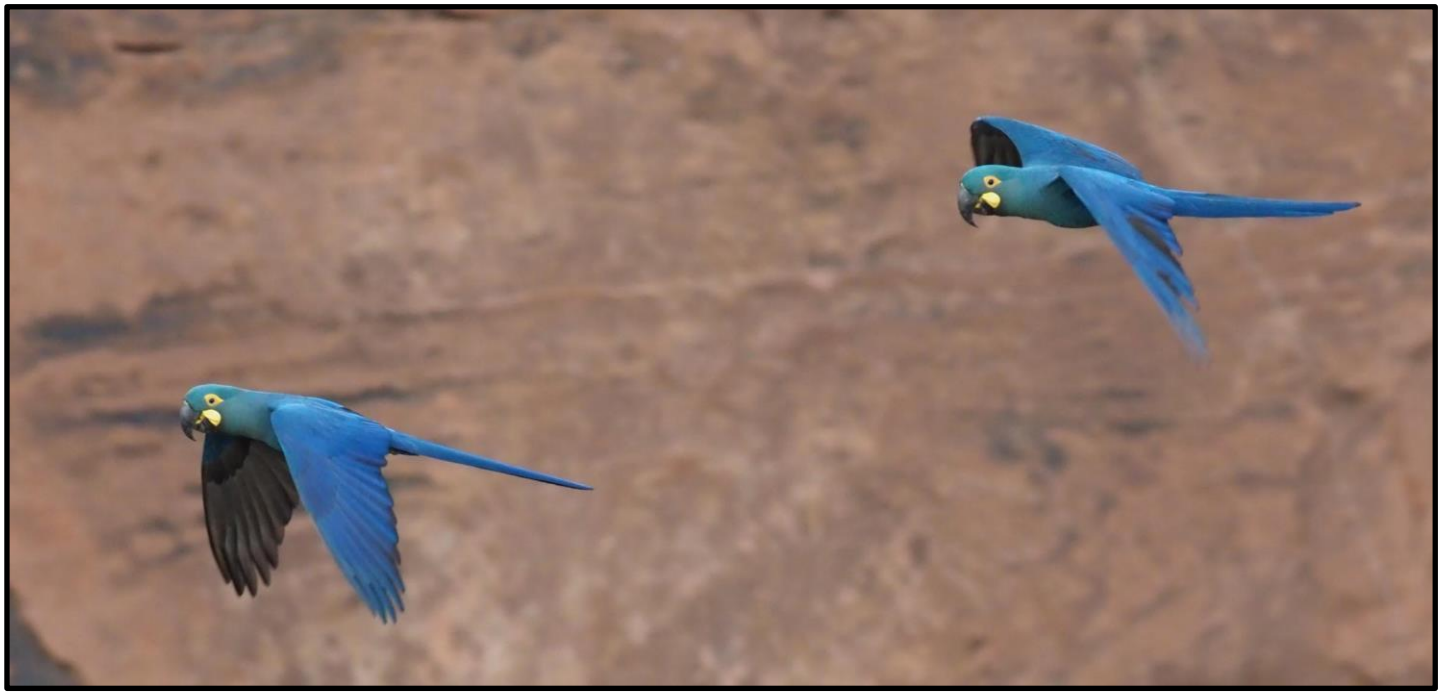
Brazil

Northeast Mega Birding Tour

19th September to 12th October 2023 (24 days)



Lear's Macaws by Stephan Lorenz

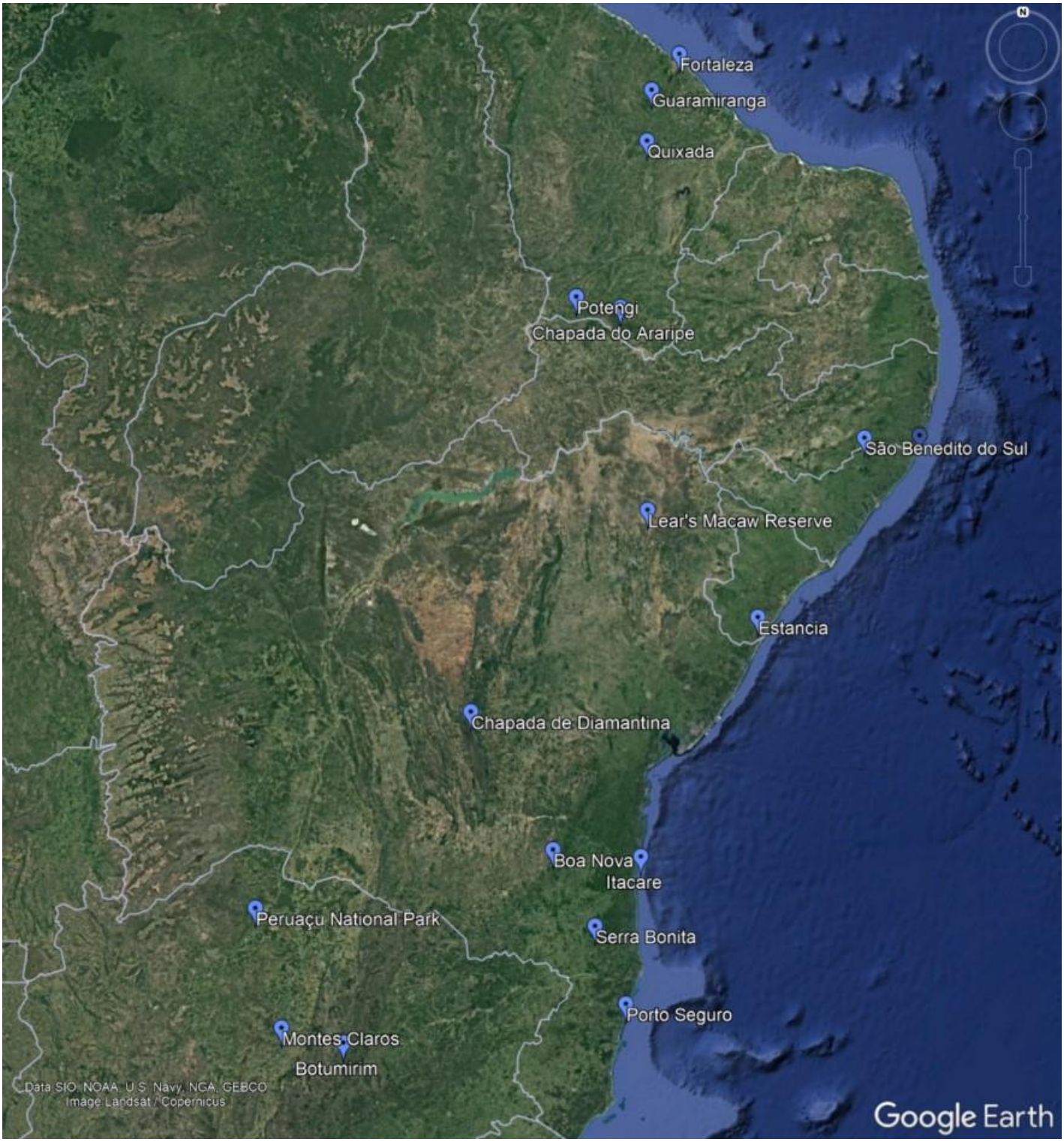
Northeast Brazil is a land of outstanding contrast: from gorgeous white-sand beaches, to arid, cactus-topped plateaus, and the humid montane slopes in between. This region has all the beauty and diversity that any birder could ever hope for. Perhaps what this area is best known for, however, is the stunning array of beautiful endemics that flourish in the diverse habitats of Ceara, Pernambuco, Alagoas and Bahia. With this in mind, our tour explores all the best sites in this fascinating region and offers an impressive bird list that includes Lear's (Indigo) Macaw, the striking Araripe Manakin and rare, White-collared Kite!

We begin in the state of Ceara, visiting Serra de Baturite for Grey-breasted Parakeet, Ceara Gnateater and Buff-breasted Tody-Tyrant, before heading to Quixada for the rarely recorded Pygmy Nightjar and White-browed Guan. Chapada do Araripe puts us in position for the recently described Araripe Manakin and other superb species such as White-browed Antpitta and Great Xenops in advance of our visit to Canudos for the Critically Endangered Lear's Macaw! The birding continues apace, as we head to São Benedito do Sul for a plethora of sought-after species; Scalloped Antbird, incredibly adorned Seven-colored Tanager, Orange-bellied Antwren and Alagoas Tyrannulet. White-collared Kite, Forbes' Blackbird, Pinto's Spinetail and Yellow-faced Siskin make up the target species near Tamandare before we head to Estancia for the endangered Fringe-backed Fire-eye. The next featured location is one of the best birding sites in Brazil, Chapada Diamantina. Hailed as perhaps the most breathtakingly beautiful of all Brazilian National Parks, it hosts several localised endemics including Hooded Visorbearer, the recently described Sincorá Antwren, Grey-backed Tachuri and Diamantina Tapaculo.

As our tour draws to a close, we head towards the coast and Boa Nova. Located in the southwest of Bahia state where the Montane Atlantic forests meets Caatinga, this diverse location hosts over 430 bird species. Here we shall search diligently for the highly localised Slender Antbird, Narrow-billed Antwren, Bahia Spinetail and Pin-tailed Manakin. We then spend a few days in the delightful Serra Bonita Reserve, host to Pink-legged Graveteiro, Plumbeous Antvireo, Bahia Tyrannulet and Crescent-chested Puffbird before we end in the coastal lowlands of Porto Seguro where targets include White-winged Potoo, White-winged Cotinga, Bahia Antwren, Ochre-marked Parakeet, Red-browed Amazon and the rare Banded Cotinga. We finish the tour in Botumirim for the recently rediscovered Blue-eyed Ground Dove. There are few tours that can offer over 100 endemics in a matter of 24 days, but this tour of Northeast Brazil does just that!

Itinerary & Map

Day 1	**Arrival in Fortaleza, transfer to Guaramiranga (Serra de Baturite)**
Day 2	**Guaramiranga (Serra de Baturite) to Quixada**
Day 3	**Quixada to Potengi**
Day 4	**Potengi area**
Day 5	**Potengi area to Canudos (Chapada do Araripe)**
Day 6	**Canudos to São Benedito do Sul**
Day 7	**São Benedito do Sul area**
Day 8	**São Benedito do Sul to Tamandaré**
Day 9	**Tamandaré to Estância**
Day 10	**Estância to Chapada Diamantina**
Days 11 & 12	**Chapada Diamantina area**
Day 13	**Chapada Diamantina to Boa Nova**
Day 14	**Boa Nova**
Day 15	**Boa Nova to Itacaré**
Day 16	**Itacaré - Serra Bonita**
Day 17	**Serra Bonita**
Day 18	**Serra Bonita to Porto Seguro**
Day 19	**Porto Seguro**
Day 20	**Porto Seguro, fly to Montes Claros**
Day 21	**Montes Claros to Botumirim**
Day 22	**Botumirim**
Day 23	**Botumirim to Peruaçu National Park**
Day 24	**Peruaçu National Park to Montes Claros & final departure**


Fortaleza
Guaramiranga
Quixada
Potengi
Chapada do Araripe
São Benedito do Sul
Lear's Macaw Reserve
Estancia
Chapada de Diamantina
Boa Nova
Itacare
Peruaçu National Park
Serra Bonita
Porto Seguro
Montes Claros
Botumirim
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Google Earth

Birding sites in detail



Ceara Gnateater by Stephan Lorenz

Guaramiranga (Serra de Baturité). The Baturité Mountain Range is host to several habitats, from humid forested slopes, deciduous forest and xeric caatinga in the lower-lying areas. The semi-humid, evergreen woodland is laden with birds, so we can expect to get cracking right from the get-go. Of prime importance is the incredibly scarce Buff-breasted Tody-Tyrant, reported from only a small number of scattered nearby hilltops, the Critically Endangered Grey-breasted Parakeet and recently elevated, endemic Ceara Gnateater.

The cool misty mountains will bring some relief from the heat of the lowlands and an early start will see us birding along an excellent, wide cobblestone pathway. While we shall be being paying special attention to finding the Buff-breasted Tody-Tyrant, Grey-breasted Parakeet or Ceara Gnateater, we can expect to be inundated with many other species of interest including Ochraceous Piculet, Guianan and Planalto Tyrannulets, Lesser Woodcreeper, Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, Planalto Hermit, Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, Grey-headed and Ochre-cheeked Spinetails, Southern White-fringed Antwren, Pectoral Sparrow and Short-tailed Antthrush. Also worth noting is that many of the birds we will see here are isolated, sub-specific forms that are likely to attain full-species status in the near future. These include Rufous-breasted Leaftosser, Gould's Toucanet, the stunning Band-tailed Manakin, Buff-throated Woodcreeper, Red-necked Tanager and the rare Spot-winged Wood Quail.

Quixada. This area is characterized by granite inselbergs or monolitos. Typically very hot and dry, it hosts the sought-after Pygmy Nightjar, which roosts and breeds among the rocks, cacti and terrestrial bromeliads.

We will use the cool, early morning hours to bird around Quixada for our first Caatinga endemics such as Caatinga Cachalote, White-naped Jay, Ochre-backed Woodpecker, Barred Antshrike (often split as Caatinga Barred Antshrike) and Caatinga Puffbird. Other more widespread species that we may find include Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle and Blue-winged Parrotlot. We will also keep our eyes open for the rare White-browed Guan in this area.



Buff-breasted Tody-Tyrant by Stephan Lorenz

Potengi. The famous Potengi area is located in the heart of the Caatinga zone and we provide us a serious selection of the region's specials. Some of the more sought-after species for this portion of our expedition include the magnificent Great Xenops, localised endemic White-browed Antpitta, Grey-eyed Greenlet, Rusty-margined Guan, Rufous and Scissor-tailed Nightjars, Least Nighthawk, Burrowing Owl, scarce endemic Broad-tipped Hermit, Spotted Piculet, smart Silvery-cheeked and Planalto Slaty Antshrikes, Stripe-backed Antbird, Caatinga and



Grey-breasted Parakeet by Forrest Rowland

Black-bellied Antwrens, Sooty-fronted and unique Red-shouldered Spinetails, Ash-throated Casiornis, nomadic Scarlet-throated Tanager, Grey Elaenia, Greater and Lesser Wagtail-Tyrants, Southern Scrub Flycatcher and Ultramarine Grosbeak – to name just some of the more special species!

We should have some time to enjoy the feeders that attract a wide variety of visitors including Campo Troupial, Solitary Black Cacique, Grey Pileated Finch and White-throated Seedeater amongst many others.

Chapada do Araripe area. The famous Chapada do Araripe is located on a plateau in the south of the state of Ceará. Roadside wetland birding en route is usually productive, and in the past has held Masked Duck, Brazilian Teal, White-cheeked Pintail, Snail Kite, Savanna Hawk, Limpkin, Yellowish Pipit and both Chestnut-capped and White-browed Blackbirds.

However, our primary effort will be centred on one, legendary bird, the Araripe Manakin! This stunning species was described to science as recently as 1996 and with luck we'll hopefully see several individuals of this truly magnificent creature! There are several springs in the foothills, and the associated moist forest is the specific habitat for our primary target while other species we will look out for include endemic Tawny Piculet, Planalto and Reddish Hermits, Flavescent Warbler and Moustached Wren

Lear's Macaw Reserve (Canudos). The Lear's Macaw Reserve is to be found near to the town of Canudos. We'll spend time birding the Caatinga near the reserve for Red-shouldered Spinetail, the local sub-species of Lesser and Greater Wagtail-Tyrants, Least Nighthawk, Blue-crowned Parakeet, Spotted Piculet, Narrow-billed Woodcreeper, Black-bellied Antwren, Stripe-backed Antbird, Ash-throated Casiornis, White-throated Seedeater and Red-cowled Cardinal.

To really appreciate Lear's Macaw, the second legendary bird of the tour, we shall head out whilst it is still dark. Soon after the break of dawn, we can expect to be treated to the morning flight of a number of Lear's Macaw, departing their roosts, as they set off to their preferred foraging sites. Little else can compare to viewing one of the world's rarest (numbers were as low as just 42 individuals in the 80's) and most spectacular macaws flocking to the trees around us! We will also easily understand the adopted name of Indigo Macaw, as we view these beautiful birds at our leisure. After absorbing as much as we can of this fine species, which few of us will ever see in the wild again – we shall return to our lodge for a delicious breakfast.



Araripe Manakin by Colin Valentine

São Benedito do Sul area. We will devote a day to birding the splendid rainforest patch in the São Benedito do Sul area. Given the



Jandaya Parakeet by Forrest Rowland

remote nature of these mountains, and the humid influence of onshore winds at the coast, this site hosts an incredible number of endemic and range-restricted species. Time will be dedicated to the regions local specialities, including the endemic Alagoas Tyrannulet and Orange-bellied Antwren, whilst also appreciating the many other rare inhabitants of this bird-rich area, most of which are also endemic, including White-collared Kite, flashy Jandaya Parakeet, Pinto's Spinetail, Seven-colored Tanager, difficult Golden-tailed Parrotlet, increasingly rare Pernambuco Foliage-gleaner, Black-headed Berryeater, White-shouldered Antshrike, unique endemic *pernambucensis* sub-species of White-backed Fire-eye, Scalloped Antbird, dapper Black-cheeked Gnateater, unique endemic sub-species *taunayi* of Plain-winged Woodcreeper, Silvery-flanked Antwren, scarce Buff-throated Purpletuft, Sharpbill, stunning but uncommon White-winged Cotinga, Blue-backed and Red-headed Manakins, Flame-crested Tanager and Yellow-green Grosbeak.

Frei Caneca Reserve (Jaqueira). Target birds this morning include the highly localised Alagoas Tyrannulet, Orange-bellied Antwren, the local endemic *pernambucensis* sub-species of Golden-spangled Piculet, Long-tailed Woodnymph, an undescribed species of Pygmy-Tyrant, Yellow-throated Woodpecker, increasingly rare Pinto's Spinetail, unique endemic sub-species *sabanoyi* of Willis's Antbird and the mind-blowing Seven-colored Tanager, among many others!

Tamandaré. The Tamandare area offers some excellent birding and gives us another good chance of finding the critically endangered, White-collared Kite, should we have yet to see this rarity. On the outskirts of Tamandare we have excellent chances of finding the localised Forbes' Blackbird while also keeping our eyes open for the uncommon and nomadic, Yellow-faced Siskin, Plain-bellied Emerald and Jandaya Parakeet. We'll also visit another lowland forest site, in amongst the sea of sugarcane for additional chances for Pinto's Spinetail, Smoky-fronted Tody-Flycatcher, White-shouldered Antshrike, Blue-chinned Sapphire, White-bearded Manakin, Red-shouldered Macaw, Black-necked Aracari, Biscutate Swift and Black-capped Donacobius.

Estância. The forest fragments near the coastal town of Estancia are home to the rare and highly localized Fringe-backed Fire-eye. Other specialties include Sooretama Slaty Antshrike, Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant and a further chance to find rare raptors such as White-collared Kite and even Rufous Crab Hawk.

Chapada Diamantina. Amidst a stark, beautiful landscape, we will encounter more amazing species including the gorgeous Hooded Visorbearer, chances for Horned Sungem and the recently described Sincora Antwren. Other highlights of the area include the feisty Grey-backed Tachuri, unforgettable Great Xenops, shy Sao Francisco Sparrow, White-eared Puffbird, Stripe-tailed Yellow-Finch, rarely seen Broad-tipped Hermit, Collared Crescentchest Rufous-sided Pygmy Tyrant, Velvety Black Tyrant, Blue and Serra Finches as well as a host of *Tyrannids*, such as Plain-crested, Lesser and Yellow-bellied Elaenias.



Horned Sungem by Stephan Lorenz



Sincora Antwren by Forrest Rowland

Birding the caatinga and cerrado habitats nearby should turn up Cactus Parakeet, Scaly-headed Parrot, Scissor-tailed, Little and Rufous Nightjars, uncommon and nomadic Stripe-breasted Starthroat, Blue-crowned and Surucua Trogons, Spotted Piculet, Red-billed Scythebill, Spix's, Caatinga Cacholote, Caatinga and Rufous-winged Antshrikes, Planalto Slaty Antshrike, Stripe-backed Antbird, Black-capped, Caatinga, Black-bellied, and Rusty-backed Antwrens, White-shouldered Fire-eye, Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin, Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher, Ash-throated Casiornis and many tanagers including Cinnamon, Shrike-like and the vibrant Scarlet-throated Tanager.

Boa Nova. Located in the southwest of Bahia state, it is here that the montane Atlantic Forests meet the Caatinga. The region is home to over 430 species of bird including the restricted Slender Antbird and Narrow-billed Antwren, both confined to a small area of eastern Brazil.

Boa Nova has long been regarded as one of the best birding areas in this vast country. Being situated on the cusp of both and the drier interior forest, this area not only allows easy access to numerous habitat types but hosts an avifauna particular to this mountain range. We will spend time scouring the accessible forests and prime habitats spared from human disturbance. The forests are prime locations for finding localised endemics such as Bahia Tyrannulet, Striated Softtail and Bahia Spinetail.

This is however Antbird heaven, and we have plenty members of the family to search for here including Silvery-cheeked, Rufous-winged, Cinereous and Tufted Antshrikes, Narrow-billed Antwren, rarely recorded Rio de Janeiro, Slender, Ferruginous, Ochre-rumped and Scaled Antbirds.

We also hope to encounter Blue-winged Macaw, Scale-throated Hermit, Frilled Coquette, Yellow-eared Woodpecker, Pallid Spinetail, Crescent-chested Puffbird, Black-billed Scythebill, White-collared and White-eyed Foliage-gleaners, Scaled Woodcreeper, Fork-tailed and Hangnest Tody-Tyrants, Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, Pin-tailed & Blue Manakins, Gilt-edged and Rufous-headed Tanagers, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Sharpbill and, with a lot of luck, Swallow-tailed Cotinga!

Pocoes. A new birding site where a young local claimed to have found some mega species. Local specialists were a little dubious, however, it turned out the young man knew pretty much every bird in the forest! Here we have excellent chances of finding the little known Wied's Tyrant-Manakin and Reiser's Tyrannulet (nearest known territory 400 miles away), as well as a potentially undescribed hermit species. General birding in the area is simply exceptional and we could easily see 100 species as we cover several



Bahia Spinetail by Stephan Lorenz



Stripe-breasted Starthroat by Stephan Lorenz

habitat types on this incredible mountain. Other good birds include East Brazilian Chachalaca, White-eyed Parakeet, Buff-throated Purpletuft, stunning White-bibbed Antbird, Greenish Schiffornis, Scaled Woodcreeper, Hooded Tanager, White-throated Spadebill and Green-backed Becard.

Itacaré. This region of south coast Bahia is rich in endemism and special birds. With a vast area of remnants of lowland forest, some of them in private areas and other protected by the Serra do Conduru State Park. We will base ourselves in Itacaré, a famous touristic destination with marvellous forest, beaches and waterfalls. From here we will visit Maraú (north of Itacaré) to try to find the rare and endemic Bahia Tapaculo and other special birds. We will also explore the Serra do Conduru State Park to the south of Itacaré. This State Park protects more than 9 000 hectares of Atlantic Forest and is one of the most biodiverse areas of this biome, with 458 different tree species per hectare with a high index of endemism. This reflects on the avifauna; a paradise to see manakins and many other interesting birds.

Our main targets of the lowland Atlantic Forest will be Kinglet Manakin, White-crowned Manakin, Blue-backed Manakin, Scaled Antbird, Black-cheeked Gnateater, Band-tailed Antwren, Cinereous-breasted Spinetail, Great-billed (Margaretta's) Hermit, Turquoise (White-bellied) Tanager, Opal-rumped (Silvery-breasted) Tanager, the nominal race of White-fronted Nunbird and many others.

Serra Bonita. This montane paradise is one of the few, easily accessible, cloud forests in the region. After arriving in Serra Bonita, we will transfer to 4x4 vehicles for the ride (roughly one hour) up to our jungle lodge. We don't need to move all that much, as the hummingbird and fruit feeders will keep us royally entertained with Sombre Hummingbird, Black Jacobin, Scale-throated Hermit and sometimes even the scarce Brazilian Ruby making an appearance. Other species that we should also see include Maroon-bellied Parakeet, Orange-bellied Euphonia and Red-necked, Green-headed, Brazilian, Golden-chevroned and Azure-shouldered Tanagers squabbling at the fruit feeders.

With a bird list including fantastic and rare species such as Pink-legged Gravateiro, Star-throated and Salvadori's Antwrens, Spot-breasted and Plumbeous Antvireos, Bahia Tyrannulet and the stunning Blue Manakin, we will seamlessly pass a day birding this beautiful preserve.

Forays around the lodge and deeper into the surrounding forests are liable to turn up many of the aforementioned attractions, while we may also find the rare Atlantic race of Rufous-brown Solitaire (soon to be split), stunning Kinglet Manakin, Spot-backed Antshrike, Spot-billed Toucanet, the still undescribed



Little Wood Rail by Colin Valentine



Rufous-capped Antthrush by Stephan Lorenz

'Serra do Lontras' Treehunter, Crescent-chested Puffbird, Yellow-lored Tody-Flycatcher, Rufous-headed Tanager, Grey-headed Attila, East Brazilian Pygmy Owl, Pallid Spinetail and Scaled Woodcreeper. The region is also home to some rarely seen species such as Variegated Antpitta and Cryptic Antthrush. Overhead, several raptors may make an appearance, with the likes of Black and Black-and-white Hawk-Eagles, Mantled Hawk and King Vulture all being distinct possibilities.

The Serra Bonita lowlands offer good birding opportunities as well, and we'll take some time to look for the highly localised and threatened White-eared Parakeet while also keeping our eyes open for species such as Channel-billed Toucan, Scaled Antbird, Bright-rumped Attila, Sibilent Syristes, Bare-throated Bellbird and a unique sub-species of Thrush-like Wren.

Port Seguro. Time permitting, we will head to a patch of denuded and litter strewn mangroves to sift out the prime targets of the area, Mangrove and Little Wood Rails.

Estação Veracel. Porto Seguro is situated amidst one of the few expanses of lowland Atlantic Rainforest left in the region. The town is surrounded by good habitat, but the Estancia Veracel is certain to be the focus of our birding efforts during our time here. We have sufficient of time to seek out the two headline birds of this site – White-winged and the exquisitely-coloured and rare Banded Cotingas. There is also the highly localised, endemic Bahia and Band-tailed Antwrens, while we will head out at night to find the near mythical White-winged Potoo and a variety of other nocturnal species that could include Tawny-browed, Mottled and Black-capped Screech Owl.

We shall also pay close attention to another two possible future splits to be found here, involving the local populations of both Turquoise and Opal-rumped Tanagers. The gaudy birding shall continue with a host of exciting species including Black-headed Berryeater, Red-browed Amazon, Ochre-marked Parakeet, White-bearded, White-crowned, Red-headed, Blue and Kinglet Manakins! Not that this is all: there are also many others – albeit fractionally less colourful species to look for here. These include Hook-billed and the very rare Margaretta's Hermits, scarce Racket-tailed Coquette, Golden-tailed Parrotlet, Grey-rumped Swift, Golden-spangled Piculet, the rare *tinninculus* sub-species of Ringed Woodpecker, Black-billed Scythebill, Buff-throated Woodcreeper, Sooretama Slaty Antshrike, Eared Pygmy Tyrant, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, Greyish Mourner and Rufous-capped Antthrush while the scarce Rufous-capped Motmot could also make an appearance.



Banded Cotinga by Lev Frid

Lapa Grande State Park. This park comprises 15 320 hectares of dry forest vegetation associated with limestone, protecting the complex of caves and the main source of water for the community of Montes



Outcrop Sabrewing by Forrest Rowland

Claros. We'll be searching for some very interesting and rare dry forest birds such as Reiser's Tyrannulet, Minas Gerais Tyrannulet, São Francisco Sparrow, Caatinga Black Tyrant, Chestnut-capped Foliage-gleaner and the Outcrop Sabrewing (recently described in 2017). Other species we might see are the nominal race of Scaled Woodcreeper, Rusty-breasted Nunlet, Ochre-cheeked Spinetail and Saffron-billed Sparrow.

Botumirim. Today is one we are not likely to forget, as we target the ultra-rare and recently rediscovered (2015) Blue-eyed Ground Dove. Found during environmental surveys taking place for prospective eucalyptus plantations, this species was a huge surprise for the ornithological and conservation communities. After a 75+ year absence, this handsome species was found in a very unique sandy soil cerrado grassland and shrub site very near to the quaint mountain town of Botumirim. Shortly after its discovery many NGOs showed their concern and secured the RPPN Rolinha-da-cerrado Reserve, in the bird's name. Though some 150+ hectares in size, the Blue-eyed Ground Doves only reside in a 60ha patch of this Reserve, sticking to their special white sand, moist, cerrado habitat. Numbering just over 20 individuals known to exist, this is one of the most endangered species on Earth. As such, it has become the poster-bird for conservation in the neotropics. We will focus on this lovely species, while enjoying the many other bird and wildlife opportunities at this scenic location.

Botumirim lies towards the northern half of the Espinhaço Mountain Range, which is an endemism hotspot in and of itself. It also happens to be the convergence of cerrado typical to Central Brazil, and the western edge of the Caatinga and thorn forest habitats emblematic of Northeast Brazil. Aside from the targeted Blue-eyed Ground Dove, we will also spend time searching for many specialised Brazilian endemics during our time here. These include Horned Sungem, Cactus (Caatinga) Parakeet, Silvery-cheeked Antshrike, Caatinga and Narrow-billed Antwrens, White-browed Antpitta, Russet-mantled Foliage Gleaner, Grey-eyed Greenlet, Scarlet-throated Tanager, and Serra (Pale-throated Pampa) Finch.

Peruaçu National Park. Created in 1999, the Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park protects 56 400 hectares of dry forest and caatinga habitat. The region is punctuated by numerous caves with ancient rock art paintings. The Janelão (Big Window) cave is the most famous. We'll bird the late afternoon and early evening close to the massive São Francisco River in search of the desirable Bahian Nighthawk.

Our primary targets inside the park are the rare Moustached Woodcreeper and Caatinga Black Tyrant. Other dry forest specialties we will search for include Planalto, Olivaceous (Reiser's) and Scaled (Wagler's) Woodcreepers, all dry forest races and potential future splits. Other interesting birds to see are the nominal race of Surucua (Red-bellied) Trogon and Golden-capped Parakeet. We will also have more chances of seeing some of the Caatinga specialties we might have missed to this date.



Blue-eyed Ground Dove by Lev Frid

Tour Grading & Key

Overall Ease		Difficult. This a Mega style tour designed for the dedicated lister and serious birder. Not suitable for dedicated photographers; inexperienced birders; or anyone with mobility or health challenges.
Birding Ease		Quite demanding. Many rare or difficult target species.
Accommodation		Mostly comfortable, some lodges are simple, not all lodges have enough rooms for Single rooming.
Walking / Trails		Average walking, mostly on flat ground with variable substrate. Atlantic forest trails are hilly.
Vehicles / Roads		Several long drives. Mostly sealed roads between towns, changing to dirt in remoter areas. Some sites may be unreachable if roads have been washed out. 4x4 vehicles necessary at some locations.
Photography		Worthwhile, but limited time due to nature of tour.
Annoyances		Temperatures can vary from cool to very hot depending on location and elevation. Long travel days with limited down time.

Financial Arrangements and Important Notes

Tour dates, prices, single supplement, approximate flight costs and tour spaces are displayed on our website.

Tour inclusions:

- All meals from lunch on day 1 to breakfast on day 24;
- Bottled drinking water;
- All lodgings;
- All ground transportation during the tour;
- All reserve entrance fees;
- All guiding services ;
- Tips for local guides, drivers and services.

Tour exclusions:

- Visa fees;
- ANY flights;
- Any beverages (including mini-bar charges at hotels);
- Optional excursions;
- Special gratuities;
- Telephone calls, laundry and other items of a personal nature.

Single Supplement: The single supplement cost for this tour will be charged if you wish to have single accommodation. If RBL cannot provide you with a rooming partner for these nights although you choose to share, the single supplement will become applicable. We will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that a rooming partner is found if you do wish to share.

Accommodation is mostly of a good, comfortable standard but not all lodgings have enough rooms for everyone to always have single accommodations. There will more than likely be three nights (Potengi and Canudos) where you will have to share with someone else and the single supplement has been calculated accordingly.

Tipping: As noted above, gratuities (drivers, hotel staff, restaurants etc.) are included on this tour. However, this does NOT include your Rockjumper leader/s. If you feel that they have given you excellent service, it is entirely appropriate to tip them at your discretion.

- **Due to constantly fluctuating exchange rates, we quote our tours in 4 currencies. The tour price is fixed only in the currency printed in bold, and the actual cost in the other currencies listed will be adjusted according to prevailing exchange rates at the time of final invoicing. The same applies to approximate flight and single supplement rates.**
- **Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registrations, a small group supplement will be offered to confirm the tour.**
- **Tour prices are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result.**
- **The designated tour leader/s may be changed at short due to unforeseen circumstances.**
- **The itinerary is indicative only. Changes made need to be made to the order in which the tour is conducted, or some of the venues we visit closer to departure. We will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.**

- We have timed our visit to coincide with the dry season and we can expect the weather conditions to be favourable, mostly dry, and sunny. However, it is generally warm to hot in the interior and can get a little humid in the lowlands although typically nothing like the Amazon. At higher altitudes, daytime temperatures are pleasant, but it can get quite cold at night or when it rains. On most mornings, we will be up and out early to take advantage of the cooler temperatures and wildlife activity.
- This Brazil tour does require a good level of fitness and participants should be in good general health as some of the forest birding will be done on foot and may require walking for several hours at a time.
- It is very important to note that we are covering vast distances on this tour, with many one-night stays and limited down time between locations.
- The vehicles we use are comfortable. Most roads are of a good standard, although we should expect some bumpy conditions when leaving the paved road. Where necessary we use 4x4 vehicles, but some unpaved roads could still be impassable if they have been damaged by heavy rains.
- Accommodation is mostly of a good, comfortable standard but not all lodgings have enough rooms for everyone to always have single accommodations. There will more than likely be three nights (Potengi and Canudos) where you will have to share with someone else and the single supplement has been calculated accordingly.

Arrival and Departure Details

The tour will depart from Aeroporto Internacional Pinto Martins, Fortaleza on the morning of day 1. Please do arrive the day before the tour departs. The tour will conclude at Montes Claros/Mário Ribeiro Airport (IATA: MOC) on the morning of day 24.

The above information in respect of arrivals and departures is a guide only. Precise arrival and departure information will be sent to you in your Tour Confirmation package once the tour has been officially confirmed. If you wish to arrive early and/or depart late and would like assistance in this regard, kindly contact the Rockjumper office.

Aeroporto Internacional Pinto Martins, Fortaleza (IATA: FOR) is the primary port of entry this tour and is well serviced by several airlines. Montes Claros/Mário Ribeiro Airport (IATA: MOC) is the primary port of departure for this tour and is well

connected to the large international hubs of Sao Paulo and Belo Horizonte by several Brazilian airlines including Azul Brazilian Airlines, Gol Airlines and LATAM Brasil.

Visa requirements differ by country, nationality of the traveller and duration and purpose of your intended stay. It may be necessary to obtain a visa or an electronic travel authorization in advance of your travel. It is therefore vitally important that you check with your travel agent/consulate/embassy for exact visa requirements. The following website provides detailed information about visa eligibility and assistance with online applications options where viable: Visa HQ for Travel

DO NOT book any flights until the Rockjumper Team have officially confirmed the tour.