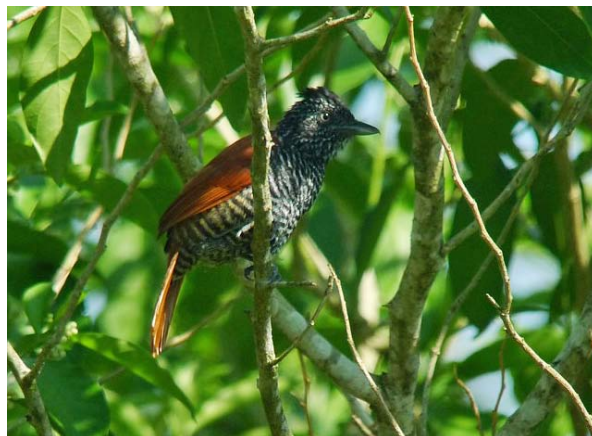


## Brazil: The Atlantic Rainforest

Thu 18th – Fri 26th April 2013



Photos (clockwise, from top left): The bronzy **Three-toed Jacamar** is becoming increasingly endangered • A female **Blue-billed Black Tyrant** is quite different to the male – and a bit prettier • A **Yellow-throated Woodpecker** hides in the canopy • A handsome male **Chestnut-backed Antshrike** near REGUA • Another antshrike – the great-named **Sooretama Slaty Antshrike** – is quite secretive • A lovely **Pallid Spinetail** seen at Macae de Cima © all photos Brian Small/ Limosa Holidays

report compiled by tour leader:  
**Richard Thaxton**

## Trip Diary

**Tour Leader: Richard Thaxton**

*with Linda Boxer, Sue & Paddy Case, Martin Jagers and Terry North*

To be based at REGUA lodge is simply a sublime experience; the setting is surely unrivalled. Located on a hillock, the view is breathtakingly spectacular, looking out across the Atlantic rainforest and wetland below is a very rare and very special vista indeed. The towering razor-ridge mountain makes a dramatic backdrop to the forest, and the aspect is constantly changing according to the time of day or weather. It is never the same twice: sometimes topped with cloud, or veiled in mist; or the vast slabs of sheer rockface become incandescent in sunshine. With no man-made artefacts or lights between it and you it is unblemished and sublime.

At a location like this, **and** with the new canopy-height observation tower over looking the same, you are in amongst the birds, and we could have stayed put all week. However, with REGUA's juxtaposition of wetland, farmland and forest areas of varying altitude and type all within easy reach, we were lured out to many other special places: Macae de Cima, Serra dos Orgaos and Pica do Caledonia, but always returning to the peaceful, restful and relaxing ambience of the lodge, with birds on-tap. Added to which the care of the wonderful staff and great food, and a treat of a week was surely in store.

A week of great variety and great contrasts, be that the landscape, the habitats or the birds and other wildlife therein, from the downright gaudy to the positively sombre sounding; from absolute *stotters* like Brassy-breasted Tanager to the dull-sounding leaden Uniformed Finch – and anything in between. You will all have your own experiences and birds that were special to you, so what follows are just some of those we shared and to hopefully serve as a lasting memory of our time together at REGUA. So here we go, eyes down, look-in.

The wetland on our doorstep was a constant throughout our week, whether we actually visited it or simply looked out over it from our hilltop base. New species for the week were seen whenever we ventured down, and yet others were constants. For example, the flighting-in, in the late afternoon, of over a thousand Cattle Egrets that crammed in to just a few trees, making them appear at distance as if white with blossom, was a surreal end to every day of our stay

Brazil and the Atlantic rainforest in particular is a hot-bed of endemism – birds to be found nowhere else in the world, and we were lucky enough to see 34 Brazilian endemics (marked **En.** on the following species list). Chief amongst them were the Brazilian Ruby hummers and the stunning male Black-and-gold Cotingas at Macae de Cima, watched to the background soundtrack of Howler Monkeys.

The soundscape is a key part of any rainforest experience and whether you see the birds or not nevertheless often makes for an ethereal experience. Our days began from our beds, waking to the sounds of Ferruginous Pygmy Owls and Rufous-capped Motmots, and often ended with the raucous clamour of Grey-necked Woodrails as we retired for the evening. Throughout our days in the forest, we were often treated to a cacophony of bird sound, translated for us by our local guide Adilei. His astonishing skill at bird mimicry and ability to draw birds from cover and into view was itself awesome to behold.

Probably two of the most vivid sound memories of the week, were the eerie other-worldly sound of Giant Snipe and, on the Valno Trail on our last morning, when we finally caught up with Blond-crested Woodpecker. These were first picked up by their strident calls, which Martin likened to the piercing, spine-tingling *screech-screech-screech* score, in the knife-slashing shower scene of Hitchcock's *Psycho*. And it is exactly just like that! Henceforth B-c Woods will now always be remembered as "Psycho-peckers".

Again, in contrast to beautiful songsters, there are other species like the Blue-bellied Parrots heard at Macae de Cima, or the hummingbirds that as a group don't really "sing", just twitter. But what they lack in voice they make up for with glitter, glam, colour and frenetic energy, and with names to match, like those Violet-capped Woodnymphs, Glittering-throated Emeralds and Sapphire-spangled Emeralds. In all we saw 13 species of hummer, thankfully slowed down for us to watch, by feeders. A favourite amongst them must be the Swallow-tailed Hummingbirds that joined us for both breakfast, and our sundowners at our lodge base. However, let's not forget the so aptly named Plovercrests at David Miller's orchid house at Macae de Cima. And when it comes to aptly named birds you surely can't get better than Firewood-Gatherer, seen on our day out to Serra dos Orgaos

Inevitably, in dense forest often only a selection of what's heard is actually seen, which is part and parcel of the experience and can add to the magic of such places. And so it was, some species remained elusive for us, for example, the bird that has three names: 'Shrike-like Cotinga', 'Elegant Mourner' or 'Brazilian Laniisoma' (take your pick); sadly, having three names didn't make it any easier to see! But hey, that's birding, taking nature on its own terms.

Raptors are always a popular feature of any trip, worldwide, with species of one sort or another rarely out of sight, treating us to some fine experiences. Amongst them, that Black Hawk-eagle for example, circling above us at Pica do Caledonia, revealing their intricate underwing patterning; or the Mantled Hawk seen on the Valno Trail on our last morning, fringed with an ethereal halo caused by the sun shining through wings and tail making them look translucent. Even the ubiquitous Black Vultures, those bin-men of the tropics, are impressive when seen as a "kettling" vortex. Then there are the commonplace Southern Caracaras seen in ones or twos daily, but all the more impressive when 20-30 gathered to roost in palms as we waited for dusk to settle when Giant Snipe-ing. What an experience that was! Such a weird call and sounding so far off, yet skilfully found by Adulei and revealed almost at our feet, a tour highlight for sure.

Throughout the week we were challenged with searching for the shy, the retiring and the downright cryptic, peering into the gloom of rainforest understorey in search of those forest-floor skulkers, watching for movement to betray the cryptic colours of all things ant – antvireos, antwrens, antbirds, antthrushes, antshrikes and antpipits. If we were not peering at skulkers, there were also the furtive-types to hunt down - the 14 species of assorted woodcreepers and foliage-gleaners that we saw, from the diminutive Plain and Streaked Xenops (or is that Xenipops?), seen on the Waterfall Trail, to the impressively whopping great Black-billed Scythebill – more like a tree-curlew flying about our heads at Pica do Caledonia. Always tricky and challenging to sort out, but it is always a joy to see these superbly adapted deadwood specialists.

If it was colour we were after, then we were treated to some of the world's most flamboyant birds. That retina-burning Brazilian Tanager for example seen on our first morning, rivalled by the downright gaudy Blue-naped Chlorophonias and Green-headed Tanagers at the banana stall.

Actual birding apart, the week was peppered with memorable experiences of other types too, from the nerve-wracking steep jeep ascent and descent of Pica do Caledonia, to the humbling and kind hospitality we were shown at the house of orchid conservationist, David Miller, at Macae de Cima. As we stood there birding at altitude, in mist and drizzle, coveting the shelter of the empty house and the chance of a hot drink, when lo, out of the mist came not an apparition, but friends of the family who let us in and made us coffee. How lucky were we?!

All in all, I'd say we were lucky all week. The weather was kind, the scenery spectacular, the birds fabulous, and hopefully the experience will live long in the memory. Many thanks for coming along and sharing it all.

*Richard W Thaxton*

**ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED**

*(total of 273 species recorded by the group)*

**Key to places**

R – REGUA Lodge  
RW – REGUA Wetlands  
MdC – Macae de Cima  
WT – Waterfall Trail  
SdO – Serra dos Orgaos  
PdC – Pica do Caledonia  
VT – Valno Trail

**Dusky-legged Guan *Penelope obscura***

Four, as we walked down the drive of SdO National Park entrance, on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Spot-winged Wood Quail *Odontophorus capueira***

Heard, and two glimpsed in the forest understory gloom from elevated walkway, SdO-NP on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**White-faced Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna viduata***

Strangely absent all week until we finally caught up with a small party of these in the wetland on our last morning, on 25<sup>th</sup>

**Black-bellied Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis***

Three RW on 19<sup>th</sup>

**Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata***

Seen on two dates RW

**Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis***

Many seen on all visits to RW.

**Masked Duck *Nomonyx dominicus***

Just one, 'scoped at distance from Lodge tower, below us in RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus***

One, RW on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufescent Tiger-heron *Tigrisoma lineatum***

Good views on three occasions, RW.

**Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***

One RW and later, a fly-by bird at dusk as we looked for Giant Snipe on 19<sup>th</sup>, and four from RW hide on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Striated Heron *Butorides striata***

Up to three RW

**Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis***

1000+ birds at RW roost each evening

**Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi***

One RW 19<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Great White Egret *Casmerodius alba***

Two or three RW all week, several others seen *en route* to other sites during the week.

**Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus***

Up to six seen on four dates at RW,

**Whistling Heron *Syrigma sibilatrix***

Two seen at dusk at our first Giant Snipe site, 19<sup>th</sup>, and one, SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Snowy Egret *Egretta thula***

Just two, picked out amongst the 1000+ Cattle Egret roost at RW

**Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus***

One, RW on each visit made.

**Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura***

Drifting overhead all week, wherever we were, and none seen to flap, not even once. I think they're a fixed-wing vulture.

**Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus***

These invaluable neotropical bin-men were all over the place, in high numbers.

**Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus***

Just one seen, over RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern Caracara *Caracara plancus***

Seen daily, wherever we were. A pair was seen mating from lodge tower. An evening gathering of 20-30 roosting birds noted at second Giant Snipe site, on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima***

Common all week, everywhere we went.

**Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans***

One, heard laughing at dusk at second Giant Snipe site, on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Barred Forest Falcon *Micrastur ruficolis***

One, heard only, Macae de Cima, as we 'scoped brown howler monkeys and search for Black-and-Gold Cotinga, on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**American Kestrel *Falco sparverius***

Just one, SdO, flew over field as we watched Red-legged Seriemas, 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens***

One seen perched, from lodge tower on our first morning, 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Mantled Hawk *Leucopternis polionotus***

One, distantly, from clearing on WT, 21<sup>st</sup>; closer views of soaring bird, overhead on VT 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Savannah Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis***

Seen on three dates, one at RW, others *en route* to other sites.

**Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris***

Noted on six dates, best was very vocal bird seen from lodge tower on first morning, 19<sup>th</sup>.

**White-rumped Hawk *Buteo leucorrhous***

One, soaring above as we lunched, high-up at PdC 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus***

Seen on four dates at; MdC, SdO, WT and VT.

**Black-and-white Hawk-eagle *Spizastur melanoleucus***

Great views of a bird low overhead MdC, as we watched howler monkeys on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Black Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus***

Two sightings, one low, slow circling bird at PdC 23<sup>rd</sup>, showing the superb under-wing markings, another VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata***

Two in a roadside field, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>, one PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rufous-sided Crake *Laterallus melanophaius***

One, coaxed into view at RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-necked Wood Rail *Aramides cajanea***

Heard only (loudly!) after dusk, from our rooms, on several evenings.

**Slaty-breasted Wood Rail *Aramides saracura***

Two, walking up a powerline wayleave clearing, MdC, on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Ash-throated Crake *Porzana albicollis***

Heard only, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**(American) Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica***

Several, RW, each time we visited.

**American Moorhen *Gallinula galeata***

RW was movin' with 'em, all week.

**Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis***

Seen daily, RW and in any open fields.

**Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana***

Several, RW all week, other roadside birds seen *en route* to other sites.

**Giant Snipe *Gallinago undulata***

Heard in the distance, but not seen on our first attempt on 19<sup>th</sup>, then a change of site delivered on 24<sup>th</sup> with one seen **very** close. Several others heard in the darkness – an ethereal experience to live long in the memory, for sure.



**Feral Rock Dove *Columba livia***

Surely the most contrasting juxtaposition of two species in any bird list, from the highly desirous previous Giant Snipe above, to these list-packer, also-rans!

**Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro***

Common, fly-by birds throughout the week.

**Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis***

Just one, from lodge tower on our first morning, on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruddy Ground-dove *Columbina talpacoti***

Common and widespread.

**White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi***

Fleeting glimpse of a flushed bird, elevated walkway, SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-winged Macaw *Primolius maracana***

Four, made a low pass over our heads, as we walked that lightly wooded, open-country trail SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalmus***

Brief, fly-by views of a small flock, SdO 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Maroon-bellied Parakeet *Pyrrhura frontalis***

Seen on three dates, at various locations, best views were those we ‘scoped from lodge tower on our first morning, 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius***

Two or three RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Plain Parakeet *Brotogeris tirica* En.**

Brief views of fly-by birds and one conveniently perched, VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Pileated Parrot *Pionopsitta pileata***

One, overhead, as we walked down the forest trail at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani***

3-4 PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>, and five VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-bellied Parrot *Triclaria malachitacea***

We heard, the most un-parrot-like, more thrush-like song of this species as we descended the trail at MdC, but alas, the birds remained unseen.

**Pearly-breasted Cuckoo *Coccyzus euleri***

Three together, just above our heads on RW trail, on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana***

Seen on four dates, at various locations, best views were SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Greater Ani *Crotophaga major***

Small groups on all visits to RW.

**Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani***

Seen daily, at various places throughout the week.

**Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira***

Seen on two dates, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, on both occasions, on roadside wires as we drove.

**Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia***

Heard only, RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Barn Owl *Tyto alba***

One seen at dusk as we departed from Giant Snipe-ing, 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Tawny-browed Owl *Pulsatrix koeniswaldiana***

Heard twice, at REGUA’s so-called ‘fragment’ block of forest and at lodge on evening of 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Ferruginous Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium brasilianum***

We were both sent to sleep and woken by a calling bird outside our rooms throughout our stay at lodge and great views of one above our heads peering down at us on the WT 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia***

Two, as we approached REGUA on our arrival-drive from Rio on 18<sup>th</sup>. Two others on ranch-land fence posts *en route* to WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis***

Two, seen in vehicle headlamps as we returned from Giant Snipe-ing on 19<sup>th</sup>. Others heard, adding to the evening’s aural experience, when Snipe-ing on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris***

Our first, were 30+ birds overhead (well, they would be wouldn't they!) at SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and then those making sweeping low, close passes as we watched a Black-Hawk-eagle circle above us on the trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> (what a combo), and then a few later as we lunched that day.

**Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris***

Noted on three dates in small numbers.

**Sick's Swift *Chaetura meridionalis***

Noted on three dates in small numbers, often in mixed flocks with Grey-rumped Swifts.

**Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis***

2-3 over RW late afternoon on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Saw-billed Hermit *Ramphodon naevius* En.**

A single bird buzzed about us on WT 21<sup>st</sup> and another seen on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsuta***

At the feeders daily at R lodge.

**Scale-throated Hermit *Phaethornis eurynome***

A few at the orchid house at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber***

One, at R Lodge on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Swallow-tailed Hummingbird *Eupetomena macroura***

Daily, at R lodge feeders, but curiously almost no-where else all week.

**Black Jacobin *Melanotrochilus fuscus***

A given at R lodge feeders, others seen MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Plovercrest *Stephanoxis lalandi***

Between one and three at orchid house feeders at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, one at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and one from elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Violet-capped Woodnymph *Thalurania glaucopis***

Daily at R lodge feeders, and likewise at MdC, others from elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Hummingbird *Leucochloris albicollis***

Seen at the orchid house on MdC, on 20<sup>th</sup>, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata***

Seen regularly at R.

**Sapphire-spangled Emerald *Amazilia lactea***

One SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> was our only sighting.

**Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon lucidus***

As above, one only, also SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Brazilian Ruby *Clytolaema rubricauda* En.**

Noted on three dates: MdC, SdO and PdC on 20<sup>th</sup> where we had the best views.

**Surucua Trogon *Trogon surrucura***

Seen on three dates MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus***

One on WT 21<sup>st</sup> and one VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquatus***

One bird seen on two dates (same one twice, likely) at RW.

**Rufous-capped Motmot *Baryphthengus ruficapillus***

We struggled with this species. Heard all week, at night and at dawn from our Lodge rooms, also heard WT on 19<sup>th</sup> but then finally glimpsed on RW trail on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>. Phew!

**Saffron Toucanet *Bailloni* *bailloni***

Normally a species that requires a long, hard hike to altitude, so how lucky were we, to see **four** together as we stepped from the vehicle on our way up to MdC, fabulous close, prolonged 'scope views to boot. My bird of the trip, in case you didn't notice!

**Spot-billed Toucanet *Selenidera maculirostris***

One seen briefly at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, great views of a pair from elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>, and another pair seen together on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus***

Heard throughout the week in forest areas, including from the R lodge tower; seen at all sites.

**White-barred Piculet *Picumnus cirratus***

Seen on three dates, RW on 19<sup>th</sup>, MdC on 21<sup>st</sup> and along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes flavifrons***

On our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>, on VT, we had fantastic prolonged views of three males and a female sunning themselves together, on dead tree, in perfect light, in the 'scope, at close range. We could barely tear ourselves away. Birding doesn't get better than that! Stormin' or what?

**Yellow-eared Woodpecker *Veniliornis maculifrons* En.**

One along WT on 21<sup>st</sup> was our only sighting.

**Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula***

One, also on WT on 21<sup>st</sup> and another on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Campo Flicker *Colaptes campestris***

Two seen from R lodge tower on our first morning, 19<sup>th</sup>, four on the ground together at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and two SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Blond-crested Woodpecker *Celeus flavescens***

Two of these "Psycho-peckers" on Valno Trail on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Three-toed Jacamar *Jacamaralcyon tridactyla* En.**

Though rare & threatened, and they might look dull, the close 'scope views we had at SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>, in bright sunshine revealed the greeny-bronze iridescent sheen to their plumage.

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda***

Two showed well at RW on 19<sup>th</sup> and one at RW on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru***

Two different, *so-close-you-could-almost-touch-them-through-the-vehicle-window* individuals, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>. How confiding were they?!

**Crescent-chested Puffbird *Malacoptila striata* En.**

In contrast to the above, just one edgy & flighty individual, on that lightly wooded, open country trail we walked at SdO that same day, 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Pin-tailed Manakin *Ilicura militaris* En.**

At first, just a disappointing drab female on WT on 20<sup>th</sup>, but then, on 24<sup>th</sup>, from the elevated walkway at SdO, a resplendent male.

**White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus***

Ones & twos, on three dates at RW, WT and VT.

**Blue Manakin *Chiroxiphia caudata***

Good views of a male WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, great views of a male SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>, and fantastic views of a male on VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor***

One, seen fleetingly, VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Brazilian Laniisoma *Laniisoma elegans***

Try as we might, we could not see this bird. We heard it calling on the WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, but it just wouldn't play ball and reveal itself. Bah!

**Green-backed Becard *Pachyramphus viridis***

One on 19<sup>th</sup> along a RW trail, another at MdC on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Chestnut-crowned Becard *Pachyramphus castaneus***

A pair, on trail down from orchid house, MdC on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus***

One on 19<sup>th</sup> along a RW trail, another on VT 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus***

One, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, on trail down from orchid house.

**Sharpbill *Oxyruncus cristatus***

A birders' bird if ever there was one, and tricky to see, but didn't we do well? Seen on three dates, high up in the canopy on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, from the elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup> and two just above our heads on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-and-gold Cotinga *Tijuca atra* En.**

Heard almost all day it seemed whilst at MdC, but they played hard to get. We picked up a male showing well, then further on the trail descent, a female out in the open. Another was seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> at SdO and another, but heard only, from the elevated walkway at SdO, on 24<sup>th</sup>.



**Planalto Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias fasciatus***

Only noted on one day, at RW trail, on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Rough-legged Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias burmeisteri***

One from elevated walkway, SdO on 23<sup>rd</sup> and two, VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata***

One, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, and one SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster***

One, in open country above Teresopolis 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Highland Elaenia *Elaenia obscura***

One, along the “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Small-billed Elaenia *Elaenia parvirostris***

One, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> was our only record.

**Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum***

Noted on two dates, RW on 19<sup>th</sup> and SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola***

One on our final day along VT, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern Antpiper *Corythopis delalandi***

This was a struggle, but after prolonged peering into the gloom of the forest understory along the WT, 21<sup>st</sup>, we finally saw one – well, the back of one, as it walked away!

**Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis***

Seen on four dates at each of; RW, MdC, PdC and SdO.

**Serra do Mar Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes difficilis* En.**

Heard only, at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus***

Two on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, and two on VT, on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-hooded Flycatcher *Mionectes rufiventris***

One, WT on 21<sup>st</sup> was our only record.

**Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus***

Singles on two dates; WT on 21<sup>st</sup> and VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Eye-ringed Tody-tyrant *Hemitriccus orbitatus* En.**

One, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Hangnest Tody-tyrant *Hemitriccus nidipendulus* En.**

One, along that lightly-wooded, open country trail at SdO, 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Yellow-lored (Grey-headed) Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum poliocephalum* En.**

Good views at RW, 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum***

Seen on two dates, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurens***

Seen on five dates, at various locations.

**White-throated Spadebill *Platyrinchus mystaceus***

One on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>, on VT.

**Whiskered Flycatcher *Myiobius barbatus***

One, VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea***

Our first, seen by some, was under the canopy of a road-toll stop! Then, one SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and up to six in open country above Teresopolis on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri***

Only, one, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus***

One at RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-billed Black Tyrant *Knipolegus cyanirostris***

Several, at roadside stops, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Velvety Black Tyrant *Knipolegus nigerrimus* En.**

One, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-browed Tyrant *Satrapa icterophrys***

One, at SdO roadside stop north of Teresopolis, on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**White-rumped Monjita *Xolmis velata***

Two on fence wires SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Streamer-tailed Tyrant *Gubernetes yetapa***

A pair enthusiastically greeted us at a SdO roadside stop north of Teresopolis, on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant *Muscipipra vetula***

One, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, another above Teresopolis, SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Masked Water Tyrant *Fluvicola nengeta***

Seen on all visits to RW and other roadside wetlands, in passing.

**White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala***

A pair at RW, seen whenever we looked.

**Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus***

One, at roadside stop, SdO north of Teresopolis, on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosus***

One, SdO, on 22<sup>nd</sup> was our only record.

**Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis***

Common and widespread.

**Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus***

Common and widespread.

**Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarhynchus pitangua***

Seen on four dates, at various locations.

**Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus***

Common and widespread.

**Grayish Mourner *Rhytiperna simplex***

One, WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox***

One, at RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus***

One, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Grey-hooded Attila *Attila rufus* **En.****

Heard then seen along WT on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Giant Antshrike *Batara cinerea***

Alas, heard only, from elevated walkway SdO, 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Large-tailed Antshrike *Mackenziaena leachii***

One, seen fleetingly, PdC, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus***

Seen RW 19<sup>th</sup> and again on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Sooretama Slaty Antshrike *Thamnophilus ambiguus* **En.****

Seen RW on our first day, 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Variable Antshrike *Thamnophilus caerulescens***

Two, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, on trail descent from orchid house.

**Rufous-capped Antshrike *Thamnophilus ruficapillus***

Two, SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Spot-breasted Antwren *Dysithamnus stictothorax***

Two, seen along WT, 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Plain Antwren *Dysithamnus mentalis***

One seen from elevated walkway, SdO 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-backed Antwren *Dysithamnus xanthopterus* **En.****

One at the bottom of track up to MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, one SdO 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Star-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula gularis* **En.****

One, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris***

One, RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Unicoloured Antwren *Myrmotherula unicolor* En.**

Seen WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Serra Antwren *Formicivora littoralis* En.**

One, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Bertoni's Antbird *Drymophila rubricollis***

Great views of one at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> as we walked down the trail from orchid house.

**Rufous-tailed Antbird *Drymophila genei***

Two seen and others heard at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Ochre-rumped Antbird *Drymophila ochropyga* En.**

One along MdC trail on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Scaled Antbird *Drymophila squamata* En.**

Three along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Streak-capped Antwren *Terenura maculate***

One, WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**White-shouldered Fire-eye *Pyriglena leucoptera***

Two on the trail descent from orchid house at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous Gnatcatcher *Conopophaga lineatus***

Two sightings of this (our) robin-like bird, on the trail decent from orchid house at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, and another at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher *Conopophaga melanops* En.**

One shy and tricky to see bird along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Mouse-coloured Tapaculo *Scytalopus speluncae***

Heard, very close to us, (but could we see it?!) on the “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rufous-capped Antthrush *Formicarius colma***

A skulking little critter, but glimpsed on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Rufous-tailed (Brazilian) Antthrush *Chamaeza ruficauda***

Heard on a couple of occasions, WT on 21<sup>st</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>, but not seen.

**Band-tailed Hornero *Furnarius figulus* En.**

RW on 19<sup>th</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rufous Hornero *Furnarius rufus***

Seen on three dates, RW on 19<sup>th</sup>, in open country SdO 22<sup>nd</sup> and *en route* to VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-capped Spinetail *Synallaxis ruficapilla***

Two at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> were our only sightings.

**Grey-bellied Spinetail *Synallaxis cinerascens***

Two at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Spix's Spinetail *Synallaxis spixi***

Two in the scrubby clearing part of the way along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pallid Spinetail *Cranioleuca pallida* En.**

Noted on two dates: two at roadside stop, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, two at SdO, 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomea***

Seen on any visit made to RW.

**Rufous-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons***

Two, at roadside stop, SdO, north of Teresopolis on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Red-eyed Thornbird *Phacellodomus ferrugineigula***

Heard only along trail up to orchid house, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Orange-eyed Thornbird *Phacellodomus erythrophthalmus* En.**

Two along the “misty” trail at PdC, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Firewood-Gatherer *Anumbius annumbi***

What a great name! It does exactly what it says on the tin. We saw several of their untidy bulky stick nests at SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and one bird flew in to give close views.

**White-browed Foliage Gleaner *Anabacerthia amaurotis***

One seen from elevated walkway, SdO 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-capped Foliage-gleaner *Philydor atricapillus***

One along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufus***

Three along track at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**White-collared Foliage-gleaner *Anabazenops fuscus* En.**

One along VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**White-eyed Foliage-gleaner *Automolus leucophthalmus***

Two sightings on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Sharp-billed Treehunter *Heliobletus contaminatus***

One in a mixed flock at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus***

One, high in canopy, mobbing the Ferruginous Pygmy Owl on WT 21<sup>st</sup> and one VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans***

Seen on three dates; RW on 19<sup>th</sup>, WT 21<sup>st</sup>, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus***

Four dates, at MdC 20<sup>th</sup>, PdC 23<sup>rd</sup>, SdO 24<sup>th</sup> and VT 25<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes albicollis***

Two sightings of this chunky-chappy; WT on 21<sup>st</sup> and VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Planalto Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris***

Single record, WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Lesser Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus fuscus***

One along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Scaled Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes squamatus***

One along WT 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus falcularius***

Great views of this “tree-curlew” along “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis***

Noted on three dates; MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and from elevated walkway at SdO 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-eyed (Chivi) Vireo *Vireo olivaceus chivi***

Glimpsed up in the canopy in a mixed species flock harassing a Ferruginous Pygmy Owl, WT on 21<sup>st</sup>. Not yet, but possibly a ‘split’ for the future.

**Rufous-crowned Greenlet *Hylophilus poicilotis***

Two sightings, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Lemon-chested Greenlet *Hylophilus thoracicus***

One at RW on our last outing in the afternoon of 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea***

Common & widespread.

**Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera***

Several zipping about farm fields, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**White-thighed Swallow *Neochelidon tibialis***

Up to ten with Grey-rumped Swifts swirling about above us at the waterfall along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca***

Seen daily, common & widespread in low numbers.

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis***

A scattering, seen daily.

**Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla***

Two from brown trail at RW on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Moustached Wren *Pheugopediusgenibarbis***

Two, of these large and strikingly facially-marked wrens along trail at back of RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Long-billed Wren *Thryothorus longirostris* En.**

Just one at same location as above, RW on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Southern House Wren *Troglodytes aedon***

Oddly, only one sighting, SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Chalk-browed Mockingbird *Mimus saturninus***

Noted on five dates in low numbers

**Rufous-bellied Thrush *Turdus rufiventris***

Just one, WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas***

Seen on four dates, around R Lodge and forest surrounding RW.

**White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis***

A leader-only bird on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, until another seen well by the group on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellowish Pipit *Anthus lutescens***

Heard only (as we were also hearing only Ash-throated Crake) in a roadside field/marsh, SdO 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Please note, I did not call this species when we did the evening log for that day, but I have it written in my notebook – I overlooked it, sorry. I blame the caipirinhas!)

**Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi***

Two in a roadside trees above our heads, where we also saw the Firewood-Gatherer and fly-by White-collared Swifts, SdO 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Masked Yellowthroat *Geothlypis aequinoctialis***

One, at a roadside stop *en route* up to MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus***

Noted on four dates at; MdC trail, that lightly wooded open country trail at SdO 22<sup>nd</sup>, PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and again at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**White-rimmed Warbler *Basileuterus leucoblepharus***

Seen along the “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous***

Seen on all visits to RW and from R lodge tower.

**Chopi Blackbird *Gnorimopsar chopi***

Fly-bys seen from R lodge tower on 19<sup>th</sup>, and in areas of open country at SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and again on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-capped Blackbird *Chrysomus ruficapillus***

A small flock on RW on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola***

Best seen at roadside banana stall, *en route* to MdC and PdC.

**Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis***

Orchid house, MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Grassland Sparrow *Ammodramus humeralis***

One, as dusk fell, in rough grazing field near REGUA, on our first attempt for Giant Snipe. A nice consolation-species though.

**Uniform Finch *Haplospiza unicolor***

Two, hopping around the orchid house at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup>, another at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola***

Seen on four dates, with many great views, the best were on a fenceline at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Double-collared Seedeater *Sporophila caerulea***

Just two at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata***

2-3 along RW trail on 19<sup>th</sup> were our only sighting.

**Olive-green Tanager *Orthogonys chloricterus* **En.****

Two, alas quite high up in the canopy, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-goggled Tanager *Trichothraupis melanops***

‘El Goggle-eye’, seen on several occasions at various locations throughout the week.

**Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus***

Seen from R lodge tower on our first morning, 19<sup>th</sup>, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>, and VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruby-crowned Tanager *Tachyphonus coronatus***

Several of these black & tan duos during the week, seen on five dates, the best views were at the roadside banana stall on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Brazilian Tanager *Ramphocelus bresilius***

A sunglasses-job, this one - an incandescent, red-hot glowing male seen from R Lodge tower on our first morning, but alas it was our only sighting.

**Sayaca Tanager *Thraupis sayaca***

Small flocks seen throughout the week at various localities.



**Azure-shouldered Tanager *Tangara cyanoptera* En.**

Our first when out Giant Snipe-ing on 19<sup>th</sup>, others were MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and from elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-chevroned Tanager *Thraupis ornata***

Seen on just two days, at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum***

Seen daily in lower numbers. The tanager that was at the end of the line when the colours were dished out!

**White-bellied Tanager *Tangara brasiliensis* En.**

Just the one of this Brazilian endemic, seen along VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Green-headed Tanager *Tangara seledon***

Several seen at our roadside stops at the banana stall, on 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also soon on VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>. A bit of a *looker* or what?!

**Red-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanocephala***

Alas, just one all week, and not seen well either, on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Brassy-breasted Tanager *Tangara desmaresti* En.**

An absolute *stotter* of a bird. Seen on three dates in low numbers, the best views were at our stops at the roadside banana stall.

**Burnished-buff Tanager *Tangara cayana***

Seen almost daily, including from our chairs around R lodge.

**Cinnamon Tanager *Schistochlamys ruficapillus***

Seen twice during the week, at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis***

REGUA seemed to be *hoaching* with ‘em this time - on my last visit I saw but one! They scored a double-tick on the checklist for our first day, with those wonderful close views from the R lodge tower.

**Black-legged Dacnis *Dacnis nigripes* En.**

Otherwise known as Dracula-bird – The Prince of Dacnis! A Brazilian endemic, seen from the R lodge tower on our first morning and a nice one to see.

**Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana***

Best seen, alongside its Black-legged cousin, from R lodge tower, on our first morning, and overall seen on 5 dates at various other locations.

**Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus***

Seen twice, from R lodge tower on first morning and again VT on our last morning.

**Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza***

Only seen at the roadside banana stall, on both 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rufous-headed Tanager *Hemithraupis ruficapilla***

Only one seen along that lightly wooded open country trail we walked at SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Yellow-backed Tanager *Hemithraupis flavicollis***

Seen on three dates around on 19<sup>th</sup>, from elevated walkway at SdO on 24<sup>th</sup> and VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Diademed Tanager *Stephanophorus diadematus***

An absolute stunning looking bird, but unfortunately we saw just one, high atop a tree, in heavy mist, along the “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Och well, can’t win ‘em all. Bah!

**Fawn-breasted Tanager *Pipraeidea melanonota***

Two seen at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup> and two others VT on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava***

A fine male seen in open country above Terespolis on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum***

Seen throughout the week, often in mixed flocks of Dacni and other tanager species.

**Red-crowned Ant-tanager *Habia rubica***

Just one sighting, but a good one, along WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Bay-chested Warbling-finch *Poospiza thoracica* En.**

Just the one of this handsome endemic, along that “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Pileated Finch *Coryphospingus cucullatus***

One RW on 19<sup>th</sup> and also seen SdO on 22<sup>nd</sup> and PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea***

Noted on five dates, the best at the roadside banana stall on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster***

A pair seen in the canopy above us on WT on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Chestnut-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia pectoralis***

This beauty was a feature of our stops at the roadside banana stall, giving wonderful close views. Also seen from R lodge tower.

**Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea***

These outrageously colourful birds were only seen at the banana stall on 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Yellow-green Grosbeak *Caryothraustes canadensis***

Heard only along the VT on our last morning, 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Green-winged Saltator *Saltator similis***

Seen twice during the week; at orchid house at MdC on 20<sup>th</sup> and at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Thick-billed Saltator *Saltator maxillosus***

One seen PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica***

Two, along the “misty” trail at PdC on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**OTHER CRITTERS**

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus***

**Brazilian Rabbit *Sylvilagus brasiliensis***

**Guianan Squirrel *Sciurus aestuans***

**Capybara *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris***

**Brown Howler Monkey *Alouatta guariba***

**White-tufted Marmoset *Callithrix jacchus***

**Black-faced Marmoset *Mico nigriceps***

**Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporina***

**Capuchin Monkey *Cebus capucinus***

**Broad-snouted Caiman *Caiman latirostris***