

A jaguar with a distinctive spotted coat is perched on a rocky bank. The bank is heavily covered with a dense network of light-colored, exposed tree roots. The jaguar is looking directly at the camera with its mouth slightly open. The background is a mix of the rocky wall and some green foliage.

**TRIP REPORT SOUTHWESTERN BRAZIL**

**28 September – 14 October 2024**

**NORTHERN PANTANAL  
EMAS NATIONAL PARK**

**Detlef Tibax**



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# **INTRODUCTION**

I remember a captivating moment when visiting a local zoo in my home country (Belgium) during my first years of high school. There was a large digital information panel of WWF Belgium that showed live statistics of rainforest clearance in the Amazon (in hectares per second). Even back then, that number was unfathomable and quite depressing. I became fascinated by the stunning natural beauty of South America, its environmental importance and challenges, which ultimately motivated me to pursue a Biology degree at university years later.

I always particularly dreamed of visiting Brazil to see the elusive Jaguars in their natural habitat. The country is home to most of the Amazon rainforest and the Pantanal, the biggest wetland in the world and by far the most reliable place on Earth to see these large felines in the wild. After a decade of watching nature documentaries, reading trip reports, and hearing stories from friends who had traveled there, we decided to save up and go. It certainly did not disappoint, as you will read further below.



## **ABOUT ME**

I am a wildlife enthusiast from Belgium that loves fieldsketching and creating paintings in my art studio. I travel the world to take photoreference material for my artworks, and to visit conservation projects that I support under my own NGO Art 4 Conservation.

## **Special thanks**

Special thanks go out to Hanne Van Bavel for providing travel tips in the areas we visited, and to Jan Kelchtermans and EB5 for providing bird and mammal checklists and other travel information, lodging recommendations, etc.



# BRIEF SUMMARY

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This trip has been one of my most remarkable wildlife holidays yet, with some truly memorable (and sometimes unexpected) observations. We saw a total of **27 mammal species and over 130 bird species** during the 2 weeks we were there, we thoroughly enjoyed all our game drives, the self-service buffets, and the hospitality, honesty, and friendliness of all Brazilians we met. A self-driving holiday in the Mato Grosso and Goias states is definitely possible due to overall good road conditions and a general feeling of public safety.

Communication-wise we do recommend learning some basic sentences in Portuguese, bringing a practical dictionary, or installing an app like Google Translate on your phone if you don't hire a local guide to accompany you, since almost no people in the region speak a word of english.

However, during our trip we also witnessed some problematic elements that I believe are important to address in this report, relating to unsustainable eco-tourism, the dramatic consequences of human encroachment, and the ever-growing forest fires.



Incredible Puma sighting, Pouso Alegre, Northern Pantanal.



# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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Author	Detlef Tibax
Travelers	Detlef Tibax, Alexandra Chevalier
Area traveled	Southwestern Brazil
Dates	28 September – 14 October
Cost per person	Approx. 4100€ pp (all incl.) when travelling with two persons, self-organising everything
Logistics	Flights with Swiss Air and LATAM Airlines, all ground transport was self-driving using local car rental company Localiza (JEEP Compass, high clearance, 2WD)
Itinerary	4 days Emas NP (Pousada do Gloria) 4 days TPN road (Pouso Alegre, Aymara Lodge) 4 days Porto Jofre (Pousada Berço Pantaneiro) 1 transfer day (drive Emas to Northern Pantanal)
Total mammals seen	27 species (alive)
Total birds seen	131 species (alive)
Social media	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/art4conservation">https://www.instagram.com/art4conservation</a> <a href="https://www.art4conservation.org">https://www.art4conservation.org</a>



# DETAILED ITINERARY

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Giant River Otter, Rio São Lourenço, Parque Estadual Encontro das Águas.

The main focus of our trip was to see both a **large variety of mammal and bird species in the central part of Brazil**, which you can read about in this report in the relevant sections. We chose to self-drive to **Emas National Park** and the **Northern Pantanal** at the end of the dry season, which is a warm time to go there (with temperatures of up to 43 degrees celcius!), but most wildlife tends to gather around the remaining water bodies and is thus much easier to observe than during the Spring or Winter months. In the Northern Pantanal, seasonal flooding during the rainy season also makes accessibility much more challenging compared to the dry season.

You can find a detailed outline of our trip in the table below. The reason for this particular order is because of the availability the lodges. Make sure to start booking your trip 8-12 months in advance of departure to ensure you can still choose the dates. We booked 6 months in advance and wished we had started earlier to allow more flexibility in our planning; now we were somewhat limited to how many days each lodge still had availability.



Dates	Location	Activities
September 28 – 29	Brussels Zaventem Airport > São Paulo Airport > Campo Grande Airport > hotel Transamerica Fit Campo Grande.	Flight to destination, car pick-up at Campo Grande Airport, overnight stay at hotel.
September 30	Campo Grande > Emas National Park.	Hotel check-out, self-drive to Emas National Park, arrival at Pousada do Gloria.
October 1–3	Emas National Park.	3 morning and 3 afternoon / evening game drives in and outside the park.
October 4	Transfer Emas National Park > Pouso Alegre on TPN road.	13 hour drive including breaks.
October 5 – 7	Pouso Alegre.	3 morning and 3 afternoon / evening game drives in and outside the park.
October 7–8	Pouso Alegre > Aymara lodge.	1 morning and 1 afternoon game drive in Pouso Alegre, evening transfer to Aymara lodge and Ocelot photo hide.
October 8	Aymara lodge > Porto Jofre (Pousada Berço Pantaneiro).	Transfer day and game drives on the TPN road.
October 9–11	Pousada Berço Pantaneiro.	3 full-day boat trips on the river.
October 12	Porto Jofre > Cuiabá airport > hotel Hits Pantanal.	Transfer day and game drives on the TPN road.
October 13–14	Cuiabá > São Paulo > Brussels.	Flight home.



# LOGISTICS

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We decided to self-drive this trip, as I have been pretty used to driving abroad, and because I read in multiple reports that the road conditions are fairly good. We rented a 2WD Jeep Kompass from Localiza, a well-known car rental service that has offices in the airports. Only 1 person in that office spoke english, but his english was good, and he was very helpful. We tried finding a 4WD vehicle, but strangely, almost none of the rental companies offered them. The few 4WDs that we did find online, were from small local companies some distance away from the airports, and the prices were very high.

We ended up booking a 2WD that had a higher clearance (17 cm and up), which is indispensable when driving the park grounds in Emas, Pouso Alegre, and some sections of the TPN road. The car had a built-in GPS system, which seems to be common these days, but I did download some Google Maps on my phone, as well as some offline maps on the maps.me app just to be sure. If you have an iphone, some newer cars will recognize it and propose to enable Apple Carplay, which is quite convenient.

I highly recommend taking a full car insurance for a trip like this, since there will be a lot of rough terrain depending on the season you go, and since you just don't want to be liable for any third-party damages or collision damage. We decided to not book any additional insurance until we were at the actual car rental office, to avoid paying for insurance twice. This may be a bit more expensive, but worth saving the hassle of discussing what you have/haven't paid for online.



Images of Emas NP and TPN road.



We took a car that runs on gasolina, ethanol, or a mix of both. Ethanol is much cheaper than gasolina but takes you less far, so we stuck with gasolina (the prices were relatively good either way).



Depending on where you plan on going, you will pass toll-points on the motorway, but the fees are low and the procedure is fast. There are enough gas stations to fuel up, but be mindful of the fact that if you're traveling on the TPN road, there is no gas station! Poconé is your last stop where you can buy fuel, so be sure to plan properly. We found it very convenient to stay in some of the lodges within the first 40 km on the TPN road, that way Poconé was always less than a 1 hour drive away to reach a gas station (which we made use of once, because we were doing a lot of game drives on the Pouso Alegre grounds and the TPN road at night). When you travel to Porto Jofre, we found that with our car it costs a little less than half a fuel tank to reach it. We didn't do game drives while in Porto Jofre to save on fuel, and didn't feel it was needed since our days were so packed with the boat trips. So a back and forth trip from Poconé to Porto Jofre should be more than feasible. In emergencies, we heard that you can buy a few liters of fuel for a higher price in Porto Jofre.



Be also mindful of the forest fires, thunderstorms and rain showers that increasingly occur as the dry season progresses and transitions into wet season (around mid-October to mid-November). Our car got hit by a large desert devil in Emas just before Capadao do Ceu (quite scary but no damage was done!), and we got stuck for an hour in a thunderstorm-rain shower on the last 10 km of the TPN (so close to Porto Jofre) when the dusty road turned into a slippery mud bath within minutes.



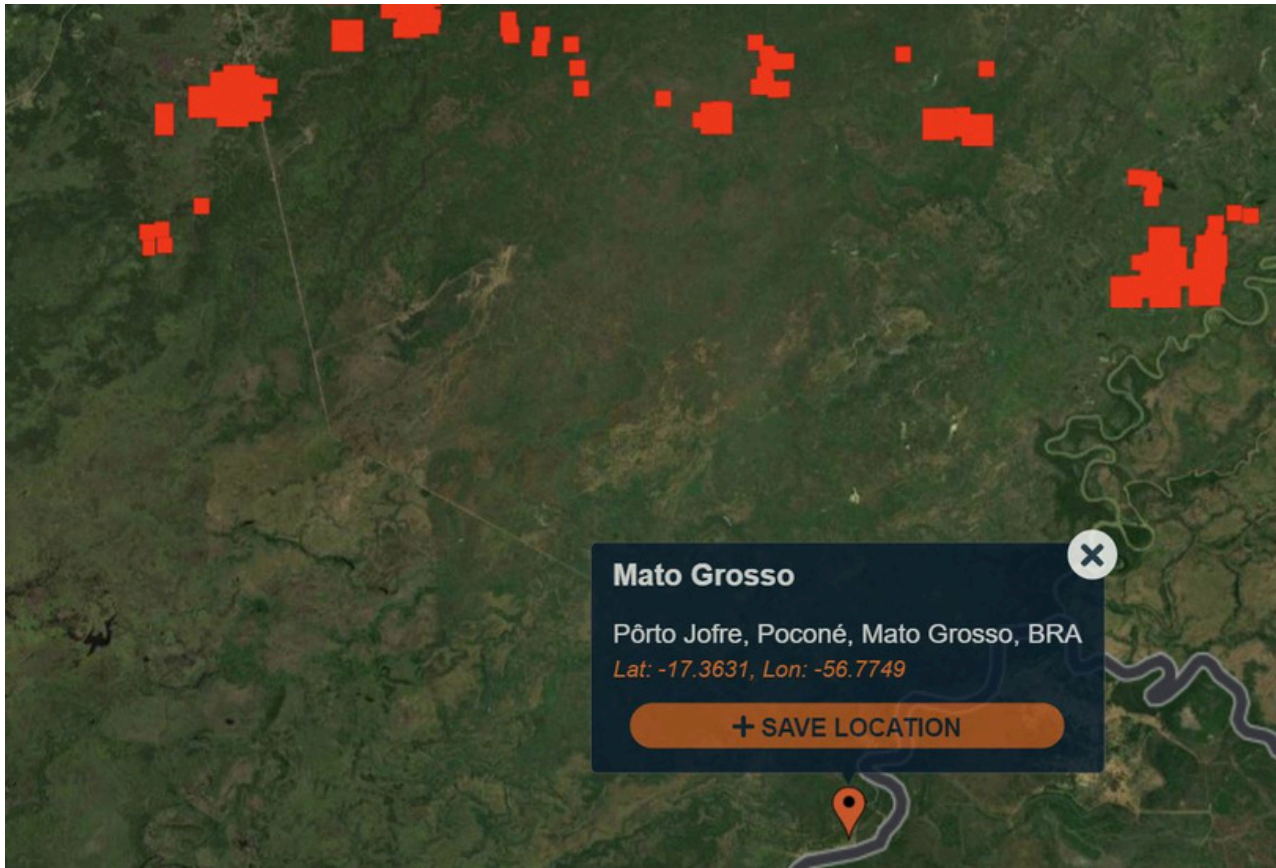


Luckily some locals with a 4WD helped us out by towing our car with a rope, after which we carefully navigated the slippery road until reaching Porto Jofre.



Happy to reach our lodge in Porto Jofre: the wonderful Pousada Berço Pantaneiro!

Regarding forest fire updates, we used the **NASA Fire Information for Resource Management System (FIRMS)** website, and found it a reliable source of information to see how the fires evolved during our stay in the Pantanal, the wind direction, etc. There is also military presence to keep an eye on the situation.



During the dry season, especially the roads in and around Emas National Park are very dusty, and can be a pain sometimes when you stop the car to watch wildlife. Flying dust will need to settle for a few seconds before you can use your camera gear or binoculars, and this should not be underestimated! Another point of attention in that sense is that the main road along Emas is used by many trucks that transport heavy cargo (soybean, corn, sugar cane), while the TPN road is used by workers or travelers that pass with their pick-up trucks, creating large clouds of dust that can impede your view for a while, so be cautious when driving these roads with cars coming from an opposite direction. We did game drives both inside and outside the park and private grounds, but preferred the roads inside the park for that reason.

Another thing to be aware of is that speed limits are seldom respected on the roads we drove. Expect people to overtake a lot. What we did notice however, is that no one honks at you (not even in city environments). Quite refreshing when you are used to aggressive honkers on European roads! Radar-wise there are not many points where they are present, except a few high-intensity locations. We also passed some police patrol points, but were never pulled aside.



# EMAS NATIONAL PARK

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South (main) entrance gate, Emas National Park.





## Context

For years I had been looking forward to visiting this park, as I heard it was one of the best locations to see the elusive Maned Wolf and Giant Anteater, and with even more luck, maybe Puma, Pampas Cat, and Hoary Fox. If you are monumentally lucky, you might even see a Giant Armadillo or Jaguar (who are present in the park, but predominantly known from camera trap footage). Emas is situated in the Goiás and Mato Grosso do Sul states, and is considered an important Cerrado Protected Area, as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It constitutes 1,320 square kilometres of pristine Cerrado, a savannah ecosystem with vast numbers of termite mounds that once dominated central Brazil. These days, the cerrado is highly fragmented, and most of it has been lost to large-scale soybean agriculture. You will notice that the trip from Campo Grande or Cuiabá to Emas is characterised by endless vistas of agriculture, intersected with occasional (small) patches of forest. Emas itself is quite literally an 'island' and wildlife 'sanctuary' surrounded by crop fields, which was quite depressing to see. There was also a lot of road kill scattered outside the park's roads, showing the constant struggle between wildlife and human encroachment.



Detail of a termite mound.



P2 landscape in Emas NP.

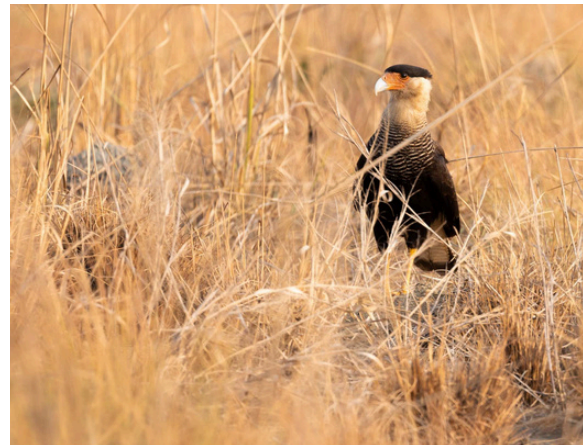
Ana Luzia, a lovely lady who runs the only lodge near the park, told me her husband Marcus is the park manager, and is part of the board tasked with the park's overall management and contact with the government. One of the ongoing discussions was to asphalt the main road next to the park to facilitate truck traffic, but this would clearly not be to the benefit of wildlife, because the increased speeds and traffic that follow would cause even more road kill. Negotiations are ongoing to either reject the proposal of an asphalt road, or have one with effective wildlife passages and multiple speed radars. Ana Luzia has also realised a fantastic community education project with a **Swiss NGO Felis**, co-publishing a **children's book** about the Maned Wolf and the importance of protecting Emas National Park.

It was great to talk to both Marcus, Ana Luzia, and our field guide Izabel about all the wildlife and conservation efforts in and around the park. Definitely makes me hopeful for its continued existence.

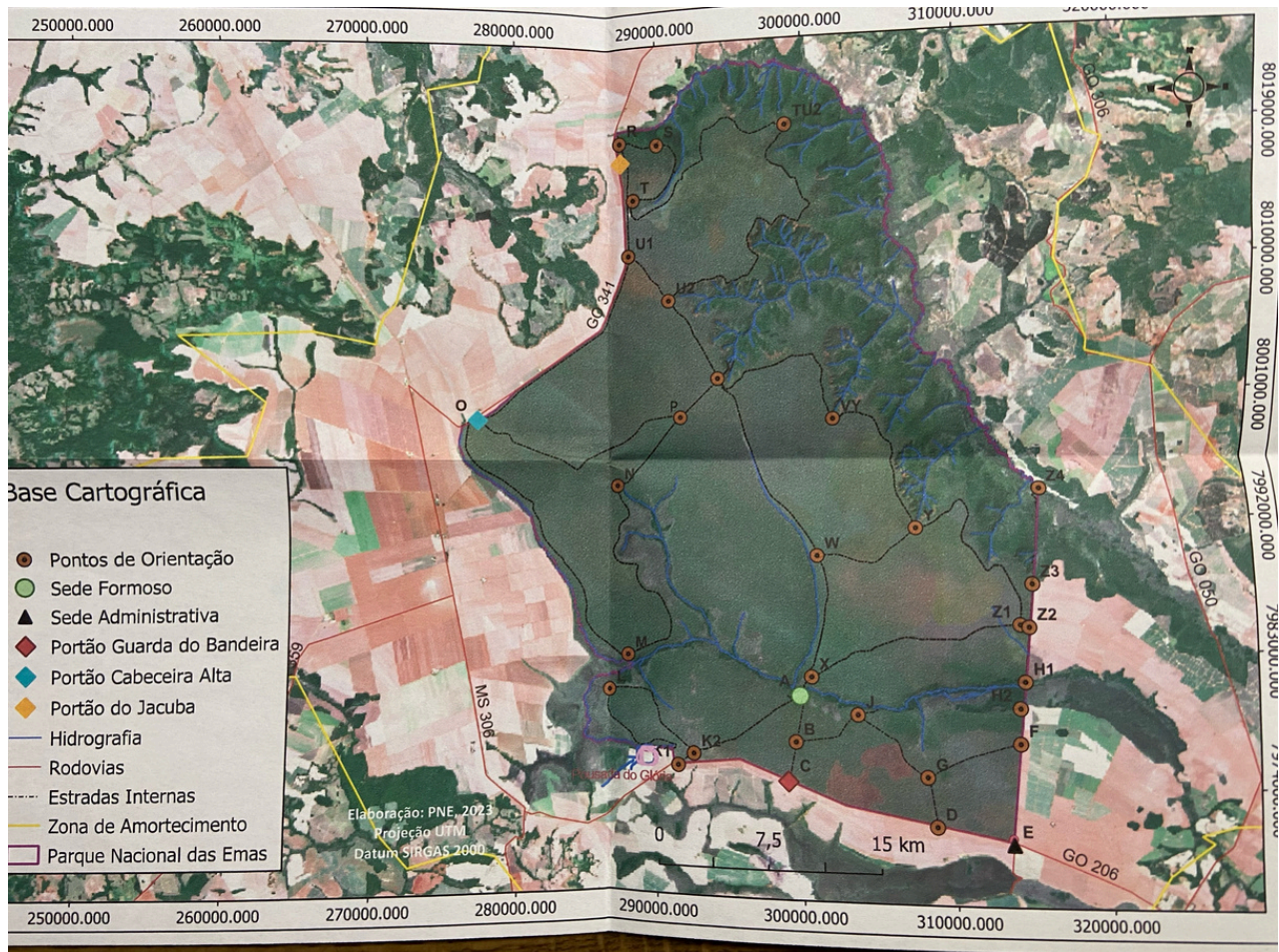


## DAY 1

After staying for one night in Campo Grande (the day we arrived by plane), we left early morning and drove for 6 hours, approaching Emas from the south-east. At our hotel entrance, we saw **Crested Caracara**, **Great Kiskadee**, **Plumbeous Kite**, and **Picazuro Pigeon**. We unfortunately crossed a lot of intense agriculture and saw a lot of road kill including a **Tapir**, a **Southern Tamandua**, and a **Yellow Armadillo**, before reaching the village of Chapadão do Céu. This town is where most of Emas' guides, firemen, and staff members live. Some of them also live at the entrance gates, we learned later. It was a nice opportunity to grab a quick lunch and visit the beautiful, Indian culture-inspired church in the center. After this, we continued onto the dirt road towards the park, where we spotted **Southern Lapwings** and multiple **Greater Rheas** in the surrounding fields. Most crop fields were already harvested, but some were left untouched and I got really excited to come look for Puma there later.







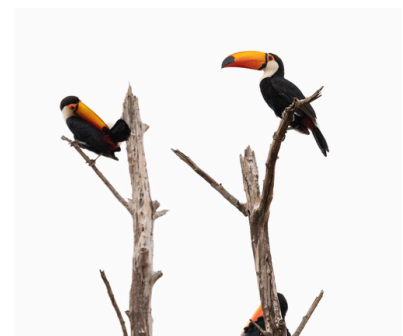
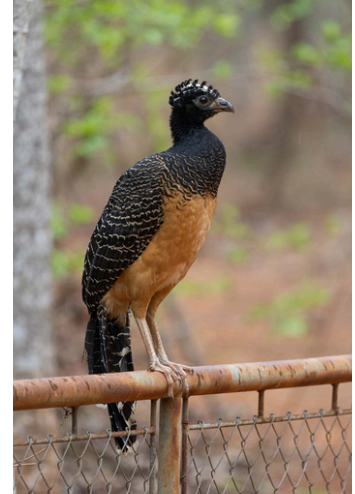
Paper map of Emas NP (which you can see is surrounded by agriculture).

Before we reached the southern park entrance, we saw multiple **Curl-Crested Jays** and more **Blue-and-Yellow Macaws** fly over and in the trees. At the entrance, we were almost attacked by a very territorial **Burrowing Owl**, who sat perched on an old tree stump across the entrance gate. Many **Crested Caracaras** crossed our path as well. We drove a little further until we reached a small dirt road adjacent to the park that led us to Pousada do Gloria. This road is great for game drives as it looks out on the park on one side while bordering a crop field on the other, and at the end you will find a forest patch where wildlife often comes out at night. We arrived at the lodge and were welcomed by our lovely guide Izabel who is also staying at the lodge for the days we are there, and who speaks good english. The other staff don't speak english. Ana Luzia, the manager, speaks a little bit of english.

Ana said these days it is standard practice to pay for a guide when visiting Emas, as they were previously struggling with guests and external tour operators that broke the rules and drove beyond the self-driving paths in the park. As a result, they had to close off areas to avoid too much wildlife disturbance. We thought that having Izabel with us was a real benefit, as she could direct us through the trails effortlessly and had a very good eye for spotting wildlife. It is due to her eagle-eye that we spotted a Hoary Fox on our third night drive.



On our arrival day we took it easy. We settled into our room, which was airconditioned (not all are, most have a fan), and explored the direct vicinity of the lodge. Within meters of our room, we spotted **Toco Toucan**, **Peach-fronted Parakeet**, **Bare-faced Currasow**, **Yellow-faced Parrot**, **Chopi Blackbird** and heard the call of a **Helmeted Manakin**. Mammal-wise we saw two **Azara's Agouti** and multiple **Collared Peccary** enter camp. A large **Black-and-white Tegu** was also running across the central area. Just outside the Pousada's border I spotted a **Crab-Eating Fox**.







Many other birds were flocking around the campsite, feeding on something that appeared like a compost pile: **Blue-Back Grassquit**, **Masked Gnatcatcher**, **Greater Ani**, **Scaled Dove**, **Shiny Cowbird**, **Saffron Finch**. We were served amazing diner and dessert by cook Lou before going on a first evening drive, which really felt exclusive since we were on some days (including our arrival day) the only guests in the pousada/park.

## **DAY 2-4**

We drove a total of 4 evening drives each lasting approximately 3 - 4 hours, and saw various different mammals on those nights including **Lowland Tapir**, **Hoary Fox**, **Crab-Eating Fox**, **Yellow Armadillo**, **Pampas Deer**, **Gray Brocket Deer**, **Brazilian Rabbit**, **Striped Hog-Nosed Skunk**, **Collared Peccary**, and **Red Brocket Deer**. Bird-wise on the evening drives we spotted - amongst many other species - **White-Winged Nightjar**, **Barn Owl**, **Tropical Screech Owl**, **Guira Cuckoo**, **Whistling Heron**, **Yellow-Faced Amazon**, and **Burrowing Owl**.





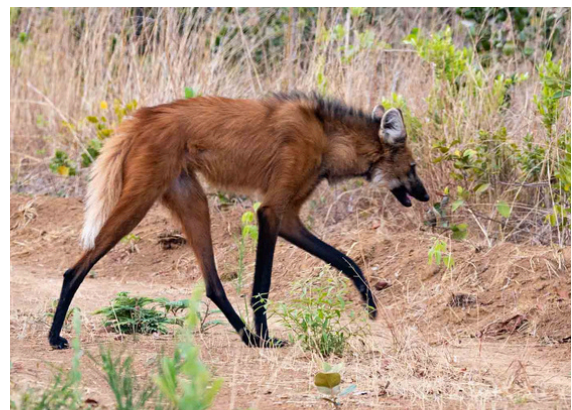


We were quite exhausted from the long days of searching for wildlife, also because there is little time for sleep between morning and evening drives (i.e., when most mammals are active. A typical evening drive for us lasted sometimes until 11 PM and morning drives started at 6 AM including having had coffee/tea and breakfast), and in Emas we did see most wildlife during the morning drives. We very sadly missed out on two of our target species here: **Pampas Cat** and **Puma**, though we had some good locations for them (see further), and they were sometimes seen on camera traps there during night drives a few days/weeks before.

Our morning drives (6AM – 11 AM, with guide Izabel joining us so we could go on all the non-self drive paths as well) were fruitful for both mammals and birds: many **Blue-and-Yellow Macaws**, **Cock-Tailed Tyrant**, **Black-Throated Saltator**, **Collared Crescentchest**, **Swallow-Tailed Kite**, **White-Vented Violetear**, **Helmeted Manakin**, **Toco Toucan**, **Yellow Caracara**, **Burnished Buff Tanager**, **Buff-Necked Ibis**, **Red-Legged Seriema**, **Aplomada Falcon**, **Campo Flicker**, **Fork-Tailed Flycatcher**, **White-Eared Puffbird**, **White-Tailed Hawk**, **White-Rumped Monjita**, and many more.



Regarding mammals, the most important species that we wanted to see here was **Maned Wolf**. After two days of intense searching, I grew a bit nervous thinking this animal was going to be as tough to see as a Puma or Pampas Cat. I was joking about it in the car on our third morning drive taking the yellow loop in the park (see below for plan), saying to the others how this animal kept slipping under our radar, while staff in the park had seen one each day on different locations. Nobody really knows how many there are in the park, and we think a proper scientific annual species survey would be of great benefit to the park's future conservation. Either way, as I was saying this, I saw a **White-Tailed Hawk** on a tree close to the road. I parked the car next to it to take a photo, and I noticed it kept looking at something further up the road. The road itself was not visible because it was turning around a hillock, but that bird could clearly see something. We continued to drive around the hillock, and immediately pressed the brakes because there was a massive **Maned Wolf** standing in the middle of the road! What an incredible sighting. He was startled for a second and left the road, disappearing into the bushes, but I shut down the engine and we waited for a few seconds, after which it cautiously came back to cross the road. What an adrenaline rush!



Other mammals that we saw on our morning drives include **Pampas Deer, Crab-Eating Fox, Collared Peccary, Red Brocket Deer, Gray Brocket Deer, Lowland Tapir** and another 3 beautiful observations of **Maned Wolf**.



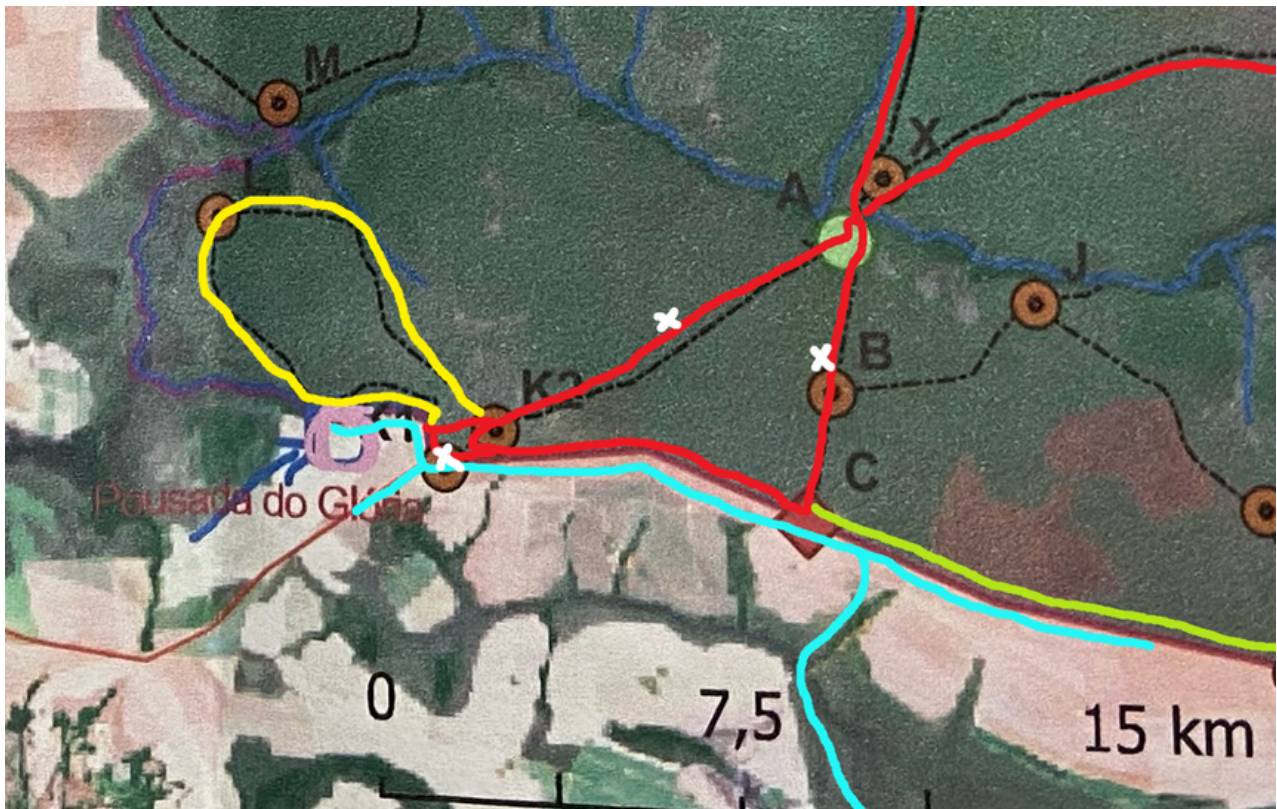


The very location where our first **Maned Wolf** observation happened (yellow loop).



Stunning were also the larger areas of gallery forest (almost tropical rainforest!) along the Formosa River. There is a path that we walked that led in and out of several patches of forest and you could hear the river in the background. During this walk, we had sightings of **Helmeted Manakin** and **White-Vented Violetear**, but this place is also home to the amazing **Frisled Coquette**.





Most of our mammal and bird observations were on the **yellow loop** (only accessible with guide) and **red triangle road** (self-drive) in the park, as well as the **blue marked roads** outside the park (self-drive, mostly main road or lodge road). Point C is the main south entrance where there were many sightings by other visitors and staff of a **Maned Wolf with a cub** that came drinking water from a water pump, as well as a **Lowland Tapir** between 5 PM and 9 PM (we had luck elsewhere).

The L-point on the **yellow loop** is where we saw **Maned Wolf**. The **white crosses** are points of interest where **Pampas Cat** was seen recently (we ourselves had no luck there unfortunately). We did see **Hoary Fox** near point A (headquarters), but could take no photos as it was a little bit too far and too dark (so we just enjoyed this amazing sighting through our binoculars with a spotlight). The **blue roads** directly around Pousada do Gloria are good points for **Puma**, as it was seen there a few times prior to our arrival (but we sadly did miss out on this one as well).

On the **blue road** that goes between crop fields in front of the south entrance, we hoped to see **Pampas Cat**, but instead encountered more **Collared Peccary**, **Pampas Deer**, and **Crab-Eating Fox**. The **green road** within the park's borders was also a nice one for wildlife, we did spot **Yellow Armadillo** walking on the road there, and there were multiple sightings of **Maned Wolf**.

The **red triangle** was overall good for multiple sightings of Tapir, various Deer species, and all of the abovementioned including many Cerrado bird species.



If I remember correctly, the big watchtower that you can climb and where we saw **Swallow-Tailed Kites** and where our guide Izabel saw **Puma** cross the road some time ago is at point X on the map. Beyond that point, if you take the red road left to the North, you will eventually reach the P2 (around W point, the P point has moved more to this point recently) area, which is most famous for a lot of termite mounds and **Giant Anteater**. We drove up there with Izabel one day and were again unlucky in finding any Anteater, and decided to proceed to point Y.



The reason is that Izabel knew of a **Gray Eagle** nest there. We did not see the Gray Eagle but were treated with two **Maned Wolf** sightings in that valley, as well as many **Pampas Deer** sightings. I'd recommend if you have more days in Emas than us (we had three full days, and one afternoon), you should go and explore P2 more to find Giant Anteaters there, and enjoy the bio-luminescence in case it rained, or focus on finding Pampas Cat near the red triangle loop.

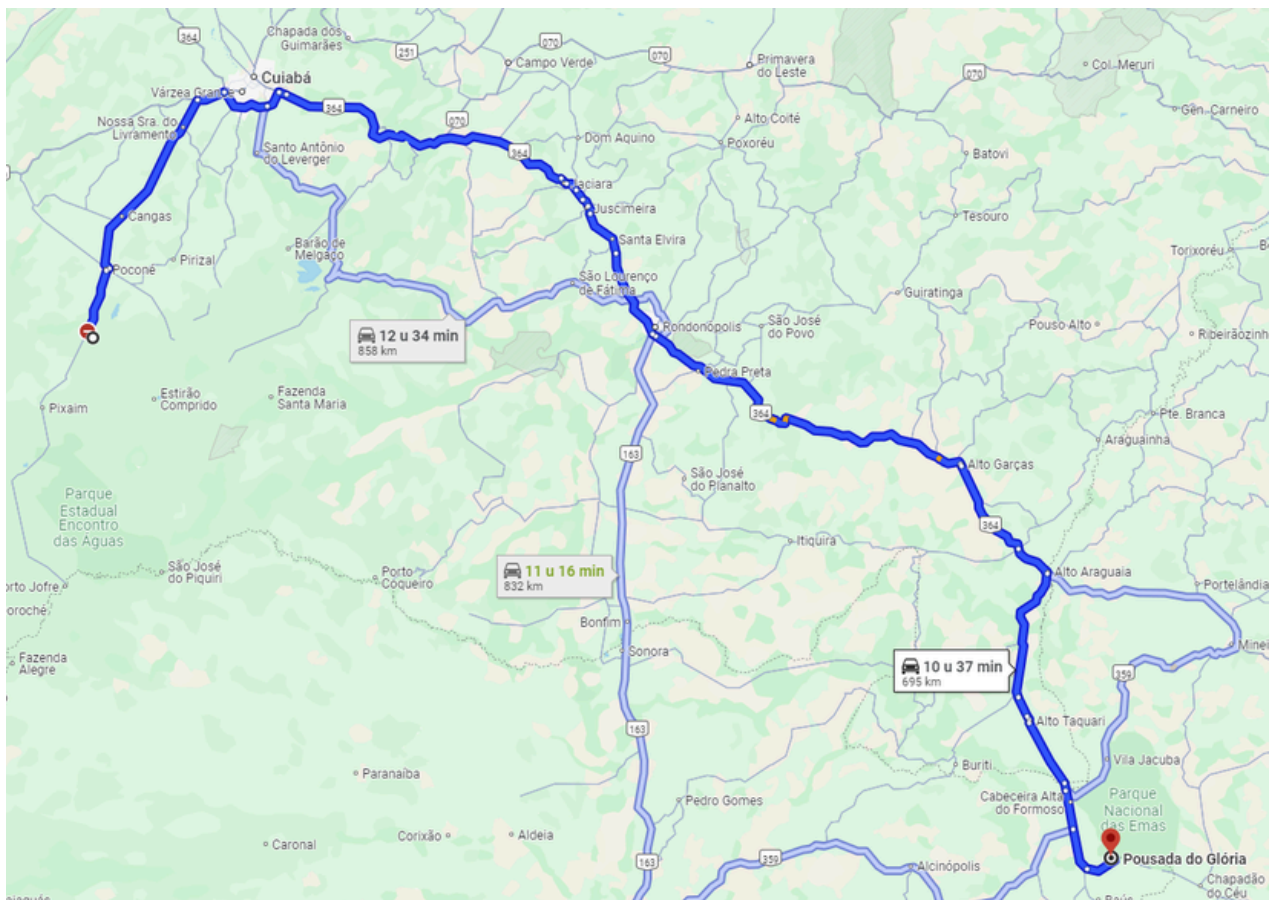


# NORTHERN PANTANAL

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## Pouso Alegre

On the 4th of October, we had a **full-day transfer** by car from Emas to **Pouso Alegre**, our first lodge in the Northern Pantanal. We left Pousada do Gloria at around 7 AM, and arrived at Pouso Alegre at around 9 PM including breaks (+/- 14 hour trip). Pouso Alegre is a cattle ranch and wildlife lodge on 11,000 hectares of varied habitat, and managed by the very nice Luis Vincente Campos. Staying there gives you access to this habitat and all the roads within, to see the incredible wildlife.



I was initially unsure whether the trip from Emas to Pouso Alegre was manageable given the large distance and unknown terrain we were heading towards, but in the end it was quite okay. For the majority, once you leave the direct vicinity of Emas NP, you quickly reach highway road, which you can drive on all the way to Cuiabá. There are a few villages or roadside stops on the way where you can grab lunch or take a toilet break. There is a mountain range pass that you'll need to cross (Serra da Petrovina, a little before the city of Rondonópolis) which is quite beautiful, but it's a slow pass and at the end of the road there are a huge amount of speed radars for some reason.



Eventually we reached Cuiabá in the late afternoon, then had to take a detour to the airport to get more cash out (as this was the only place where our cards would work to get cash out). The detour definitely took more than two hours because we combined it with a diner break at a mall, so if you don't have to go into the city, you'll be able to do the trip in just under 12 hours.

The trip from Cuiabá to Poconé is pretty straightforward (mostly a straight road), but especially if you are driving after sunset you should be cautious of crossing wildlife. On this road, we have seen a lot of cars speeding, and a lot of road kill. We saw two dead Giant Anteaters, a dead Tapir and a dead Tamandua. It's frustrating, since we missed out on all live anteater observations, and that these beautiful animals have no chance when crossing these roads that are so close to their habitat (the road is mostly surrounded by termite mound fields as you approach Poconé). Proper speed radars and wildlife passage tunnels with fencing would alleviate the issue, but there needs to be government funding which seems to not be a priority. After stopping at the last gas station in Poconé, we entered the legendary Transpantaneira Road. We spotted a **Boat-Billed Heron** on one of the first bridges, and a **Crab-Eating Raccoon** on the side of the road. Exhausted, we arrived on the grounds of Pouso Alegre after about 40 minutes, proceeding on a 7 km dirt road and seeing countless numbers of **Yacare Caiman** and a group of **Capybara** near the pond just before entering the main campsite. We were warmly welcomed by the operation manager Igor, led to our room and shown where we could fill up our water bottles with cold water before falling into a deep sleep.



Unfortunately when we were there, the WiFi broke down due to rain a week prior, and our 4G e-sim (using the Airalo app) didn't pick up the vivo network. This ultimately led us to transfer our last day in Pouso Alegre to Aymara Lodge, since we both needed to access the internet for various reasons, and to stay in touch with family. Pouso Alegre accommodation is basic and the AC is old, but we definitely enjoyed our time there. Staff is really friendly and helpful, the buffet service is good and copious, you meet many wildlife enthusiasts and there is a 'community' feel, and the private grounds are really amazing for seeing wildlife.



The reason for staying for 4 days around the first part of the Transpantaneira Road was attempting to see various mammal species that we wouldn't find as easily while doing the boat trips around Porto Jofre: **Ocelot, Giant Anteater, Tamandua, Tayra, Marsh Deer, Lowland Tapir, Jaguarundi, Black-Tailed Marmoset.**

My biggest hope was to see an Ocelot and a Giant Anteater, since we missed out on the latter in Emas. They are doable in the Northern Pantanal, but the Southern Pantanal is generally much better to see these magnificent animals. A few travel reports spoke of seeing the anteaters while spotlighting on the transpantaneira road, so our initial idea was to drive around 50% of our time on that main road, and 50% on the private roads around Pouso Alegre.

The first morning in a new spot is always extremely exciting since you don't know what you will spot as soon as you open the door of your room. Since we arrived after sunset the day before, we didn't even know what the campsite looked like. I woke up to the sound of **Chaco Chacalaca** and my first species that I saw were **Chestnut-Bellied Guan, Hooded Capuchins** and **South American Coati**. The campgrounds are full of wildlife! A Swiss couple that we met over breakfast kindly pointed out two **Hyacinth Macaws** sitting in a tree meters away from our room. Pouso Alegre has a very exciting bird feeder where visiting photographers flock to take shots of a variety of wildlife. Typical species we could see at arm's length include **Crab-Eating Fox, Hooded Capuchin, South American Coati, Toco Toucan, Chestnut-Eared Aracari, Yellow-Billed Cardinal, Red-Crested Cardinal, Ruddy Ground Dove, Scaled Dove, Crested Oropendola, Purplish Jay, Saffron Finch**, etc.



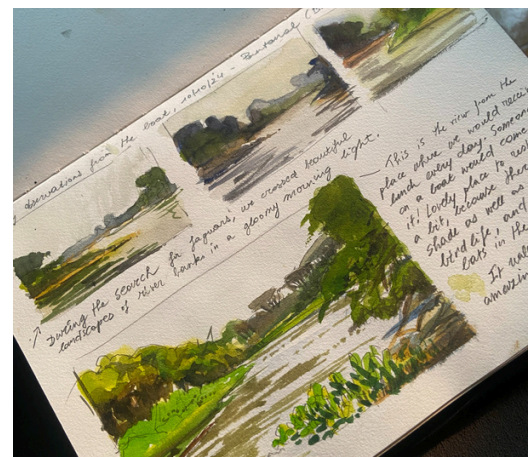




Pouso Alegre grounds.



I would often sketch wildlife that we saw in a travel journal.







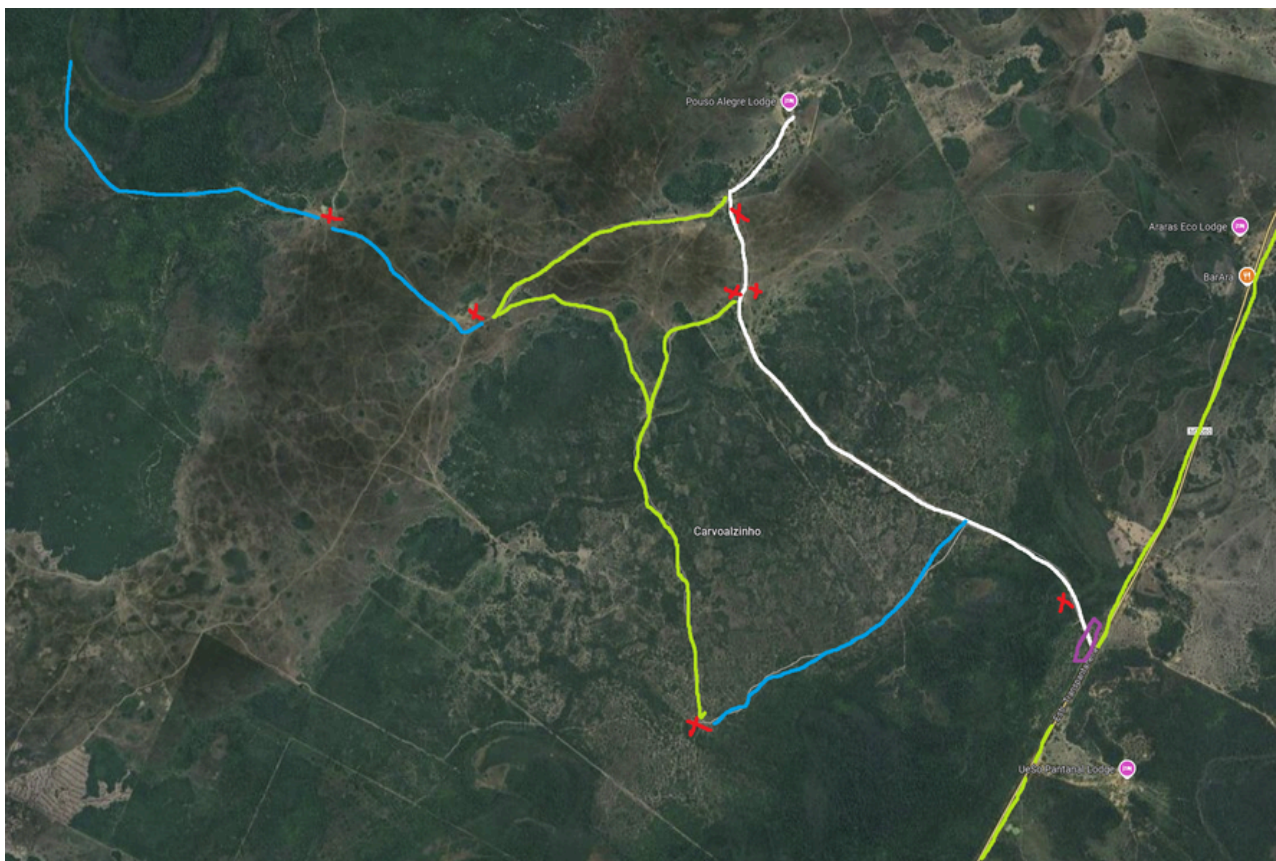
After watching the wildlife come and go around the feeder, we would sometimes explore the trees and the borders of the camp, and find additional species such as **Black-Tailed Marmoset**, **Yacare Caiman**, **Amazon Kingfisher**, **Ringed Kingfisher**, **Capybara**, **Black-Tailed Tityra**, **Pale-Legged Hornero**, **Jabiru**, **Narrow-Billed Woodcreeper**, **Great Rufous Woodcreeper**, and various species of **Heron**.







Be mindful that breakfast, lunch, and dinner is served on fixed times, and that you'll have to plan your game drives around it if you wish to have food! Breakfast in Pouso Alegre is between 7 – 8.30 AM, lunch between 12.30 – 13.30 PM, and dinner between 7.30 – 8.30 PM. We usually did a game drive before breakfast and headed out again after for two hours or so, until it was becoming too hot to see wildlife. We would then rest for the day at camp (a perfect time to catch up on sleep, sketch, or edit photos!), and head out in the afternoon again until dinner, after which we did another night drive until 10 PM or so. You can schedule game drives with Luis if you prefer, but just driving around yourself or waiting by secluded water hollows will do just as fine.



Map of Pouso Alegre and bordering Transpantaneira Road (right). Entrance gate of Pouso Alegre is purple circle, the white road is the main road from the entrance gate to the lodge, green are roads that we drove regularly, blue are roads that we drove less regularly, red crosses were the water hollows we found and waited by.

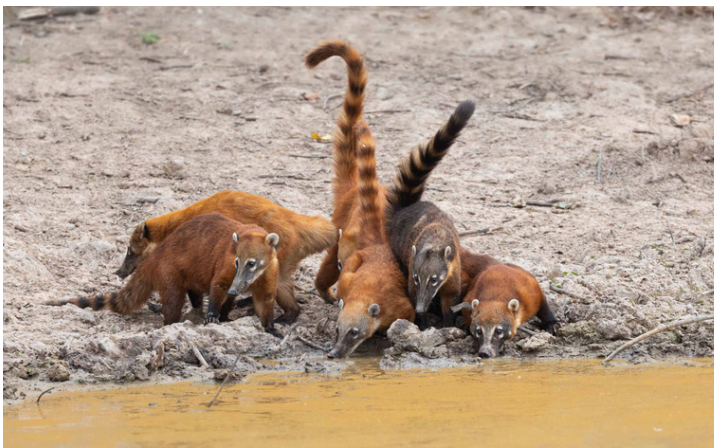




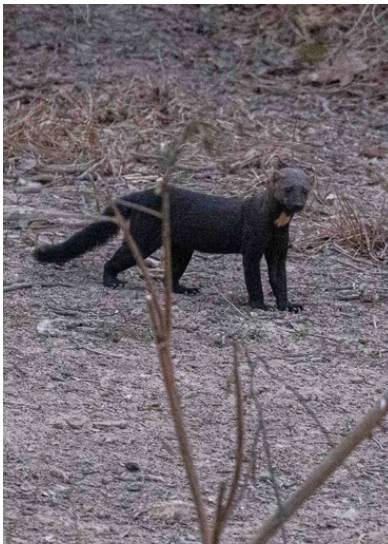
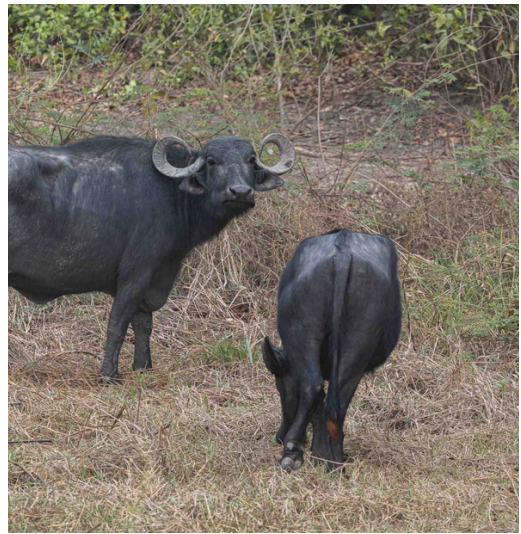
As I said, initially we were driving around a lot during the mornings and evenings. While there was plenty of common and sometimes uncommon wildlife to see in the mornings, we were kind of surprised by the lack of wildlife encounters at night. What did certainly not disappoint were the numerous sightings of **Lowland Tapir and Red Brocket Deer**. On the Transpantaneira road, I sometimes felt the night drives were not as successful due to the fact that there is a lot of traffic and dust, and trees and fences blocking the view into the surrounding fields. This made us stick to Pouso Alegre's grounds more, but even there it was hard to see something through the thick foliage on the small roads across the park (and so we mostly stuck on the main road leading towards the lodge and hoped animals would cross).

However, there was a crucial tipping point when we decided to change our strategy and instead park the car at the water hollows and wait for wildlife to come to us. This provided by far the most of our wildlife sightings, as the dry season forced wildlife to visit the water hollows each night and morning.

On the mornings and nights that we waited by water holes there (shown as red crosses on the map), we saw **South American Coati, Lowland Tapir, Collared Peccary, Gray Brocket Deer, Red Brocket Deer, Marsh Deer, Crab-Eating Raccoon, Water Buffalo** and even a wonderful sighting of a **Tayra**!



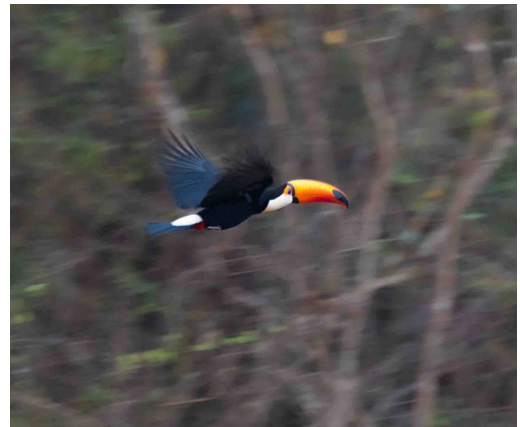








Some notable bird observations at the water hollows were **Toco Toucans**, **Turquoise-Fronted Amazons**, **Black-Tailed Tityra**, **Yellow-Faced Amazon** and an incredible observation of both the elusive **Great Potoo** and **Common Potoo**!





Luis reported seeing a **Great Horned Owl** on an electricity pole next to camp just before we started our night drive on one of our evenings there. A lovely Dutch couple we had met there was waiting by one of the water hollows with us on one of the nights, and they told us they had seen an **Ocelot** come drink by the water merely 10 minutes after we left for dinner!! Hearing this was quite difficult, but we were very happy for them. Now we were really determined to see if the Ocelot would return the next evening.

In the meantime, we needed internet access and decided to visit Aymara Lodge to see whether they had space to accommodate us for one night. Another big reason for staying there was that I saw stunning pictures of **Ocelot** from a trip report of Karl Van Ginderdeuren who visited this place guiding for Belgian Travel Agency **Starling Reizen** earlier this year. The owner of Aymara was experimenting with a new photography hide on their premises, and somehow managed to get an Ocelot to visit sometimes. Though hide photography is not for everyone, I did want to take a shot at seeing this incredible feline. Plus, I really wanted to take some reference photos for future paintings I would make in my studio. Since the guides of Aymara were saying the Ocelot would usually come between 3-5 PM, it allowed us to do both the hide session and the water holes in Pouso Alegre, as we had our last day there.

We had an amazing overnight in Aymara. The lodge has beautiful rooms, delicious food, friendly staff, bird feeders, and a river deck where there are tons of Capybara and birds. It is more pricey than the other nearby lodges, but certainly worth it since everything is included (also private game drives on their premises).

While waiting for our guide, we enjoyed observing a couple of Hyacinth Macaws that were creating a nest in a tree trunk next to our room. Incredible!





Shortly thereafter, we joined two guides to the photography hide, and the waiting could begin...

First wildlife to appear were **Bared Faced Currasow** and **Azara's Agouti** that were drinking water from the pond that was created specifically for the hide.

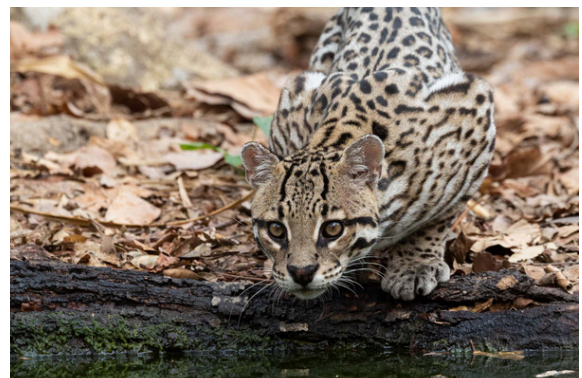


An interested **Squirrel Cuckoo** and **Eastern Collared Spiny Lizard** joined in fairly quickly as well, as well as a group of **Black Howler Monkeys** high up in the trees right above the hide. But nothing could prepare us for what happened next.

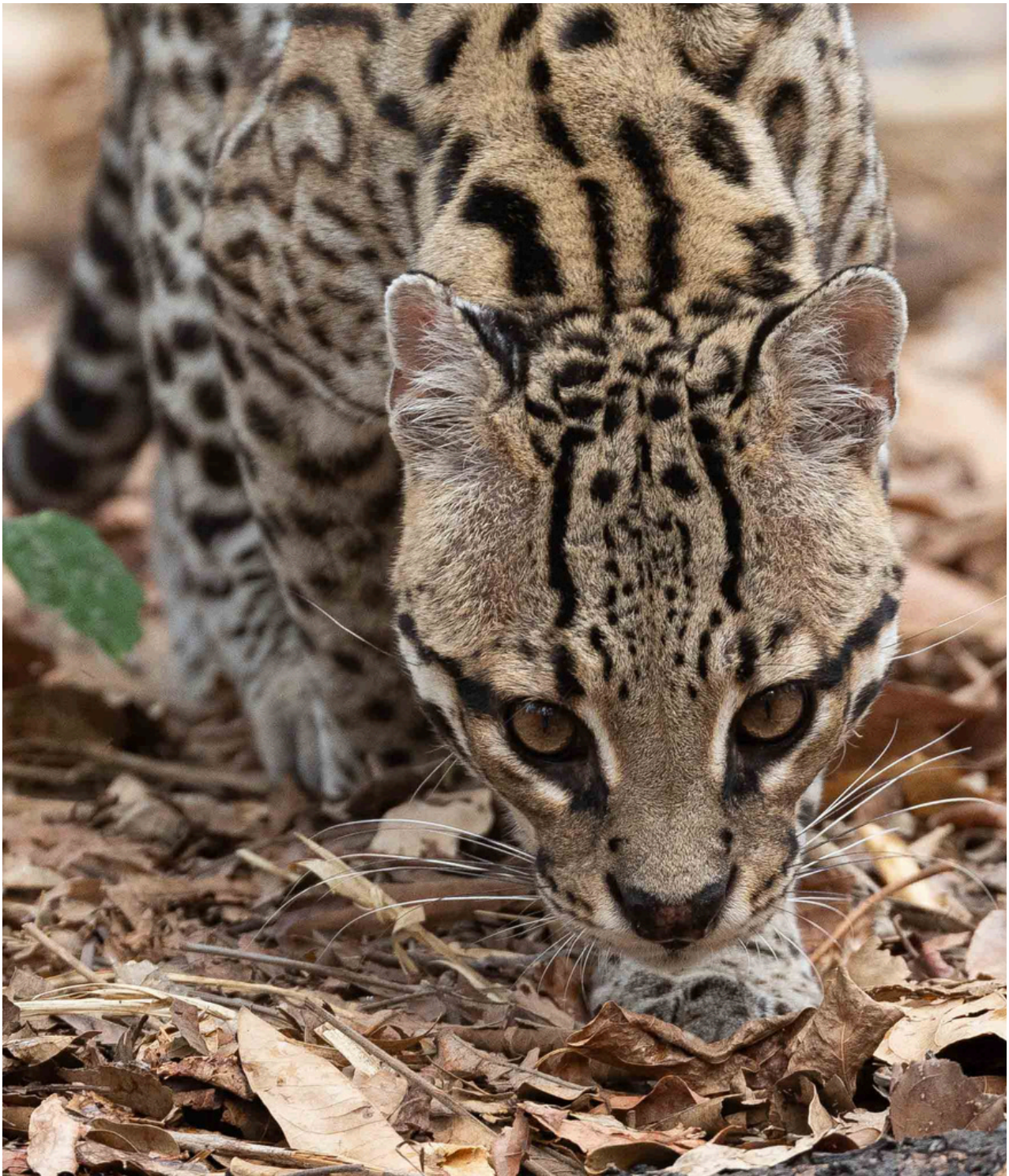




A male **Ocelot** showed itself merely half an hour into our hide session! What an incredibly beautiful and thrilling observation. It stayed around the hide for over half an hour drinking water and eating some of the fish that the guides placed on a branch, until it was chased away by a group of loud **Hooded Capuchins**. Absolutely mind-blowing experience!







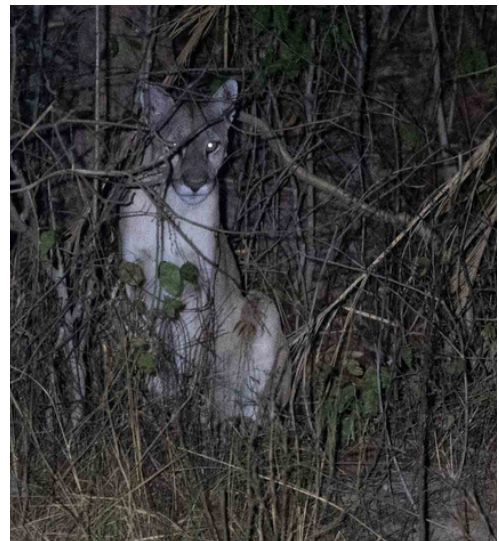
After this fantastic afternoon, we were convinced that the only thing that could top this experience was seeing another Ocelot, or a Giant Anteater that would fancy a drink at one of Pouso Alegre's water holes.

We were so wrong...



I haven't talked about it yet, but for this trip we brought a thermal camera (Hikmicro LYNX Pro LE10S), and this little tool proved tremendously useful in some scenarios. In Emas for example we could easily spot wildlife in the harvested corn fields, and in Pouso Alegre we could see all the wildlife approach without constantly putting spotting lights on (shining intense light into the eyes of animals does interfere with their behavior, we have seen them react annoyed sometimes (this varies per species) or disappear altogether so we wanted to avoid it as long as we could).

At some point, while we were at the water hole and scanning with the thermal camera, I noticed a small dot approaching from the bush. It was growing bigger slowly, until it was at the edge overseeing the pond. The shape was big, but it wasn't a Tapir, so I didn't immediately understand what species it was (the pixels of the camera were not good enough to clearly see it). It looked more like a lanky, large predator. A Maned Wolf maybe?? Suddenly it lied down, and I knew this was something we hadn't seen before. I carefully instructed my partner Alex to shine the spotting light so I could check with my binoculars. My heart stopped. Was that a freaking **Puma** in front of us? We could NOT believe our eyes!!







This animal stuck around the water hole in a calm and gracious manner for more than 45 minutes, allowing us to observe its behavior and take photos of the whole event. With our thermal camera, we could see her observing various animal that came to drink, seemingly unaware of her presence. Tapirs, Coatis, and Deer all came to visit, but she didn't seem interested in hunting, and we were wondering why she was there if not to wait for prey or drink? Eventually she did seem to become rather interested in a passing Coati, and slowly walked towards it, but eventually lost interest and went laying down, now closer to the water hole itself. We were absolutely speechless!





On these photos from our thermal camera, you can see the Puma (middle-right) observe a drinking Tapir (middle-left), and walking closer to the water to lay down again in plain sight.

At some point we thought that the Tapir was aware of something as it kept staring into the Puma's direction.



Sometimes we would briefly turn on the spotlight to see the animal, and maybe that sparked suspicion from the Tapir, so we often avoided shining directly on the subjects to not disturb them.

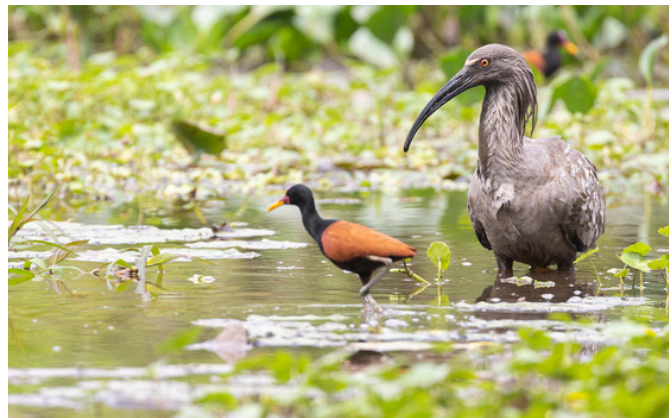
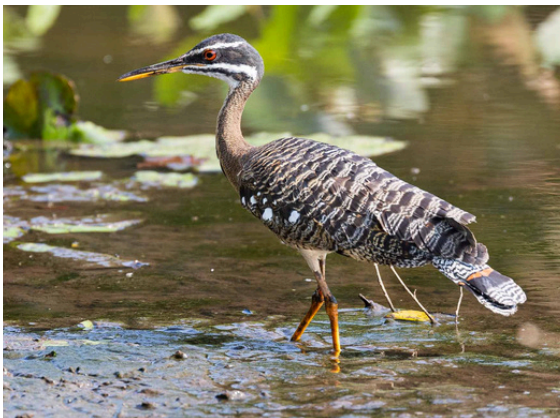
Eventually we left the scene to not be late for diner, although this would certainly be worth missing diner over!



With the incoming days in Porto Jofre, it looked like we were about to score three new feline species within 36 hours! An absolute wow moment.



After a great night sleep in Aymara lodge, enjoyed their delicious breakfast buffet, and took some photos of the birdlife surrounding the kitchen. Apart from the usual, we found a beautiful **Sunbittern**, a **Great Black Hawk**, and a **Plumbeous Ibis**. We embarked on a quick morning drive on the premises and encountered **White-Lipped Peccary** crossing the main road leading to the lodge from the Transpantaneira.



Our next stop was **Porto Jofre** for three full-day boat trips on the water looking for **Jaguar** and **Giant River Otter**. We would not start our boat trips until the next day, so we had the entire day to drive down the Transpantaneira Road, enjoying the scenery and all it had to offer.

On your way down to Porto Jofre, there is one place where you can stop for lunch and use the restroom: Hotel Pantanal Mato Grosso by the Pixaim River. We made use of their buffet, which was the most expensive we've had since our trip (110 reals, usually on roadside lunch we spent 30 reals), but since this area is much more tourist visited and since this was a hotel, I guess it was bound to be more pricey. We didn't particularly enjoy the food but did appreciate the beautiful panorama across the Pixaim River that you had access to. Jaguar Ecological Reserve is another place where you can ask for a quick restroom break, or refreshments like cold soft drinks.



## **Porto Jofre**

From all over the world, people travel to this little settlement to look for the mighty Jaguar, South America's largest cat species. The Pantanal boasts an estimated 4000–7000 Jaguar, therefore standing out as one of the densest population habitats in the world. This equates to more than 4% of the world population, and there are now fewer than 175.000 Jaguars left in the wild. Their IUCN status has been listed as Near Threatened. A total of 377 individual Jaguars have so far been documented in the Porto Jofre region alone. Photographers can actually engage in a citizen science project, submitting their photos to the Jaguar Identification Project for monitoring population dynamics. This provides valuable data for scientific studies being conducted each year, so if you can spare the time, we highly recommend partaking.

Porto Jofre has a large lineage of Jaguars that have become fully habituated to the presence of boats and humans, so much so that you can see them hunting and sleeping meters away from your vessel. You would have to be very unlucky to not see a Jaguar on your trip.

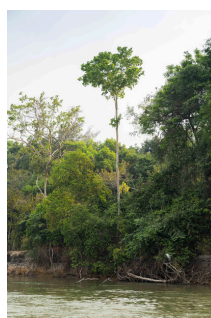




As a result, there is worldwide interest in wildlife tourism here, with tour operators flocking with their clients who want to get their best shots of this incredible animal and other stunning wildlife on the river ecosystem. We truly believe in the power of ecotourism and the positive impact it has on wildlife conservation, which is no different here. Without the tourism, the tolerance towards these cats would have been at historic levels, when they were almost eradicated from the region due to human-wildlife conflict and export trade. That said, we also clearly noticed the urgent need for more enforcement of policies and the installment of a code of conduct to safeguard a sustainable interaction between the boats, the people, and the wildlife. More on that later.

### **DAY 1 - 3**

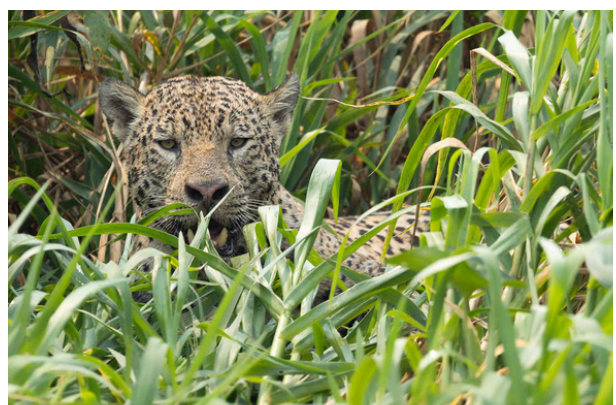
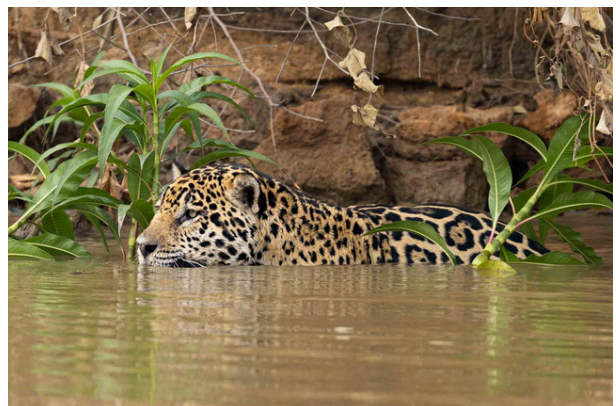
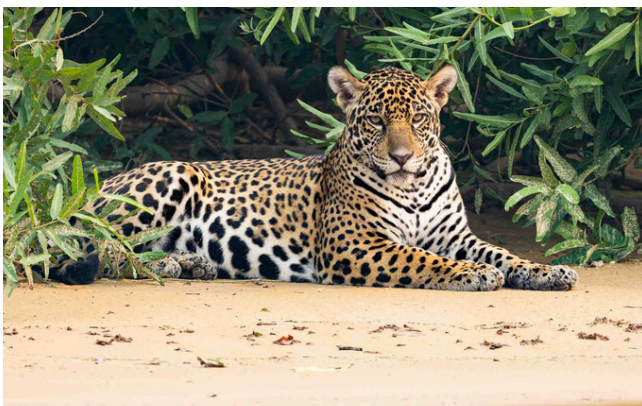
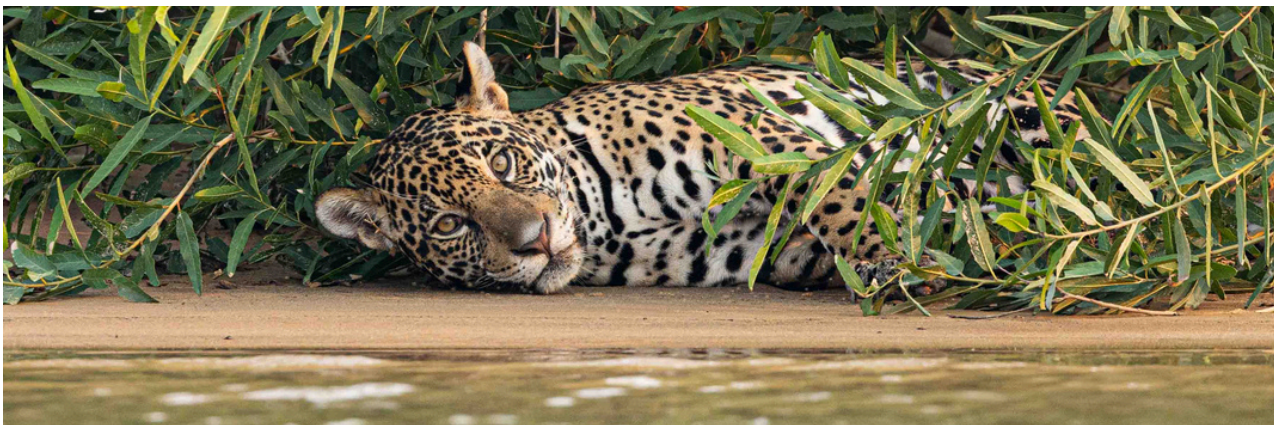
Our days would start at 6 AM getting breakfast. At 6.30 AM we would walk down to the river to embark around 7 AM. Our Pousada seemed to always make sure that guests get a private boat and dedicated guide for the entire booking period, which is amazing. For example, even though we were with just two persons, we were put on a 4-seater boat for us only. The price is full board, so they take a cooling box full of soft drinks and water for the day. Lunch is typically delivered to the boats separately, and mid-day we would park the boat on the river bank and wait for them to deliver it. A great time to use the 'restroom' and relax. If you are on full-day boat trips like us, you can ask the pilot to go to the side to take a restroom break at any time, though watch out for Jaguars!



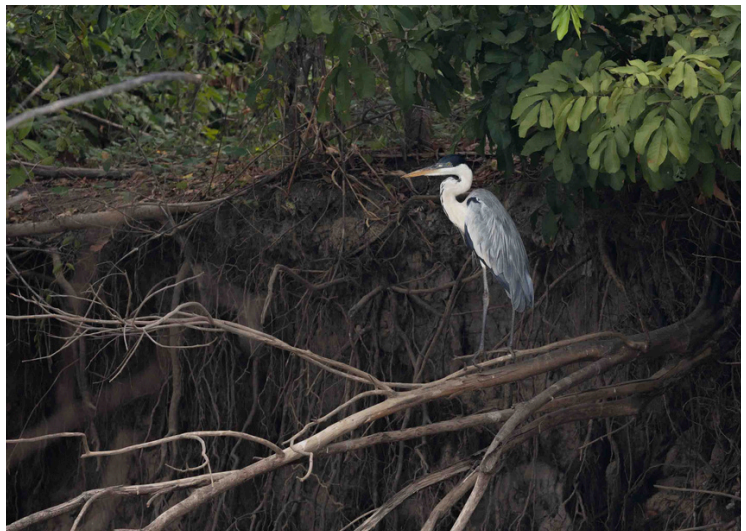
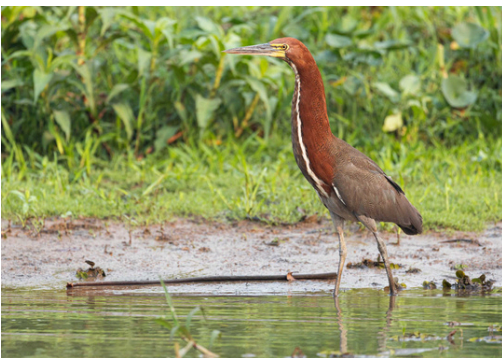


During our days on the river, we saw a ton of gorgeous wetland landscapes and wildlife deep into Parque Estadual Encontro das Águas, which is a 35 min boat trip from Porto Jofre, and prime **Jaguar** territory. On all of the days we were on the water, we also saw multiple groups of **Giant River Otter**, including a den with puppy Otters.

We had an average of 4 Jaguar observations per day, each at least as thrilling as the other (we were able to see many different behaviours). Seeing a wild Jaguar or a flock of Giant River Otters does NOT get old! Mammal highlights while on the water were **Jaguar**, **Giant River Otter**, **Proboscis Bat**, and **Capybara**. We missed out on **Tapir** and **Neotropical Otter**. Bird highlights were **Jabiru**, **Rufous-Tailed Jacamar**, **Green Kingfisher**, **Amazon Kingfisher**, **Southern Screamer**, **Rufescent Tiger Heron**, **Crane Hawk**, **Black Skimmer**, **Large-Billed Tern**, **Capped Heron**, **Great Potoo**, **Monk Parakeet**, **Golden-Chevroned Parakeet**, **Anhinga**, **Black-Capped Donacobius**, **Orange-Backed Troupial**, and **Silver-Beaked Tanager**.











Regarding reptiles, highlights seen were **Yellow Anaconda**, **Green Iguana**, and **Yacare Caiman**. All in all excellent experience, definitely worth the price (if you know where to get a fair price, and we think Pousada Berco Pantaneiro does offer this compared to others we found). Staying on the river on a hotel boat is in our opinion really not necessary, since the trip to the reserve doesn't take that long.

Overall, this was an incredible wildlife trip, and we cannot recommend it enough!





## **A note on unsustainable ecotourism practices**

There were some occasions where we unfortunately witnessed brutally unsustainable business practices on the river, despite Resolution CON-SEMA-85/11 which should in theory regulate the observation of Jaguars and Pumas in the wild in Mato Grosso (we spoke with some people from 'Governo de Mato Grosso' that we met afterwards, and they told us that these rules are not yet properly enforced, and are still violated. If you have more information about or experience with this, please comment or share). Some boat operators were sometimes getting much closer to the Jaguars than the prescribed 25 meters (very often it were Hotel Porto Jofre boats), and two more problematic events occurred right in front of us.

We all love to see wildlife, but it cannot be at the expense of animal welfare and personal safety.

### **Event 1**

Two Jaguars were signaled hunting Caiman together near the river bank in the reeds. Upon our arrival at the scene, the Jaguars were indeed in the process of the hunt. Over a dozen boats were literally darting themselves into the reed forest, merely 3 meters away from these Jaguars who were visibly hindered and startled by this event. Photographers were frantically attempting to get a shot and flocking together on the front end of the boats. One of the photographers even dropped his camera in the chaos. Absolutely disgraceful because those people in that moment do not care about the proximity rule nor consider their own safety or interference of Jaguar behavior. The boat pilots follow each other because they don't want to disappoint their clients. Our own pilot was also attempting to do the same, but we tried signaling we didn't want to (making yourself clear is sometimes a challenge because the pilots do not speak English) and eventually succeeded. A cascade of chaos that leaves the animals and people's safety a last priority (those Jaguars could have easily jumped on the boat and taken a person if they wanted to).

### **Event 2**

On another occasion, the proximity of some boats to a swimming Jaguar actually hindered the animal from continuing its river crossing due to the waves that the vessels were generating; a highly disturbing event to see as the Jaguar was clearly agitated.



# SPECIES    LISTS

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Regarding bird species, it's important to mention that the list constitutes the species we have seen and determined as such. We also saw other species that we could not take photos of to determine the species properly.

## Mammals seen

Number	Species name	Scientific name
1	Proboscis Bat	Rhynchonycteris naso
2	Yellow Armadillo	Euphractus sexcinctus
3	Black-Tailed Marmoset	Mico melanurus
4	Hooded Capuchin	Sapajus cay
5	Black Howler Monkey	Alouatta caraya
6	Crab-Eating Fox	Cerdocyon thous
7	Hoary Fox	Lycalopex vetulus
8	Maned Wolf	Chrysocyon brachyurus
9	Ocelot	Leopardus pardalis
10	Jaguar	Panthera onca
11	Puma	Puma concolor
12	Tayra	Eira barbara
13	Giant River Otter	Pteronura brasiliensis
14	South American Coati	Nasua nasua
15	Crab-Eating Raccoon	Procyon cancrivorus
16	Lowland Tapir	Tapirus terrestris
17	White-Lipped Peccary	Tayassu pecari
18	Collared Peccary	Pecari tajacu
19	Marsh Deer	Blastocerus dichotomus
20	Pampas Deer	Ozotoceros bezoarticus
21	Red Brocket Deer	Mazama americana
22	Gray Brocket Deer	Mazama gouazoubira
23	Brazilian Squirrel	Sciurus aestuans
24	Capybara	Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris
25	Azara's Agouti	Dasyprocta azarae
26	Brazilian Rabbit	Sylvilagus brasiliensis
27	Striped Hog-Nosed Skunk	Conepatus semistriatus
28	Giant Anteater (roadkill)	Myrmecophaga tridactyla
29	Southern Tamandua (roadkill)	Tamandua tetradactyla



## Birds seen

Number	Species name	Scientific name
1	Greater Rhea	<i>Rhea americana</i>
2	Undulated Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus undulatus</i>
3	Southern Screamer	<i>Chauna torquata</i>
4	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>
5	Brazilian Teal	<i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>
6	Chaco Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis canicollis</i>
7	Chestnut-bellied Guan	<i>Penelope ochrogaster</i>
8	Blue-throated Piping Guan	<i>Pipile cumanensis</i>
9	Red-throated Piping Guan	<i>Pipile cujubi</i>
10	Bare-faced Curassow	<i>Crax fasciolata</i>
11	Neotropical Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>
12	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>
13	Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>
14	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>
15	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
16	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
17	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
18	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>
19	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
20	Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>
21	Capped Heron	<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>
22	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
23	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>
24	Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>
25	Bare-faced Ibis	<i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>
26	Plumbeous Ibis	<i>Theristicus caerulescens</i>
27	Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>
28	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>
29	Maguari Stork	<i>Ciconia maguari</i>
30	Jabiru	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>
31	American Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>
32	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
33	Lesser yellow headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>
34	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
35	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
36	Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>
37	Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>
38	Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>
39	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>
40	Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>



Number	Species name	Scientific name
41	Black-Collared Hawk	Busarellus nigricollis
42	Roadside Hawk	Rupornis magnirostris
43	White-tailed Hawk	Geranoaetus albicaudatus
44	Zone-tailed Hawk	Buteo albonotatus
45	Southern Caracara	Caracara plancus
46	Yellow-headed Caracara	Milvago chimachima
47	Aplomado Falcon	Falco femoralis
48	Limpkin	Aramus guarauna
49	Gray-necked Wood-Rail	Aramides cajaneus
50	Sunbittern	Eurypyga helias
51	Red-legged Seriema	Cariama cristata
52	Pied Lapwing	Vanellus cayanus
53	Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis
54	Wattled Jacana	Jacana jacana
55	Large-billed Tern	Phaetusa simplex
56	Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger
57	Ruddy Ground-Dove	Columbina talpacoti
58	Scaled Dove	Columbina squammata
59	Blue Ground-Dove	Claravis pretiosa
60	Picazuro Pigeon	Patagioenas picazuro
61	Hyacinth Macaw	Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus
62	Blue-and-Yellow Macaw	Ara ararauna
63	Peach-fronted Parakeet	Eupsittula aurea
64	Monk Parakeet	Myiopsitta monachus
65	Yellow-Chevroned Parakeet	Brotogeris chiriri
66	Yellow-faced Amazon	Alipiopsitta xanthops
67	Scaly-headed Parrot	Pionus maximiliani
68	Turquoise-fronted Parrot	Amazona aestiva
69	Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana
70	Greater Ani	Crotophaga major
71	Smooth-billed Ani	Crotophaga ani
72	Guira Cuckoo	Guira guira
73	Barn Owl	Tyto alba
74	Tropical Screech Owl	Megascops choliba
75	Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia
76	Great Potoo	Nyctibius grandis
77	Common Potoo	Nyctibius griseus
78	White-winged Nightjar	Eleothreptus candicans
79	White-vented Violetear	Colibri serrirostris
80	Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata



Number	Species name	Scientific name
81	Amazon Kingfisher	Chloroceryle amazona
82	Green Kingfisher	Chloroceryle americana
83	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	Galbula ruficauda
84	White-eared Puffbird	Nystalus chacuru
85	Toco Toucan	Ramphastos toco
86	Chestnut-eared Aracari	Pteroglossus castanotis
87	Green-barred Woodpecker	Colaptes melanochloros
88	Campo Flicker	Colaptes campestris
89	Pale-crested Woodpecker	Celeus lugubris
90	Collared Crescentchest	Melanopareia torquata
91	Great Rufous Woodcreeper	Xiphocolaptes major
92	Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes angustirostris
93	Pale-legged Hornero	Furnarius leucopus
94	Rufous Hornero	Furnarius rufus
95	Yellow-chinned Spinetail	Certhiaxis cinnamomeus
96	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	Elaenia flavogaster
97	Large Elaenia	Elaenia spectabilis
98	Vermillion Flycatcher	Pyrocephalus rubinus
99	Grey Monjita	Xolmis cinereus
100	White-rumped Monjita	Xolmis velatus
101	White-headed Marsh Tyrant	Arundinicola leucocephala
102	Cattle Tyrant	Machetornis rixosa
103	Cock-tailed Tyrant	Alectrurus tricolor
104	Great Kiskadee	Pitangus sulphuratus
105	Lesser Kiskadee	Philohydor lictor
106	Streaked Flycatcher	Myiodynastes maculatus
107	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus savana
108	Rufous Casiornis	Casiornis rufus
109	Helmeted Manakin	Antilophia galeata
110	Black-tailed Tityra	Tityra cayana
111	Purplish Jay	Cyanocorax cyanomelas
112	Curl-crested Jay	Cyanocorax cristatellus
113	White-rumped Swallow	Tachycineta leucorrhoa
114	Brown-chested Martin	Progne tapera
115	Black-Capped Donacobius	Donacobius atricapilla
116	Masked Gnatcatcher	Poliophtila dumicola
117	Rufous-bellied Thrush	Turdus rufiventris
118	Gray-headed Tanager	Eucometis penicillata
119	Burnished-buff Tanager	Stilpnia cayana
120	Silver-beaked Tanager	Ramphocelus carbo



Number	Species name	Scientific name
121	Saffron Finch	Sicalis flaveola
122	Blue-black Grassquit	Volatinia jacarina
123	Red-crested Cardinal	Paroaria coronata
124	Yellow-billed Cardinal	Paroaria capitata
125	Black-throated Saltator	Saltator atricollis
126	Crested Oropendola	Psarocolius decumanus
127	Yellow-rumped Cacique	Cacicus cela
128	Orange-backed Troupial	Icterus croconotus
129	Chopi Blackbird	Gnorimopsar chopi
130	Bay-winged Cowbird	Agelaioides badius
131	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus