Colombia's rare and endemic primates A dedicated mammal watching tour



Image: Silvery-brown bare-face tamarin by Rob Smith

Outline itinerary

Day 1 (Saturday) - exact date to be confirmed

The tour starts upon arrival in Bogota airport from where we directly transfer overland to Villavicencio (2-3 hours drive). This afternoon we go in search of Ornate titi. Giant anteater and Southern tamandua are also possible here and we can do some spotlighting on foot at the reserve this evening. Overnight Hotel Brizantha

Day 2

This morning we have another chance for Ornate titi, when they are at their most vocal. Later transfer a short way to a known 'hole' of Brumback's night monkey. This afternoon transfer back to Bogota. Depending on flight schedules, we may be able to fly this afternoon to Putamayo. Otherwise we overnight in Bogota. Overnight airport hotel or simple guest house

Day 3

(Depending on flight schedules we shall transfer/fly to Putamayo and) This morning transfer to a private reserve. Remainder of the day in the field trying for Colombia black-handed titi and Lucifer/yellow-handed titi. Other primate species in the area include Pygmy marmoset, Saddle-back tamarin and Squirrel monkey. Night walk this evening. Overnight simple guest house

Please note: the schedules for the regional flights to/from Putamayo have not been released. The itinerary may need to be adjusted accordingly when the timings are known.

Day 4

Today is dedicated to the rare and critically endangered Colombian woolley monkey. A short transfer takes us to the trail head, from where we start hiking up a moderately steep path. We will need to hike for at least 3-4 hours before reaching good cloud forest habitat where the chances of seeing woolley monkey increase. We continue our search for this rare primate, with plenty of breaks, a tasty packed lunch and several hours of gentle searching in the highest part of the hike. We later hike down via the same route to the trail head where we transfer by vehicle to our guest house. Please expect to be hiking for at least 8 hours today. Overnight simple guest house



Image: Caquetá tití by Rob Smith

Day 5

Final morning for anything missed. We later transfer to the small village of Miraflor where we dedicate the afternoon to searching out and hopefully obtaining good views of the extremely rare and critically endangered Caquetá tití. Overnight local hotel

Day 6

We spend the early part of the morning in search of Caquetá tití. Later transfer and fly to Bogota. Depending on flight timings we shall either drive northwards into the Magdalena Valley for around 5 hours where we stay in a hotel close to the Rio Claro reserve. If our flight is late afternoon, we may not be able to make it all the way there, in which case we shall stay somewhere en route, making a very early start the following morning. Overnight Los Colores or similar

Day 7

This morning we shall go in search of Silvery-brown bare-face tamarin. Depending on sightings we can stay longer into the afternoon, or if successful move onto our next destination and the tricky spider monkey. Evening night walk for Grey-handed night monkey. Overnight El Paujil

Day 8

A full day is dedicated to Variegated Spider Monkey. Evening night walk for Grey-handed night monkey and other nocturnal species. Overnight El Paujil

Day 9 (Sunday)

Final morning for anything missed (we have another chance for Silvery-brown bare-face tamarin if required) - drive back to Medellin international airport where the tour ends.



Image: Variegated spider monkey by Rob Smith

Other (large) mammals that we stand a good/reasonable chance of seeing on this tour include the following:

Nine-banded armadillo - Dasypus novemcinctus

Brown-throated sloth - Bradypus variegatus

Venezuelan red howler monkey - Alouatta seniculus

White-fronted capuchin – cebus (various sub species)

Common squirrel monkey - Saimiri sciureus

Tufted capuchin – Cebus apella

Spix's night monkey - Aotus vociferans

Brazilian guinea pig - Cavia aperea

Black agouti - Dasyprocta fuliginosa

Central American agouti - Dasyprocta punctata

Lowland paca - Cuniculus paca

Mountain paca - Cuniculus taczanowskii

Red-tailed squirrel - Sciurus granatensis

Ocelot - Leopardus pardalis

Jaguarundi - Puma yagouaroundi

Crab-eating fox - Cerdocyon thous

Kinkajou - Potos flavus

Olinguito - Bassaricyon neblina

Tayra - Eira barbara

Neotropical (river) otter - Lontra longicaudis

Collared peccary - Pecari tajacu

Red brocket - Mazama americana

White-tailed deer - Odocoileus virginianus

Brown-eared woolley opossum - Caluromys lanatus