

Brazil's Pantanal: Jaguars! And More...

Species List | July 3 - 13, 2025

with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Carlos Sanchez, with guide Xavier Munoz and nine participants: Sharon, Claudia, Barbara, Heather, Mark, Charles, Sherri, Sherry, and Andrew

Summary: We saw a fantastic array of birds, mammals, and reptiles on our route. Avian highlights included Crane Hawk, American Pygmy Kingfisher, Pale-crested Woodpecker, Blaze-winged Parakeet, Band-tailed Antbird, Helmeted Manakin, Plush-crested Jay, and many more.

Mammals played a star role on our route, particularly in the Pantanal where we scored fantastic experiences with Jaguar, Giant Otter, Ocelot, Giant Anteater, Southern Tamandua, and South American Tapir. And let's not forget about the other fantastic animals that we saw on this tour, including a Yellow Anaconda along the Transpantaneira Highway and a Lesser Snouted Tree Frog at SouthWild Pantanal. The unique biogeography and hyper-productivity of Brazil's Pantanal, and the unique isolation of Jardim da Amazonia on the extension make for a fantastic and long assortment of lowland South American species. Brazil is a birdwatcher's paradise and a naturalist's dream.

[Naturalist Journeys Brazilian Pantanal 2025 - eBird Trip Report](#)

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only

(I)= Introduced

(E)= Endemic

BIRDS (257 species recorded, of which 2 were heard only); additional species not on the eBird Trip Report:

TINAMOUS: Tinamidae (1):

***Undulated Tinamou* *Crypturellus undulatus* (HO)**—heard frequently at Aguape Lodge and the lodges along the Transpantaneira Highway.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (1):

***Euler's Flycatcher* *Lathrotriccus euleri* (HO)**—heard at Aymara Lodge on the wooded grounds.

MAMMALS (23):

Southern Tamandua *Tamandua tetradactyla*—we saw two of these special mammals 'playing' on our safari at Pousada Aguape.

Giant Anteater *Myrmecophaga tridactyla*—observed multiple times at Pousada Aguape, perhaps a total of eight or nine individuals including a baby hanging on to its mother's back.

Nine-banded Armadillo *Dasypus novemcinctus*—seen once at Aguape, the most widespread and one of the largest armadillo species.

Six-banded Armadillo *Euphractus sexcinctus*—very common around the rooms and restaurant at Pousada Aguape.

Greater Bulldog Bat *Noctilio leporinus*—seen feeding over the Cuiaba River in the evenings from the Panoramico Floatel.

Lesser Bulldog Bat *Noctilio albiventris*—seen feeding over the Cuiaba River in the evenings.

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*—a small group roosting under the bridge over the Pixaim River, observed on our afternoon boat ride along this stretch of blackwater.

Black-tailed Marmoset *Mico melanurus*—a few individuals seen at Parque Bernardo Berneck (07/07). It is the only marmoset of the genus *Mico* with most of its range outside the Amazon Basin.

Black-and-gold Howler Monkey *Alouatta caraya*—we saw these large New World primates three times, the males an overall black color while the females are an overall blonde hue.

Azara's Capuchin *Sapajus cay*—several observations at Aymara Lodge and SouthWild Pantanal.

South American Coati *Nasua nasua*—we saw these raccoon-relatives twice at Pousada Aguape.

Crab-eating Fox *Cerdocyon thous*—frequent observations over multiple days of the trip, particularly at Pousada Aguape and SouthWild Pantanal Lodge. Genetic studies show that these 'foxes' are more closely related to South American 'wolves' such as the Maned Wolf than to true foxes.

Ocelot *Leopardus pardalis*—observed at SouthWild Pantanal.

Jaguar *Panthera onca*—fantastic views of this majestic feline along the Cuiaba River. This species is the world's third largest big cat after the lion and tiger.

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*—amazing experience observing these incredible mammals hunting and feeding along the edge of the Cuiaba River on our first boat outing there.

South American Tapir *Tapirus terrestris*—fantastic views along a quiet road in the early evening on our Aymara Lodge safari. This is the largest extant land mammal species in South America.

Collared Peccary *Pecari tajacu*—seen once at Pousada Aguape. Smaller than the following species and often known as the 'Javelina' in the American Southwest.

White-lipped Peccary *Tayassu pecari*—seen at Pousada Aguape – a larger species than the previous one.

Red Brocket *Mazama americana*—seen at Aymara Lodge in the early evening after our tapir and Marsh Deer sightings.

Pampas Deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus*—delightfully common at Pousada Aguape, where it was the most common deer species. Due to habitat loss and hunting, this deer has a highly fragmented distribution.

Marsh Deer *Blastocerus dichotomus*—seen in the early evening along the entrance road to Aymara Lodge. The Pantanal is the stronghold of this largest South American deer species.

Azara's Agouti *Dasyprocta azarae*—not uncommon on the lodge grounds of Aymara Lodge and SouthWild Pantanal.

Capybara *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*—very common in the Pantanal. It is the largest rodent species in the world!

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (9):

Amazon Lava Lizard *Tropidurus torquatus*—we saw quite a few large ones on the grounds of SouthWild Pantanal.

Giant Ameiva *Ameiva ameiva*—we saw one of these half-green lizards along the entrance road to Aymara Lodge.

Argentine Black-and-white Tegu *Salvator merianae*—we saw this large, predatory lizard along the Transpantaneira Highway – the largest species of lizard in the Americas!

Gold Tegu Lizard *Tupinambis teguixin*—seen on the grounds of Aymara Lodge.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*—observed along the Pixaim River at SouthWild Lodge.

Yellow Anaconda *Eunectes notaeus*—we saw a fairly large individual crossing the road along the Transpantaneira Highway on our way north to SouthWild.

Yacare Caiman *Caiman yacare*—the most abundant reptile (terrestrial vertebrate!) in the Pantanal, where it was ubiquitous

Veined Tree Frog *Trachycephalus typhonius*—seen and photographed at SouthWild Lodge.

Lesser Snouted Tree Frog *Scinax nasicus*—seen and photographed at SouthWild in the shower of one of the rooms.