



BRAZIL BIRDING

E X P E R T S

WEST AMAZON BOA VISTA/MANAUS COMBO TOUR 18 DAYS



Welcome to the Boa Vista/Manaus Combo Tour! On this tour you will amazingly cover 4 Amazonian endemism centers! Many sister species to see and compare as you cross massive rivers going from one region to the other.

BOA VISTA/MANAUS COMBO TOUR

(Roraima, Amazonas)

Guide: To Be Defined...

SUMMARIZED ITINERARY

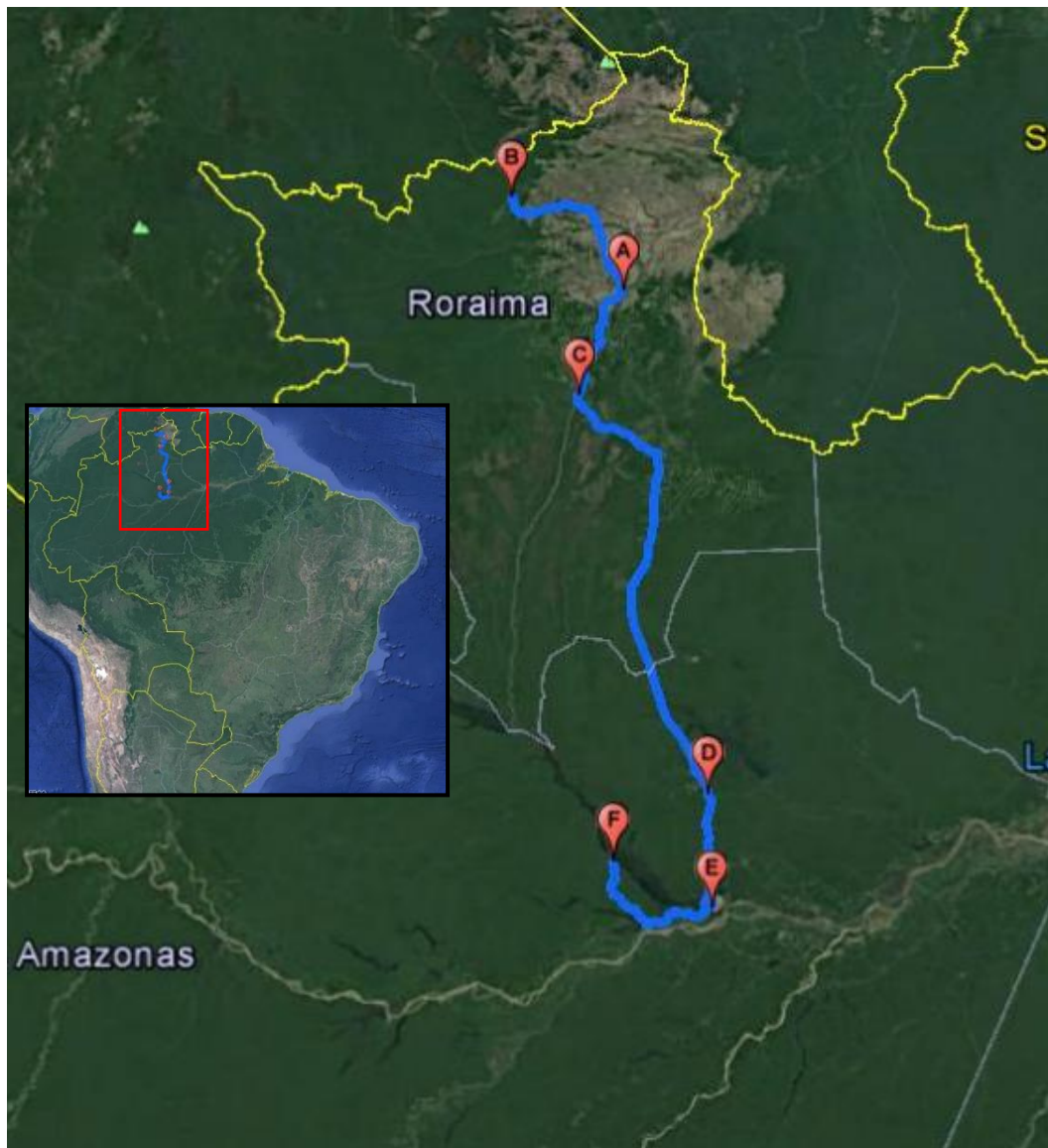
Day	Location (state)	Comments
1	Boa Vista	Arrival and accommodation.
2	Boa Vista	Full Day Birding.
3	Boa Vista – Amajari (210Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding.
4	Amajari (Serra do Tepequem)	Full Day Birding.
5	Amajari – Caracaraí (350Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding.
6	Caracaraí (Vuruá National Park)	Full Day Birding.
7	Caracaraí (Vuruá National Park)	Full Day Birding.
8	Caracaraí (Vuruá National Park)	Full Day Birding.
9	Caracaraí – Presidente Figueiredo (515Km)	Transfer. PM Birding.
10	Presidente Figueiredo	Full Day Birding.
11	Presidente Figueiredo	Full Day Birding.
12	Presidente Figueiredo – Manaus (125Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding.
13	Manaus	Full Day Birding.
14	Manaus – Novo Airão (200Km)	AM Birding. Transfer.
15	Novo Airão	Full Day Birding.
16	Novo Airão	Full Day Birding.
17	Novo Airão – ?? – Manaus (200Km)	AM Birding. PM Birding to be def.
18	Manaus	DEPARTURE.

Suggested period: From September to April



OVERVIEW OF THE COMPLETE ITINERARY

Boa Vista (A), Amajari (Serra do Tepequem) (B) Caracará (C), Presidente Figueiredo (D), Manaus (E), Novo Airão (F).



DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival in **Boa Vista** where we sleep the night.

Day 2: Full Day Birding in **BOA VISTA**.

Area description: The city is on the banks of the rivers Branco and Uraricoera. In the riparian forests we can find several species restricted to this type of vegetation. In addition, other species linked to the driest and plowed forests can be found within the city, a few minutes by car.

Summary: To start off the tour on full throttle, our first day of birding will have a wide variety of habitats to bird in; forest, open areas (lavrado) and on the margins of Rio Branco river. Some of the birds we will target include **White-bellied Piculet** (*Picumnus spilogaster*), **Sun Parakeet** (*Aratinga solstitialis*), Pale-tipped Tyrannulet (*Inezia caudata*), Spectacled Thrush (*Turdus nudigenis*), Bicolored Wren (*Campylorhynchus griseus*), **Finsch's Euphonia** (*Euphonia finschi*), Black-crested Antshrike (*Sakesphorus canadenses*), Streak-headed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*) Double-striped Thick-knee (*Burhinus bistriatus*), Yellow Oriole (*Icterus nigrogularis*), Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), Crested Bobwhite (*Colinus cristatus*) and many others.



Day 3: Early start so that we could get to **URARICOERA RIVER** (+/-1½hrs [90Km]) in good timing. AM Birding on the left margin of the river where our main target will be the endemic Hoary-throated Spinetail (*Synallaxis kollari*). Transfer to Amajari (Serra do Tepequem) (+/-2hrs [120Km]). On our way there, we all have to keep an eye out for the Sharp-tailed Ibis (*Cercibis oxycerca*). PM Birding in Serra do Tepequem.

Area description: The left bank of the river Uraricoera is home of the endemic and range-restricted **Hoary-throated Spinetail** (*Synallaxis kollari*). Composed of shrubs that can reach 3 meters high, the place is full of species that use this environment to reproduce and feed, a place of easy access and great species.

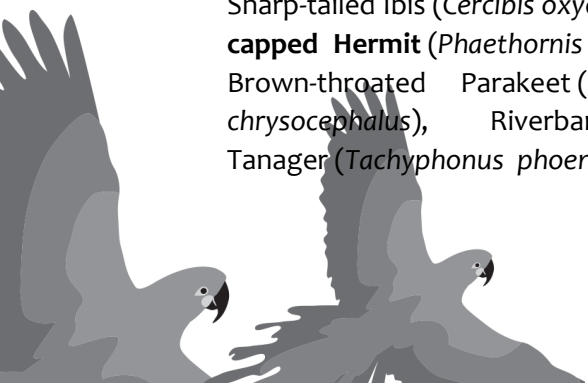
Summary: Some of the species that we will target include Hoary-throated Spinetail (*Synallaxis kollari*), Pale-tipped Tyrannulet (*Inezia caudata*), **Rio Branco Antbird** (*Cercomacra carbonaria*), Gray Seedeater (*Sporophila intermedia*), Ruddy-breasted Seedeater (*Sporophila minuta*), Pied Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola pica*), **Brown-throated Parakeet** (*Eupsittula pertinax*).



Day 4: Full Day Birding in **SERRA DO TEPEQUEM**.

Area description: The Tepequem Mountain Range (Serra do Tepequem) reaches altitudes of more than 1000m, where many Montane Forest Amazonian species could be found. The mountain range has ingressions where we can observe flocks of Tepui Swifts (*Streptoprocne phelpsi*) and couples of Red-and-green Macaw (*Ara chloropterus*) flying below us. In the highlands, the more open vegetation provides encounters with Sooty-capped Hermit (*Phaethornis augustii*) and Red-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus phoenicius*) among other species.

Summary: Some of the species we could see include Pinnated Bittern (*Botaurus pinnatus*), Sharp-tailed Ibis (*Cercibis oxycerca*), **Streak-throated Hermit** (*Phaethornis rufurumii*), **Sooty-capped Hermit** (*Phaethornis augusti*), **Green-bellied Hummingbird** (*Amazilia viridigaster*), Brown-throated Parakeet (*Eupsittula pertinax*), Epaulet Oriole (*Icterus cayanensis chrysocephalus*), Riverbank Warbler (*Myiothlypis rivularis*), Red-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus phoenicius*), Fiery-capped Manakin (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*),



Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin (*Tyranneutes stolzmanni*), Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Brown Jacamar (*Brachygalba lugubris*), **Tepui Swift** (*Streptoprocne phelpsi*), **Scarlet-shouldered Parrotlet** (*Touit huetii*), Violaceous Jay (*Cyanocorax violaceus*) and many others.

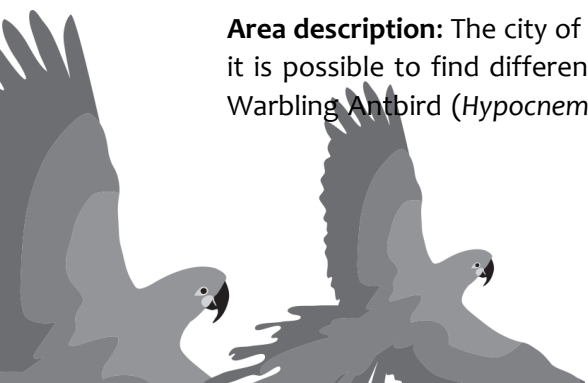


Day 5: AM Birding in Serra do Tepequem to look for any missed target. Transfer to **CARACARAÍ** (+/-6hrs [350Km]) and PM Birding if we have time. In the morning we will walk through the terra firme forest near the Tepequem Mountain Range, where we can see the riverbank Warbler (*Myiothlypis rivularis*), Scarlet-shouldered Parrotlet (*Touit huetii*), Fiery-capped Manakin (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*), Violaceous Jay (*Cyanocorax violaceus*), Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Green Oropendola (*Psarocolius viridis*).



Day 6: Full Day Birding in **CARACARAÍ** in Gallery and Terra Firme Forest.

Area description: The city of Caracará is located on the right bank of the Branco River, and it is possible to find different species from the ones in Viruá National Park, such as Imeri Warbling Antbird (*Hypocnemis flavescens*) and another subspecies of the Golden-spangled



Piculet (*Picumnus exilis undulatus*). In addition, species restricted to wetlands and terra firme can both be observed on the roads that leave the city.

Summary: Some of the species we could encounter are the Three-striped Flycatcher (*Conopias trivirgatus*), Golden-spangled Piculet (*Picumnus exilis undulatus*), **Cherrie's Antwren** (*Myrmotherula cherriei*) **Yellow-crowned Manakin** (*Heterocercus flavivertex*), Slate-colored Hawk (*Buteogallus schistaceus*).

Day 7: Full Day Birding in **VIRUÁ NATIONAL PARK** (+/-½hrs [45Km]). Back to sleep in Caracará.

Area description: The National Park of Viruá is one of the reserves with the largest number of bird species in Brazil; more than 500 species have already been registered. Within the area of the Park there are several types of environments, such as: várzea forest, terra firme, campinaranas and campinas, that can be accessed by roads and trails. Some species with restricted distributions such as Grey-legged Tinamou (*Crypturellus duidae*) and Yapacana Antbird (*Aprositornis disjuncta*) can be observed in the trails and roads of the Park. At nightfall another attraction is the famous Lost Road, where we can find the White-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis cayennensis*), among other species of Nightjars and Nighthawks.

Summary: Here we have new targets and more chances for the ones that we could have missed in other locations, such as Crested Bobwhite (*Colinus cristatus*), Crestless Curassow (*Mitu tomentosum*), Black Curassow (*Crax alector*), White-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis cayennensis*), **Green-tailed Jacamar** (*Galbula galbula*), Black-crested Antshrike (*Sakesphorus canadenses*), Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*), **Yapacana Antbird** (*Aprositornis disjuncta*), Black Manakin (*Xenopipo atronitens*), White-naped Seedeater (*Dolospingus fringilloides*), Rufous-crowned Elaenia (*Elaenia ruficeps*), Willis's Antbird (*Cercomacroides laeta*).



Day 8: Full Day Birding in **VIRUÁ NATIONAL PARK**.

Summary: We will begin the day observing birds in the forest inside the National Park, looking for the rare **Grey-legged Tinamou** (*Crypturellus duidae*), we will also have the



chance to find **Black-headed Antbird** (*Pernostola rufifrons*), Northern Slaty Antshrike (*Thamnophilus punctatus*), Guianan Warbling Antbird (*Hypocnemis cantator*), Great Jacamar (*Jacamerops aureus*), Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*), Ferruginous-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza ferruginea*) and many other species.



Day 9: Transfer to Presidente Figueiredo (+/-8hrs [515Km]).

Day 10: Full Day Birding in **PRESIDENTE FIGUEIREDO**.

Area description: The city of Presidente Figueiredo, 100km north of Manaus, has unique characteristics due to its rugged terrain. A real paradise with over 50 waterfalls and, most important, is home of the spectacular **Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock** (*Rupicola rupicola*). We will visit the lek of this wonder, and search for sites with females in their nests.

Summary: Other than the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, several species have this region as the southernmost part of their distribution limits, such as the Painted Parakeet (*Pyrrhura picta*), White-breasted Wood-wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) and Dusky Purpletuft (*Iodopleura fusca*). We will also visit a Campina environment (White sand soil Forest) with its unique birds, such as **Black Manakin** (*Xenopipo atronitens*), **Pale-vented Mourner** (*Rhytipterna immunda*), **Northern Slaty-Antshrike** (*Thamnophilus punctatus*), not to mention the emblematic Pelzel's Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus inornatus*).





AM Birding in Cachoeira da Onça, where our main targets will be the legendary **Musician Wren** (*Cyphorhinus arada*), Capuchinbird (*Perissocephalus tricolor*) and others.

PM Birding in Cachoeira das Lages, in an environment with white sand, in a vegetation known as “campinarana”.

* Other targets in Cachoeira da Onça: Rufous-throated Antbird (*Gymnopithys rufigula*), Black-headed Antbird (*Percnostola rufifrons*), Cinereous Antshrike (*Thamnomanes caesius*), Capuchinbird (*Perissocephalus tricolor*), Yellow-crowned Manakin (*Heterocercus flavivertex*), Musician Wren (*Cyphorhinus arada*).

* Other targets in Cachoeira das Lages: Green-tailed Goldenthrout (*Polytmus theresiae*), Bronzy Jacamar (*Galbula leucogastra*), White-naped Seedeater (*Sporophila fringilloides*), Black Manakin (*Xenopipo atronitens*), Pale-bellied Mourner (*Rhytipterna immunda*).

Day 11: AM Birding in Ramal do Mari-mari, a Terra Firme Forest with many understory bird species. After a good time birding we will visit the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock (*Rupicola rupicola*) lek. PM Birding in an area where we have the most targets left.

Among the many birds we might see, here are a few of the targets: **Crimson Topaz** (*Topaza pella*), Black Curassow (*Crax alector*), Guianan Warbling-Antbird (*Hypocnemis cantator*), Mouse-colored Antshrike (*Thamnophilus murinus*), Cinnamon Manakin-Tyrant (*Neopipo cinnamomea*), Double-banded Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus vitiensis*), **Wing-banded Wren** (*Microcerculus bambla*), Guianan Red-Cotinga (*Phoenicircus carnifex*), **White-fronted Manakin** (*Lepidothrix serena*).

Day 12: Leave early to reach the famous **ZF-2 TOWER** for AM Birding. The tower is on our way to Manaus (+/-2hrs [125Km]). PM Birding in “**Ramal do Pau Rosa**”.

Area description: with more than 40 meters, located 50km north of Manaus, the tower is a perfect spot for canopy surprises.

Summary: we will have chances for many canopy birds, including birds that we might have missed in the MUSA Tower, such as the beautiful Crimson Fruitcrow (*Haematoderus militaris*) and more Guiana endemics, such as Guianan Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila guianensis*),



Guianan Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*), **Guianan Puffbird** (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*), Golden-collared Woodpecker (*Veniliornis cassini*), Scale-breasted Woodpecker (*Celeus grammicus*), Black-bellied Cuckoo (*Piaya melanogaster*), Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*), Ash-winged Antwren (*Euchrepomis spodioptila*), Painted Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum pictum*), Olive-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes virescens*), **Pompadour Cotinga** (*Xipholena punicea*), **Spangled Cotinga** (*Cotinga cayana*), Short-billed Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes nitidus*), Dotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis varia*) and **Green Aracari** (*Pteroglossus viridis*). In addition, keep an eye out for large hawks flying over.



Day 13: Full Day Birding in the **MANAUS REGION**. AM Birding in the **MUSA Tower** and PM Birding in “**Ramal do Pau Rosa**”. Sleep in Manaus.

Area description: Created in January 2009, Musa occupies 100 hectares of the Adolpho Ducke Forest Reserve, of the National Institute of Amazonian Research - INPA in Manaus. An area of native upland forest that for more than 60 years is being studied with passion. The results of these surveys, gathered in catalogs on topics such as plants, birds and frogs, shows what Musa wants to show the visitor. To access the MUSA tower, there is a 250m walk where we might see some birds on the way. The tower is 42m high with 3 platforms in different heights to reach the wide variety of canopy species. This is a perfect location to see and photograph Amazonian canopy species. Ramal do Pau Rosa is only 21Km from Manaus and is a very nice place to look for Terra Firme species. Wonderful way to begin the trip.

Summary: Some of the targets in the MUSA Tower include Guianan Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*), Paradise Jacamar (*Galbula dea*), Caica Parrot (*Pyrilia caica*), Glossy-backed Becard (*Pachyramphus surinamus*), **Guianan Toucanet** (*Selenidera piperivora*), Guianan Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes albolineatus*), Black-spotted Barbet (*Capito niger*), Red-billed Pied Tanager (*Lamprospiza melanoleuca*), Black-faced Dacnis (*Dacnis lineata*), Spotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis punctate*).

And some special birds to search for in Ramal do Pau Rosa include Red-fan Parrot (*Derophtus accipitrinus*), **Black-throated Antshrike** (*Frederickena viridis*), **Black-throated Antbird** (*Myrmophylax atrothorax*), Northern Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus*



punctatus), Blue-backed Tanager (*Cyanicterus cyanicterus*), Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacroides tyrannina*).



Day 14: AM Birding once again in the Manaus region. However, on this morning we will cross to the **right margin** of the **RIO NEGRO RIVER**, where we will be birding all morning. Transfer after lunch to **Novo Airão** (+/-4hrs [200Km]). PM Birding around Novo Airão.

Area description: In the amazon region, the main rivers played and still play an important role in the geographic separation and consequently the speciation process of many species. For this reason, as we cross to the right margin of the Rio Negro river, there is a wide variety of different species that we do not see in the left margin. Amazing phenomena to observe in the field. We will begin our morning birding in “Balneário Cirandeira”, where there is an easy access trail that cuts the forest. There are many fruit trees in this location, so in the right time of the year it is a Tanager/Cotinga madness around the fruiting trees.

Summary: Some of the species we will look for are the Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Brown-winged Schiffornis (*Schiffornis turdine*), Yellow-browed Antbird (*Hypocnemis hypoxantha*), **Common Scale-backed Antbird** (*Willisornis poecilinotus*), **Blue-crowned Manakin** (*Lepidothrix coronata*).



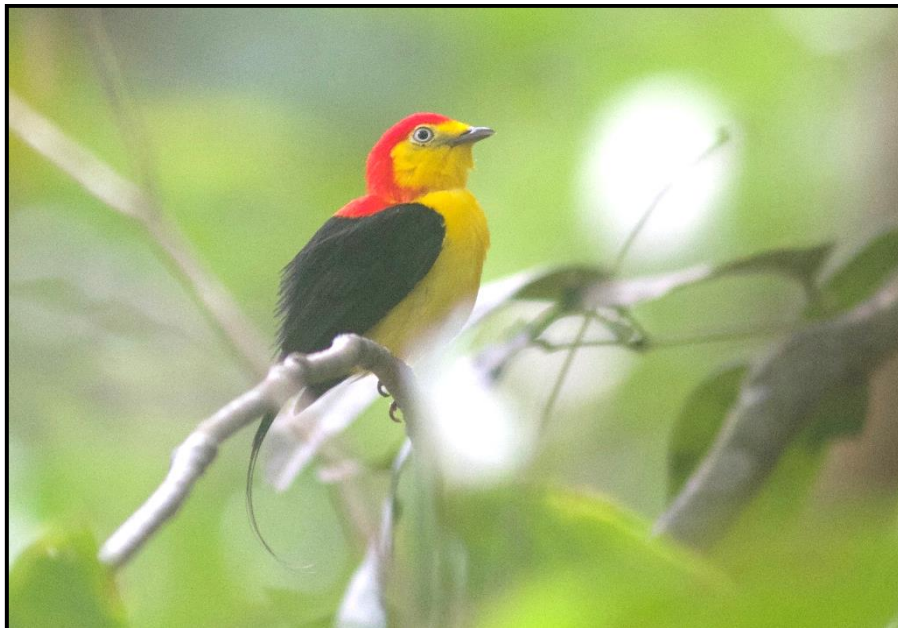
Day 15: Full Day Birding in **NOVO AIRÃO**. Our focus on this day in Novo Airão will be the Terra Firme birds.



Day 16: AM Birding in the islands of **ANAVILHANAS NATIONAL PARK**. Differently from the day before, our focus on this day will be the igapó specialties. Most of our birding will be on a boat.

Area description: one of the largest fluvial archipelagos in the world, Anavilhanas National Park has more than 340 islands comprising its natural beauty. There are numerous archaeological sites not yet studied in the region. The unit became a National Park by the Law 11799 of October 29, 2008. The Park comprises 70% of upland forests and 30% of Igapó areas and islands that are legally protected. The park has an area of 350,000 hectares, which includes the archipelago of Anavilhanas in the Negro River and an extensive strip of land on the left bank of the river. The archipelago covers an area of 100,000 hectares, dominated by Igapó, a forest that floods seasonally, by black water that is relatively low in nutrients.

Summary: Home to endless species of fantastic birds like the beautiful **Wire-tailed Manakin** (*Pipra filicauda*), Blackish-gray Antshrike (*Thamnophilus nigrocinereus*), Cherrie's (*Myrmotherula cherriei*) and Klage's Antwrens (*Myrmotherula klagesi*), Ash-breasted Antbird (*Myrmoborus lugubris*), Black-headed Parrot (*Pionites melanocephalus*), **White-cheeked Antbird** (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*), Chestnut-belted Gnateater (*Conopophaga aurita*) Tawny-tufted Toucanet (*Selenidera nattereri*), **White-plumed Antbird** (*Pithys albifrons*).



Day 17: AM Birding in the **MARCHANTARIA ISLAND** and two other islands beside this one, which are located in the Solimões River.

Area description: The Marchantaria Island is 1h up the Solimões River and presents different stages of regeneration. It is one of the islands with the greatest bird diversity in the Amazon. This is the perfect location to search for várzea birds.

Summary: we will focus our search on the island specialists, such as Brownish Elaenia (*Elaenia pelzelni*), Black-and-white Antbird (*Myrmochanes hemileucus*), River Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga hypoleuca*), **Riverside Tyrant** (*Knipolegus orenocensis*), Olive-spotted Hummingbird (*Leucippus chlorocercus*), Red-and-white Spinetail (*Certhiaxis mustelinus*),



White-bellied Spinetail (*Mazaria propinqua*), Castelnau's Antshrike (*Thamnophilus cryptoleucus*), Black-and-white Antbird (*Myrmochanes hemileucus*) and many others.

Our last afternoon will be PM birding in the “Novo Airão Region” or the “Manaus Region”, depending on which site has the most species we have not yet seen.

Day 18: Departure.

