

Brazil: Pantanal and Trijunção

July 31st-August 12th, 2023

Introduction and Logistics:

Following the recommendations of many others, we arranged a two-week mammal trip with Regina Ribeiro (guiaregis@yahoo.com.br) and Marluce Boute mainly to the Pantanal with an optional pre-trip up to Pousada Trijunção to view the Maned Wolf. [Pousada Trijunção](#) is next to Grande Sertão Veredas National Park, has excellent Cerrado habitat and was recently highlighted in BBC's Planet Earth III episode on grasslands/deserts for Maned Wolf. Trijunção has excellent local guides and is working in partnership with the [Onçafari Association](#) to conserve Brazil's wildlife. Trijunção has a lot of mammal watching potential including black jaguars (not seen by us, but on the camera traps around the areas) and other Cerrado mammal species.

After three excellent days in Trijunção, and a day in Brasilia National Park as well, the main group all met in Cuiaba and headed down the Transpantaneira to Porto Joffe for four nights, with two days/nights at Pouso Alegre Lodge on the way down and one full day at Pousada Piuval on the way back. While for some reason we struck out on armadillos of any species (including a Giant Armadillo seen the night before we arrived to Piuval) we otherwise saw most of the expected and some unexpected species typical of the Pantanal including Jaguar, Ocelot, Jaguarundi, Giant Anteater, Giant Otter, Lowland Tapir, etc.

Night drives at both Piuval and Pouso Alegre were quite productive, and my own impression is that getting off the main Transpantaneira is optimal given higher traffic levels than perhaps in years past. Not to mention that one of the last main bridges before Porto Joffe was being rebuilt, creating a complicated and a bit chaotic river shuttle and vehicle back-and-forths.

A compilation video of some of the mammals seen is on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-dkgeH5NIM>

Pousand Trijunção Sightings:

- Maned Wolf – one female seen
- Black-tufted Marmoset – several family groups
- Crab-eating Fox – several pairs
- Spix Yellow-toothed Cavy – many around lodge
- Pampas Deer – five seen
- White-lined Peccary – one seen
- Gray Brocket – three seen

Bird list: <https://ebird.org/profile/NDQyOTYx/BR-BA>

Brasilia National Park Sightings:

- South American Coati – four seen
- Bearded Capuchin – one group seen
- Black-tufted Marmoset – one group seen

Pouso Alegre Sightings:

- Capybara – many seen
- Gray Four-eyed Opossum – one seen
- Giant Anteater – two seen
- Brazilian Tapir – Mom and young, plus one additional individual seen
- Ocelot – one seen
- Jaguarundi – one briefly seen
- Azara's Agouti – five seen
- Common Tapeti – many seen at night
- Southern Tamandua – one seen
- Pallas's Long-tongued Bat – several in shed behind rooms
- Fringe-lipped Bat – several in shed behind rooms
- Velvety Free-tailed Bat – flying over watering hole
- Red Brocket – three seen

Porto Joffe River + Transpantaneira Sightings:

- Capybara – abundant
- Brazilian Tapir – one seen crossing river
- Marsh Deer – three seen
- Azara's Capuchin – two groups seen
- Giant Otter – multiple family groups seen
- Neotropical Otter – one seen
- White-lined Broad-nosed Bat – pair seen behind Hotel Pantanal Mato Grosso
- Brazilian Porcupine – one seen
- Black & Gold Howler Monkey – several family groups seen
- Jaguar – seven individuals seen
- Proboscis Bat – a dozen seen

Pouso Alegre Sightings:

- Capybara – abundant
- Black-tailed Marmoset – one family group seen
- Brazilian Cavy – two seen
- Paraguayan Punare – one seen
- Giant Anteater – one seen
- Southern Tamandua – one seen

