



Brazil's Atlantic Forest: Spectacular South American Birding

11 Days and 10 Nights

Day 1: Arrival into Rio de Janeiro

You may arrive in Rio de Janeiro at any time today. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your Copacabana area hotel.

Day 2: Transfer to Itatiaia National Park

Following breakfast, 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 3 to 5: 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-ored) 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.



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.

Day 6: Early morning birding in the Itatiaia National Park and then transfer to Ubatuba

This will be our last day in the phenomenal Itatiaia National Park where we will spend the morning then start our transfers (including several birding stops) to the beach resort area of Ubatuba.

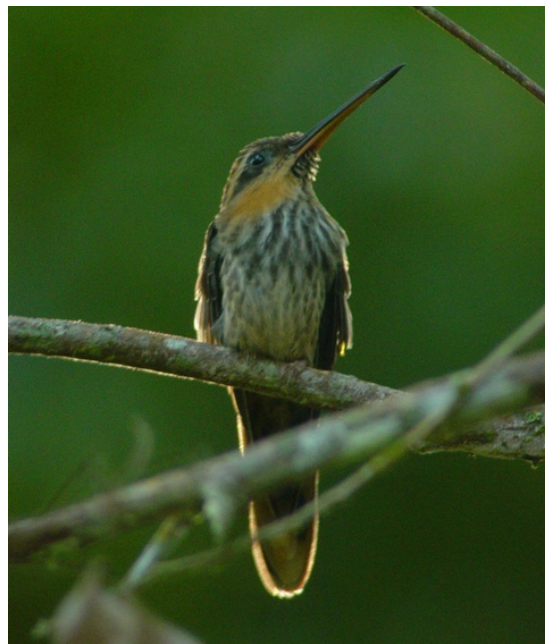
We will likely bird until about 10 AM/11 AM, and then drive during the hot part of the day.

We will be able to bird in Ubatuba in the late afternoon (getting in 2 to 3 hours of birding before supper).

Days 7 to 9: Three full days birding 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 include a handful of endangered species that can only be seen in the remnants of lowland 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, Spot-backed Antshrike, Tufted Antshrike, Star-throated Antwren, Salvadori's Antwren, Unicolored Antwren, Scaled Antbird, Squamate Antbird, Spotted Bamboowren, Slaty Bristlefront, Pale-browed Treehunter, Black-capped Foliage-gleaner, Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner, White-eyed Foliage-gleaner, Sao Paulo Tyrannulet, Fork-tailed Pygmy (or Tody)-Tyrant, Russet-winged Spadebill, 'Atlantic' Royal Flycatcher, Bare-throated Bellbird, Pin-tailed Manakin, Buff-throated Purple-tuft and Half-collared Sparrow, among others.



One day will also be spent with an early morning start to Pereque (at a little higher altitude) with morning birding there, and then birding a few other key spots as we return to Ubatuba.

Day 10: Early morning in Ubatuba area and afternoon transfer to Rio de Janeiro.

This will be our last morning birding in the area before we start heading back to Rio de Janeiro, where we will spend our last night in Brazil. We can likely continue birding until around noon.

Day 11: Departure Day

You will be transferred from your Copacabana hotel to the airport in time for your international flight home, or you may continue your adventure by adding an extension to this trip.

Extension Options:

We anticipate a 2 to 5 day extension on this trip. We have two good options here, and several participants on these trips usually spend 2 to 5 more days in the Atlantic Forest, aiming for another 8 to 12 Atlantic Forest specialties and another 25 to 40 species.

- Regua Reserve offers another 2 good days of birding, including access to several sites north of Rio de Janeiro up the Brazilian coast.
- We will likely also bird some of the area north of Rio de Janeiro from Teresopolis. Several good birding routes by car leave into the mountainous areas there, and Serro dos Orgaos National Park is just 10 minutes away from Teresopolis. [For a description of these areas click on the link below.](#)

Prices here range from about \$200 to \$300 per day (depending upon exact plans and number of extension participants).

