

South-East Brazil, April 2010

Report by Sjef Öllers

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Introduction

This report deals with our second trip to Brazil. This time we focused almost exclusively on a few Atlantic rainforest sites but we also explored good cerrado habitat for a few days by visiting Canastra national park. Main focus were birds and (macro)mammals. Bats and other small mammals were largely ignored (lack of time and usually lack of knowledge to determine them properly).



View from Guapi Assu Bird Lodge

Practicalities

The first seven nights we stayed at Guapi Assu Bird Lodge, which is part of the REGUA conservation project (more information here: www.guapiassubirdlodge.com). We booked the accommodation directly with the lodge. Next we stayed five nights at Serra dos Tucanos lodge (www.serradostucanos.com.br), which we also booked directly. Both Guapi Assu and Serra dos Tucanos lodge have been covered in many trip reports. I found these reports on both lodges particularly helpful:

<http://www.birdingreports.nl/brazil%202009.html>

<http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/brazil/Brazil-35/brazil-oct-09.htm>

<http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/brazil/brazil-26/SE-brazil-aug-06.htm>

http://www.travellingbirder.com/tripreports/reports/brazil_birding_trip_report_mar-09.pdf

The rooms at the Guapi Assu Bird Lodge are very comfortable and the food was excellent throughout. It has been posted many times before, but both guides, Leonardo and Adilei, are indeed very good. The extensive trail system at REGUA is one of the best I have so far seen for any lodge. The trails cover a variety of habitats (old growth forest, secondary forest in various stages of maturity, wetlands, agricultural areas, and some grassland areas) within an altitude range of 30-1300 metres. Most of the longer trails require a short drive (7 km), but even around the lodge there are several trails with good birding plus the added attraction of the wetland being only a 5-10 minute walk from the lodge. There are also a few new trails requiring a 15-30 minute drive, but we didn't

have enough time to visit these. It is worth taking into consideration that for those trails that require access by car, you may not always be able to visit the area or trail of your choice if there are more guests than lodge vehicles and/or guides. If you want to be independent, having your own transport is a must. It would actually be great if they would rent bicycles at this lodge to provide a bit more flexibility to visitors and the area is perfect for combined walking and cycling while looking for birds.

Serra dos Tucanos lodge lies at about 400 meters above sea level at the bottom of a valley surrounded by steep mountains covered in Atlantic rainforest. The trail system around the lodge is limited, so excursions are essential if you want to see some of the mid-altitude and highland specialties as well. The lodge itself is comfortable and the birding from the lodge's veranda is just great. Food was served in generous amounts, but variable in quality, definitely not on the same level as Guapi Assu. Because of the bad weather we could enjoy owner Andy Foster's excellent guiding only for two mornings. Initially I did not realize this myself, but my partner (who is more interested in mammals and hiking and only moderately interested in birding) pointed out that Andy made the birding "less boring and more enjoyable" because he explained what the birds look like, how the bird typically behaves, how to approach it, etc. To provide such contextual information may not be important to experienced birders, but it may make things a lot more interesting for beginners and less hardcore birders.



Black-horned Capuchin

The second half of the tour focused a bit more on mammals, but the birding was excellent as well at all sites. This part of our trip follows mostly Jon Hall's excellent 2007 report:

<http://www.mammalwatching.com/Neotropical/neotropicbrazil2007tripreport.html>

and the entertaining follow-up report by Steve Anyon-Smith:

<http://www.mammalwatching.com/Neotropical/Otherreports/SAS%20Brazil%202008.doc>

The second half of our holiday was arranged by Brasil Aventuras (www.brasilaventuras.com.br). Excellent service. Our guide was Fred Tavares. Fred knows the birds and mammals well, is very enthusiastic and was good

allround company. Recommended. In comparison to our 2006 Brazil trip we noticed that Brazil has become an expensive country to travel with a guide. We asked quotes from several tour operators, but prices were all similarly high. We chose Brasil Aventuras, because they could give detailed advice on all the sites, gave realistic answers on what to expect and were quick to respond.

Driving and birding yourself is definitely an option worth considering, roads are generally good, but finding your way can be a problem because signposts are often missing or not very clear. Unfortunately, we had a nasty encounter with several corrupt cops from the Rio State Police on our way to Itatiaia. I don't know how representative this was, but it seems to be a common problem. It would be very helpful to speak some Portuguese if you travel by yourself. It is amazing how little English or even Spanish is spoken and/or understood in most places, although in most hotels you should be fine.



Golden-capped Parakeet

Red-breasted Toucan

Itinerary

- 30 March: Flight Amsterdam – Lissabon – Rio de Janeiro
- 31 March: Arrival Rio – transfer Guapi Assu lodge/REGUA
- 1 April: REGUA – Sao Jose trail
- 2 April: REGUA – morning 4x4 trail/afternoon around lodge plus night walk
- 3 April: Sumidouro excursion
- 4 April: REGUA – Elfin Forest trail
- 5 April: Pico da Caledonia
- 6 April: REGUA – lodge area all day
- 7 April: Morning Waterfall Trail REGUA– Afternoon transfer to Serra dos Tucanos lodge
- 8 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ lodge trails
- 9 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ Sedaie trail excursion
- 10 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ Bamboo and Theodoro trail
- 11 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ Bamboo trail
- 12 April: Transfer to Itatiaia national park
- 13 April: Itatiaia NP – Agulhas Negras section
- 14 April: Itatiaia NP – trails around hotel
- 15 April: Transfer to Canastra national park
- 16 April: Canastra NP – Upper Section
- 17 April: Canastra NP – Casca d'Anta and Upper Section
- 18 April: Transfer to Caracas
- 19 April: Caracas
- 20 April: Morning Caracas and afternoon transfer to Caratinga
- 21 April: Caratinga Biological Station
- 22 April: Sitio Graciema – Sierra da Piedade - Belo Horizonte airport
- 23 April: Night flight to Europe

Day-to-day account

30 March: Flight Amsterdam – Lissabon – Rio de Janeiro

We chose flights with TAP because they were at least 150 euros cheaper than other airlines. In return we got four flights that were all delayed ranging from 30 minutes tot 2.5 hours. Otherwise, it was no frills, but ok service.

31 March: Arrival Rio – transfer Guapi Assu lodge/REGUA

It took about two hours for our luggage to appear on the conveyor belt and when we finally managed to go to the arrivals hall, we found Nicholas of REGUA waiting for us. Nicholas entertained us on the way to REGUA with the interesting history of the lodge and the conservation project in general. At the last turn-off for the lodge we stopped shortly because Nicholas heard a common marmoset calling. After a few minutes of searching Anja found it and we had nice views, but it disappeared quite quickly into an area with denser foliage. We checked in at the lodge and the rest of the day we explored the lodge grounds and the wetland area. We mostly saw common bird species that we would get to see on a daily basis in the coming days (such as both caracaras, black vulture, maroon-bellied parakeet, several egret species, ruddy ground-dove, picazuro pigeon, a variety of hummers and tanagers, blue dacnis, masked water tyrant, red-rumped cacique, etc.). A nice sighting was a group of capybaras (>20) seen from the watchtower at the far end of the wetland. In the evening we met the other guests, Andrew and Janet from England and an American birding group that were about to leave.

1 April: REGUA – Sao Jose trail

The next morning heavy rain greeted us at breakfast and this lasted until 8 am. After that it was mostly cloudy with some sunny spells, but no rain. After breakfast we met Adilei, our guide for the next days. Because it was still raining just after breakfast, we birded from the lodge's veranda seeing an orange-winged amazon, a blue-winged parrotlet, and a male swallow tanager among others.

After the rain stopped Adilei, Andrew and the two of us set off and spent all day on the Sao Jose trail. The trail leads through beautiful forest but is very steep in places and requires some bushwacking here and there. You need to be fit to walk this trail. The overall bird activity was moderate, but there was a trickle of very good species throughout the day. At the lower sections at the beginning of the trail we had good views of long-billed and moustached wren and black-cheeked gnatcatcher. We saw a variety of formicariidae, including Sooretama slaty ant-shrike, Salvadori's antwren and incredible views of a pair of white-bibbed antbirds. In a good mixed flock we found a brown tanager. After several less fulfilling encounters we finally also had very good views of rufous-breasted leaf-tosser. On the higher sections of the trail, Adilei heard a least pygmy owl and after some intensive searching Adilei finally found it perched high up but pretty much out in the open. Frustrating, however, was the fact that we flushed several very nice species: collared forest-falcon, ruddy quail-dove, tawny-browed owl and white-necked hawk. A brown-throated three-toed sloth was seen well in the canopy but for us almost at eye level (sloping ridge) at about 15 meters distance.

On the way back from the Sao Jose trail to the lodge we stopped at the wetland and saw a male masked duck, which (apart from the Brazilian merganser) was about the only water bird I was hoping to see on this trip. Excellent! Another great sighting here was the spectacular Brazilian tanager.

2 April: REGUA – morning 4x4 trail/afternoon around lodge plus night walk

This morning I woke up and was pleased to hear no rain. Today it stayed sunny and warm all day. I walked down to the garden and was surprised by the stunning scenery around the lodge with all the higher mountain ridges now cloud-free.

After breakfast, we went with Adilei, Nick (one of the volunteers), Andrew and Janet to the 4x4 trail. Walking and birding on the 4x4 trail is easy. We saw among others two trogon species, a handful of woodpecker species, decent views of rufous-capped mot mot, greenish schiffornis, scaled antbird, and good views of spot-backed antshrike. About three-fourth up the trail there is a clearing with good views over the surroundings, where we saw a black-and-white hawk eagle being mobbed by a black hawk eagle.

Despite the good overall birding we failed to see all of the rarer specialties here: eastern striped manakin, shrike-like cotinga and frilled coquette all didn't show. Yellow-green grosbeak and channel-billed toucan were heard

but no views. The undisputed highlight for me that morning was a mammal: an adult orange-spined hairy dwarf porcupine was seen in dense tangles at fairly close range. We also saw a small group of white-tufted ear (a.k.a. common) marmosets.

Back at the lodge we birded the garden area and saw dark-billed cuckoo and crane hawk. Late afternoon, Adilei, Andrew and the two of us made an evening/night walk to look for giant snipe. When it was still light, we saw a laughing falcon and yellow-legged thrush, and heard ash-throated crake. We spent quite some time at the meadows where the snipe usually occurs, but we got no response at all. We were compensated at dusk with superb views of a short-tailed nighthawk flying a mere 2-3 meters past us attracted by the tape playback. Just after dark we saw a barn owl hunting over the meadows. Spotlighting on the way back we had excellent views of a big-eared opossum and an amazed capybara, who raised its head from under water with a crown of water vegetation on its head. We also saw a few broad-snouted caimans in the largest pool of the wetland.



3 April: Sumidouro excursion

Today we were guided by Leonardo, the other guide working at the lodge, for a visit to the Sumidouro area. Little of note was seen on the way up there, although the stop at Serra dos Orgaos national park was great for the spectacular scenery. Birding was poor though. Best bird en route was a crested black tyrant. At the first stop we immediately found four three-toed jacamars, but photographic opportunities were poor. From the same spot we also saw a crested oropendola, a small group of white-eyed parakeets and a lot of common species such as guira cuckoo, sayaca tanager, saffron finch, tropical kingbird, rufous hornero, southern lapwing, etc. A bit further on we saw the always entertaining streamer-tailed tyrants performing their territorial display, plus two ferruginous pygmy owls, sooretama slaty antshrike, golden-barred woodpecker, long-billed wren, white-bearded manakin and several hummers. Best of all were good flight views of an immature crowned eagle!

After the lunch break we visited a different site where we found more three-toed jacamars, a barn owl on its day roost, a male serra antwren, variable antshrike, yellow-lored tody flycatcher, and white-eyed and white-collared foliage-gleaner. A good number of tanagers was seen including hooded and rufous-headed, but unfortunately no gilt-edged. No mammals were seen today. Despite seeing several excellent species I found this excursion rather disappointing. You sit about 6-7 hours in a vehicle (there and back) for some 3-4 hours in the field at the worst birding hours. Not really our thing.

4 April: REGUA – Elfin Forest trail

Around 4.30 am Adilei, Andrew and I went to a different area of meadows to try for the giant snipe again. We tried for 1.5 hours but only got a single response very far away and saw little of note. We heard black-banded and tawny-browed owl close by but did not see them.

After breakfast Anja joined us and we walked up to the start of the Elfin Forest trail via the Waterfall trail, the latter being amazingly quiet. However, while we were still driving towards to the Waterfall trail, just beyond Casa Pesquisa, we saw a nice flock of tanagers that included a male white-bellied (split from turquoise) tanager. The birding on the Elfin-Forest trail was initially very slow but picked up a bit higher up, but it stayed moderate at best. The weather was changing today (overcast, mostly dry, but some showers later in the afternoon) and a

depression with cold weather was approaching from the south, which would lead to the catastrophic landslides in Rio's favelas over the next days. So maybe the changing weather conditions affected the activity. Nevertheless, we saw a juvenile hook-billed kite gorging on a small bird, buff-bellied puffbird, a couple of spot-billed toucanets, white-bibbed antbird, and a good number of flycatchers (ochre-bellied, Euler's, sepia-capped, etc.). We heard three ant-thrush species but saw none of them. Higher up rufous gnateater was quite common and we saw another brown tanager in a mixed flock. I got tantalizing views of a few red-necked tanagers, but they were a bit too high up to fully enjoy. Most exciting were very fresh puma tracks, but of course we did not see the animal. Also lots of fresh peccary tracks. On the way down we saw two capuchin monkeys moving through the canopy. Despite the moderate activity, this was one of the most enjoyable trails, lots of different forest types and some great views higher up.

5 April: Pico da Caledonia excursion

In the morning it was very cloudy and it looked like it would start to rain any second. We set off to Pico da Caledonia anyway, and surprisingly the weather had cleared up when we reached the site. Today it was just the two of us, volunteer Nick and Leonardo. We almost immediately heard grey-winged cotinga, but never got to see it. At a viewpoint we taped in a good number of birds: orange-eyed thornbird, ochre-faced tody flycatcher, rufous-tailed antbird, pallid and rufous-capped spinetail, Serra do Mar tyrannulet and rufous-backed antvireo. A male and several female-type plovercrest were seen here as well. For some reason, we did not walk higher up to the actual Pico da Caledonia, but descended again. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw a female black-and-gold cotinga sleeping at about eye-level on a bare branch next to the road. Our ooohs and aaahs made it fly up a bit, but it stayed very low and close. Eventually I also found the male but it flew almost immediately. A short shower made us stop for lunch. When the rain stopped, there was a wave of activity with (among others) shear-tailed grey tyrant, sharp-shinned hawk, brassy breasted and diademed tanager and Serra do Mar tyrant-manakin seen within 10-15 minutes.

A bit later we drove to a different site with good forest: the weather was initially sunny and birding was going well: velvety and blue-billed black tyrant, yellow-legged thrush, crested becard, greenish tyrannulet, bay-chested warbling-finch, dusky-legged guan and white-rimmed warbler were added. Just when things were going really well, clouds rolled in again incredibly fast and soon we were experiencing torrential rain. We made two other attempts to start birding again when the rain seemed to slow down but in the end Leonardo called it a day. A very nice birding area but a shame the weather was rather unpredictable. Back at the lodge the weather seemed better. At least it was dry. I went out at dusk to do some spotlighting. I did find rufous nightjar and pauraque, but not the hoped for armadillos. Black-banded owl called, but I could not see it (very dense foliage). At the wetland I did see a few capybaras.

6 April: REGUA – lodge area all day

Today we would get to experience the full load of the weather depression that had settled in the area and flooded parts of Rio de Janeiro. From dawn to about 11.30 there was non-stop torrential rain. We could only sit on the veranda and check the feeders. This was actually entertaining enough considering the weather. There was a constant frenzy of hummers that included Brazilian ruby, violet-capped woodnymph, glittering-throated emerald, swallow-tailed and white-throated hummingbird, and once (and only for a short time) a red-breasted hermit. Six white-tufted ear marmosets stayed near one of the banana feeders for quite a long time and a large group of maroon-bellied parakeets occupied the area around another banana feeder for most of the morning.

Around 11.30 the rain had slowed down to light rain so Anja and I went out and walked via the volunteer houses to the wetland. On our way down there we saw three cold and wet tropical screech-owls roosting. Just beyond the volunteer houses in low secondary growth we had smashing views of a male swallow tanager in a small flock. A bit further at the edge of the wetland, there was a small flock of honeycreepers, tanagers and dacnisses. One dacnis immediately caught my eye. The bird was foraging in a tree some 8-15 meters away from us and luckily stayed for a long time. The upper wings had significantly more blue than a "regular" blue dacnis. The legs looked all black from different angles against the light and the bill was all black too. There was absolutely no hint of pale red/pinkish legs. This had to be a black-legged dacnis!! (An American birding group guided by Adilei had seen black-legged dacnis at almost the same spot earlier that week.) I also made a few documentational shots to double-check later. After convincing myself we had seen black-legged dacnis, we decided to check out a little used dead-end trail in the wetland area and we were surprised to see and hear 5-6 greater anis, which aren't seen that often here. At the wetland we also saw (among others) Brazilian tanager, yellow-chinned spinetail, and surprisingly the only striated heron of the trip.

Around lunchtime it started raining a lot again, and it rained non-stop from about 1 to 5 pm. More time was spent on the veranda: chestnut-vented conebill, blue-winged parrotlet, Brazilian tanager, four euphonia species, white and yellow-eared woodpecker were some of the birds seen. The marmosets returned for a second feeding session.

Around 5 pm the diluvial downpour that had raged all afternoon had slowed down to just rain and I went out again. I was hoping to walk to the start of Sao Jose trail and spotlight back. On the Light Blue trail I caught several short glimpses of a very shy channel-billed toucan and ran into a couple of white-bearded manakins. I had completely forgotten that there is a small stream to cross on the way to the Sao Jose trail. The harmless stream had turned into a deep, fast-flowing torrent. While I was checking if there was a way to get across, I almost slipped from the steep, slippery bank into the water so I decided that common sense should prevail and started walking back. Parts of the Light Blue trail were completely flooded and an open grassy area that had been completely dry and had held a pauraque yesterday now had been turned into a little lake. Spotting proved to be very difficult; the rain had increased again around dusk and scattered the light in all directions. I walked back via one of the higher hills expecting that animals might hide up there, and indeed twice I saw a shadow (possibly an agouti and opossum) race across the trail. Eventually I made it back to the lodge completely soaked.



Ferruginous Pygmy Owl



Long-tailed Potoo

7 April: Morning Waterfall Trail REGUA– afternoon transfer to Serra dos Tucanos lodge

Today was our last morning at REGUA. The morning brought rain again, but after breakfast it slowed down and stopped after a while. We decided to try the Waterfall trail once more. On our way up it was very cloudy and sometimes it rained again, but on the way down the sun actually came out. Again, the activity was poor, but we did see several really nice birds. By far the best for me was the first bird on the Waterfall trail: a roosting long-tailed potoo! Amazing beast and very large. We had good views of a channel-billed toucan and good but too short views of a male pin-tailed manakin. We also saw at least 6 blue manakin males this morning. A Guyanan squirrel was the only mammal seen but at least it stayed long enough for a few pictures. On the way down we saw eye-ringed tody-tyrant, rufous-browed peppershrike, scaled antbird, black-capped becard, streak-capped antwren and saw-billed hermit.

After a last lovely lunch at REGUA, we were brought to Serra dos Tucanos lodge. After a warm welcome by hosts Andy and Cristina we first enjoyed the activity at the feeders for a while. The feeders are definitely one of

the biggest draws to visit this lodge. Species that can take quite some time to see or even be missed at Guapi Assu are virtually guaranteed here at the feeders. Spectacular species such as Brazilian tanager, blue-naped chlorophonia, green-headed tanager, spot-billed toucanet, blond-crested woodpecker and saffron toucanet were seen daily or almost daily at the feeders. Other species that were almost always present around the feeders included black jacobin, sombre hummingbird, green honeycreeper, black-goggled tanager, ruby-crowned tanager, golden-chevoned tanager, azure-shouldered tanager, palm tanager, purple-throated euphonia, violaceous euphonia, chestnut-bellied euphonia, plain parakeet and maroon-bellied parakeet. This first afternoon it was hard to take your eyes off the nonstop activity at the feeders, so I was glad that Andy pointed out a white-throated woodcreeper feeding on the forest edge, which I otherwise surely would have missed.

Around 4 pm we walked part of the Extension trail seeing little of note. It had been sunny all afternoon but around 5 pm it started raining again until dusk. While doing my list and enjoying a caipirinha before dinner, Anja spotted a big-eared opossum trotting along the veranda gate.

8 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ lodge trails

Andy told us at breakfast that the weather forecast for today wasn't very good, in particular for the high-altitude trails that we wanted to visit, so we birded around the lodge all day. It remained overcast with low clouds all day and about half of the day there were heavy showers and rain. In the morning we had excellent views of tawny-throated leaf-tosser, chestnut-crowned bécard and star-throated antwren on the Extension trail. During the showers we checked the activity at the feeders. Today two slaty-breasted wood-rails and a pair of blond-crested woodpeckers showed up besides the usual array of tanagers, euphonias, parakeets, etc. Rufous-capped ant-thrush was heard but not seen on the Extension trail. Guyanan squirrel was the only mammal seen today.



Green-headed Tanager

Brazilian Tanager

9 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ Cedae trail excursion

The weather was improving, but still not good enough for the higher areas, so Andy decided to postpone the high altitude excursions one more day, but he suggested to visit the Cedae trail with a new trainee guide (at no cost). This was a good idea, the Cedae trail is at 600 meters and the weather stayed sunny all morning there. Birding was pretty good. Things started off nicely with two saffron toucanets landing across the road just when we got out of the car. We had a largish mixed flock with quite a lot of flycatchers, tanagers, foliage-gleaners, woodcreepers and two rufous-browed peppershrikes. Nothing exceptional was seen, but it was good fun sorting out all the species. We continued further down the track and added a group of black-throated grosbeaks and a gray-hooded attila that caught a big moth only a few meters away from us and slapped it to death in bee-eater/jacamar-like fashion. Eventually, we arrived at a small water treatment facility where the trail ends. On the way back up we saw a small group of olive-green tanagers and a tail-cocking tyrannulet, which was probably Oustalet's, but views were poor.

Back at the lodge a green kingfisher showed up at the pond next to the feeders. At one point a total of six spot-billed toucanets was present on and around the feeders. Amazing sight. On the lodge trails we had excellent views of scaled antbird, plain and spot-breasted antvireo, blue manakin, streaked xenops and surucua trogon.

There were some short showers in the afternoon but nothing too bad. After sunset I made a night walk on the Extension trail and part of the Waterbox trail, but only saw insects and frogs.

10 April: Serra dos Tucanos/ Bamboo and Theodoro trail

The front with bad weather had finally disappeared and the weather turned to normal again. In sunny conditions Andy, the trainee guide, a Dutch couple that we had already met in REGUA, and the two of us drove up to the Bamboo trail. On the access track to the actual forest trail the birding was quite good (green-backed becard, several tanager species, sharp-billed treehunter and rufous-browed peppershrike). At the beginning of the proper trail we saw rufous-backed antvireo, drab-breasted bamboo-tyrant, and a variety of foliage-gleaners and woodcreepers. Very unexpected but most welcome was a good sighting of Such's ant-thrush. Initially we saw bits and pieces of the bird moving through bamboo forest, but eventually the bird showed well and even quickly walked across the trail. We had walked only a few hundred meters into the forest when we arrived at a small stream. Unfortunately, the water level had increased a lot as a result of the recent rain and the Dutch couple that had joined us did not want to cross it. So we turned around and continued birding on the Theodoro trail. At the start of the trail we saw a female white-winged becard. Here we also saw a group of about 15 rufous-thighed kites migrate over a pass. A couple of hundred meters into the trail we heard Brazilian ant-thrush, it came very close and eventually I got several short, but decent views of the bird skulking through the undergrowth. Unfortunately, not everybody got to see the bird. Continuing on trail there was a pleasant trickle of species, which included white-throated spadebill, ochre-faced tody flycatcher, eared pygmy-tyrant and surucua trogon. The interesting "dropping-bomb-sound" vocalization of a sharpbill was heard but unfortunately the bird was not seen; we eventually flushed a bird that seemed right sizewise, but only a black silhouette was seen. On the way back we saw a small flock that included a white-browed and black-capped foliage-gleaner, black-billed scythebill and blue manakin. After a lot of trying we finally got good views of Bertoni's antbird on the way out.

In the garden and the trails around Serra dos Tucanos lodge few new species were seen, but finally I got to see a group of red-necked tanagers quite well on the lower part of the Extension trail. Unfortunately, they moved rather fast and I lost them after a few minutes.

The night walk was more productive this time: the Dutch photographer joined me and at the pond opposite the lodge we saw tiny, but spectacular bright yellow frogs. The walk through the forest on one of the trails produced nothing of note, but a very short path that runs parallel along the river behind the lodge turned up a brown four-eyed opossum. Initially, I expected it to be the more common gray four-eyed opossum, but the description of the behaviour in Emmons' field guide and its appearance perfectly matched this species. To be sure I double-checked with Andy next morning and he confirmed it was this species.

11 April: Serra dos Tucanos/Bamboo trail

Today we went to the Bamboo trail again, this time without the Dutch couple. At the start of the forest we finally had good views of scale-throated hermit. The water level of the stream was still quite high, so we crossed the river barefoot. A little beyond the river crossing Andy saw a brown tinamou cross the trail but unfortunately nobody else saw it. Tape play for pin-tailed manakin was unsuccessful but we did find a few brassy-breasted tanagers at the same spot. A bit further we flushed a small group of spot-winged wood-quail. I only had flight views of two birds. After a while we reached a clearing in the forest with good views over the surrounding area. Here we heard both spotted bamboowren and barred forest-falcon, and while both were responsive to the tape playback, they would not show themselves. A female and sub-adult male black-and-gold cotinga were around but views weren't great. We continued uphill and finally managed to tape in a slaty bristlefront for short but good views. A bit higher up we had ridiculously close views of a hooded berryeater perched almost at eye level. Sharpbill was heard several times but frustratingly remained out of sight. About halfway the trail a hunter and his dog turned up from the forest. The man carried a large bag that seemed filled with something like a small peccary or paca. On the way down we tried again for spotted bamboowren at the clearing but ended up with stunning views of Serra do Mar tapaculo. Further down in the forest Andy and I had great views of pileated parrot, but Anja unfortunately could not locate them quick enough and the birds flew off.

In the afternoon we birded around the lodge again, but nothing new was seen. Later that evening we met with Fred from Brasil Aventuras, who would guide us during the second part of the trip.

12 April: Transfer to Itatiaia national park

Soon after breakfast we left Serra dos Tucanos and headed for Itatiaia. First we drove back to Rio.

Traffic was fairly quiet and it looked like we could circumvent Rio without delay. When we were already on the outskirts of Rio and heading towards Itatiaia, we faced a police road block on the motorway. The police stopped us, checked our papers and decided we had to be searched for weapons and drugs. Even after a few minutes it was clear that they were going to serve us a well-planned show: annoyingly slow checks of literally everything in our luggage (every single emergency match checked!), having us take off our shoes, hats, etc. three or four times, pack and unpack the luggage several times, constant verbal and subtle physical intimidation, etc. We couldn't hear or understand most of the things the cops were saying to Fred, but it was clear they were giving him a terrible time. After they had almost finished multiple luggage and passport checks, they "suddenly" found both cocaine and marihuana in our car. One guy just walked to the front seat and immediately "found" the coke in a place that he had already checked four times before, and at exactly the same time I could actually see the other guy plant the marihuana in the luggage in the back of the car, and seconds later Fred was surrounded by four big police guys, one started waving handcuffs, one unzipped the weapon holster and they all started shouting at him. Of course they wanted to see cash, but Fred initially refused and after another 45 minutes of constant hassle, intimidation and constant threats to throw all three of us in prison, it was clear that there was no other way than to make a deal with them. The road trap had conveniently been set up close to a gas station and shopping mall. At the gas station there were several police cars handling all the "drug and weapon violation" fines in a less exposed environment. We also had to stop at the shopping mall to get money and when I went to the mall to buy a snack, I saw various police guys walking around with big shopping bags full of electronics. Some 3.5 hours later we were finally on our way again to Itatiaia and the drive up there left me wondering whether the last few hours had actually happened.

Around 2 pm we finally reached hotel do Ype. After a late lunch we explored part of the Tres Picos trail and the grounds of the now closed hotel Simon. At hotel Simon we enjoyed two bat falcons hunting around the building. The Tres Picos trail was very quiet. Best birds were a female black-throated trogon, sharp-billed treehunter and black-capped foliage-gleaner. Large-headed flatbill was heard only. Only mammals seen were capuchin monkeys. A spotlighting session around hotel do Ype turned up a tawny-browed owl, who at some point even landed on the ground directly next to the swimming pool trying to catch something.

13 April: Itatiaia – Agulhas Negras section

After breakfast we headed up to the Agulhas Negras section. En route we encountered a small group of the attractive curl-crested jays. We first birded the forest along the lower section of the road. At the first stop we managed to scope a male black-and-gold cotinga. Diademed tanagers were very common along this road. Most surprising for me were excellent views of a male large-tailed antshrike completely out in the open. Other noteworthy sightings were plumbeous pigeon, both warbling-finches, scaled woodcreeper. Serra do Mar tyrannulet and thick-billed saltator. Serra do Mar tyrant-manakin unfortunately didn't show.

In the high section we stopped for lunch at the edge of an araucaria forest. After some searching we eventually found Itatiaia thistle-tail. Just when we wanted to focus on a calling Araucaria tit-spinetail, the clouds rolled in again and this time they would not disappear anymore. A rather thick mist now covered the highlands and visibility was sometimes less than 10 meters. We continued birding for a short while, but pretty soon we decided to drive down. Quite far down in the forest the mist and cloud were thin enough to go birding again. We watched a black-capped piprites couple at least 10-15 minutes in the forest on the lower part of the Agulhas Negras road. A bit further we had amazing views of a couple of large-tailed antshrikes, of which the male crouched in a rather bizarre stalking fashion across the road.

We drove back to the main entrance of the park and stopped at a viewpoint with nice views over the surrounding areas. Later in the afternoon we checked out the feeders at a private house. Fred had a chat with the friendly owner, while I took some pictures of the hummers. While watching the hummers, we saw a group of capuchin monkeys move through the forest. Close to the house we saw a small fixed flock, which finally also included a few gilt-edged tanagers.

14 April: Itatiaia – Trails around the hotel

In the morning we first headed to the Jeep track/Maromba trail. Although the Ibama bureaucrat on site was keen to see our permit when we walked out, maintaining trails is obviously not high on their list. The first part of the trail is a track and is in good condition (because it leads to a holiday villa of a millionaire). The actual trail was in an abysmal state. The first 200 metres were ok, but after about one kilometre of constant bushwacking, we finally had to give up and turn back because the path was completely blocked by fallen trees. On the trail we heard red-breasted toucans and masked titi monkeys high up in the canopy, but could not see them. On the track

the birding was quite good and we saw among others rufous-capped motmot, black-billed scythebill, yellow-fronted woodpecker, lots of flycatchers, and ferruginous antbird. White-bearded antshrike unfortunately did not respond to tape playback. Next to the building where the park official was hanging around I saw two capuchin monkeys frolicking in the trees. Walking back to the hotel we saw a few brassy-breasted tanagers and a male surucua trogon.

Before lunch Anja had been exploring the waterfall area near hotel do Ype on her own and saw three saffron toucanets and a spot-winged wood-quail only a few meters from her feet. Around lunchtime I stayed a while near the feeders at the hotel and took pictures of the commoner species hanging around there.



White-throated Hummingbird

Violet-capped Woodnymph

In the afternoon Fred and I walked down the road from the hotel and then continued on the short trail towards Hotel Simon that connects with the Tres Picos trail. Birding was quite good with surucua trogon, white-throated and planalto woodcreeper, a flushed spot-billed toucanet, and a variety of tanagers (including brown!). However, the undisputed highlight was an encounter with three capuchin monkeys. When we spotted the monkeys they were only 10-15 meters away. Surprisingly the monkeys kept coming closer and closer. Two of them posed nicely for photos at about 7-8 meters, but one eventually came so close (<2 m) that our cameras could not focus anymore. The monkey kept searching for fruits and insects and didn't pay much attention to us. Unforgettable! We turned back and continued for a while on the road, where we finally found our first red-breasted toucan. Before dinner I went out to spotlight a bit. The tawny-browed owl was calling again, but it disappeared silently when I got close to it. Otherwise nothing of note was seen.

15 April: Transfer to Canastra national park

After breakfast Anja and I birded a bit around the lodge and we found fawn-breasted tanager and another red-breasted toucan. The transfer to Canastra was rather long (8 hours) and not very exciting, although the landscape around Canastra national park is scenic. We checked in at the pleasant Chapadao da Canastra hotel. We hadn't even put our bags in the room when we saw several toco and red-breasted toucans feeding on the cecropia trees in the garden. In the late afternoon Fred and I went to an area of gallery forest and grassland/cerrado just outside São Roque de Minas. Here we found rufous-tailed jacamar, a female stripe-breasted star throat, white-vented violet-ear, peach-fronted and white-eyed parakeet, amazon and ringed kingfisher. Helmeted manakin and collared crescent-chest were heard but not seen.

16 April: Canastra – Upper Section

Today we stayed all day in the higher sections of Canastra and local guide Toninho joined us all day to help with spotting the wildlife. On the way in we saw many toco toucans and four golden-capped parakeets. At the park entrance the park official took his job very seriously and made us wait until exactly 8 am before we could enter. Both in Itatiaia and Canastra one sometimes got the feeling that they consider visitors an unavoidable nuisance. This was a completely different experience from that in Emas national park in 2006. The park staff there was

very friendly and welcoming, and seemed happy to see visitors despite that we only spoke five words Portuguese.

We birded a while around the entrance before we were let in, where we found white-vented violet-ear, crested black tyrant, gray-fronted dove, eared dove, white-tipped dove and pale-vented pigeon. After being allowed into the park we found a white-eared puffbird perched along the road just beyond the entrance on our climb up to the highland plateau. We also made a quick stop at the fancy looking, but closed visitor's centre (on a Saturday??!), where we encountered a nice flock of seedeaters (plumbeous, double-collared and capped).

At the source of the San Francisco river we saw cinnamon tanager, masked yellowthroat, sooty tyrannulet and plain-crested elaenia but the tapaculo wouldn't show. White-rumped monjita were very common throughout the park. White-rumped tanagers seemed to prefer areas with more bushes and small trees. With his phenomenal eyesight Toninho picked out a couple of red-legged seriemas in the high grass.

Main mammal targets for today were maned wolf, giant anteater and Pampas deer. We extensively searched in an area where other tourists had seen maned wolf a bit earlier, but unfortunately we couldn't find one when we reached the same place. However, a bit further on we encountered the first pampa deers, a male and female could be followed for at least 15 minutes at close range.

After enjoying the fantastic views of the rolling grasslands at a stone-walled corral, we headed deeper into the park. Cerrado birds kept trickling in, but the giant anteaters just wouldn't show. Sharp-tailed grass-tyrant, cock-tailed tyrant, sedge wren, great pampafinch, wedge-tailed grassfinch and greater rhea were some of the birds seen. Around noon we still hadn't found any anteaters, so we decided to try a remoter area that usually holds a lot of anteaters, but even here we couldn't find any. After the lunch break we continued our search and it took until about 4 pm before Toninho spotted the first anteater. We parked our car and walked up to the animal. It could be approached up to about 20-30 meters, but it kept a healthy distance between us and him. We could follow this magnificent and bizarre animal for about 15 minutes when it outsmarted us and disappeared in higher grassland. After this brilliant encounter we drove slowly back to the park exit. Soon we encountered another anteater in beautiful afternoon light, but it disappeared very quickly in the high grass. Blue ground-dove and aplomado falcon were nice additions to the bird list.



Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant



Typical landscape in Canastra/Pampas Deer

In the last hour before dark we found even more anteaters including a mother with her baby on her back. Just after dark we spotlighted a Brazilian cavy at the edge of the road. Amazingly, the animal just sat there for at least 10 minutes, but when it ran away it did not appear to be ill. Maybe it was just startled. Nightjar presence was quite good: scissor-tailed nightjar, band-winged nightjar, and pauraque were seen. A search for sickle-winged nightjar was unsuccessful though. Outside the park borders we encountered a tropical screech-owl and an unidentified large rat. All in all, a very enjoyable and productive day. Even when the birding and mammal watching were a bit slow, the views across the extensive rolling grasslands were amazing.

17 April: Canastra – Casca d'Anta and Upper Section

In the morning we drove to another area of the national park, the Casca d'Anta sector, where a trail leads to the bottom of said waterfall. On our drive up there we were quite quickly stopped in our tracks when we saw a large group of parakeets feeding on fields along the road. Quite a lot of white-eyed parakeets and peach-fronted parakeets were present, but the undisputed highlight was several hundreds of resting and feeding golden-capped parakeets. The birds could easily be approached and it provided some great photo opportunities.

The road to Casca d'Anta leads through a pleasant and scenic landscape with good birding most of the way. Toco toucans and curl-crested wren were seen regularly. Another white-eared puffbird was found perched. On the way to the Casca d'Anta area one also passes several very good river stretches for Brazilian merganser. We stopped and checked several times and rather quickly we found a couple on the river and had excellent scope views of the pair. This was almost too easy as I expected that we would have to spend several hours chasing for this species. Close to the Casca d'Anta park entrance we had nice views of a king vulture circling above the river's gallery forest.

The mid-morning walk on the trail up to Casca d'Anta was very quiet. Only common birds were seen. At the waterfall we had several small mixed flocks that included yellow-lored tody flycatcher, and rufous-headed and guira tanager. After enjoying the waterfall area for a while we slowly walked back: only after a couple of hundred meters we saw another pair of mergansers resting on rocks in the river next to the trail. We managed to sneak up to the birds and got incredible views at less than 10 meters!! After a short break at the camping/pick nick area we took a different trail back to the entrance. First we tried to tape in pin-tailed manakin. Only a female responded and gave good views. While chatting at a clearing with a few houses we suddenly some rapid movements mid-storey in a patch of forest. This turned out to be black-eared marmosets! While trying to get better views of the marmosets, we also found two masked titi monkeys. The monkeys remained alert but were fairly relaxed about our presence. At some point I even saw a masked titi monkey and black-eared marmoset watching us from the same branch. After his excellent primate encounter we decided that we had seen most of the things we wanted to see in his area, so we decided to drive back to São Roque de Minas and spend the afternoon in the higher sections of the park.

On the plateau we tried for ochre-breasted pipit, but we couldn't find any (wrong season for them). At the stone corral viewpoint we found again firewood gatherer, sedge wren, white-rumped tanager, and campo flicker among others. While checking the surrounding grasslands from another viewpoint nearby, we discovered a giant anteater foraging only a couple of hundred meters away from us. We walked up to the anteater downwind and this time we could approach the animal up to 5-6 meters. Incredible to see them this close. We also kept looking for maned wolf until dusk, but no luck. The spotlighting back did not yield anything of note.



Giant Anteater

18 April: Transfer to Caracas

The transfer to Caracas over busy main roads was largely uneventful. When we arrived at Caracas, it was raining, but luckily it cleared in the afternoon. Late afternoon we walked the Capelinho trail. At the start we found a variety of hummingbirds, including sapphire-spangled emerald, glittering-bellied emerald, violet-capped woodnymph, Brazilian ruby, and one amethyst woodstar. Higher up near the chapel we could approach a bat falcon up to 10 meters set against the background of a glowing red-orange sunset sky. Amazing. After dark we posted at the monastery's terrace. Around 9 pm a striped hog-nosed skunk appeared and gorged on the chicken and papaya for about 10-15 minutes. I stayed up until about 10.15 pm and then went to bed. The wolf showed up at 1.30 am that night.

19 April: Caracas

At dawn Fred and I walked the first part of the Cascatinha trail. Birding was quite good with black-capped antwren, highland and olivaceous elaenia, hangnest tody tyrant, dusky-tailed antbird, planalto and greenish tyrannulet, and a group of burnished-buff tanagers. After breakfast Anja joined us and we explored the Tanque Grande trail. Quite quickly we found a group of masked titi monkeys but they stayed high and mostly hidden in the canopy, so it was difficult to get pictures. Birding was initially very quiet, but picked up later in the morning. Best were incredible views of a male, sub-adult male and female pin-tailed manakin. Other nice additions were eastern sirystes, rufous-capped and gray-bellied spinetail, and crested becard. We also played the tape for cinnamon-vented piha, but got no response.

In the afternoon, Fred, Erik (a birder and nature enthusiast from the USA who we already had met in Itatiaia), and I went to the Piscina trail to try for a different set of species in the rockier and more open habitat. This went remarkably well. About halfway up the trail we had already found serra antwren, hyacinth visorbearer, hangnest tody-tyrant, grey-backed tachuri, cinnamon tanager and pale-throated pampafinch. Because it was still light but close to dusk, we decided to drive slowly along the road and stop for any activity. Close to the start of the Tabooes trail the road crosses a small dam with views over some pools and marshy areas. When we finally all had gotten out of the car, a tapir rushed across the pool and disappeared in dense cover. We tried to approach the area that the animal had ran into, but access proved too difficult.

After dark, Fred, Anja and I made a night drive along the main road. It was fairly quiet but near the entrance gate we saw a scissor-tailed nightjar perched next to the road and on the way back we saw a rodent, which was probably a pygmy rice rat species, and a Brazilian rabbit. After that Fred and I tried a night walk on the Tanque Grande trail, but nothing at all was seen, not even a pauraque. I was rather tired and it was quite chilly again so I didn't stay very long at the feeding platform for the wolf. I must have been very tired since the wolf arrived only 15 minutes after I had left and the noise did not wake me up (we had already seen maned wolf very well in Emas national park four years back, so it wasn't that bad).



Masked Titi Monkey (territorial call from animal on the left)

20 April: Morning Caracas and afternoon transfer to Caratinga

Our last morning in Caracas we spent in more open cerrado terrain. We just had started walking when we saw a tayra race across the trail. A search for swallow-tailed cotinga was fruitless as expected. We did see black-capped antwren, yellow-bellied seedeater, cinnamon tanager, grey-backed tachuri, all three possible black-tyrant species, pale-throated pampafinch and green-winged saltator. We headed back to the Tanque Grande trail, where we had incredible views of masked titi monkey. It still proved very hard to get decent pictures of them. Birdwise not much was happening. A search for grey-eyed greenlet was unsuccessful, but we did see shear-tailed grey tyrant on the way out. After lunch we left Caracas and headed to Caratinga. The transfer to Caratinga town was uneventful. We stayed at hotel Vind's in the city center.

21 April: Caratinga Biological Station

After an early breakfast we drove in about 45-50 minutes to the reserve. En route we saw our only black-necked aracari of the trip. Right at the entrance of the reserve we saw several crescent-chested puffbirds. We drove to the biological station but found nobody there. So we continued on foot along the dirt road passing the biological station. Only after a few meters we found a family group of plumbeous antvireos, a rare species. After a few hundred meters birding along the track local guide Roberto met us and told us that the researchers had tracked muriquis close to the road but in the other direction. We walked back, but stopped at the biological station for two blue-winged macaws perched.

A bit later we found two PhD students along the road studying the muriquis. The monkeys had just woken up and were starting to move. They were a few hundred meters away but could be seen well through the scope. The monkeys were moving in a direction that was crossed by a second road. So we headed there and got very good views (15-40 meters distance) of about 15-20 muriquis moving swiftly through to the trees. They rarely stopped to feed so it was impossible to get good pictures. After this exciting encounter the muriquis moved away deeper into forest and we continued birding and look for other monkeys. First we had an hour with entertaining birding: sooretama slaty antshrike, spot-backed antshrike, green-backed becard, rufous-tailed jacamar, pileated finch, rufous-capped motmot and more crescent-chested puffbirds. At an abandoned farmhouse we found sooty grassquit.

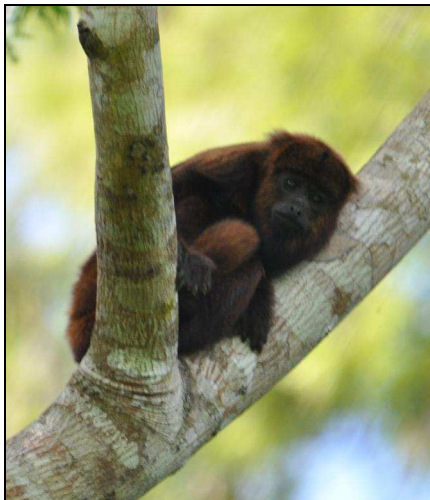


Muriquis (first group in the morning)

Along a forest trail we walked up to an observation tower on top of one of the hills, where one has nice views over the reserve. Unfortunately, no raptors were seen and there was little activity in the forest canopy. We descended along a different forest trail, where we first found a group of 4-5 capuchin monkeys and about 10 minutes later several brown howler monkeys. It was getting hot so we walked back to the biological station to eat our packed lunch. After lunch we first checked the river area at the edge of the reserve for buffy-headed marmosets, but couldn't find any. We then got two calls from researchers in the forest, one was close to a group of muriquis and another had found buffy-headed marmosets, while following a group of muriquis. So we decided to head in the direction of the second researcher. After a 20 minute drive on a narrow forest track, we parked the car and started hiking. After a few minutes we saw a small group of howler monkeys, but we moved on quickly to try to meet up with the marmosets. After about half an hour of walking we met up with the researcher and headed deeper into the forest on an old overgrown track and eventually located the marmosets. Most of the group raced quickly through the thick undergrowth, but luckily two or three stopped for a moment to check us out and allowed us to take some pictures. At the same place we shortly saw a reddish hermit. We continued walking on the partly overgrown trail and found another group of muriquis, but they were difficult to see in an area of dense canopy vegetation. On our way back down to the car, we heard another group of muriquis, which we finally saw directly next to the road. Some of the muriquis descended to down to eye level and came as close as 5-7 meters. A wonderful experience! The light was fading by now and despite the fact that the monkeys were close it proved to be very hard to get decent pictures of them. At some point muriquis were feeding on one side of the road and a group of capuchin monkeys on the other side. Both species weren't hostile to each other, but the capuchin monkeys moved on fairly quickly. When we finally got into the car, it was dusk. On the way down to the main road in the reserve we saw an ocellated poorwill. Back at the biological station we could photograph a pauraque on the road. We put on the spotlight when we left the reserve but only found a mouse or small rat species that hopped across the road in a kangaroo-like fashion.

It had been a fantastic day with excellent views of all primate species we had been looking for. The last encounter with the muriquis being only meters away was unforgettable. For me tracking the muriquis down in the forest was equally interesting as chimp tracking in Africa and both species are equally charismatic as far as I am concerned. Unfortunately, the muriquis don't seem to have a "public profile" at all.

Despite the relative high cost to visit this reserve spending two full days in this reserve would definitely be better. One full day is a little short to birdwatch, track the primates and search for other mammals.



Brown Howler Monkey



Road passing Caratinga Biological Station

22 April: Sítio Graciema – Sierra da Piedade - Belo Horizonte airport

Today was our last day and we headed back to Belo Horizonte from where our return flight would depart. Not far from Caratinga we saw two greater grisons cross the road. Unfortunately, the views were too short to fully enjoy the animals. We then stopped at Sítio Graciema, where an elderly couple lives on a small estate with a small patch of forest in their backyard. After coffee and a friendly chat with the people, we went looking for the Geoffrey's marmosets that live in the forest. They didn't hang around in the usual area where they are fed bananas. So we walked some of the short forest trails, but it took us quite some time to track down the marmosets, but finally we saw about 6-7 of them, but never closer than about 30 metres away. A bit of a surprise here was a group of seven blue-winged macaws feeding up in the trees.

In the afternoon we made a last stop at Sierra da Piedade, which has habitats similar to those in Cipo national park and Caracas. Our short stop there produced a good number of species including white-bellied warbler, ochre-rumped antbird, cinnamon tanager and pale-throated pampa finch. In addition, we saw a Brazilian rabbit.

We then headed to Belo Horizonte airport, thanked Fred for a wonderful trip and said goodbye at the airport. The flights back to Europe were uneventful.

All in all, it was a great trip and despite a few days of rather terrible weather, we did not miss that much. I again excelled in not being where the cotingas and bellbirds are. I missed most of them, but was very glad with to see the beautiful hooded berryeater. A week earlier most of the cotinga species were still around (and being seen) but it seemed that they all disappeared towards the coast or other areas with the bad weather in the first week of April. Mammalwise, most disappointing was not seeing red-rumped agouti, but I probably should have spent a bit more time in Caratinga. A bit of a surprise was missing the maned wolf and not seeing South American coati at all, but we had seen these species on our previous Brazil trip. I can be contacted at [olpa {at} onsneteindhoven.nl](mailto:olpa@onsneteindhoven.nl)



Marmomania: buffy-headed marmoset (upper left), Geoffrey's marmoset (upper right), black-tufted ear marmoset (lower left) and white-tufted ear marmoset (lower right)

Identification guides and acronyms used in the trip lists below

CANP = Canastra national park

CBS = Caratinga Biological Station, also known as RPPN Feliciano Miguel Abdala

ITNP = trails and roads in Itatiaia national park including Agulhas Negras

PdC = Pico da Caledonia near Nova Friburgo

REGUA = Guapi Assu Bird lodge, trails, and surroundings

SdT = Serra dos Tucanos lodge and trails

For mammal identification I only took *Neotropical Rainforest Mammals: A Field Guide* by Louise H. Emmons and Francois Feer. I used three books for identifying the birds: *Field Guide to the Songbirds of South America: The Passerines* by Robert S. Ridgely and Guy Tudor, *A Field Guide to the Birds of Brazil* by Ber van Perlo, and *Birds of South America: Non-Passerines: Rheas to Woodpeckers* by Francisco Erize and Maurice Rumboll.

Van Perlo's book has of course the advantage of being restricted to Brazilian birds, but some of the plates are mediocre (a lot better than the terrible De Souza guide though) and even contradict with the text here and there. However, what is really great are the maps that not only show the range of a species but also how common or rare a species is. The text parts in van Perlo are limited, but quite good for identification, but Ridgely and Tudor is clearly the guide to check for high-quality plates and more in-depth information (behavior, ecology, etc.). I did not use the Erize and Rumboll book that much, mostly because the non-passerine species posed less identification problems. In conclusion, you will be fine with van Perlo in 90% of the cases, but for more difficult identification problems it is handy to have Ridgely and Tudor.



Striped Hog-nosed Skunk



Big-eared Opossum

Mammal List

[Grey Four-eyed Opossum *Philander opossum* – only a dead one seen (road kill)]

Brown Four-eyed Opossum *Metachirus nudicaudatus* – one was seen on the night walk of April 10 very close to the river that runs next to the SdT lodge.

Big-eared Opossum (a.k.a. Southeastern, Southern or Brazilian Common Opossum) *Didelphis aurita* – one was seen on a night walk at REGUA on April 2, another one was seen walking on the veranda of SdT lodge on April 7. Also seen as road kill. The IUCN website lists this species under the first name, so I used that one.

Giant Anteater *Myrmecophaga tridactyla* – six on April 16 and one on April 17 in CANP.

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus torquatus* – one seen on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, another one was seen quite far away but in the top of a cecropia tree along the road in the agricultural area between the Guapi Assu lodge and Casa Pesquisa.

[Greater Fishing Bat *Noctilio leporinus* – These are supposedly quite commonly seen at the wetland in REGUA, but I only saw large bat silhouettes one night of what must have been this species]

Buffy-headed Marmoset *Callithrix flaviceps* – a group of at least 10-15 individuals was eventually seen late afternoon in CBS.

Geoffroy's Marmoset *Callithrix geoffroyi* – about 5-6 were seen after quite some effort in the small forest patch at Sitio Graciema.

Black-tufted Ear Marmoset *Callithrix penicillata* – a small group of 4-5 was seen together with masked titi monkeys on one of the trails at Casca d’Anta in CANP on April 17.

White-tufted Ear (or Common) Marmoset *Callithrix jacchus* – they come regularly to the feeders at the lodge in REGUA, but remain fairly cautious. We saw them here on April 6 and 7. This species is introduced here; originally they only occur in northeast Brazil.

Black-Horned (a.k.a. Black-tufted) Capuchin *Cebus nigritus* – two were seen on the Elfin Forest trail in REGUA. We saw them at least four times in Itatiaia including one unforgettable encounter with a small group of three animals, of which two came very close (less than 7-8m). One eventually came so close (< 2m) that our cameras could not focus anymore. Unbelievable. At least two groups were seen in Caratinga of which one was feeding in the same area as a group of muriquis.

Masked Titi Monkey *Callicebus personatus* – heard several times in the forest in Itatiaia, about 2-3 were seen in the Casca d’Anta area in CANP on April 17. Two groups were heard regularly along the Tanque Grande trail in CAR and seen on three different occasions, typically 2-4 animals were seen. Note: the IUCN website now lists Black-fronted Titi *Callicebus nigrifrons* as a separate species for this area in Brazil, so technically the animals I have seen would be this species, but this name seems not (yet) established.

Brown Howler Monkey *Aloatta guariba* – two groups of two and four animals were seen in CBS.

Northern Muriqui *Brachyteles hypoxanthus* – four different sightings at CBS, three times a group of about 15-25 animals, once only a few (visible).



Muriquis from the last group seen around dusk

[Maned Wolf *Chrysocyon brachyurus* – not seen by us. We did not see them in CANP although other visitors did see them on the days we were there. In CAR the wolf appeared on the terrace around 1.30 am and 10.30 pm on April 19. On both evenings we went to bed around 10 pm. No big deal as we had seen them before in Emas.]

Striped Hog-nosed Skunk *Conepatus semistriatus* – one came to feed on the terrace at CAR on April 18.

Tayra *Eira barbata* – one dashed across the start of the Cascatina trail in CAR on April 20.

Greater Grison *Galictis vittata* – two crossed the highway about 100 m in front of us not far from Caratinga city.

Pampas Deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus* – on April 16 we saw a male and female together late morning, then a small family group in the afternoon, and a single female late afternoon.

Brazilian Tapir *Tapirus terrestris* – we surprised one in a small pond near the Taboões trail in CAR.

Capybara *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris* – there are at least 20 in the REGUA wetland, but they can sometimes remain hidden in the vegetation, although it seems unlikely to miss them here. A good place to see larger groups is from the watchtower, but we saw one or more every time we walked to the wetland.

Guianan Squirrel *Sciurus aestuans* – one on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, one on the Elfin Forest trail on April 4, one on the Waterfall trail on April 7,

[Brazilian Pygmy Rice Rat *Oligoryzomys eliurus*??? - The rodent seen on the road during a night drive in Caracas may have been this species. Size and appearance seemed to fit the description for a *Oligoryzomys* species reasonably well. Yellow Pygmy Rice Rat (*Oligoryzomys flavescens*) is another option for this region]

[“Jumping mouse”: in Caratinga we saw a small rodent jump in kangaroo fashion across the road just when it was getting completely dark (the mouse had a light brown to dark sandy colour above, whitish below, very, very long and seemingly naked tail in comparison to the (tiny) body length)]

[Rat spp. A large rat species (sandy color above and white below, tail looked skin-coloured and was about as long as the body length) was seen just outside CANP on the nightdrive on April 16. There was a tropical screech-owl sitting nearby for size comparison, and the owl obviously did not consider this rodent to be a food item for him. He just looked at the rodent pass in front of him. Quite bizarre.]

Orange-spined Hairy Dwarf Porcupine *Coendu spinosus* – an orphaned baby was being hand-raised at REGUA (mother was poached). A (wild) adult animal was seen on the 4x4 trail in REGUA.

Forest Rabbit (Tapiti) *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* – one at Caracas during our night drive on April 19, one was seen in daytime between the rocks at Serra da Piedade on April 22.

Brazilian Guinea-Pig *Cavia aperea* – one was seen after dark in in Canastra and two were seen on the edge of the small pool next to the parking lot at Caracas.



Southern Crested Caracara (juvenile right)

Bird List

[Brown Tinamou *Crypturellus obsoletus* – only seen by Andy on the Bamboo trail]

[Tataupa Tinamou *Crypturellus tataupa* – heard in CAR on April 19]

[Red-winged Tinamou *Rhynchotus rufescens* – heard in CANP in the evening on April 16]

Greater Rhea *Rhea americana* – a total of five was seen on April 16 in CANP

Rusty-margined Guan *Penelope superciliaris* – only seen once at REGUA on April 6

Dusky-legged Guan *Penelope obscura* – a few sightings at REGUA, very tame and easy to see at Hotel do Ype and Caracas. One flushed at SdP. Also seen at PdC.

[Red-knobbed Curassow *Crax blumenbachii* – a tame single female was seen in the garden at REGUA several times. The male had been killed a few months before.]

Spot-winged Wood-Quail *Odontophorus capueira* – a small group, of which I only had flight views of two birds, was flushed on the Bamboo trail on April 11. Anja saw a single bird at close range at one of the waterfalls near Hotel do Ype.

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* – one at REGUA wetland

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* – this species had been breeding at REGUA this season. Two were seen at the wetland.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* – a few seen at the wetland in REGUA.

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis* - the most common duck at the wetland in REGUA.

Brazilian Merganser *Mergus octosetaceus* – one pair was seen through the scope on the San Francisco river, another pair was seen just below the Casca d'Anta waterfall, where we could sneak up to them at less than 10 meters and take pictures.

Masked Duck *Nomonyx dominicus* – one seen at the wetland in REGUA on April 2.

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus* – seen several times at REGUA wetland.

[Wood Stork/Maguari Stork/Jabiru – one stork was seen from the car flying over the very busy road from Belo Horizonte to Caracas. We could not stop, but to me it looked like a jabiru. It was very large and uniformly white on the body and underwings]

Rufescent Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum* – a few (1-3) seen at the wetland in REGUA on almost every visit.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* - about 4-6 (adults and juveniles) were seen around the wetland in REGUA.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* – only one at the REGUA wetland on April 6 and 7.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* – common.

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi* – only seen once during a transfer.

Western Great Egret *Ardea alba* - small numbers on transfers, 1-2 at REGUA wetland and in the Casca d'Anta/San Francisco river area.

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus* – only 1-2 seen at REGUA wetland.

Whistling Heron *Syrigma sibilatrix* – 1-3 were seen in the agricultural between the Guapi Assu lodge and Casa Pesquisa at REGUA.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* – small numbers on transfers, also at REGUA wetland.

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* – a few seen when leaving Rio on our way to REGUA.

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* – one at the Guapi Assu river on April 4, four at the wetland in REGUA on April 6.

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* – only one seen en route from Rio to Canastra.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* – fairly common.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* – 1-4 seen at REGUA (lodge area, 4x4 trail), also seen at Sumidouro, Canastra, Caratinga, but always small numbers (1-3).

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* – common to abundant.

King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa* – one flying on the thermals not far from Casca d'Anta on April 17.

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* – a juvenile eating a small bird on the Waterfall trail on April 4.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* – a few seen en route from REGUA to Canastra.

Rufous-thighed Kite *Harpagus diodon* – a flock of about 15 was seen migrating over a pass from the Theodoro trail.

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus* – one in flight at PdC.

Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens* – one was seen with the scope from the lodge at REGUA on April 2.

Mantled Hawk *Leucopternis polionotus* – one was seen perched on our way up to the Bamboo trail on April 11.

White-necked Hawk *Leucopternis lacernulatus* – one flushed and shortly seen in flight on the Sao Jose trail.

Savanna Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis* – seen a few times at REGUA, a few on the Sumidouro excursion, quite common in the CANP area. Regular sightings on transfers from one site to another.

Crowned Solitary Eagle *Harpyhaliaetus coronatus* – an immature bird was seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris* – common in agricultural or otherwise open areas, also forest edge. Seen in all areas visited.

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* – twice rather unsatisfactory views of one flying across the road.

White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus* – usually 1-2 seen on transfers, also seen in ITNP on April 12 and 14, quite common in the CANP area.

Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus* – heard only on the Sao Jose trail, one adult was seen chasing and dive-bombing a Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle from the 4x4 trail.

Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus melanoleucus* – one seen from the 4x4 trail, being mobbed by a black hawk-eagle.

Southern Crested Caracara *Caracara plancus* – common at all sites visited, but many in CANP.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* – common at all sites visited.

Laughing Falcon *Herpotheres cachinnans* – one seen on April 2 in the late afternoon at REGUA.

[Barred Forest Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* – heard calling very close on the Bamboo trail on April 11, but despite responding to tape it would not show itself]

[Collared Forest-falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* – one was flushed on the Sao Jose trail but only seen by Adilei]

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* – surprisingly and worryingly scarce; only seen once at REGUA on April 4 and a few times en route between sites.

Apomado Falcon *Falco femoralis* – one hunting across the araucaria forests at Agulhas Negras, one seen flying and shortly perched in CANP on April 16.

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis* – two hunting around and perching on the former Hotel Simon in ITNP, superb sighting of one on the Capelinho trail at Caracas.

Red-legged Seriema *Cariama cristata* – two seen at CANP on April 16.

Slaty-breasted Wood Rail *Aramides saracura* – two at SdT lodge on April 8, one was seen regularly in the garden of hotel do Ype, and a total of six was seen on April 13 on various locations in ITNP.

[Ash-throated Crake *Porzana albicollis* – heard around dusk on April 2 at the REGUA wetland]

Blackish Rail *Pardirallus nigricans* - 1-2 at the small pond next to the parking lot in Caracas

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica* – common at REGUA wetland.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* – common at REGUA wetland.

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* – one en route to ITNP on April 12, Adilei heard one calling around dusk on April 2.

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* – common in cultivated areas.

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana* – common at REGUA wetland.

[Giant Snipe *Gallinago undulata* – one faint response far away on April 2]

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* – one near the airport at Rio de Janeiro.

[Common Pigeon *Columba livia* (introduced species) – common in cities]

Picazuro Pigeon *Patagioenas picazuro* – fairly common at all sites visited.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis* – at least five in CANP on April 16.

Plumbeous Pigeon *Patagioenas plumbea* – several heard and one seen on the Agulhas Negras road, also recorded at CBS.

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* – two were seen near the CANP park entrance on April 16.

Scaled Dove *Columbina squammata* – a total of four in and around São Roque de Minas.

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti* – common to abundant.

Blue Ground Dove *Claravis pretiosa* – one seen on the road in the high section of CANP on April 13, three more were seen on April 17.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* – a few on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Waterfall trail on April 7, one on April 17.

Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla* - one seen well in CANP on April 16.

[Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana* - one flushed on the Sao Jose trail, only mediocre views for Adilei and Andrew]

Blue-winged Macaw *Primolius maracana* – two were seen at biological station buildings at CBS, a group of about 6-7 was seen at Sitio Graciema.

White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalma* – a small flock was seen on the Sumidouro excursion. Quite regular in the wider CANP area. A larger group was seen on April 17 together with the species below.

Golden-capped Parakeet *Aratinga auricapillus* – four seen on April 16, more than 300!! on April 17.

Peach-fronted Parakeet *Aratinga aurea* – two were seen just outside São Roque de Minas.

Reddish-bellied Parakeet *Pyrrhura frontalis* – common in REGUA and SdT (visit the feeders daily), also common at ITNP, CBS.

Blue-winged Parrotlet *Forpus xanthopterygius* – two seen perched on April 1, one on April 2, two on the Sumidouro excursion, one on April 6, one on April 15 near São Roque de Minas.

Plain Parakeet *Brotogeris tirica* – seen daily on the feeders at SdT lodge, also on the trails at SdT and quite common in ITNP and CBS. Only a few seen in CANP.

[Golden-tailed Parrotlet *Touit surdus* – unfortunately heard only on the Elfin Forest trail]

Pileated Parrot *Pionopsitta pileata* – superb views of one in a group of 4-5 at the Bamboo trail on April 11, a group in flight on the same day.

Scaly-headed Parrot *Pionus maximiliani* – seen in flight almost daily at REGUA, SdT and ITNP, seen perched on the way to Casca d'Anta on April 17. Also seen at SdT.

Orange-winged Amazon *Amazona amazonica* – one seen perched in a tree around Guapi Assu lodge on April 1.

[Vinaceous-breasted Amazon *Amazona vinacea* – only poor views in the form of birds flying over the canopy in CBS]

Guira Cuckoo *Guira guira* – quite common in the agricultural areas at REGUA, commonly seen en route in cultivated areas.

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major* – a group of 5-6 birds was heard and seen in the REGUA wetland on April 6.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* – common in cultivated/agricultural areas.

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* – daily 1-3 seen at REGUA, SdT, ITNP, and CBS.

Dark-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus melacoryphus* – one in the lodge garden on April 2 and 4.

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba* – one flying over a wetland on the night walk on April 2, one seen at its roost in daytime on the Sumidouro excursion.

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* – two roosting near the volunteer buildings on April 2 and three on April 6, one at night in CANP on April 16.

[Black-banded Owl *Strix huhula* – heard several times heard at REGUA]

Tawny-browed Owl *Pulsatrix koeniswaldiana* – one flushed on the Sao Jose trail, one seen in the lodge garden of Hotel do Ype on April 12 and 14.

Least Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium minutissimum* – one finally found by Adilei on the Sao Jose trail after quite some searching.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* – two seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia* - a few seen in the agricultural area between the lodge and Casa Pesquisa on April 4, amazingly only one at night in CANP on April 16 and none! on April 17.

Long-tailed Potoo *Nyctibius aethereus* – one roosting at the start of the waterfall trail on April 7.

Short-tailed Nighthawk *Lurocalis semitorquatus* – one came flying around/between us at less than 5 m at dusk on the nightwalk on April 2.

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* – one around dawn at REGUA on April 4, one at dusk on April 5, two at night on April 16, one at night in CBS on April 19, two at CBS on April 21.



Pauraque

Brazilian Merganser

Brassy-breasted Tanager

Ocellated Poorwill *Nyctiphrynus ocellatus* – one seen at dusk in CBS on April 21.

Rufous Nightjar *Caprimulgus rufus* – one seen and heard at dusk on a night walk on April 5.

Band-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus longirostris* – one in flight on April 16.

[Spot-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus maculicaudus* – a probable one was seen flying while spotlighting in CANP on April 16]

Scissor-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis torquata* - one at night on April 16, one seen perched at 7-8 meters distance on April 19.

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* - small numbers at REGUA on April 2, 2-3 at SdP.

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris* – seen in small numbers seen at REGUA on most days.

Ashy-tailed Swift *Chaetura andrei* – only seen on April 9 on the Cedae trail.

Sick's Swift *Chaetura meridionalis* – daily seen at REGUA.

Saw-billed Hermit *Ramphodon naevius* – 2-3 one on the Sao Jose trail, one on a feeder at the researcher's house on the Waterfal trail on April 7, one each on April 9 (Cedae trail) and April 11 (Bamboo trail).

Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsutus* – one on the feeders in REGUA on April 1 and 6.

Scale-throated Hermit *Phaethornis eurynome* – poor views at PdC, one each on April 10 and April 11 (Bamboo trail). 1-3 were regular at the feeder in Hotel do Ype and another feeder at a private house in ITNP.

Planalto Hermit *Phaethornis pretrei* – one on on the Sao Jose trail, one on the Elfin Forest trail, one near São Roque de Minas on April 15.

Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber* – one in the forest in Caratinga while watching buffy-headed marmosets.

Sombre Hummingbird *Aphantochroa cirrochloris* – common at the feeders in SdT.

Swallow-tailed Hummingbird *Eupetomena macroura* – several constantly present at the feeders in REGUA, 1-2 sometimes on the feeders at SdT, also (on feeders) in ITNP, a few seen in the CANP area.

Black Jacobin *Florisuga fusca* – one on the feeders at REGUA on April 1, daily a few in the garden and at the feeders at SdT, quite regular on feeders in ITNP.

White-vented Violetear *Colibri serrirostris* – fairly easy to see in the Canastra area, seen about 7-8 times, also in CAR on the Cascatinha trail on April 19 and at SdP on April 22.

Black-breasted Plovercrest *Stephanoxis lalandi* – one male and four female-type birds seen well on PdC, heard on April 11 (Bamboo trail).

Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* – one on the Cedae trail on April 9, one on the Capelinho trail on April 18, several on the Piscina trail on April 19.

Violet-capped Woodnymph *Thalurania glaucopis* – 2-4 almost constantly present on the feeders at REGUA and ITNP, also 1-3 daily seen at SdT lodge and surroundings and a few on the Sumidouro excursion.

White-throated Hummingbird *Leucochloris albicollis* – occasional visitor on the feeders at REGUA, one on April 11, 1-3 daily on feeders in ITNP. Also seen at PdC and on the Cascatinha trail in Caracas

Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata* – occasionally on the feeders in REGUA, two on the Sumidouro excursion and one at PdC.

Sapphire-spangled Emerald *Amazilia lactea* – one seen well on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Capelinho trail in Caracas on April 18, also one at CBS.

Brazilian Ruby *Clytolaema rubricauda* – common at the feeders in REGUA, SdT, and ITNP. At least 4 on the Capelinho trail in Caracas, also CBS and PdC.

Hyacinth Visorbearer *Augastes scutatus* – at least 4-5 on the Piscina trail

Stripe-breasted Starthroat *Heliomaster squamosus* – one female just outside São Roque de Minas on April 15.

Amethyst Woodstar *Calliphlox amethystina* – one at Caracas on the Capelinho trail

[White-tailed Trogon *Trogon viridis* – a possible one on the SdT lodge trails: a male-type bird with an all-white tail and a whitish looking eye-ring (not pale blue or yellow) might have been this species]

Surucua Trogon *Trogon surrucura* – a female on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, one pair on the 4x4 trail, a male on the Sumidouro excursion, a male on April 8 and 10 and a female on April 9, one male and two females on April 13, one male on April 14 in ITNP.

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus* – a female on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, a female on on April 12 at ITNP,

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* – one at the pond in SDT on April 9.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* – seen at REGUA wetland on March 31, one at the wetland at the start of the 4x4 trail, and one near São Roque de Minas on April 15.

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* – seen at REGUA wetland on March 31 and at a pond near Casa Pesquisa on April 7, one on the Sumidouro excursion, also seen on SdT on April 8, one near São Roque de Minas on April 15.

Rufous-capped Motmot *Baryphthengus ruficapillus* – one on the Sao Jose trail, two on the 4x4 trail, one seen (April 10) on the entrance road to SdT lodge, also at the start of the Extension trail on April 9 in SdT, poor views of one on April 11, one in ITNP on April 14, heard at CBS

Three-toed Jacamar *Jacamaralcyon tridactyla* - a group of four and three times a single bird on the Sumidouro excursion.

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda* – one on the 4x4 trail and one near the lodge in the afternoon on April 2, at least one just outside São Roque de Minas, a total of three at CBS.

Buff-bellied Puffbird *Notharchus swainsoni* – three seen on the Elfin Forest trail,

White-eared Puffbird *Nystalus chacuru* – one on April 16 quite close to the park entrance and one on the way to Casca d'Anta.

Crescent-chested Puffbird *Malacoptila striata* – three on the 4x4 trail, at least six different ones at CBS.

Black-necked Aracari *Pteroglossus aracari* – one seen along the road between Caratinga town and CBS on April 21.

Saffron Toucanet *Pteroglossus bailloni* – two were seen at the start of the Cedae trail, four on the feeders at SdT on April 11, one on the feeders at Hotel do Ype, and three seen in the forest by my partner only.

Spot-billed Toucanet *Selenidera maculirostris* – one pair on the Sao Jose trail, males and females were seen daily on the feeders at SdT, sometimes up to 6 at once. A glimpse of one flying away in ITNP on the trail between hotel Simon and Do Ype.

Green-billed Toucan *Ramphastos dicolorus* – one seen in the afternoon in ITNP on April 14, two were heard and one seen from Hotel do Ype on April 15 just before leaving there, at least two were seen in the garden of the hotel in São Roque de Minas.

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus* – heard on the 4x4 trail, two from a group of four seen from the lodge on April 2, one seen well at the start of the Waterfall trail on April 7 and one on the Nursery trail on April 6, also heard on the Waterbox trail at SdT on April 8 and one seen in the SdT garden on April 9.

Toco Toucan *Ramphastos toco* – common in the CANP area, but nowhere else seen.

White-barred Piculet *Picumnus cirratus* – common, seen in all forest areas visited including the minute forest patch at Sitio Graciema.

White Woodpecker *Melanerpes candidus* – only seen once at REGUA in the lodge garden on April 6

Yellow-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes flavifrons* – one on the 4x4 trail and one on April 14 in ITNP

Lineated woodpecker – one female on April 14 in ITNP.

Yellow-eared Woodpecker *Veniliornis maculifrons* – one on the 4x4 trail, one at the highest point on the Elfin Forest trail, one around the lodge on April 6 and 7, heard on April 10 and 11 (Bamboo trail).

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula* – one on the 4x4 trail on April 2.

Yellow-browed Woodpecker *Piculus aurulentus* – one on April 1 (Sao Jose trail), two on the 4x4 trail, one at PdC, one almost at touching distance on the Bamboo trail on April 11, one on April 13, one on April 21 at CBS

Green-barred Woodpecker *Colaptes melanochloros* – one seen well on the Sumidouro excursion.

Campo Flicker *Colaptes campestris* – common in cultivated areas at REGUA, very common in CANP.

Blond-crested Woodpecker *Celeus flavescens* – 1-2 daily on the SdT feeders.
Band-tailed Hornero *Furnarius figulus* – a few always present in the wetland area at REGUA.
Rufous Hornero *Furnarius rufus* – common in cultivated areas.
[Araucaria Tit-Spintail *Leptasthenura setaria* – heard only at Agulhas Negras]
Itatiaia Spintail *Oreophylax moreirae* – one seen very well and a few seen in flight at Agulhas Negras
Rufous-capped Spintail *Synallaxis ruficapilla* – a few seen at PdC, heard on April 10 and 11, two seen well on April 14.
Grey-bellied Spintail *Synallaxis cinerascens* – one seen on the Tanque Grande trail (CAR) on April 19
Spix's Spintail *Synallaxis spixi* - one on the Waterfall trail on April 4 and 7, heard on April 10,11,13, two on April 16, a few on April 19.
Pallid Spintail *Cranioleuca pallida* – at least three seen at PdC, several seen on April 13.
Yellow-chinned Spintail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* – a few were seen three times at the wetland in REGUA.
Rufous-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons* – one seen very well on the Sumidouro excursion, also on the Cascatina trail on April 19.
Orange-eyed Thornbird *Phacellodomus erythrophthalmus* – one seen well on the PdC excursion, one seen very well and out in the open at the start of the Bamboo trail on April 10.
Firewood-gatherer *Anumbius annumbi*- a couple seen well in the high section of Canastra on April 16 and 17.
White-browed Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia amaurotis* – one on April 10, and three on April 11.
Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata* – a few (2-3) on the Sao Jose trail.
Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor lichtensteini* – two on the Elfin Forest trail.
Black-capped Foliage-gleaner *Philydor atricapillus* – quite common: at least two on the Elfin Forest trail, one on the Waterfall trail on April 7. one on April 8, three on on April 9, at least 5 on April 10, and one on April 11, one on the Tres Picos trail on April 12, two on April 14 on the connecting trail between hotel Simon and Do Ype.
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufum* – two on the 4x4 trail, quite common on the Elfin Forest trail, one on the SdT lodge trails on April 8 and one on the Cedae trail on April 9, a few seen on April 13, two on April 14, one on April 19 (CAR).
White-collared Foliage-gleaner *Anabazenops fuscus* – one on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Theodoro trail on April 10, two on the Bamboo trail on April 11, one on April 14.
Pale-browed Treehunter *Cichlocolaptes leucophrus* – decent views of one on the Elfin Forest trail, heard on April 13 in ITNP, and one seen on April 14.
White-eyed Foliage-gleaner *Automolus leucophthalmus* –one on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, one on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Waterfall trail on April 7, at least 2 on the Cedae trail on April 9, two on April 13 and one on April 14.
Tawny-throated Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus mexicanus* – one was quite easy to see on the trails around the SdT lodge (seen on April 8, 9 and 10).
Rufous-breasted Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus scansor* – two seen on the Sao Jose trail, about 3-4 different ones on the Elfin Forest trail, of which one perched out in the open on a log giving excellent views, heard only on the Waterfall trail on April 7. One seen quite well on the Bamboo trail on April 11.
Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper *Lochmias nematura* – one seen from the bridge at SdT in the evening of April 7, often heard (ITNP, SdT, REGUA).
Sharp-billed Treehunter *Heliobletus contaminatus* – 1 and 3 on the Bamboo trail on April 10 and 11, respectively. Also fairly easy to see at ITNP, also seen twice at CBS.
Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus* – seen at REGUA on April 1, 4
Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans* – quite common, 1-3 seen daily at REGUA, a few in the SdT area, ITNP, lower parts of CANP, and CBS
Plain-winged/Thrush-like Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla turdina* – one on the Sao Jose trail, two on the 4x4 trail several (2-3) on the Cedae trail,
Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus* – common, 1-5 seen daily at REGUA, SdT area, ITNP, lower parts of CANP, and CBS
White-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes albicollis* – one on the Elfin Forest trail, one pointed out in the SdT lodge garden on April 7, also one on the Cedae trail (April 9) and on the Bamboo trail (April 10), one in ITNP on April 14.
Moustached Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes falcirostris* Endemic (country/region) Vulnerable
Planalto Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris* – one seen at ITNP on April 13 and 14
Lesser Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus fuscus* – two on the 4x4 trail, several (3-4) on the Elfin Forest trail, a few on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Waterfall trail on April 7. Two on April 9 and one on April 10.
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris* – one on the Sumidouro excursion, one near São Roque de Minas on April 15
Scaled Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes squamatus* – one seen well in the afternoon on April 13

Black-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus falcularius* – one on the Sao Jose trail, one seen well but rather short on the Theodoro trail, one seen very well (and another one heard) on April 14,

Spot-backed Antshrike *Hypodaleus guttatus* – one pair seen on the Sao Jose trail, one pair seen very well on the 4x4 trail, one at CBS.

Giant Antshrike *Batara cinerea* - a male gave fairly good views on the Elfin Forest trail, one was heard only on April 10.

Large-tailed Antshrike *Mackenziaena leachii* – excellent views of a male on the Agulhas Negras road, on our way back down we saw a couple very well, of which the male crawled in a stalking fashion across the road.
 [Tufted Antshrike *Mackenziaena severa* – heard only on the Sao Jose trail and in Caracas on April 19]
 [Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* – heard on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20]

Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus* – one seen near the volunteer's houses on April 1 and 2.

Sooretama Slaty Antshrike *Thamnophilus ambiguus* – a pair seen on the Sao Jose trail, one pair on the Sumidouro excursion, (at least) two pairs and a single female at CBS.

Variable Antshrike *Thamnophilus caerulescens* – a male on the Sumidouro excursion, a total of 4 males and one female on April 13, at least one male and female at CBS.

Spot-breasted Antwren *Dysithamnus stictothorax* – seen on the Sao Jose trail, heard only on the Elfin Forest trail, two seen on April 8 (SdT lodge trails) and one on the Cedae trail on April 9.

Plain Antwren *Dysithamnus mentalis* – a pair seen on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, recorded daily (1-4 seen daily) at SdT lodge and trails, one male on the Jeep track in ITNP

Rufous-backed Antwren *Dysithamnus xanthopterus* – a few (2-3) seen well on the PdC trip, one seen well on the Bamboo trail on April 10 and 11.

Plumbeous Antwren *Dysithamnus plumbeus* - a family group with one male and (at least) three female-type birds was seen close to the biological station at CBS.

Star-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula gularis* –quite common in REGUA, SdT and ITNP (heard daily and seen almost daily in rainforest areas).

Salvadori's Antwren *Myrmotherula minor* – decent views of a male on the Sao Jose trail.

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris* – one male on the Sao Jose trail, mediocre views on the 4x4 trail.

Unicolored Antwren *Myrmotherula unicolor* – mediocre views of a few on the Sao Jose trail and 4x4 trail.

Black-capped Antwren *Herpsilochmus atricapillus* – one pair on the Cascatinha trail on April 19, a male on April 21 on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail.

Rufous-winged Antwren *Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus* - several on the Sao Jose trail, 4x4 trail, one male on the Elfin Forest trail, a couple on April 14.

Serra Antwren *Formicivora serrana* – one male (*interposita* ssp.) on the Sumidouro excursion, 1-2 (nominate) on the Piscina trail in CAR, heard on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20 and at CBS on April 21.

Ferruginous Antbird *Drymophila ferruginea* – poor views only at REGUA (April 1,2, and 4), but several very well seen at ITNP on the Jeep track on April 14, also heard on the Tres Picos trail in ITNP.

Bertoni's Antbird *Drymophila rubricollis* – finally two seen well on the Theodoro trail after quite some tape playback. Also heard on April 11.

Rufous-tailed Antbird *Drymophila genei* – two seen well at PdC, heard on the Agulhas Negras road

Ochre-rumped Antbird *Drymophila ochropyga* – one seen on the Bamboo trail on April 11, heard on the Agulhas Negras road, also one seen at SdP.

Dusky-tailed Antbird *Drymophila malura* – one on the Cascatinha trail on April 19

Scaled Antbird *Drymophila squamata* – decent views at REGUA on the 4x4 trail, a pair seen well on the Waterfall trail on April 7, a pair seen well on the Extension trail at SdT on April 9, also seen at CBS and ITNP.

Streak-capped Antwren *Terenura maculata* - poorly seen on the 4x4 trail, good views of a pair on the Waterfall trail on April 7.

White-shouldered Fire-eye *Pyriglena leucoptera* – poor view on the 4x4 trail, heard on April 11 (Bamboo trail), excellent views of a male at ITNP on April 14, a female was seen well on the trail to Casca d'Anta, a male on April 19, and another male at SdP.

White-bibbed Antbird *Myrmeciza loricata* – on the Sao Jose trail one male came walking towards us at less than 3 m in an area with little undergrowth, a nearby female remained more hidden but was also seen well. Another couple was seen quite well on the Elfin Forest trail. Heard in CAR (Tanque Grande) on April 19.
 [Rufous-capped Antthrush *Formicarius colma* – unfortunately heard only at REGUA (Elfin Forest trail) and SdT (lodge trails)]
 [Short-tailed Antthrush *Chamaeza campanisona* –heard only on the Elfin Forest trail]

Cryptic or Such's Antthrush *Chamaeza meruloides* – unbelievable good views of one on the Bamboo trail, at some point the bird even stepped onto the walking trail!

Rufous-tailed/Brazilian Antthrush *Chamaeza ruficauda* – heard several times on the Elfin Forest trail and at dusk on April 5 on the Light Blue trail, also heard on the PdC excursion, one was eventually seen reasonably well skulking in the undergrowth on the Theodoro trail.

[Speckle-breasted Antpitta *Hyllopezus nattereri* – heard only on the lower section of the Agulhas Negras road in an area of very dense thickets, so didn't bother to look for it]

Rufous Gnatcatcher *Conopophaga lineata* – quite commonly heard on the Elfin Forest trail, where seen about 3-4 times, also seen on the Agulhas Negras road.

Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher *Conopophaga melanops* – quite common at REGUA and SdT, also seen at CAR, CBS, and on the Sumidouro excursion

[Spotted Bamboowren *Psilorhamphus guttatus* – heard very close on the Bamboo trail, but wouldn't show]

Slaty Bristlefront *Merulaxis ater* – one finally seen well on the Bamboo trail on April 11 after quite some effort.

Serra do Mar Tapaculo *Scytalopus notorius* - unbelievably close views of one out in the open on the Bamboo trail while looking for the bamboowren.

[Brasilia Tapaculo *Scytalopus novacapitalis* – heard only (seen by Fred only) in CANP]

[Collared Crescentchest *Melanopareia torquata* – one of my bogey birds; heard several times, but again not seen]

Planalto Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias fasciatus* - one on the 4x4 trail, also one around the lodge on April 2, quite common in ITNP with at least five seen on April 13, a few seen on April 14, about 2-3 at CAR on April 19.

Greenish Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias virescens* – one seen very well on the PdC excursion, also on the Cascatinha trail on April 19.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* – a few on the Sao Jose trail, one on the Sumidouro excursion.

Olivaceous elaenia *Elaenia mesoleuca* – one in CAR on April 19 (Cascatinha trail)

Plain-crested Elaenia *Elaenia cristata* - several in CANP on April 16,

Highland Elaenia *Elaenia obscura* – at least one in CAR on April 19 (Cascatinha trail)

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* – one on the Sao Jose trail, a few on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the PdC excursion, and one on April 8 at SdT.

Sooty Tyrannulet *Serpophaga nigricans* - two near the San Francisco source in CANP on April 16, one in CAR on April 19, two on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail in CAR on April 20,

White-crested Tyrannulet *Serpophaga subcristata* – poor views of one on April 11 on the Bamboo trail

Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola* – one on the Sao Jose trail, one on the Sumidouro excursion

Grey-backed Tachuri *Polystictus superciliaris* – about 2-3, of which one seen well on the Piscina trail in CAR, also 2-3 on the Cascatinha trail on April 19, and one on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20.

Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis* – two on the PdC excursion, one on April 10 and 11 (Bamboo trail).

[Oustalet's Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes oustaleti* – a possible sighting on the Cedae trail]

Serra do Mar Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes difficilis* – excellent views of one each, respectively, on the PdC and Agulhas Negras excursions

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus* – one seen on the Sao Jose trail, one seen on the Elfin Forest trail and one on the Waterfall trail on April 7.

Grey-hooded Flycatcher *Mionectes rufiventris* – one on the 4x4 trail, one at PdC, one on the Cedae trail on April 9, two on April 13, one on April 14, one on April 19.

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* – one on April 1, two on the Elfin Forest trail, one on the Sumidouro excursion, a few on April 14, one on the Casca d'Anta trail on April 17.

Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant *Culicivora caudacuta* – superb views of two in the highland section of Canastra, a total of about 5-6 was seen on April 16.

Drab-breasted Bamboo Tyrant *Hemitriccus diops* – one seen well on the Bamboo trail on April 10, also heard at Agulhas Negras and on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20.

Eye-ringed Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus orbitatus* – several on the Sao Jose trail, heard only on the 4x4 trail, one seen well on the Waterfall trail on April 7.

Hangnest Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus nidipendulus* – at least one (probably two) in the morning on the Cascatinha trail on April 19, and at least 3 on the Piscina trail on April 19 in the afternoon.

Eared Pygmy Tyrant *Myiornis auricularis* – one on the Sao Jose trail, one on April 10 on either the Bamboo or Theodoro trail (forgot which), heard in ITNP on April 14,

Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher *Poecilatriccus plumbeiceps* – one seen on the PdC excursion, one each on the Theodoro and bamboo trail on April 10, one seen on April 14, also heard on April 11, 13 and 19.

Yellow-lored Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum poliocephalum* – one seen at REGUA on March 31, one on the Sumidouro excursion, one seen near São Roque de Minas on April 15, one on the Casca d'Anta trail on April 17, and one at Sitio Graciema.

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum* – one on April 1, one on the Sumidouro excursion, one on the Waterfall trail on April 4.

[Large-headed Flatbill *Ramphotrigon megacephala* –heard on April 12 and 14]

Olivaceous Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus* – one on the 4x4 trail and one on the Elfin Forest trail on April 4.

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens* – quite common at REGUA (seen on April 1, 2, 7), also seen on the Sumidouro and PdC excursion, one seen on April 8, 10, 11, two seen on April 13.

White-throated Spadebill *Platyrinchus mystaceus* – one each on the Elfin Forest trail and Waterfall trail on April 4, two on April 10 (Theodoro trail), single birds seen on the Bamboo trail on April 11, at least two on April 14.

Whiskered Myiobius/Flycatcher *Myiobius barbatus* – one on the Sao Jose trail, one on the Cedae trail on April 9, one in ITNP on April 13 and 14.

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea* – common in ITNP, also regular at CANP, CAR and CBS.

Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri* – one on the Elfin Forest trail, one on the Sumidouro excursion.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus* – two on the Bamboo trail on April 11.

[Tropical Pewee *Contopus cinereus* – heard on April 13]

Blue-billed Black Tyrant *Knipolegus cyanirostris* – one on the PdC excursion, one on April 10 and 11, quite common in ITNP and CAR, also seen at SdP.

Crested Black Tyrant *Knipolegus lophotes* – one along the road on the Sumidouro excursion, common (>15) in CANP, also once on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20.

Velvety Black Tyrant *Knipolegus nigerrimus* – two pairs plus a female on the PdC excursion, quite common in ITNP and CAR, and a few at SdP.

Yellow-browed Tyrant *Satrapa icterophrys* – daily around the lodge in REGUA, also one seen at CBS

White-rumped Monjita *Xolmis velatus* – one on April 4 in the agricultural area near Casa Pesquisa. Several on the Sumidouro excursion. Common (>20) in CANP.

Streamer-tailed Tyrant *Gubernetes yetapa* – several seen on the Sumidouro excursion, two in a small wetland near São Roque de Minas.

Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant *Muscipipra vetula* – one at PdC, one where the Tanque Grande and Cascatinha-Bocaina trail meet on April 20.

Masked Water Tyrant *Fluvicola nengeta* – a few were regularly seen at the REGUA wetland, a couple was daily seen in the SdT lodge garden, also a few seen in ITNP, CANP and two at the pond near the parking in Caracas.

White-headed Marsh Tyrant *Arundinicola leucocephala* – about 2-3 seen at the REGUA wetland on most visits

Cock-tailed Tyrant *Alectrurus tricolor* - 3 males and 5 females on April 16 in CANP.

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus* – a few on the Sumidouro excursion, several seen in ITNP on April 14, also a few in CANP on April 16, CBS on April 21, and Sitio Graciema on April 22.

Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* - a few in the agricultural area between Casa Pesquisa and the lodge, regular on the Sumidouro excursion, a few in CANP and surroundings

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* – a few (1-2) at REGUA on most days. A few seen in the CANP area.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* – common in all areas visited.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* – common at REGUA, heard only at SdT on April 10, also seen at CBS. Ignored during the second part of the trip and therefore probably underrecorded.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* – seen at REGUA on April 1, commonly seen on the Sumidouro excursion, common in the CANP area.

Greyish Mourner *Rhytipterna simplex* – one on the Sao Jose trail, heard on the 4x4 trail.

Eastern Sirystes *Sirystes sibilator* – (at least) one seen well on the Tanque Grande trail on April 19 in CAR.

[Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* – heard on the Elfin Forest trail]

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox* – a few seen at REGUA, at least one on the Sumidouro excursion, one on April 14, one at CBS.

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* – seen at REGUA on March 31.

Grey-hooded Attila *Attila rufus* – excellent sighting of one on the Cedae trail killing/eating a big moth.

[Sharpbill *Oxyruncus cristatus* – heard only on the Bamboo (April 10) and Theodoro trail (April 11)]

Hooded Berryeater *Carpornis cucullata* – unbelievably close views of one bird perched almost at eye level on the Bamboo trail on April 11.

Black-and-gold Cotinga *Tijuca atra* – a male and female were seen at PdC, the female was sleeping next to the road only 1.5-2 meters from the ground. Decent views of a young male and hardly no views of a female on the Bamboo trail, a male was seen well through the scope on the Agulhas Negras road.

[Grey-winged Cotinga *Tijuca condita* – heard only at PdC]

[Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin *Neopelma chrysolophum* – only poor views at PdC]

Pin-tailed Manakin *Ilicura militaris* – decent views of a male on the Waterfall trail on April 7, frustrating bottom views of a male singing high up in the canopy on the Bamboo trail on April 11, a female was seen on the trails around Casca d'Anta on April 17, a male, female and sub-adult male seen very well on April 19 on the Tanque Grande trail in Caracas.

White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus* – two males and lots of female-type birds on the Sao Jose trail, one female on the Elfin Forest trail, two males on the Sumidouro excursion, a pair near the lodge on April 6, a single female-type bird on April 8 and 9, two female-type birds at CBS

[Helmeted Manakin *Antilophia galeata* – heard only in an area just outside São Roque de Minas das Minas on April 15]

Blue Manakin *Chiroxiphia caudata* – very common to hear at REGUA and SdT, two males on the Sao Jose trail, one male seen on the Elfin Forest trail, four males, one subadult male and one female-type bird on the Waterfall trail on April 7. Between one and four males daily seen on the SdT lodge trails. Also heard on the Agulhas Negras road (April 13), two males seen on April 14, several males seen on April 19.

[Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana* – heard and barely seen on the 4x4 trail]

Greenish Schiffornis *Schiffornis virescens* – one on the Sao Jose trail, smashing views of one perched low on the 4x4 trail, heard on April 11 on the Bamboo trail.

Green-backed Becard *Pachyramphus viridis* – a female seen on the 4x4 trail, a male seen at the start of the Bamboo trail on April 10, a male seen very well at CBS.

Chestnut-crowned Becard *Pachyramphus castaneus* – one seen well on the PdC excursion, one at SdT on April 8, and one seen on the Tanque Grande trail on April 19.

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus* – heard on the Sao Jose trail, a female seen on the Theodoro trail on April 10.

Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus* – poor views on the 4x4 trail, quite well seen on the Elfin Forest trail, one seen on the PdC excursion.

Crested Becard *Pachyramphus validus* – female-type bird on the Sao Jose trail, a pair on April 2 (4x4 trail), a female near the lodge on April 6 and a female on the Waterfall trail on April 7, a female on April 8 (SdT lodge trails) and 9 (Cedae trail), a couple on April 19.

Black-capped Piprites *Piprites pileata* – a couple was seen well for at least 10-15 minutes on the lower part of the Agulhas Negras road.

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* – heard on the 4x4 trail, one seen on the Waterfall trail on April 7, two on the Cedae trail on April 9, and two on the Bamboo trail on April 10.

Rufous-crowned Greenlet *Hylophilus poicilotis* – two on the PdC excursion, one on the Theodoro trail, one on the Bamboo trail on April 11, two on April 13 (Agulhas Negras), one on April 14.

Curl-crested Jay *Cyanocorax cristatellus* – a few seen while on our way from Itatiaia town to the Agulhas Negras road, a group of 6-7 was seen on the road to Casca d'Anta.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* – small numbers at REGUA and a few in CANP.

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera* – small numbers at CANP.

Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca* – common at REGUA and SdT, also at Sumidouro, CANP, ITNP.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* - small numbers at REGUA, also seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

Tawny-headed Swallow *Alopochelidon fucata* – small numbers in CANP.

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla* – 1-4 almost always seen at the wetland in REGUA, also seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

[Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* – heard at CBS]

Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis* – two seen on April 16 and 17 in CANP

Moustached Wren *Thryothorus genibarbis* – two on the Sao Jose trail, heard at CBS

Long-billed Wren *Thryothorus longirostris* – at least four (two seen well) on the Sao Jose trail, also one seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* – quite common, almost daily at REGUA and SdT, very tame around hotel do Ype, also seen in the CANP area.

[Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus* – one calling at CBS]

Chalk-browed Mockingbird *Mimus saturninus* – one on the Sumidouro excursion and one in the agricultural area around REGUA. Quite common in the CANP area.

Rufous-bellied Thrush *Turdus rufiventris* – common in all areas visited.

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas* – seen at REGUA around the wetland, 4x4 trail, one on April 10 and 11, a few at ITNP and CANP. Several daily at CAR.

Creamy-bellied Thrush *Turdus amaurochalinus* – one near the REGUA wetland on April 6, 1-2 almost daily around SdT lodge, one at CAR on April 18 and April 19.

Yellow-legged Thrush *Platycichla flavipes* – one in the late afternoon on April 2, two pairs seen well on the PdC excursion, heard on April 10.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* – common in urbanized and cultivated areas

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* (introduced species) – a few in vegetation along the motorway when stopped by the police.

Yellowish Pipit *Anthus lutescens* – at least one seen on the ground in the grassland area at the bottom of the 4x4 trail.

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica* – 2-4 were regular on the feeders at SdT and REGUA.

Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea* – 1-6 were regular on the feeders and surrounding garden areas at SdT and REGUA.

Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster* – seen a few times on the feeders at SdT

Chestnut-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia pectoralis* – 1-4 were regular on the feeders at SdT and REGUA, but sometimes seen in the forest. Seen quite often on the feeders and in the forest in ITNP.

Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea* – 1 pair seen on PdC, 1-4 seen at the feeders in SdT, 1-3 on the feeders of Hotel do Ype.

Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi* – a few on the 4x4 trail and two in the lodge garden on April 2. Also seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

Masked Yellowthroat *Geothlypis aequinoctialis* – one near the San Francisco source in CANP, one in the morning on the Cascatinha trail on April 19.

White-bellied Warbler *Basileuterus hypoleucus* – heard at CBS and one seen at SdP.

White-rimmed Warbler *Basileuterus leucoblepharus* – about 2-3 seen on the PdC excursion, two on April 10 and one on April 11 (Bamboo trail).

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus* – one of the most common birds in Atlantic Forest areas, seen almost daily.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* – one on the Sumidouro excursion, a few around the hotel in São Roque de Minas, also a few seen at CBS.

Red-rumped Cacique *Cacicus haemorrhous* – in REGUA most easily seen around the lodge and the wetland area, regular in the SdT garden, common in the lower section of ITNP, also seen at CAR and CBS.

Golden-winged Cacique *Cacicus chrysopterus* – several seen in ITNP on April 12 and 13, both in the forest and on the feeders of Hotel do Ype.

Chopi Blackbird *Gnorimopsar chopi* – a few seen on the roads between REGUA and SdT, several en route to CANP, common in the CANP area.

Chestnut-capped Blackbird *Chrysomus ruficapillus* – a fairly large group of 30-40 birds was present at the wetland in REGUA on March 31, smaller numbers were seen in the following days at the wetland. A small group was seen in a small wetland near São Roque de Minas das Minas on April 15.

Yellow-rumped Marshbird *Pseudoleistes guirahuro* – several at a small marsh on the way to Casca d'Anta, a few in the highland section of CANP.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus* – one near São Roque de Minas in the morning of April 16 and one on April 17 at the golden-capped parakeets feeding frenzy on the way to Casca d'Anta.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* – one at 3 m on April 17 together with Chopi blackbirds

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* – quite common to common, seen at REGUA on April 1 and 2, 1-3 seen daily at SdT, several on April 15, daily in CAR, several at Sitio Graciema.

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* - common in cultivated areas.

Grassland Sparrow *Ammodramus humeralis* – a few on the Sumidouro excursion, quite common in CANP

Brown Tanager *Orchesticus abeillei* – one seen on the Sao Jose trail on April 1, one seen on the Elfin Forest trail on April 4, one at ITNP on April 14.

Cinnamon Tanager *Schistochlamys ruficapillus* – about 4-5 seen at CANP, also 1-2 on various trails in CAR (Capelinho trail, Piscina trail, Cascatinha-Bocaina trail) and five at SdP.

Hooded Tanager *Nemosia pileata* – only one male seen on the Sumidouro excursion.

Orange-headed Tanager *Thlypopsis sordida* – two were seen in the garden around Guapi Assu lodge.

White-rumped Tanager *Cypsnagra hirundinacea* – about 6-8 seen in CANP on April 16 and 17.

Black-goggled Tanager *Trichothraupis melanops* – common to very common at REGUA and ITNP, less often seen in de SdT area, but still common.

Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus* – common in flocks in lowland rainforest, especially easy to see at REGUA. At SdT only a group of about 7-8 seen on April 8 on the Cedae trail.

Ruby-crowned Tanager *Tachyphonus coronatus* – common on the feeders in SdT and the trails around the lodge, also seen in ITNP on April 14,

Olive-green Tanager *Orthogonys chloricterus* – about 3-4 seen at the deserted house on the 4x4 trail, a small group seen on the Waterfall trail on April 7. Also 5-6 seen on the Cedae trail on April 9 and single birds on April 8 and 10, quite regular on the feeders at Hotel Do Ype.

Brazilian Tanager *Ramphocelus bresilius* – not as easy to see at REGUA as I expected, but two and four birds, respectively, in the wetland area on April 1 and 6. Also about 3-4 birds on the feeders in REGUA on April 6 and 7. Daily visitor at the feeders in SdT. Also seen in a garden at the entrance to the Bamboo trail.

Sayaca Tanager *Thraupis sayaca* – probably the most common tanager, seen at all sites visited.

Azure-shouldered Tanager *Thraupis cyanopectera* – only seen on the feeders at SdT, where daily 3-6 present.

Golden-chevroned Tanager *Thraupis ornata* – usually 1-3 at the feeders in SdT, daily 2-4 in ITNP (also present on the feeders there).

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum* – not as common, i.e., often seen, as expected. Seen at REGUA on April 1, 6 and 7, sometimes on the feeders at SdT, 2-3 at the start of the Bamboo trail, and a few at CANP.

Diademed Tanager *Stephanophorus diadematus* – only two small groups seen on the PdC excursion, but very common (several tens) on the Agulhas Negras road in ITNP.

Fawn-breasted Tanager *Pipraeidea melanonota* – one at REGUA on March 31, one seen from the viewpoint at the swimming pool in Hotel do Ype.

White-bellied (Turquoise) Tanager *Tangara brasiliensis* – one male seen well at the lower section (just beyond the researcher's lodging) of the Waterfall trail.

Green-headed Tanager *Tangara seledon*: only a few times seen at REGUA (lower section Sao Jose trail and near the wetland area on the 4x4 trail), daily seen at the feeders in SdT (up to 15 together) and Hotel do Ype.

Red-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanocephala* – unfortunately seen only twice, once high up in the canopy on the Elfin Forest trail and a small group along forest edge on the Extension trail at SdT.

Brassy-breasted Tanager *Tangara desmaresti* – a group of about 10-15 on PdC, heard on April 11, about 4 seen on the Bamboo trail on April 11, a few (2-3) near Hotel do Ype on April 14.

Gilt-edged Tanager *Tangara cyanoventris* – only seen once on April 13 in ITNP, 3 birds in a larger mixed flock. Fred also saw them at SdP.

Burnished-buff Tanager *Tangara cayana* – uncommon to fairly common, seen at REGUA on April 1, 2, 6, and 7, only one at SdT on April 11, several near São Roque de Minas village on April 16, a few (3-4) on April 17, about 5-6 in a small mixed flock on the Cascatinha trail in CAR, also two seen at SdP.

Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis* - one male hiding from the rain in the lodge garden on April 1, smashing views of one male feeding almost at eye level in a low tree on the wetland trail in REGUA on April 6.



Male Swallow Tanager

Female Black-and-Gold Cotinga

Black-legged Dacnis *Dacnis nigripes* – on April 2 I saw a male at the same spot where an American group had seen the species a few days before. The light was rather poor, so I was not quite sure it was really this species. Later that day Adilei pointed out a female to us in the garden of the lodge. On April 6 I finally got good and prolonged views (at least 10 minutes) of a male feeding only 8-10 meters away, again more or less in the same place where I had seen the presumable one of April 2.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* – (very) common in REGUA, SdT, ITNP, CAR, also seen at CANP and CBS.

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza* – a few at REGUA (April 1), daily on the feeders at SdT and Hotel do Ype.

Guira Tanager *Hemithraupis guira* – only a few seen in a small mixed flock at the trail to Casca d'Anta.

Rufous-headed Tanager *Hemithraupis ruficapilla* - a few seen very well on the Elfin Forest trail, a small group on the Sumidouro excursion, one on April 8, at least 10 on the Cedae trail, also seen several times in ITNP (including in the garden of hotel do Ype).

Yellow-backed Tanager *Hemithraupis flavicollis* – common in flocks in the lowlands, seen daily at REGUA, also common at SdT, where seen on the trails around the lodge's and Cedae trails.

Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum* – in REGUA this species was most easily seen in the lodge's garden, also seen on the Sumidouro excursion and four seen very well at CBS.

Grey Pileated Finch *Coryphospingus pileatus* – poor views on the Sao Jose trail and Sumidouro, excellent views of a male at CBS.

Uniform Finch *Haplospiza unicolor* – about 4-5 female-type birds in bamboo in ITNP on April 14, one on the Theodoro trail on April 10 and one on the Bamboo trail on April 11.

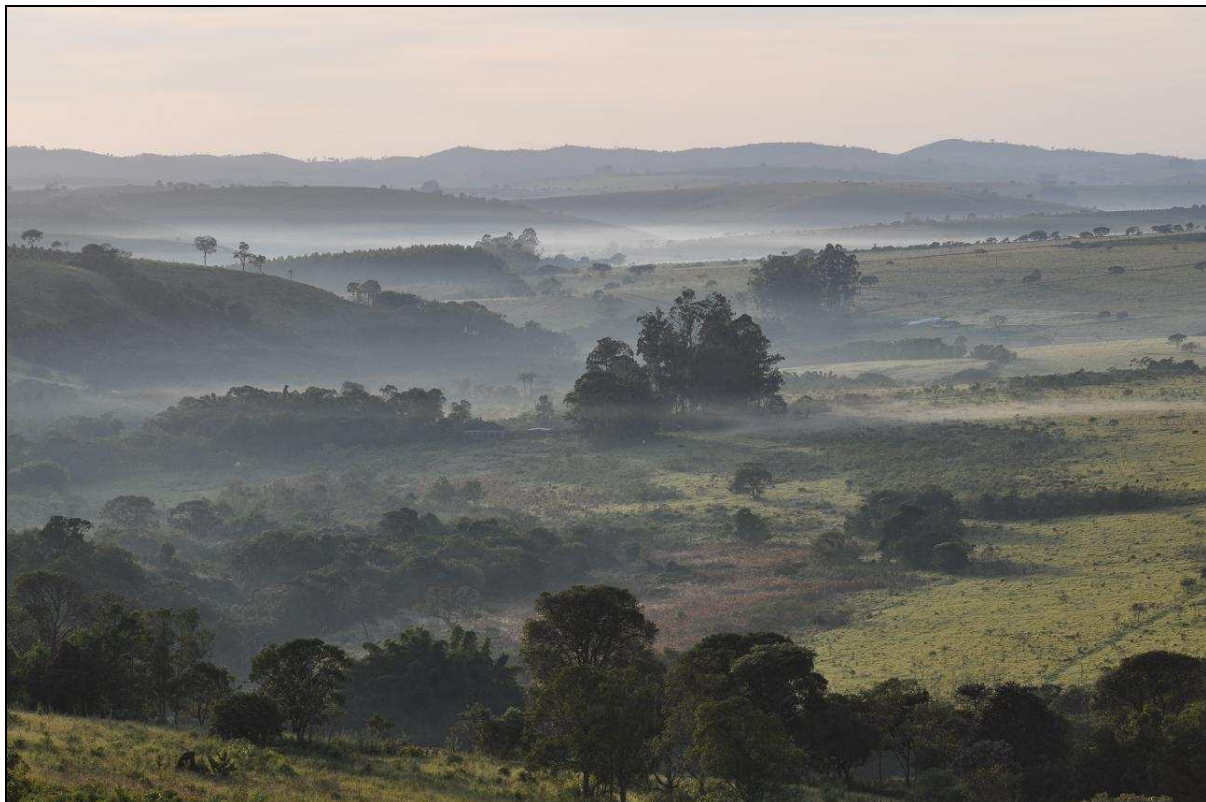
Bay-chested Warbling Finch *Poospiza thoracica* – at last two on the PDC excursion, a few on the Agulhas Negras road.

Red-rumped/Buff-throated Warbling Finch *Poospiza lateralis* – fairly common on the Agulhas Negras road.

Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola* – common in open/cultivated areas.
 Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch *Emberizoides herbicola* – at least four on April 16, two on April 17.
 Great Pampa-Finch *Embernagra platensis* – a few on April 16.
 Pale-Throated Pampa-Finch or Serra Finch *Embernagra longicauda* – 1-2 on the Piscina trail and two on the Cascatinha trail in CAR, also at least one at SdP.
 Sooty Grassquit *Tiaris fuliginosus* – a few seen in an old farmland area at CBS.
 Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* – daily around wetland or in grassy/cultivated areas at REGUA.
 Common in CANP area, also seen at CBS and Sumidouro excursion.
 Plumbeous Seedeater *Sporophila plumbea* – at least one (male) in CANP on April 16.
 Lined Seedeater *Sporophila lineola* - a few near REGUA wetland.
 Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila nigricollis* – two on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20.
 Double-collared Seedeater *Sporophila caerulea* – a couple on April 1 at the REGUA wetland, also in ITNP on April 13. about 4-5 in CANP on April 16, a few (2-3) at CBS.
 Capped Seedeater *Sporophila bouvreuil* – a small flock (10-15) in CANP on April 16.
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager *Habia rubica* – a few seen on the Sao Jose trail and on Waterfall trail on April 7. A group of 6 was seen on April 8 on the SdT lodge trails, a total of 8 on April 9 on the lodge's and Cedae trails.
 [Yellow-green Grosbeak *Caryothraustes canadensis* – heard only on the 4x4 trail, a local guide in Caratinga had recorded the species for the first time at CBS]
 Black-throated Grosbeak *Saltator fuliginosus* – heard on on the Elfin Forest trail, six seen very well on the Cedae trail on April 9, heard on the Piscina trail in CAR.
 Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* – one on the Sao Jose trail.
 Green-winged Saltator *Saltator similis* – one on the Bamboo trail on April 11, two on the Cascatinha-Bocaina trail on April 20 and at least one at Sitio Graciema on April 22.
 Thick-billed Saltator *Saltator maxillosus* – one seen well on the lower section of the Agulhas Negras road.
 Black-throated Saltator *Saltator atricollis* - two seen on April 17

Herps

Broad-snouted Caiman *Caiman latirostris* – a few at the wetland in REGUA.
 Horned Frog spp. – seen several times at REGUA (Sao Jose, 4x4 and Elfin Forest trail).
 Many other frogs and toads were seen but I did not have a guide with me to identify them.



Morning mist near São Roque de Minas