



# BRAZIL BIRDING

E X P E R T S

## RONDÔNIA-ACRE FULL TOUR

21 DAYS



*Although quite challenging due to some remote areas we will be visiting, this is one of the most hallucinating trips that we offer. In 21 days in western Brazilian Amazon and driving under 2500km we have the chance of seeing over 500 bird species including extremely rare and enigmatic species such as Rondonia Bushbird, Chico's Tyrannulet, Rufous Twistwing and many more! Adventure yourself through this difficult yet amazing trip in the Brazilian Amazon.*

# RONDÔNIA-ACRE FULL TOUR

(Rondônia, Amazonas, Acre)

Guide: Caio Brito and Ciro Albano

## SUMMARIZED ITINERARY

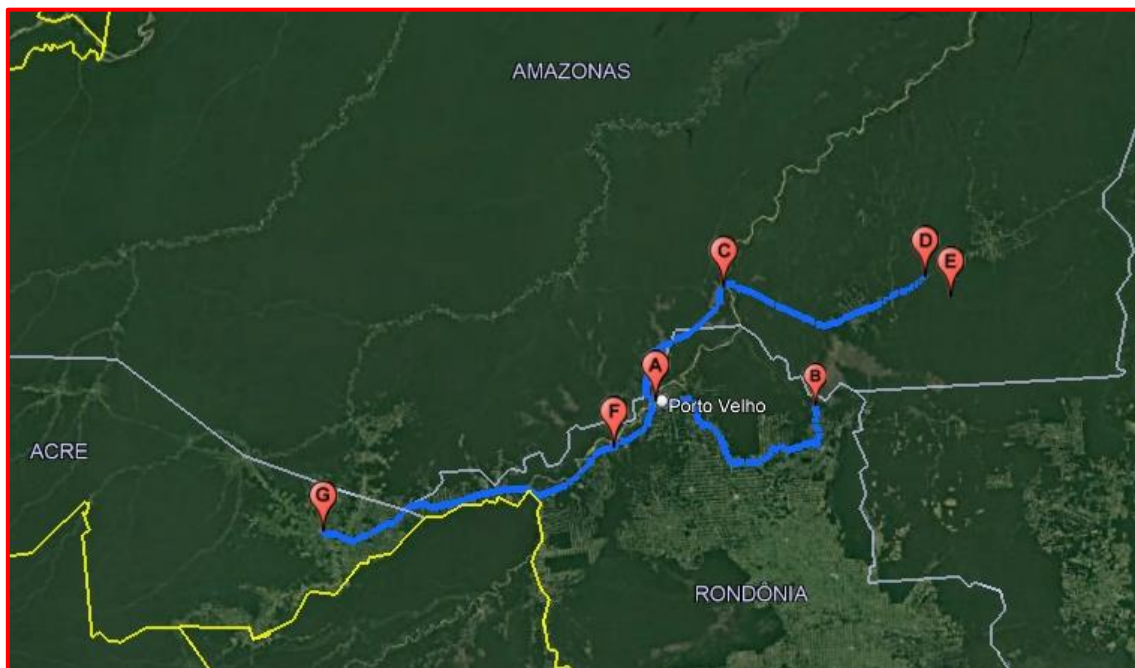
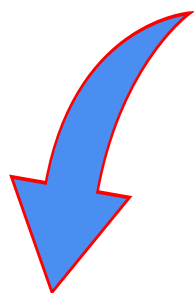
Day	Location (state)	Comments
0	Porto Velho	Arrivals
1	Porto Velho – Tabajara (350km)	Transfer. PM Birding
2	Tabajara (Machadinho d'Oeste)	AM and PM Birding
3	Tabajara (Machadinho d'Oeste)	AM and PM Birding
4	Tabajara – Porto Velho (350km)	Transfer. PM Birding
5	Porto Velho	AM and PM Birding
6	Porto Velho	AM and PM Birding
7	Porto Velho – Humaitá (210km)	Transfer. PM Birding
8	Humaitá	AM and PM Birding
9	Humaitá	AM and PM Birding
10	Humaitá – Pousada PiraAçu (350km)	Transfer. PM Birding
11	Pousada PiraAçu	AM and PM Birding
12	Pousada PiraAçu	AM and PM Birding
13	Pousada PiraAçu	AM and PM Birding
14	Pousada PiraAçu	AM and PM Birding
15	Pousada PiraAçu – Humaitá (350km)	Transfer. PM Birding
16	Humaitá – Jaci Paraná (300km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding
17	Jaci paraná – Rio Branco (430km)	Transfer. PM Birding
18	Rio Branco	AM and PM Birding
19	Rio Branco	AM and PM Birding
20	Rio Branco	AM and PM Birding
21	Rio Branco	AM Birding. Departures

**Date: May 27 to June 16, 2025.**



## OVERVIEW OF THE COMPLETE ITINERARY

Porto Velho (A), Tabajara (Machadinho D'Oeste) (B), Humaitá (C), Rio Aripuanã (D),  
Pousada PiraAçu (E), Jaci-Paraná (F), Rio Branco (G).



## DETAILED ITINERARY

**Day 0:** Arrival in Porto Velho. This first day is only for arrivals. Time to rest from tiring flights and enough buffer time in case we have delayed or canceled flights (which could happen). So, if everything goes according to plan, take advantage of this day to have a good rest before our long journey.

**Day 1:** Transfer to Machadinho D'Oeste (Tabajara) (+/-6hrs [350Km]). PM Birding in **TABAJARA**.

**Area description:** located in Machadinho D'Oeste, inside the buffer zone of Campos Amazônicos National Park and along the Machado River. This region houses a variety of fantastic habitats that we will explore, such as “campinas” and “campinaranas” that are areas of white sand savannas inserted in the Amazonian “biome”. The main difference is that “campinas” are composed mainly of shrubs and short trees and “campinaranas” are considered the transition between campinas and Amazonian Rainforest. We will also visit the right margin of Machado River, where we will look for some super range-restricted specialties. If we have time, we will go birding in some Terra Firme areas as well (Amazon Rainforest that is not influenced by the floods). The variety of environments give us the chance to record a high number of bird species, including some very special ones; great way to start off our trip. We will be lodged in a simple/basic hotel, which unfortunately does not have electric/hot shower, but with air-conditioning.



Machado River – in Tabajara

**Targets:** On our day out by boat to visit the right margins of the Machado River there are three main species that we will look for: Roosevelt Stipplethroat (*Epinecrophylla dentei*), Manicore Warbling-Antbird (*Hypocnemis rondoni*) and the Aripuana Antwren (*Herpsilochmus stotzi*). If we are very lucky, we might detect the super rare and difficult Pale-faced Bare-eye (*Phlegopsis borbae*). To see it is a whole different story, but of course, we will try our best. Let's hope for an ant swarm to make things easier. Besides these specialties in the right margin of Rio Machado, there are many other species that we will keep on our radar: Razor-billed Curassow (*Mitu tuberosum*), Spix's Guan (*Penelope jacquacu*), Slate-colored Hawk (*Buteogallus schistaceus*), Cryptic Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mintoni*), Sunbittern (*Eurypyga helias*), Sungrebe (*Heliornis fulica*), Green-winged Trumpeter (*Psophia viridis*), Black-bellied Cuckoo (*Piaya melanogaster*), White-breasted Antbird (*Rhegmatorhina hoffmannsi*), Amazonian Pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium hardyi*), Sand-colored Nighthawk (*Chordeiles rupestris*), Crimson Topaz (*Topaza pella*), Green-tailed Goldenthrout





(*Polytmus theresiae*), Blue-tailed Emerald (*Chlorostilbon mellisugus*), Pavonine Quetzal (*Pharomachrus pavoninus*), Blue-necked Jacamar (*Galbula cyanicollis*), White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus hyperrhynchus*), Natterer's Striolated Puffbird (*Nystalus striolatus*), Black-girdled Barbet (*Capito dayi*), Ringed Woodpecker (*Celeus torquatus*), Red-necked Aracari (*Pteroglossus bitorquatus*), Kawall's Amazon (*Amazona kawalli*), Crimson-bellied Parakeet (*Pyrrhura perlata*), Golden-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris chrysoptera*), Pearly Antshrike (*Megastictus margaritatus*), Glossy Antshrike (*Sakesphorus luctuosus*), Southern Chestnut-tailed Antbird (*Sciaphylax hemimelaena*), Amazonian Streaked Antwren (*Myrmotherula multostriata*), Rondonia Warbling Antbird (*Hypocnemis ochrogyna*), Natterer's Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus stictocephalus*), Chestnut-belted Gnatcatcher (*Conopophaga aurita*), Rufous-crowned Elaenia (*Elaenia ruficeps*), Rondonia Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes fuscicapillus*), Elegant Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus elegans*), Uniform Woodcreeper (*Hylexetastes uniformis*), Spangled Cotinga (*Cotinga cayana*), Queen Manakin (*Chiroxiphia regina*), Cinnamon Manakin-tyrant (*Neopipo cinnamomea*), Golden-crowned Spadebill (*Platyrinchus coronatus*), Black-collared Swallow (*Pygochelidon melanoleuca*), Red-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus phoeniceus*), Snelhage's Tody-tyrant (*Hemitriccus minor*), Buff-cheeked Tody-flycatcher (*Poecilatriccus senex*), Pale-bellied Mourner (*Rhytipterna immunda*), Black Manakin (*Xenopipo atronitens*) and Chico's Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chicomendesi*).

**Days 2 and 3:** AM and PM Birding in Tabajara.



Manicore Warbling-Antbird



Buff-cheeked Tody-flycatcher





Chico's Tyrannulet

**Day 4:** AM Birding in Tabajara. Transfer to Porto Velho (+/-6hrs [350Km]).

**Days 5 and 6:** AM and PM Birding in **PORTO VELHO**.

**Area description:** Porto Velho is the capital of Rondônia, located aside the Madeira River, an important geographic barrier between two centers of endemism; Rondônia and Inambari. These centers of endemism make this area special for birds with many rarities and it will add fantastic species to our tour. Here, we will explore the left/west bank of the Madeira River.

**Targets:** By crossing to the left/west margin of Madeira River we will be in the Inambari Center of Endemism for the first time on this trip which will present to us a whole new variety of bird species to add on to the trip. Our main targets here will be the Predicted Antwren (*Herpsilochmus praedictus*), Azure-naped [Campina] Jay (*Cyanocorax heilprini hafferi*), Western Striolated-Puffbird (*Nystalus obamai*) and more. Other species we will look for include Slender-billed Kite (*Helicolestes hamatus*), Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Curl-crested Aracari (*Pteroglossus beauharnaesii*), Golden-collared Toucanet (*Selenidera reinwardtii*), Bar-breasted Piculet (*Picumnus aurifrons*), Lined Forest-falcon (*Micrastur gilvicollis*), White-bellied Parrot (*Pionites leucogaster*), Peruvian Warbling-Antbird (*Hypocnemis peruviana*), Sooty Antbird (*Hafferia fortis*), White-throated Antbird (*Oneillornis salvini*), Madeira Stipple-throated Antwren (*Epinecrophylla amazonica*), Inambari Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes fatimalimae*), Slender-billed Xenops (*Xenops tenuirostris*), Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*), Bronzy Jacamar (*Galbula leucogastra*), Pompadour Cotinga (*Xipholena punicea*), Rothchild's Blue Grosbeak (*Cyanoloxia rothschildii*), Amazonian Scrub-flycatcher (*Sublegatus obscurior*), Brownish Twistwing (*Cnipodectes subbrunneus*), Citron-bellied Attila (*Attila citriniventris*), Dotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis varia*), Red-billed Pied Tanager (*Lamprospiza melanoleuca*), Cinnamon Manakin-tyrant (*Neopipo cinnamomea*) and Inambari Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila attenboroughi*).



Campina Jay



Western Striolated-Puffbird

**Day 7:** AM Birding. Transfer to **HUMAITÁ** (+/-3hrs [210Km]). PM Birding.

**Area description:** not far from Porto Velho and located in the State of Amazonas, the main habitats in this region are Terra Firme Forests, savanna habitat (Campinas and Campinaranas of Humaitá and the unusual “Cerrado” in the middle of the Amazon Rainforest). We will also visit *várzea* (forest habitat that is seasonally flooded) areas near Humaitá. Our focus here will be the Terra Firme and Campina birds.

**Targets:** Our targets in the *várzeas* near the ferry will be Plain Softtail (*Thripophaga fusciceps*), Tui Parakeet (*Brotogeris sanctithomae*), Short-tailed Parrot (*Graydidascalus brachyurus*), Festive Amazon (*Amazona festiva*), Rusty-backed Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpina*), Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*), Spot-breasted Woodpecker (*Colaptes punctigula*), Masked Crimson Tanager (*Ramphocelus nigrogularis*), Black-chinned Antbird (*Hypocnemoides melanopogon*), Leaden Antwren (*Myrmotherula assimilis*), Zimmer’s Woodcreeper (*Dendroplex kienerii*) and more. In the other areas we will visit the targets include Needle-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis philippii*), Paradise Jacamar (*Galbula dea*), Brown-mandibled Aracari (*Pteroglossus mariae*), Brown-banded Puffbird (*Notharchus ordii*), Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), Red-necked Woodpecker (*Campephilus rubricollis*), Humaita Antbird (*Myrmelastes humaythae*), Madeira Stipple-throated (*Epinecrophylla amazonica*), Hairy-crested Antbird (*Rhegmatorhina melanosticta*), White-crested Spadebill (*Platyrynchus platyrhynchos*), Fiery-capped Manakin (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*), Paradise Tanager (*Tangara chilensis*) and Rufous-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia rufiventris*). Other species that we have the chance of seeing but with a lot more luck involved are Undulated Antshrike





(*Frederickena unduliger*), Black Bushbird (*Neotantes niger*), Bar-bellied Woodcreeper (*Hylexetastes stresemanni*) and Fulvous-chinned Nunlet (*Nonnula sclateri*). In the Cerrado area we will try to see the secretive Ocellated Crake (*Micropygia schomburgkii*), never an easy bird to see. We will also look for White-rumped Tanager (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*), Sharp-tailed Tyrant (*Culicivora caudacuta*) and a few other birds related to this habitat in the amazon, like the Southern Scrub-Flycatcher (*Sublegatus modestus*) and more.



Plain Softtail

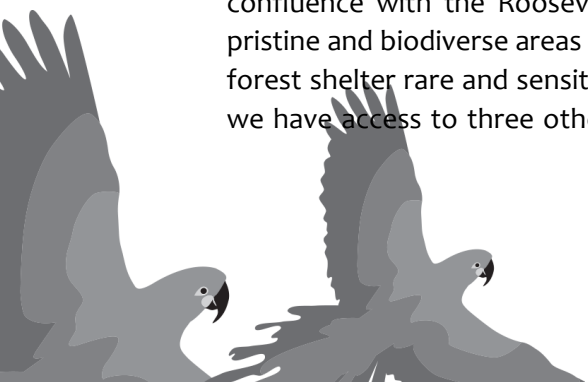


Hairy-crested Antbird

**Days 8 and 9:** AM and PM Birding in Humaitá.

**Day 10:** Transfer to **POUSADA PIRAAÇU** via dirt road and boat (+/-8hrs [350Km]). PM Birding.

**Area description:** primarily structured for sports fishing due to its immense gamefish biodiversity, Pira Açu is located on the right bank of the Aripuanã river, one of the largest rivers in the Madeira-Tapajós interfluvium, about two hours by boat upstream from its confluence with the Roosevelt River. Pousada Pira Açu is situated in one of the most pristine and biodiverse areas of the Brazilian amazon. Hundreds of kilometers of untouched forest shelter rare and sensitive birds of the Rondônia Center of Endemism. From Pira Açu we have access to three other rivers (Paxiúba, Guariba and Buiuçu), each with a different

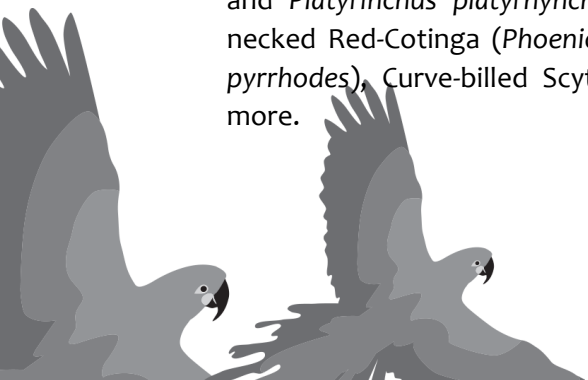




character and range of micro-habitats. On our full days of birding here, we have a never-ending list of trails and rivers to explore, searching for special Amazonian birds.



**Targets:** Some of our main targets here are Rondonia Bushbird (*Clytoctantes atrogularis*), Nocturnal Curassow (*Nothocrax urumutum*), Rufous Potoo (*Phyllaemulor bracteatus*), Crimson Topaz (*Topaza pella*), Fiery-tailed Awlbill (*Avocettula recurvirostris*), Dark-winged Trumpeter (*Psophia obscura*), Zigzag Heron (*Zebrilus undulatus*), White-browed Hawk (*Leucopternis kuhli*), Pavonine Quetzal (*Pharomachrus pavoninus*), Cryptic Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mintoni*), Rufous-necked Puffbird (*Malacoptila rufa*), Black-girdled Barbet (*Capito dayi*), Pearly Antshrike (*Megastictus margaritatus*), Banded Antbird (*Dichrozona cincta*), Striated Antbird (*Drymophila devillei*), White-breasted Antbird (*Rhegmatorhina hoffmannsi*), Pale-faced Bare-eye (*Phlegopsis borbae*), Alta Floresta Antpitta (*Hylopezus whittakeri*), Tapajos Antpitta (*Myrmothera subcanascens*), Rusty-belted Tapaculo (*Liosceles thoracicus*), Hoffmanns's Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes hoffmannsi*), Crimson Fruitcrow (*Haematoderus militaris*), Black-and-white Tody-Flycatcher (*Poecilotriccus capitalis*), Buff-cheeked Tody-Flycatcher (*Poecilotriccus senex*), Chico's Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chicomendesii*), Klages's Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila paraensis*), Musician Wren (*Cyphorhinus arada*), Tooth-billed Wren (*Odontorchilus cinereus*), Red-and-black Grosbeak (*Periporphyrus erythromelas*) and Dotted Tanager (*Ixothraupis varia*). There is no need to say how rare and difficult some of these birds are, but the important thing is that we will try our best to search and find all the targets needed on this tour. Other interesting targets include Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*), Cinnamon-crested and White-crested Spadebills (*Platyrynchus saturatus* and *Platyrynchus platyrhynchos*), White-browed Purpletuft (*Iodopleura isabellae*), Black-necked Red-Cotinga (*Phoenicircus nigricollis*), Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor pyrrhodes*), Curve-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus procurvoides probatus*) and many more.





White-breasted Antbird



Black-girdled Barbet



Rondonia Bushbird

**Days 11, 12 and 13 and 14: AM and PM Birding in Pousada PiraAçu.**





**Day 15:** Transfer back to Humaitá (+/-8hrs [350Km]) for PM Birding.

**Day 16:** AM Birding to pick up on anything we might have missed and transfer to **JACI-PARANÁ** (+/-4hrs [300Km]) for PM Birding.

**Area description:** Jaci-Paraná is a district of Porto Velho, on the right bank of the Madeira River. The main habitats that we will visit here are the *várzea* forest, islands of the Madeira River and Terra Firme Forest.

**Targets:** Our main target here will be, of course, the enigmatic Rondonia Bushbird (*Clytoctantes atrogularis*) in case we have missed it in Pousada PiraAçu. Other special birds to look for here include Black-necked Red Cotinga (*Phoenicircus nigricollis*), Orinoco Goose (*Neochen jubata*), Chestnut-capped Puffbird (*Cyphos macrodactylus*), Red-fan Parrot (*Deropterus accipitrinus*), Ruddy Spinetail (*Synallaxis rutilans*), Yellow-margined Flatbill (*Tolmomyias assimilis*), Drab Water-tyrant (*Ochthornis littoralis*), Bare-necked Fruitcrow (*Gymnoderus foetidus*), Dwarf Tyrant-manakin (*Tyranneutes stolzmanni*), Rufous-faced Antbird (*Myrmelastes rufifacies*), Ashy-headed Greenlet (*Hylophilus pectoralis*), Green Oropendola (*Psarocolius viridis*). If we have previously seen the Rondonia Bushbird, we will look for island specialties instead, including Black-and-white Antbird (*Myrmochanes hemileucus*), Brownish Elaenia (*Elaenia pelzelni*), the Amazonian subspecies of Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant (*Stigmatura napensis napensis*), Riverside Tyrant (*Knipolegus orenocensis*), Parker's Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpecula*), Little Ground-Tyrant (*Syrtidicola fluviatilis*), Lesser Hornero (*Furnarius minor*) and White-bellied Spinetail (*Mazaria propinqua*).

**Day 17:** AM Birding and transfer to **RIO BRANCO** (+/-6hrs [430Km]).

**Area description:** Rio Branco is the capital of Acre, located in the valley of the Acre River. It is known because of the “rubber cycle” due to its process of settlement based on the rubber extracted from Seringa trees. In this region, there are big stands of Bamboos that give us the chance to record the birds considered bamboo specialists.





**Targets:** The targets for us here will be Rufous Twistwing (*Cnipodectes superrufus*), Blue-headed Macaw (*Primolius couloni*), White-bellied Parrot (*Pionites leucogaster*), Black-capped Parakeet (*Pyrrhura rupicola*), Amazonian Parrotlet (*Nannopsittaca dachilleae*), Orange-fronted Plushcrown (*Metopothrix aurantiaca*), Striated Antbird (*Drymophila devillei*), Dusky Leaf-tosser (*Sclerurus obscurior*), Bamboo Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus sanctaemariae*), Bamboo Antwren (*Myrmotherula oreni*), Goeldi's Antbird (*Myrmeciza goeldii*), Acre Tody-tyrant (*Hemitriccus cohnhafti*), Long-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus eulophotes*), Flammulated Bamboo-tyrant (*Hemitriccus flammulatus*), White-eyed Attila (*Attila bolivianus*), Ianambari Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes fatimalimae*), White-throated Jacamar (*Brachygalba albogularis*), White-lined Antbird (*Myrmoborus lophotes*), Yellow-billed Nunbird (*Monasa flavirostris*), Riparian Antbird (*Cercomacroides fuscicauda*), Speckled Spinetail (*Cranioleuca gutturata*), Rufous-breasted Piculet (*Picumnus rufiventris*), Fine-barred Piculet (*Picumnus subtilis*), Lemon-throated Barbet (*Eubucco richardsoni*), Black-throated Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus atrogularis*), Brown-rumped Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus melanopezus*), Peruvian Recurvebill (*Syndactyla ucayalae*), Purple-throated Cotinga (*Porphyrolaema porphyrolaema*), White-rumped Sirystes (*Sirystes albocinereus*), Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-manakin (*Neopelma sulphureiventer*), Rufous-headed Woodpecker (*Celeus spectabilis*), Yellow-cheeked Becard (*Pachyramphus xanthogenys*), Southern Nightingale-Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*), Silky-tailed Nightjar (*Anrostomus sericeicaudatus*), Black-and-white Tanager (*Conothraupis speculigera*), Opal-crowned Tanager (*Tangara callophrys*) and Black-faced Cotinga (*Conioptilon mcilhennyi*). Many of the birds mentioned above are not at all easy targets. In the field we could discuss about the difficulty of determined species as the surprises of each day unravels.

**Days 18, 19 and 20:** AM and PM Birding around Rio Branco.



Black-faced Cotinga





Lemon-throated Barbet



Goeldi's Antbird



White-throated Jacamar

**Day 21:** AM Birding. Get back to the hotel to tidy up for DEPARTURES or EXTENSION.

