

WildWings Limosa

**BRAZIL: REMOTE AMAZON
BIRDS AND WILDLIFE CRUISE
28 August – 14 September 2024**



The adult Harpy Eagle seen along the Rio Negro was one of the major highlights of the cruise © Chris Collins

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Leaders: Chris Collins and Regina Ribeiro

Introduction

This was the sixth “Remote Amazon” birds and wildlife cruise which Chris Collins and Regina Ribeiro had jointly led with Moacir Junior and the tour was a great success with a spectacular range of wildlife being seen. We spent much of the trip exploring along the Rio Negro and some of its tributaries, including the Jaú and Branco Rivers, as well as visiting the ‘meeting of the waters’ where the black water Negro and white water Solimoes join to form the mighty Amazon River.

For almost our entire tour, however, we enjoyed passing mile-after-mile of pristine rainforest seeing very few other people or boats.

On a trip such as this, everyone inevitably has their own highlights but the special experiences we shared included some incredible views of two Harpy Eagles, with one on the extension and another as we cruised down the Rio Negro. The visit to the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock lek on the extension was very well received with at least a dozen males seen at close range. With Guianan Red and Spangled Cotingas, as well as Crimson Topaz, also seen, the trip started extremely well.

We also found a good selection of monkeys on our excursions and some interesting species on our night canoe rides, with the undoubted highlight being a Black-tailed (Dwarf) Porcupine, a species which our highly experienced local guide ‘Junior’ had only occasionally seen previously despite leading tours in this region for over twenty years.

Inevitably birds were the most recorded group with a great range being seen including desirable species such as Hoatzin, Spectacled Owl, Agami Heron, Sunbittern, Sungrebe, Blue-and-yellow Macaw, Wire-tailed Manakin and Capuchinbird. We also spent a percentage of our time looking for some of the range and habitat-restricted species which can be found in this region and those found included Cherrie’s and Klages’s Antwrens and Parker’s Spinetail.

The biggest surprise, however, was finding Rio Branco Antbird which is currently treated as ‘critically endangered’ by Birdlife International. It seems this species may not have been recorded along the lower part of the Rio Branco for at least a decade and our sightings suggest that the current status may be overly pessimistic given there seems to be plenty of

undisturbed habitat between the area where we saw it and the area almost 250 miles to the north where it is known to be found.

The trip was, however, not just about birds and we also made a special effort to look for mammals. Ten species of monkeys were seen (extension plus the main tour), as well as some nice views of Giant River Otter, both Northern Black-eared and Grey Four-eyed Opossums and a range of forest rats, however, the rarest species was undoubtedly the aforementioned porcupine.

Arguably the primate highlight was the Spix's Night Monkeys we saw at the tree where they sleep, but we also found Golden-faced and Guianan Bearded Sakis, Humboldt's and Guianan Squirrel Monkeys, Pied Tamarins and (Guianan) Brown and Humboldt's White-faced Capuchins.

As well as Amazon River Dolphin, we also saw Tucuxi on a more or less daily basis and our reptile tally included both Black and Spectacled Caimans, Green Iguana and a selection of lizards and frogs.

It was definitely an extremely memorable trip and this introduction must also pay tribute to our fantastic crew who were led by the brilliant 'Junior'. He not only knew the areas we visited intimately but also had a seemingly unquenchable desire to share his knowledge of this remote region with us.

The following text lists the species we encountered and will hopefully bring back many happy memories for those who joined us.

Chris Collins and Regina Ribeiro

September 2024

Itinerary including pre-cruise extension

28 August 2024

Arrive Manaus. Explore forest patches near our riverside hotel.

29-30 August 2024

Pre-tour extension to lodge near Presidente Figuierto. Visit Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock lek and local exploring.

31 August 2024

Return to Manaus.

1 September 2024

Morning: Musa Tower.

Lunchtime: Board *Iracema*. Visit 'Meeting of the Waters'.

Afternoon: Xiboraninha, Rio Solimoes.

2 September 2024

Morning: Explore Alfavile, Manaus.

3 September 2024

Morning: Marchantaria.

Afternoon and evening: cruising on Rio Negro and Pagodão.

4 September 2024

Morning: Tres Bocas in Anavilhanas archipelago.

Afternoon: Novo Airão.

5 September 2024

Morning: Cruising on Rio Negro. Brief stop at Jaú National Park HQ/entrance. Cruise Jaú River. Igarape Preto.

Afternoon: Cruise Jaú River. Nazare.

6 September 2024

Morning and afternoon: Jaú National Park.

7 September 2024

Morning: Cruise downstream on Jaú River. Leave national park and cross to east bank of Rio Negro.

Afternoon: Meduini Channel, Rio Negro.

8 September 2024

Morning: Agua Boa, Rio Negro.

Afternoon: cruising on Rio Negro then Rio Branco.

9 September 2024

Morning: Paraná de Breu, Rio Branco.

Afternoon: Paraná du Amajaú, Rio Branco.

10 September 2024

Morning: Remanso, Rio Negro.

Afternoon: Maçueira, Rio Negro.

11 September 2024

Morning: Baependi, Rio Negro.

Afternoon: Paraná San Antonio, Rio Negro.

12 September 2024

Morning: Camaleão Island, Anavilhanas, Rio Negro.

Afternoon: Paraná Maravilha, Rio Negro.

13 September 2024

Morning: Pagodão, Rio Negro.

Afternoon: 'Dolphin Swim' near mouth of Acajatuba River on Rio Negro and cruise on Acajatuba River.

14 September 2024

Disembark in Manaus.

15 September 2024

Arrive UK.

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Systematic List

The taxonomy and English names used in this systematic list for the birds generally follows the recommendations of the IOC's *World Bird List* with revisions made where an alternative name/taxonomy is considered more appropriate.

For mammals, we have largely adopted the treatment proposed in the *Handbook of Mammals of the World* series by Lynx Editions, although again a few minor changes have been made.

Birds

Undulated Tinamou *Crypturellus undulatus*

This species was regularly heard during the cruise and was logged on six dates.

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

Recorded on three of the first four days of the cruise with more seen on the last full day.



Orinoco Geese © Chris Collins

Orinoco Goose *Neochen jubata*

Several on a river island whilst exploring along the Rio Branco on 9 September.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

Seen on a daily basis from 5-11 September, although on most occasions only a few individuals were noted.

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis*

A handful of birds were seen on 3 September whilst birding around Marchantaria Island.

Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata*

Heard on two dates (1 September and 11 September).

Crestless Curassow *Mitu tomentosum*

Heard during our canoe rides on 9 and 12 September.



Black Curassows © Chris Collins

Black Curassow *Crax alector*

One of the undoubted highlights of the cruise was some prolonged views of a party of twelve Black Curassows which were seen along the forest edge during our morning canoe ride at Baependi River on 11 September. Initially one individual was spotted but it soon became apparent that there was a good-sized group and we were able to watch them for c.10 minutes before they retreated deeper into the forest.

Short-tailed Nighthawk *Lurocalis semitorquatus*

Three individuals were seen at dusk flying around the cabins on the extension (29 August) with single birds (also at dusk) on 6 and 7 September.



Band-tailed Nighthawk (trilling form) © Chris Collins

Band-tailed Nighthawk *Nyctiprogne leucopyga*

This species was by far the commonest nightjar/nighthawk recorded on the cruise with sightings on a more or less daily basis from 3 September onwards. Most birds were seen hawking for insects at dawn and dusk over the rivers.

It is worth noting that there appear to be two cryptic species within 'Band-tailed Nighthawk' as there are almost identically looking birds which have two very different songs in this part of Amazonia.

The 'trilling form' was seen well in Jaú National Park (including a perched bird) but as this form and the nominate can be seen at the same location, the logic of treating them as subspecies is surely somewhat suspect.

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*

Recorded on four occasions in the latter stages of the cruise.

Ladder-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis climacocerca*

This very distinctive nightjar was seen on eight dates which is a much higher count than some recent trips.



Great Potoo © Chris Collins

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis*

This species was seen after dark on both 10 and 11 September.

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*

The only sighting was a single bird during the after-dinner canoe ride on 11 September.

Rufous Potoo *Nyctibius bracteatus*

This tricky species can occasionally be found in Jaú National Park and after some considerable effort (including going c.150m off the trail), we saw a lone individual after dark on 5 September.

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*

Only definitely identified on seven dates (extension:2 and cruise:5) although it is highly likely that many birds were overlooked given the difficulty of telling this species from Band-rumped Swift when the birds are flying overhead.

Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicaudus*

Telling this species from the previous species, ie Grey-rumped Swift, really necessitates seeing the rump and when birds are flying overhead, this can be relatively difficult to see. As a result, we only definitely recorded this species on three days, although no doubt it was much more numerous than this as *chaetura* swifts were seen on a daily basis.

Chapman's Swift *Chaetura chapmani*

Another swift which was almost certainly overlooked, however, unlike the previous two species, this one does not have any markings on the rump and it is also somewhat larger. Recorded with certainty on two dates in the latter stages of the cruise.

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura*

A very distinctively shaped swift which was seen on a more or less daily basis throughout the cruise and extension.

Neotropical Palm Swift *Tachornis squamata*

Another distinctive swift, however, unlike the previous species, this one seems to be genuinely uncommon, although the 2024 trip was very successful for this species with daily sightings on the extension (28-31 August).

Crimson Topaz *Topaza pella*

Three birds were seen on the extension (31 August) a short drive from our lodge.

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*

A single bird on 10 September was the sole record.

Long-tailed Hermit *Phaethornis superciliosus*

Lone individuals on two dates on the extension with another seen during the cruise.

Black-eared Fairy *Heliodytes auratus*

One individual was found during the canoe ride at Pagadao. It was acting in a very aggressive manner to other birds and we presumed it was attempting to defend a nest from potential predators.

Grey-breasted Sabrewing *Campylopterus largipennis*

Seen on one occasion during the pre-cruise extension.

Versicoloured Emerald *Chlorostilbon versicolor*

Logged on 4 September.

Glittering-throated Emerald *Chionomesa fimbriata*

Recorded on two occasions with one sighting on the extension and another during the cruise.

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major*

Common and recorded on a daily basis from 3 September onwards.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*

A lot less numerous than the previous species with sightings on a total of nine days (extension: 2 and cruise: 7).

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia*

The distinctive song of this species was heard on 3 September when we were exploring Machantaria Island.

Little Cuckoo *Coccyua minuta*

Two of these appropriately named cuckoos were seen during the canoe ride along the Paraná de Breu (a channel off the Rio Branco) on 9 September.



Squirrel Cuckoo © Chris Collins

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

Generally, this is the commonest of the Neotropical cuckoos in the region and we saw it on seven days during the cruise and extension with birds heard on a further three dates.

Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa*

The sole record was on 31 August on the extension.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis*

Recorded on a daily basis from 5-12 September during the cruise.

Plumbeous Pigeon *Patagioenas plumbea*

A not uncommon pigeon by voice in this region and recorded on three days although on most occasions birds were only heard, however, it seems highly likely that some of the flyover pigeons which were not identified were this species.

Ruddy Pigeon *Patagioenas subvinacea*

On this year's cruise, Ruddy Pigeon was heard on more occasions than the previous species and was logged on six days during the cruise and on one day on the extension.

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*

Recorded on three dates during the cruise.

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*

Seen on the first and third days of the cruise and also on one date during the extension.

Ruddy Quail-dove *Geotrygon montana*

This species is only very occasionally recorded on this trip, so it was a genuine surprise to find one in Manaus on 2 September whilst everyone was enjoying ice creams in a downtown café. The bird flew into a shop window and stunned itself and was rescued by Chris. A few moments later, however, it had recovered enough to fly off. What a deep forest bird was doing in the middle of the town remains a mystery although it is not the first time we have recorded this species in similar circumstances.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

This species was noted on three dates during the cruise with the best views probably being at the Acajatuba River on 13 September where several birds were seen walking along the sandy banks.

Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla*

Heard on three dates.



Sungrebe © Chris Collins

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*

This species was logged on a much more frequent basis than on some previous visits with records on eleven dates.

Grey-cowled Wood Rail *Aramides cajaneus*

Three birds were found during our canoe ride along the Acajatuba River on 13 September with another on the nocturnal canoe ride on 9 September.

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*

The sole record was a lone bird on the Acajatuba River (13 September).

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*

Two individuals on 3 September.

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*

Seen on two dates during the latter stages of the cruise.

Pied Plover *Vanellus cayanus*

The sole records were on 9 September whilst exploring along the Rio Branco where there were a handful of individuals on a sandbar.

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana*

Seen in small numbers on three dates during the first half of the cruise.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*

There were several individuals on the sandbar we explored along the Rio Branco (9 September) with a few more the following day.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

The most regularly recorded migrant wader with sightings on eight dates.

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*

Single birds were recorded on both 9 and 13 September.

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger*

This impressive looking bird was seen on a regular basis during our time on *Iracema* (8 dates). Although it was generally in relatively low numbers, the sandbar we explored along the Rio Branco had an exceptional concentration of birds which numbered c.100 individuals.



Black Skimmers © Chris Collins

Yellow-billed Tern *Sternula superciliaris*

Less common than the next species, ie Large-billed Tern, although there were still more or less daily sightings whilst aboard *Iracema*.



Large-billed Terns © Chris Collins

Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex*

This large tern was seen on a more or less daily basis whilst on *Iracema*.



Sunbittern © Chris Collins

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias*

For some of the group, this species was one of the highlights of the cruise and birds were seen on three dates with a total of four individuals logged.

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*

Logged on almost a daily basis during the cruise, although it was only ever noted in low numbers.

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

Seen in variable numbers on almost every day we were on *Iracema*.

Buff-necked Ibis *Theristicus caudatus*

A lone bird on 3 September was the sole record.



Green Ibis © Chris Collins

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*

A reasonably numerous species which was seen on a more or less daily basis, although our day counts were generally in low single figures.

Rufescent Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum*

An excellent cruise for this species with daily sightings from 4 September until the end of our time aboard *Iracema*. Although numbers were relatively low, nevertheless, we had some regular fantastic views.



Rufescent Tiger Heron © Chris Collins



Agami Heron © Chris Collins

Agami Heron *Agamia agami*

An excellent trip for this fantastic looking heron with almost daily sightings from 4-13 September. Compared with some previous trips, good numbers of younger birds were noted suggesting that the most recent breeding season must have been highly successful.

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*

This species was logged on five days with the majority of sightings being on our nocturnal canoe rides when this species is more active, however, it was also noted during the day on a handful of occasions.



Striated Heron © Chris Collins

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

This species was recorded on every day whilst we were on *Iracema* with good numbers on most dates – unquestionably the commonest heron in the region.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

This widespread species which only colonised the Americas relatively recently was found on three days.

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*

This conspicuous heron was recorded on a more or less daily basis during the cruise.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Another widespread species which was seen very regularly. Whilst the numbers varied on a daily basis, it was always common, however, the sheer number of individuals seen at dawn

during our canoe ride near Remanso (10 September) was extraordinarily as wave after wave of birds flew by with probably upwards of 1,000 birds seen.

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus*

A handsome heron which was recorded on six dates, although on all occasions only a handful of individuals were noted.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

The American equivalent of the Little Egret and found on eight days.



Hoatzin © Chris Collins

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin*

This bizarre looking bird was seen on eight dates.

King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa*

This is a somewhat uncommon vulture in this part of Amazonia and we typically only record it on a handful of occasions, however, 2024 was somewhat outside the norm with one on the extension and then sightings on five dates during the cruise with several individuals seen perched.

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*

Seen on a daily basis on the cruise and pre-tour extension. Undoubtedly the commonest vulture of the region.



King Vulture © Chris Collins

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Seen on three dates during the cruise and also found on three days on the extension.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*

This species is generally associated with more open habitats and was seen on three days. Seems to be much less numerous than the next species, although some individuals may have been overlooked.

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus*

Logged on nine dates during the cruise and it was also noted on the pre-cruise extension.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Seen on a regular basis throughout our time on *Iracema* with sightings on nine days with a lone bird also seen flying high overhead on the extension.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*

Somewhat surprisingly, this species was only recorded on two dates on the extension (30-31 September).

Harpy Eagle *Harpia harpyja*

A spectacularly successful trip for this species with records on three dates.

One of the unexpected bonuses on the extension was a visit to a recently discovered nest where we were able to watch one of the adult birds as it guarded its 2-3 month old chick (30 August).



The adult Harpy Eagle seen along the Rio Negro was one of the major highlights of the cruise © Chris Collins

As we were about to sit down to lunch on 10 September, the crew spotted an adult male in a tree as we were cruising down the Rio Negro. They skilfully took *Iracema* very slowly across

the river towards where the bird was sitting and we stayed with it for over 45 minutes enjoying some phenomenal views. Indeed, some of the group were able to watch the bird, go downstairs for lunch and then head back to the top deck for further views!!



Adult Harpy Eagle seen near nest on the extension © Chris Collins

The following day, whilst cruising in the canoes at Baependi, a youngster was heard calling and a few moments later, an adult bird was also heard. Given we had already seen this species so well, we did not try particularly hard to find either individual....

Black Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*

This species has only been recorded on a handful of occasions on our previous Remote Amazon cruises, so it was exceptional to find birds on two consecutive days, with both seen very well. The first was found during our afternoon canoe ride at Parana Maravilha (12 September) where it was seen sitting in a tree adjacent to the riverbank with a Green Iguana in its talons. The following day another bird was seen almost as well at the start of our canoe ride at Pagadão.



Black Hawk-eagle with Green Iguana © Chris Collins

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

A single bird was seen soaring as we cruised down the Paraná du Amajaú (9 September). As with the other two hawk-eagle species seen in 2024, this species is not recorded annually so to see three species of hawk-eagle in one year was a real bonus.

Ornate Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus ornatus*

One was seen very briefly during the afternoon canoe ride at Paraná Maravilha (12 September). It was spotted sitting in a tree adjacent to the river bank but, unfortunately, flew deeper into the forest shortly after it was found.

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus*

A single bird was seen on 1 September.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*

Amongst the more conspicuous raptors in this region, however, less common in 2023 than on some previous occasions, although still recorded on six days.



Black-collared Hawk © Chris Collins

Black-collared Hawk *Busarellus nigricollis*

This fine raptor was seen on seven widely spaced dates throughout the cruise.



Snail Kite © Chris Collins

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*

This species is generally recorded closer to Manaus as it is only infrequently found along the Rio Negro. Consequently, there were sightings on three of the first four days of the cruise and then on the final full day when exploring the Acajatubu River (13 September).

Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens*

A good year for this species with sightings on five dates.

Slate-coloured Hawk *Buteogallus schistaceus*

Sightings on five dates during the cruise was more than some previous visits.



Great Black Hawk © Chris Collins

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga*

Recorded on a more or less daily basis from 5 September until the end of the cruise albeit only a handful of individuals were logged on each day.

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*

The commonest large raptor with almost daily records on the cruise and extension.

White Hawk *Pseudastur albicollis*

A single individual on 30 August on the extension.

Grey-lined Hawk *Buteo nitidus*

One on the extension on 30 August.

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*

A lone bird on Marchantaria Island (3 September).

Amazonian Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium hardyi*

One was heard on 1 September on the extension but was not seen.



Ferruginous Pygmy Owl © Chris Collins

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*

The last new bird of the cruise with one seen at dusk at the end of our canoe ride on the Acajatuba River on 13 September.



Tropical Screech Owl © Chris Collins

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba*

A good trip for sightings of this species with one seen during the day on our canoe ride at Igarape Preto in the Jaú National Park on 5 September. Three days later, three birds were found on the evening excursion.

Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata*

We were fortunate enough to enjoy some good looks of these fine owls on several occasions. The first sightings were before dawn in the Anavilhanas archipelago (4 September) where at least two birds responded to playback. A couple of days later, at least four individuals were found during our morning canoe ride at Nazare, however, the closest views were undoubtedly on the evening canoe ride on 11 September when a lone bird seemingly came in to investigate us and showed exceptionally well for several minutes.



Spectacled Owl © Chris Collins

Pavonine Quetzal *Pharomachrus pavoninus*

One was found whilst exploring the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park on 6 September.

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*

Seen along the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park (6 September) and also heard on 11 September.

Green-backed Trogon *Trogon viridis*

The most frequently encountered of the trogons with birds logged on five dates across the extension and cruise.

Guianan Trogon *Trogon violaceus*

Seen on 30 August during the extension.

Amazonian Trogon *Trogon ramonianus*

A lone bird on 29 August during the extension was the sole record.

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui*

This species was seen on both days whilst we were in the Jaú National Park (6-7 September).

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

One of the most regularly recorded kingfisher species with almost daily sightings throughout the cruise.



American Pygmy Kingfisher © Chris Collins

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea*

This is typically the second least recorded species of kingfisher on the cruise (after Green-and-rufous), however, it was seen on seven dates in 2024, although typically only one or two individuals were seen on each day.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*

This species is generally less numerous than Amazon Kingfisher but, nevertheless, was logged on eleven dates across the trip.



Green-and-rufous Kingfisher © Chris Collins

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *Chloroceryle inda*

Generally the scarcest of the five kingfisher species on the cruise with sightings on four dates.

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*

Recorded regularly during the cruise – large, conspicuous and common.

Amazonian Motmot *Momotus momota*

This species was heard whilst exploring the creeks at Pagadão (13 September).

Yellow-billed Jacamar *Galbula albirostris*

The first of five species of jacamars logged on the trip with a rather uncooperative bird at Pagodão on 13 September.

Green-tailed Jacamar *Galbula galbula*

The most frequently encountered species of jacamar which was seen on four dates during the cruise and heard on a further two dates.

Bronzy Jacamar *Galbula leucogastra*

We had reasonable views on the extension (29 August). This species was also heard along the trail at Nazare on 5 September whilst exploring in Jaú National Park.

Paradise Jacamar *Galbula dea*

Only seen on 29 August on the extension.

Great Jacamar *Jacamerops aureus*

Two birds on our canoe ride on 11 September.

Guianan Puffbird *Notharchus macrorhynchos*

This Guianan Shield endemic is found north of the Amazon and east of the Negro and was seen on 1 September.

Black Nunbird *Monasa atra*

Another Guianan Shield speciality which was seen on a daily basis during the extension and then on six dates whilst we were on *Iracema*.

Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons*

This species was logged on eight dates during the cruise.

Given the colour of this bird (it is all black), the name is verging on ridiculous especially when Black Nunbird has white in its plumage.

Swallow-winged Puffbird *Chelidoptera tenebrosa*

This distinctive bird was seen on a regular basis during the extension and cruise and was one of the more conspicuous species along the rivers we explored.

Black-spotted Barbet *Capito niger*

A lone bird was found on 13 September whilst exploring at Pagodão.

Green Aracari *Pteroglossus viridis*

A good year for this species with sightings on two dates on the extension and then four dates on the main tour.

Black-necked Aracari *Pteroglossus aracari*

An excellent year for this species with daily sightings on the extension and then on five dates on the main trip.

Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis*

A small group of several individuals was found at Pagadão (13 September).

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus*

Seen on a daily basis on the extension and then on five dates during the cruise. It was also heard on several other occasions.

White-throated Toucan *Ramphastos tucanus*

More frequently encountered than the previous species and recorded on a daily basis on the pre-tour extension and more or less daily when we were on *Iracema*.

Golden-spangled Piculet *Picumnus exilis*

Two birds were found on the canoe ride when exploring Paraná du Breu off the Rio Branco (9 September).

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus*

Seen on two dates whilst we were on *Iracema*.

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula*

An extremely smart woodpecker which was seen on three dates during the cruise and on one occasion on the extension.

Spot-breasted Woodpecker *Colaptes punctigula*

Seen on two dates (6 and 9 September) with a total of three individuals logged.



Spot-breasted Woodpecker © Chris Collins

Waved Woodpecker *Celeus undatus*

Seen on 6 September whilst exploring inside the Jaú National Park.



Chestnut Woodpecker © Chris Collins

Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans*

Logged on two dates during the cruise.

Cream-coloured Woodpecker *Celeus flavus*

This fine woodpecker was seen on two dates during the cruise with a total of four birds recorded.

Cream-coloured Woodpecker © Chris Collins

Ringed Woodpecker *Celeus torquatus*

The sole occasion when this species was recorded was during the afternoon canoe ride inside the Jaú National Park (8 September).



Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

Seen on five dates during the cruise.

Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis*

The only sighting was at the Musa Tower on 1 September where three individuals were seen.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos*

Seen on five dates whilst we were on *Iracema*.

Black Caracara *Daptrius ater*

Seen on five dates during the cruise and also on one occasion on the extension.

Red-throated Caracara *Ibycter americanus*

This noisy and very distinctive species seems to be genuinely uncommon especially when compared to the previous and next species of caracara and was only found on one occasion (8 September). As is usual for this species, the birds responded well to playback and were also seen mating.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*

The commonest caracara in the region with daily sightings throughout the cruise.

Slaty-backed Forest Falcon *Micrastur mirandollei*

One was heard on the canoe ride at Pagadão (13 September) and whilst it called regularly for a considerable time, it did not move in response to playback.

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*

Two adults and three large chicks were seen on a couple of occasions close to our hotel in Manaus with a total of three other individuals recorded during the cruise.

Tui Parakeet *Brotogeris sanctithomae*

Good numbers of these small parrots were seen at their roost along the waterfront in Manaus on 28 August. There were then sightings on two of the first three days of the main trip and on the last day of the cruise.



White-winged Parakeets © Chris Collins

White-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris versicolurus*

Only seen in the early stages of the trip with sightings on two days on the extension and then two dates on the main tour. The highest numbers were at the waterfront roost in Manaus where, somewhat incredibly, the birds sleep in trees in the middle of a dual carriageway.

Golden-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris chrysoptera*

Found on a more-or-less daily basis from 5-11 September although the vast majority were overflying birds which were often very high. There were, however, good views of perched birds on a couple of occasions.

Caica Parrot *Pyrilia caica*

This Guianan Shield speciality was seen on a couple of occasions in the latter stages of the cruise (9 and 10 September).

Dusky Parrot *Pionus fuscus*

Seen in small numbers on three dates during the cruise with the best views at Pagadão on 13 September where two perched birds were found.



Blue-headed Parrot © Chris Collins

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*

Recorded on five dates during the cruise.

Short-tailed Parrot *Graydidascalus brachyurus*

Seen in small numbers at Xiborezinha on our first day on *Iracema*.

Festive Amazon *Amazona festiva*

There were more or less daily sightings throughout the cruise. Unquestionably the commonest *Amazona* parrot.

Red-lored Amazon *Amazona autumnalis*

This species was new for the Remote Amazon trip and very unexpectedly was seen on three consecutive days (11-13 September) with several high-flying flocks observed.

All the birds were seemingly making long distance movements which were presumably food related.

Mealy Amazon *Amazona farinosa*

Small numbers were found at Xiborezinha on our first afternoon on *Iracema*.

Orange-winged Amazon *Amazona amazonica*

Considerably less common than in some years, although still recorded on seven dates across the extension and cruise.

Brown-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula pertinax*

This species is usually only found in or close to the Jaú National Park and 2024 was no exception with birds seen on 5-7 September.

Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilatus*

This Moriche Palm specialist was seen from the Musa Tower early in the morning of 1 September with several small flocks flying by.

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna*

This fine parrot was seen on six dates across the extension and the cruise, although on most days only a handful of individuals were noted.

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*

This species was seen in small numbers on an irregular basis throughout the trip with sightings on four dates. The highest count was on the afternoon of 10 September when ten birds were found with several watched feeding in a fruiting tree.

Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloropterus*

Only seen on 1 September during our visit to the Musa Tower on the outskirts of Manaus.

White-eyed Parakeet *Psittacara leucophthalmus*

Generally the commonest parrot close to Manaus with sightings on two dates on the extension and then on six dates whilst on *Iracema*.

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spiurus*

One bird on the extension on 31 August was the sole record.

Long-billed Woodcreeper *Nasica longirostris*

This species is surely the best looking of all the woodcreepers and it was seen on four dates between 4-13 September and was also heard on a similar number of days.

Striped Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*

This species is only occasionally recorded on this trip with one found on 4 September.

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus*

Seen on four days during the cruise and also on the first day of the extension.

Zimmer's Woodcreeper *Dendroplex kienerii*

This somewhat localised woodcreeper, which is only found along the Amazon and some tributaries, was seen on five dates across the main tour and extension.



Long-billed Woodcreeper © Chris Collins



Zimmer's Woodcreeper © Chris Collins

Lesser Hornero *Furnarius minor*

Seen on 3 September on Marchantaria Island.

Rusty-backed Spinetail *Cranioleuca vulpine*

Seen on three dates (4, 8 and 13 September) and also heard on two other days.

Parker's Spinetail *Cranioleuca vulpcula*

This relatively recently described species was seen at Machantaria in the Solimoes River (3 September).

Plain-crowned Spinetail *Synallaxis gujanensis*

Seen on one date (9 September) on the Rio Branco.

Dark-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albigularis*

Like Parker's Spinetail, this species was only seen on Machantaria Island in the Solimoes River (3 September).

Pygmy Antwren *Myrmotherula brachyura*

Found on the extension (31 August).

Cherrie's Antwren *Myrmotherula cherriei*

This species has a moderately limited range being only found in NW Amazonia and was seen on 5 September in Jaú National Park.



Klages's Antwren © Chris Collins

Klages's Antwren *Myrmotherula klagesi*

This species resembles Cherrie's Antwren, however, its song is quite different and it has a much more restricted range only occurring along a relatively short section of the Amazon River and a few major tributaries.

It seems to favour river islands and river-edge forest and as these are subject to more clearance than some other habitats, this species is classified as 'vulnerable' by Birdlife International.

Several individuals were found in the Anavilhanas archipelago on 4 and 12 September. It was also heard on the Rio Branco on 9 September.

Leaden Antwren *Myrmotherula assimilis*

Another somewhat range restricted species which was seen on 4 September and heard on 12 September.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*

Seen on the canoe ride at Xiborantina on 1 September.



Blackish-grey Antshrike © Chris Collins

Blackish-grey Antshrike *Thamnophilus nigrocinereus*

This species is primarily found along the Amazon River and some of its tributaries and it was seen on 4 September in the Anavilhanas archipelago.

White-shouldered Antshrike *Thamnophilus aethiops*

The first time this species has been recorded on the cruise and seen along the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park on 6 September.

Mouse-coloured Antshrike *Thamnophilus murinus*

This species has a very distinctive song but is usually only found in the canopy. It was seen on one date on the extension (31 August) with another on the main tour (6 September).

Amazonian Antshrike *Thamnophilus amazonicus*

Some decent views of this species on our canoe ride on 5 September.

Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus canadensis*

This handsome antshrike was recorded on a daily basis from 4 September until the end of the cruise, although on most days it was heard but not seen.

Yellow-browed Antbird *Hypocnemis hypoxantha*

This brightly coloured antbird was found along the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park on 6 September.

Grey Antbird *Cercomacra cinerascens*

This species generally lives high in the canopy and is far more frequently heard than seen. The 2024 trip was no exception, with one bird seen along the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park but it was also heard on four further dates.

Rio Branco Antbird *Cercomacra carbonaria*

Rio Branco Antbird is currently classified as ‘critically endangered’ by Birdlife International and, as its name suggests, seemingly has a highly restricted range. Generally most birders see it near Boa Vista in Brazil or on the Ireng River (a tributary of the Branco) in Guyana. According to eBird, there are only a handful of records from the lower section of the Branco and none in the last 12 years so finding this species in this region on 8 September was highly noteworthy and will be reported to Birdlife.

Given there is plenty of seemingly suitable habitat between Boa Vista and the area where we found this species, it seems debatable if the current status of this species is an accurate reflection of how rare it is and the threats it faces.

Black-chinned Antbird *Hypocnemoides melanopogon*

The most frequently recorded antbird during the cruise and recorded on a more or less daily basis from 5 September onwards although on some days it was heard but not seen.

Ash-breasted Antbird *Myrmoborus lugubris*

At least a couple of birds were found whilst we were ashore in the Anavilhanas archipelago on 4 September. Also heard on 12 September.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*

Seen on two dates (4 and 5 September) and also heard on four subsequent dates.

Greenish Elaenia *Myiopagis viridicata*

Seen on Marchantaria on 3 September.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*

Seen on two dates.



Amazonian Inezia © Chris Collins

Amazonian Inezia *Inezia subflava*

Seen on a couple of dates.

Snethlage's Tody-tyrant *Hermitriccus minor*

Seen on a couple of dates.

Spotted Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum maculatum*

One of the better-looking flycatchers we saw and seen on four dates.

Grey-crowned Flatbill *Tolmomyias poliocephalus*

One was seen on the canoe ride at Meduini Channel on 7 September.

Drab Water Tyrant *Ochthornis littoralis*

This species seems to prefer steep river banks and was seen on 8 September whilst exploring along the Rio Branco.

Riverside Tyrant *Knipolegus orenocensis*

Found on Marchantaria Island on 3 September.

Amazonian Black Tyrant *Knipolegus poecilocercus*

Although not considered globally threatened, this species seems to be generally uncommon to rare and prior to the 2023 cruise has not been recorded on this trip. It was, therefore, good to see at least two individuals on 9 September whilst exploring Paraná du Breu along the Rio Branco including a male which was displaying, a dance not dissimilar to some species of manakin.



Amazonian Black Tyrant © Chris Collins

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala*
Seen on Marchantaria Island on 3 September.

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus*
Seen on three dates across the extension and cruise.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis*
Only found on the extension (30 August).

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Seen on a daily basis during the extension and on six days whilst we were on *Iracema*.



Lesser Kiskadee © Chris Collins

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lictor*
Recorded on eight dates during the cruise.

Three-striped Flycatcher *Conopias trivirgatus*

Seen on 6 September.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*

We saw this species on two dates and it is worth noting that the birds found on some of the river islands are a potential split.

Variegated Flycatcher *Empidonomus varius*

Recorded on 4 September.

White-throated Kingbird *Tyrannus albogularis*

A few birds were noted amongst the much commoner Tropical Kingbirds around Manaus.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*

One of the few species seen on every day of the extension and cruise.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*

Seen in small numbers on ten dates during our time on *Iracema* and also on the first day of the extension.



Greyish Mourner © Chris Collins

Greyish Mourner *Rhytipterna simplex*

A presumed pair was found on the morning canoe ride at Pagadão on 13 September.

Swainson's Flycatcher *Myiarchus swainsonii*

Found on the extension (31 August).

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*

Seen on five dates during the cruise.

Cinnamon Attila *Attila cinnamomeus*

Heard on 8 September.



Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock © Chris Collins

Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock *Rupicola rupicola*

This species was the main target of the extension to Presidente Figueiredo and the visit to the lek not far from the lodge where we were based was spectacular with at least a dozen males seen. A number of individuals were also found closer to the lodge with sightings on all three days we were there.

The views at the lek were absolutely stunning and, for some of the group, one of the undoubted avian highlights of the entire trip.

Guianan Red Cotinga *Phoenicircus carnifex*

There was a male present not far from the restaurant at our lodge on the extension which was seen on three days. Like the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, this is a simply stunning bird.

Amazonian Umbrellbird *Cephalopterus ornatus*

Some decent views of a male in the Anavilhanas archipelago on 12 September.

Capuchinbird *Perissocephalus tricolor*

The song of this species is surely among the weirdest in the avian world and we were fortunate to see a bird reasonably well on 11 September. As we were unable to reach the site where we had seen this species in 2023 due to lower water levels, Chris speculatively played a recording at the closest point we could reach which induced a response allowing us to go ashore and track down this amazing looking bird.

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans*

This species is unquestionably one of the classic songsters of the lowland Amazon and we heard it on seven days across the extension and cruise. A lone bird was also seen on the extension.

Spangled Cotinga *Cotinga cayana*

This fantastic looking bird was seen on three dates on the pre-cruise extension with at least one male occasionally giving fantastic views in a fruiting tree.

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus*

This species was less common than on some previous visits to the region, although it was still logged on three dates during the cruise.

Pompadour Cotinga *Xipholena punicea*

Another extremely colourful cotinga species, with a single bird on the extension.

Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin *Tyranneutes stolzmanni*

Heard on 6 September.

Tiny Tyrant-Manakin *Tyranneutes virescens*

One of these appropriately named birds was seen on the extension on 30 August.

Saffron-crested Tyrant-manakin *Neopelma chryscephalum*

Seen on one date on the extension (29 August).

Yellow-crested Manakin *Heterocercus flavivertex*

We had prolonged views of a female during our canoe ride on 5 September.

Wire-tailed Manakin *Pipra filicauda*

With the possible exception of some of the cotingas, this species was surely amongst the most colourful and vivid species recorded on the trip.

After some searching, a lone male was seen on 12 September in the Anavilhanas archipelago.

White-crowned Manakin *Pseudopipra pipra*

Seen on single dates on both the extension and cruise.

Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor*

A lone bird on 9 September.

Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana*

Seen on a total of five dates across the extension and main tour.



Varzea Schiffornis © Chris Collins

Varzea Schiffornis *Schiffornis major*

Single birds were found on both 4 and 9 September with others heard on two other dates.

Guianan (Olivaceous) Schiffornis *Schiffornis olivacea*

Heard but not seen on the extension (29 August).

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus*

Recorded on 9 September.

Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus*

A single bird on 13 September was the sole record.

Brown-headed Greenlet *Hylophilus brunneiceps*

Not exactly one of the most colourful birds of the cruise but seen on 5 September.

Grey-chested Greenlet *Hylophilus semicinereus*

Seen on 9 September and also heard on a number of other occasions.

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis*

The only sighting was on 2 September, although birds were heard on several subsequent occasions.

Chivi Vireo *Vireo chivi*

Seen on three days on the extension.

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*

Definitely the commonest swallow species in the region and seen on a daily basis throughout our time on *Iracema* and also noted on the extension.

White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata*

This species seems to be fairly rare in the region and was only seen in very small numbers on 8-9 September during our two days on the Rio Branco.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

Another hirundine which was found on almost each day of the cruise and extension.

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera*

Much more numerous than the Grey-breasted Martin with only a handful of days on the extension and cruise when it was not recorded.

Purple Martin *Progne subis*

This species 'winters' in good numbers in the part of Amazonian Brazil we visited and was logged on six dates.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*

Only recorded on four widely spaced dates across the extension and cruise although probably overlooked.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Logged on five dates but on most occasions in only fairly small numbers.

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla*

Seen on 1 September and heard on 13 September.

Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus*

A pair was seen on our final canoe ride along the Acajatuba River (13 September).

Coraya Wren *Pheugopedius coraya*

Heard on four dates in the latter stages of the cruise.

Buff-breasted Wren *Cantorchilus leucotis*

Heard on a number of occasions but only seen on 9 September.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

This widespread American species was seen on several occasions during the extension and the cruise.

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*

Seen on three dates.

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas*

Seen not far from the hotel in Manaus (28 August) and then again on 4 September.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Some in Manaus on 3 September.

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica*

A lone bird on the extension was the sole record.

Golden-sided Euphonia *Euphonia cayennensis*

Found on 30 August on the extension.



Yellow-browed Sparrow © Chris Collins

Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons*

This species is typically found in open habitats and was logged on six dates during the extension and cruise.

Red-breasted Meadowlark *Sturnella militaris*

As with the above species, Red-breasted Meadowlark is usually associated with more disturbed or open habitats and was seen on four dates whilst we were on *Iracema*.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*

Seen on seven dates during the cruise.

Green Oropendola *Psarocolius viridis*

Several birds were seen on 12 September.

Olive Oropendola *Psarocolius bifasciatus*

Seen on two dates – 8 and 12 September.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*

One of the classic birds of lowland Amazonia and seen on a more or less daily basis during our time on *Iracema* and on the extension.

Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous*

One was seen on 30 August on the extension.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*

Seen on 4 September.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*

Logged on two dates during the cruise and also seen on the extension.

Oriole Blackbird *Gymnomystax mexicanus*

This species is fairly habitat specific (and in Amazonia typically inhabits relatively new river islands) and we only saw it on two dates during the cruise (1 and 3 September).

Red-billed Pied Tanager *Lamprospiza melanoleuca*

One of these distinctive tanagers was found on the extension on 29 August.

Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata*

Seen on both 3 and 9 September.

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*

Seen on the first day of the extension.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

Two individuals were found on the extension (30 August).

Yellow-bellied Dacnis *Dacnis flaviventer*

Found on 4 September.

Bluish-grey Saltator *Saltator coerulescens*

Seen on 2 September.

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*

Recorded on the extension (31 August).

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

Seen on one date during the extension (31 August) and two days during the cruise.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

Found on 3 September during the visit to Marchantaria Island.

Fulvous-crested Tanager *Loriotus surinamus*

Seen on the extension (30 August).

Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*

Seen on a total of eleven dates (including the pre-cruise extension).

Lesson's Seedeater *Sporophila bouvronides*

Seen on 1 September.

Lined Seedeater *Sporophila lineola*

The only record was whilst exploring ashore on Machantaria island on 3 September.

Wing-barred Seedeater *Sporophila americana*

Seen on 2 September.

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila castaneiventris*

Found on one date on the extension and two days whilst on *Iracema*.

Pearly-breasted Conebill *Conirostrum margaritae*

This relatively localised river island specialist was seen ashore at Machantaria on 3 September.



Orange-fronted Yellow Finch © Chris Collins

Orange-fronted Yellow Finch *Sicalis columbiana*

A bird typically associated with more open habitats and seen on ten dates across the cruise and extension.

Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis*

A reasonably conspicuous species which was seen on eleven dates.

Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

This species is reasonably widespread from Central America to Amazonia and we saw it on ten dates including the pre-cruise extension.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

Seen on a daily basis on the extension and then on six days of the cruise.

Mammals



Northern Black-eared Opossum (rufous morph) © Chris Collins

Northern Black-eared (Common) Opossum *Didelphis marsupialis*

One of the rufous morph was seen during the nocturnal excursion on 12 September.

Grey Four-eyed Opossum *Philander opossum*

This species was found on two of the night excursions (8 and 12 September) with two individuals seen on both occasions.

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

A total of nine Three-toed Sloths were found across 9-10 September with the vast majority of these being on our nocturnal canoe rides.

Pied Tamarin *Saguinus bicolor*

This extremely localised monkey is now treated as 'critically endangered' on the IUCN Red List and this classification seems to be entirely justified as it has a very small range and the habitat around Manaus continues to be destroyed.

We found a small troupe on 2 September in a remnant forest patch in Alfavile, Manaus.



Pied Tamarin © Chris Collins



Humboldt's White-fronted Capuchin © Chris Collins

Humboldt's White-fronted Capuchin *Cebus albifrons*

Somewhat unexpectedly, a troupe was seen looking for food on the grassy banks of the Acajatubu River on 13 September with several of the monkeys coming down to the water to drink and bathe.

Brown Capuchin *Sapajus apella*

Seen on three dates on the main tour and also on one date on the extension.

It is worth noting that the monkeys west of the Rio Negro were previously regarded as a different species, Large-headed Capuchin. Most primate authorities, however, now regard Large-headed and Brown Capuchins as the same species, although it seems likely that the two do not mix (and have not done so for a considerable time) due to the width of the rivers.

Guianan Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri sciureus*

This species is found north of the Negro and was seen on three dates in the latter part of the cruise.

Humboldt's Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri cassiquiarensis*

This species is found north of the Solimoes and west of the Negro and was seen on four dates.



Spix's Night Monkey © Chris Collins

Spix's Night Monkey *Aotus vociferans*

Two of these nocturnal monkeys were seen at a 'stake out' near the village of Novo Airão on 4 September.

Guianan Bearded Saki *Chiropotes sagulatus*

This impressive looking primate is not seen on every trip but we had some good but brief views of several individuals from the top deck of *Iracema* whilst cruising the channels near Remanso village on the east bank of the Rio Negro on 10 September.



Golden-faced Saki (male) © Chris Collins

Golden-faced Saki *Pithecia chrysocephala*

This species was first seen on the extension (28 and 31 August), however, the best views were in Alfavile, Manaus on 2 September when a family party were watched for a prolonged period with the adult male seen feeding on pink flowers.

Golden-faced Saki is sometimes lumped with White-faced Saki (eg in Handbook of Mammals of the World), however, the IUCN treats them as separate species.

Like the Pied Tamarins noted above, the ancestors of the monkeys in Alfavile have become marooned in the forest patches as Manaus expanded around them, so despite the location being overlooked by tower blocks, they are regarded as wild and tickable.

Guianan Red Howler *Alouatta macconnelli*

This species is found to the north of the Amazon and east of the Rio Negro and was first noted on the extension with more seen from the Musa Tower on 1 September.

This species was also heard on our pre-dawn canoe ride on 10 September.

Colombian Red Howler *Alouatta seniculus*

This species only occurs west of the Rio Negro with the river acting as a natural divide between this species and Guianan Red Howler. A single individual was seen on 13 September at Acajatubu River although there were presumably more as we heard the troupe calling shortly before locating the aforementioned individual.

This species was also heard on 5 September in the Jaú National Park.

Red-faced Spider Monkey *Ateles paniscus*

Two individuals were heard calling in the late afternoon during our canoe ride on 10 September. This was the first time this species has been recorded on the Remote Amazon trip; indeed, it was the first time that our highly experienced local guide, Moacir Junior, has noted it in this region.

Robert's Arboreal Rice Rat *Oechimys roberti*

Identifying some of the smaller rats in the Brazilian Amazon is not always easy but an individual seen and photographed on our nocturnal canoe ride on 11 September was considered to be this species.



Black-tailed (Dwarf) Porcupine © Chris Collins

Black-tailed (Dwarf) Porcupine *Coendou melanurus*

Finding this species on our nocturnal canoe ride on 8 September was unquestionably the mammal highlight of the trip.

It was only the second time this species has been recorded on any of our "Remote Amazon" wildlife cruises.

Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporine*

Two individuals were found in Alfavile, Manaus on 2 September.

Amazon Bamboo Rat *Dactylomys dactylinus*

The distinctive call of this species was heard on two of our nighttime canoe rides with a lone individual also glimpsed on 8 September.

Long-tailed Armoured Tree-rat *Makalata macrura*

Two individuals were seen on our nocturnal canoe ride on 6 September but it is likely that a number of the other rats we saw were also this species.

Cayenne Spiny Rat *Proechimys guyanensis*

One was found on the evening canoe ride on 3 September.

Northern Ghost Bat *Diclidurus albus*

Seen on of our night excursion on 9 September.

Greater Bulldog (Dog-like) Bat *Peropteryx kappleri*

Recorded on 10 September but some of the other bats which were seen at dusk were likely to have also been this species.

Sharp-nosed Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*

These small bats were seen on a reasonably regular basis roosting on trees during our daytime excursions with records on five dates.



Giant Otters © Chris Collins

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*

We did extremely well for Giant Otter with sightings on three dates (5-7 September) and a total of at least twenty individuals seen.

Tucuxi *Sotalia fluviatilis*

With the exception of 2 September, this species was seen on a daily basis during the cruise.

Amazon River Dolphin *Inia geoffrensis*

Like the previous species, the Amazon River Dolphin was seen almost daily.

Reptiles

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus*

Spectacled Caiman was seen on three days during the cruise.

Undoubtedly some of the other caimans whose eyes were illuminated on our spotlighting sessions were also this species, although we were generally concentrating on looking for other creatures.....

Black Caiman *Caiman niger*

Identified on at least five days (especially on our nighttime excursions), although as noted above, caimans were seen more frequently but not always identified to species.

Schneider's Smooth-fronted (Dwarf) Caiman *Paleosuchus trigonatus*

One on the evening canoe ride on 3 September.

Amazon Whiptail *Ameiva ameiva*

Seen on three dates.

Collared (Harlequin) Racerunner *Plica plica*

Seen on 4 September.

Diving Lizard *Uranoscodon superciliosus*

Logged on 3 September.

Tropical House Gecko *Hemidactylus mabouia*

Seen on 1 September.

This species is a native of sub-Saharan Africa but has been inadvertently introduced to many tropical countries.

Brazilian Pygmy Gecko *Chatogekko amazonicus*

This is Brazil's smallest species of gecko and adults grow to no more than 2.5cm in length. Despite the tiny size, one was found along the trail at Nazare in Jaú National Park on 6 September.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Seen on two dates during the cruise.

Crocodile Tegu *Crocodilurus lacertinus*

Found on two occasions during the cruise.

Amazon Tree Boa *Corallus hortulanus*

The only sightings were during our nocturnal canoe rides with this species noted on two occasions.

Amazon Tree Boa and Pink-toed Tarantula © Chris Collins

Arachnids and related species

Pink-toed Tarantula *Avicularia avicularia*

Some great views at Novo Airão (4 September).

Amphibians

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina*

Seen on four of our night excursions.

Smoky Jungle Frog *Leptodactylus pentadactylus*

Recorded on three of the night excursions.





Giant Gladiator Tree Frog © Chris Collins

Giant Gladiator Tree Frog *Hypsiboas boans*

Seen on our night excursions on 3 and 12 September.