



Azara's Night Monkey

“Face to Face with Mammals” private tour
Wild Chaco Expeditions
Paraguay, 12-29 August 2025
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Six-banded Armadillo



MAMMALS: 31

BIRDS: 190

HONORABLE MENTION:

-Muller's Termite Frog

-Paraguayan Swimming Frog

-Brachistosternus sp. Scorpion

MAMMALS

SS = Single Sighting

SI = Single Individual

P0 = No realistic photo opportunity

MS = Multiple Sightings

MI = Multiple Individuals

P1 = Poor photo opportunity

P2 = Average photo opportunity

P3 = Excellent photo opportunity

Species		Notes	
Chaco Mouse Opossum	SS/SI/P)		Lifer
Six-banded Armadillo	MS/MI/P3		
S. Three-banded Armadillo	MS/MI/P3	Andrey caught one easily	Lifer
Southern Tamandua	MS/MI.P3		Lifer
Azara's Night Monkey	SS/MI.P3		Lifer
Black-and-gold Howler	MS/MI/P2		Lifer
Hooded Capuchin	MS/MI/P3		Lifer
Plains Viscacha	SS/MI/P2	Colony at burrows @ night	Lifer

Yellow-toothed Cavy	SS/SI/P2		Lifer
Chacoan Mara	MS/MI/P3		Lifer
Capybara	SS/MI/P3		
Chaco Leaf-eared Mouse	SS/SI/P2		Lifer
Chaco Pygmy Rice Rat	SS/SI/P3		Lifer
Common Tapeti	MS/MI/P2	Night only	
L Bulldog Bat	SS/MI/P3	Roost	Lifer
G. Bulldog Bat	MS/MI/P2	In flight	
Diminutive Serotine (Bat)	SS/MI/P3	Roost	Lifer
Wooly False Vampire Bat	SS/MI/P2	Roost	Lifer
Vampire Bat	SS/MI/P2	Roost	Lifer
Goefrey's Cat	MS/MI/P2	Two night sightings	Lifer
Jaguarundi	SS/SI/P2	Water hole at dusk	Lifer
Puma	SS/SI/P0		
Pampas Fox	MS/MI/P2		Lifer
Crab-eating Fox	MS/MI/P2		
Maned Wolf	SS/SI/P1	THE sighting of the trip!	Lifer
Crab-eating Raccoon	SS/SI/P2		
Neotropical River Otter	MS/MI/P2		
Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk	SS/SI/P0		Lifer
Lowland Tapir	MS/MI/P3		
Collared Peccary	MS/MI/P2		
Gray Brocket (Deer)	MS/MI/P2		

MAMMALS

1. **CHACO MOUSE OPOSSUM:** I was hoping for a new species of opossum or two, but didn't expect it to be a mouse opossum. We saw a Chaco Mouse Opossum on the final night hike of the trip. Although I did not get a photograph, I present you with a mouse opossum jaw I found in a Barn Owl pellet days earlier.



Mouse Opossum mandible

2. **ARMADILLOS:** Both Southern Three- and Six-Banded Armadillos were regularly seen, both during the day and at night. We witnessed some interesting behaviors and I never tired of seeing these battle-ready mammals.



Three-banded Armadillo in hand on a colder night

3. **Southern Tamandua:** We saw three individuals total, but our first encounter was the closest and most tolerant.



Southern Tamandua photo with the mobile.

4. **PRIMATES:** We saw three species of primates. Hooded Capuchins were seen on Day 1 in the Asuncion Botanical Garden and on the last days at the Olivares Reserve. Azara's Night Monkey showed themselves very close one night. We saw Black-and-gold Howler Monkeys a few times, but the light was always a challenge. Either the monkeys were in the shadows or they were backlit. Nevertheless, primate sightings are always welcome.



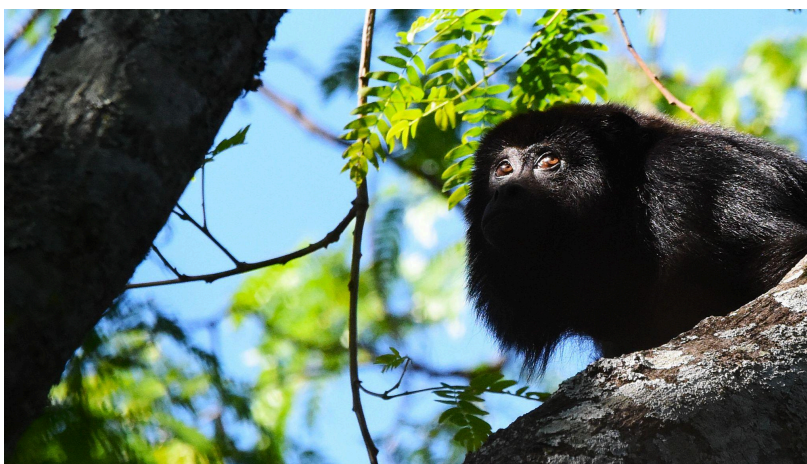
Hooded Capuchin



A slightly bemused Azara's Night Monkey



Male and female Black-and-gold Howler Monkey



Ever watchful.

5. **RODENTS:** We identified six rodent species, without setting traps. Capybara were seen once after making a specific stop at a known location. Plains Viscacha were also seen once by spotlighting at a known colony. This species probably could have been seen again at other location(s) if we were inclined to search them out again. Chaco Mara were abundant at a few locations. I spied one Cavy on my way back from an early morning water hole stakeout and a few more gave fleeting views but were not pursued. Finally, we encountered a single Chaco Leaf-eared Mouse and a single Chaco Pygmy Rice Rat by chance. I should note that I made no effort to try to stake out Tuco Tucos, but we did see their mounds.



Chacoan Mara at a waterhole.



Plains Viscacha. I really need to up my “spotlight photography” game. This photo did not do this species justice.



Chaco Leaf-eared Mouse in an abandoned building.

6. **Common Tapeti:** We found one or two Tapetis on one very productive night drive. I made no effort to photograph this species but could have.
7. **Bats:** Five species of bats were a welcome addition to the trip list, especially Vampire Bat which was on my “must see” list. No bat detector or nets used.



Vampire Bat



Lesser Bulldog Bat



Wooly False Vampire Bat

8. **Order Carnivora:** Nine of our 31 species were in the Order Carnivora, spanning five Families. We saw Crab-eating Raccoon for one night only. Neotropical Otter was our last mammal species on the last day in the field. We saw two Molina's Hog-nosed Skunks (both while spotlighting). I spotted the first one as it darted out into the road and alerted Andrey by yelling "SKUNK-SKUNK-SKUNK-SKUNK-SKUNK" for the entire time the animal was in view. It really is amazing how quickly my brain turns to mush sometimes...

The three **Feline species** were **Puma, Jaguarundi** and **Geoffery's Cat**. Amazingly, we had all three species in a span of only a few hours. The most magical evening/night of the trip was towards the end of the trip while staying at the Chaco Lodge property (Plot Twist: There is no lodge at Chaco Lodge). A front was moving in and the weather was going to turn cooler and wetter. Andrey and Katrina put me out at a waterhole for an afternoon/early evening sit. On the drive to the waterhole, a Puma darted across the road at an oblique angle, giving us a nice but fleeting view. Andrey dropped me off at the waterhole and all was quiet mammalwise until dusk when a completely unexpected Jaguarundi strolled in and took a two minute drink. I say unexpected because in the three years Team Andrey and Karina had been coming to that location they had not documented any, even on camera trap. A few hours later, we added a nice close Geofferey's Cat via spotlight.

The three **Canine species** were **MANED WOLF, Pampas Fox** and **Crab-eating Fox**. Both fox species were seen multiple times, although I did not seem to gain any proficiency in telling them apart. If I had to pick the one species on this trip that was my favorite it would certainly be Maned Wolf. It was our very first night drive of the trip that we were spotlighting on a private estancia. We had already seen Three Banded Armadillo, Southern Tamandua and Crab-eating Fox that night when suddenly Andrey yelled "MANED WOLF!". I was on it immediately. It was maybe 20 meters from the vehicle on the driver's side walking in and out of the vegetation. Andrey slammed the vehicle into reverse and we kept pace with the animal for about 20 glorious seconds. What a bizarre looking animal.

This sighting was so unexpected that after the animal drifted into the distance, we just sat there for a few moments laughing and reliving every little detail. I had resigned myself to the idea that if I was ever going to see Maned Wolf it would have to be one of the habituated ones. This was so much more rewarding. Despite the lack of a photo, despite the less than perfect view and despite the fact that the sighting was over before I knew it, I really cherish this memory.



Jaguarundi

9. **Lowland Tapir:** I saw Tapir numerous times including once on the trail at very close range with each of us startling the other :). I also saw Tapir at three different waterholes.



10. **Artiodactyla:** Gray Brocket Deer and Collared Peccary round out the mammal list.



UNIDENTIFIED: Two tantalizing encounters stand out as possible additions to the list... The morning after my Jaguarundi encounter, a dark mammal with a long tail ran across the trail in front of me while on a birding walk. I was only about 100 meters from where I saw the Jaguarundi and only 80% sure what I saw that morning was a Tayra.

The second mammal that went unidentified was on the exact same trail as the deer above. We were heading back from a morning sit at a waterhole when a lone peccary crossed the trail. I remember thinking in my mind that it was "big and spiky". Andrey also thought it was a good candidate for Chacoan Peccary, but couldn't be sure. Maybe next time...

BIG MISSES: Tayra and Giant Anteater eluded me again. I am not done with South America!

BIRDS: 190 species



Campo Flicker



Chilean Flamingo



Strange-tailed Tyrant

WATERFOWL (5)

Ringed Teal
Brazilian Teal
White-cheeked Pintail
White-faced Whistling Duck
Black-bellied Whistling Duck

CORMORANTS AND ANHINGAS (2)

Anhinga
Neotropic Cormorant

GREBES (2)

Pied-billed Grebe
Least Grebe

GULLS, TERNS AND SKIMMERS (3)

Black Skimmer
Yellow-billed Tern
Large-Billed Tern

SHOREBIRDS (8)

Black-necked Stilt
Southern Lapwing
Collared Plover
Wattled Jacana
Solitary Sandpiper
Lesser Yellowlegs

Greater Yellowlegs
Pectoral Sandpiper

FLAMINGOS (1)

Chilean Flamingo

SCREAMERS (1)

Southern Screamer

STORKS (3)

Maguari Stork
Jabiru
Wood Stork

HERONS, IBIS AND ALLIES (13)

Bare-faced Ibis
Plumbeous Ibis
Buff-necked Ibis
Roseate Spoonbill
Rufescent Tiger-Heron
Black-crowned Night Heron
Capped Heron
Whistling Heron
Snowy Egret
Striated Heron
Western Cattle-Egret
Great Egret

Cocoi Heron

LIMPKINS (1)

Limpkin

RAILS, GALLINULES AND ALLIES (4)

Giant Wood-Rail

Gray-cowled Wood-Rail

Common Gallinule

White-winged Coot

RHEAS (1)

Greater Rhea

SERIEMAS (2)

Black-legged Seriema

Red-legged Seriema

TINAMOUS (2)

Tataupa Tinamou

Brushland Tinamou

CHACHALACAS, GUANS AND

CURASSOWS (1)

Chaco Chachalaca

PIGEONS AND DOVES (7)

Picazuro Pigeon

Ruddy Ground Dove

Scaled Dove

Picui Ground Dove

White-tipped Dove

Eared Dove

Rock Pigeon

VULTURES, HAWKS AND ALLIES (12)

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture

Osprey

Long-winged Harrier

Crane hawk

Black-collared Hawk

Snail Kite

Savanna Hawk

Roadside Hawk

Harris's Hawk

Zone-tailed Hawk

FALCONS AND CARACARAS (4)

Laughing Falcon

Crested Caracara

Yellow-headed Caracara

American Kestrel

OWLS (5)

American Barn Owl

Tropical Screech-Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

Burrowing Owl

Chaco Owl

NIGHTJARS (1)

Scissor-tailed Nightjar

HUMMINGBIRDS (3)

Blue-tufted Starthroat

Glittering-bellied Emerald

Gilded Hummingbird

SWIFTS (1)

Sick's Swift

MARTINS AND SWALLOWS (3)

Southern Rough-winged Swallow

Bank Swallow

White-rumped Swallow

CUCKOOS (3)

Guira Cuckoo

Smoothed-billed Ani

Squirrel Cuckoo

PARROTS, PARAKEETS AND ALLIES (7)

Monk Parakeet

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet

Turquoise-fronted Amazon

Nanday Parakeet
Blue-crowned Parakeet
Red and Green Macaw
Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet

TROGONS AND QUETZALS (1)
Blue-fronted Trogon

KINGFISHERS (3)
Ringed Kingfisher
Amazon Kingfisher
Green Kingfisher

BARBETS AND TOUCANS (1)
Toco Toucan

WOODPECKERS (8)
Little Woodpecker
Campo Flicker
Pale-crested Woodpecker
Green-barred Woodpecker
White-fronted Woodpecker
Checkered Woodpecker
Crimson -crested Woodpecker
White-barred Piculet

JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS AND RAVENS
(2)
Purplish Jay
Plush-crested Jay

WOODCREEPERS (1)
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper

OVENBIRDS (11)
Chaco Earthcreeper
Rufous Hornero
Crested Hornero
Lark-like Brushrunner
Little Thornbird
Chotoy Spinetail
Short-billed Canestero
Sooty-fronted Spinetail

Greater Thornbird
Brown Cachalote

ANTBIRDS (3)
Great Antshrike
Stripe-backed Antbird
Barred Antshrike

TAPACULOS (1)
Crested Gallito

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNULETS
(7)

Pearly-vented Tody-Flycatcher
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet
Straneck's Tyrannulet
Common Tody-Flycatcher
Plain Tyrannulet
Suiriri Flycatcher
Bearded Tachuri

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: PEWEES (14)

Vermillion Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee
Cattle Tyrant
Boat-billed Flycatcher
White Monjita
Gray Monjita
Fuscous Flycatcher
Black-backed Water-Tyrant
Cinereous Tyrant
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Rufous Casiornis
Bran-colored Flycatcher
Spectacled Tyrant
Strange-tailed Tyrant

MOCKINGBIRDS (2)
Chalk-browed Mockingbird
White-banded Mockingbird

THRUSHES (2)
Creamy-bellied Thrush

Rufous-bellied Thrush

WRENS (2)

Southern House Wren

Thrush-like Wren

DONACOBIUS (1)

Black-capped Donacobius

GNATCATCHERS (1)

Masked Gnatcatcher

VIREOS (1)

Rufous-browed Peppershrike

WOOD-WARBLERS (3)

Tropical Parula

Golden-crowned Warbler

Flavescent Warbler

PIPITS (1)

Yellowish Pipit

OLD WORLD SPARROWS (1)

House Sparrow

FINCHES, EUPHONIAS (1)

Hooded Siskin

CARDINALS AND ALLIES (1)

Ultramarine Grosbeak

TANAGERS AND ALLIES (17)

Red-crested Cardinal

Yellow-billed Cardinal

Saffron Finch

Sayaca Tanager

Red-crested Finch

Bluish-gray Saltator

Golden-billed Saltator

Many-colored Chaco Finch

Ringed Warbling Finch

Black-capped Warbling Finch

Great Pampa-Finch

Blue-and-yellow Tanager

White-lined Tanager

Wedge-tailed Grass Finch

Rusty-collared Seedeater

Double-collared Seedeater

White-bellied Seedeater

Orange-headed Tanager

BLACKBIRDS (10)

White-browed Meadowlark

Red-rumped Cacique

Shiny Cowbird

Screaming Cowbird

Variable Oriole

Grayish Baywing

Unicolored Blackbird

Golden-winged Cacique

Solitary Black Cacique

Chestnut-capped Blackbird