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SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL PART II:
ESPÍRITO SANTO'S MONTANE & LOWLAND ENDEMICS

OCTOBER 7–17, 2010

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South America's largest country is also one of its richest for birds. Nowhere is this more apparent than in southeastern Brazil, where habitats range from coastal rain forest and wet pampas to montane cloud forest and plateau grassland. Long isolated from Amazonia by the dry brushlands of central Brazil (left in the wake of receding glaciers during the last ice age), the avifauna of southeast Brazil has radiated in a myriad of directions. Today there are more than 160 species of endemics that are found nowhere else in the world. This truly is a must destination for birders.

Since it is impossible to encompass all of the diversity of southeastern Brazil into a single short tour, participants can combine this tour with Southeastern Brazil Part I: Coastal Paraná /Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul & Itatiaia (September 25-October 9, 2010) and the Iguaçu Falls Pre-trip (September 22-26, 2010). Either Part I or Part II may be taken independently as a wonderful, short introduction to the birds of this region, or be taken together for a more comprehensive survey that will maximize the number of endemics seen. The tours are meant to be complementary, and, although there will be a fair amount of overlap in possible species, the emphasis of Part II will be on the many specialties of Espírito Santo that are more difficult or not possible to see on Part I. More widespread species recorded on Part I will be searched for as time allows, but not at the expense of devoting time to the target species.

This tour is centered on the Brazilian state of Espírito Santo, home to many spectacular endemics which are not found on the Southeastern Brazil Part I itinerary. Foremost among these is the stunning Cherry-throated Tanager. Long thought extinct, and only recently rediscovered, this amazing bird has been the highlight of six of our last eight tours. With a known population that numbers fewer than 15 individuals, the tanager is anything but guaranteed, but we know its voice and its habits, and we'll be accompanied by the Brazilian biologists who rediscovered the species, all of which should maximize our chances for success. The Pedra Azul region is home to a number of other spectacular specialties, among them, White-necked Hawk, Giant and Tufted antshrikes, Hooded Berryeater, Shrike-like Cotinga (= Elegant Mourner), Swallow-tailed Cotinga, Spotted Bamboo-Wren and Shear-tailed Gray-Tyrant.

The charming little town of Santa Teresa will be our base for birding Nova Lombardia (Agusto Ruschi Reserve), a remnant tract of foothill forest with an impressive avifauna. Here we will search for Blue-bellied Parrot, Long-tailed Potoo (the distinctive Atlantic Forest race, which may be split as a separate species from Amazonian populations), Saw-billed Hermit, Yellow-eared Woodpecker, Spot-backed Antshrike, Wied's Tyrant-Manakin, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Hooded Berryeater, Sharpbill, Pin-tailed Manakin, Rufous-brown Solitaire, Red-necked Tanager, Russet-winged Spadebill and many others. A visit to both the Augusto Ruschi estate and another private estate will provide a dazzling hummingbird show, with as many as 15 species or more swarming around us!

Time spent at the VALE Reserve near Linhares will allow us an excellent chance at seeing the critically endangered Red-billed Curassow, as well as such gems as Rusty-margined Guan, Brazilian Pygmy-Owl, Blue-winged Macaw, Ochre-marked Parakeet, Red-browed Parrot, Minute Hermit, Ocellated Poorwill, Cresent-chested Puffbird, Striated Softtail, Plumbeous Antvireo, Band-tailed Antwren, Scalloped Antbird, Black-cheeked Gnateater, Bare-throated Bellbird, Banded (now extremely rare) and White-winged cotingas, and Black-headed Berryeater.

A variety of habitats encompassing some spectacular scenery; a pleasant, largely temperate climate; good food and accommodations throughout; and one of the world's most unique and endangered avifaunas combine to make southeastern Brazil an unforgettable birding experience.

October 7–8, Days 1-2: Travel to Vitoria; Transfer to Aracê. Participants not continuing from Southeastern Brazil Part I (September 25-October 9, 2010) will depart the USA on October 7 on an overnight flight to Rio de Janeiro's International Airport (which will arrive on the morning of October 8), clear customs and connect to our group flight to Vitoria (TAM Flight 3410 which is scheduled to depart at 3:22 p.m.).

Participants wanting to avoid the risk of misconnecting should consider arriving in Rio de Janeiro on October 7 and spending the night at an airport-area hotel. Upon request, VENT will be happy to assist with these arrangements.

Participants continuing from Southeastern Brazil Part I will be transferred to the airport from Itatiaia in time for this flight and to meet any newly arriving participants.

Upon our arrival in Vitoria, we will drive on to the lovely Pousada Aargau, where the gardens abound with such birds as Slaty-breasted Wood-Rail, Rufous-fronted Thornbird, Green-backed Becard, Sooty Tyrannulet and Yellow-browed Tyrant. With birdy grounds and a magnificent view of the famous Pedra Azul, this will be a wonderful base for the next few days as we search for the Cherry-throated Tanager.

NIGHT (October 8): Pousada Aargau, Aracê

October 9-10, Days 3-4: Search for the Cherry-throated Tanager. On both days, after an early breakfast we'll depart for birding in this exciting area. Our main target will be the spectacular Cherry-throated Tanager. This species was long known only from the type specimen, which was collected in the mid 1800s. It then went unseen until a flock of eight birds was found by the Brazilian ornithologist Helmut Sick near Jatiboca (Espírito Santo state) in 1941. The species was not recorded again for more than 50 years, and was thought to be extinct before it was recently rediscovered in the area where we'll be spending our time. Finding this extremely rare and visually stunning tanager will be our primary focus, but there are many other birds to see here. Among those of most interest are White-necked Hawk; Red-capped Parrot; Saffron Toucanet; Robust and Yellow-eared woodpeckers; Black-billed Scythebill; Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper; Giant and Tufted antshrikes; Cryptic Antthrush; Variegated Antpitta; Spotted Bamboowren; Shrike-like (Elegant Mourner) and Swallow-tailed cotingas; Cinnamon-vented Piha; Sharpbill; Hooded Berryeater; Pin-tailed Manakin; Shear-tailed Gray-Tyrant; Streamer-tailed Tyrant; and Azure-shouldered, Brassy-breasted, and Gilt-edged tanagers.

Our search for the Cherry-throated Tanager will likely take us to two sites, and we are prepared to devote one full day to each site as needed. We have programmed in two full days (with part of a third day available) to search for the tanager. If we are lucky in finding the tanager early on in our stay, we will put the remaining time to good use in searching for the area's many other special birds, as well as for the many more widely distributed Atlantic Forest specialties, among them Spot-breasted Toucanet, Channel-billed Toucan, Red-breasted Toucan, Band-tailed Hornero, Pallid Spinetail, White-eyed and White-collared foliage-gleaners, White-throated Woodcreeper, Scaled Woodcreeper, Spot-breasted Antvireo, Ochre-rumped Antbird, Swallow-tailed (Blue) Manakin, Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher, Yellow-legged Thrush, Rufous-headed Tanager, Ruby-crowned Tanager, Green-winged Saltator, and many others.

NIGHTS: Pousada Aargau, Aracê

October 11, Day 5: Venda Nova do Imigrante to Santa Teresa. We will have a third full morning in this area, allowing another chance at the tanager if needed. If we have already seen the tanager, we will devote the morning to the many other specialties of the area. In the afternoon we will drive to the charming town of Santa Teresa, stopping en route to take in the scenic wonder known as Pedra Azul (the Blue Rock), and stopping opportunistically for such open-country birds as Red-legged Seriema, Rufous-capped Antshrike, Streamer-tailed Tyrant, White-rumped Monjita and Cinnamon Tanager. After dark, we may make an excursion in search of Tawny-browed Owl, Long-tailed Potoo and Ocellated Poorwill.

NIGHT: Hotel Solar Dos Colibris, Santa Teresa

October 12, Day 6: Nova Lombardia Biological Reserve. We'll devote most of the day to birding the Nova Lombardia (= Augusto Ruschi) Biological Reserve. The reserve is a fine example of upland Atlantic Forest and is home to some of the most range-restricted endemics of the region. Included among these are Blue-bellied Parrot, Yellow-eared and Yellow-throated woodpeckers, Spot-backed Antshrike, Wied's Tyrant-Manakin, Hooded Berryeater, Bare-throated Bellbird, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Pin-tailed Manakin, Russet-winged Spadebill, Gray-capped Tyrannulet, Spot-billed Toucanet, Oustalet's Tyrannulet, Rufuous-brown Solitaire, and Azure-shouldered Tanager. Other targets here are such gems as White-necked Hawk, Blackish Rail, Scissor-tailed Nightjar, Saw-billed and Scale-throated hermits, Channel-billed Toucan, White-tailed Trogon, Scaled Woodcreeper, Pale-browed Treehunter, White-bibbed Antbird, Serra Antwren, Sharpbill, Swallow-tailed (Blue) Manakin, Hangnest Tody-Tyrant, Cinnamon Tanager, Red-necked Tanager, Yellow-green Grosbeak and Uniform Finch. In the afternoon we will visit the famed estate of the late Augusto Ruschi. The grounds swarm with an incredible diversity of hummingbirds, among them Frilled Coquette, Amethyst Woodstar, Planalto and Rufous-breasted hermit, Black Jacobin, Sombre Hummingbird, Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, White-vented Violet-ear, Violet-capped Woodnymph, Glittering-bellied and Sapphire-spangled emerald, and Brazilian Ruby.

NIGHT: Hotel Solar Dos Colibris, Santa Teresa

October 13, Day 7: Nova Lombardia Biological Reserve and Drive to Linhares. We'll have another full morning to enjoy the fabulous birding at Nova Lombardia. After lunch we will pack up and drive on to our next base in the lowlands near Linhares.

NIGHT: CVRD Reserva Natural de Linhares, Linhares

October 14–15, Days 8-9: VALE Reserve. This privately owned reserve protects one of the most important remaining examples of lowland Atlantic Forest, and is home to many of southeast Brazil's most sought-after and endangered endemics. We'll be based in a nice, new lodge (with a swimming pool) situated in a forest clearing with birds right outside our doorstep.

Near the top on the list of specialties that we will be searching for is the highly endangered Red-billed Curassow. This reserve constitutes one of the primary remaining strongholds of this magnificent bird. This (and the nearby Sooretama Biological Reserve, which we'll also likely visit) is also a good place for cotingas, including the stunning Banded (now very rare and requiring some luck to see) and White-winged cotingas, Bare-throated Bellbird, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, and Black-headed Berryeater. Other species of special interest include Solitary and Yellow-legged tinamous; Mantled Hawk; Rufous-thighed Kite; Rusty-margined Guan; Speckled Chachalaca; Blue-winged Macaw; Red-browed Parrot; Orange-winged Parrot; White-eared Parakeet; Ochre-marked Parakeet; Tawny-browed Owl; Long-tailed Potoo; Brazilian Pygmy-Owl; Minute Hermit; Crescent-chested Puffbird; Collared Trogon; White-barred Piculet; Robust, Blond-crested, Red-stained, and Yellow-throated woodpeckers; Plain-winged and Planalto woodcreepers; Pale-browed Treehunter; White-eyed Foliage-gleaner; Striated Softtail; Black-tailed Leaftosser; Sooretama Slaty-Antshrike; Plumbeous Antvireo; Scaled Antbird; Band-tailed and White-flanked (endemic subspecies *luctuosa*; almost certain to be split as a distinct species) antwrens; Scalloped Antbird; Black-cheeked Gnateater; Olivaceous Flatbill; Black-capped and Green-backed becards; Red-headed and White-

crowned manakins; Eared Pygmy-Tyrant; Cocoa Thrush; Chestnut-vented Conebill; Yellow-backed Tanager; and the endemic white-bellied form of Turquoise Tanager. We'll also have an excellent chance of seeing tapir and a possibility of jaguarundi, ocelot, or oncilla.

NIGHTS: VALE Reserva Natural de Linhares, Linhares

October 16–17, Days 10-11: Sooretama/VALE; Transfer to Vitoria and Flight to Rio and Flights to USA. Depending on our actual departure time, we may have another morning to bird in either the VALE Reserve or in the nearby Sooretama Biological Reserve in search of anything that we may have missed. We'll transfer back to Vitoria in time for the 6:20 p.m. departure of TAM Flight 3363 to Sao Paulo (GRU) in order to connect to most overnight flights to the USA which will arrive on the morning of October 17, in time for homeward connections.

Participants wanting to avoid the risk of misconnecting should consider spending the night of October 16 at an airport-area hotel in São Paulo and departing for home on October 17. Upon request, VENT will be happy to assist with these arrangements.

TOUR LEADERS: Andrew Whittaker & Kevin Zimmer

Andrew Whittaker's passion for birding and natural history started at the early age of seven in the UK. Since 1982 Andy has worked with birds, traveling around the world studying bird migration in Canada, Israel, Borneo, and the UK. He has been based in Amazonian Brazil for the last 22 years. Working in the Brazilian rainforest for the Smithsonian Institution has made Andy an authority on Amazonian birds and the region's natural history, and he has authored many technical publications on the region. He was a consultant for the prestigious *Life of Birds* series by David Attenborough, and is a research associate of the Museum Goeldi, in Belém. At present Andy is working with Kevin Zimmer on a comprehensive field guide to the birds of Brazil. Andy has extensive tour-leading experience, having led VENT tours throughout South and Central American countries, the UK, and the Antarctic. He immensely enjoys sharing his fascination and knowledge of Neotropical birds, animals, and their conservation with others. Andy's special interest is bird vocalizations; his knowledge of Neotropical voices has enabled him to make several important ornithological discoveries and add 18 species to the Brazilian list. Andy is a member of the Brazilian Ornithological Committee, and lives in Manaus with his wife Nadime, their son Steven, and daughters, Luana and Suzana.

Kevin Zimmer has authored three books and numerous papers dealing with field identification and bird-finding in North America. His book, *Birding in the American West: A Handbook*, deals with finding and identifying birds in the western United States. Living in Alaska contributed to his affection for the Far North, where he has anchored VENT's tour program since 1986. For the past 20 years he has concentrated his attention on the Neotropics, particularly on Brazil, Costa Rica, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela. He has directed VENT's Brazil program since 1991. Kevin has a PhD in biology (research emphasis in Avian Evolutionary Ecology) from New Mexico State University, and is currently a field associate of Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology and a Research Associate of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. He has authored numerous technical papers on the taxonomy, distribution, and behavior of Neotropical birds, particularly those of the Amazon basin. In 2003 he completed (with co-author Mort Isler) the major chapter on the *Thamnophilidae* (antbirds) for the prestigious *Handbook of Birds of the World* series. In 2006, he and Curtis Marantz coauthored a six-CD compilation of *Bird Voices of Alta Floresta and Southeastern Amazonian Brazil* (produced by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds) that represents the most comprehensive set of commercially available bird recordings for any part of the Amazon Basin. He and Andrew Whittaker are currently at work on a comprehensive field guide to the birds of Brazil, to be published by Princeton University Press. Kevin lives in Atascadero, California with his wife Susan. Their daughter Marina completed her master's degree in psychology at Dominican University in May 2008. Recently married, she and her husband are now living in Napa, California.

TOUR SIZE: This tour will be limited to 14 participants.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS: The fee for this tour is **$2995** per person in double occupancy from Vitoria. The price includes all food from dinner on Day 2 to lunch on Day 10, all lodging for 8 nights during the tour, ground transportation during the tour, all park entrance fees, and guide services provided by the tour leaders. It does not include airfare between your home and Vitoria, airport departure taxes, alcoholic beverages, special gratuities, phone calls, laundry, or items of a personal nature. Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registration, a small party supplement may be charged.

The single supplement is **$445**. You will be charged a single supplement if you desire single accommodations, or if you prefer to share but have no roommate and we cannot provide one for you.

TOUR REGISTRATION: To register for this tour, please contact the VENT office. The deposit for this tour is **$500** per person**.** If you prefer to pay your deposit by check, your tour space will be held for 10 days to allow time for the VENT office to receive your deposit and completed registration form. If you prefer to pay your deposit using a credit card, your deposit must be made with MasterCard or Visa at the time of registration. The VENT registration form should then be completed, signed, and returned to the VENT office. Full payment of the tour fee is due 120 days prior to the tour departure date.

EXCHANGE RATE SURCHARGES: In the erratic global financial markets of today, it is difficult to predict foreign currency exchange rates over the long term or at the time of operation of a tour or cruise departure. Tour prices are based upon the rate of exchange at the time of itinerary publication. If exchange rates change drastically, it may be necessary to implement a surcharge. If a surcharge is necessary, every effort will be made to minimize the amount. In many cases, these additional foreign exchange rate surcharges are passed to VENT by its vendors and suppliers.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation penalties and refunds are based on the following schedule: if cancellation is made 120 days or more before the tour departure date, a cancellation fee of **$250** per person will be charged unless the deposit is transferred to a new registration for another VENT tour that will operate within the next 12 months, in which case the cancellation fee will be **$100** per person. If cancellation is made fewer than 120 days before departure date, no refund is available. This policy and fee schedule also applies to pre-trip and post-trip extensions. ***We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance for your protection.***

If you cancel:	Your refund will be:
120 days or more before departure date	Your deposit minus $250*
Fewer than 120 days before departure date	No refund available

*Unless the deposit is transferred to a new registration for another VENT tour that will operate within the next 12 months, in which case the cancellation fee will be $100 per person.

FUEL AND FUEL SURCHARGES: In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult – if not impossible – to predict fuel costs over the long term, and more specifically, at the time of operation of this departure. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of itinerary publication. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EVACUATION INSURANCE: A brochure and application form for optional coverage for baggage, illness, and trip cancellation can be obtained through the VENT office. **We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance as soon as possible to protect yourself against losses due to accidents or illness. VENT recommends Travel Insured International as our preferred insurance provider.** Check with your insurance agent regarding coverage you may presently have via other insurance policies that may cover illness during your trip. **Waiver for pre-existing conditions is available; however, stipulations apply, usually requiring the purchase of the insurance soon after registering.** Optional expanded insurance coverage is available and includes items such as work-related

cancellation, medical upgrade, and a "Cancel for Any Reason" clause among others. **Contact Travel Insured International prior to registration for details.** Not all insurance providers provide the same levels of coverage. If you purchase insurance through a company other than Travel Insured International, please be advised that rules and stipulations may be different.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please read your itinerary carefully to see whether or not your tour/cruise requires MANDATORY Medical Insurance which covers you for emergency evacuation/repatriation during the trip. This coverage is included in the Worldwide Trip Protector plan offered by Travel Insured International. If you do not choose to purchase the insurance through Travel Insured International, you will need to do so through another insurance provider. A good website for information and acquisition of emergency evacuation/repatriation insurance is: www.insuremytrip.com.

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours is not a participant in the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. This business has a bond issued by Travelers in the amount of $50,000. CST #2014998-50.

AIR INFORMATION: Victor Emanuel Travel is a full-service travel agency and wholly owned subsidiary of **Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT)**. **Victor Emanuel Travel** will be happy to make any domestic or international air travel arrangements from your home and return. Please feel free to call the VENT office to confirm your air arrangements.

Note that there are specific internal Brazilian flights associated with this tour, the cost of which is not covered by the tour fee(s). Due to the complicated nature and limited availability of these flights, you are strongly encouraged to confirm reservations with Victor Emanuel Travel as early as possible.

CLOTHING AND CLIMATE: Temperatures vary from lows in the 50s (occasionally the high 40s) to highs commonly in the 70s–80s, and sometimes in the 90s. Light field clothing (drab colors such as olive or khaki preferred), including several pairs of pants and shorts and comfortable shirts, will be appropriate, but you should also pack a sweater or jacket as preparation for possible cool mornings. A hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen are also recommended for protection. Be sure to have a pair of good hiking boots or comfortable walking shoes and a second pair to change into. A swim suit is also suggested and raingear is recommended. We usually encounter rain on at least one or two days of the trip. Dress will be casual throughout. Rubber boots for possibly muddy trails are recommended. Also, a pocket umbrella is a good idea.

DIFFICULTY: There is one day where the group may be hiking on trails in very hilly terrain. Other days are spent on flat to easy hills along roads and wide trails.

On most mornings, we will try to be to be in the field at dawn. This is the time when tropical birds are most active and most vocal. Many of the more elusive species are unlikely to be seen unless we first hear them, and this requires early starts. Most non-travel days will involve a full morning of birding, followed by lunch and a mid-afternoon break of a couple of hours, during which participants may rest. These hours are quite often unproductive times for birding, and allow you to "recharge your batteries" prior to going out again in the latter part of the afternoon. Where the distance from the hotel precludes an early return for less than the full group, it should be emphasized that our comfortable bus (outfitted with snacks and a variety of cold drinks) will be with us at all times on those days, and participants wishing to rest on the bus may do so at any time.

DOCUMENTS: A current U.S. passport and **VISA** are required to enter Brazil. Your visa must be obtained in the U.S. prior to departure and is issued by Brazilian consulates. For further information, you may wish to contact the Brazil consulate nearest you or Pinnacle Travel Document Systems (www.traveldocs.com on the web or 888-838-4867 by phone), a company which handles visa procurement.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS: Yellow fever vaccination is highly recommended, as well as polio and tetanus. Malaria has been confirmed in Brazil, including the chloroquine-resistant strain, but is highly unlikely on this

tour. We suggest that participants consult their physician as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for current recommendations before beginning a prophylaxis regimen.

There have been some recent changes in recommendations for malaria prophylaxis. Mefloquine (Lariam) is now the drug of choice in all areas where chloroquine-resistant malaria is present. A single dose should be taken one week before the start of the tour, continued during the tour, and for four weeks after its conclusion. Mefloquine is available by prescription only and may not be suitable for those using cardio-vascular medication; consult your physician. Cholera has been reported in Brazil, but no country requires cholera vaccination for direct travel from the USA and no vaccinations are required to return to the USA. Please consult your physician for any recommended preventative treatment.

If you are taking prescription medication or over-the-counter medicine, be sure to bring an ample supply that will allow you to get through the tour safely. Please consult your physician as necessary. Remember to pack all medication in your carry-on baggage, preferably in original containers or packaging. As airline baggage restrictions can change without warning, please check with your airline for procedures for packing medication.

As standard travel precautions, you should always be up to date with tetanus shots, and strongly consider inoculations against Hepatitis types A and B.

In addition to your physician, a good source of general health information for travelers is the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. The CDC operates a 24-hour recorded Travelers' Information Line 877-FYI-TRIP (394-8747) or you can check their website at www.cdc.gov/travel. Canadian citizens should check the website of the Public Health Agency of Canada: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/new_e.html (click on travel health).

INSECT PROTECTION: The use of a repellent containing DEET is recommended. We suggest bringing a squeeze bottle of Cutter's.

BAGGAGE: We request that tour participants limit their baggage to one suitcase and one carry-on bag if possible, as some of the vehicles have very limited luggage space. As a precaution, we recommend packing a change of clothes, your binoculars, toiletries, travel documents, and walking shoes in your carry-on.

ITEMS TO BRING: Pack a flashlight or headlamp, water bottle or small canteen, alarm clock and day pack. Your leaders will have a spotting scope, but if you have one and wish to bring it, please feel free to do so.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Country Telephone Code: 55
Currency: Real
Electric Current: 110 Volts in Rio, Sao Paulo, Brasilia, Belo Horizonte, Belém, Manaus, but 220 in many other locales.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND WEB SITES TO KNOW:

Health: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 877-FYI-TRIP or www.cdc.gov/travel
Weather: 900-WEATHER (a toll call) or www.weather.com
Travel Advisories: 202/647-5225 or www.travel.state.gov/

SUGGESTED READING: Our website at www.ventbird.com offers an affiliated online store which carries a wide variety of items for birding and nature lovers including over 6,000 books. A portion of the sales from the store benefits the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. You might also want to visit such other online stores as www.amazon.com, and for those out-of-print and hard-to-find titles, www.abebooks.com.

Birds

Erize, Francisco, Jorge Rodriguez Mata, and Maurice Rumboll. *Birds of South America, Non-Passerines: Rheas to Woodpeckers.* 2007. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, USA. Generally good illustrations and useful written descriptions of the non-passerine birds of South America. A good complement to the two volumes by Ridgely and Tudor listed below.

Hilty, Steven L. *Birds of Tropical America*. Shelburne, VT: Chapters Publishing Ltd., 1994. Subtitle: "A watcher's introduction to behavior, breeding and diversity." (Paperback April 1996.)

Ridgely, Robert S., and Guy Tudor. *The Birds of South America, Volume I: The Oscine Passerines: Jays, Swallows, Wrens, Thrushes and Allies, Vireos, Wood-warblers, Tanagers, Icterids and Finches*. Austin: The University of Texas Press, 1989. Very useful reference, with range maps and illustrations of many species not previously illustrated. (http://birds.cornell.edu; select "Audio Guides")

Ridgely, Robert S., and Guy Tudor. *The Birds of South America Volume II: The Suboscine Passerines: Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers, Antbirds, Gnateaters, and Tapaculos, Tyrant Flycatchers, Manakins and Cotingas*. Austin: The University of Texas Press, 1994. Very useful reference, with range maps and illustrations of many species not previously illustrated. (http://birds.cornell.edu; select "Audio Guides")

Ridgely, Robert S., and Guy Tudor. *Field Guide to the Songbirds of South America: The Passerines*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2009. This book condenses the text from the two previous references into A single volume with many additional illustrations (400+ species). It has more of a field guide format, and provides consistently excellent illustrations and text for the vast majority of Brazilian passerines. Thisplus the Erize, Mata & Rumboll guide to the Non-Passerines would give good coverage of the vast majority of Brazilian birds.

Van Perlo, Ber.. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Brazil.* Oxford University Press, 2009. This recently published Guide has minimal text, and somewhat uneven quality of illustrations, but it is a significant improvement On all previous attempts at a Brazilian field guide, and does offer range maps, text and illustrations for Virtually all of Brazil's birds in a single volume.

Butterflies

D'Abrera, Bernard. *Butterflies of South America*. Australia: Hill House, 1984. Good pocket guide, covers many genera, nice pictures.

Mammals

Emmons, Louise H. *Neotropical Rainforest Mammals*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997. Good pictures and excellent text. (An audio field guide CD also available from this author: see below.)

General Nature

Caufield, C. *In the Rainforest.* Chicago: Random House, 1985.

Forsyth, Adrian, Ken Miyata et al. *Tropical Nature*. Scribner, 1987. (paperback)

Kricher, John. *A Neotropical Companion*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999.

Pierson, David L., and Les Belesky. *The Ecotravellers' Wildlife Guide Brazil Amazon and Pantanal*. Academic Press, 2001.

Stap, Don. *Parrot without a Name: The Search for the Last Unknown Birds on Earth.* Austin: University of Texas Press, 1991. An account of field expeditions with Ted Parker and John O'Neill, among others.

Recording

Emmons, Louise H., Bret M. Whitney and David L. Ross. *Sounds of Neotropical Rainforest Mammals.* Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. (http://www.birds.cornell.edu/lab_ cds.html)

TIPPING: As noted in our itineraries, tipping (restaurants, porters, drivers, and local guides) is included on VENT tours. However, if you feel one or both of your VENT leaders or any local guides have given you exceptional service, it is entirely appropriate tip. We emphasize that such tips are not expected and are entirely optional.

RESPONSIBILITY: Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, Inc. (VENT) and/or their Agents act only as agents for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, or airplane and assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of defect in any

vehicle or for any reason whatsoever, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. VENT and its Agents can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger. The right is reserved to substitute leaders on any tour. When this is necessary, notification will be given to tour members. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The prices of the tours are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on March 16, 2010 and are subject to adjustment in the event of any change therein. The right is reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned and their agents and affiliates are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their aircraft. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passenger. The services of any I.A.T.A.N. carrier may be used for these tours, and transportation within the United States may be provided by any member carrier of the Airline Reporting Corporation.