

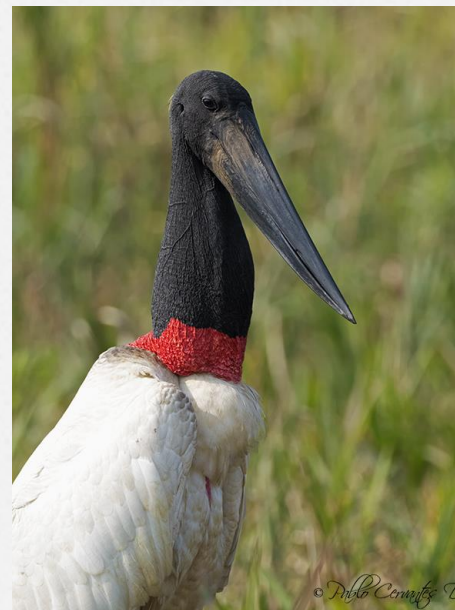
**TROPICAL
BIRDING**



Worldwide Birding & Photography Tours

Brazil Photo Tour

September 2 - 12, 2019



Guide: Pablo Cervantes D.

- o **Day 1:** Arrival in Cuiabá City. This tour starts and ends in Cuiabá, the capital of the huge state of Mato Grosso. We had one night in a nice hotel near the center and enjoyed a welcome dinner.
- o **Days 2 - 3:** Pousada Piuval was our first destination, located about two hours drive from Cuiabá at the northern edge of the Pantanal near the start of the Transpantanal Highway, which is the only road that connects the city of Cuiabá with the river that bears its name. Piuval is superb for bird photography, and we shot Whistling Herons, Savanna Hawks, Smooth-billed Anis, Amazon Kingfishers, and many, many more.



Savanna Hawk (PC)



Whistling Heron (PC)

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We arrived in Piupal for lunch, and in the afternoon had a safari near the lodge. Clouds came in and cooled down the hot temperatures so we could photograph species such as Black-tailed Marmoset, Black-striped Capuchin, Blue-fronted Parrot, Chestnut-bellied Guan, and Great Potoo among others. The sunsets are often spectacular, which is why I have to include at least one photograph as a memory of this place. When night came, we saw a group of South American Coatis and Capybaras running in the grass, but the biggest surprise was at dinner time when a Crab-eating Fox pup and her mother walked through the gardens of the lodge.



Sunset at Piuval (CR)

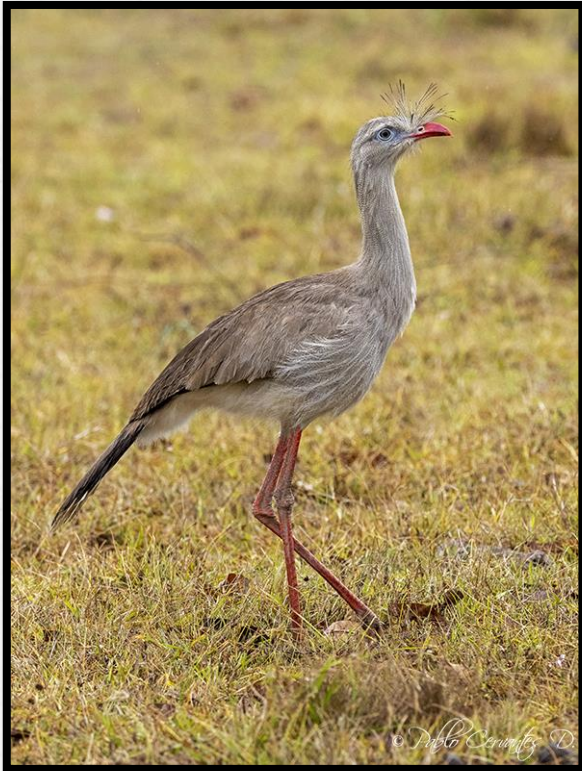


Black-tailed Marmoset (PC)



Great Potoo (PC)

On our second day in Piuval, we started by photographing a couple of Blue-and-yellow Macaws next to their nest, along with other birds such as Wattled Jacana, Plumbeous Ibis, and Buff-necked Ibis. We then drove to the edge of the lake in a safari vehicle to photograph Greater Rheas, Red-legged Seriemas and a Great Horned Owl. We checked the nest of a pair of Hyacinth Macaws, though we didn't have a chance to shoot then entering or leaving. The edge of the lake was a chock full of Jabirus, Roseate Spoonbills, Wood Storks, with hundreds of birds feeding in the late afternoon.



Red-legged Seriema (PC)



Greater Rhea (PC)

- o Day 4: During our last morning at Piuval, Nacunda Nighthawks and Guira Cuckoos were some of the first birds to be photographed, along with a group of Black-striped Capuchins and Black-tailed Marmosets, more Hyacinth Macaws, and some Black-fronted Nunbirds. We then continued south to our next destination, Pouso Alegre Lodge, where Toco Toucans, Red-crested Cardinals, Little Woodpeckers, Green-barred Woodpeckers, Monk Parakeets, and Capped Herons were very obliging, and in the late afternoon a Crab-eating Fox posed for our cameras. Finally a couple of Brazilian Tapirs wandered by near the lodge, and a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl also appeared.



Guira Cuckoo (PC)



Hyacinth Macaw (PC)

- o Day 5: The day started with a visit to the fruit feeders, where Toco Toucans, Chestnut-eared Aracaris, and Crested Oropendolas were some of the birds visiting. Then we went for a walk, photographing Marsh Deer, Black-striped Capuchins, Sunbitterns, and Greater Rheas before packing up and continuing deeper into the Pantanal to the Pixaim River. We had lunch then took our first boat ride on the river. This time we focussed on Ringed, Amazon and Green Kingfishers, Cocoli Heron, Black-collared Hawk, Black-capped Donacobious, Neotropic Cormorants, Anhingas, Blue-thoated and Red-throated Piping-Guans, Grayish Saltator, Black-back Water-Tyrant, and Crane Hawk.



Toco Toucan(PC)

- o Day 6: More boat rides on the Pixiam River gave us the chance to photograph needed species such as Agami Heron, Rusty-backed Spinetail, Masked Gnatcatcher, and Sungrebe along with more Anhingas and Jabirus.

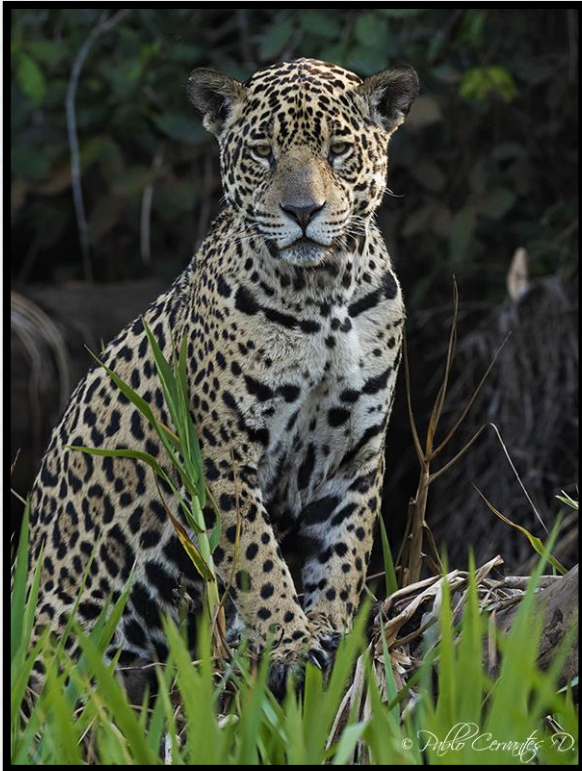


Anhinga (PC)

Sungrebe (PC)



- o Day 7: After a short walk around the lodge, where we photographed Glittering-throated Emerald, White-wedged Piculet, Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet, and Straight-billed Woodcreeper, we drove to the southern end of the road and checked into the excellent Hotel Porto Jofre Pantanal Norte, which would be our base for the next three nights. We made some stops along the way to photograph whatever was around, including a Southern Screamer with chicks. After lunch we went out on the first of many boat rides on the Cuiabá River, and within 30 minutes we had already found a spectacular Jaguar resting on a log above the level of the river! Smiles and joy were instantaneous as shutters started clicking. As if this wasn't enough, a Giant Otter welcomed us by swimming up to the boat. Birds like Black Skimmer, Large-billed Tern, Yellow-billed Tern, and Pied Lapwing, did not go unnoticed once the Jaguar departed.

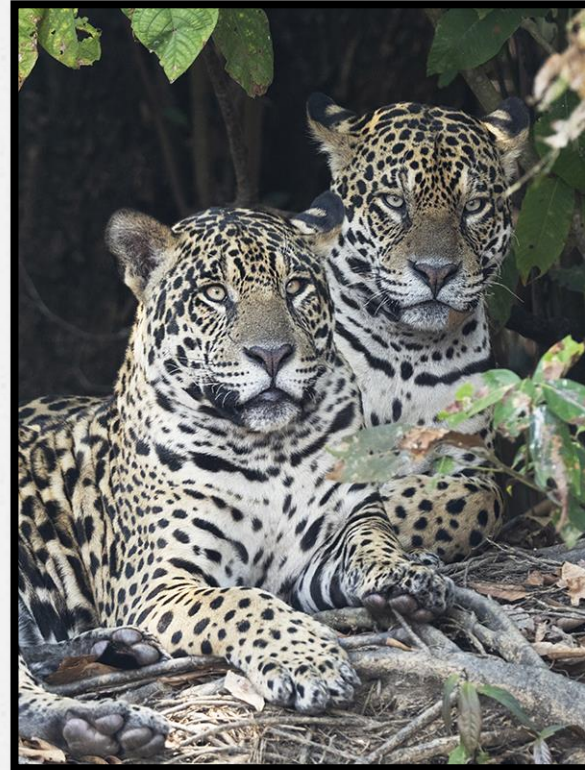


Jaguar (PC)



Southern Screamer (PC)

- o Day 8 - 9: During or two full days in Porto Jofre, we made outings from 6:00-11:00 am, then had lunch and a break, going out on the river again from about 2:30-5:30 pm. We were always focused on photographing Jaguars when they were around, although the Giant Otters, Southern Screamers, Jabirus, Black-capped Donacobius, Capybaras, and others were also well worth spending time on.



Jaguar (PC)



Great Horned Owl
(PC)

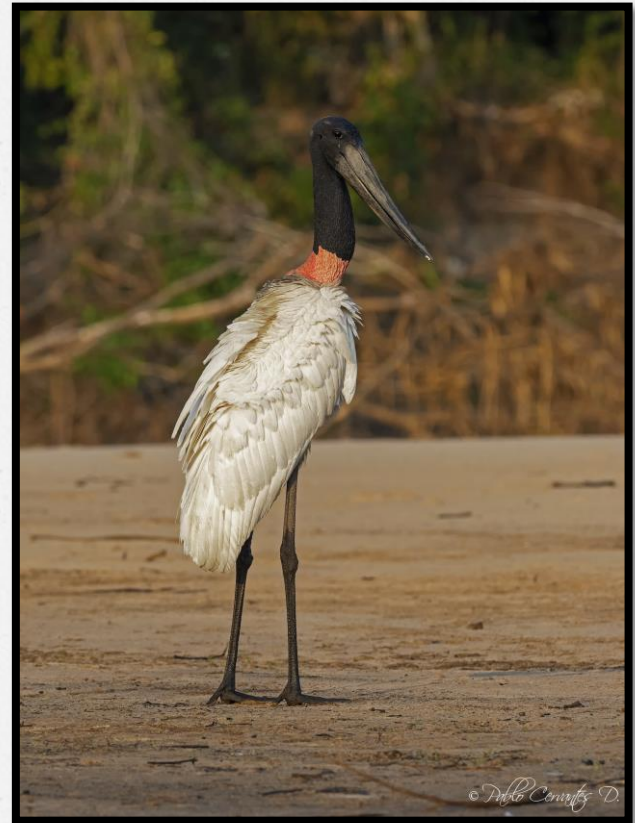


Black-capped Donacobius
(PC)



Giant Otter (PC)

Jabiru (PC)



- Day 10 - 11: After leaving the Pantanal, we headed north to Bom Jardim, our last stop, to photograph Blue-and-yellow Macaws and Red-bellied Macaws before returning to Cuiabá, where the tour came to a close.



Blue-and-yellow Macaw
(PC)

 Birds and Mammals
Photographed on this trip

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RHEAS

Greater Rhea

SCREAMERS

Southern Screamer

DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL

Muscovy Duck

Brazilian Teal

GUANS, CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS

Chaco Chachalaca

Rusty-margined Guan

Chestnut-bellied Guan

Blue-throated Piping-Guan

Red-throated Piping-Guan

Bare-faced Curassow

STORKS

Jabiru

Wood Stork

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS

Neotropic Cormorant

ANHINGAS

Anhinga

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS

Rufescent Tiger-Heron

Cocoi Heron

Great Egret

Snowy Egret

Little Blue Heron

Cattle Egret

Striated Heron

Agami Heron

Whistling Heron

Capped Heron

Black-crowned Night-Heron

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

Green Ibis

Bare-faced Ibis

Plumbeous Ibis

Buff-necked Ibis

Roseate Spoonbill

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture

King Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES

Swallow-tailed Kite

Black-collared Hawk

Snail Kite

Crane Hawk

Savanna Hawk

Great Black Hawk

Roadside Hawk

SUNBITTERN

Sunbittern

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS

Gray-cowled Wood-Rail

FINFOOTS

Sungrebe

LIMPKIN

Limpkin

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Pied Lapwing

Southern Lapwing

JACANAS

Wattled Jacana

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS

Yellow-billed Tern

Large-billed Tern

Black Skimmer

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Pale-vented Pigeon

Picazuro Pigeon

Ruddy Ground-Dove

Scaled Dove

Picui Ground-Dove

Long-tailed Ground-Dove

White-tipped Dove

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CUCKOOS

Guira Cuckoo

Smooth-billed Ani

Little Cuckoo

Ash-colored Cuckoo

Squirrel Cuckoo

OWLS

Great Horned Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES

Nacunda Nighthawk

POTOOS

Great Potoo

SWIFTS

White-collared Swift

Fork-tailed Palm-Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Planalto Hermit

Gilded Hummingbird (Sapphire)

KINGFISHERS

Ringed Kingfisher

Amazon Kingfisher

Green Kingfisher

JACAMARS

Rufous-tailed Jacamar

TOUCANS

Chestnut-eared Aracari

Toco Toucan

WOODPECKERS

White-wedged Piculet

White Woodpecker

Little Woodpecker

Green-barred Woodpecker

Campo Flicker

Cream-colored Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

SERIEMAS

Red-legged Seriema

FALCONS AND CARACARAS

Southern Caracara

PARROTS

Monk Parakeet

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet

Blue-headed Parrot

Turquoise-fronted (Blue-fronted) Parrot

Hyacinth Macaw

Peach-fronted Parakeet

Red-bellied Macaw

Blue-and-yellow Macaw

White-eyed Parakeet

TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS

Great Antshrike

Barred Antshrike

OVENBIRDS

Olivaceous Woodcreeper

Great Rufous Woodcreeper

Straight-billed Woodcreeper

Narrow-billed Woodcreeper

Pale-legged Hornero

Rufous Hornero

Rusty-backed Spinetail

Rufous (Gray-crested) Cacholote

Yellow-chinned Spinetail

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet

Common Tody-Flycatcher

Vermilion Flycatcher

Black-backed Water-Tyrant

White-headed Marsh Tyrant

Brown-crested Flycatcher

Lesser Kiskadee

Great Kiskadee

Boat-billed Flycatcher

Rusty-margined Flycatcher

Streaked Flycatcher

Tropical Kingbird

Fork-tailed Flycatcher

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES

Purplish Jay

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SWALLOWS

Southern Rough-winged Swallow

Gray-breasted Martin

Brown-chested Martin

White-winged Swallow

White-rumped Swallow

WRENS

House Wren

GNATCATCHERS

Masked Gnatcatcher

DONACOBIUS

Black-capped Donacobius

THRUSHES AND ALLIES

Rufous-bellied Thrush

Creamy-bellied Thrush

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Chalk-browed Mockingbird

TANAGERS AND ALLIES

Red-crested Cardinal

Yellow-billed cardinal

White-lined Tanager

Silver-beaked Tanager

Fawn-breasted Tanager

Sayaca Tanager

Palm Tanager

Saffron Finch

Rusty-collared Seedeater

Grayish Saltator

TROUPIALS AND ALLIES

Crested Oropendola

Solitary Black Cacique

Yellow-rumped Cacique

Epaulet Oriole

Orange-backed Troupial

Shiny Cowbird

Giant Cowbird

Chopi Blackbird

Grayish Baywing (Bay-winged Cowbird)

Unicolored Blackbird

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow

MAMMALS (partial list)

Greater Bulldog Bat

Proboscis Bat (Long-nosed Bat)

Black-tailed Marmoset (Silvery Marmoset)

Black-striped Capuchin

Black Howler

Crab-eating Fox

Jaguar

Giant Otter

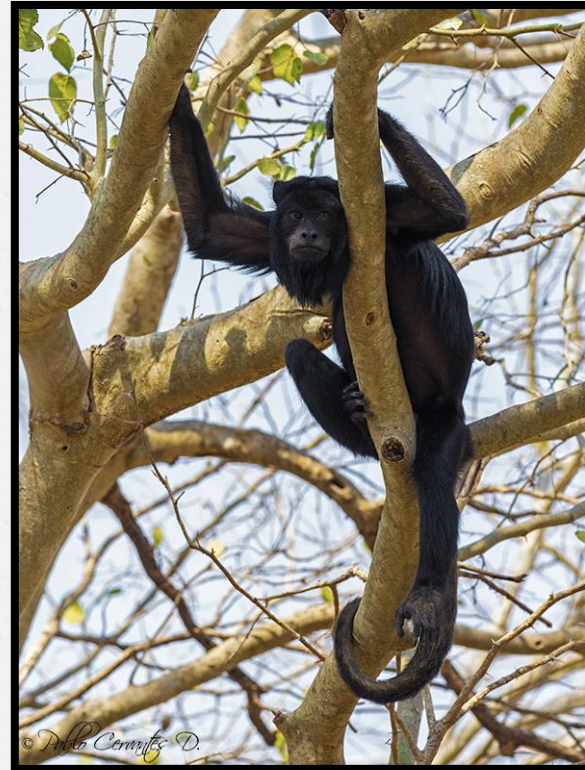
South American Coati

Marsh Deer

Capybara



Black-fronted Nunbird
(PC)



Black Howler
(PC)



Black-capped Donacobius
(PC)



Black-backed Water-Tyrant
(PC)



Blue-and-yellow Macaw
(PC)



Blue-throated Piping Guan
(PC)



Capped Heron (PC)



Jabiru(PC)

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Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture
(PC)



Rufous-tailed Jacamar
(PC)



King Vulture
(PC)

- o Thanks to Charles Rutkowski for sharing some of his photos for this report.

CR: Charles Rutkowski

PC: Pablo Cervantes D

For more information about this tour:

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