



# BRAZIL BIRDING

E X P E R T S

## AMAZON TOUR – MANAUS AREA

*13 DAYS*



*Welcome to the Manaus Tour.*

*Manaus is the capital of Amazonas, where the famous Negro and Solimões rivers meet creating the world's largest river in water volume, the Amazon River. The city is one of the great destinations for birdwatchers due to its great location. It is embedded in the Guiana Center of Endemism. But in only a few minutes, by crossing the bridge over the Negro River, we find ourselves in the Jaú Center of Endemism where we will find a whole new variety of species. Very little driving in a short period of time but with many birds!*

*Have fun!*

## AMAZON TOUR – MANAUS AREA

(Amazonas states)

Guide: to be defined

### SUMMARIZED ITINERARY

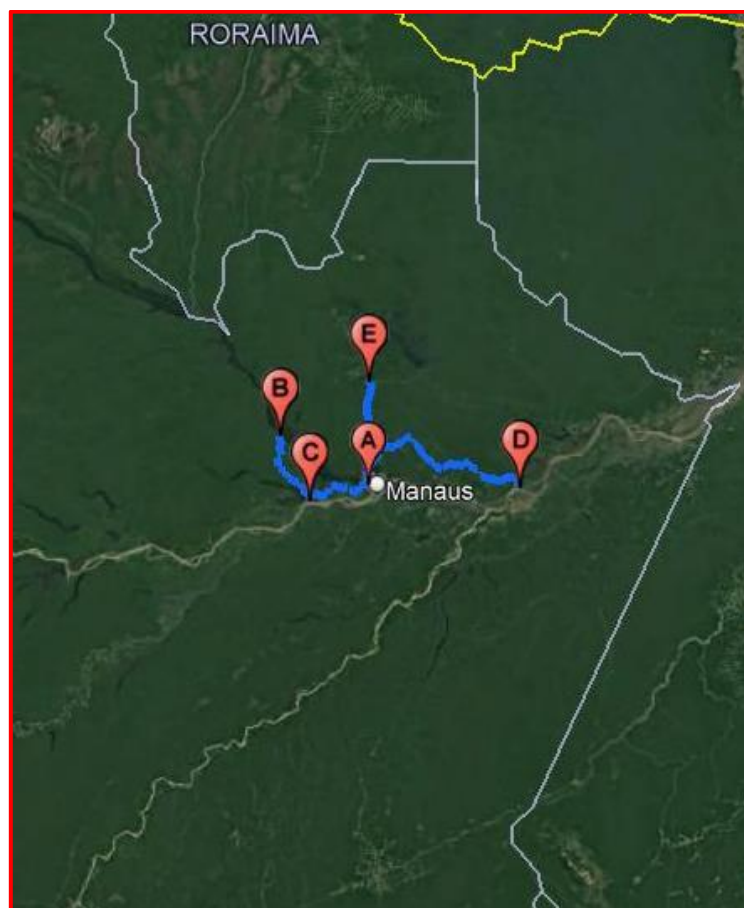
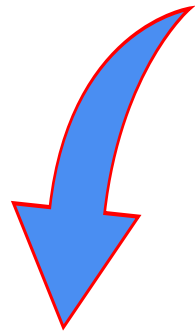
Day	Location (state)	Comments
1	Manaus – Novo Airão (200km)	Arrival. Transfer. AM Birding and PM Birding.
2	Novo Airão	AM and PM Birding.
3	Novo Airão (boat AM, PM and Night)	AM and PM Birding.
4	Novo Airão – Manacapuru (100km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding.
5	Manacapuru – Manaus (100km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding.
6	Manaus (boat) – Itacoatiara (280km)	AM Birding. Transfer.
7	Itacoatiara (boat) - Manaus (280km)	AM Birding. Transfer.
8	Manaus	AM Birding (MUSA) and PM Birding.
9	Manaus – Presidente Figueiredo (120km)	AM Birding (ZF-2). Transfer. PM Birding
10	Presidente Figueiredo	AM and PM Birding.
11	Presidente Figueiredo	AM and PM Birding.
12	Presidente Figueiredo – Manaus (120km)	AM Birding. Transfer.
13	Manaus	DEPARTURES or EXTENSIONS.

**Dates: to be defined.**



## OVERVIEW OF THE COMPLETE ITINERARY

Manaus (A), Novo Airão (B), Manacapuru (C), Itacoatiara (D), Presidente Figueiredo (E).



## DETAILED ITINERARY

**Day 1:** Arrivals in Manaus at 2:50AM and transfer to **NOVO AIRÃO** (+/-3hrs [200Km]). AM Birding depending on if the group is willing to. PM Birding. Our focus on this day in Novo Airão will be the *Terra Firme* birds (Amazon Rainforest that is not influenced by the seasonal floods).

**Targets:** here are a few of the birds we will keep on our radar for our *Terra Firme* Forest birding: White-chested Puffbird (*Malacoptila fusca*), White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus hyperrhynchus*), Brown-banded Puffbird (*Notharchus ordii*), Chestnut-belted Gnatcatcher (*Conopophaga aurita*), Black-necked Red-Cotinga (*Phoenicircus nigricollis*), Black-banded Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes picumnus*), Napo Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes radiolatus*), Duida Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes duidae*), Northern Ocellated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus beauperthuyssii*), White-winged Potoo (*Nyctibius leucopterus*), Rufous Potoo (*Phyllaemulor bracteatus*), Collared Gnatwren (*Microbates collaris*), Black-headed Parrot (*Pionites melanocephalus*), Orange-cheeked Parrot (*Pyrilia barrabandi*), Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrrhura melanura*), Tawny-tufted Toucanet (*Selenidera nattereri*), Negro Stipplethroat (*Epinecrophylla pyrrhonota*), White-cheeked Antbird (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*), Yellow-browed Antbird (*Hypocnemis hypoxantha*), Pearly Antshrike (*Megastictus margaritatus*), Reddish-winged Bare-eye (*Phlegopsis erythroptera*), Imeri Wren (*Cyphorhinus transfluvialis*), Zimmer's Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus sanus*) and Chestnut-crested Antbird (*Rhegmatorhina cristata*). Many of the species mentioned above are extremely rare and/or very difficult to see so we must wish for ant swarms and many mixed flocks to make things a bit easier.



Collared Gnatwren

**Day 2:** AM and PM Birding in **Novo Airão (ANAVILHANAS NATIONAL PARK)**. Our focus on this day will be the *igapó* (seasonally flooded forest by black waters) specialties. Most of our birding will be on a boat.

**Area description:** the Anavilhanas National Park harbors the second largest fluvial archipelago in the world with more than 340 islands (the “Anavilhanas Archipelago”). This area became a conservation unit on October 29-2008, by the law 11799, comprising a territory with ~70% of upland forests and ~30% of *Igapó* forests and islands. With 350,000 hectares, the park protects not just the Anavilhanas Archipelago but a large area of *terra firme* forests on the Rio Negro left margin. The archipelago covers an area of 100,000





hectares dominated by *Igapó* - a seasonally flooded forest that grows with the influence of black waters (that is relatively low in nutrients). And there are numerous indigenous archaeological sites not yet studied in the region!



**Targets:** Home to endless species of fantastic birds like the beautiful Wire-tailed Manakin (*Pipra filicauda*), Ornate Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus ornatus*), Band-tailed Nighthawk (*Nyctiprogne leucopyga*), Amazonian Umbrellabird (*Cephalopterus ornatus*), Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*), Speckled Spinetail (*Cranioleuca gutturata*), Green-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula galbula*), Cream-colored Woodpecker (*Ceuleus flavus*), Lafresnaye's Piculet (*Picumnus lafresnayi*), Festive Parrot (*Amazona festiva*), Sneathlidge's Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus minor*), Rio Negro Ash-breasted Antbird (*Myrmoborus stictopterus*), Leaden Antwren (*Myrmotherula assimilis*), Cherrie's Antwren (*Myrmotherula cherriei*), Klages's Antwren (*Myrmotherula klagesi*), Black-crested Antshrike (*Sakesphorus canadensis*), Blackish-gray Antshrike (*Thamnophilus nigrocinereus*), Varzea Schiffornis (*Schiffornis major*), Streak-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis rupurumii*), Yellow-crowned Elaenia (*Myiopagis flavivertex*), Brown-headed Greenlet (*Hylophilus brunneiceps*) and more. Besides some difficult birds mentioned above, we will really have to test our luck to see a Crestless Curassow (*Pauxi tomentosa*) or maybe even a Crested Eagle (*Morphnus guianensis*).



Wire-tailed Manakin



**Day 3:** AM and PM Birding in Novo Airão.

**Day 4:** Transfer to **MANACAPURU** for AM and PM Birding (+/-1½hrs [100Km]).

**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 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. In Manacapuru, we will be lodged in a sort of weekend waterpark and that is why we always try to avoid weekends here. The accommodation is quite nice, and they have easy access trails that we could explore in the evening and/or morning.

**Targets:** Some of the species we will look for are White-chested Puffbird (*Malacoptila fusca*), Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Black-necked Red-Cotinga (*Phoenicircus nigricollis*), Northern Ocellated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus beauperthuisii*), Olive-capped Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus cervicalis*), Rufous-tailed Xenops (*Microxenops milleri*), Blue-crowned Manakin (*Lepidothrix coronata*), Orange-cheeked Parrot (*Pyrilia barrabandi*), Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrrhura melanura*), Ivory-billed Aracari (*Pteroglossus azara*), Brownish Twistwing (*Cnipodectes subbrunneus*), Negro Stipplethroat (*Epinecrophylla pyrrhonota*), White-cheeked Antbird (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*), Yellow-browed Antbird (*Hypocnemis hypoxantha*), Reddish-winged Bare-eye (*Phlegopsis erythroptera*), Fiery Topaz (*Topaza pyra*), Wing-banded Wren (*Microcerculus bambla*) and Collared Puffbird (*Bucco capensis*).



Blue-crowned Manakin

**Day 5:** AM Birding. Transfer to Manaus (+/-1½hrs [100Km]).

**Day 6:** Today the morning will be birding in the **MARCHANTARIA ISLAND** and two other islands besides this one, which are in the Solimões River. PM transfer to Itacoatiara (+/-5hrs [280Km]).

**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.

**Targets:** we will focus our search on the island specialists, such as Ladder-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis climacocerca*), Zimmer's Woodcreeper (*Dendroplex kienerii*), Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*), Red-and-white Spinetail (*Certhiaxis mustelinus*), Parker's Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpecula*), Lesser Hornero (*Furnarius minor*), White-bellied Spinetail (*Mazarid propinqua*), Dark-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albigularis*), Yellow-hooded





Blackbird (*Chrysomus icterocephalus*), Oriole Blackbird (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*), Russet-backed Oropendola (*Psarocolius angustifrons*), Lafresnaye's Piculet (*Picumnus lafresnayi*), Festive Parrot (*Amazona festiva*), Tui Parakeet (*Brotogeris sanctithomae*), Short-tailed Parrot (*Graydidascalus brachyurus*), Black-and-white Antbird (*Myrmochanes hemileucus*), Castelnau's Antshrike (*Thamnophilus cryptoleucus*), Pearly-breasted Conebill (*Conirostrum margaritae*), Dull-capped Attila (*Attila bolivianus*), Brownish Elaenia (*Elaenia pelzelni*), Riverside Tyrant (*Knipolegus orenocensis*), River Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga hypoleuca*), Spot-breasted Woodpecker (*Colaptes punctigula*), Red-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*) and many others. There are two hummers that, although very difficult to find, we will be in range, so keep an eye out for the Green-throated Mango (*Anthracothorax viridigula*) and Olive-spotted Hummingbird (*Thalaphorus chlorocercus*).



Pearly-breasted Conebill



Oriole Blackbird

**Day 7: AM Birding in ITACOATIARA.** We will take a small boat and go up the Amazonas River. We will stop at some spots in the várzea forest, where we can find several species that are more restricted to this habitat. PM Transfer to Manaus (+/-5hrs (280Km)).

**Area Description:** The várzeas (forests that seasonally flood when the water levels of the river are high) of the Amazon River is rich in species that specialize in this type of habitat. During the wet season (May-July) the river and streams are more navigable, and we are always inside the boat birding. Accommodation here is very basic.

**Targets:** Our main target is, of course, the Varzea Piculet (*Picumnus varzeae*). Other targets are: Scaled Spinetail (*Cranioleuca muelleri*), Crimson-hooded Manakin (*Pipra aureola*), Dull-capped Attila (*Attila bolivianus*), Leaden Antwren (*Myrmotherula assimilis*), Black-chinned Antbird (*Hypocnemoides melanopogon*), Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*), Cream-colored Woodpecker (*Celeus flavus*), Lesser Hornero (*Furnarius minor*), Dark-



breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albigularis*), Oriole Blackbird (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*), Tui Parakeet (*Brotogeris sanctithomae*), Short-tailed Parrot (*Graydidascalus brachyurus*) and maybe the rare Plain Softtail (*Thripophaga fusciceps*).



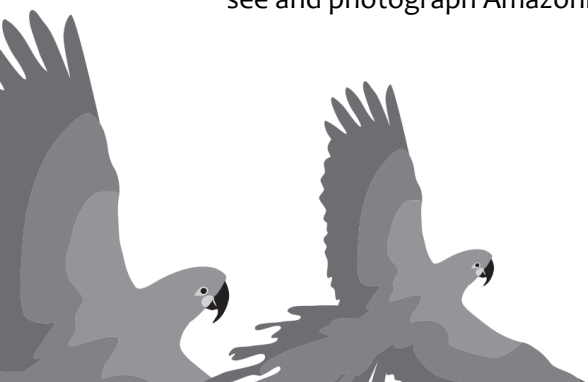
Scaled Spinetail



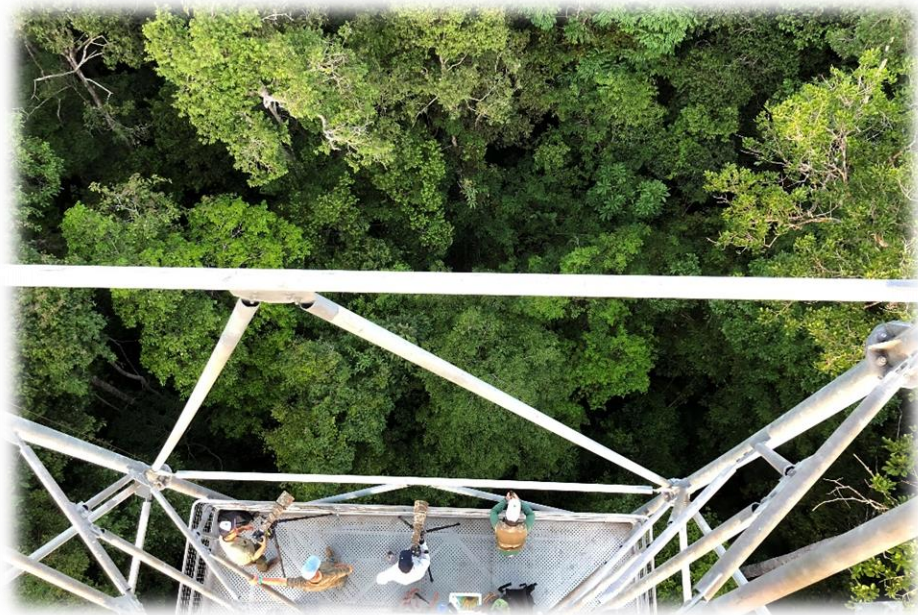
Plain Softtail

**Day 8:** AM Birding in the famous **MUSA TOWER**. PM Birding to be defined depending on the birds that still need to be seen.

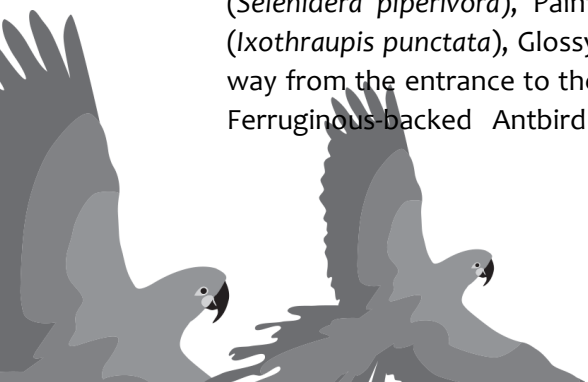
**Area description:** Created in January 2009, Musa occupies 100 hectares of the Adolpho Ducke Forest Reserve, of the National Institute of Amazonian Research - INPA in Manaus. An area of native upland forest that for more than 60 years is being studied with passion. The results of these surveys, gathered 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.







**Targets:** Here is a short list of a few species that could be seen: Chapman's Swift (*Chaetura chapmani*), Black Nunbird (*Monasa atra*), Guianan Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*), Black-spotted Barbet (*Capito niger*), Yellow-green Grosbeak (*Caryothraustes canadensis*), Red-throated Caracara (*Ibycter americanus*), Pompadour Cotinga (*Xipholena punicea*), Black-bellied Cuckoo (*Piaya melanogaster*), Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper (*Dendrexetastes rufigula*), Guianan Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes albolineatus*), Golden-sided Euphonia (*Euphonia cayennensis*), Paradise Jacamar (*Galbula dea*), Golden-collared Woodpecker (*Veniliornis cassini*), Red-fan Parrot (*Derophtus accipitrinus*), Dusky Parrot (*Pionus fuscus*), Caica Parrot (*Pyrilia caica*), Green Aracari (*Pteroglossus viridis*), Guianan Toucanet (*Selenidera piperivora*), Painted Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum pictum*), Spotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis punctata*), Glossy-backed Becard (*Pachyramphus surinamus*) and more. On our way from the entrance to the tower and back we could try some understory birds like the Ferruginous-backed Antbird (*Myrmoderus ferrugineus*), Fulvous Shrike-Tanager (*Lanio*



*fulvus*), and more. Depending on time of year we have chances of seeing Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*) flying over.



Red-throated Caracara



Guianan Puffbird

**Day 9:** On this day we will leave VERY early to reach the famous **ZF-2 TOWER** for AM Birding. The tower is on our way to Presidente Figueiredo. Bird until around 10h30min and head to Presidente Figueiredo, where we have lunch (+/-2hrs [120Km]).

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

**Targets:** here we have a never-ending list of possibilities. And every day holds different surprises in a canopy tower. What will be our surprise of the day? Here are a few of the birds we might see here: White Hawk (*Pseudastur albicollis*), Ornate Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus ornatus*), Chapman's Swift (*Chaetura chapmani*), Guianan Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*), Black-spotted Barbet (*Capito niger*), Pompadour Cotinga (*Xipholena punicea*), Black Curassow (*Crax alector*), Black-bellied Cuckoo (*Piaya melanogaster*), Red-billed Woodcreeper (*Hylexetastes perrotii*), Golden-sided Euphonia (*Euphonia cayennensis*), Yellow-billed Jacamar (*Galbula albirostris*), Paradise Jacamar (*Galbula dea*), Golden-collared Woodpecker (*Veniliornis cassini*), White-fronted Manakin (*Lepidothrix serena*), Dusky Parrot (*Pionus fuscus*), Green Aracari (*Pteroglossus viridis*), Painted Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum pictum*), Ash-winged Antwren (*Euchrepomis spodioptila*), Spot-backed Antwren





(*Herpsilochmus dorsimaculatus*), Short-billed Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes nitidus*), Spotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis punctata*), Paradise Tanager (*Tangara chilensis*), Opal-rumped Tanager (*Tangara velia*), Guianan Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*), Todd's Sirystes (*Sirystes subcanescens*) and many more. In addition to the species mentioned above, keep an eye out for large hawks or parrots flying over; we might be lucky enough to see Sapphire-rumped Parrotlets (*Touit purpuratus*), Black-faced Hawk (*Leucopternis melanops*) or even a Harpy Eagle (*Harpia harpyja*) above our heads. Other birds that are possible but with a 10-20% chance include Musician Wren (*Cyphorhinus arada*), Guianan Red-Cotinga (*Phoenicircus carnifex*), Spotted Antpitta (*Hylopezus macularius*), Olive-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes virescens*) and Guianan Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila guianensis*).



Painted Tody-Flycatcher

We will reach our destination by lunch time and there will be more than enough time to start searching for our targets in the afternoon 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*).

**Targets:** Other than the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, there are many other birds to keep on our radar such as the White-chinned Swift (*Cypseloides cryptus*), Spotted Puffbird (*Tamatia tamatia*), Chestnut-belted Gnateater (*Conopophaga aurita*), Capuchinbird (*Perissocephalus tricolor*), Black Curassow (*Crax alector*), Marail Guan (*Penelope marail*), Curve-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus procurvoides*), Lined Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur gilvicollis*), Rufous-tailed Xenops (*Microxenops milleri*), Ruddy Spinetail (*Synallaxis rutilans*), Yellow-billed Jacamar (*Galbula albirostris*), Bronzy Jacamar (*Galbula leucogastra*), Moriche Oriole (*Icterus chrysocephalus*), Riverside Warbler (*Myiothlypis mesoleuca*), Undulated Piculet (*Picumnus undulatus*), Yellow-crowned Manakin (*Heterocercus flavivertex*), White-fronted Manakin (*Lepidothrix serena*), Saffron-crested Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma chrysocephalum*), Tiny Tyrant-Manakin (*Tyrannetes virescens*), Painted Parakeet (*Pyrrhura picta*), Sapphire-rumped Parrotlet (*Touit purpuratus*), Green Aracari (*Pteroglossus viridis*), Pelzel's Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus inornatus*), Double-banded Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus vitiosus*), Guianan Screech-Owl (*Megascops watsonii*), Brown-bellied Stipplethroat (*Epinecophylla gutturalis*), Black-throated Antshrike (*Frederickena viridis*), Rufous-throated Antbird (*Gymnopithys rufigula*), Rufous-bellied Antwren (*Isleria guttata*), Ferruginous-backed Antbird (*Myrmoderus ferrugineus*), White-plumed Antbird (*Pithys albifrons*), Fulvous Shrike-Tanager (*Lanio fulvus*), Dusky Purpletuft (*Iodopleura fusca*), Crimson Topaz (*Topaza pella*),





Wing-banded Wren (*Microcerculus bambla*). Many of the birds mentioned above have a high level of difficulty but we will not measure efforts to look for all of them and hopefully have a high percentage of success. Some other super difficult birds are Plumbeous Euphonia (*Euphonia plumbea*), Guianan Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila guianensis*), Olive-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes virescens*) and Gray-winged Trumpeter (*Psophia crepitans*). Let's cross our fingers to find at least one or two of them.



Guianan Cock-of-the-rock

**Day 10:** AM and PM Birding in Presidente Figueiredo.

**Day 11:** AM and PM Birding in Presidente Figueiredo.

**Day 12:** AM Birding if needed and transfer back to Manaus (+/-2hrs [120Km]). PM Birding in the surroundings of Manaus.

**Day 13:** DEPARTURES or EXTENSION.

