

MATO GROSSO, BRAZIL: PANTANAL SAFARI & CHAPADA DOS GUIMARÃES

JUNE 22 – JULY 4, 2008

LEADER: ANDREW WHITTAKER

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Once again, the Pantanal offered a non-stop series of highlights and lived up to its well-deserved reputation as one of the premier wildlife spectacles in the world! The Pantanal covers a staggering 140,000 sq km of seasonally flooded savannas and subtropical forest, making it the planet's largest wetland. Each year it's a great privilege for me to share the region's astonishing biodiversity, where daily bird lists often exceed 150 species, and where mammals and crocodylians occur in amazing abundance. The Pantanal is often favorably compared with renowned African "hot-spots."

Surprisingly, my favorite highlight of this year's trip did not involve birds, although the rare austral migrant White-banded Mockingbird came close. "Anaconda"! We screeched to a halt to witness a huge yellow anaconda curled up under a bush right next to the road. To our amazement, it was in the process of actually swallowing a baby capybara! Quietly getting out of the van, we cautiously approached to within a few meters, cameras clicking and videos rolling, documenting this rarely seen behavior as the 4-meter snake worked its dislocated jaws slowly over the prey before eventually swallowing it whole and then gracefully sliding off into the marsh.

Mammal highlights were headed by a memorable close encounter with a very relaxed sunbathing group of eight giant otters. Rarely does one get the opportunity to study these magnificent, six-foot-long creatures out of the water on a sandy beach as we did, displaying their unique creamy throat patterns and flat, almost beaver-like tails. During an entertaining close encounter with a friendly group of black-capped capuchin monkeys, we noted the dominant male to be eating a freshly caught armored catfish! This behavior, to my knowledge, is unique, and may be the first documented record of any South American primate eating fish.

As always, birding was exceptional, and we found it difficult to tear ourselves away from the lodge grounds on our first morning. Bird feeders were alive with activity as we were entertained by Yellow-billed and Red-crested cardinals, Purplish Jays, Saffron Finches, Bay-winged Cowbirds, and Gray-crested Cacholotes. All the while, we were treated to a cacophony of loud voices, ranging from the incessant offerings of Chaco Chachalacas and raucous duets of Rufous

Horneros to the harsh, machine-gun rattle of Ringed Kingfishers as they squabbled with Amazon Kingfishers over the best perches along the nearby banks of the Rio Pixaím.

Exploration of nearby gallery forests produced numerous highlights, among them a spectacular crimson-and-black male Helmeted Manakin, perched at point-blank range in front of us. Spellbound, we marveled at its beauty as the sun served to spotlight its uniquely shaped brilliant crimson helmet. Not to be forgotten were our encounters with stunning Pale-crested and Cream-colored woodpeckers, tiny White-wedged Piculets, Red-billed Scythebill, Mato Grosso and Band-tailed antbirds, Large-billed Antwren, Orange-backed Troupial, Rufous Casiornis, and Green-backed Becard.

Afternoon boat trips along the Rio Pixaím were both relaxing and rewarding, and afforded excellent opportunities to observe and photograph a variety of wading birds and kingfishers galore. A Great Potoo on a daytime roost, multiple Boat-billed Herons, Bare-faced Curassows, Blue-throated Piping-Guans, Sungrebe, Sunbittern, and great studies of American Pygmy Kingfisher were just a few of the many highlights of these boat trips. And who could ever forget the hungry Jabiru that flew right at us, getting closer and closer and finally filling our binocular field with just its head and beak as it skimmed just above our heads and landed on the nearby bank to consume catfish tossed out by our boatman. Black-collared Hawks performed equally well, scooping up fish within meters of our boats while multiple cameras captured the magical moments. Spectacular sunsets backlighted line after line of Snail Kites, ibis, egrets, and parrots streaming past to their roosts along the Pixaím River.

Penetrating deeper into the Pantanal proved productive, and resulted in numerous breathtaking encounters with the world's biggest parrot and hands-down glamour bird of the Pantanal, the spectacular Hyacinth Macaw. Other highlights included outstanding daylight scope views of a Great Horned Owl; flashy White Woodpeckers; Streamer-tailed Tyrants displaying against a cloudless blue sky; huge concentrations of Wood Storks, Limpkins, ibis, Roseate Spoonbills, and egrets; splendid Scarlet-headed Blackbirds in the reed beds; and stellar views of endangered Chestnut-bellied Guans. Last, but not least, was a wonderful giant anteater encounter, where we were able to watch this bizarre creature foraging at close range, completely unaware of our presence.

The cooler Chapada dos Guimarães National Park, with its breathtaking red cliffs, deep canyons, plunging waterfalls, and spectacular views, combined with its highly endemic *cerrado* fauna and lush gallery forests, was also a winner. This year we thrilled to the world's most powerful raptor, the magnificent Harpy Eagle, a first for this tour, despite being a fairly regular highlight of our visits to Alta Floresta in the northern part of the state. We watched in awe from above as this majestic hunter moved through the canopy below us.

Despite IBAMA temporarily closing part of the park, we had many spectacular moments observing the highly specialized *cerrado* birds. Rarities included in-your-face views of the endangered Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant and, after some

work, a well-behaved Collared Crescent-chest. Other highlights included Pearl Kite, an exquisite group of Curl-crested Jays, White-eared and Spot-backed (rare here) puffbirds, Horned Sunge, Checkered Woodpecker (we even found a nest), the recently described Chapada Flycatcher, White-rumped and White-banded tanagers, and the lovely Coal-crested Finch. Visits to nearby gallery forest treated us to Yellow-tufted Woodpecker, Southern Antpiper, and crippling male Fiery-capped and Band-tailed manakins.

Our group enjoyed an action-packed two-week birding bonanza that included a whopping 18 species of mammals, not to mention all those mouth-watering meals of freshly caught fish, Brazilian barbeques, and freshly-squeezed exotic fruit juices. I really enjoyed birding with each of you, and look forward to showing you more of Brazil in the future.

Itinerary: 2008

06/22 - Flights into São Paulo.

06/23 - Fly from São Paulo to Cuiaba where we had a super Brazilian barbeque, followed by afternoon birding as we drove deeper into the Pantanal with night at Pixiaim.

06/24 - Birding gallery forest by hotel with lovely afternoon boat trip Rio Pixiaim.

06/25 - Birding our way deeper into the Pantanal to the end of the famous Transpantaneira road to PortoJofre. Afternoon birding around the lodge and nearby gallery forest, followed by night drive.

06/26 - a.m. boat trip on the rio Cuiaba, afternoon birding Campo Jofre with night drive.

06/27 - a.m. birding gallery forest and Campo Jofre and back to Pixiaim for lunch. Afternoon boat trip on rio Pixiaim.

06/28 - a.m. birding gallery forest, with afternoon boat trip and night drive

06/29 - Birding along the Transpanataneira to Pousada Alegre, where we enjoyed the rich marshes and gallery forests, followed by a night drive.

06/30 - Birding our way out of the Pantanal with another barbeque en route to the Chapada national park. Afternoon birding the geodesic center of South America

07/01 - Birding *cerrado* of the Chapada and gallery forests. Afternoon birding the boardwalk and spectacular overlooks.

07/02 - Birding Chapada National Park *cerrado* and gallery forest.

07/03 - Birding all day the Chapada area and lunch at a secluded waterfall restaurant within the National park.

07/04 - Birding the *cerrado* and gallery forest early a.m, returning after lunch for our mid-afternoon flights to São Paulo and international connections homebound.

TOP 5 birds (as voted by the group)

- 1- Hyacinth Macaw
- 2- Harpy Eagle
- 3- Bare-faced Curassow

- 4- Jabiru
- 5- Coal-crested Finch and Cream-colored Woodpecker

Key:

P = Pantanal (from Cuiabá to Poconé and everywhere along the Trans-pantaneira to Porto Jofre)

CH = Chapada dos Guimarães region

* Heard only

BIRDS:

RHEAS (Rheidae)

Greater Rhea (*Rhea americana*) - P (Multiple great studies of this odd bird.)

TINAMOUS (Tinamidae)

Undulated Tinamou (*Crypturellus undulatus*) - P * (seen by leader only)

Small-billed Tinamou (*C. parvirostris*) - CH *

Tataupa Tinamou (*C. tataupa*) - CH (Alas, seen by only a few as it crossed the road.)

CORMORANTS (Phalacrocoracidae)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) - P (A highlight for many of us was seeing the enormous breeding colony.)

DARTERS & ANHINGAS (Anhingidae)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) - P (To my surprise, several breeding pairs with their buffy-white nestlings were found amongst the cormorants.)

HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNs (Ardeidae)

Whistling Heron (*Syrigma sibilatrix*) - P

Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) - P

Capped Heron (*Pilherodius pileatus*) - P

Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) - P, CH.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) - P (Fewer than normal.)

Snowy Egret (*E. thula*) - P

Striated Heron (*Butorides striatus*) - P

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibib*) - P, CH

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) - P

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) - P (Wonderful daytime studies of both adults and immatures.)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) - P
Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis erythromelas*) - P*

STORKS (Ciconiidae)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) - P (Huge concentration at Pouso Alegre.)
Maguari Stork (*Euxenura maguari*) - P (Only one pair, which is far fewer than normal.)

Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*) - P (How can we ever forget that huge bird as it flew directly at us from way down the river, approaching within 3m as it flew over the boat, and then returning to beg for fish! Voted one of the top five birds.)

IBISES & SPOONBILLS (Threskiornithidae)

Plumbeous Ibis (*Harpiprion caerulescens*) - P

Buff-necked Ibis (*Theristicus caudatus*) - P

Green Ibis (*Mesembrinibis cayennensis*) - P

Bare-faced Ibis (*Phimosus infuscatus*) - P

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) - P (One immature observed at Pouso Alegre was the first seen on this tour in over 10 years. Now a very rare austral migrant.)

Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) - P

SCREAMERS (Anhimidae)

Southern Screamer (*Chauna torquata*) - P

DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS (Anatidae)

White-faced Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*) - P

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) - P

Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*) - P

Brazilian teal (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*) - P

NEW WORLD VULTURES (Catartidae)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) - P, CH

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) - P, CH

Lesser Yellow-Headed Vulture (*C. burrovianus*) - P

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) - CH (Thanks to good spotting by Alan.)

HAWKS, EAGLES & KITES (Accipitridae)

Pearl Kite (*Gampsonyx swainsonii*) - P, CH (A smart looking, tiny raptor.)

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) - CH

Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) - P (Abundant, with good numbers coming into roost along the rio Pixiam.)

Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*) - P

Great-black Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) - P

Savannah Hawk (*B. meridionalis*) - P, CH

Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*) - P

Harpy Eagle (*Harpy harpija*) - CH, (Wonderful find and a first for this section of the tour (frequently seen on our Alta Floresta, rio Cristalino extension). In fact only the third confirmed record for Chapada. We had prolonged scope studies of this enormous raptor as it still-hunted from the various tree crowns in the gallery forest below our hotel's spectacular overlook. Tied for best bird of the trip.)

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*) - P, CH

White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albicaudatus*) - P, CH

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) - P (Rare here.)

FALCONS & CARACARAS (Falconidae)

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinanns*) - P *

Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) - P, CH

Southern Caracara (= Southern Crested-Caracara) (*Caracara plancus*) - P,

CH (What was formerly called "Crested Caracara" has been moved from the genus *Polyborus* and split into three species (Wilson Bull. 111 (3): 1999) :

Crested Caracara or "Northern Crested-Caracara" (ranging from the USA south to the Amazon); Southern Caracara (Brazil south of the Amazon south to Tierra del Fuego); and the extinct Guadalupe Caracara (Guadalupe Island,

Mexico). American Kestrel (*F. sparverius*) - P, CH

Aplomado Falcon (*F. femoralis*) - P, CH (Nice looks.)

GUANS, CHACHALACAS & ALLIES (Cracidae)

Chaco Chachalaca (*Ortalis canicollis*) - P

Chestnut-bellied Guan (*Penelope ochrogaster*) - P. (Many superb studies of this rare range-restricted species. The northern Pantanal is the species' major remaining stronghold.)

Blue-throated Piping-Guan (*Pipile cumanensis grayi*) - P (This subspecies is sometimes treated as a separate species, "Gray's Piping-Guan".)

Bare-faced Curassow (*Crax fasciolata*) - P (Repeated spectacular views.)

LIMPKIN (Aramididae)

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) - P (Large numbers this year, with groups of over 100 at places.)

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS (Rallidae)

Rufous-sided Crake (*Laterallus melanophaius*) - P *

Gray-breasted Crake (*L. exillus*) - P * (By voice, seemingly more common than in the past.)

Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*) - P

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) - P (Leader only.)

SERIEMAS (Cariamidae)

Red-legged Seriema (*Cariama cristata*) - CH (Heard by all, but seen by only a few.)

JACANAS (Jacanidae)

Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*) - P

AVOCETS & STILTS (Recurvirostridae)

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) - P

PLOVERS & LAPWING (Charadriidae)

Pied Lapwing (*Vanellus cayanus*) - P (Spectacular!)

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) - P, CH

Collard Plover (*Charadrius collaris*) - P

TERNS (Sternidae)

Yellow-billed Tern (*Sterna superciliaris*) - P

Large-billed Tern (*Phaetusa simplex*) - P

SKIMMERS (Rynchopidae)

Black Skimmer (*Rhynchops niger*) - P

DOVES & PIGEONS (Columbidae)

Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*) - CH

Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) - CH

Picazuro Pigeon (*P. picazuro*) - P, CH

Pale-vented Pigeon (*P. cayennensis*) - P, CH

Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*) - P

Picui Ground-Dove (*Columbia picui*) - P

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*C. talpacoti*) - P, CH

Long-tailed Ground-Dove (*Uropelia campestris*) - P (A lovely little regional endemic.)

Scaled Dove (*Scardafella squamanta*) - P

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) - P, CH

PARROTS, MACAWS & ALLIES (Psittacidae)

Hyacinth Macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) - P (Mind-blowing studies of this, the World's largest and most spectacular parrot. How will we ever forget being watched by those inquisitive birds that seemed as interested in us as we were in them?)

Red-and-Green Macaw (*Ara chloroptera*) - CH (Wonderful looks as they flew below us in full sunlight.)
Golden-collared Macaw (*Primolius auricollis*) - P
Blue-winged Macaw (*P. maracana*) - CH * (Unfortunately, due to an accident involving a tourist, IBAMA closed access to the waterfall overlook where we always see this species, causing us to miss it for the first time ever on this tour.)
Blue-crowned Parakeet (*Aratinga acuticaudata*) - P (Common this year.)
White-eyed Parakeet (*A. leucophthalmus*) - CH
Peach-fronted Parakeet (*A. aures*) - P, CH
Black-hooded Parakeet (*Nandayus nenday*) - P *
Monk Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*) - P
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*) - P, CH
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*) - CH
Scaly-headed Parrot (*P. maximiliani*) - P
Turquoise-fronted Parrot (*Amazona aestiva*) - P
Orange-winged Parrot (*A. amazônica*) - P* (Only in the upper Pantanal at Pouso Alegre.)

CUCKOOS (Cuculidae)

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) - P, CH
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) - P, CH
Greater Ani (*C. major*) - CH (Odd to see it in gallery forest in Chapada, however it is a migrant to the region.)
Guira Cuckoo (*Guira guira*) - P, CH
Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*) - P
Pheasant Cuckoo (*Dromococcyx phasianellus*) - CH*

BARN OWLS (Tytonidae)

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) - CH

TYPICAL OWLS (Strigidae)

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus nacurutu*) - P (Great looks at night, and scope studies in the daytime of this vocally and morphologically distinct orange eyed subspecies. Sometimes merged with Magellanic Horned Owl but ongoing investigations into the systematic relationships of this complex could result in more taxonomic changes.)
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*G. brasilianum*) - P
Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) - P, CH

POTOOS (Nyctibidae)

Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*) - P (Superb studies at a daytime roost.)

NIGHTJARS & ALLIES (Caprimulgidae)

- Band-tailed Nighthawk (*Nyctiprogne leucopyga*) - P
Nacunda Nighthawk (*Podager nacunda*) - P (Wonderful studies of this great bird.)
Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) - P
Scissor-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis brasiliana*) - P (Nice adult male.)
Ladder-tailed Nightjar (*H. climacocerca*) - P
Spot-tailed Nightjar (*Caprimulgus maculicaudus*) - P

SWIFTS (Apodidae)

- Biscutate Swift (*Streptoprocne biscutata*) - CH

HUMMINGBIRDS (Trochilidae)

- Planalto Hermit (*Phaethornis pretrei*) - CH
Buff-bellied Hermit (*Phaethornis subochraceus*) - P (Range-restricted.)
Cinnamon-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis nattereri*) - CH
Swallow-tailed Hummingbird (*Eupetomena macroura*) - CH
White-vented Violetear (*Colibri serrirostris*) - CH
Ruby-Topaz Hummingbird (*Chrysolampis mosquitus*) - P
Glittering-bellied Emerald (*Chlorostilbon aureoventris*) - CH
Fork-tailed Woodnymph (*Thalutania furcata*) - P, CH
Gilded Sapphire (*Hylocharis chrysura*) - P
White-tailed Goldenthrout (*Polytmus guainumbi*) - P, CH
Glittering-throated Emerald (*Amazilia fimbriata*) - P, CH
Horned Sunbeam (*Heliactin cornuta*) - CH (Very good close studies for most of this attractive diminutive hummer.)

TROGONS (Trogonidae)

- Blue-crowned Trogon (*Trogon curucui*) - P, CH

KINGFISHERS (Alcedinidae)

- Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*) - P, CH
Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*) - P
Green Kingfisher (*C. americana*) - P
Green-and-Rufous Kingfisher (*C. inda*) - P (One seen up close and personal after it stunned itself by hitting our hotel window; thankfully it was okay and flew off.)
American Pygmy Kingfisher (*C. aenea*) - P (Multiple excellent studies of this tiny gem.)

MOTMOTS (Momotidae)

- Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) - P, CH

JACAMARS (Galbulidae)

Brown Jacamar (*Brachygalba lugubris*) - CH, (Great scope studies.)

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*G. ruficauda rufoviridis*) - P, CH

PUFFBIRDS (Bucconidae)

White-eared Puffbird (*Nystalus chacuru*) - CH

Spot-backed Puffbird (*N. maculatus*) - CH (A great find, thanks to Fabiano, and only the second time we have seen this species on our Mato Grosso tours.)

Black-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa nigrifrons*) - P, CH

TOUCANS (Ramphastidae)

Chestnut-eared Aracari (*Pteroglossus costanotis*) - P, CH

Channel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos vitellinus*) - CH

Toco Toucan (*R. toco*) - P, CH, (Stunning! What a huge bill!)

WOODPECKERS (Picidae)

White-wedged Piculet (*Picumnus albosquamatus*) - P, **White Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes candidus*) - P (Spectacular aerial display of a group of these neat-looking woodpeckers.)

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker (*M. cruentatus*) - CH

Campo Flicker (*Colaptes campestris*) - P, CH

Green-barred Woodpecker (*C. melanochloros*) - P

Checkered Woodpecker (*Picoides mixtus*) - CH (Wonderful scope studies of a pair at the nest.)

Pale-crested Woodpecker (*Celeus lugubris*) - P (What a great looking woodpecker!)

Cream Colored Woodpecker (*C. flavus*) - P (More excellent studies than ever before on this tour.)

Little Woodpecker (*Veniliornis passerinus*) - P, SA

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*) - P*

Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucos*) - P, CH

OVENBIRDS (Furnariidae)

Pale-legged Hornero (*Furnarius leucopus*) - P

Rufous Hornero (*Furnarius rufus*) - P, CH

Chotoy Spinetail (*Shoeniophlax phryganophila*) - P (One of the most attractive of all spinetails.)

Ochre-cheeked Spinetail (*Poecilurus scutatus*) - CH (Leader only.)

Sooty-fronted Spinetail (*Synallaxis frontalis*) - CH*

Cinereous-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis hypospodia*) - P

Pale-breasted Spinetail (*S. albescens*) - CH

White-lored Spinetail (*S. albilora*) - P
 Rusty-backed Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpina*) - P
 Yellow-chinned Spinetail (*Cranioleuca cinnamomea*) - P
 Rufous-fronted Thornbird (*Phacellodomus rufifrons*) - P, CH (neat looking nests and a distinct species from the Common Thornbird, which occurs in northern South America.)
 Greater (Yellow-eyed) Thornbird (*Phacellodomus ruber*) - P
 Gray-crested Cacholote (*Pseudoseisura unirufa*) - P (Formerly considered part of “Rufous Cacholote”, which was recently split by Kevin Zimmer and I [Condor 102:409–422]. The other form, which differs vocally and morphologically, is found only in NE Brazil and is now named “Caatinga Cacholote”.)
 Streaked Zenops (*Xenops rutilans*) - CH
 Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper (*Lochmias nematura*) - CH (After some looking seen by a few.)

WOODCREEPERS (Dendrocolaptidae)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*) - P
Great Rufous Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes major*) - P (Spectacular looks at this giant of all woodcreepers, and what a bill!)
 Planalto Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes platyrostris intermidius*) - CH
 Buff-throated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus*) - P, CH
 Straight-billed Woodcreeper (*X. picus*) - P
 Narrow-billed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes angustirostris*) - P
 Red-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus trochilirostris lafresnayanus*) - P (Stunning looks at this odd-looking bird.)

TYPICAL ANTBIRDS (Thamnophilidae)

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*) - P, CH
 Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) - P,
 Rufous-winged Antshrike (*T. torquatus*) - CH
 Plain Antwreos (*Dysithamnus metalis*) - P, CH
 Large-billed Antwren (*Herpsilochmus longirostris*) - P, CH
 Rusty-Backed Antwren (*Formicivora rufa*) - P
Mato Grosso Antbird (*Cercomacra melanaria*) - P
 Band-tailed Antbird (*Hypocnemoides maculicauda*) - P

TAPACULOS (Rhinocryptidae)

Collared Crescentchest (*Melanopareia torquata*) - CH (After much trying we finally nailed the beast, which was seen well by all.)

MANAKINS (Pipridae)

Band-tailed Manakin (*Pipra fasciicauda*) - CH (Great studies of a lovely male.)
Helmeted Manakin (*Antilophia galeata*) - CH (Breath-takingly close studies of a stunning male. This must be one of the best-looking South American birds.)

Fiery-capped Manakin (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*) - CH (Great studies of males feeding on melastome berries.)

TYRANT FLYCATCHER (Tyrannidae)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*) - P, CH

Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*) - P, CH

Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*) - P*

Large Elaenia (*Elaenia spectabilis*) - P

Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*) - CH

Plain-crested Elaenia (*E. cristata*) - CH

Small-billed Elaenia (*E. parvirostris*) - P

Lesser Elaenia (*E. chiriquensis*) - CH

Sepia-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*) - CH

Planalto Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias fasciatus*) - CH

Southern Scrub Flycatcher (*Sublegatus modestus*) - P*

Chapada Flycatcher (*Suiriri islerorum*) - CH (A recently described species [Zimmer *et al.* 2001, Auk 118:56–78]. We had great studies and observed the distinctive, exaggerated wing displays found in this species.)

Suiriri Flycatcher (*Suiriri suiriri affinis*) - CH (Nice to be able to compare this species with the look-alike Chapada Flycatcher.)

Plain Tyrannulet (*Inezia inornata*) - P

Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant (*Euscarthmus meloryphus*) - P

Rufous-sided Pygmy Tyrant (*E. rufomarginatus*) - CH (Excellent studies of this rare and poorly-known species.)

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleaginous*) - CH (First record for this tour.)

Southern Antpiper (*Corythopis delalandi*) - CH (Great studies of this odd flycatcher.)

Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus striaticollis*) - P*

Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant (*H. margaritaceiventris*) - P

Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum latirostre*) - P

Common Tody-Flycatcher (*T. cinereum*) - P

Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens pallescens*) - P, CH (Expect future splits in this complex.)

Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*) - CH

Cliff Flycatcher (*Hirundinea ferruginea*) - CH

Fuscous Flycatcher (*Cnemotriccus fuscatus*) - P, CH

Gray Monjita (*Xolmis cinerea*) - CH

White-rumped Monjita (*X. velata*) - P

Crested Black-Tyrant (*Knipolegus lophotes*) - CH

Black-backed Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola albiventris*) - P

White-headed Marsh-Tyrant (*Arundinicola leucocephala*) - P

Streamer-tailed Tyrant (*Gunbernetes yetapa*) - P (Wow! What a stunning display these put on for us.)

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) - P, CH

Cattle Tyrant (*Machetornis rixosus*) - P

White-eyed Attila (*Attila bolivianus*) - P (great studies)

Rufous Casiornis (*Casiornis rufa*) - P

Eastern Sirystes (*Sirystes sibilator*) - CH
Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) - CH
Short-crested Flycatcher (*M. ferox*) - P, CH
Brown-crested Flycatcher (*M. tyrannulus*) - P, CH
Lesser Kiskadee (*Phlohydor lictor*) - P
Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) - P, CH
Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*) - P, CH
Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*) - P, CH
Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*) - P, CH
Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) - P, CH
Xenopsaris (*Xenopsaris albinucha*) - P (A good find.)
Green-backed Becard (*Pachyramphus viridis*) - P, CH
White-winged Becard (*P. polychopterus*) - P, CH
Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) - P
Black-crowned Tityra (*T. inquisitor*) - CH

SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalbea*) - P, CH (Including white-bellied austral migrants.)
White-winged Swallow (*Tachycineta albiventer*) - P
White-rumped Swallow (*T. leucorrhoa*) - P (Our highest numbers ever of these austral migrants, with 1000+ at Campo Jofre.)
Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*) - CH
Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) - P, CH

WAGTAILS & PIPITS (Motacillidae)

Yellowish Pipit (*Anthus lutescens*) - P (Excellent close scope studies.)

WRENS (Troglodytidae)

Black-capped Donacobius (*Donacobius atricapilla*) - P
Thrush-like Wren (*Campylorhynchus turdinus*) - P, CH*
Moustached Wren (*Thryothorus genibarbis*) - P
Fawn-breasted Wren (*T. guarayanus*) - P (Great studies of this regional bird. A look-alike with the subspecies of Buff-breasted Wren found here.)
Buff breasted Wren (*T. leucotis rufiventris*) - P
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) - CH

MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS (Mimidae)

Chalk-browed Mockingbird (*Mimus saturninus*) - P, CH
White-banded Mockingbird (*M. triurus*) - P (Exceptionally rare austral migrant here, and the first seen since a 1991 VENT tour. Only my 4th ever in Brazil.)

THRUSHES & ALLIES (Turdidae)

Rufous-bellied Thrush (*Turdus rufiventris*) - P, CH
Pale-breasted Thrush (*T. leucomelas*) - P, CH
Creamy-bellied Thrush (*T. amaurochalinus*) - P, CH
White-necked Thrush (*T. albicollis*) - CH (An austral migrant here.)

GNATCATCHERS (Polioptilidae)

Masked Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila dumicola*) - P

CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES (Corvidae)

Purplish Jay (*Cyanocorax cyanomelas*) - P
Curl-crested Jay (*Cyanocorax cristatellus*) - CH

OLD WORLD SPARROWS (Passeridae)

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - P

VIREOS & ALLIES (Vireonidae)

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) - CH
Ashy-headed Greenlet (*Hylophilus pectoralis*) - P, CH*
Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*) - P, CH

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS & ALLIES (Fringillidae)

Purple-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia chlorotica*) - P, CH
Violaceous Euphonia (*E. violacea*) - CH

NEW WORLD WARBLERS (Parulidae)

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*) - CH
Masked Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis aequinoctialis*) - CH
Flavescent Warbler (*Basileuterus flaveolus*) - P
White-bellied Warbler (*B. hypoleucus*) - CH

BANANAQUIT (Coerebidae)

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) - P, CH

TANAGERS & ALLIES (Thraupidae)

Chestnut-vented Conebill (*Conirostrum speciosum*) - P, CH
Black-faced Tanager (*Schistochlamys melanopis*) - CH
White-banded Tanager (*Neothrupis fasciata*) - CH
White-rumped Tanager (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*) - CH

Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*) - CH
Hooded Tanager (*Neamosia pileata*) - CH
White-lined Tanager (*Tachyphonus rufus*) - P, CH
White-shouldered Tanager (*T. luctuosus*) - CH
Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) - CH (Sometimes considered a separate species from populations found west of the Andes, and then called "Lowland Hepatic Tanager".)
Silver-beaked Tanager (*Ramphocelus carbo*) - P, CH
Sayaca Tanager (*Thraupis sayaca*) - P, CH
Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) - P, CH
Burnished-buff Tanager (*Tanager cayana*) - CH
Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) - P, CH
Swallow-Tanager (*Tersina viridis*) - CH

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES (Emberizidae):

Coal-crested Finch (*Charitospiza eucosma*) - CH
Red Pileated Finch (*Coryphospingus cucullatus*) - P, CH
Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*) - P, CH
Plumbeous Seedeater (*Sorophila plumbea*) - CH
Rusty-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila collaris*) - P (A neat looking seedeater.)
Double-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila caerulea*) - CH
White-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila leucoptera*) - P
Lesser Seedfinch (*Oryzoborus angolensis*) - P
Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) - P
Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*) - P (Stunning bird!)
Yellow-billed Cardinal (*Paroaria capitata*) - P
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch (*Emberizoides herbicola*) - CH
Saffron-billed Sparrow (*Arremon flavirostris*) - CH (This gray-backed race is a striking bird.)
Grassland Sparrow (*Ammodramus humeralis*) - P, CH

SALTATORS & ALLIES (Cardinalidae):

Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*) - P, CH
Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*) - CH
Black-throated Saltator (*Saltator atricollis*) - CH

TROUPIALS & ALLIES (Icteridae):

Unicolored Blackbird (*Agelaius cyanopus*) - P
White-browed Blackbird (*Sturnella superciliaris*) - P
Bay-wing (Cowbird) (*Molothrus badius*) - P (Seen feeding on nectar.)
Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) - P, CH
Giant Cowbird (*M. oryzivorus*) - P, CH
Epaulet Oriole (*Icterus cayanensis*) - P, CH (Birds here have chestnut epaulets, not yellow as in rest of range.)
Orange-backed Troupial (*Icterus croconotus*) - P

Solitary Cacique (*Procacicus solitarius*) - P (Recently placed in a monotypic genus.)
Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) - P, CH
Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*) - P, CH
Scarlet-headed Blackbird (*Amblyramphus holosericeus*) - P (So many great studies of this crippling bird this year.)
Chopi Blackbird (*Gnorimopsar chopi*) - P

Mammals:

Giant Anteater - P (Wonderful close observation of one digging for termites and ants.)

Giant River Otter - P. (Spectacular vocal group of 8 + of these giants sunbathing.)

Southern River Otter - P.

Marsh Deer - P

Brown Brocket Deer - P

Red Brocket Deer - P

Azara's Agouti - P

Green Acouchy - P

Capybara - P (Huge herds including small young suckling.)

Crab-eating Fox - P

Hoary Fox - CH

South American Coatiundi - P

Silvery Marmoset - P*

Brown (Black-capped) Capuchin Monkey - P, CH (Including the dominant male eating a catfish; possibly the first record of this!)

Black Howler Monkey - P

Collared Peccary - P

Lesser Bulldog Bat - P

Greater Bulldog Bat - P

Brazilian-free-tailed Bat - P

Significant others:

Yellow Anaconda - P (A trip highlight, but not for the baby Capybara it was eating! I will never forget our luck as we observed a 4m snake swallowing the unfortunate baby.)

Water Snake - P

Yellow Caiman - P

Iguana - P, CH

Tegui Lizard - P

Caiman Lizard - P

Ameiva ameiva lizard - P. CH

Gecko

Cane Toad - P

Giant green tree frog - P

Blue Morpho

South American Monarch
Helicopter Damselfly