipment, eventually lured this species into view, enabling us to view it extremely well in the scope. This sighting also took place on the edge of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

OWLS *STRIGIDAE*

Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* Great views, in full sunlight, of a pair of birds at their day time roost, along the Tranpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal.

Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgata* We managed to tape in a Mottled Owl, at Pousa Alegre Lodge, in the Pantanal, before dawn one morning and enjoyed super scope views of it.

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* Once again we taped in a pair of this species at Pousa Alegre Lodge, in the Pantanal, before dawn one morning and we enjoyed very good looks at it. The following day, at the same lodge, we also observed a pair very well.

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia* We enjoyed many great looks at this splendid bird, throughout the second half of the tour.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* We very much enjoyed watching two different birds patrolling the grasslands of Emas National Park, at dusk one evening.

POTOOS *NYCTIBIIDAE*

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* We enjoyed super looks at this incredibly well camouflaged bird on two separate occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus* We enjoyed great looks at a bird in the spotlight, that responded well to tape playback, in the Pantanal.

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES *CAPRIMULGIDAE*

Nacunda Nighthawk *Podager nacunda* We enjoyed many great looks, at this the largest species of nighthawk, throughout the tour, including a flock of 20 or more birds, at the small marsh,

close to Pedra Preta.

Band-tailed Nighthawk *Nyctiprogne leucopyga* We had excellent looks at this very elegant species of nighthawk, during our boat trips, at dusk, in the Pantanal.

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* Observed well on many occasions throughout the tour.

White-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus candicans* We watched an adult female, sat on the top of a termite mound, in the spotlight, in Emas National Park. This species is only known from two places in Paraguay and Emas National Park, in Brazil. This species is listed as 'Endangered' in Birdlife International's *Threatened birds of the World*. The total population is believed to be numbered between 600 - 1700 mature individuals.

Scissor-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis torquata* We enjoyed super looks in the spotlight, of a splendid male, close to the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

SWIFTS *APODIDAE*

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* We enjoyed watching a large flock, which flew over the small marsh, close to Pedra Preta, during the drive to Emas National Park.

Gray-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris* We observed a couple of small flocks very well, during our time in Emas National Park.

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura* We enjoyed watching a large flock drinking from a small dam at Currupira Lodge. These birds were at the extreme southern edge of their range.

Fork-tailed Palm-Swift *Tachornis squamata* We found good numbers present throughout Emas National Park.

HUMMINGBIRDS *TROCHILIDAE*

Buff-bellied Hermit *Phaethornis subochraceus* We only observed this species of hummingbird, on one occasion, in the grounds of the Pixaim River Lodge, in the Pantanal.

Swallow-tailed Hummingbird *Eupetomena macroura* First encountered at the small river, close to Alto Araguaia, on the drive to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. and then seen extremely well the following day, close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

White-vented Violetear *Colibri serrirostris* This fairly common species of semi-open terrain, was seen well in Emas National Park and again, in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* Another hummingbird of semi-open terrain, we saw it well, close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata* Seen well in the Pantanal, in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks and at Currupira Lodge.

Gilded Hummingbird *Hylocharis chrysura* We enjoyed good looks at this unobtrusive species in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.

White-tailed Goldenthrout *Polytmus guainumbi* Seen well on a couple of occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata* A common and widespread species of hummingbird, which we saw well on several occasions throughout the tour.

Horned Sungem *Heliactin Bilophus* This stunningly attractive species of hummingbird was observed and photographed by Joy and Barb, in Emas National Park.

Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris* We enjoyed watching this very attractive species in the garden of a property, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

TROGANS AND QUETZALS *TROGONIDAE*

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* We enjoyed great looks at one of these birds, in the forest at Currupira Lodge, right at the southern edge of this birds range.

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui* Commonly encountered during our time in the Pantanal.
Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus* Seen well while birding in the forest at Currupira Lodge, once again, this bird was at the southern edge of its range.

KINGFISHERS *ALCEDINIDAE*

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* The largest kingfisher in South America, we saw it well on many occasions during our time in the Pantanal.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* Very common in the Pantanal, and also seen at Currupira Lodge.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* We enjoyed several good sightings during our time in the Pantanal and we also observed it at the small river close to Alto Araguaia, during the drive to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *Chloroceryle inda* By far the least common of South American kingfishers. Following a bit of a struggle, a typically very sneaky bird, allowed us a quick look, in overhanging vegetation along the Rio Clarinho, close to Canto do Arancua Lodge, in the Pantanal.

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* We enjoyed super looks at this uncommon species, on three separate occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

MOTMOTS *MOMOTIDAE*

Amazonian Motmot *Momotus momota* We enjoyed very good looks at this species, close to Chapada Dos Guimaraes National Park, at the southern edge of this birds range.

JACAMARS *GALBULIDAE*

Brown Jacamar *Brachygalba lugubris* We enjoyed very good looks at one of these individuals, in the forest at Currupira Lodge. Once again, this was at the southern edge of its range.

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda* We enjoyed many good sightings during our time in the Pantanal, and on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

PUFFBIRDS *BUCCONIDAE*

White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru* Super close looks at this little gem in farmland close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons* Regularly encountered throughout the whole of the tour.

Swallow-winged Puffbird *Chelidoptera tenebrosa* Small numbers seen very well along the edge of forested areas, at Currupira Lodge. Once again this species was at the southern edge of its range.

TOUCANS *RAMPHASTIDAE*

Lettered Aracari *Pteroglossus incriptus* We enjoyed a few good sightings of this attractive species at Currupira Lodge, at the southern edge of this birds range.

Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis* We enjoyed several small parties in the Pantanal and at Currupira Lodge.

Toco Toucan *Ramphastos toco* This spectacular species was seen well on many occasions, both in the Pantanal and throughout the more open country, during the second half of the tour.

White-throated Toucan *Ramphastos tucanus* We enjoyed good looks at this species at Currupira Lodge, right on the southern edge of this birds range.

WOODPECKERS AND ALLIES *PICIDAE*

White-wedged Piculet *Picumnus albosquamatus* Observed very well on several occasions in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

- White Woodpecker** *Melanerpes candidus* We observed this beautiful species in the northern end of the Pantanal and at Currupira Lodge.
- Yellow-tufted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes cruentatus* Another handsome woodpecker, which we saw well in the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and then it became common at Currupira Lodge.
- Little Woodpecker** *Veniliornis passerinus* Very common in the riverine woodland throughout the Pantanal and elsewhere on the tour.
- Golden-green Woodpecker** *Piculus chrysochloros* Seen very well on a number of occasions throughout the Pantanal.
- Green-barred Woodpecker** *Colaptes melanochloros* This widespread species of woodpecker was observed very well, on two separate occasions, at Pousa Alegre Lodge, at the northern end of the Pantanal.
- Campo Flicker** *Colaptes campestris* We enjoyed scattered sightings of this beautiful species, throughout the tour.
- Pale-crested Woodpecker** *Celeus lugubris* Prefers areas of seasonally flooded forest, in Brazil, it only occurs in the Pantanal, where we saw it very well on two separate occasions.
- Cream-colored Woodpecker** *Celeus flavus* We enjoyed great looks at this uncommon and very attractive species of woodpecker, in riverine forest in the Pantanal, on two separate occasions.
- Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus* Another attractive species, which we saw well on two separate occasions, in the Pantanal.
- Red-necked Woodpecker** *Campephilus rubricollis* Yet another very attractive species of woodpecker, which we saw well on one occasion, at Currupira Lodge, on the southern edge of this birds range.
- Crimson-crested Woodpecker** *Campephilus melanoleucos* We saw this attractive species, very well, on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS *FURNARIIDAE*

- Campo Miner** *Geositta poeciloptera* We enjoyed super looks at one of these uncommon birds in its typical habitat, recently burned grassland, during our time in Emas National Park. This species is confined to natural grassland and cerrado vegetation in the interior of south-central Brazil and is unfortunately, suffering a rapid decline in population as a result of the destruction of its natural habitat. This species is listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife International's *Threatened birds of the World*. Its total population is unknown.
- Pale-legged Hornero** *Furnarius leucopus* In the more arid areas of South America, this species is always associated with water, and this was very much the case in the Pantanal, where we saw it well on a few occasions.
- Rufous Hornero** *Furnarius rufus* A very common species, which we saw on every day of the tour. It is the national bird of Argentina.
- Chotoy Spinetail** *Schoeniophylax phryganophilus* We enjoyed great looks at a single bird along the Tranpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal, close to the Jaguar Ecological Reserve.
- Pale-breasted Spinetail** *Synallaxis albescens* We enjoyed good looks at this species, in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.
- Cinereous-breasted Spinetail** *Synallaxis hypospodia* This species was observed very well on one occasion along the Tranpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal, close to the Jaguar Ecological Reserve.
- White-lored Spinetail** *Synallaxis albilora* We enjoyed great looks at this range restricted species, during our time in the Pantanal.
- Rusty-backed Spinetail** *Cranioleuca vulpina* Seen well on one occasion, during the boat trip on

the Rio Clarinho, close to the Canto do Arancua Lodge, in the Pantanal.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* This species proved to be fairly common in the marshes of the Pantanal, where we saw it very well on a few occasions.

Common Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons* This species has four isolated populations throughout South America. We enjoyed good looks at a few birds from the southern population, during our time in the Pantanal.

Greater Thornbird *Phacellodomus ruber* This species proved to be common throughout the Pantanal and we also saw it on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Rufous Cacholote *Pseudoseisura unirufa* We enjoyed a few good looks at this species during our time in the Pantanal. The name Gray-crested Cacholote is often used for this species.

Point-tailed Palmcreeper *Berlepschia rikeri* We were very fortunate to observe this uncommon species, which responded well to tape playback, at a small river, close to Alto Araguaia, during the drive from Emas National Park to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This species is endemic to Amazonia and was at the extreme southern edge of its range here.

Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper *Lochmias nematura* The most attractive of all the furniards, we were extremely fortunate to enjoy prolonged looks at a bird feeding in a small stream, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans* We enjoyed very good looks at this attractive species, both in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus* Somewhat surprisingly, we only observed this common species on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Great Rufous Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes major* We enjoyed super looks at this uncommon and range restricted species, on a few occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Buff-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus guttatus* We saw this common species of woodcreeper on a few occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus* We enjoyed good looks on several occasions, in the Pantanal. This is the extreme southern edge of this birds range.

Narrow-billed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris* We saw this bird on many occasions in the Pantanal and on one occasion, in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Red-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris* We observed this spectacular species very well, on a couple of occasions in the Pantanal and also on one occasion at Currupira Lodge.

TYPICAL ANTBIRDS THAMOPHILIDAE

Great Antshrike *Taraba major* We enjoyed many good sightings of this common but attractive bird, during our time in the Pantanal and on one occasion at Currupira Lodge.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* We saw this species very well in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

Rufous-winged Antshrike *Thamnophilus torquatus* We observed this uncommon and attractive species very well, on one occasion, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Planalto Slaty-Antshrike *Thamnophilus pelzelni* We observed this species in the Pantanal, in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and again at Currupira Lodge.

Plain Antwren *Dysithamnus mentalis* We observed this species very well in the Pantanal and in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Large-billed Antwren *Herpsilochmus longirostris* We saw this species very well in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

Rusty-backed Antwren *Formicivora rufa* This very attractive species of riverine forest, was observed very well on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Mato Grosso Antbird *Cercomacra melanaria* We enjoyed a couple of good close looks at this species, in gallery forest, in the Pantanal.

White-backed Fire-eye *Pyriglena leuconota* We enjoyed very good looks at a pair of birds, at Currupira Lodge, at the southern edge of this birds range.

Band-tailed Antbird *Hypocnemoides maculicauda* We enjoyed very good looks at a single individual in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

Black-throated Antbird *Myrmeciza atrothorax* An uncommon Amazonian endemic, which we saw well on the last morning of the tour, at Currupira Lodge.

CRESCENTCHESTS *MELANOPAREIIDAE*

Collared Crescentchest *Melanopareia torquata* We enjoyed a couple of good looks at this very attractive species, while birding in Emas National Park.

MANAKINS *PIPRIDAE*

Band-tailed Manakin *Pipra fasciicauda* This attractive species of manikin was seen well on a couple of occasions, close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Helmeted Manakin *Antilophia galeata* We enjoyed many good sightings of this spectacular species, both in the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

Fiery-capped Manakin *Machaeropterus pyrocephalus* We enjoyed super, very close looks at this uncommon and very attractive species, on one occasion, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. Where this bird was at the extreme southern edge of its range.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS *TYRANNIDAE*

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* A fairly common species which we only saw on one occasion, in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal. Once again, this species was at the southern edge of its range.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* Somewhat surprisingly, this common species was only observed on a couple of occasions, while we were birding in Emas National Park.

Large Elaenia *Elaenia spectabilis* An uncommon bird of scrubby woodland which breeds throughout southern Brazil and winters northwards throughout Amazonia. We observed a solitary bird very well, on one occasion, on its breeding grounds, in the Pantanal.

Plain-crested Elaenia *Elaenia cristata* We saw this species very well, on a couple of occasions, in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This bird was at the western edge of its range.

Highland Elaenia *Elaenia obscura* Seen well on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* We observed this common species in the Pantanal and in the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Chapada Flycatcher *Suiriri islerorum* We enjoyed good looks at this uncommon Brazilian endemic, on one occasion, while birding in Emas National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife International's *Threatened birds of the World*. Its total population is unknown.

Sharp-tailed Tyrant *Culicivora caudacuta* We enjoyed good close looks at this rare and very localised species, in Emas National Park. This tyrant, a specialist of undisturbed natural grassland, is listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife International's *Threatened birds of the World*. The total population is believed to number between 10,000 – 20,000 mature individuals.

Southern Antpipit *Corythopis delalandi* We enjoyed surprisingly good looks at this ground frequenting tyrant flycatcher, on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant *Euscarthmus meloryphus* A bird of shrubby thickets, we saw it very well on one occasion, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant *Euscarthmus rufomarginatus* We enjoyed very good looks at one of these rare and localised birds, during our time in Emas National Park. This species is listed

as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. Its total population is unknown.

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* A fairly common inhabitant of shady woodland; we saw it well in the Pantanal and on the edge of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Plain Tyrannulet *Inezia inornata* This not very well known and range restricted species only occurs in Brazil in the austral winter, migrating from breeding grounds in Argentina, Paraguay and eastern Bolivia. We saw it very well on one occasion, along the Tranpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal, close to the Jaguar Ecological Reserve.

Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant *Myiornis ecaudatus* We enjoyed very good close looks at this uncommon Amazonian endemic, on the last day of the tour, at Currupira Lodge, where it was at the extreme southern edge of its range. This is the smallest species of passerine in the world.

Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus striaticollis* This fairly common species was seen well along the edge of the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal, this is the extreme southern edge of this birds range.

Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer* Another fairly common dry woodland species, we saw it well on a few occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher *Poecilotriccus latirostris* Great views on several occasions in gallery forest in the Pantanal.

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum* This common but attractive species, was seen well on a number of occasions throughout the tour.

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens* This common and widespread species was observed well in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea* We enjoyed very good looks at this attractive species, in the beautiful canyons of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri* We observed this uncommon species of flycatcher very well, during the boat trip on the Rio Clarinho, close to the Canto do Arancua Lodge, in the Pantanal. Carl Hieronymus Euler 1834-1901, was the Swiss consul in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 1897 until his death. The ornithologist Jean Louis Cabanis first described the flycatcher from a specimen which Euler had sent him. Euler's collection of 369 species of birds, most of which were collected on his farm are housed in the Berlin Museum. Unfortunately, today only 40% of this number can now be found in the valley which Euler farmed.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus* A common and widespread species, we saw it well on a couple of occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* This stunning looking bird proved to be common and conspicuous throughout the Pantanal and in Emas National Park.

Black-backed Water-Tyrant *Fluvicola albiventer* This attractive species proved to be common throughout the Pantanal.

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala* We enjoyed a few good sightings in the Pantanal and we also saw it well at the small marsh, close to Pedra Preta.

Cock-tailed Tyrant *Alectrurus tricolor* We enjoyed a few good looks at this uncommon and range restricted species, during our time in Emas National Park. This species has shown a marked decline throughout much of its range in recent years, and is now listed as 'Vulnerable' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. Its total population is between 6,000 – 15,000 mature individuals.

Gray Monjita *Xolmis cinereus* This species proved to be common in Emas National Park.

White-rumped Monjita *Xolmis velatus* A common bird throughout much of southern Brazil.

Streamer-tailed Tyrant *Gubernetes yetapa* This superb bird is an uncommon inhabitant of damp

grasslands and marshy terrain. We very much enjoyed watching a pair duetting together, in Emas National Park.

Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* Common and widespread throughout farmland with livestock.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis* This species proved to be common throughout the Pantanal.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* Common and conspicuous throughout the whole of Brazil.

Lesser Kiskadee *Pitangus lictor* Great views on several occasions in the Pantanal, mostly during our boat trips.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus* We enjoyed very good looks at one of these uncommon birds, on the edge of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* This fairly common species was observed very well on several occasions throughout the tour.

White-throated Kingbird *Tyrannus albogularis* We saw this uncommon species, exceptionally well, on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* Common and conspicuous throughout much of Brazil.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* We enjoyed many good looks at this long-distance migrant, which is only a summer visitor, to its breeding range in southern Brazil.

Rufous Casiornis *Casiornis rufus* A fairly common inhabitant of scrubland, which we saw well on a few occasions in the Pantanal.

Swainson's Flycatcher *Myiarchus swainsoni* A summer breeding visitor to southern Brazil, we observed a single bird, at close quarters, in Emas National Park. William Swainson (1789-1855) was a naturalist and bird illustrator. He was born in Liverpool, the son of a collector of customs duty. He served for 8 years from 1807-1815 with the army commissariat and amassed a very large collection of zoological specimens. At the end of the Napoleonic war he retired on half-pay. From 1816-1818 he travelled and collected extensively throughout Brazil. In 1840 he travelled to New Zealand and became the country's first Attorney General. Unfortunately, most of his collections of specimens were lost on the voyage to New Zealand, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox* Seen well on one occasion, at Currupira Lodge.

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* A common and conspicuous bird throughout much of Brazil.

Dull-capped Attila *Attila bolivianus* Great views of this uncommon species, when a bird responded well to playback in gallery forest at Pousa Alegre Lodge, in the Pantanal.

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata* We enjoyed good looks at this attractive species, while birding at Currupira Lodge.

Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor* We also enjoyed good looks at this attractive species, in the Pantanal and at Currupira Lodge.

Green-backed Becard *Pachyramphus viridis* We enjoyed a couple of good sightings of this uncommon species, in the Pantanal.

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus* Good views of a beautiful male, in gallery forest at Pousa Alegre Lodge, in the Pantanal.

SWALLOWS *HIRUNDINIDAE*

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* This attractive species is a common bird around the larger rivers and lakes, throughout the whole of Brazil.

White-rumped Swallow *Tachycineta leucorrhoa* Our first encounter with this species took place at the small marsh close to Pedra Preta, where a large flock was flying above the marsh. Small numbers were also present in Emas National Park.

Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* Proved to be common in the Pantanal and small numbers were also observed at Currupira Lodge.

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera* We encountered small numbers on most days of the tour.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* Small numbers observed throughout the tour.

PIPITS AND WAGTAILS *MOTACILLIDAE*

Yellowish Pipit *Anthus lutescens* Seen briefly on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

DONACOBIUS *DONACOBIIDAE*

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla* This species proved to be common throughout the Pantanal. Formerly thought to be an aberrant wren, this species has recently been assigned to its own monotypic family.

WRENS *TROGLODYTIDAE*

Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* Common, noisy and conspicuous in the Pantanal. We also saw it at Currupira Lodge.

Moustached Wren *Pheugopedius genibarbis* A fairly common bird of forest undergrowth. We enjoyed good views of a pair of birds which responded well to tape playback, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Buff-breasted Wren *Cantorchilus leucotis* An uncommon bird of the forest undergrowth, which we saw well on a couple of occasions in the Pantanal.

Fawn-breasted Wren *Cantorchilus guarayanus* This extremely range-restricted species of waterside thickets, was seen well on a couple of occasions in the Pantanal.

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRUSHES *MIMIDAE*

Chalk-browed Mockingbird *Mimus saturninus* Common and conspicuous throughout open areas of southern Brazil.

THRUSHES AND ALLIES *TURDIDAE*

Rufous-bellied Thrush *Turdus rufiventris* The Rufous-bellied Thrush is a common and conspicuous bird, throughout the southern half of Brazil. It is also the national bird of Brazil.

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas* Less common than the previous species; we saw it well in Emas National Park and again in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Creamy-bellied Thrush *Turdus amaurochalinus* This uncommon species was only observed in the grounds of our hotel at Cuiaba and on one other occasion, in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

GNATCATCHERS *POLIOPTILIDAE*

Masked Gnatcatcher *Poliophtila dumicola* Observed on a regular basis, throughout the tour.

CROWS, JAYS AND MAGPIES *CORVIDAE*

Purplish Jay *Cyanocorax cyanomelas* Observed well, on most days of the tour.

Curl-crested Jay *Cyanocorax cristatellus* Observed close to Cuiaba and again in Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS *PASSERIDAE*

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* An introduced species from Europe, which unfortunately, proved to be common throughout all the towns and villages we visited.

VIREOS AND ALLIES *VIREONIDAE*

Ashy-headed Greenlet *Hylophilus pectoralis* Seen well on one occasion, in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal, at the extreme southern edge of this birds range.

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* Seen well in the Pantanal, Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and Currupira Lodge.

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES *FRINGILLIDAE*

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica* Somewhat surprisingly, this fairly common species was only observed on one occasion, fortunately very well, in Emas National Park.

Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia laniirostris* Once again, we only observed this species on one occasion, and somewhat surprisingly, it was in the same tree as the above species, in Emas National Park.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS *PARULIDAE*

Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi* This common and very attractive species; was only observed on one occasion, you guessed it, in the same tree as the above two species, in Emas National Park.

Masked Yellowthroat *Geothlypis aequinoctialis* This attractive species was seen well in Emas National Park and on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

White-bellied Warbler *Basileuterus hypoleucus* We observed this range-restricted species very well in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.

White-striped Warbler *Basileuterus leucophrys* Another range-restricted species, which we saw very well during our time in Emas National Park.

Flavescent Warbler *Basileuterus flaveolus* An uncommon bird of riverine forest, we saw it very well on a couple of occasions, in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal.

BANANAQUIT *COEREBIDAE*

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* Seen well in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal and then we saw it on several occasions, close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

TANAGERS AND ALLIES *THRAUPIDAE*

Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum* A fairly common species which we saw very well on a couple of occasions, in the Pantanal.

Black-faced Tanager *Schistochlamys melanopis* An uncommon bird of brushy open country which we saw very well on one occasion, along the edge of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

White-banded Tanager *Neothraupis fasciata* An uncommon bird of dense cerrado, which we saw surprisingly well in Emas National Park and on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. Its population is unknown.

White-rumped Tanager *Cypsnagra hirundinacea* We observed this beautiful species very well, in Emas National Park and on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leverianus* We enjoyed great looks at this attractive and very large species of tanager, while birding at Currupira Lodge.

Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata* We saw this attractive species very well, in gallery forest, on a couple of occasions, in the Pantanal.

Gray-headed Tanager *Eucometis penicillata* An uncommon bird of riverine forest, we saw it very well in gallery forest, along the Pixaim River, in the Pantanal and again, in riverine forest in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

- White-lined Tanager** *Tachyphonus rufus* A fairly common species of forest borders; we saw it well close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park and again, at Currupira Lodge.
- Silver-beaked Tanager** *Ramphocelus carbo* Commonly encountered, throughout the whole tour.
- Sayaca Tanager** *Thraupis sayaca* Common and widespread throughout southern Brazil.
- Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum* A common and conspicuous bird throughout the whole of Brazil.
- Burnished-buff Tanager** *Tangara cayana* We observed this attractive species very well in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.
- Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana* A common species, which we also saw well in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.
- Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus* Michael pointed out the stunningly plumaged male of this species, while we were birding in the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This bird is at the extreme southern edge of its range here.
- Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis* This widespread but uncommon species was observed well in the Pantanal and close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, SEEDEATERS AND ALLIES *EMBERIZIDAE*

- Coal-crested Finch** *Charitospiza eucosma* This species is confined to the cerrado, we saw a couple of stunningly attractive males, while birding in Emas National Park. This species is listed as 'Near Threatened' in Birdlife Internationals *Threatened birds of the World*. Its population is unknown.
- Red-crested Finch** *Coryphospingus cucullatus* We enjoyed super looks at a few stunningly plumaged males, during our time in the Pantanal and we also saw it very well, along the edge of the Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.
- Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina* This is a common and conspicuous bird throughout most open areas of Brazil, which we saw well on several occasions.
- Plumbeous Seedeater** *Sporophila plumbea* We saw this species well in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.
- Rusty-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila collaris* Somewhat surprisingly, we only saw this colourful species of seedeater on one occasion, along the Tranpantaneira Road, not far from the Pixaim River.
- Yellow-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila nigricollis* This species was only observed coming into the bird feeders in the grounds of our lodge, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.
- Double-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila caerulescens* Once again, we only observed this species coming into the bird feeders in the grounds of our lodge, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.
- White-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila leucoptera* An uncommon species of seedeater, which we saw well on a few occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.
- Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch** *Oryzoborus angolensis* We only observed this species on one occasion, during one of our boat trips along the Cuiaba River, close to Porto Jofre, in the Pantanal.
- Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* Extremely common in the Pantanal and fairly common elsewhere during the tour.
- Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch** *Emberizoides herbicola* This species proved to be common in the grasslands and open cerrado of Emas National Park.
- Red-crested Cardinal** *Paroaria coronata* We saw this attractive species well in the grounds of the Canto do Arancua Lodge and also in the grounds of the Pouso Alegre Lodge. Both sightings took place in the northern Pantanal.

Yellow-billed Cardinal *Paroaria capitata* This species proved to be abundant in the Pantanal.

Pectoral Sparrow *Arremon taciturnus* Observed by myself on one occasion, in Emas National Park.

Saffron-billed Sparrow *Arremon flavirostris* We observed this species very well on one occasion, in dense undergrowth, close to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Grassland Sparrow *Ammodramus humeralis* This species proved common in the grassland and cerrado of Emas National Park.

SALTATORS, CARDINALS AND ALLIES *CARDINALIDAE*

Grayish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens* Large numbers present throughout the Pantanal, and we also saw it at Currupira Lodge.

Black-throated Saltator *Saltator atricollis* A bird of cerrado scrub, which we saw well in both Emas and Chapada dos Guimaraes National Parks.

Green-winged Saltator *Saltator similis* We observed this species very well, on one occasion, in Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park. This is on the extreme western edge of this birds range.

TROUPIALS AND ALLIES *ICTERIDAE*

Unicolored Blackbird *Agelasticus cyanopus* A fairly common inhabitant of reedbeds, we saw it on several occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

White-browed Blackbird *Sturnella superciliaris* A bird of lush wet meadows, which we saw once in the Pantanal and one flew across the road in front of the vehicle, during the drive from Emas National Park to Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Grayish Baywing *Agelaioides badius* This species proved to be very common in the Pantanal.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* A common species throughout the whole of southern Brazil.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus* Small numbers observed throughout the tour.

Variable Oriole *Icterus pyrrhopterus* Proved to be common throughout the whole of the Pantanal. This species is a recent split from the Epaulet Oriole.

Orange-backed Troupial *Icterus croconotus* This stunningly plumaged bird, also proved to be common throughout the Pantanal.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela* This attractive species was also commonly encountered throughout the Pantanal.

Solitary Black Cacique *Cacicus solitarius* Fairly common in the Pantanal, where we saw it well on a number of occasions.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* Small numbers observed throughout our time in the Pantanal.

Yellow-rumped Marshbird *Pseudoleistes guiraburo* A fairly common bird of marshy areas; we saw a couple of small flocks, while birding in Emas National Park.

Scarlet-headed Blackbird *Amblyramphus holosericeus* A stunningly attractive but uncommon bird of extensive reedbeds, we saw it well, on a few occasions in the Pantanal.

Chopi Blackbird *Gnorimopsar chopi* A common bird of agricultural areas, which we saw on many occasions throughout the tour.

MAMMALS

Giant Anteater *Nyrmecophaga tridactyla* We enjoyed very close looks at an individual, at dusk,

in the grounds of the Pousa Alegre Lodge, we were even able to approach it on foot and enjoy really great looks.

Southern Tamandua *Tamandua tetradactyla* The following evening whilst spotlighting in the grounds of the same lodge, we enjoyed super looks at this very attractive and seldom observed mammal.

Forest Rabbit *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* Observed well while spotlighting on three separate occasions, during our time in the Pantanal.

Southern Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus spadiceus* A fairly common species, which we observed very well on one occasion, at the extreme southern edge of this mammals range, on the edge of Chapada dos Guimaraes National Park.

Azara's Agouti *Dasyprocta azarai* This is the common species of agouti throughout the Pantanal, where we enjoyed a few good looks.

Brazilian Guinea-Pig *Cavia aperea* We observed two or three of these small mammals along the Transpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal.

Capybara *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris* Huge numbers, of this, the world's largest species of rodent, were present throughout the Pantanal and they were also present at Currupira Lodge.

Jaguar *Panthera onca* We spent 30 hours in total searching for a Jaguar, we observed one briefly on the 30th hour. An adult female was sat on the bank of the river, it took a few steps to the left and then disappeared inside dense riverine forest.

Hoary Fox *Lycalopex vetulus* We enjoyed super looks in the spotlight at one of these very uncommon mammals, one evening, after dark, in Emas National Park.

Crab-eating Fox *Cerdocyon thous* We enjoyed many good sightings, mainly while spotlighting, of this fairly common mammal. We saw it well in the Pantanal and also in Emas National Park.

Maned Wolf *Chrysocyon brachyurus* Unfortunately, this spectacular mammal was only glimpsed in the spotlight, one evening, in Emas National Park.

Neotropical River Otter *Lutra longicaudis* We had two brief sightings of this very uncommon mammal, along the Transpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal.

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis* We enjoyed watching a family party of five individuals swimming together in the Rio Cuiaba, during one of our boat trips on the river. We also enjoyed a second sighting of a small family party, while we were stood on the banks of the same river.

Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk *Conepatus chinga* We enjoyed super close looks at one of these very uncommon mammals, just after dawn, on the outskirts of Emas National Park.

South American Coati *Nasua nasua* We enjoyed many good sightings in the Pantanal, of this attractive species.

Crab-eating Raccoon *Procyon cancrivorus* Whilst spotlighting in the grounds of the Pousa Alegre Lodge, we enjoyed prolonged looks at this uncommon but very attractive species of mammal.

Lesser Fishing Bat *Noctilio albiventris* We observed large numbers of this species flying around our boat, at dusk, during our several boat trips in the Pantanal.

Greater Fishing Bat *Noctilio leporinus* During the same boat trips, we also observed a few of these, much larger species of bat.

Great Fruit-eating Bat *Artibeus lituratus* We observed one of these very large bats, at dusk one evening, in the northern end of the Pantanal.

Black-tailed Marmoset *Callithrix melanura* We enjoyed watching a few troops of this very attractive mammal, during our time in the Pantanal.

Brown-tufted Capuchin *Cebus apella* This species has the widest range of any monkey in the Americas. We saw a few large troops, during our time in the Pantanal.

Black-striped Tufted Capuchin *Cebus libidinosus* We enjoyed good looks at a small troop while

birding at Currupira Lodge.

Black Howler Monkey *Alouatta caraye* We observed a few small troops of this species during our time in the Pantanal. They need to consume up to 1 kilogram of leaves per day and spend up the three-quarters of the day resting to conserve energy.

White-lipped Peccary *Tayassu pecari* We enjoyed very close looks at an extremely large gathering of this species, numbering over 50 individuals including adults and piglets. This sighting took place in riverine forest in Emas National Park.

Pampas Deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus* We enjoyed watching large numbers of this species during our time in Emas National Park.

Red Brocket *Mazama americana* We enjoyed a couple of sightings of this small species of deer, along the Transpantaneira Road, in the Pantanal.

Grey Brocket *Mazama gouazoubira* We saw this uncommon species of deer on one occasion in the Pantanal. They feed mainly on fallen fruit and flowers.

Marsh Deer *Blastocerus dichotomus* We saw good numbers of this range restricted species during our time in the Pantanal.

Brazilian Tapir *Tapirus terrestris* We enjoyed super looks at a large male, just before dusk in the grounds of the Pouso Alegre Lodge.