

ITINERARY
BRAZIL NUTSHELL
INTERVALES, IGUAZU FALLS & THE PANTANAL
March 7-21, 2020



The endangered Black-fronted Piping-Guan is a near-endemic of the Brazilian Atlantic Forests. We should find them at Intervales State Park. Photograph by participant Ken Havard.

We include here information for those interested in the 2020 Field Guides Brazil Nutshell: Intervales, Iguazu Falls & Pantanal tour:

- a general introduction to the tour
- a description of the birding areas to be visited on the tour
- an abbreviated daily itinerary with some indication of the nature of each day's birding outings

Those who register for the tour will be sent this additional material:

- an annotated list of the birds recorded on a previous year's Field Guides trip to the area, with comments by guide(s) on notable species or sightings (may be downloaded from our web site)
- a detailed information bulletin with important logistical information and answers to questions regarding accommodations, air arrangements, clothing, currency, customs and immigration, documents, health precautions, and personal items
- a reference list
- a Field Guides checklist for preparing for and keeping track of the birds we see on the tour
- after the conclusion of the tour, a list of birds seen on the tour

Brazil is huge. A vast melting pot of peoples and cultures, Brazil is also blessed with an extraordinary wealth of wildlife, from the steamy Amazon forests to the more subtropical and temperate regions in the south. It is to these more southerly regions that we journey on this wonderful tour, operating in a slightly different incarnation since 1994 and sure to continue as a favorite of Field Guides participants. Seeking to avoid the rush of too many localities, we have settled on just three main stops—all offering world-class birding and with great accommodations in close proximity to the best birding spots.

Our first stop, Intervalles State Park, is well known for its avian riches and for sheltering a large number of endemics and endangered species of the Atlantic Forest biome, such as Blue-bellied Parrot, Helmeted Woodpecker, Black-fronted Piping-Guan, and even an undescribed species of bristlefront (that's a weird tapaculo!). Our second venue is truly stunning, for Iguazu Falls are the largest in the world. And, while the sight and sound of this awesome place will live long in the memory, the birding round about is pretty fabulous, too! In striking contrast to the forested mountains of Intervalles and the roaring waters of Iguazu, our final stop will be amidst the seasonally flooded grasslands of southwestern Brazil: the famed Pantanal. Water birds abound, but there is one species that has come to symbolize the wilds of the Pantanal—the magnificent Hyacinth Macaw, the largest and now one of the rarest parrots in the world. It's sure to be a fine conclusion to a relaxing and educational tour.



About the Physical Requirements & Pace: Although this tour is in general not a physically difficult one, on a few days we will do a fair amount of easy to moderate walking (3-5 miles). Our experience from previous tours to these areas is that reasonably fit participants will greatly enjoy it.

During our stay at Intervalles we will bird along roads and mostly wide trails, some of which will have steep sections and are likely to be quite slippery in places. We'll definitely want to do some owling at Intervalles, mostly near the hotel.

Our hotel on the Brazilian side at Iguazu is a large one, and rooms are often several hundred feet from reception and the dining areas. Also at Iguazu, access to the awe-inspiring Devil's Throat on the Argentine side requires a total of two-plus miles round-trip of walking on a level, metal walkway at a normal pace; access to other falls sites we regularly visit on both sides (the falls edge on the Argentine side and the spectacular falls walkway on the Brazilian side) requires walking down (and back up) significant numbers of steps and ramps over a couple of loop walkways that run about a mile to a mile-and-a-half each.

The terrain in the Pantanal is flat and therefore should not present any major obstacles. The biggest challenges here are the warm temperatures and the high humidity. We will have air-conditioned rooms and use an air-conditioned vehicle to move to and from birding sites. Because we will be here during the wet season, some rain is likely and mosquitoes can be a nuisance, mostly along trails inside the scattered groves of trees.

As to the general pace of the tour, we typically go out at dawn, which in this part of Brazil means around 5:30 a.m. (returning for breakfast on some days, or having a pre-dawn breakfast on others), remain out for the morning, return for lunch, often take a break for an hour or so where our schedule allows, then go out again for the remainder of the afternoon. We will likely also make a couple of nocturnal excursions in the Pantanal.

If you are uncertain about whether this tour is a good match for your abilities, please don't hesitate to contact our office; if they cannot directly answer your queries, they will put you in touch with one of the guides.



The Golden-chevrons Tanager is restricted to the Atlantic forest biome of southeastern Brazil. We should see these lovely tanagers and many other specialties in Intervales State Park. Photograph by participant Linda Rudolph.

Itinerary for Brazil Nutshell: Intervales, Iguazu Falls & Pantanal

Day 1, Sat, 7 Mar. To Sao Paulo. With participants joining this tour from several departure points in the US and possibly from overseas, group members will be traveling on various flights to Sao Paulo. Almost all departures to southern Brazil from the US involve an overnight flight. If you do not sleep well on such flights, you may prefer to come a day early to Sao Paulo and get a good night's rest before the tour.

Day 2, Sun, 8 Mar. Arrival in Sao Paulo; to Intervales State Park. Upon arriving in Sao Paulo airport, please proceed through Immigration and Customs. Your leader(s) or a representative from our ground operator (with a sign saying Field Guides) will meet you as you exit Customs; if you do not spot one of them immediately, please find a place nearby to wait with your luggage (please don't stray far and make sure your luggage has the Field Guides tag... if you stay nearby, we will be able to find you). Note that international flights, depending on the airline, may arrive in different terminals; we are aware of this. **If you are arriving separately from most of the group** (e.g., a day early, or on a much earlier flight), please notify our office of your schedule and plan to be at the international arrival area downstairs in Terminal 3 **by 8:30 a.m.** today; your leader will find you there and escort you to meet the rest of the group.

Once we have gathered everyone, we'll board our bus for the drive to our hotel in Intervales State Park, about five hours away with a couple of rest stops. The rooms at Intervales are concentrated in four different buildings and we should have one of those for ourselves. A tremendous advantage at Intervales is that the birding starts right outside our door, with birds like Sharpbill, Large-tailed Antshrike, Maroon-bellied Parakeets, and Shear-tailed Gray-Tyrant often appearing on the grounds. We will have lunch at a typical Brazilian barbecue restaurant shortly before reaching the park and make a couple of brief birding stops before reaching the park. Upon our arrival and after a little break to settle into our rooms, we'll gather to begin our exploration of this rich area. Night in Intervales State Park.

Days 3-5, Mon-Wed, 9-11 Mar. Intervales State Park. With three full days at Intervales, we'll have plenty of time to settle into the unhurried nature of birding here while seeking the many special birds tucked away in these beautiful Brazilian mountains. The lowlands and foothills in these parts of Sao Paulo are still largely forested, and some of the overlooks from the roads are really breathtaking. This is a place of natural sounds, far removed from the noise of traffic and planes. Walking along these roads or wide trails will be most productive most of the time, but we will occasionally need to get inside under the canopy to lure secretive undergrowth species into view. Our pulses will quicken at the approach of our first mixed feeding flocks, which may harbor such elegant birds as Spot-billed Toucanet, White-collared and White-browed foliage-gleaners, Pale-browed and Sharp-billed treehunters (radically different birds despite the English name), Black-billed Scythebill, and Bay-ringed and Sao Paulo tyrannulets as well as an array of jewel-like tanagers—Brassy-breasted, Gilt-edged, and Burnished-buff to name just three!

Peering into the dense undergrowth may reveal Star-throated Antwrens, White-shouldered Fire-eyes, or perhaps a stunning male Swallow-tailed Manakin, while tangled streamsides conceal the Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper and a lek of magnificent Plovercrests. Where the trails climb through bamboo-laden woodlands, we'll hope to find the amazing Giant Antshrike, while the huge White-throated Woodcreeper, Surucua Trogon, Red-breasted Toucan, Ferruginous Antbird, Short-tailed and Such's antthrushes, and the rarely seen Slaty Bristlefront (the one here is being described as a new species) are some of the possibilities awaiting our discovery. We'll constantly be on the lookout for a Black-fronted Piping-Guan and keep an eye to the sky as well for rare raptors like Mantled Hawk and all three species of hawk-eagles.

Mention of a few additional target birds here must include the very rare Blue-bellied Parrot (seldom seen), Rufous-capped Motmot, Buff-bellied and Crescent-chested puffbirds, the very rare Helmeted Woodpecker, Orange-breasted Thornbird (*Phacellodomus ferrugineigula*, recently split from Red-eyed Thornbird), White-bearded Antshrike, Squamate Antbird, Variegated Antpitta, Black-cheeked Gnateater, Spotted Bamboowren, White-breasted and Mouse-colored tapaculos, Gray-hooded Attila, the little-known Black-legged Dacnis, and Green-chinned Euphonia. Owling is great at Intervales, and we'll take advantage of clear nights to look especially for Rusty-barred and Tawny-browed owls and Long-tufted and Tropical screech-owls. We'll try to come up with a Least Pygmy-Owl during the day. Nights in Intervales State Park.

Day 6, Thu, 12 Mar. To Iguazu Falls. On this last morning at Intervales we'll have a couple of early hours of birding before we transfer to Sao Paulo, where we will enjoy a quick lunch at the airport and then catch our afternoon flight. Upon arrival at Iguazu, we'll board our bus and transfer directly to the Argentine side, where we'll spend our first two nights. Our lovely, modern hotel sits a few minutes away from the park's entrance and is nestled in a lovely patch of forest! The grounds and nearby trails are great for birding, too, and we'll have time this afternoon to enjoy a walk around our hotel and get to know some of the local birds which may include the secretive Spot-backed Antshrike and the rare Buff-bellied Puffbird as well as the lovely Rufous-capped Motmot. Night at Iguazu Falls/Argentine side.



*The attractive Plush-crested Jay has a fairly large range, but this jay is especially visible around Iguazu.
Photograph by participant Ken Havard.*

Days 7-9, Fri-Sun, 13-15 Mar. Iguazu Falls. Lowland rainforest interspersed with great tracts of bamboo is the habitat around Iguazu Falls. The climate is quite tropical, with daytime highs sometimes reaching the upper 90s, though it can also be quite a bit cooler. If it has been raining in the past couple of days, the birding roads could be muddy—you should be sure to bring your waterproof footwear to Iguazu. Some of the most special birds to be sought at Iguazu are Toco Toucan (the largest toucan), the endangered and rare Black-fronted Piping-Guan (less likely here than at Intervales, but it's great to have another chance for it!), the tiny Ochre-collared Piculet, the huge Robust and spectacular Blond-crested woodpeckers, Spot-backed Antshrike, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow (rare), and Plush-crested Jay, along with a host of little-known passerines including Russet-winged Spadebill, Creamy-bellied Gnatcatcher, and Southern Bristle-Tyrant—three Atlantic

Forest endemics not usually seen on the Southeast Brazil tours. Beyond these, the area's bird life is rich indeed, and there will be plenty to keep us busy.

On Day 8 we will make the approximately 90-minute drive (though seemingly only a stone's throw away across the river!) to the remarkably pink Hotel das Cataratas, a landmark at Iguazu and a very comfortable place to stay, inside the national park on the Brazilian side. We'll have the afternoon of Day 8 to visit the falls on the Brazilian side and much of Day 9 to bird a quiet road in good woodland on the Brazilian side, where the rainforest is generally taller. Nights at Iguazu Falls (Day 7 on Argentine side; Days 8-9 on Brazilian side). *(Note: All other hotels on the Brazilian side, though likely less expensive than the Hotel das Cataratas, are located outside the park and require a significant bus ride to and from the falls and passage through the park checkpoint.)*

Day 10, Mon, 16 Mar. To Cuiaba and the Pantanal. To take advantage of the best schedule, we will have an early breakfast and catch an early morning flight to Cuiaba. Once there, we'll sample some of Brazil's famous barbecue and make our way South to the Pantanal. Something that is easier said than done as it is hard to keep moving as there will be a flurry of new birds and we will make a few stops along the way as we begin to see the first Jabirus, Plumbeous Ibises, Kingfishers, Limpkins, Monk Parakeets (native to the Pantanal) and with some luck, even the beautiful Scarlet-headed Blackbird. Dusk could bring out lots of Nacunda Nighthawks and perhaps even a Great Potoo before we reach the lodge. Night in the Pantanal.



The Pantanal is one of the best places to see the impressive Jabiru. Photograph by guide Marcelo Padua.

Days 11-13, Tue-Thu, 17-19 Mar. The Pantanal. The ecological region designated as the Pantanal is the low-elevation region of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul in the basin of the Rio Paraguai, a southward-flowing river of little gradient which crosses Paraguay, joins the Parana, and empties eastward at Buenos Aires. The Pantanal's climate is characterized by a pronounced dry season from about March to November. Due to poor drainage, however, much of the region is seasonally inundated or otherwise saturated during the rainy season. For this March tour we'll be visiting at the end of the rainy season (but, of course, who knows what the 'season' will really be doing!): we can expect some showers, and in a typical year water levels should be quite high in the lakes and ponds; the birding will be excellent all along the Transpantaneira Highway and around our lodges.

The Pantanal supports a range of habitat types varying from semideciduous and evergreen forests on well-drained, fertile soils to cerrado/savanna on infertile soils; from tree-palm woodlands on moist soil to permanent marsh and true pantanal, i.e., flat seasonally flooded grassland with scattered clumps of cerrado scrub on slightly elevated soil platforms whose surfaces do not become inundated. We'll be visiting the Pantanal during the most beautiful period of the year, as most of the flowers will be in bloom and many of the passerines will be nesting. Although we're not as likely to see the huge congregations of waders one sees during the dry season, all water-associated species will still be numerous, from Snail Kite, Black-collared Hawk, and Southern Screamer to Limpkin, herons, egrets, storks (three species, though Maguari is scarce this time of year), ibises (five species!), and kingfishers. We'll also be on the lookout at all times for a variety of mammals, ranging from Capybara and Crab-eating Fox and Giant Anteater.

Add to these highlights the fabulous Hyacinth Macaws and an array of interesting land birds—such as Bare-faced Curassow, Long-tailed Ground-Dove, Golden-collared Macaw, Monk and Nanday parakeets, Spot-backed Puffbird, White and Pale-crested woodpeckers, Great Rufous Woodcreeper, Red-billed Scythebill, Rufous Cacholote, Mato Grosso Antbird, Chestnut-bellied Guan, and Red-crested and Yellow-billed cardinals—and the Pantanal is sure to leave you with a lasting impression of the wildlife riches of this part of Brazil. While in the Pantanal we'll bird on foot, perhaps by boat, and by the famous Transpantaneira Park Road on board our air-conditioned mini-bus, allowing excellent viewing for all. Nights in the Pantanal.



We may do some birding by boat in the Pantanal. Photograph by guide Megan Edwards Crewe.

Days 14-15, Fri-Sat, 20-21 Mar. To Cuiaba and homeward. On Day 14 we'll have to tear ourselves away from the Pantanal (not an easy thing to do!) and return the way we came to Cuiaba—about two-and-a-half hours—where we will bid each other adieu. You may schedule your flight home to depart Cuiaba anytime after 2:00 p.m. on Day 14; depending on your carrier, you may connect through Sao Paulo, Brasilia, or Rio to an overnight flight back to the States, arriving home on Day 15. *Boa viagem!*

About Your Guide

Marcelo Padua was born in Belem at the mouth of the Amazon River. Growing up he spent his free time at his uncle's farm in an Amazon rainforest reserve observing everything from insects to mammals and birds. Marcelo began studying English at an early age and attended high school in Middletown, Pennsylvania in a student-exchange program. He is remarkably fluent and even taught English for a couple of years back home in Brazil. Following university in Rio de Janeiro, Marcelo transferred to law school in Cuiaba, but working as an English-speaking naturalist guide during school holidays soon made it clear to him that birding was much more than a hobby! With just a year to go for his bar exam, he turned his back on the law to hang out his shingle as a birding guide.

Marcelo met Bret Whitney in 2005 and embarked on a full-time guiding career with Field Guides in 2010. With his great sense of humor, impeccable organizational skills, and love of seeing birds, Marcelo has quickly become a reference for birding in Brazil, spending over 200 days each year in the field. A warning: Watch out if he sees displaying manakins of any kind! Marcelo makes his nest at the crossroads of the Pantanal and the Amazon in Cuiaba with his wife, Ana.

"Marcelo Padua was the best feature of the tour. He is an expert at his profession, a diplomat, and his obvious enthusiasm for what he does is much appreciated. Marcelo is second to none and heads above most other guides with whom we have traveled." J. & M.V., Jaguar Spotting

Visit <https://fieldguides.com/guides> for Marcelo's complete tour schedule; just click on his photo.

Financial Information

FEE: \$6075 from Sao Paulo and ending in Cuiaba

DEPOSIT: \$600 per person

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: November 8, 2019

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (Optional): \$925

LIMIT: 8

Other Things You Need to Know

TOUR MANAGER: The manager for this tour is Ruth Kuhl. Ruth will be happy to assist you in preparing for the tour. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call her!

ACCOMMODATIONS: Accommodations are comfortable to excellent throughout the tour. Our hotel at Intervalles does not have air conditioning and the rooms are somewhat spartan. Our hotel on the Brazilian side at Iguazu is a large one, and rooms are often several hundred feet from reception and the dining areas. In the Pantanal, we will divide our stay between two lodges, both of which are comfortable but not luxurious.

DOCUMENTS: US citizens need a current **passport** to enter Brazil, valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of return.

If you are not a US citizen, please check with the Brazilian consulate nearest you for entry requirements. Information about consulates and entry requirements is generally available online or you can contact us and we will be happy to look this up for you. Passports should have an adequate number of blank pages for the entire journey. Some countries require a blank page for their stamp and as a precaution it is best to have one blank page per country you will visit or transit.

VACCINATIONS: Yellow fever is widespread in many parts of Brazil, and we recommend all travelers to Brazil be vaccinated against the disease. Please check <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/brazil> for the current CDC information and consult with your physician about whether the vaccine is appropriate for you (there are contraindications for some individuals).

AIR ARRANGEMENTS: **Please note that the tour begins in Sao Paulo and ends in Cuiaba.** Please check with our office for the best schedule from your home airport.

Field Guides is a full service travel agency and your tour manager will be happy to assist you with flights to join this tour. Field Guides does not charge a service fee for these services to clients booking a tour. However, we understand that tech-savvy clients often prefer to shop online or that you may wish to use mileage to purchase tickets. Regardless of which method you choose, your tour manager will be happy to provide assistance regarding ticket prices and schedules, along with rental cars and extra hotel nights as needed.

Please be sure to check with your tour manager prior to purchasing your ticket to make sure the flights you have chosen will work well with the tour itinerary and that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate. Once purchased, most airline tickets are non-refundable and carry a penalty to change. Field Guides cannot be responsible for these fees.

Also, it is imperative that we receive a copy of your comprehensive flight itinerary—including any and all flights not covered in the tour fee—so that we may track you in the event of missed connections, delays, or other mishaps.

LUGGAGE: Please be aware that many airlines have recently modified their luggage policies and are charging additional fees for checked bags. Updates could easily occur before your departure, so you may wish to contact your airline to verify the policy. Additional charges for bags on any flights, whether these are covered by the tour fee or not, will be the client's responsibility.

TOUR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS: The **tour fee** is \$6075 for one person in double occupancy from Sao Paulo. It includes all lodging from Day 2 through Day 13, all meals from lunch on Day 2 through lunch on Day 14, all ground transportation, flights within Brazil, entrance fees, and the guide services of the tour leader(s). Tipping at group meals and for drivers, porters, and local guides is included in your tour fee and will be handled for the group by your Field Guides leader(s). However, if you would like to recognize your Field Guides leader(s) or any local guide(s) for exceptional service, it is entirely appropriate to tip. We emphasize that such tips are optional and not expected.

The above fee does not include your airfare to and from Brazil, airport taxes (these are now usually included on tickets issued in the US), any checked or carry-on baggage charges imposed by the airlines, any alcoholic beverages, optional tips to local drivers, phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature.

The **single supplement** is \$925. If you do not have a roommate but wish to share, we will try to pair you with a roommate from the tour; but if none is available, you will be billed for the single supplement. Our tour fees are based on double occupancy; one-half the cost of a double room is priced into the tour fee. The single supplement is calculated by taking the actual cost of a single room and subtracting one-half the cost of a double room (plus any applicable taxes).

TOUR REGISTRATION: To register for this tour, complete the Registration/Release and Indemnity form and return it with a **deposit of \$600** per person. If registering by phone, a deposit must be received within fourteen days, or the space will be released. **Full payment** of the tour fee is due 120 days prior to departure, or **by November 8, 2019. We will bill you for the final payment at either 120 days or when the tour has reached sufficient subscription to operate, whichever date comes later.** Since the cost of your trip insurance and airline tickets is generally non-refundable, please do not finalize these purchases until you have received final billing for the tour or have been advised that the tour is sufficiently subscribed to operate by your tour manager.

SMOKING: Almost all of our clients prefer a smoke-free environment. If you smoke, please be sensitive to the group and refrain from smoking at meals, in vehicles, and in proximity to the group on trails and elsewhere.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Refund of deposit and payment, less \$100 handling fee, will be made if cancellation is received up to 120 days before departure. If cancellation occurs between 119 and 70 days before the departure date, 50% of the tour fee is refundable. Thereafter, all deposits and payments are not refundable.

This policy only applies to payments made to Field Guides for tour fees (and any services included in those fees). Airline tickets not included in the tour fee and purchased separately often carry penalties for cancellation or change, or are sometimes totally non-refundable. Additionally, if you take out trip insurance the cost of the insurance is not refundable so it is best to purchase the policy just prior to making full payment for the tour or at the time you purchase airline tickets, depending upon the airlines restrictions.

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 in case of emergency another guide for the original one.

TRIP CANCELLATION & MEDICAL EMERGENCY INSURANCE: We strongly recommend you consider purchasing trip cancellation (including medical emergency) insurance to cover your investment in case of injury or illness to you or your family prior to or during a trip. Because we must remit early (and substantial) tour deposits to our suppliers, we cannot offer any refund when cancellation occurs within 70 days of departure, and only a partial refund from 70 to 119 days prior to departure (see CANCELLATION POLICY). In addition, the Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies overseas and if it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. US medical insurance plans seldom cover health costs incurred outside the United States unless supplemental coverage is purchased. Furthermore, US Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States.

When making a decision regarding health insurance, Americans should consider that many foreign doctors and hospitals require payment in cash prior to providing service and that a medical evacuation to the United States may cost well in excess of \$50,000. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas often face extreme difficulties. When consulting with your insurer prior to your trip, please ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas healthcare provider or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses that you incur.

US citizens will receive from us a brochure regarding optional tour cancellation/emergency medical insurance. Our agent, CSA, will insure for trip cancellation and interruption, medical coverage, travel delay, baggage loss and delay, and emergency medical transportation. **Currently we are unable to offer CSA insurance policies to residents of New York and Hawaii.** We have had clients provide positive feedback after acquiring insurance with InsureMyTrip (www.insuremytrip.com) in the past, and would suggest that company as an alternative. Please let us know if you have any questions about this. If you purchase the insurance within 24 hours of making final payment for the tour, and cover all non-refundable parts of the trip (including any non-refundable flights), pre-existing conditions are covered. The CSA brochure includes a contact number; you may also purchase your CSA policy on-line by visiting our website at <https://fieldguides.com/travelinsurance.html> and clicking the link to CSA. Please note, once the insurance is purchased it is non-refundable, so please check with your tour manager prior to making the purchase to assure the tour will operate as scheduled. Citizens of other countries are urged to consult their insurance broker.

RESPONSIBILITY: For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the tour, each tour participant and each parent or legal guardian of a tour participant who is under 18 agrees to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Field Guides Incorporated, its agents, servants, employees, shareholders, officers, directors, attorneys, and contractors as more fully set forth in the Release and Indemnity Agreement on the reverse side of the registration form. Field Guides Incorporated acts only as an agent for the passenger in regard to travel, whether by railroad, motorcar, motorcoach, boat, airplane, or other means, and assumes no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity caused by defect in such vehicles or for any reason whatsoever, including the acts, defaults, or bankruptcies of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. Field Guides Incorporated accepts 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. The tour participant shall bear all such losses and expenses. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right 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. Field Guides Incorporated reserves the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of any tour. Baggage is at owner's risk entirely.

Participants should be in good health and should consult a physician before undertaking a tour. If you have questions about the physical requirements of a tour, please contact our office for further information. Participants should prepare for the tour by reading the detailed itinerary, the information bulletin, and other pertinent matter provided by Field Guides. Each participant is responsible for bringing appropriate clothing and equipment as recommended in our bulletins.

THE RECEIPT OF YOUR TOUR DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE CONSENT TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS. EACH TOUR PARTICIPANT AND EACH PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A TOUR PARTICIPANT WHO IS UNDER 18 SHALL SIGN AND DELIVER THE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.
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