

Program Amazonas

D1 (3 Nov). Arrival to AFL to meet your English-speaking naturalist english guide. Drive west for 2.5-3h to the town of Nova Bandeirantes. During the drive, you often see a number of pairs of Blue and Gold and Scarlet Macaws.

You arrive to NB in time to see some Blue and Gold Macaws coming in to roost in a Mauritia Mauritia Palm Grove less than 10 minutes from town. This species of macaw loves to nest and roost in groves of that particular species of palm.

Overnight in your air-conditioned room with en suite facilities at the Hotel Bandeirantes

D2 (4 Nov). Leave Hotel Bandeirantes at dawn or, better yet, 90 min before sunrise, and drive to the nest tree, planning to arrive there exactly at sunrise. You only have to walk 20 meters to get to the base of the 23-m-tall observation tower, which is located only 30 meters from the nest tree. The tower has easy-walk-up, wide stairs, but if you happen to dislike heights, you can see and photograph the eagle quite well from the ground near the base of the tower.

From the top of the tower, you can observe a variety of tropical birds, including the three large species of macaws common in un hunted parts of the Amazon as well as a variety of fruit-eating tanagers and also insectivorous birds.

You also may walk short trails within 300-400 m of the nest tree and still have time to get back to the tree when a radio call tells you that either the full-grown juvenile eagle or one of the parent birds arrives to the nest tree.

Breakfast and Lunch served at the tower.

If your viewing of the Harpy was satisfying, then you have the option to leave the Harpy nest tree at 20, 40, 60 min before sunset so that you can stop and look at macaw nests and other birds on the drive back to town. It takes 90 minutes to drive back to NB.

Dinner at Rossito's Restaurant in Nova Bandeirantes.

Overnight at the Hotel Bandeirantes.

D3 (5 Nov). Breakfast runs from 6-9 am, but we recommend eating at 6 sharp so that you can leave by 6:20 am or 6:30 am at the latest.

Then drive for 1:15h drive from NB to the ferry boat crossing port on the east bank of the stunning, 900-meter-wide Juruena River.

We take you on a 2-hour boat ride from the ferry boat port down the river to see a variety of interesting birds, including the bizarre, photogenic Hoatzin, as well as search for monkeys.

During the boat rides, we often see White-Nosed Bearded Saki Monkeys or some of the six other species of diurnal monkeys.

At the end of the river trip, we will ride for five minutes in our vehicle (which crossed by ferry boat) from the west bank rustic port to the lodge at SWA.

Lunch

In the afternoon, we offer you a guided trail walk outing on some of the 30 km of trails through primary rainforest in search of monkeys, bird flocks, and fruiting trees. If there is a particularly active fruiting tree, we will have our temporary viewing towers erected next to it to allow eye-level viewing and photography of the birds and monkeys in the tree.

After dinner, we drive you for 5 minutes and walk 15 meters to our Tapir viewing platform, which we have placed strategically near a location of frequent Tapir activity. We are running more than 95% success per night on Tapirs coming to this viewing spot. The platforms have camping mattresses and a private, dry, odorless toilet so that one can relax and even snooze while waiting for the first Tapir to appear.

After a few hours of waiting for or observing Tapirs, the group normally returns to their rooms for the rest of the night.

Overnight at SouthWild Amazon.

D4, 5, 6 (6-8 Nov). Breakfast.

Here we visit the particular fruiting trees that have the most activity, viewing from one of our moveable towers. It is possible to see the monkeys and birds from the ground without being raised to the top of the viewing tower, but the best viewing and photography is from the top.

Lunch back at the lodge.

After lunch nap in your air-conditioned rooms.

Afternoon walk to other trails on the property, going to specific fruiting trees or to specific, mixed-species bird flocks that we have found and mapped on the forest trails.

Dinner

Optional outing once again to the Tapir viewing platform.

Overnight at the SWA lodge.

D7 (9Nov). Breakfast.

Leave the lodge at 5:40am, driving for 10 minutes to the ferry boat to take the 6 am ferry crossing to the east side of the Juruena River. Breakfast during the ferry crossing! Once on the east bank of the Juruena River, the drive back to Alta Floresta takes 4 h, but we will take 30-60 min longer, stopping to view large macaws when we encounter them.

Enjoy an included Lunch at Cambalacho Buffet Restaurant near the Alta Floresta Airport and then check in for your 14:25h flight to Cuiabá. The restaurant is a two-minute drive from the airport.

Flight to Cuiaba.