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BRAZIL URUGUAY ARGENTINA



By Anna Bauerová

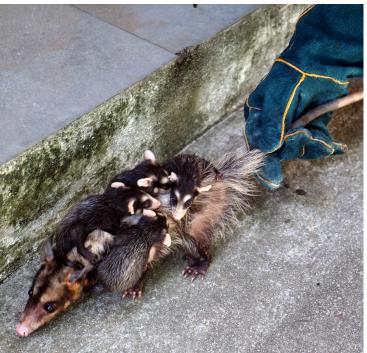
At the beginning of the year, I got an amazing opportunity to visit **Brazil** as part of a parrot rescue program.

Unfortunately, the original purpose of my trip got canceled just before departure. Suddenly, I had six free weeks to travel around Brazil. I decided to use them for a little sightseeing tour of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. Although I'm a herpetologist and my travels usually focus only on herpetofauna this was my first trip focusing on mammals as well. My observations may not match the expertise of the regular contributors here, but I hope to improve with time. I'll also mention my attempts at birding.











Rio de Janeiro

My first stop was Rio de Janeiro for a few days. While hiking the trail to Corcovado, I spotted several families of *Callithrix jacchus* and a few *Sapajus nigritus*. I also came across a surprisingly shy group of *Nasua nasua* that quickly disappeared into the undergrowth.

The highlight for me, however, was a *Didelphis aurita* sitting on a fence near my accommodation in Praia da Barra da Tijuca in the evening. It turned out there were several tame opossums living in the area.

The Botanical Garden was another fantastic spot. Apart from the marmosets and capuchins, I saw countless birds, including *Pyrrhura frontalis* and *Ramphastos vitellinus*.

Niterói

Next, I visited Niterói - trail Corrego dos Colibris. My main goal was to find the invasive **Leontopithecus chrysomelas**, which had been seen in the area just days before my arrival. Unfortunately, I was unable to find them. Instead, I saw more **Callithrix jacchus** and a **Bradypus** variegatus.

Locals suggested I try Parque Estadual da Serra da Tirica, where the golden-headed lion tamarins had also been seen (at least according to communications with the locals). Despite two visits and local tips, I still didn't manage to find any. However, I've never seen so many marmosets in one place as I did there. In addition to the already mentioned *Callitrix jacchus*, I saw several hybrids of jacchus and penicillata

Rio das Ostras - Cabo Frio

One of the highlights of my trip was visiting Rio das Ostras and Unamar. I had hoped to visit the Mico Leão Dourado Park to see golden lion tamarins, but since my plans were last-minute, I couldn't secure the necessary documents (yellow fever and COVID vaccination proofs) in time. Instead, I explored a site in Unamar mentioned in reports (e.g. Shaun's Shoestring Safari). By chance, I stumbled upon Parque do Mico in Cabo Frio. The team there was incredible. Even without a reservation, a guide named Alexandre took me on a trail walk. We found termite mounds dug up by tamandua and saw videos of the tamarin family that had been in the area earlier that morning.







Although I didn't see them that day, I returned the next morning and was lucky enough to spot a group of eight **golden lion tamarins** playing in the trees. With the help of a local biologist Bia, I got very close — it was an unforgettable experience! I didn't think I'd be so lucky.

In addition to the tamarins, I also saw a rescued opossum with her babies being released. Other notable sightings included *Pteroglossus aracari*, *Amazona amazonica*, and *Amazona rhodocorytha*. In the evening, I went on a night walk through Morro do São João, hoping to spot some reptiles. I was lucky to see several *Enyalius brasiliensis* and *Enyalius perditus*. I also came across about ten opossums, including some juveniles, and a *Dasypus novemcinctus*. The trail was fairly easy to navigate, with several possible starting points. If you wanted to enter through Posada São João, there was a small entry fee. Unfortunately, I couldn't stay for more than a few days as I had to continue my journey to Salvador.

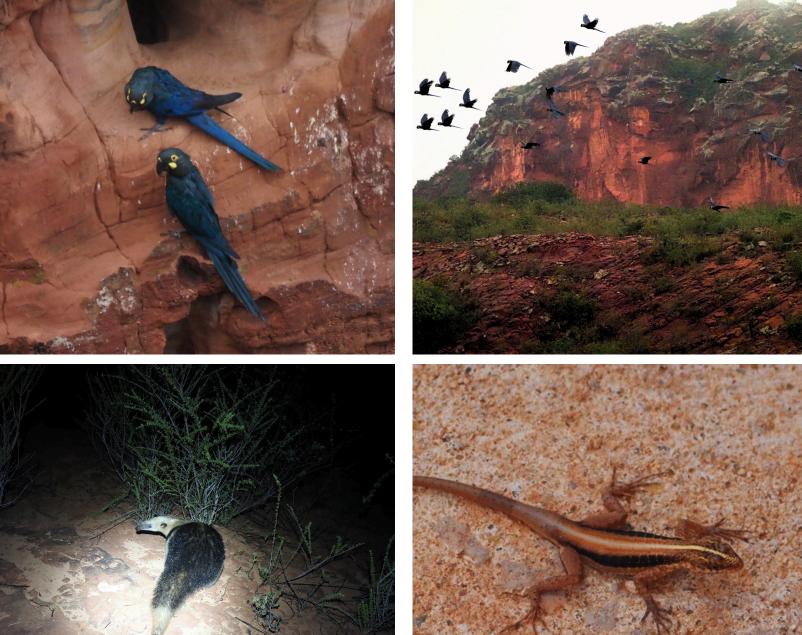
Canudos

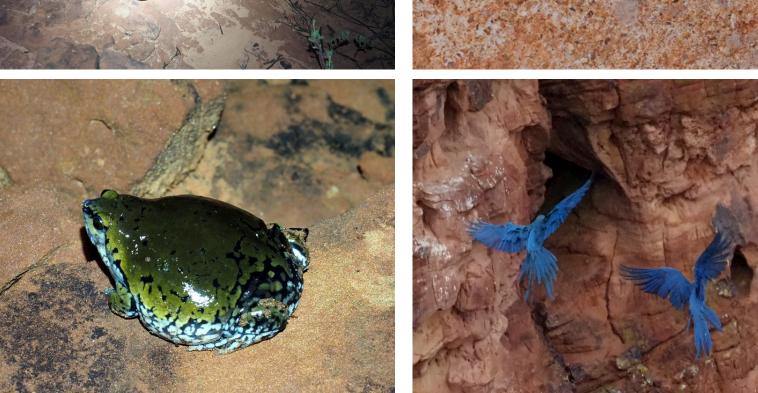
The main purpose of my trip to Brazil was to visit the <u>Canudos Biological Reserve</u>. This is one of the few places where *Anodorhynchus leari* can still be seen today. It was a relatively expensive part of the trip, but I consider it a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I was pleasantly surprised by how willing the local team was to accommodate a single visitor, and I must say, I felt almost like a part of their family. Tanya and her entire family were incredibly kind and attentive—I've never felt so well taken care of. Since I arrived on the only bus from Salvador at 5 a.m., they picked me up and immediately arranged my stay at the reserve.

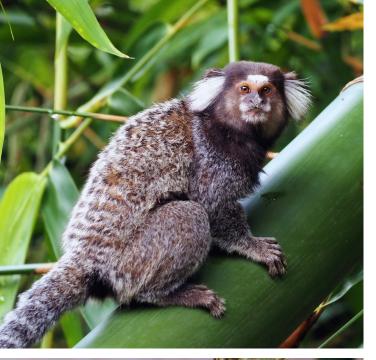
From early morning, Lear's macaws were calling in the area and flying over the house where I was staying. I had the privilege of being the only guest in the entire reserve.

In the afternoon, I went for a walk with a guide to the canyon where the macaws nest. There was a chance to spot *Kerodon rupestris*, but I wasn't lucky. During a nighttime walk around the cabin, I encountered a *Tamandua tetradactyla*. I had hoped to see some reptiles, such as *Polychrus acutirostris* or *Iguana iguana*, but unfortunately, I didn't.

The next morning, before sunrise, they drove me to the canyon, where I witnessed an incredible flock of Lear's macaws taking off. Considering that not long ago, it was hard to believe such numbers could still exist... It was truly a breathtaking experience.











Although the weather didn't cooperate—it was fairly rainy—it was still an amazing visit, and I hope to return someday. The accommodation included a lavish breakfast, and I was able to spend the rest of the day exploring the reserve until my evening bus departure.

It was undoubtedly an excellent location for birdwatching.

Salvador

I took a bus back to Salvador from Canudos. Initially, I had planned to visit the Reserva Biológica de Una to see *Leontopithecus chrysomelas*. However, I couldn't arrange a permit or find a reliable contact to grant me access. I hope I'll have better luck on a future trip.

Tapiraí

I decided to visit Tapiraí, specifically Trilha dos Toucanos. My main targets were toucans, as well as the local tapir and hyrare. Unfortunately, I didn't manage to see any of them, but it was still a great place for birdwatching. My luck extended only to spotting *Pteroglossus bailloni* and several species of tanagers.

Florianópolis

In Florianópolis, I finally spotted *Callithrix penicillata*, even though it's quite a common species. I also encountered capybaras here—after they seemed completely absent in Rio. I saw larger groups of them closer to the Uruguay border.

São Paulo

I had just one day in São Paulo and tried to visit the botanical garden. However, many trails were closed, so I only saw a group of *Alouatta guariba* and *Sciurus brasiliensis*











































Morro do Diabo State Park

One of the final major stops of my trip was Parque Estadual do Morro do Diabo. It was possible to stay in cabins directly in the park, and the prices were surprisingly affordable. I hoped to see *Leontopithecus chrysopygus*, to increase my chances of seeing them, I booked a two days primate watching with guide on the park's websites.

The park was amazing—on the very first morning, I saw a large flock of *Amazona aestiva* and a female tapir with her calf. Tapirs (*Tapirus terrestris*) turned out to be quite common, frequently wandering around the area - at least one female with young one and one adult male. For birdwatching, this location was fantastic. Every day I saw *Ramphastos toco, Pionus maximiliani, Psittacara leucophthalmus*, and *Ara chloropterus*.

However, I was disappointed with the guide. My lack of Portuguese made communication challenging, but even beyond that, his efforts were underwhelming. On the first day, he warned me we might not see monkeys, but it didn't seem like he was trying to find them either. On the second day, he didn't show up for our scheduled outing. I had also booked a birdwatching walk, but he claimed jaguars were in the area, so we shouldn't go out around sunset.

What bothered me the most was how strange the situation was—I made it very clear from the beginning that I wanted to see lion tamarins. Yet, the guide acted as though we were actively looking for them along a trail lined with photos of tamarins (a trail that passed by the cage where tamarins were historically released). I also attempted to join a half-day hike to the Morro do Diabo volcano. Unfortunately, without a car, I had no way to get to the starting point in the nearby town. Additionally, the hike required payment through their online booking system, which was quite unreliable. Even my accommodation was only successfully paid for on the second or third attempt, and I couldn't complete the trail payment using any of my cards. The guide didn't put much effort into helping resolve these issues, so I eventually gave up on the hike.

On the last day, after repeatedly asking where the best chances of seeing tamarins were, he finally admitted that they are rarely seen in the area and, if spotted, it's usually on the trail to the volcano. I couldn't understand why he didn't mention this earlier.







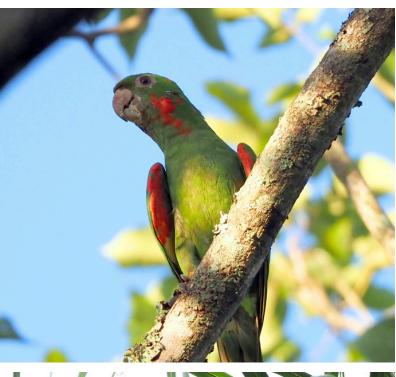
























Out of three scheduled outings, only one actually happened. In the end, I saw *Sapajus nigritus* and *Alouatta guariba* families but no tamarins. Based on social media activity of this park, I'm not even sure how often tamarins are spotted there.

Despite these frustrations, the park itself was excellent. In the evenings, I saw *Cerdocyon thous* and *Mazama americana* around the area. On nearby trails, I spotted *Dasyprocta azarae* and *Pecari tajacu*. Unfortunately, I didn't see a jaguar. While the park was a fantastic place where tapirs seemed to be everywhere, I left feeling a bit let down by the guide's lack of effort, such a great place would definitely deserve it.

Cabo Polonio

While passing through Uruguay on my way to Argentina, I made a brief stop at Cabo Polonio. It's home to a large colony of *Otaria byronia* and *Arctocephalus australis*.

I was struck by the sight of several dead sea lions washed up on the beach, with condors scavenging on their remains.

Parque Nacional Iberá

During my trip planning, I came across this reserve and decided to visit. It's often called Argentina's Pantanal. They're even working to reintroduce jaguars here. Buses to the reserve run only twice a week, but I managed to find a shared car and spent several days in Colonia Carlos Pellegrini. It's a unique recreational area. Leopardus geoffroyi are commonly seen here, but I only found scat.

From the reserve's trails, I observed Blastocerus dichotomus, Hydrochoerus chydrochaeris, Mazama gouazoubira, Sus scrofa, and countless Caiman yacare. In the afternoon, I encountered Alouatta caraya on a trail near the park's ticket office.

A dirt road along the lagoon led to a spot where capybara groups and *Lagostomus maximus* could be seen in the evening. I was also surprised by a curious family of *Lycalopex gymnocercus* that followed me around the park. Their tameness and curiosity were unexpected.



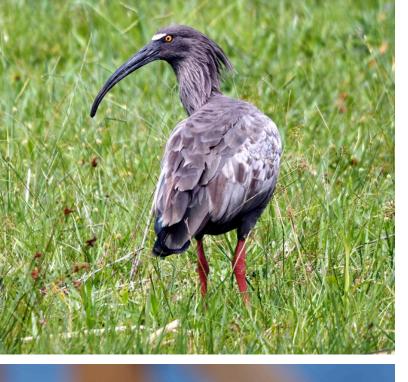






















LIST OF MAMMALS

27. **Tapirus terrestris**

1. Alouatta caraya	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
2. Alouatta guariba	São Paulo, Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
3. Arctocephalus australis	Cabo Polonio	Uruguay
4.Blastocerus dichotomus	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
5. Bradypus variegatus	Niterói	Brazil
6. Callithrix jacchus	Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador	Brazil
7. Callithrix jacchus x penicillata	Niterói	Brazil
8. Callithrix penicillata	Florianópolis	Brazil
9. Cerdocyon thous	Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
10. Dasyprocta azarae	Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
11. Dasypus novemcinctus	Rio das Ostras	Brazil
12. Didelphis aurita	Rio de Janeiro, Rio das Ostras	Brazil
13. Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris	Laguna Ibera, Chuy	Brazil, Argentina
14.Lagostomus maximus	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
15. Leontopithecus rosalia	Unamar	Brazil
16. Leopardus geoffroyi°	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
17. Lycalopex gymnocerca	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
18. Mazama americana	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
19. Mazama gouazoubira	Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
20. Nasua nasua	Rio de Janeiro, Foz do Iguaçu	Brazil, Argentina
21. Otaria byronia	Cabo Polonio	Uruguay
22. Peccari tajacu	Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
23. Sapajus nigritus	Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo	Brazil
24. Sciurus brasiliensis ingrami	Tapiraí	Brazil
25. Sus scrofa	Laguna Ibera	Argentina
26. Tamandua tetradactyla	Canudos	Brazil

Parque Estadual Morro do Diabo

Brazil

Amazona aestiva	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Amazona amazonica	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Amazona rhodocorytha	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Anodorhynchus leari	Canudos	Brazil
Anser anser domesticus	São Paulo	Brazil
Anser cygnoides domesticus	São Paulo	Brazil
Anthracothorax nigricollis	Florianopolis, Tapiraí	Brazil
Ara chloropterus	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Aramides saracura	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Ardea ibis	São Paulo	Brazil
Brotogeris chiriri	Tapiraí	Brazil
Brotogeris tirica	Rio de Janeiro, Tapiraí	Brazil
Butorides striata	Florianopolis, São Paulo	Brazil
Cacicus haemorrhous	Cabo Frio, Tapiraí	Brazil
Cariama cristata	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Celeus flavescens	Cabo Frio, São Paulo, Tapiraí	Brazil
Chauna torquata	Laguna Iberá	Brazil
Chiroxiphia caudata	São Paulo	Brazil
Chrysuronia versicolor	Tapiraí	Brazil
Cissopis leverianus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Coccyzus melacoryphus	Canudos	Brazil
Columbina talpacoti	Rio de Janeiro, Salvador	Brazil
Conopophaga melanops	Florianopolis, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Coragyps atratus	Cabo Frio, Salvador	Brazil
Cranioleuca pallida	Tapiraí	Brazil
Cyanocorax caeruleus	Florianopolis	Brazil
Cygnus atratus	São Paulo	Brazil
Dacnis cayana	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Dendrocolaptes	Tapiraí	Brazil
Dryobates passerinus	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Egretta caerulea	Florianopolis	Brazil
Eleoscytalopus indigoticus	Florianopolis	Brazil
Estrilda astrild	Florianopolis, Joinvile	Brazil
Eudocimus ruber	Joinvile	Brazil
Eupetomena cirrochloris	Tapiraí	Brazil
Euphonia chlorotica	Canudos	Brazil
Eupsittula	Canudos	Brazil
Eupsittula aurea	Salvador	Brazil
Florisuga fusca	Tapiraí	Brazil
Fluvicola nengeta	Casimiro de Abreu, Salvador	Brazil
Fregata magnificens	Cabo Frio, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Furnarius	Canudos	Brazil
Gallinula galeata	Joinvile, São Paulo	Brazil
Hirundinea ferruginea	Canudos, Rio de Janeiro, Tapiraí	Brazil

Icterus jamacaii	Salvador	Brazil
Myiozetetes similis	Salvador	Brazil
Thectocercus acuticaudatus	Canudos	Brazil
Passeriformes	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Penelope superciliaris	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Phaethornis idaliae	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Pteroglossus aracari	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Pygochelidon	Casimiro de Abreu	Brazil
Ramphastos vitellinus	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Rupornis magnirostris	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Sittasomus griseicapillus	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Stelgidopteryx ruficollis	Casimiro de Abreu	Brazil
Thamnophilus ambiguus	Niterói	Brazil
Tyrannus	Cabo Frio	Brazil
Sicalis flaveola	Florianopolis, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Leptotila rufaxilla	Florianopolis	Brazil
Ortalis squamata	Florianopolis	Brazil
Phimosus infuscatus	Florianopolis, Joinvile	Brazil
Plegadis chihi	Florianopolis	Brazil
Nyctanassa violacea	Florianopolis, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Ramphastos vitellinus ariel	Florianopolis, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Piaya cayana	Florianopolis	Brazil
Coereba flaveola	Tapiraí	Brazil
Heliodoxa rubricauda	Tapiraí	Brazil
Leptotila verreauxi	Tapiraí	Brazil
Lophornis chalybeus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Malacoptila striata	Tapiraí	Brazil
Megarynchus pitangua	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Melanerpes flavifrons	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Momotus momota	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Myiarchus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Myiodynastes maculatus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Nannopterum brasilianum	São Paulo	Brazil
Nyctibius	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Nyctibius griseus	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Nycticorax nycticorax	São Paulo	Brazil
Nyctidromus albicollis	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Orthogonys chloricterus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Phaethornis eurynome	Tapiraí	Brazil
Pionus maximiliani	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Pipraeidea melanonota	Tapiraí	Brazil
Podilymbus podiceps	São Paulo	Brazil
Psittacara leucophthalmus	Sorocaba, Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Pteroglossus bailloni	Tapiraí	Brazil

Rostrhamus sociabilis	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Sporophila caerulescens	Tapiraí	Brazil
Syrigma sibilatrix	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Tachyphonus coronatus	Tapiraí	Brazil
Tangara seledon	Tapiraí	Brazil
Thalurania glaucopis	Tapiraí	Brazil
Theristicus caudatus	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Thraupis cyanoptera	Tapiraí	Brazil
Thraupis ornata	Tapiraí	Brazil
Thraupis sayaca	Tapiraí	Brazil
Tinamus solitarius	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Tityra inquisitor	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Trichothraupis melanops	Tapiraí	Brazil
Trochilidae	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil
Turdus rufiventris	São Paulo, Tapiraí	Brazil
Colaptes melanochloros	Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil

Pyrrhura frontalis Lepidocolaptes angustirostris Machetornis rixosa Ardea alba Ardea cocoi Athene cunicularia Caracara plancus Cathartes aura Furnarius rufus Cyanocorax chrysops Colaptes campestris Ramphastos toco Turdus leucomelas Tyrannus melancholicus Vanellus chilensis Patagioenas picazuro Zonotrichia capensis Pitangus sulphuratus Egretta thula	Rio de Janeiro, Tapiraí Laguna Iberá, Teodoro Sampaio Laguna Iberá, Teodoro Sampaio Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, São Paulo Rio de Janeiro, Laguna Iberá Encarnación, Salvador Laguna Iberá, Teodoro Sampaio Teodoro Sampaio Salvador, Laguna Iberá Iguazú Iguazú, Laguna Iberá Iguazú, Teodoro Sampaio Iguazú, Teodoro Sampaio Rio de Janeiro, Laguna Iberá Rio de Janeiro, Laguna Iberá Laguna Iberá, São Paulo Rio de Janeiro, Laguna Iberá	Brazil, Argentina
Egretta thula	Florianopolis, Rio de Janeiro	Brazil, Argentina
Mesembrinibis cayennensis	São Paulo	Brazil, Argentina

Agelaioides badius	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Amazonetta brasiliensis	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Aramides ypecaha	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Aramus guarauna	Distrito Federal	Argentina
Aratinga nenday	Distrito Federal	Argentina
Cacicus solitarius	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Cathartes burrovianus	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Chloroceryle amazona	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Chloroceryle americana	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Columbidae	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Crotophaga ani	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Falco sparverius	Cabo Pollonio	Argentina
Gnorimopsar chopi	lguazú	Argentina
Gubernetes yetapa	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Guira guira	Laguna Iberá, Cabo Pollonio	Argentina
Hylocharis chrysura	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Jacana jacana	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Megaceryle torquata	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Mimus saturninus	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Nyctidromus	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Paroaria coronata	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Patagioenas maculosa	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Phaetusa simplex	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Pyrocephalus rubinus	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Theristicus caerulescens	Cabo Pollonio	Argentina
Tyrannus savana	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Xolmis irupero	Cabo Pollonio	Argentina
Myiopsitta monachus	Laguna Iberá, Cabo Pollonio	Argentina
Tigrisoma lineatum	Distrito Federal, Laguna Iberá	Argentina
Odontophorus capueira	lguazú	Argentina
Thamnophilus caerulescens	lguazú	Argentina
Zenaida auriculata	lguazú	Argentina

LIST OF REPTILES

1. Ameiva	Salvador	Brazil
2. Bothrops jararaca	Tapiraí	Brazil
3. Caiman latirostris	Florianópolis	Brazil
4.Caiman yacare	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
5. Enyalius sp.	Sítio Barrocada	Brazil
6. Enyalius brasiliensis	Barra de São João	Brazil
7. Enyalius perditus	Barra de São João	Brazil
8. Gymnodactylus darwinii	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
9. Hemidactylus mabouia	Cabo Frio	Brazil
10. Chironius flavolineatus	Salvador	Brazil
11. Chironius fuscus	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
12. Ophiodes intermedius	Laguna Iberá	Argentina
13. Philodryas patagoniensis	Punta del Diablo	Uruguay
14. Phyllopezus pollicaris	Canudos	Brazil
15. Salvator merianae	Tapiraí, Joinville	Brazil
16. Spilotes pullatus	Tapiraí	Brazil
17. Trachemys dorbigni	Florianópolis	Brazil
18. Trachemys scripta	Florianópolis	Brazil
19. Tropidurus catalanensis	lguazú	Argentina
20. Tropidurus semitaeniatus	Canudos	Brazil
21. Tropidurus torquatus	Barra da Tijuca, Teodoro Sampaio	Brazil