

ALTA FLORESTA & THE NORTHERN PANTANAL

September 30, 2006 to October 13, 2006

Guided by
Mitch Lysinger

This was my fourth time guiding the Kania private groups. We've covered a large chunk of the South American continent together (in three countries) and have seen a lot of great birds and sights, and you know what? It just gets more fun each time; I had more fun on this trip than I have had in a long time, and I hope you feel the same! The Alta Floresta/Cristalino and Chapada/pantanal areas were great choices for this round and gave us a quality cross-section of some of Brazil's best: birds, mammals, caipirinhas, and all.

The three main venues on this itinerary provided us with a nice mix of birds and habitats, and a fresh change of pace around each corner. From a bird standpoint, we rushed in and netted a large chunk of the specialties (as well as the regulars) to be found at each stop, leaving few holes.

Our couple of half days in the Chapada dos Guimarães were a ragging success, considering the short time we had there in between flights. We also enjoyed some of the best scenery of the trip here, such as at the Bride's Veil waterfall with its dramatic cliffs and canyons. Some of the best birds here included great looks at Small-billed Tinamou sneaking about near the parking lot, Red-legged Seriema, a couple of perched Blue-winged Macaws, nesting Peach-fronted Parakeets, awesome White-eared Puffbirds, displaying Chapada Flycatchers, the local Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant, the elegant Curl-crested Jay, incredible displaying White-rumped Tanagers, singing male Coal-crested Finches, and those surprise Blue Finches — an unlikely color with that red clay backdrop.

From here it was off to the southern reaches of the Brazilian Amazon (further north) at beautiful Cristalino Jungle Lodge where the birding was top-notch and service excellent. But I would be remiss in not mentioning our stop-over night at the Hotel Floresta Amazonica where we saw — after some considerable effort, I might add — a young Harpy Eagle recently out of its nest. We came close to missing it, but our perseverance paid off. Our birding here and further in at Cristalino was just one splash of success after another; between the tower and the gorgeous boat rides and trail walks through virgin lowland forest, we really scoured the place, picking off many of the fine regional endemics and other classic Amazonian species. There were plenty of good ones, like the Zigzag Heron that came shooting by us to then land in the spotlight at dusk; beautiful White-browed Hawks from the tower; that amazingly responsive Cryptic Forest-Falcon in the scope; fantastic studies of males of both Razor-billed and Bare-faced Curassows; some really nice encounters with both Sungrebe and Sunbittern; more parrots than I should name here, but what about those squawking Red-and-green Macaws and bright Crimson-bellied Parakeets? I would have included Kawall's, but they were just too far away to make the final cut; a nice list of jacamars, but I think the Blue-cheeked and Paradise really shined; great looks at Brown-banded Puffbird; awesome repeated views of Black-girdled Barbet; that point-blank Ringed Woodpecker at the tower; a huge list of antbirds (34 seen at Cristalino alone!), but the winner for rarity and beauty has to go to the Bare-eyed, especially since is one of those obligatory antswarm followers and found only in a small range; some great cotingas, like those electric Spangleds and the last minute surprise female Pompadour; wonderful manakins, but the Snow-capped was the most exciting; and the localized Tooth-billed Wren for a great performance at the tower. Tomorrow, if I were to read through the list again and pick favorites, it would probably look very different, but with this you have an idea of some of the birds that I saw as being real show-stoppers!

The pantanal was dry — until our last day when we experienced maybe a little too much rain! — but we still enjoyed a nice turn-out of most of the big and gaudy water birds that we were hoping for, plus some of the other less obvious species. What comes to mind? How about all of those Rheas?; Jabirus everywhere and even on nests; those smart Plumbeous Ibis; a small band of Chestnut-bellied Guans one evening; crippling looks at those stunning Hyacinth Macaws, plus those last minute looks at Golden-collared; the responsive Great Rufous Woodcreepers; a Helmeted Manakin that I'm sure none of us will forget; all of those sprite little White-headed Marsh-Tyrants; and those unbelievable Scarlet-headed Blackbirds in the papyrus beds. We also had some of the best mammals of the trip here, among them Capybaras littering the marshes, a few Crab-eating Foxes out for an afternoon hunt, South American Coatis, Giant River Otters in our faces happily crunching fish, and fabulous looks at a Brazilian Tapir that we stumbled across during our boat ride.

I could ramble on all day here, but I'll pull the reins and let you thumb through the list. One big reason that things worked so well for us was because of the excellent help we had on the ground with guys like Ricardo and Paulo (our pantanal and Chapada guides), Chiririca (our goofy and fun driver, who looked to me kind of like Pewee Herman!), and Francisco and George (or local guides at Cristalino). So guys, where are we headed next? SE Brazil, Peru, another great Ecuadorian destination? I'm ready, so let's do it, and I hope all of you can make it again!

List total: 506 bird taxa and 19 mammal taxa

*If marked to left of list, * = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic,
N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant*

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Rheidae

GREATER RHEA (*Rhea americana*)

Denis spotted them first in the Chapada. Almost felt like Australia, right Peter? Later on in the pantanal we enjoyed many more fine views.

Tinamidae

* GREAT TINAMOU (*Tinamus major*)

* CINEREOUS TINAMOU (*Crypturellus cinereus*)

* BROWN TINAMOU (*Crypturellus obsoletus*)

* UNDULATED TINAMOU (*Crypturellus undulatus*)

* BRAZILIAN TINAMOU (*Crypturellus strigulosus*)

We tried!

* VARIEGATED TINAMOU (*Crypturellus variegatus*)

SMALL-BILLED TINAMOU (*Crypturellus parvirostris*)

Knee-buckling views of an individual creeping through the grass in the Chapada!

RED-WINGED TINAMOU (*Rhynchotus rufescens*)

Some folks had them from the plane during our landings and take-offs on our way to Cuiabá.

Phalacrocoracidae

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Anhingidae

ANHINGA (*Anhinga anhinga*)

Ardeidae

WHISTLING HERON (*Syrigma sibilatrix*)

One of the flashiest heron species.

CAPPED HERON (*Ptilerodius pileatus*)

Although not as flashy as the previous species, this one is still a well-marked heron.

COCOI HERON (*Ardea cocoi*)

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*)

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Egretta caerulea*)

SNOWY EGRET (*Egretta thula*)

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*)

STRIATED HERON (*Butorides striata*)

BOAT-BILLED HERON (*Cochlearius cochlearius*)

Seen a few times briefly as they fed along the shore of the Cristalino a couple of times with the spotlights, but then really well along the Pixaim River in the pantanal during our boat excursion.

RUFESCENT TIGER-HERON (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)

Many fine views of this elegant tiger-heron.

ZIGZAG HERON (*Zebrilus undulatus*)

Easily one of the major (of many!) highlights of the trip; Jim and I just couldn't resist celebrating over ice-cold caipirinhas soon after! I really thought that this was going to be a long-shot, but Francisco insisted that we try another spot. Right as the light was fading... it answered close-by. After a brief and quiet wait, it blasted by us, across the Cristalino, and then landed across the river on an unobstructed snag for nice spotlight views. I don't think I had ever been so excited to see this species!

Ciconiidae

WOOD STORK (*Mycteria americana*)

JABIRU (*Jabiru mycteria*)

One of the hallmark species of the pantanal; it was nice to see the active nests with nestlings... imagine trying to keep those buggers fed!

Threskiornithidae

PLUMBEOUS IBIS (*Theristicus caerulescens*)

After this trip, Peter, you'll always be the ibis to me! This elegant ibis was seen well many times at close range in the pantanal.

BUFF-NECKED IBIS (*Theristicus caudatus*)

Also pretty common in the pantanal. I just love those 'honking' calls they give.

GREEN IBIS (*Mesembrinibis cayennensis*)

Common along the Cristalino.

BARE-FACED (WHISPERING) IBIS (*Phimosus infuscatus*)

A lone bird in the pantanal.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL (*Platalea ajaja*)

They certainly make for a gorgeous splash of pink.

Anhimidae

SOUTHERN SCREAMER (*Chauna torquata*)

This species could give Thanksgiving a new meaning... what a chunk! We enjoyed nice scope views of them in the pantanal.

Anatidae

WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna viduata*)

A last minute group of ten was a welcome sight at Santa Tereza!

MUSCOVY DUCK (*Cairina moschata*)

BRAZILIAN TEAL (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*)

Cathartidae

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*)

This species' electric speculum makes up for an otherwise drab bird.

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*)

LESSER YELLOW-HEADED VULTURE (*Cathartes burrovianus*)

Fairly common in the pantanal. Ann, I'm so glad you bonded with them... thanks for the lovely card! You captured the colors just right.

GREATER YELLOW-HEADED VULTURE (*Cathartes melambrotus*)

This one prefers forest, rather than grasslands; common at Cristalino.

KING VULTURE (*Sarcoramphus papa*)

A few nice fly-overs.

Pandionidae

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Accipitridae

GRAY-HEADED KITE (*Leptodon cayanensis*)

One seen at Hotel Floresta Amazonica.

HOOK-BILLED KITE (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*)

A few nice looks at them in flight, paddle-shaped wings and all.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (*Elanoides forficatus*)

PEARL KITE (*Gampsonyx swainsonii*)

How about perched up on a wire in the pantanal?!

SNAIL KITE (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*)

Scarce this trip, but we did run into a young bird on our last day in the pantanal that brought us to a screeching halt.

DOUBLE-TOOTHED KITE (*Harpagus bidentatus*)

PLUMBEOUS KITE (*Ictinia plumbea*)

CRANE HAWK (*Geranospiza caerulescens gracilis*)

Ricardo, our local guide, was red-hot when he spotted a perched bird for us on our last day during our drive out of the pantanal. As a matter of curiosity, this race does have a light vent with a buffy wash.

WHITE-BROWED HAWK (*Leucopternis kuhli*)

Fantastic scope studies from the Cristalino tower of this handsome hawk.

GREAT BLACK-HAWK (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)

SAVANNA HAWK (*Buteogallus meridionalis*)

BLACK-COLLARED HAWK (*Busarellus nigricollis*)

A common and beautiful hawk that we saw repeatedly in the pantanal.

ROADSIDE HAWK (*Buteo magnirostris*)

The hawk with the rufous wing panels.

SHORT-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo brachyurus*)

A light morph bird in the Chapada.

HARPY EAGLE (*Harpia harpyja*)

I still find it amazing that this still manages to nest successfully in the 50 hectare plot at the Hotel Floresta Amazonica, despite the surrounding destruction! Our persistence paid off when we scoped the calling young bird - near the nest - on our second try for full head-shots. Yes, it would have been nice to have had the entire bird in full view, but to me the face of this species is captivating. And hey, a Harpy is a Harpy. Yeah, baby!

ORNATE HAWK-EAGLE (*Spizaetus ornatus*)

Seen well as it called and soared overhead at Cristalino.

Falconidae

BLACK CARACARA (*Daptrius ater*)

* RED-THROATED CARACARA (*Ibycter americanus*)

SOUTHERN CARACARA (*Caracara plancus*)

YELLOW-HEADED CARACARA (*Milvago chimachima*)

LAUGHING FALCON (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)

CRYPTIC FOREST-FALCON (*Micrastur mintoni*)

Francisco knew the spot; all it took was a little playback to get it going and bring it in for marvelous scope views of it calling. This recently described species had eluded ornithologists and birders and hit the scene as a total surprise. Another big trip highlight.

* SLATY-BACKED FOREST-FALCON (*Micrastur mirandollei*)

AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*)

BAT FALCON (*Falco rufigularis*)

Cracidae

CHACO CHACHALACA (*Ortalis canicollis*)

Abundant in the pantanal.

SPIX'S GUAN (*Penelope jacquacu*)

Seen well along the Cristalino.

E CHESTNUT-BELLIED GUAN (*Penelope ochrogaster*)

A specialty of the northern pantanal. We enjoyed nice scope views of them during our stroll down the entrance road into Pouse Alegre as they mingled with the chachalacas.

BLUE-THROATED PIPING-GUAN (*Pipile cumanensis*)

Fairly common in the pantanal. And what a thrill it was to witness their rattled wing display.

E RED-THROATED PIPING-GUAN (*Pipile cufuji*)

Many fine views of this one at Cristalino.

RAZOR-BILLED CURASSOW (*Mitu tuberosa*)

Joe almost gripped us off on this one, but our last push to see this magnificent bird ended in complete victory when we stalked a 'booming' male on our last morning at Cristalino for scope views. What an experience! I wonder if we even needed to be so quiet; I think next time I'll just run in with party-twirlers and see what happens.

BARE-FACED CURASSOW (*Crax fasciolata*)

The resident female at Pouse Alegre was a gas - I think it would have boarded the bus had we let it - but the male along the Cristalino (perched up on a snag) in beautiful morning light was the real thrill!

Odontophoridae

* MARBLED WOOD-QUAIL (*Odontophorus gujanensis*)

Aramidae

LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*)

Rallidae

GRAY-NECKED WOOD-RAIL (*Aramides cajanea*)

Like chickens in the pantanal.

* ASH-THROATED CRAKE (*Porzana albicollis*)

It just wouldn't come in!

Heliornithidae

SUNGREBE (*Heliornis fulica*)

It took a few tries, but I think everybody got on them between our encounters at Cristalino and the pantanal. I thought it was interesting how one of the birds at Cristalino tried to escape us by sitting quietly up on the bank as we drifted by. And kudos to those of you who got to see the striping on the feet.

Eurypygaidae

SUNBITTERN (*Eurypyga helias*)

Well, standing on the boat was a first for me! We had more than our fare-share of awesome studies of this stunning species.

Cariamidae

RED-LEGGED SERIEMA (*Cariama cristata*)

It was a good thing that we spotted it in the Chapada perched up on an isolated tree!

Jacanidae

WATTLED JACANA (*Jacana jacana*)

Recurvirostridae

WHITE-BACKED STILT (*Himantopus melanurus*)

Peter had a few out on a mud-bank along the Pixaim before they vanished.

Charadriidae

PIED LAPWING (*Vanellus cayanus*)

This ornate species of plover was seen well on a sandbar along the Teles Pires River.

SOUTHERN LAPWING (*Vanellus chilensis*)

Scolopacidae

LESSER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa flavipes*)

SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria*)

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularia*)

Sternidae

YELLOW-BILLED TERN (*Sterna supercilialis*)

A few in the Cristalino area.

LARGE-BILLED TERN (*Phaetusa simplex*)

Seen well scooping up fish along the Pixaim.

Columbidae

I ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*)

SCALED PIGEON (*Patagioenas speciosa*)

PICAZURO PIGEON (*Patagioenas picazuro*)

PALE-VENTED PIGEON (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)

PLUMBEOUS PIGEON (*Patagioenas plumbea*)

RUDDY PIGEON (*Patagioenas subvinacea*)

Oh yes... we definitely bonded with it!

EARED DOVE (*Zenaida auriculata*)

RUDDY GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina talpacoti*)

PICUI GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina picui*)

SCALED DOVE (*Columbina squammata*)

LONG-TAILED GROUND-DOVE (*Uropelia campestris*)

A strange little ground-dove that we had perched up for nice views in the pantanal.

WHITE-TIPPED DOVE (*Leptotila verreauxi*)

Common in the pantanal.

GRAY-FRONTED DOVE (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)

A few along the Pixaim.

RUDDY QUAIL-DOVE (*Geotrygon montana*)

Some caught a glimpse of this one at Cristalino.

Psittacidae

HYACINTH MACAW (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*)

No visit to the pantanal would be complete without this species... right Linda? We enjoyed spectacular views of this majestic macaw a few times.

BLUE-AND-YELLOW MACAW (*Ara ararauna*)

Many fine views, but best closer to Alta Floresta when we connected with a very close and perched pair eating palm fruits.

SCARLET MACAW (*Ara macao*)

The 'best-dressed' of the macaws, in my opinion, with that striking combination of red, blue and yellow!

RED-AND-GREEN MACAW (*Ara chloropterus*)

Some fabulous shows from the tower at Cristalino!

CHESTNUT-FRONTED MACAW (*Ara severa*)

Also scoped from the canopy tower and the lodge surroundings at Cristalino.

RED-BELLIED MACAW (*Orthopsittaca manilata*)

This small macaw was seen a few times flying by.

BLUE-WINGED MACAW (*Primolius maracana*)

Some pretty decent perched views of this one in the Chapada.

GOLDEN-COLLARED MACAW (*Primolius auricollis*)

The best last minute snag, as far as I'm concerned, when we scoped them in the pantanal as they perched in nice light.

RED-SHOULDERED MACAW (*Diopsittaca nobilis*)

Brief fly-bys.

BLUE-CROWNED PARAKEET (*Aratinga acuticaudata*)

A few in the pantanal when they came in with other parakeets to raid a fruiting mango tree.

WHITE-EYED PARAKEET (*Aratinga leucophthalmus*)

PEACH-FRONTED PARAKEET (*Aratinga aurea*)

Seen best in the Chapada near the Bride's Veil waterfall where we watched them at a nest next to the parking lot. What a bright crown pattern!

E CRIMSON-BELLIED PARAKEET (*Pyrrhura perlata*)

Francisco nailed this one for us at the Saleiro at Cristalino; yet another beautiful psittacid.

PAINTED PARAKEET (*Pyrrhura picta microtera*)

MONK PARAKEET (*Myiopsitta monachus*)

YELLOW-CHEVRONED PARAKEET (*Brotogeris chiriri*)

GOLDEN-WINGED PARAKEET (*Brotogeris chrysopterus*)

It took a few tries, but I think everybody finally got the quality views we were hoping for; Cristalino.

***** SCARLET-SHOULDERED PARROTLET (*Touit huetii*)

WHITE-BELLIED PARROT (*Pionites leucogaster*)

A clean-up bird on our second visit to the tower where we had some exceptionally nice scope studies.

ORANGE-CHEEKED PARROT (*Pionopsitta barrabandi*)

Not everybody got on these as we motored down the Teles Pires en route to the river island, but those that did, managed to get that striking cheek patch.

BLUE-HEADED PARROT (*Pionus menstruus*)

SCALY-HEADED PARROT (*Pionus maximiliani*)

Fairly common in the pantanal.

BLUE-FRONTED PARROT (*Amazona aestiva*)

The common - and very loud - parrot of the pantanal.

YELLOW-CROWNED PARROT (*Amazona ochrocephala*)

A few times at Cristalino.

E KAWALL'S PARROT (*Amazona kawalli*)

I wish we had had a little better luck with this one since it is such a regional endemic, but for those up on the top platform at the tower early on during our first (real) visit, distant (but indentifiable) scope views were had; we heard them close-by a few times as well.

ORANGE-WINGED PARROT (*Amazona amazonica*)

Some fly-bys.

MEALY PARROT (*Amazona farinosa*)

The more common Amazon parrot around Cristalino.

RED-FAN PARROT (*Deroptyus accipitrinus*)

Certainly the strangest looking parrot of the trip with those hackles.

Cuculidae

DARK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus melacoryphus*)

One quietly feeding bird that we scoped along the trails at Cristalino was a nice find!

SQUIRREL CUCKOO (*Piaya cayana*)

BLACK-BELLIED CUCKOO (*Piaya melanogaster*)

The more handsome cousin of the previous species; we had good looks at it a few times at Cristalino.

LITTLE CUCKOO (*Piaya minuta*)

The smallest bird in the genus Piaya, and we had great looks at them out along the Cristalino.

GREATER ANI (*Crotophaga major*)

Large flocks of this largest ani species.

SMOOTH-BILLED ANI (*Crotophaga ani*)

GUIRA CUCKOO (*Guira guira*)

This wacky looking cuckoo was a common sight in the pantanal.

* STRIPED CUCKOO (*Tapera naevia*)

Strigidae

* TROPICAL SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops choliba*)

* TAWNY-BELLIED SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops watsonii usta*)

And we were so close!

* GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*)

CRESTED OWL (*Lophotrix cristata*)

Killer studies of a responsive bird right from the lawn at Floresta Amazonica just blew us away!

* AMAZONIAN PYGMY-OWL (*Glaucidium hardyi*)

The only one that we heard was an individual that started calling at midnight at Cristalino - good thing nobody saw me stalking around in my underwear (and Denis' boots) trying to get better tape of it!

* FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)

BURROWING OWL (*Athene cunicularia*)

Nyctibiidae

COMMON POTOO (*Nyctibius griseus*)

Seen well in the spotlight one evening along the Cristalino.

Caprimulgidae

SHORT-TAILED NIGHTHAWK (*Lurocalis semitorquatus*)

One swooped by for those in the trailing canoe one evening along the Cristalino.

NACUNDA NIGHTHAWK (*Podager nacunda*)

This giant nighthawk species was seen nicely at dusk in the pantanal.

PAURAQUE (*Nyctidromus albigollis*)

Point-blank studies of birds (one rufous morph & one normal) right next to the cabins at Cristalino during the day.

* OCELLATED POORWILL (*Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*)

SPOT-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus maculicaudus*)

My attempt at herding it towards the group worked splendidly for nice spotlight views in the pantanal. This sort of counts as 'Tinamitch' behavior!

BLACKISH NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus nigrescens*)

Joe spotted our first birds in camp at Cristalino where they ended up being a common sight, like the ones roosting on the roof of one of the cabins.

LADDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Hydropsalis climacocerca*)

This early-growth specialist performed well for us out on the river island.

Apodidae

GREAT DUSKY SWIFT (*Cypseloides senex*)

In flight and perched in the Chapada.

WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)

GRAY-RUMPED SWIFT (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)

CHAPMAN'S (AMAZONIAN) SWIFT (*Chaetura chapmani viridipennis*)

A few of them from the upper stretches of the Serra trail.

SHORT-TAILED SWIFT (*Chaetura brachyura*)

FORK-TAILED PALM-SWIFT (*Tachornis squamata*)

Trochilidae

EASTERN LONG-TAILED HERMIT (*Phaethornis superciliosus*)

Seen well by everybody during an excursion or two to the, uh... VIP cabin, where they came regularly to sip at the heliconia flowers.

BUFF-BELLIED HERMIT (*Phaethornis subochraceus*)

Glimpses in the pantanal.

REDDISH HERMIT (*Phaethornis ruber*)

Regular at Cristalino.

* WHITE-VENTED VIOLET-EAR (*Colibri serrirostris*)

BLACK-THROATED MANGO (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*)

GLITTERING-BELLIED EMERALD (*Chlorostilbon aureoventris*)

Seen well in the pantanal. Also remember the bird in question that Peter was unsure about being a White-tailed goldenthrout in the Chapada? Well, I think we finally agreed that it was a female of this common species.

FORK-TAILED WOODNYMPH (*Thalurania furcata*)

VERICOLORED EMERALD (*Agyrtria versicolor*)

GLITTERING-THROATED EMERALD (*Polyerata fimbriata*)

Seen best at Paulo's office near Cuiabá where they frequented a flowering tree; this was the one with the obvious white stripe down the belly.

BLACK-EARED FAIRY (*Heliophryx aurita*)

A cleanly-marked hummer.

HORNED SUNGEM (*Heliactin bilophum*)

An easily missed species, but we lucked into a female in the Chapada at a flowering tree that proved to be a fine ambush for it!

LONG-BILLED STARTHROAT (*Helimaster longirostris*)

Trogonidae

WHITE-TAILED TROGON (*Trogon viridis*)

A good trip for trogons with excellent views of all but one of the possible species, this being the most common.

VIOLACEOUS TROGON (*Trogon violaceus*)

COLLARED TROGON (*Trogon collaris*)

BLUE-CROWNED TROGON (*Trogon curucui*)

One of the harder trogons to find, but Peter spotted one for us right from camp.

BLACK-TAILED TROGON (*Trogon melanurus*)

Alcedinidae

RINGED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle torquatus*)

AMAZON KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle amazona*)

GREEN KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle americana*)

GREEN-AND-RUFIOUS KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle inda*)

What a thrill to have such excellent studies of this gorgeous kingfisher.

AMERICAN PYGMY KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle aenea*)

Nice going Marscha; she skillfully spotted our first one during our boat ride in the pantanal!

Momotidae

BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT (*Momotus momota*)

* RUFOUS MOTMOT (*Baryphthengus martii*)

Galbulidae

BROWN JACAMAR (*Brachygalba lugubris melanosterna*)

This whitish-bellied, pale-eyed form was seen well out along the Cristalino.

BLUE-CHEEKED JACAMAR (*Galbula cyanicollis*)

Excellent studies of this inforest jacamar species at Cristalino.

RUFOUS-TAILED JACAMAR (*Galbula ruficauda*)

BRONZY JACAMAR (*Galbula leucogastra*)

A little playback brought this one in for terrific scope views - thanks to George's suggestion!

PARADISE JACAMAR (*Galbula dea*)

A daily sight at Cristalino, and what a stunner!

Bucconidae

WHITE-NECKED PUFFBIRD (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*)

Some nice vies of this chunky puffbird at Cristalino.

BROWN-BANDED PUFFBIRD (*Notharchus ordii*)

One of the real target puffbird species, and we enjoyed looks at them on two ocassions in one day! Nice spotting there, Linda, on that second one along the river!

PIED PUFFBIRD (*Notharchus tectus*)

Scope views of a responsive bird along the Serra trail.

WHITE-EARED PUFFBIRD (*Nystalus chacuru*)

The hook on this species' bill could catch a large fish! Isn't this just a exquisite puffbird? They were quite common in the Chapada.

STRIOLATED PUFFBIRD (*Nystalus striolatus torridus*)

Jack came through with a key spot on this one - nice going!

RUFOUS-NECKED PUFFBIRD (*Malacoptila rufa*)

Fantastic scope views of this regional endemic along the trails at Cristalino.

* RUFOUS-CAPPED NUNLET (*Nonnula ruficapilla*)

BLACK-FRONTED NUNBIRD (*Monasa nigrifrons*)

WHITE-FRONTED NUNBIRD (*Monasa morphoeus*)

SWALLOW-WING (*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*)

Capitonidae

E BLACK-GIRDLED BARBET (*Capito dayi*)

A captivating, or should I say... capitovating - note the scientific name to get the poor attempt at a pun! - species. We had some outstanding studies at this one from the tower at Cristalino; another regional endemic.

Ramphastidae

LETTERED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus inscriptus*)

The smaller of the aracarís which we saw numerous times at Cristalino.

E RED-NECKED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus bitorquatus*)

We did well with the regional endemics, and this was yet another. Seen well a few times from the tower and at the Floresta Amazonica.

CHESTNUT-EARED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)

CURL-CRESTED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus beauharnaesii*)

Very nice studies of this bizarre aracari species, especially from the tower. Its 'hair-do' looks as if it has spent hours with hundreds of tiny curlers!

* GOULD'S TOUCANET (*Selenidera gouldii*)

Now we were really close, and we have even glimpsed it.

CHANNEL-BILLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos vitellinus*)

RED-BILLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos tucanus cuvieri*)

Both this and the previous species were common at Cristalino. The Red-billed is the larger one that is now commonly lumped with other races, such as the 'White-throated'. If you have ever seen Yellow-ridged Toucan during your travels somewhere, it is the same as the Channel-billed... these days!

TOCO TOUCAN (*Ramphastos toco*)

The giant toucan with the orange bill that we saw smashingly well in the pantanal.

Picidae

BAR-BREASTED PICULET (*Picumnus aurifrons*)

This tiny woodpecker relative was fairly common with the flocks at Cristalino.

WHITE WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes candidus*)

A strange woodpecker in that it tends to almost always travel in family groups; Chapada and pantanal.

YELLOW-TUFTED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes cruentatus*)

LITTLE WOODPECKER (*Veniliornis passerinus*)

This rather drab species was seen a few times in the pantanal.

RED-STAINED WOODPECKER (*Veniliornis affinis*)

The more forest-based relative of the previous species.

YELLOW-THROATED WOODPECKER (*Piculus flavigula*)

One seen well from the boats along the Cristalino.

GOLDEN-GREEN WOODPECKER (*Piculus chrysochloros*)

We had our best looks near the lodge at Santa Tereza in the pantanal.

GREEN-BARRED WOODPECKER (*Colaptes melanochloros*)

Both in the Chapada and pantanal.

CAMPO FLICKER (*Colaptes campestris*)

SCALY-BREASTED WOODPECKER (*Celeus grammicus*)

One very responsive bird on the west bank of the Teles Pires was a nice last minute snag in the Cristalino area.

CHESTNUT WOODPECKER (*Celeus elegans*)

The larger cousin of the previous species.

CREAM-COLORED WOODPECKER (*Celeus flavus*)

We had nice luck a few times calling in this very distinctively-plumaged Celeus species a couple of times.

RINGED WOODPECKER (*Celeus torquatus*)

Unbelievable studies of a responsive bird from the tower that must have perched for us at close range for about 20 minutes! Some of us also had looks previous to this, but not as satisfying.

LINEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

RED-NECKED WOODPECKER (*Campephilus rubricollis*)

A little distant from the tower, but the scope allowed for some quality looks... what an incredible species of woodpecker!

CRIMSON-CRESTED WOODPECKER (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)

Furnariidae

PALE-LEGGED HORNERO (*Furnarius leucopus*)

A few seen well in the pantanal, but far outnumbered by the Rufous Hornero.

RUFIOUS HORNERO (*Furnarius rufus*)

It was a charge to actually see birds at their nests, the group for which the family was named for.

CHOTOY SPINETAIL (*Schoeniophylax phryganophila*)

A classy looking spinetail!

PALE-BREASTED SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis albescens*)

Nice looks at one in some shrubby growth in the Chapada.

PLAIN-CROWNED SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis gujanensis*)

Nicely out on the river island when we spotted a responsive pair across the chanel.

WHITE-LORED SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis albilora*)

Common in the pantanal; once considered conspecific with the previous species.

CHESTNUT-THROATED SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis cherriei*)

This species has a strange, disjunct range, being very rare in other areas, such as in Ecuador. Here, however, it was quite common in the bamboo stands.

RUSTY-BACKED SPINETAIL (*Cranioleuca vulpina*)

Nice looks at a responsive pair out on the river island.

* SPECKLED SPINETAIL (*Cranioleuca gutturata*)

YELLOW-CHINNED SPINETAIL (*Certhiaxis cinnamomea*)

Common near water in the pantanal.

COMMON THORNBIRD (*Phacellodomus rufifrons*)

The designer and builder of many of those large stick nests in the pantanal. The size of those almost seems like overkill for the size of the bird, but I'm sure they have a good reason!

GREATER THORNBIRD (*Phacellodomus ruber*)

The larger relative - with the orange eye - of the previous species.

GRAY-CRESTED CACHOLOTE (*Pseudoseisura unirufa*)

Another common, not-too-distant relative, of the thornbirds that we saw well numerous times in the pantanal.

SLENDER-BILLED XENOPS (*Xenops tenuirostris*)

Seen a couple of times with the flocks at Cristalino; not a common bird.

CHESTNUT-WINGED HOOBILL (*Ancistrops strigilatus*)

We had our best looks at this distinctive foliage-gleaner relative right in camp when we called in a responsive bird that was moving with a flock.

CHESTNUT-WINGED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Philydor erythropterus*)

We picked one out of a large flock and successfully called it in for better looks along the Haffer trail at Cristalino. Remember that this was the one with the orange wash on the throat.

RUFIOUS-RUMPED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Philydor erythrocerus*)

The most common foliage-gleaner with the flocks at Cristalino.

* CRESTED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus dorsalis*)

* CHESTNUT-CROWNED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus rufipileatus*)

BUFF-THROATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus ochrolaemus*)

One very responsive bird along the Serra trail at Cristalino when we pulled it out of a flock.

PARA FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus paraensis*)

This form was long considered to be a race of the Olive-backed Foliage-gleaner. While they do look similar, their voices sound nothing alike. We had outstanding studies of them in an understory flock along the Taboca trail.

Dendrocolaptidae

PLAIN-BROWN WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)

WHITE-CHINNED WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocincla merula*)

Nice looks at one as it fed at our only - and very large - antswarm of the trip.

LONG-TAILED WOODCREEPER (*Deconychura longicauda*)

Tremendous views of this one right from camp.

OLIVACEOUS WOODCREEPER (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*)

LONG-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Nasica longirostris*)

Some of these woodcreepers can really start to look all the same, but not this one... what a bill!

* CINNAMON-THROATED WOODCREEPER (*Dendrexetastes rufigula*)

GREAT RUFIOUS WOODCREEPER (*Xiphocolaptes major*)

We nailed them in the pantanal.

- * AMAZONIAN BARRED-WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocolaptes certhia concolor*)
Heard singing at dawn right from camp, but it was rather unresponsive.
- STRAIGHT-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus picus*)
- STRIPED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*)
- E SPIX'S WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus spixii*)
- BUFF-THROATED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus*)
Seen in the pantanal at Santa Tereza.
- E LAFRESNAYE'S WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus guttatoides eytoni*)
Split from the previous species, this one has stronger markings and different vocalizations; common at Cristalino.
- NARROW-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Lepidocolaptes angustirostris*)
A very clearly-marked woodcreeper of the in drier areas, such as in the Chapada and pantanal.
- RED-BILLED SCYTHEBILL (*Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*)
Fabulously in the pantanal for everybody... including Linda in her wounded state!
- CURVE-BILLED SCYTHEBILL (*Campylorhamphus procurvoides multostriatus*)
Seen by most when we called one in along the Serra trail.
- Thamnophilidae**
- FASCIATED ANTSHRIKE (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*)
Great studies of a pair of this largely canopy antshrike at Cristalino.
- GREAT ANTSHRIKE (*Taraba major*)
Easy in the pantanal.
- E GLOSSY ANTSHRIKE (*Sakesphorus luctuosus*)
Another regional endemic that we scored big with at Cristalino, right near the lodge.
- BARRED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)
- CHESTNUT-BACKED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus palliatus*)
Not an easy one, but David Luther (our researchr friend) spotted one for us as it skulked about in a vine tangle overhead during a large mixed flock. Nice!
- WHITE-SHOULDERED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus aethiops*)
Denis and i were the only ones to get a look at tis one in the forest patch behind the Hotel Floresta Amazonica.
- * PLAIN-WINGED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus schistaceus*)
- E NATTERER'S SLATY-ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus stictocephalus*)
Nice views up on the Serra trail where the habitat changes into a drier, stunted forest very different from the lower surroundings.
- PLANALTO SLATY-ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus pelzelni*)
Excellent looks at a pair in the pantanal in a forest patch that Ricardo had staked out for us. These slaty-antshrikes have really been split up recently!
- AMAZONIAN ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus amazonicus*)
Nicely with a mixed flock along the Serra trail.
- RUFIOUS-WINGED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus torquatus*)
A few at close range in the Chapada.
- SPOT-WINGED ANTSHRIKE (*Pygoptila stellaris*)
A fairly common bird (and voice) at Cristalino.
- PLAIN ANTVIREO (*Dysithamnus mentalis*)
Abundant in the forests around Santa Tereza.
- SATURNINE ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnomanes saturninus*)
One female at the Floresta Amazonica during some morning birding there was a nice way to start our birding.
- CINEREOUS ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnomanes caesius*)
Common with understory flocks at Cristalino.
- PYGMY ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula brachyura*)
Very nicely from the tower.
- * SCLATER'S ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula sclateri*)
Maddeningly hard to get a look at!!!

AMAZONIAN ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula multostriata*)

Right out at the river edge near the lodge at Cristalino.

PLAIN-THROATED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula huxwelli*)

It was so close at one point that we didn't even need binos! This understory antwren always seems to be willing to respond!

WHITE-EYED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula leucophthalma*)

Good looks at them in the mixed understory flocks at Cristalino.

ORNATE ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula ornata*)

This one prefers dense vine tangles, and we had a couple of good looks at them with flocks.

WHITE-FLANKED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)

With an understory flock once.

LONG-WINGED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula longipennis*)

Regular with the flocks at Cristalino.

GRAY ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula menetriesii*)

This species prefers higher strata than the previous species, and we were able to lure them in a couple of times.

LARGE-BILLED ANTWREN (*Herpsilochmus longirostris*)

Splendidly in the pantanal, and it really does have a bulky bill when compared to others of the genus.

RUFIOUS-WINGED ANTWREN (*Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus*)

A common canopy antwren at Cristalino.

DOT-WINGED ANTWREN (*Microrhopias quixensis bicolor*)

Seen on the west bank of the Teles Pires on our last day in the Cristalino area. Watch for a split here someday.

DOT-WINGED ANTWREN (*Microrhopias quixensis emiliae*)

Common on the east bank of the Teles Pires where it replaces the previous form.

WHITE-FRINGED ANTWREN (*Formicivora grisea*)

We nabbed a pair up on high part of the Serra trail.

RUSTY-BACKED ANTWREN (*Formicivora rufa*)

Great studies of a responsive pair right along the roadside in the Chapada.

STRIATED ANT BIRD (*Drymophila devillei*)

This form of the Striated Antbird - that we saw well in a bamboo stand near the lodge - may one day be split from other the form further west; the name Xingú Antbird has been suggested.

GRAY ANT BIRD (*Cercomacra cinerascens*)

Another vine tangle skulker.

MATO GROSSO ANT BIRD (*Cercomacra melanaria*)

Common in the understory of thick woodland in the pantanal.

MANU ANT BIRD (*Cercomacra manu*)

We sure worked this one, but at least a number of folks got a look at the pair that we had with a ragging mixed flock in bamboo along the Haffer trail. A real tough one to see well!

WHITE-BACKED FIRE-EYE (*Pyriglena leuconota*)

Nice looks at our antswarm along the Saleiro trail.

* WHITE-BROWED ANT BIRD (*Myrmoborus leucophrys*)

Arrr...

BLACK-FACED ANT BIRD (*Myrmoborus myotherinus ochrolaema*)

Seen best when a few folks caught glimpses of a female along the Haffer trail.

WARBLING ANT BIRD (*Hypocnemis cantator striata*)

Right behind the lodge in the second-growth.

BAND-TAILED ANT BIRD (*Hypocnemoides maculicauda*)

We landed a nice pair along the Taboca trail!

SILVERED ANT BIRD (*Sclateria naevia argentata*)

Right along the banks of the Cristalino as we sat comfortably in the boats!

SPOT-WINGED ANTBIRD (*Percnostola leucostigma rufifacies*)

Good looks at the 'rufifacies' race along the Haffer trail. This one is a good candidate for a split someday.

CHESTNUT-TAILED ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza hemimelaena pallens*)

After a few close calls with some skittish birds at Floresta Amazonica, we finally hit it right on the west bank of the Teles Pires when it had a close responsive bird.

BLACK-THROATED ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza atrothorax*)

Also right along the river on the west bank of the Teles Pires.

E BARE-EYED ANTBIRD (*Rhegmatorhina gymnops*)

A very special regional endemic that we just nailed at our antswarm along the Saleiro trail! It took a little bit of bending and squeezing, but everybody finally got onto it. If you don't get an antswarm - it is an antswarm specialist - you can almost kiss this one goodbye, so we were fortunate indeed; trips do miss it.

DOT-BACKED ANTBIRD (*Hylophylax punctulata*)

Really well along the Cristalino.

SCALE-BACKED ANTBIRD (*Hylophylax poecilinota nigrigula*)

This 'nigrigula' race is very different from the forms that I am used to from Ecuador. We had nice looks at a pair not far from the lodge.

BLACK-SPOTTED BARE-EYE (*Phlegopsis nigromaculata*)

Crippling studies of this handsome antbird at our antswarm.

Formicariidae

SPOTTED ANTPITTA (*Hylopezus macularius*)

Antpittas are almost always a battle, but Denis (double-d) and I were in the right place to catch it briefly in the poor waning light behind the lodge.

Cotingidae

SCREAMING PIHA (*Lipaugus vociferans*)

This intensity of this species' loud call almost deserves ear-plugs! We had our best views through the scope at a lek right next to the tower.

SPANGLED COTINGA (*Cotinga cayana*)

Electrifying just barely begins to describe the color of the male of this one! Seen wonderfully from the tower many times.

POMPADOUR COTINGA (*Xipholena punicea*)

Well, a female bird is better than none at all! I thought we were very fortunate to have even seen it at all along the banks of the Cristalino since it isn't a common bird from the tower, where we were hoping for it.

BARE-NECKED FRUITCROW (*Gymnoderus foetidus*)

Some nice scope views from the tower.

AMAZONIAN UMBRELLABIRD (*Cephalopterus ornatus*)

One bird flying by out on the river island. I sure wish it would have perched!

Pipridae

BLUE-BACKED MANAKIN (*Chiroxiphia pareola regina*)

Most folks got onto the very jumpy male along the Haffer trail, but it was fast! This race has the yellow - not red - crown-patch.

* BAND-TAILED MANAKIN (*Pipra fasciicauda*)

RED-HEADED MANAKIN (*Pipra rubrocapilla*)

Right behind the lodge - another fancy manakin!

WHITE-CROWNED MANAKIN (*Dixiphia pipra*)

Seen by a few when we spotted a female along the Saleiro trail, where she was gorging herself on fruits.

SNOW-CAPPED MANAKIN (*Lepidothrix nattereri*)

Marscha's search image was in fine tune this trip: we owe her the check in our life-lists of this magnificent little manakin when she spotted a calling male for us along the Saleiro trail. This can be a hard one to pin down, so we were lucky.

HELMETED MANAKIN (*Antilophia galeata*)

Sensational studies of a male in the pantanal we he came roaring in! This manakin species looks like its pumped up on steroids.

FIERY-CAPPED MANAKIN (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*)

Fantastic scope views of a calling male along the Saleiro trail was another trip highlight. The fine, high-pitched call of this one is easy to overlook.

E FLAME-CRESTED MANAKIN (*Heterocercus linteatus*)

We just slam-dunked the regional endemics, and it was nice to pick this one off early on when we enjoyed scope views on the west bank of the Teles Pires on our first day in the Cristalino area.

DWARF TYRANT-MANAKIN (*Tyrannetes stolzmanni*)

Not much to look at, but we did successfully chase one down on the banks of the Cristalino for scope views.

WING-BARRED PIPRITES (*Piprites chloris*)

Seen a couple of times with the mixed canopy flocks.

THRUSH-LIKE SCHIFFORNIS (*Schiffornis turdinus*)

Almost to responsive, but most folks caught it when it perched at close-range a few times. Although pretty drab, this one has a very beautiful song that some of us recognized from previous birding trips, right Ann?

Tyrannidae

WHITE-LORED TYRANNULET (*Ornithion inerme*)

Superb scope views of this canopy tyrannulet from the tower.

SOUTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANNULET (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)

YELLOW-CROWNED TYRANNULET (*Tyrannulus elatus*)

FOREST ELAENIA (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)

Common around camp at Cristalino.

GRAY ELAENIA (*Myiopagis caniceps*)

One very responsive male from the tower.

GREENISH ELAENIA (*Myiopagis viridicata*)

A few with flocks at Santa Tereza of this confusing little elaenia species.

LARGE ELAENIA (*Elaenia spectabilis*)

Very well at Santa Tereza.

YELLOW-BELLIED ELAENIA (*Elaenia flavogaster*)

SLENDER-FOOTED TYRANNULET (*Zimmerius gracilipes*)

SOUTHERN SCRUB-FLYCATCHER (*Sublegatus modestus*)

Seen well in the forests around Santa Tereza.

E CHAPADA FLYCATCHER (*Suiriri islerorum*)

A recently described species that had gone overlooked since it is so similar to the Suiriri Flycatcher. This species prefers the high, flat mesas found in interior Brazil, such as in the Chapada, where we had a nice pair in full display.

AMAZONIAN TYRANNULET (*Inezia subflava*)

Split from Pale-tipped Tyrannulet; we had great looks at them out on the river island.

RUFIOUS-SIDED PYGMY-TYRANT (*Euscarthmus rufomarginatus*)

Once thought to be a very hard bird to find, but know that we have their 'number', they are reliable in a few areas; Chapada.

SHORT-TAILED PYGMY-TYRANT (*Myiornis ecaudatus*)

A ping-pong ball of a bird! We couldn't have seen it better when we called in a responsive bird at Floresta Amazonica.

HELMETED PYGMY-TYRANT (*Lophotriccus galeatus*)

Very common around Cristalino.

RUSTY-FRONTED TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Poecilatriccus latirostris*)

Unbeatable views in the pantanal.

SNETHLAGE'S TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus minor*)

Replaces the Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant on the west bank of the Teles Pires, where we had some nice studies.

WHITE-EYED TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus zosterops*)

This race is often split out as the White-bellied Tody-Tyrant, and we enjoyed some excellent views of one along the Saleiro trail.

- * ZIMMER'S TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus minimus*)
Frustrating, to say the least! We even had it calling right overhead, but it just vanished.
- STRIPE-NECKED TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus striaticollis*)
Nice studies at Santa Tereza.
- PEARLY-VENTED TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer*)
Seen on our last morning under dreary conditions at Santa Tereza.
- SPOTTED TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum maculatum*)
Nice looks on the river island.
- COMMON TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum cinereum*)
- * YELLOW-BROWED TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*)
- * RINGED ANTIPIPI (*Corythopis torquata*)
We were close to reeling one in, but it gave up on us!
- LARGE-HEADED FLATBILL (*Ramphotrigon megacephala*)
- DUSKY-TAILED FLATBILL (*Ramphotrigon fuscicauda*)
Nice looks at a responsive bird along the Haffer trail.
- * RUFOUS-TAILED FLATBILL (*Ramphotrigon ruficauda*)
- YELLOW-OLIVE FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*)
Common in the pantanal.
- GRAY-CROWNED FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias poliocephalus*)
The common Tolmomyias at Cristalino.
- * WHITE-CRESTED SPADEBILL (*Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*)
- AMAZONIAN ROYAL-FLYCATCHER (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*)
I think I might have been the only one to have seen it along the Taboca trail.
- RUDDY-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Terenotriccus erythrurus*)
- FUSCOUS FLYCATCHER (*Cnemotriccus fuscatus*)
- * EULER'S FLYCATCHER (*Lathrotriccus euleri*)
- GRAY MONJITA (*Xolmis cinerea*)
A striking bird that we saw well in the Chapada.
- WHITE-RUMPED MONJITA (*Xolmis velata*)
Good looks at this one in the pantanal.
- CRESTED BLACK-TYRANT (*Knipolegus lophotes*)
One of the best looking of the birds in this genus; Chapada.
- BLACK-BACKED WATER-TYRANT (*Fluvicola albiventer*)
- WHITE-HEADED MARSH-TYRANT (*Arundinicola leucocephala*)
- LONG-TAILED TYRANT (*Colonia colonus*)
Scope views from the tower of this wide-ranging species.
- CATTLE TYRANT (*Machetornis rixosus*)
- CINNAMON ATTILA (*Attila cinnamomeus*)
Seen right from camp just before lunch!
- * BRIGHT-RUMPED ATTILA (*Attila spadiceus*)
- DULL-CAPPED ATTILA (*Attila bolivianus*)
This one also goes by the name of White-eyed or Bolivian Attila. Scope views were had by all at Santa Tereza... nice!
- * CINEREOUS MOURNER (*Laniocera hypopyrra*)
- RUFOUS CASIORNIS (*Casiornis rufa*)
- GRAYISH MOURNER (*Rhytipterna simplex*)
Cristalino tower.
- DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
- SHORT-CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus ferox*)
- BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

LESSER KISKADEE (*Philohydor lictor*)
 GREAT KISKADEE (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)
 BOAT-BILLED FLYCATCHER (*Megarhynchus pitangua*)
 RUSTY-MARGINED FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
 DUSKY-CHESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes luteiventris*)
We called one up along the Haffer trail.
 STREAKED FLYCATCHER (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)
 PIRATIC FLYCATCHER (*Legatus leucophaeus*)
 VARIEGATED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonomus varius*)
 WHITE-THROATED KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus albogularis*)
 TROPICAL KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)
 FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus savana*)
The most flamboyant of the Tyrannus flycatchers.
 GREEN-BACKED BECARD (*Pachyramphus viridis*)
Nice looks in the pantanal.
 WHITE-WINGED BECARD (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*)
On our last day at Santa Tereza in the pantanal.
 BLACK-CAPPED BECARD (*Pachyramphus marginatus*)
A pair on the west bank of the Teles Pires.
 PINK-THROATED BECARD (*Pachyramphus minor*)
 CRESTED BECARD (*Pachyramphus validus*)
Seen by some in the pantanal.
 BLACK-TAILED TITYRA (*Tityra cayana*)
 MASKED TITYRA (*Tityra semifasciata*)
 BLACK-CROWNED TITYRA (*Tityra inquisitor*)

Hirundinidae

BROWN-CHESTED MARTIN (*Progne tapera fusca*)
 PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis*)
Migrations of them at Cristalino.
 GRAY-BREASTED MARTIN (*Progne chalybea*)
 SOUTHERN MARTIN (*Progne elegans*)
 WHITE-WINGED SWALLOW (*Tachycineta albiventer*)
 WHITE-RUMPED SWALLOW (*Tachycineta leucorrhoa*)
Seen by a few folks in the group.
 CHILEAN SWALLOW (*Tachycineta meyeni*)
Although well north of its usual range, I'm sure that the bird that we saw at the dock at Santa Tereza was this species; it had just the right-sized white-rump - like a White-rumped - and it had no white in the face. An interesting record, to say the least!
 BLUE-AND-WHITE SWALLOW (*Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*)
 WHITE-BANDED SWALLOW (*Atticora fasciata*)
 BLACK-COLLARED SWALLOW (*Atticora melanoleuca*)
Seemingly poorly known in the Cristalino area, but we had at least a few birds from the river island along the Teles Pires.
 SOUTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)
 BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*)

Motacillidae

YELLOWISH PIPIT (*Anthus lutescens*)
One seen in display-flight in the pantanal.

Troglodytidae

BLACK-CAPPED DONACOBIOUS (*Donacobius atricapilla*)

- * THRUSH-LIKE WREN (*Campylorhynchus turdinus hypostictus*)
THRUSH-LIKE WREN (*Campylorhynchus turdinus unicolor*)
We saw this paler-breasted form a few times in the pantanal.
- E TOOTH-BILLED WREN (*Odontorchilus cinereus*)
Wonderful studies of this range-restricted species a few times, but it was especially nice when it came in to sing on one of the tower support wires.
- MOUSTACHED WREN (*Thryothorus genibarbis*)
This skulker was seen by a few folks at Santa Tereza.
- BUFF-BREASTED WREN (*Thryothorus leucotis*)
Nicely for some at Cristalino.
- * FAWN-BREASTED WREN (*Thryothorus guarayanus*)
- * HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*)
- * MUSICIAN WREN (*Cyphorhinus aradus*)
- Mimidae**
- CHALK-BROWED MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus saturninus*)
- Turdidae**
- RUFIOUS-BELLIED THRUSH (*Turdus rufiventris*)
- PALE-BREASTED THRUSH (*Turdus leucomelas*)
- * LAWRENCE'S THRUSH (*Turdus lawrencii*)
- * HAUXWELL'S THRUSH (*Turdus hauxwelli*)
Joe saw one; the rest of us heard it!
- * WHITE-NECKED THRUSH (*Turdus albicollis*)
- Poliophtilidae**
- LONG-BILLED GNATWREN (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*)
Once well in a bamboo stand at Cristalino.
- MASKED GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila dumicola*)
Even seen attending nests in the pantanal.
- Corvidae**
- PURPLISH JAY (*Cyanocorax cyanomelas*)
- CURL-CRESTED JAY (*Cyanocorax cristatellus*)
This is one hot-looking bird and we had some pretty good looks in the Chapada of this cerrado specialist.
- Passeridae**
- HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*)
- Vireonidae**
- * RED-EYED (CHIVI) VIREO (*Vireo olivaceus chivi*)
- GRAY-CHESTED GREENLET (*Hylophilus semicinereus*)
We had a few lost battles with this one, but we won the war in the end with nice looks at a responsive pair along the Cristalino.
- ASHY-HEADED GREENLET (*Hylophilus pectoralis*)
Easy with the flocks at Santa Tereza.
- DUSKY-CAPPED GREENLET (*Hylophilus hypoxanthus*)
- * TAWNY-CROWNED GREENLET (*Hylophilus ochraceiceps*)
- * SLATY-CAPPED SHRIKE-VIREO (*Vireolanius leucotis*)
- RUFIOUS-BROWED PEPPERSHRIKE (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*)
Nice that Denis K. finally got his lifer after years of trying!
- Fringillidae**
- PURPLE-THROATED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia chlorotica*)
- THICK-BILLED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia laniirostris*)
Once at Cristalino.

WHITE-LORED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia chrysopasta*)

Pretty common around Cristalino.

WHITE-VENTED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia minuta*)

Seen by a few of us during our exit day from Cristalino.

RUFIOUS-BELLIED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia rufiventris*)

The euphonia with the all dark hood... the male plumage, that is.

Parulidae

FLAVESCENT WARBLER (*Basileuterus flaveolus*)

Very nice studies of singing birds in the pantanal.

Coeribidae

BANANAQUIT (*Coereba flaveola*)

Thraupidae

CHESTNUT-VENTED CONEBILL (*Conirostrum speciosum*)

We ran into a small group of them as they worked the low canopy of deciduous forest in the pantanal with a rapid-fire mixed flock.

BLACK-FACED TANAGER (*Schistochlamys melanopis*)

Really nice singing birds in the Chapada.

WHITE-BANDED TANAGER (*Neothraupis fasciata*)

This one almost reminds one of a shrike with its black, gray and white plumage. We had plenty of nice studies in the Chapada.

WHITE-RUMPED TANAGER (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*)

What an amazing show from this species a few times when they launched into their pair displays; Chapada.

YELLOW-BACKED TANAGER (*Hemithraupis flavicollis*)

A few at Cristalino.

HOODED TANAGER (*Nemosia pileata*)

Wonderful looks at this stunning tanager in the pantanal.

GRAY-HEADED TANAGER (*Eucometis penicillata*)

A few breezed through quickly with a mixed flock in the pantanal. This race had the mainly pinkish bill.

WHITE-WINGED SHRIKE-TANAGER (*Lanio versicolor*)

Nice looks at them after we called in a male as it moved with a large mixed flock at Cristalino.

FLAME-CRESTED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus cristatus*)

Nice looks from the Cristalino tower.

WHITE-SHOULDERED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*)

WHITE-LINED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus rufus*)

RED-CROWNED ANT-TANAGER (*Habia rubica*)

This understory skulker was seen best at our antswarm.

HEPATIC TANAGER (*Piranga flava flava*)

The race sometimes called the Lowland Hepatic Tanager, which many of us saw in the Chapada.

SILVER-BEAKED TANAGER (*Ramphocelus carbo*)

BLUE-GRAY TANAGER (*Thraupis episcopus*)

SAYACA TANAGER (*Thraupis sayaca*)

PALM TANAGER (*Thraupis palmarum*)

TURQUOISE TANAGER (*Tangara mexicana*)

On our last day in the Cristalino area we finally connected with a large feeding congregation of this and many of the other flashy Tangaras as they raided a fruiting tree on the west bank of the Teles Pires. What a show!

PARADISE TANAGER (*Tangara chilensis*)

GREEN-AND-GOLD TANAGER (*Tangara schrankii*)

BAY-HEADED TANAGER (*Tangara gyrola*)

BURNISHED-BUFF TANAGER (*Tangara cayana*)

A few nice ones in the Chapada.

MASKED TANAGER (*Tangara nigrocincta*)

OPAL-RUMPED TANAGER (*Tangara velia*)

BLACK-FACED DACNIS (*Dacnis lineata*)

We had repeated and nice studies of all of the possible dacnis species at Cristalino.

YELLOW-BELLIED DACNIS (*Dacnis flaviventer*)

BLUE DACNIS (*Dacnis cayana*)

GREEN HONEYCREEPER (*Chlorophanes spiza*)

SHORT-BILLED HONEYCREEPER (*Cyanerpes nitidus*)

Glimpsed by a few of us along the upper reaches of the Serra trail when they came in to feed with the much more common Purple Honeycreepers.

PURPLE HONEYCREEPER (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)

A spectacular showing of this species was had along the Serra trail when we ran into a large group of them feeding at a fruiting tree, among other species.

RED-LEGGED HONEYCREEPER (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*)

A rare bird at Cristalino, and not even officially on the list for there, but we had definitive views of a male a few times in the fruiting tree with the previous species.

SWALLOW TANAGER (*Tersina viridis*)

Emberizidae

COAL-CRESTED FINCH (*Charitospiza eucosma*)

Unbeatable views of this erratic and stunning little finch in the Chapada. What a thrill it was to have a male at very close range, up and singing!

RED-CRESTED FINCH (*Coryphospingus cucullatus*)

Another snazzy finch that we snagged in the Chapada.

BLUE-BLACK GRASSQUIT (*Volatinia jacarina*)

PLUMBEOUS SEEDEATER (*Sporophila plumbea*)

Next to abundant in the Chapada.

RUSTY-COLLARED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila collaris*)

DOUBLE-COLLARED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila caerulea*)

WHITE-BELLIED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila leucoptera*)

CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEED-FINCH (*Oryzoborus angolensis*)

One female in the late afternoon during some roadside birding in the pantanal.

SAFFRON FINCH (*Sicalis flaveola*)

STRIPE-TAILED YELLOW-FINCH (*Sicalis citrina*)

Plenty in the Chapada.

RED-CRESTED CARDINAL (*Paroaria coronata*)

This well-marked cardinal species was common in the pantanal.

RED-CAPPED CARDINAL (*Paroaria gularis*)

Daily at Cristalino.

YELLOW-BILLED CARDINAL (*Paroaria capitata*)

The most common cardinal in the pantanal, such as at Santa Tereza's feeders.

GRASSLAND SPARROW (*Ammodramus humeralis*)

Cardinalidae

GRAYISH SALTATOR (*Saltator coerulescens*)

SLATE-COLORED GROSBEAK (*Saltator grossus*)

One distant, scoped bird from the Cristalino tower.

BLACK-THROATED SALTATOR (*Saltator atricollis*)

This species really ought to be placed with the pampa finches. There was no shortage of them in the Chapada!

YELLOW-SHOULDERED GROSBEAK (*Parkerthraustes humeralis*)

I think I was the only one to catch a glimpse of this one in a large mixed flock at Cristalino.

YELLOW-BILLED BLUE FINCH (*Porphyrospiza caerulescens*)

A few singing males in the Chapada was a pleasant surprise!

Icteridae

UNICOLORED BLACKBIRD (*Agelasticus cyanopus*)

Common in the marshes of the pantanal.

WHITE-BROWED BLACKBIRD (*Sturnella superciliaris*)

A few last minute birds in the pantanal... thanks, Joe!

BAY-WINGED COWBIRD (*Molothrus badius*)

SCREAMING COWBIRD (*Molothrus rufoaxillaris*)

The much less common relative of the Shiny Cowbird; we saw a couple in the pantanal.

SHINY COWBIRD (*Molothrus bonariensis*)

GIANT COWBIRD (*Scaphidura oryzivora*)

EPAULET ORIOLE (*Icterus cayanensis*)

We saw the yellow-shouldered birds at Cristalino and the rusty-shouldered ones in the pantanal.

CAMPO TROUPIAL (*Icterus jamacaii*)

Stunning! There should be a tropical fruit drink named after this one, in my opinion!

YELLOW-RUMPED CACIQUE (*Cacicus cela*)

RED-RUMPED CACIQUE (*Cacicus haemorrhous*)

Seen one afternoon along the banks of the Cristalino River.

SOLITARY CACIQUE (*Cacicus solitarius*)

CRESTED OROPENDOLA (*Psarocolius decumanus*)

AMAZONIAN OROPENDOLA (*Gymnostinops bifasciatus yuracares*)

A handsome and large oropendola species that we saw well at Cristalino.

SCARLET-HEADED BLACKBIRD (*Amblyramphus holosericeus*)

Fantastic studies of this flamboyant species of blackbird in the pantanal a few times. Wow!

CHOPI BLACKBIRD (*Gnorimopsar chopi*)

MAMMALS

LONG-NOSED BAT (*Rhynchonycteris naso*)

Also more recently known as Proboscis Bat; seen one evening along the Cristalino.

SILVERY MARMOSET (*Callithrix argentata*)

The not so silvery race in the pantanal.

E RED-HANDED HOWLER MONKEY (*Alouatta belzebul*)

Some great looks at this range-restricted monkey species, such as the 'welcoming committee' during our arrival at Cristalino. Caught them red-handed... just couldn't resist.

E WHITE-NOSED BEARDED SAKI MONKEY (*Chiropotes albinasus*)

Nice looks at a group of this odd looking monkey along the trails at Cristalino.

BROWN CAPUCHIN (*Cebus apella*)

A few in the pantanal. This species has a strange head shape.

WHITE-WHISKERED SPIDER MONKEY (*Ateles marginatus*)

The most common and in-your-face monkey at Cristalino.

GIANT ANTEATER (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*)

Peter managed very quick looks at the only one of the trip in the pantanal during some pre-dinner spotlighting, but it got away for the rest of us... darn!

NINE-BANDED ARMADILLO (*Dasypus novemcinctus*)

One on our last rainy morning in the pantanal.

CAPYBARA (*Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris*)

The world's largest rodent, and a pretty common animal in the neotropical wetlands.

AZARA'S AGOUTI (*Dasyprocta azarae*)

The agouti species we saw in the pantanal.

RED-RUMPED AGOUTI (*Dasyprocta agouti*)

The agouti species of this part of the Amazon that we saw our first two days there, such as around the Floresta Amazonica.

HOARY FOX (*Lycalopex vetulus*)

Peter had looks at a couple of them on the grounds of our hotel in the Chapada one evening.

CRAB-EATING FOX (*Cerdocyon thous*)

Very nice looks at this one in the pantanal one late afternoon.

SOUTH AMERICAN COATI (*Nasua nasua*)

We ran into one foraging family group in the pantanal, tails raised high.

SOUTHERN RIVER OTTER (*Lutra longicaudis*)

Nice close looks at to of them along the Cristalino River.

GIANT OTTER (*Pteronura brasiliensis*)

A local and hard-to-find animal over much of its range, but you wouldn't know it from our brief but comical encounter with them in the pantanal where they swirled around us waiting for the next fish to be thrown to them!

BRAZILIAN TAPIR (*Tapirus terrestris*)

Awesome, and one of Jack's most wanted organisms of the trip. We were very lucky indeed to find one out on the edge of the Pixaim River during our boat ride before it ran!

MARSH DEER (*Blastocerus dichotomus*)

Common in the pantanal.

RED BROCKET DEER (*Mazama americana*)

A few in the pantanal of this wide-ranging deer, deer species... ha-ha...