

Pantanal Wilderness Safari

Meeting of the Waters National Park & Taiamã Ecological Reserve

This tour is a combination of a Classic Pantanal Safari (6nights) and a Paraguay River Jaguar Safari (4nights). Our Pantanal Wilderness Safari is a 'must' for every wildlife and nature enthusiast, and we guarantee that you will return enriched by this experience of a lifetime! (click to read more..)During this incredible journey we will explore the deep wilderness and remote areas of the Paraguay River in search of the South American largest cat, the elusive Jaguar. We also capture Giant Otters, Yellow Anacondas, Tapirs, a vast array of photogenic birds and a realm of other tropical wildlife , far away from the crowds. This combined with the classic tour along the Transpantaneira Road exploring the uplands of the Pantanal where we are based in different traditional *fazendas* (ranches) in search of the highlights of each area. These days, more and more of these *fazendas* are being converted into eco lodges. The higher lands of the Pantanal offer great opportunities to observe large mammals like the tapirs, giant anteaters, collared anteater, coatis, peccaries, march deers, monkeys, and a great diversity of bird species. What makes this safari exceptional is that you explore the two most dense areas of jaguars in the world as we also take you to Porto Jofre, located at the Cuiabá River. In this gigantic labyrinth of rivers jaguars are more approachable and photo-sessions tend to be longer as these cats are more used to be observed from small boats . Jaguars, the third largest "big cat" on earth dwell deep within the Pantanal's tangled floodplain forests. Here, they have remained one of the planet's most photographically elusive large predators—until now! Along several Pantanal rivers, jaguars have become habituated to the growing activity of commercial and sport fishing boats. Over the past few years jaguars have learned to relax on the banks in the shade of riverside trees—because of their growing familiarity of this increasing river traffic.

Itinerary

Day 1

Pick up at the Cuiabá Airport, the transfer to Cáceres the gateway city to Pantanal takes 2,5hours, this drive to the wild West of Mato-Grosso State offers you an incredible landscape as we drive along canions and valleys.

Our boat trip starts at the Pier of Cáceres, on the river banks of the mighty Paraguay River. We go down the river in a speed boat ,on the way down the hotel Giant Otters and birds such as Black Skimmer and Hyacinth Macaws are seen very often. The boat trip to Bahiazinha takes 2,5 hours, and it is very productive in terms of wildlife and scenery. We'll stop to observe wildlife and get at the lodge early in the evening. Check-in in the hotel. Dinner and Overnight.

Day 2, 3, 4

Our lodge is is located 1,5 hour from the reserve, in the middle of the Jaguar and Giant Otter action. Downstream to the reserve offers great records of these top predators and other animals

such as Howler Monkeys, Anaconda , and an array of forest and water birds

We will spend quality time on small boats in search of Jaguars, Giant Otters, Anacondas among others.

Day 5

- Early breakfast and departure to Poconé. From Poconé we drive on the Transpantaneira road to Porto Jofre Hotel - Wildlife spotting on the Transpantaneira Road, the finest and the only whole year-round road that penetrates the 50 millions acres (UK-sizes area!) of the Pantanal, the world's largest wetland.
- Arrive late in the afternoon, this riverside hotel provides good cenary and birds such as toucans , blak hooded parrots and hyacinth macaws dominate the late afternoon chorus.
- Dinner and overnight

Day 6

- Early breakfast at the lodge and we boat up to the Meeting of the Waters State Park, where we spend the day searching actively for Jaguars on the river banks and beaches. This boat outing features other animals such as giant otters, ocelots, tapirs, anacondas, monkeys and many bird species
- Dinner and overnight.

Day 7

- Breakfast (fruits, cereal, bread, ham, cheese, coffee, milk,, juices, eggs, cake) at the Hotel. Check-out and departure to Rio Claro Lodge. The morning drive up to Rio Claro features animals such as marsh deers, coatis, monkeys, many bird species and some times produces close encounters with jaguars.
- Arrive in good time (Lunch) at Rio Claro lodge. This lodge is located at the riverbanks of Rio Claro river, surrounded by pristine gallery forest.
- Forest walk on scientifically designed forest trail rich in birds, mammals and reptiles.
- Night Safari on the Transpantaneira road which features animals like the puma, jaguar, ocelot, crab-eating fox, raccoon, the tapir and the giant and collared anteaters,all assortment of owls, great and common potoos and nightjars.
- Dinner (traditional food of the region) at the eco-lodge

Day 8

- Early in the morning we boat the Rio Claro river downstream in silent catamaran boats or canoes looking for giant river otters, tapirs howler monkeys and birds like the elusive agamy Heron and many others along the riverbanks.
- Lunch at the lodge
- Forest walk along the riverside forest , this forest is rich in monkeys and birds that only exists in this type of forest. Tapirs are often seen feeding on forest fruits along this trail.
- Night Safari on the Transpantaneira road which features animals like the puma, jaguar, ocelot, crab-eating fox, raccoon, the tapir and the giant and collared anteaters, all assortment of owls, great and common potoos and nightjars.
- Dinner and overnight

Day 9

- Breakfast (fruits, cereal, bread, ham, cheese, coffee, milk,, juices, eggs, cake) at the Hotel. Check-out and departure to Fazenda Pouso Alegre.
- Lunch at Fazenda Pouso Alegre. This 11.000 thousand-hectare Fazenda harbors by far the highest density of the Giant Anteater in Northern Pantanal as it is located in the higher lands of Pantanal. The farm is also known to offer the best records of giant anteater and tapir in the Northern Pantanal and it is the habitat of Hyacinth Macaws.
- Canoeing on the Rio Claro river up to the 25 meter wooden tower. This canopy tower allows the finest panoramic view of Pantanal and its vast primary forest along the Rio Claro River.
- Night Safari on the Transpantaneira road which features animals like the puma, jaguar, ocelot, crab-eating fox, raccoon, the tapir and the giant and collared anteaters.
- Dinner and overnight at Fazenda Pouso Alegre.

Day 10

- Early forest walk to observe wildlife and birds waking up together with the rising of the sun.
- Breakfast (cereal, fruits, bread, ham, cheese, coffee, milk, juices, eggs, cake) at the eco-lodge
- Horseback riding (opcional) through seasonal flooded grassland and tropical forest. This tour takes you to places that are only reachable by horse, opportunity to see Yellow anaconda and anteaters in the grasslands.
- Lunch at Fazenda Pouso Alegre

- Photographic Safari that features mammals, birds and reptiles .
- Dinner and overnight at the ranch “Fazenda Pouso Alegre”.

Day 11

- Early forest walk to observe wildlife and birds waking up (before sunrise).
- Breakfast and Check-out at the Fazenda Pouso Alegre
- Departure to Cuiabá Airport.