



## **Brazil's Atlantic Forest: Spectacular South American Birding**

### **14 Days and 13 Nights**

#### **Day 1: Early AM Arrivals into Rio de Janeiro; Transfer to Itatiaia National Park**

All clients should arrive in Rio de Janeiro by 7:30 AM this morning.

At 9:00 AM, the group will leave from Rio de Janeiro to bird along the way to Itatiaia National Park. We will make a few stops, knowing that late afternoon birding at Itatiaia will be worthwhile.

Upon arrival, we will take some time (depending upon the weather) to enjoy the birds lingering at the feeders at our hotel. Our hotel's feeders are famous for Saffron Toucanet, and we will also enjoy several other species there.

As soon as the afternoon cools down and the birds get active, we will get to birding near the lodge and in the Itatiaia National Park.

#### **Days 2 to 4: Itatiaia National Park**

Over the next, three full days we will bird various diverse habitats and areas in the Itatiaia National Park. The park area provides us the opportunity to visit and bird many different elevations. Our strategy for birding each day will depend upon the weather and other conditions and will result in maximizing productive birding.

The array of Atlantic Forest specialties, for which we will be looking, includes the very common Dusky-legged Guan, Mantled Hawk, Red-and-white Crake, Slaty-breasted Wood-Rail, Tawny-browed Owl, Planalto Hermit, Surucua Trogon, Rufous-capped Motmot, Spot-billed Toucanet, Channel-billed Toucan, Red-breasted Toucan, White-barred Piculet, Blond-crested Woodpecker, Pileated Parrot, Maroon-bellied Parakeet, the handsome White-bearded Antshrike, Spot-breasted Antwren, Ferruginous Antbird, Ochre-rumped Antbird, Streak-capped Antwren, White-shouldered Fire-eye, White-bibbed Antbird, Rufous Gnateater, Variegated Antpitta, Such's Antthrush, Rufous-breasted Leaf-tosser, Plain-winged Woodcreeper, White-throated Woodcreeper, Lesser Woodcreeper, Black-billed Scythebill, Scaled Woodcreeper, White-collared Foliage-gleaner, Black-capped Foliage-gleaner, White-browed Foliage-gleaner, Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner, Pallid Spinetail, Rufous-capped Spinetail, Gray-hooded Flycatcher, Eared Pygmy-Tyrant, Drab-breasted Bamboo (or Pygmy)-Tyrant, Gray-headed (Yellow-colored) Tody-Flycatcher, Blue-billed Black-Tyrant, Swallow-tailed (Blue) Manakin, Brown Tanager, Black-goggled Tanager, Ruby-crowned Tanager, Green-headed Tanager, Gilt-edged Tanager and Rufous-headed Tanager.



**Saffron Toucanet**

One of the days staying in the Itatiaia National Park we will visit the Agulhas Negras Highlands which will allow us to visit an area that otherwise can not be accessed from the hotels inside the Park. Some of the highlights of the day will be the Black-breasted Plovercrest, White-spotted Woodpecker, Giant Antshrike, Large-tailed Antshrike, Variable Antshrike, Rufous-backed Antwren, Rufous-tailed Antbird, Speckle-breasted Antpitta, Mouse-colored Tapaculo, Rufous-tailed Antthrush, Sharp-billed Treehunter,

Buff-browed Foliage-Gleaner, Itatiaia Spinetail (Thistletail), Serra-do-mar Tyrannulet, Greenish Tyrannulet, Velvety Black-Tyrant, Shear-tailed Gray Tyrant, Black-and-gold Cotinga, Swallow-tailed Cotinga, Black-capped Piprites, Rufous-crowned Greenlet, White-browed Warbler, Diademed Tanager, Brassy-breasted Tanager, Uniform Finch, Bay-chested Warbling-Finch, Buff-throated (Red-rumped) Warbling-Finch and Golden-winged Cacique.

Another full day in the Itatiaia National Park will be spent visiting the lower part of the Park near the Simon Hotel. From here, we will be looking for Slaty-breasted Wood-Rail, Scale-throated Hermit, Frilled Coquette, Surucua Trogon, Red-breasted Toucan, White-bearded Antshrike, Ferruginous Antbird, Ochre-rumped Antbird, Streak-capped Antwren, Lesser Woodcreeper, Scaled Woodcreeper, Pallid Spinetail, Rufous-capped Spinetail, Rough-legged Tyrannulet, Eared Pygmy-Tyrant, Drab-breasted Bamboo (or Pygmy)-Tyrant, Fork-tailed Pygmy (or Tody)-Tyrant, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, Bare-throated Bellbird, Greenish Schiffornis, Brown Tanager, Uniform Finch and Green-winged Saltator.



**Green-headed Tanager**

### **Day 5: Early Morning Birding in the Itatiaia National Park; Mid-Day Transfer to Perequê**

This will be our last morning at the phenomenal Itatiaia National Park, and where we will focus on any species we may not yet have seen.

By mid-morning (and perhaps earlier depending upon our success in the days before), we will begin our four-hour transfer to Perequê.

Once in Perequê, we should have some time for some late-afternoon birding. Close to Perequê we will be looking for species such as Band-tailed Hornero, Plain Parakeet, Green-barred Flicker, Tufted Antshrike, Chestnut-backed Antshrike, Planalto Tyrannulet, Olivaceous Elaenia, Southern Bristle Tyrannulet and more.



**Saw-billed Hermit**

### **Day 6: AM Birding in Perequê; PM Transfer to Ubatuba**

After an early morning breakfast, we will be visiting a nearby remnant of forest with a number of key species. Some of the birds which we have found here in the past include Sombre Hummingbird, Scaled Antbird, Streak-capped Antwren, the ultra-local Black-hooded Antwren, Southern Bristle Tyrannulet, Drab-breasted Bamboo Tyrant, Buff-throated Purpletuft (rare for this locality), Brazilian Tanager, Red-necked Warbler, and Neotropical River Warbler. We will likely also find some of the species we may not have seen the afternoon before.

Ubatuba is only a few hours away, so we will bird the Perequê forest until the temperature rises. We will plan to be in Ubatuba at about 2:00 PM (and perhaps earlier, should morning birding go very well).

We will have time for several hours of birding in the Ubatuba area before the end of the day. We will focus on some of the numerous specialties in the area. See lists of bird species mentioned over the next few days.

## **Days 7 and 8: Two Full Days Birding in the Ubatuba Area**

The comfort of our Ubatuba Hotel will be the center of operations that will allow us to visit several areas within a very short driving distance over the next several days. These places will include the trail to Corcovado, Folha Seca, Sertao das Cotias, and the Fazendas Capricornio and Andgelim. Some of the birds we will be looking for are a handful of endangered species that can only be seen in the remnants of forest of the lowlands in the Atlantic Forest. These species include: Tataupa Tinamou, Tawny-browed Owl, Least Pygmy-Owl, Saw-billed Hermit, Frilled Coquette, Sombre Hummingbird, Ochre-collared Piculet, Yellow-throated Woodpecker, Blond-crested Woodpecker, Black-capped Foliage-Gleaner, Ochre-breasted Foliage-Gleaner, White-eyed Foliage-Gleaner, Pale-browed Treehunter, Spot-backed Antshrike, Tufted Antshrike, Star-throated Antwren, Salvatori's Antwren, Unicolored Antwren, Scaled Antbird, Spotted Bamboowren, Slaty Bristlefront, Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant, Sao Paulo Tyrannulet, Rusty-winged Spadebill, Atlantic Royal Flycatcher, Bare-throated Bellbird, Buff-throated Purpletuff, and Pin-tailed Manakin, among others.



**Swallow-tailed Cotinga**

## **Day 9: Early morning in Ubatuba Area; Afternoon Transfer to Campos do Jordao**

This will be our last morning of birding in the area before we start heading to *Campos de Jordao*.

The early morning will be spent looking for birds in the Serra do Mar state park near Núcleo Santa Virginia. This area allow us to look for some higher elevation birds that do not occur at the lowlands around Ubatuba and its birding sites. Some of the species we will be looking during the early morning are Hooded Berryeater, Swallow-tailed Cotinga,

Bare-throated Bellbird, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, the hard to see Speckle-breasted Antpitta, Golden-winged Cacique, Masked Yellowthroat, White-browed Warbler, Brown-breasted Bamboo-tyrant, Dusky-tailed Antbird, Large-tailed Antshrike and Diademed Tanager to mention a few.

Later on the day we will stop at a local restaurant for lunch where at times we have been lucky enough as to find the Swallow-tailed Hummingbird at its gardens.

En route to Campos do Jordao, we will stop along the highway to look for Orange-breasted Thornbird at its preferred habitat.

We will arrive at Campos do Jordao for the late afternoon where before the birding day finish we will try to visit the surroundings of the Horto Florestal specially looking for the Vinaceous Parrot along with Araucaria Tit-Spinetail, Sharp-billed Treehunter, before checking in our Hotel. Time permitting we will have a night excursion to look for Long-trained Nightjar and Rusty-barred Owl.



### **Day 10: Early Morning in the Campos de Jordao area; Transfer to Fazenda Intervales**

Early morning visiting the Pedra do Baú road looking for the Black-capped Piprites, Brown-breasted Bamboo-tyrant, Araucaria Tit-spinetail, Gray-bellied Spinetail and Red-rumped Warbling-finch among others. During the late morning we will start our journey driving to the fabulous Fazenda Intervales State Park where we will spend the next three nights.

Depending on traffic and weather conditions we may arrive in Intervales National park during the late afternoon to do some birding around the Park headquarters and facilities.

Some of the birds we might concentrate are: Swallow-tailed Cotinga which sometimes nest in the more open areas near the facilities complex. Near the researcher's headquarters and at dusk we can try for the Long-trained Nightjar while along the inside forest trail (Lago Antigo Trail) near Pousada Capibara with luck we might encounter Rusty-barred, Mottled and Tawny-browed Owls. Tropical Screech-Owl is also commonly recorded near the open grounds at the headquarters facilities.

Parque Nacional Intervales has several places to stay, all with pretty much the same conditions; all are located in the same area and not too far from each other –all are located in within a walking distance from each other-, they are known as Pousadas Pica pau, Onca Pintada, Capibara, etc. Some other bird species that are commonly seen near the Pousadas (Lodges) are: Short-tailed Nighthawk, Orange-eyed Thornbird, Large-tailed Antshrike, Hangnest Tody-Tyrant, Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, Azure-shouldered Tanager and Golden-chevroned Tanager.

The park has many opportunities to drive and walk along roads cutting through pristine forest and many different kinds of habitats. There are two main birding areas, Carmo and some of the road leading to the higher elevation areas inside the park.



### **Day 11: Full day at Intervales National Park (higher elevations)**

Some of the target species for today will be Solitary Tinamou, Mantled Hawk, the endangered Black-fronted Piping-Guan, Long-trained Nightjar, Silky-tailed Nightjar, the rare and local Blue-bellied Parrot, Rusty-breasted Nunlet, Crescent-chested Puffbird, Buff-bellied Puffbird, Saffron, Star-throated Antwren, Scaled Antbird, Squamate Antbird, Bertoni's Antbird, Such's Anthrush, Speckle-breasted Antpitta, White-collared Foliage-Gleaner, Pale-browed Treehunter, Grey-capped Tyrannulet, Brown-breasted Bamboo-

Tyrant, "Atlantic" Royal Flycatcher, Oustalet's Tyrannulet, Bay-ringed Tyrannulet, Sao Paulo Tyrannulet, Pin-tailed Manakin, Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin, Hooded Berryeater, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Bare-throated Bellbird, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Gray-hooded Attila, Brown Tanager, the rare Chestnut-backed Tanager, Buffy-fronted and Temminck's Seedeater.



### **Day 12: Full day at Intervales National Park**

This day we will dedicate most of the day to explore the road to Carmo. The road to Carmo and beyond is a 20 km long dead end, with good forest all the way. The rare and endangered Woolly Spider Monkey *Brachyteles arachnoides* can be seen along this forest. Birding along the road is excellent and provides great views of both birds and forest. Some of the specialties include Dusky-legged Guan, Black-fronted Piping-Guan, Spurred-winged Wood-Rail, Blue-bellied Parrot, Black-throated Trogon, Saffron Toucanet, Yellow-fronted Woodpecker, the very rare Helmeted Woodpecker, Ochre-rumped Antbird, Slaty Bristlefront, White-breasted Tapaculo, Bare-throated Bellbird, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Pin-tailed Manakin, Uniform Finch, Gray-throated Warbling-finch and Blackish-Blue seedeater.

### **Day 13: Final morning in Intervales National Park; PM transfer to São Paulo**

Along the trails easily accessed from the lodges, Lago Antigo trail and specially along Mirante trail, looking for Rufous-caped Motmot, Crescent-chested Puffbird, Dusky-throated Hermit, White-throated Woodcreeper, White-bearded Antshrike, Variegated Antpitta, Atlantic Royal-Flycatcher, Hooded Berryeater, Spotted Bamboo-Wren and Black-legged Dacnis.

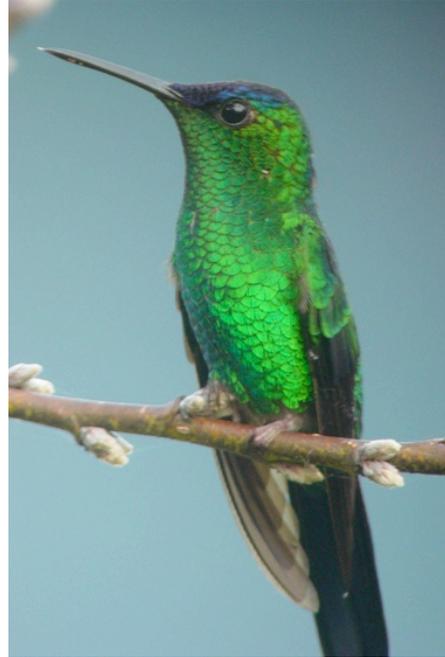
In the afternoon, we will drive to São Paulo in preparation for our flights home tomorrow.

## Day 14: Departures from São Paulo

You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport in São Paulo (GRU) in time for your international flight home.



**Crescent-chested Puffbird**



**Violet-capped Woodnymph**