

# Jewels of Brazil's Atlantic Forest Species List | June 12 – 23, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by guide Greg Butcher with guide Xavier Munoz. Our clients included Brad, Laura, Dana, Philip, Candace, Dave, Elena, and Libby.**

The Atlantic Forest is renowned as one of the most deforested places on Earth, with only 15% left; Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo are two of the largest cities in the world. So, I was a bit afraid of what we would find there. But I live in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, which is also greatly deforested, and I know we have plenty of birds and habitat, so I needn't have worried. We started in the big city of Rio, just across from Copacabana Beach; we moved on to a famous forest rehabilitation project (REGUA); we visited Brazil's first national park Itatiaia; and then we returned to the coast at Paraty and Ubatuba. The Atlantic Forest includes about 1,000 miles of coastline with Serra do Mar (Mountains of the Sea) all along, creating great elevational, and thus bird, diversity. When we bird the Neotropics, we often highlight tanagers and hummingbirds, and this trip produced! We saw 35 members of the tanager family (23 with tanager in the name) and 16 species of hummingbirds (only three with hummingbird in the name). Less discussed is the large number of flycatchers on all Neotropical trips, but we had 34 species, including 12 "flycatchers", nine tyrants, and four tyrannulets. Someone on tour created the name ant-"thingies", and we had 14 of those, including antshrikes, antvireos, antwrens, and antbirds. Then we added six species of toucans/toucanets/aracaris; eight species of parrots including five parakeets; and three monkeys (a marmoset, a tamarin, and a capuchin). You can see that we had a full tropical experience!

## **BIRDS: -- (258)**

The eBird link below details the 258 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Jewels of Brazil's Atlantic Forest | June 12-23, 2026 | ebird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammals and reptiles we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

**Common Name** *Scientific Name* —

## **MAMMALS: — (8)**

**Lesser Bulldog Bat** *Noctilio albiventris* — We saw a lot of small bats during the tour. At REGUA on June 14, some were Lesser Bulldog Bats.

**Common, White-tufted, or White-eared Tufted Marmoset** *Callithrix jacchus* — This species is native to northeastern Brazil, but has been introduced to several other areas of Brazil. We saw them five days in a row, from June 12-16, both in Rio de Janeiro and at REGUA. Both areas represent introduced populations.

**Golden Lion Tamarin** *Leontopithecus rosalia* — This is an Endangered species with a scattered population only in Rio de Janeiro state. The group we saw on June 21 on the island near Paraty was established to prevent the species from going extinct. That's why people are not allowed to land on the island.

**Black Capuchin** *Sapajus nigritus* — We saw a couple in Rio on June 13, then more at Itatiaia National Park on June 18-19.

**Crab-eating Fox** *Cerdocyon thous* — Some of us saw one on June 14 on the road to REGUA from Rio de Janeiro.

**Brazilian Squirrel** *Sciurus aestuans* — We saw squirrels on multiple days June 17-19 near Nova Friburgo and at Itatia National Park and on June 22 at Itamambuca Eco Resort.

**Capybara** *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris* — I missed it, but early risers found a group of Capybaras at Itamambuca Eco Resort on June 22.

**Common Tapetí or Brazilian Rabbit** *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* — Our only rabbit was June 18 in Itatiaia National Park.

#### **REPTILES: — (3)**

**Yellow-footed Tortoise** *Chelonoidis denticulatus* — We saw this species June 12-13 in the Botanical Garden in Rio de Janeiro. It is native to the Amazon Basin, so was probably introduced into the Botanical Garden.

**Tropical House Gecko (I)** *Hemidactylus mabouia* — Someone reported this at Itamambuca Eco Resort on June 21. I'm surprised we didn't have more!

**Amazon Lava Lizard** *Tropidurus torquatus* — We found this species in the Botanical Garden in Rio de Janeiro on June 13. It is widespread in South America.