

# SOUTHEAST BRAZIL – ATLANTIC FOREST ENDEMICS PARADISE TRIP REPORT

20 SEPTEMBER – 04 OCTOBER 2024

By Eduardo Ormaeche



The gorgeous Red-breasted Toucan never fails to impress!



## **Overview**

Our Southeast Brazil: Atlantic Forest Endemics Paradise tour was a resounding success. This exciting tour traverses one of the most avian-diverse regions in the Neotropics, focusing on the unique and threatened Atlantic Forests. These forests once stretched unbroken for nearly 2,000 miles (3,000 kilometers) along Brazil's southern coast; today, more than 500 years after the Portuguese colonization, large-scale deforestation and population expansion have fragmented the forests to the extent that only 12% of the original forested area remains. Despite this tremendous loss, the Atlantic Forests remain exceptionally biodiverse with an estimated 891 bird species, second only to the Amazon rainforest, which boasts 1,300 species of birds – in an area four times the size!

Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world, so exploring the full extent of the Atlantic Forests is a lengthy undertaking. As a result, this trip focused on the most accessible birding hotspots located primarily in the state of São Paulo and the westernmost corner of Rio de Janeiro state. A considerable altitudinal range was covered on this tour, from sea level up to the high-elevation foothills of Agulhas Negras, Brazil's eighth-highest peak at 9,156 feet (2,790 meters). Over 15 days, we travelled across São Paulo state, visiting classic birding destinations such as Intervales State Park, the coastal shores of Ubatuba at the base of the Serra do Mar Mountain Range, and Itatiaia National Park. We also visited relatively new locations that have only recently been put on the radars of birders, such as Trilha de Tucanos and Espinheiro Negro Lodge.

We managed to connect with a plethora of Atlantic Forest endemic species in addition to many of the region's most iconic and coveted species. Highlights included **Blond-crested Woodpecker**, **Black-fronted Piping Guan**, **Bare-throated Bellbird**, **Ochre-collared Piculet**, **Slaty Bristlefront**, **Dusky Purpletuft**, **Black-and-gold** and **Swallow-tailed Cotingas**, **Green-headed**, **Red-necked**, **Gilt-edged**, **Brazilian** and **Brassy-breasted Tanagers**, **Robust Woodpecker**, **Solitary Tinamou**, **Long-trained Nightjar**, **Long-tufted Screech Owl**, **Festive Coquette**, **Sawbilled Hummingbird**, **White-eyed Foliage-gleaner**, **Black-billed Scythebill**, **White-bibbed Antbird**, **Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper**, **Red-breasted Toucan**, **Saffron Toucanet**, and **Blackheaded** and **Hooded Berryeaters**.

#### **Detailed Report**

#### Day 1. Arrival in São Paulo and transfer to Intervales

A few of the participants arrived the evening before the start of the tour, and after collecting the remaining participants at São Paulo Guarulhos International Airport in the morning, we were ready to set off towards Intervales State Park.

The group was eager to get the trip list off to a good start, and while passing some of the canals in São Paulo, we added our first Green Ibis, Southern Lapwing, Tropical Kingbird, Greybreasted Martin, Western Cattle Egret, Plumbeous and Swallow-tailed Kites, Crested Caracara, Ruddy Ground Dove, Eared Dove and other common species. Around midday, we stopped at our first Brazilian Conveniencia; these restaurants are strategically located along main roads, include fully supplied shops, and are very popular among locals. We tasted our first

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Brazilian steaks and enjoyed the exquisite Brazilian fruit juices here. After lunch, we continued on the lengthy road to Intervales. It was challenging to stop and bird along the freeway; however, we did manage to add **Guira Cuckoo** (Güirá from the Guarani Amerindian language, where the word means bird), **Rufous Hornero** (the national bird of Argentina), **Great Kiskadee**, **Vermillion Flycatcher**, **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**, **Pale-breasted Thrush** and **Sayaca Tanager** (from the Guarani word "*Saí-acú*" which means "very vivid").

After a long drive, we arrived at the park and called in at the local restaurant outside the park, where we arrived with time enough to squeeze in a short birding session, which yielded Greenwinged Saltator, Cinnamon Tanager, Blue Dacnis, Bananaquit, Swallow Tanager, Cliff Flycatcher, Palm Tanager, Shiny Cowbird and Saffron Finch.

We then made our way to our accommodation within the park, which would become our base for the next three nights.

#### Day 2. Intervales State Park

We had an early start this morning to explore the lush forest around our cabins in the state park. After a good breakfast, we spent some time at the bird feeders next to the restaurant, where we had great views of **Grey-throated Warbling Finch**, **Ruby-crowned Tanager** (males and females), the beautiful **Green-headed Tanager**, the striking **Brazilian Tanager**, **Golden-chevroned Tanager**, **Rufous-collared Sparrow**, **Golden-winged Cacique**, **Green-winged Saltator** and **Black-googled Tanager**. Birds around the restaurant included **Cliff Flycatcher**, **Grey-breasted Martin**, **House Wren**, **Buff-necked Ibis**, **Common Gallinule** at the pond behind the house, **Tropical Kingbird**, **Hooded Siskin**, **Purple-throated Euphonia**, **Roadside Hawk**, **Southern Yellowthroat**, **Brown Tanager**, **Creamy-bellied Thrush**, **Chalk-browed Mockingbird** and **Rufous-bellied Thrush** (the national bird of Brazil).

After spending some time birding around the restaurant, we started tackling several sites in the park. We first visited a grassland area where the park ranger had an obliging **Red-and-white Crake**, which had been coming out into the open to feed on corn. We had crippling views of this small and secretive species at close range almost as soon as we arrived on site. Shortly after this unforgettable sighting, we connected with the striking **Blond-crested Woodpecker** and the uncommon **Robust Woodpecker**.

After this exciting session, we birded the trails in the park to look for the elusive **Solitary Tinamou**, which occasionally shows itself when the ranger leaves out corn at a feeder. After waiting for what felt like an eternity, we had a covey of the endemic and elusive **Spot-winged Wood Quail** coming right to our feet. The group was ecstatic! We stayed motionless until the birds moved on, and just as we were about to call it quits, the **Solitary Tinamou** approached slowly to claim his turn at the feeder. Macuco, the Portuguese name for Solitary Tinamou, gave us a whole performance! The first hours of the morning could not have been any better.

Other birds that were seen this morning included **Slaty-breasted Wood Rail**, **Picazuro Pigeon**, **Plain Parakeet**, **Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet**, **Squirrel Cuckoo**, **White-collared Swift**, **Surucua Trogon**, **Campo Flicker**, **White Woodpecker** and **White-barred Piculet**.

In the afternoon, we were lucky to spot a **Hooded Berryeater**, and we managed to secure great views of the most-wanted **Purple-crowned Plovercrest**. Other birds seen this afternoon included **Dusky-tailed Antbird**, **Variable Antshrike**, **White-throated Woodcreeper**, **Streaked Xenops**,



Araucaria Tit-Spinetail, Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner, the secretive Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper, Chestnut-crowned Becard, Blue Manakin, São Paulo Tyrannulet, Yellowolive Flycatcher, Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher, Rufous-capped Spinetail, Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant and Planalto Tyrannulet (Planalto is a Portuguese word used to refer to high plains). We tried for Rusty-barred Owl in the evening, which gave us brief yet satisfactory views.



We enjoyed unbelievable views of Solitary Tinamou at Intervales State Park.

## Day 3. Intervales State Park

Our last full day in Intervales saw us exploring the sections above the lower parts of the reserve. We had excellent encounters with White-eyed Foliage-gleaner, Rufous-headed Tanager, Diademed Tanager, Yellow-legged Thrush, Grey-hooded Attila, Oustalet's Tyrannulet, (named after Jean Frédéric Émile Oustalet, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century French ornithologist), the endemic Yellow-lored Tody-Flycatcher, Hangnest Tody-Tyrant, Greenish Schiffornis, Whitethroated Spadebill, Olivaceous Woodcreeper, (here of the *sylviellus* race), Squamate Antbird, Rufous Gnateater and Atlantic Black-throated Trogon. We tried hard to find the endemic and elusive Blue-bellied Parrot, and we had several brief fly-by views before they disappeared, not to be seen again. We also connected with Rufous-capped Antthrush, which was briefly seen by most of the group after flying around us in response to playback.

While walking along the forest tracks in the reserve, we spotted the striking and endangered **Black-fronted Piping Guan** on the top of a tree, providing us with fantastic views.

However, the morning's highlight came in the form of a **Bare-throated Bellbird** calling and displaying from the canopy of a tree. There was a sense of triumph in the air as we had been hearing the bellbird constantly for the past two days without any views. The group was thrilled to finally lay eyes on this iconic species.

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The iconic Bare-throated Bellbird showed well in Intervales State Park.

The grand finale during our stay at Intervales State Park was our last owling session, which took us out of the park to look for the impressive **Long-trained Nightjar** – an Atlantic Forest endemic. As the sun set, we were treated to an unforgettable fly-by as a male cruised past us! What an experience.



Hooded Berryeater was one of many Brazilian endemics seen in Intervales State Park.

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#### Day 4. Transfer to Trilha dos Tucanos

After a successful time birding in Intervales State Park, we continued to our base for the next two days, Trilha dos Tucanos Lodge, located in the Tapiraí municipality, which contains part of the Serra do Mar biosphere. This lodge gained popularity due to its easy access from São Paulo city. The lodge boasts comfortable accommodations, good food, and bird feeders, including hummingbird feeders, fruit feeders, and moth traps for insectivorous species. After a few hours, we arrived at the lodge and immediately found ourselves drawn to the bird feeders, where we were thrilled to discover large numbers of **Plain Parakeets** on the feeders, followed by **Maroon-tailed Parakeets** feasting on seeds. We had lovely views of **Red-rumped Caciques** at a colony and a **Piratic Flycatcher**.

We then had striking views of the gorgeous **Blond-crested Woodpecker** and an **Olive-green Tanager** (which, together with Dusky-faced, Olive-backed and Red-billed Pied Tanagers are the only four members of the family Mitrospingidae).



We enjoyed point-blank views of **Olive-green Tanager**, one of four members of the family Mitrospingidae.

After checking in to our accommodation and enjoying a delicious lunch, we walked around the area, but not before rechecking the feeders. We found Ken already waiting for us at the feeders. He showed us his excellent photos of the **Blond-crested Woodpecker** and a **Saffron Toucanet** - a bird high on everybody's wish list for the trip. We waited around to see if it would show again. However, after a while with no luck, we decided to go for a walk which yielded several other fantastic birds including **Buff-throated Purpletuft**, **Ochre-collared Piculet**, **Lesser Woodcreeper**, **Brazilian Ruby**, **Crescent-chested Puffbird**, **Yellow-fronted Woodpecker**, **Pale-browed Treehunter**, **Pallid Spinetail**, **Three-striped Flycatcher**, **Grey-capped** 

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**Tyrannulet**, **Masked Water Tyrant** and **Cliff Flycatcher**. Sadly, there wasn't an active Atlantic Royal Flycatcher nest this season, so we couldn't repeat our excellent views of the species from our 2023 Southeast Brazil tour. We then spent the better part of an hour tracking down a vocal **East Brazilian Pygmy Owl**, which we eventually found calling in the sub-canopy and enjoyed great scope views.



Saffron Toucanet put on a show for us at Trilha dos Toucanos Lodge.

## Day 5. Trilha dos Toucanos Lodge

We had an early start today to meet up at the moth trap, a roofed white screen that remains illuminated throughout the night, leaving behind a buffet for insectivorous species the following day. Within an hour we managed to see White-throated, Planalto, Olivaceous, Scalloped and Plain-winged Woodcreepers, Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher, Sibilant Sirystes, Riverbank Warbler, Rufous-capped Spinetail, Tufted Antshrike, Yellow-breasted Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Warbler and Ochre-rumped Antbird and we heard Western Fire-eye in the bushes behind the moth trap. Another bird seen briefly was the Black-throated Saltator, which Steve and Barbara missed on this occasion. We went back for breakfast, and after some mandatory coffee, we spent some time at the fruit feeders, where we finally had Saffron Toucanet and a few Magpie Tanagers.



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Black Jacobins are abundant in the Atlantic Forests.

The hummingbird feeders were bursting with activity, producing great views of **Black Jacobin**, **Festive Coquette**, **Brazilian Ruby**, **Violet-capped Woodnymph**, **Black-throated Mango**, **Versicolored Emerald**, **Sombre Hummingbird** and **Glittering-bellied Emerald**.

The trails were quiet in the afternoon, but we managed to get a glimpse of a **Solitary Tinamou** and the briefest of views of a **Variegated Antpitta**; despite hearing this species at several locations on this trip, we never succeeded in getting satisfactory views. Unlike the antpitta, **Lesser Woodcreeper** showed very well on our afternoon walk.

An unexpected bonus came in the form of a **Lowland Tapir** and a **Paca**, both of which were being fed by the lodge staff and provided some delightful dinnertime entertainment.

## Day 6. Transfer to Espinheiro Negro

After breakfast, we bid farewell to Trilha dos Toucanos, but not before finding a couple of **Rufous-capped Motmots**, another special of the Atlantic Forest.

We had quite a drive ahead of us to get to the wonderful Espinheiro Negro Lodge. This small and relatively new lodge focuses mainly on birding and photography and is run well by a charming couple. It has a very cosy atmosphere about it and delicious food. Visitors can relax by birding at the feeders and short trails leading away from the lodge. We ran to the feeders as soon as we arrived, where the participants drooled while feasting their eyes on the gorgeous **Red-necked Tanager**. This is a good site for the endemic and scarce Black-legged Dacnis during the winter months.

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Rufous-capped Motmot at Trilha dos Toucanos, yet another Atlantic Forest endemic.

Other birds seen at the feeders included **Chestnut-bellied** and **Violaceous Euphonias**, **Blackgoogled Tanager**, **Bananaquit**, **Blue Dacnis**, **Ruby-crowned Tanager**, **Brazilian Tanager**, **Green-headed Tanager** and **Golden-chevroned Tanager**.

After lunch, we managed to get a glimpse of a single **White-necked Hawk** flying above the slopes, while Thomaz and Steve had our only **Mantled Hawk** for the trip.

We went to check the trails, including the hide for the Spot-winged Wood Quail, but alas, it was empty. The afternoon birding was quiet, but we still managed to add a few new species for the trip, like **Flame-crested Tanager**, **Trilling Gnatwren**, **Plain Xenops**, **Plain Antvireo**, **Variable Antshrike** and **White-shouldered Fire-eye**. Thanks to Thomaz, we picked up the most-wanted **Black-headed Berryeater**, which played hide and seek with us for a while, not giving us anything more than a silhouette.

#### Day 7. Espinheiro Negro and transfer to Peruibe

We met in the dining room for a mandatory coffee and then started our birding day with one plan: to see **Black-headed Berryeater**. We heard a **Collared Forest Falcon** calling near the lodge, and after a short round of playback, we were rewarded with brief but good views. We walked towards the **Black-headed Berryeater** territory, finding a **Striated Heron** and **Ringed Kingfisher** at a small pond. After another round of cat and mouse, we eventually managed to get everyone onto views of the berryeater.

We then spent some time at the hide, where we had a **Ruddy Quail-Dove**, which was new for the trip. We returned to the lodge for breakfast before continuing the journey towards Peruibe. Before we left, we called in once more at the hummingbird feeders in the garden, where we enjoyed views

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of Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, Violet-capped Woodnymph, Black Jacobin, Sombre Hummingbird and Festive Coquette. We also managed to see an Amethyst Woodstar as it fed in the *Lantana* flowers in front of the cabins.

We left Espinheiro Negro and made our way towards the coast of São Paulo in Peruibe, where we spent two nights. We arrived with enough time to do some afternoon birding in the mangrove zone together with our friend Fabio Barata, one of the area's most experienced birders. We found **Bicolored Conebill, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Snowy** and **Great Egrets, Cocoi Heron, Bare-faced Ibis** and **Scarlet Ibis**, which was a highlight for several participants. Fabio informed us that the endemic **Black-backed Tanager** was very scarce with few recent sightings; however, his determination to show us the bird paid off, and we connected with a young male on the first afternoon!

#### Day 8. Peruibe

Today, we had one of the earliest starts of the trip; however, a full breakfast with freshly baked warm chocolate cake and good coffee helped prepare us for action at 04:30 am. After an hour's drive, we arrived at the area where the endemic **Red-tailed Amazon** roosts. This endemic species is restricted to southeastern Brazil. In 1991, the species had a total global population of just 2,000 individuals, mainly due to habitat loss and poaching for the pet trade; however, successful conservation efforts have allowed the population to bounce back to 10,000-11,000 individuals. After arriving on-site, we enjoyed excellent views of this range-restricted parrot. Other birds in the area included **Azure Jay, Buff-bellied Puffbird, Black-cheeked Gnateater, Star-throated Antwren** and **Long-billed Wren**.

We then left the area and headed back to the site where we had seen the **Black-backed Tanager** the previous day. In addition to the juvenile male, we found a female near the mangroves. We dedicated some time to finding the secretive **Little Wood Rail**, but only Fabio and I managed to get a lightning glimpse of it on the shores of Peruibe.

We returned in the afternoon to try again, and on the way, we got a **Rufous-winged Antwren** and **Grey-cowled Wood Rail**. Upon arriving on the shores of Peruibe, we added **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Neotropic Cormorant** and **Magnificent Frigatebird**. Only at the eleventh hour did we get views of the shy and secretive **Little Wood Rail**.

We celebrated with caipirinhas (a Brazilian cocktail) after a spectacular time in Peruibe.

#### Day 9. Transfer to Ubatuba

On our last morning in Peruibe, we went to a house in a private condominium where Fabio knew about a Yellow-legged Tinamou which had been visiting a feeder; however, after an hour of waiting, we decided to move on to the next spot. Our time in the garden was not wasted though, as we saw several classic birds, including a pair of **Saffron Toucanets**, **Wing-banded Hornero** and **Rufous-sided Crake**; the latter showed well with patient waiting. We then went to the Atlantic shores, where we added **Magnificent Frigatebird**, **Kelp Gull** and **Royal Tern**. We were surprised by a pair of **Burrowing Owls** at a charming boulevard park by the shore.

Our time in Peruibe came to an end, and we continued our trip towards Ubatuba, a famous beach municipality among birders in the state of São Paulo, with 83% of its area located in the Serra do

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Mar State Park. We had the longest drive of the trip, covering 220 miles (350 kilometers), which took over four hours. We arrived at our comfortable hotel in time to get some rest before another busy day's birding tomorrow.

#### Day 10. Ubatuba and Jonas's feeders

As usual, we were up early and left after a hearty breakfast to explore the Atlantic Forests at the buffer zone of the Serra do Mar State Park. Some of the birds we saw this morning included Scalyheaded Parrot (here of the *melanoblepharus* race), Sick's Swift (Named after the 20<sup>th</sup>-century German ornithologist Helmut Sick), Green-backed Trogon, Yellow-fronted Woodpecker, Streak-capped Antwren and the elusive Spotted Bamboowren which showed well but in harsh light, making it tricky to see the bird's plumage features. Black-cheeked Gnateater, Long-billed Wren, Lesser Woodcreeper, the endemic Orange-eyed Thornbird, Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner and Pale-browed Treehunter also put in an appearance for us.

Other birds seen this morning included **Black-capped Becard**, **Blond-crested Woodpecker** and **Black Hawk-Eagle**, which perched and provided prolonged scope views.



The diminutive **Festive Coquette** was a regular feature of most hummingbird feeders on the trip.

After a productive morning, we had lunch with a view over some very active feeders where we picked up **Rufous-bellied Thrush**, **Blue Dacnis**, **Green Honeycreeper**, **Green-headed**, **Red-necked**, **Sayaca**, **Palm**, **Golden-chevroned** and **Ruby-crowned Tanagers** and a **White-necked Thrush** which was a new addition to the burgeoning trip list.





Red-necked Tanager is a stunning bird (photo Ken Hashagen)!

After lunch, we went to the Jonas's gardens, where we spent some time at the hummingbird feeders. We reconnected with the previously seen **Violet-capped Woodnymph**, **Brazilian Ruby**, **Sombre Hummingbird** and **Black Jacobin** and added new species, such as the endemic **Saw-billed Hermit** and **White-chinned Sapphire**.

The forest behind the property was quiet during the heat of the day, so we only walked a short way down one of the trails to try for **Slaty Bristlefront**, which showed well to everyone. We then returned to the vehicle and made our way back to the hotel for another round of caipiriñas to celebrate another excellent day out in the field.

## Day 11. Ubatuba

Today, we spent an entire morning exploring key sites above Ubatuba, where we had several great encounters with birds like Whiskered Myiobius, the endemic Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant, Eyeringed Tody-Tyrant, Scaled Antbird, the endemic and vulnerable Salvadori's Antwren, (named after Tommaso Salvadori, 1835-1923, an Italian doctor and ornithologist), the endemic Unicolored Antwren, Ferruginous Antbird, Star-throated Antwren, Streak-capped Antwren, Spot-breasted Antvireo, Scaled Woodcreeper, Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner, the endemic Orange-eyed Thornbird, Black-capped Foliage-gleaner, White-bearded Manakin, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, Sepia-capped Flycatcher, Grey-hooded Flycatcher, Fuscous Flycatcher, Variegated Flycatcher, Streaked Flycatcher, Buffy-fronted Seedeater, Whitethighed Swallow, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Red-eyed Vireo and Temminck's Seedeater, an Atlantic forest bamboo specialist. Additionally, we managed to get good views of Rustymargined Guan and Nine-banded Armadillo.





Blond-crested Woodpecker was one of the favourites of the trip.

## Day 12. Transfer to Itatiaia State Park

We left Ubatuba and drove towards the municipality of Itatiaia in Rio de Janeiro state. Our next destination was the Itatiaia National Park, the oldest park in Brazil, established in 1937, where we stayed at the Hotel de Ype – our base for the next three nights.

We arrived at the lodge in time for lunch and enjoyed a showy male **Frilled Coquette** as he went about foraging at the hummingbird feeders. Although this is a reliable site for the coquette, it can be tricky here at times. Other species seen during the remaining daylight hours included **Whitethroated Hummingbird**, **White-eyed Parakeet**, **Dusky-legged Guan**, **Blue-winged Macaw** flying above the lodge, **Plumbeous Pigeon**, **White-collared Swift**, **White-spotted Woodpecker**, **White-barred Piculet** and **Robust Woodpecker**.

#### Day 13. Itatiaia State Park

Our plan for today was to explore the forest trails and bird around the abandoned hotel (the pink ghost palace). The trails were quiet, and the birding was slow. However, we managed to get **Plumbeous Pigeon**, a covey of **Spot-winged Wood Quails**, **Surucuá Trogon**, **White-spotted Woodpecker**, **Rufous-capped Motmot**, **Scaly-headed Parrot**, **Variable Antshrike**, **Ferruginous Antbird**, **Rufous Gnateater**, **Streaked Xenops**, **Gilt-edged Tanager** and the undisputed highlight of the morning - **Black-billed Scythebill** - what a bird!

We tried hard to elicit views from the endemic **White-bibbed Antbird**, which, after much effort, was seen well, but all too briefly. We heard the elusive **Cryptic Antthrush** along the narrowest part of the trail, however, our attempts at laying eyes on the bird were futile.

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We then went to the abandoned hotel where we looked for Half-collared Sparrow, which proved elusive this year, despite our best efforts. We managed to get views of the endemic Velvety Black Tyrant, Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch, Short-crested Flycatcher, the endemic White-collared Foliage-gleaner, Long-tailed Tyrant, Yellow-legged Thrush, Pin-tailed Manakin, Tropical Parula and Robust Woodpecker.

After our action-packed morning, we spent a leisurely afternoon looking for hummingbirds, trying to get better views of **Blue-winged Macaws**, and attempting to find a Tawny-browed Owl in the evening, which was not in the neighbourhood today. From the lodge grounds, it was possible to see some distant fires that had recently affected massive parts of Brazil and several other countries in South America. A sombre sight indeed.

#### Day 14. Itatiaia Agulhas Negras

Today, we explored the park's upper reaches at the base of the Agulhas Negras Mountain, the fifth highest peak in Brazil at 9,156 feet (2,791 meters) above sea level. We had a productive time birding here, finding species such as White-tailed Hawk, White-vented Violetear, Rufous-backed Antvireo, Crested Becard, White-crested Tyrannulet, Yellow-legged Thrush, Diademed Tanager, Buff-throated Warbling Finch, Fawn-breasted Tanager, the handsome Brassy-breasted Tanager, Thick-billed Saltator, Great Pampa Finch and Itatiaia Spinetail. We tried hard for a vocal Rufous-capped Antshrike (which did not show) and the skulking Large-tailed Antshrike, which eventually showed well for the whole group. We got views of the endemic Blue-billed Black Tyrant; the female showed well, but the male only gave us glimpses. We heard Mouse-colored Tapaculo and added Serra do Mar Bristle Tyrant. The highlight, however, was the endemic Black-and-gold Cotinga, which we saw in the open alongside a Swallow-tailed Cotinga.

After a successful morning, we started our journey back to the hotel. On our way back, we passed through patches of open grassland habitat where we managed to see **Savanna Hawk** and **Toco Toucan** from the vehicle, the latter unfortunately not seen by everyone.

In the afternoon, we birded the road down from Hotel Ype, finding interesting species such as **Black-eared Fairy**, **Crested Black Tyrant**, **Yellow-bellied Elaenia**, **Boat-billed Flycatcher**, **Southern Tropical Pewee**, the endemic **Orange-eyed Thornbird** building a nest, **Red-rumped Cacique**, **Streaked Flycatcher** and **Dusky-legged Guan**.

After dusk, we tried for **Short-tailed Nighthawk**, which showed well in response to a whistling imitation of its call. We heard the scarce **Buff-fronted Owl** call within close proximity to us, however, unfortunately, the bird was chased off by a **Tropical Screech Owl**, before we could get any views of it. We spent some time spotlighting and found the bizarre-looking **Paraguian Hairy Dwarf Porcupine**, which was a lifer for all of us. Before calling it a night, we enjoyed watching this unique creature go about its arboreal lifestyle.

#### Day 15 Itatiaia and transfer to São Paulo airport

For the first time on the trip, we had a relaxed morning around the lodge as we bid farewell to many of the fantastic species we had been seeing over the past two weeks. This trip was memorable



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for all participants, who thoroughly enjoyed the experience of birding the Atlantic Rainforests and admiring the wonderful birds on offer.

We left the hotel and stopped at a viewpoint in the park, where we added a couple of new species, including **Burnished-buff Tanager** and the vulnerable **Buffy-fronted Seedeater**, which was a nice addition to the trip list.

We then continued our four-hour drive back to São Paulo with a final stop where we added **Orange-headed Tanager**. The drive to Guarulhos International Airport passed without event, and after saying our goodbyes, we connected with our international flights home.



The range-restricted and endemic **Saw-billed Hermit** showed well for us at Jonas (photo Ken Hashagen).





## **Bird List - Following IOC (14.2)**

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

Tinamous (Tinamidae)	
Solitary Tinamou	Tinamus solitarius
Yellow-legged Tinamou (H)	Crypturellus noctivagus
Tataupa Tinamou (H)	Crypturellus tataupa
Ducks, Geese and Swans (Anatidae)	
Muscovy Duck	Cairina moschata
Huseovy Buck	Carrina moschaia
Chachalas, Curassow and Guans (Craci	dae)
Rusty-margined Guan	Penelope superciliaris
Dusky-legged Guan	Penelope obscura
Black-fronted Piping Guan	Pipile jacutinga
Wood Quails (Odontophoridae)	
Spot-winged Wood Quail	Odontophorus capueira
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Short-tailed Nighthawk	Lurocalis semitorquatus
Parauque	Nyctidromus albicollis
Long-trained Nightjar	Macropsalis forcipata
Swifts (Apodidae)	
White-collared Swift	Streptoprocne zonaris
Grey-rumped Swift	Chaetura cinereiventris
Sick's Swift	Chaetura meridionalis
Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)	
Black Jacobin	Florisuga fusca
Saw-billed Hermit	Ramphodon naevius
Scale-throated Hermit	Phaethornis eurynome
Dusky-throated Hermit	Phaetornis squalidus
White-vented Violetear	Colibri serrirostris
Black-eared Fairy	Heliothryx auritus
Black-throated Mango	Anthracothorax nigricollis
Frilled Coquette	Lophornis magnificus

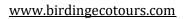


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Festive Coquette	Lophornis chalybeus
Brazilian Ruby	Heliodoxa rubricauda
Amethyst Woodstar	Calliphlox amethystina
Glittering-bellied Emerald	Chlorostilbon lucidus
Purple-crowned Plovercrest	Stephanoxis loddigesii
Violet-capped Woodnymph	Thalurania glaucopis
Sombre Hummingbird	Eupetomena cirrochloris
Versicolored Emerald	<i>Chrysuronia versicolor</i>
Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Chionomesa fimbriata</i>
White-chinned Sapphire	Chlorestes cyanus
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Greater Ani	Crotophaga major
Smooth-billed Ani	Crotophaga ani
Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana
Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia
Picazuro Pigeon	Patagioenas picazuro
Plumbeous Pigeon	Patagioenas plumbea
Ruddy Ground Dove	Columbina talpacoti
Ruddy Quail-Dove	Geotrygon montana
White-tipped Dove	Leptotila verreauxi
Eared Dove	Zenaida auriculata
Rails (Rallidae)	
Little Wood Rail	Aramides mangle
Grey-cowled Wood Rail	Aramides cajaneus
Slaty-breasted Wood Rail	Aramides saracura
Common Gallinule	Gallinula galeata
Rufous-sided Crake	Laterallus melanophaius
Red-and-white Crake	Laterallus leucopyrrhus
Limpkin (Aramidae)	
Limpkin	Aramus guarauna
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis
Jacanas (Jacanidae)	
Wattled Jacana	Jacana jacana



Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius
Ibises (Threskiornithidae)	
Buff-necked Ibis	Theristicus caudatus
Green Ibis	Mesembrinibis cayennensis
Bare-faced Ibis	Phimosus infuscatus
Scarlet Ibis	Eudocimus ruber
Roseate Spoonbill	Platalea ajaja
Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Neotropical Cormorant	Phalacrocorax brasilianus
Herons and Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	Tigrisoma lineatum
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	Nyctanassa violacea
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax
Whistling Heron	Syrigma sibilatrix
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula
Striated Heron	Butorides striata
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Great Egret	Ardea herodias
Cocoi Heron	Ardea cocoi
New World Vultures (Cathartidae)	
Black Vulture	Coragyps atratus
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura
Kites, Hawks and Eagles (Accipitridae)	
Swallow-tailed Kite	Elanoides forficatus
Black Hawk-Eagle	Spizaetus tyrannus
Plumbeous Kite	Ictinia plumbea
Savanna Hawk	Buteogallus meridionalis
White-necked Hawk	Buteogallus lacernulatus
Roadside Hawk	Rupornis magnirostris
White-tailed Hawk	Geranoaetus albicaudatus
Mantled Hawk	Pseudastur polionotus





Buff-fronted Owl (H)	Aegolius harrisii
Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia
East Brazilian Pygmy Owl	Glaucidium minutissimum
Tropical Screech Owl	Megascops choliba
Long-tufted Screech Owl	Megascops sanctaecatarinae
Rusty-barred Owl	Strix hylophila
Trogons (Trogonidae)	
Green-backed Trogon	Trogon viridis
Surucua Trogon	Trogon surrucura
Atlantic Black-throated Trogon	Trogon chrysochloros
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Amazon Kingfisher	Chloroceryle amazona
Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata
Motmots (Momotidae)	
Rufous-capped Motmot	Baryphthengus ruficapillus
Puffbirds (Bucconidae)	
Buff-bellied Puffbird	Notharchus swainsoni
Crescent-chested Puffbird	Malacoptila striata
Toucans (Ramphastidae)	
Saffron Toucanet	Pteroglossus bailloni
Spot-billed Toucanet	Selenidera maculirostris
Red-breasted Toucan	Ramphastos dicolorus
Channel-billed Toucan	Ramphastos vitellinus
Toco Toucan	Ramphastos toco
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
White-barred Piculet	Picumnus cirratus
Ochre-collared Piculet	Picumnus temminckii
White Woodpecker	Melanerpes candidus
Yellow-fronted Woodpecker	Melanerpes flavifrons
White-spotted Woodpecker	Veniliornis spilogaster
white-spotted woodpecker	
Yellow-throated Woodpecker	Piculus flavigula
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Piculus flavigula Celeus flavescens

**Caracaras and Falcons (Falconidae)** 



Crested Caracara	Caracara plancus
Yellow-headed Caracara	•
	Milvago chimachima
Laughing Falcon Collared Forest Falcon (H)	Herpetotheres cachinnans
	Micrastur semitorquatus
Barred Forest Falcon	Micrastur ruficollis
New World Parrots (Psittacidae)	
Plain Parakeet	Brotogeris tirica
Blue-bellied Parrot	Triclaria malachitacea
Scaly-headed Parrot	Pionus maximiliani
Red-tailed Amazon	Amazona brasiliensis
Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet	Forpus xanthopterygius
Maroon-bellied Parakeet	Pyrrhura frontalis
Blue-winged Macaw	Primolius maracana
White-eyed Parakeet	Psittacara leucophthalmus
Ovenbirds (Furnariidae)	
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	Sittasomus griseicapillus
Plain-winged Woodcreeper	Dendrocincla turdina
Planalto Woodcreeper	Dendrocolaptes platyrostris
White-throated Woodcreeper	Xiphocolaptes albicollis
Lesser Woodcreeper	Xiphocouples ubcouls   Xiphorhynchus fuscus
Black-billed Scythebill	Campylorhamphus falcularius
Narrow-billed Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes angustirostris
Scaled Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes squamatus
Scalloped Woodcreeper	
	Lepidocolaptes falcinellus Xenops rutilans
Streaked Xenops Band-tailed Hornero	•
	Furnarius figulus
Rufous Hornero	Furnarius Rufus
Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper	Lochmias nematura
White-collared Foliage-gleaner	Anabazenops fuscus
Pale-browed Treehunter	Cichlocolaptes leucophrus
Black-capped Foliage-gleaner	Philydor atricapillus
Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner	Anabacerthia lichtensteini
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner	Dendroma rufa
White-eyed Foliage-gleaner	Automolus leucophthalmus
Araucaria Tit-Spinetail	Leptasthenura setaria
Orange-eyed Thornbird	Phacellodomus erythrophthalmus
Orange-breasted Thornbird	Phacellodomus ferrugineigula
Itatiaia Spinetail	Asthenes moreirae
Pallid Spinetail	Cranioleuca pallida



Yellow-chinned Thistletail	Certhiaxis cinnamomeus
Rufous-capped Spinetail	Synallaxis ruficapilla
Spix's Spinetail	Synallaxis spixi
Antbirds (Thamnophilidae)	
Salvadori's Antwren	Myrmotherula minor
Unicolored Antwren	Myrmotherula unicolor
Streak-capped Antwren	Terenura maculata
Star-throated Antwren	Rhopias gularis
Rufous-margined Antwren	Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus
Plain Antvireo	Dysithamnus mentalis
Rufous-backed Antvireo	Dysithamnus xanthopterus
Spot-breasted Antvireo	Dysithamnus stictothorax
Variable Antshrike	Thamnophilus caerulescens
Rufous-capped Antshrike	Thamnophilus ruficapillus
White-bearded Antshrike	Biatas nigropectus
Large-tailed Antshrike	Mackenziaena leachii
Tufted Antshrike	Mackenziaena severa
Spot-backed Antshrike	Hypoedaleus guttatus
Ferruginous Antbird	Drymophila ferruginea
Ochre-rumped Antbird	Drymophila ochropyga
Dusky-tailed Antbird	Drymophila malura
Scaled Antbird	Drymophila squamata
White-bibbed Antbird	Myrmoderus loricatus
Squamate Antbird	Myrmoderus squamosus
White-shouldered Fire-eye	Pyriglena leucoptera
Antthrushes (Formicariidae)	
Rufous-capped Antthrush	Formicarius colma
Short-tailed Antthrush (H)	Chamaeza campanisona
Cryptic Antthrush (H)	Chamaeza meruloides
Antpittas (Grallariidae)	
Variegated Antpitta (H)	Grallaria varia
(11)	
Gnateaters (Conopophagidae)	
Black-cheeked Gnateater	Conopophaga melanops
Rufous Gnateater	Conopophaga lineata
Tapaculos (Rhinocryptidae)	
Slaty Bristlefront	Merulaxis ater



Mouse-colored Tapaculo (H)	Scytalopus speluncae
Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)	
Wing-barred Piprites	Piprites chloris
Planalto Tyrannulet	Phyllomyias fasciatus
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	Elaenia flavogaster
Highland Elaenia	Elaenia obscura
Southern Beardless Tyrannulet	Camptostoma obsoletum
White-crested Tyrannulet	Serpophaga subcristata
Sao Paulo Bristle Tyrant	Pogonotriccus paulista
Oustalet's Tyrannulet	Phylloscartes oustaleti
Grey-hooded Flycatcher	Mionectes rufiventris
Sepia-capped Flycatcher	Leptopogon amaurocephalus
Bran-colored Flycatcher	Myiophobus fasciatus
Brown-brested Bamboo Tyrant	Hemitriccus obsoletus
Eye-ringed Tody Tyrant	Hemitriccus orbitatus
Hangnest Tody-Tyrant	Hemitriccus nidipendulus
Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant	Hemitriccus furcatus
Eared Pygmy Tyrant	Myiornis auricularis
Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher	Poecilotriccus plumbeiceps
Yellow-lored Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum poliocephalum
Yellow-olive Flatbill	Tolmomyias sulphurescens
White-throated Spadebill	Platyrinchus mystaceus
Cliff Flycatcher	Hirundinea ferrugínea
Fuscous Flycatcher	Cnemotriccus fuscatus
Southern Tropical Pewee	Contopus cinereus
Vermillion Flycatcher	Pyrocephalus obscurus
Blue-billed Black Tyrant	Knipolegus cyanirostris
Velvety Black Tyrant	Knipolegus nigerrimus
Crested Black Tyrant	Knipolegus lophotes
Shear-tailed Grey Tyrant	Muscipipra vetula
Long-tailed Tyrant	Colonia colonus
Cattle Tyrant	Machetornis rixosa
Piratic Flycatcher	Legatus leucophaius
Social Flycatcher	Myiozetetes similis
Three-striped Flycatcher	Conopias trivirgatus
Streaked Flycatcher	Myiodynastes maculatus
Boat-billed Flycatcher	Megarynchus pitangua
Variegated Flycatcher	Empidonomus varius
Tropical Kingbird	Tyrannus melancholicus
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus savana



Sibilant Sirystes	Sirystes sibilator
Swainson's Flycatcher	Myiarchus swainsoni
Short-crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus ferox
Large-headed Flatbill (H)	Ramphotrigon megacephalum
Grey-hooded Attila	Attila rufus
Cotingas (Cotingidae)	
Hooded Berryeater	Carpornis cucullata
Black-headed Berryeater	Carpornis melanocephala
Swallow-tailed Cotinga	Phibalura flavirostris
Red-ruffed Fruitcrow	Pyroderus scutatus
Black-and-gold Cotinga	Lipaugus ater
Bare-throated Bellbird	Procnias nudicollis
Manakins (Pipridae)	
Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin	Neopelma chrysolophum
Blue Manakin	Chiroxiphia caudata
Pin-tailed Manakin	Ilicura militaris
White-bearded Manakin	Manacus manacus
Tityras, Becards and Sharpbill (Tityridae)	
Whiskered Myiobius	Myiobius barbatus
Black-tailed Tityra	Tityra cayana
Buff-throated Purpletuft	Iodopleura pipra
Black-capped Becard	Pachyramphus marginatus
Crested Becard	Pachyramphus validus
Vireos (Vireonidae)	
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Cyclarhis gujanensis
Rufous-crowned Greenlet	Hylophilus poicilotis
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus
Crows and Jays (Corvidae)	I
Azure Jay	Cyanocorax caeruleus
Martins and Swallows (Hirundinidae)	
White-rumped Swallow	Tachycineta leucorrhoa
Brown-chested Martin	Progne tapera
Grey-breasted Martin	Progne chalybea
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx ruficollis
White-thighed Swallow	Atticora tibialis



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Blue-and-white Swallow	Pygochelidon cyanoleuca
Wrens (Troglodytidae)	
Long-billed Wren	Cantorchilus longirostris
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon
Gnatcatchers (Polioptilidae)	
Trilling Gnatcatcher	Ramphocaenus melanurus
Mockingbird, Thrashers (Mimidae)	
Chalk-browed Mockingbird	Mimus saturninus
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
Creamy-bellied Thrush	Turdus amaurochalinus
Yellow-legged Thrush	Turdus flavipes
White-necked Thrush	Turdus albicollis
Pale-breasted Thrush	Turdus leucomelas
Rufous-bellied Thrush	Turdus rufiventris
Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
Finches and Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
Hooded Siskin	Spinus magellanicus
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	Chlorophonia cyanea
Golden-rumped Euphonia	Chlorophonia cyanocephala
Green-chinned Euphonia	Euphonia chalybea
Purple-throated Euphonia	Euphonia chlorotica
Violaceous Euphonia	Euphonia violacea
New World Soarrow (Passerellidae)	
	Zonotrichia canonsis
Rufous-collared Sparrow	Zonotrichia capensis
New World Orioles (Icteriidae)	
Crested Oropendola	Psarocolius decumanus
Golden-winged Cacique	Cacicus chrysopterus
Red-rumped Cacique	Cacicus haemorrhous
Shiny Cowbird	Molothrus bonariensis
New World Warblers (Parulidae)	
Southern Yellowthroat	Geothlypis velata



Tropical Parula	Setophaga pitiayumi
White-rimmed Warbler	Myiothlypis leucoblephara
Riverbank Warbler	Myiothlypis rivularis
Mitrospingid Tanagers (Mitrospingidae)	
Olive-green Tanager	Orthogonys chloricterus
Onve-green Tanager	Ormogonys chioricierus
Cardinals and Allies (Cardinalidae)	
Red-crowned Ant Tanager	Habia rubica
Tanagers and Allies (Thraupidae)	
Brown Tanager	Orchesticus abeillei
Pampa Finch	Embernagra platensis
Green Honeycreeper	Chlorophanes spiza
Guira Tanager	Hemithraupis guira
Rufous-headed Tanager	Hemithraupis ruficapilla
Swallow Tanager	Tersina viridis
Blue Dacnis	Dacnis cayana
Black-throated Saltator	Saltator fuliginosus
Thick-billed Saltator	Saltator maxillosus
Bananaquit	Coereba flaveola
Sooty Grassquit	Asemospiza fuliginosa
Blue-black Grassquit	Volatinia jacarina
Black-goggled Tanager	Trichothraupis melanops
Flame-crested Tanager	Loriotus cristatus
Ruby-crowned Tanager	Tachyphonus coronatus
Brazilian Tanager	Ramphocelus bresilia
Double-collared Seedeater	Sporophila caerulescens
Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch	Sporophila angolensis
Temminck's Seedeater	Sporophila falcirostris
Buffy-fronted Seedeater	Sporophila frontalis
Orange-headed Tanager	Thlypopsis sordida
Buff-throated Warbling Finch	Microspingus lateralis
Grey-throated Warbling Finch	Microspingus cabanisi
Saffron Finch	Sicalis flaveola
Fawn-breasted Tanager	Pipraeidea melanonota
Diademed Tanager	Stephanophorus diadematus
Magpie Tanager	Cissopis leverianus
Cinnamon Tanager	Schistochlamys ruficapillus
Sayaca Tanager	Thraupis sayaca
Palm Tanager	Thraupis palmarum



Azure-shouldered Tanager	Thraupis cyanoptera
Golden-chevroned Tanager	Thraupis ornata
Black-backed Tanager	Stilpnia peruviana
Chestnut-backed Tanager	Stilpnia preciosa
Green-headed Tanager	Tangara seledon
Red-necked Tanager	Tangara cyanocephala
Brassy-breasted Tanager	Tangara desmaresti
Gilt-edged Tanager	Tangara cyanoventris

Species seen:	300
Species heard:	8
Total recorded:	308

#### Mammal List

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following the IUCN Red List: EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

Common name	Scientific name
Armadillos (Dasypodidae)	
Nine-banded Armadillo	Dasypus novemcinctus
Sloths (Bradypodidae)	
Brown-throated Sloth	Bradypus variegatus
Marmosets, Tamarins (Callitrichidae	
Common Marmoset	Callithrix jacchus
Capuchins (Cebidae)	
Tufted Capuchin	Sapajus apella
Canids (Canidae)	
Crab-eating Fox	Cerdocyon thous
Tapirs (Tapiridae)	
	Tapirus terrestris



Pacas (Cuniculidae)	
Lowland Paca	Cuniculus paca
Cavies (Caviidae)	
Capybara	Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris
Bamboo Rats (Echimyidae)	
Atlantic Bamboo Rat	Kannabateomys amblyonyx
Arboreal Porcupines (Erethizontidae )	
Paraguaian Hairy Dwarf Porcupines	Coendou spinosus
Squirrels (Sciuridae)	
Ingram's Squirrel	Sciurus ingrami
Species seen:	11

## **Reptile & Amphibians List**

Common name	Scientific name	
Tegus (Teiidae)		
Argentinean Black-and-white Tegu	Salvator merianae	
Cane Toads (Bufonidae)		
Cope's Toad	Rhinella diptycha	
Species seen:	2	

