



BRAZIL BIRDING

E X P E R T S

BAHIA SHORT TOUR

8 DAYS



Welcome to Brazil! We are pleased to welcome everyone attending the 8th Frugivores and Seed Dispersal Symposium. We have designed a birding trip that will take you on an incredible journey throughout Bahia State, which is one of the most bird-rich states in Brazil. During this short trip, we will cross the Atlantic Forest, Caatinga, and Cerrado, giving you the opportunity to see many special birds and stunning landscapes. You will also get to enjoy the rich gastronomy of Itacaré and Chapada Diamantina.

BAHIA SHORT TOUR

(Bahia State)

Guide: Felipe Arantes

SUMMARIZED ITINERARY

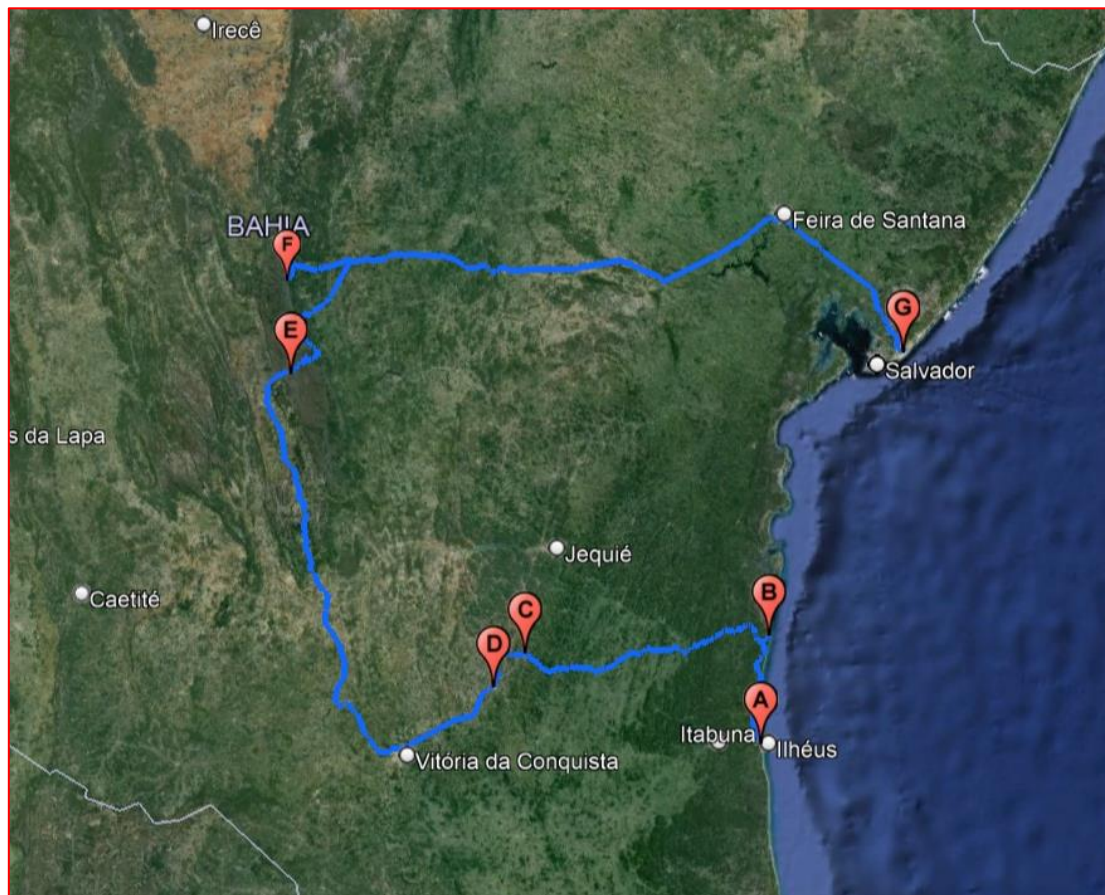
Day	Location	Comments
1 (Aug/09)	Ilhéus - Itacaré (75Km)	Transfer. AM and PM Birding
2 (Aug/10)	Itacaré - Boa Nova (200Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding
3 (Aug/11)	Boa Nova	AM and PM Birding
4 (Aug/12)	Boa Nova (Poçoões)	AM and PM Birding
5 (Aug/13)	Boa Nova - Chapada Diamantina (320Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. PM Birding
6 (Aug/14)	Chapada Diamantina (Mucugê)	AM and PM Birding
7 (Aug/15)	Chapada Diamantina (Lençóis)	AM and PM Birding
8 (Aug/16)	Chapada Diamantina - Salvador (410Km)	AM Birding. Transfer. Departures.

Date: August 9 to 16, 2024.



OVERVIEW OF THE COMPLETE ITINERARY

Ilhéus (A), Itacaré (B), Boa Nova (C), Poçoões (D), Mucugê (E), Lençóis (F) e Salvador (G).



DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Transfer to **ITACARÉ** (+/-1½hrs [75Km]) for AM and PM Birding.

Area description: this region of South Coast Bahia is rich in endemism and special birds. With a vast area of remnants of lowland forest, some of them in private areas and other protected by Serra do Conduru State Park. Here we will be based in Itacaré, a famous touristic destination with marvelous forest, beaches, and waterfalls. From there we will do excursions to Maraú (north of Itacaré) to try to see the rare and endemic Bahia Tapaculo. We will also explore the Serra do Conduru State Park, south of Itacaré. This State Park protects more than 9,000 hectares of Atlantic Forest and it is one of the most biodiverse areas of this biome, with 458 different tree species per hectare with high index of endemism. This reflects on the avifauna; a paradise to see manakins and many other interesting birds.

Targets: Our main target will be a very rare bird: the Endangered Bahia Tapaculo (*Eleoscytalopus psychopompus*). Other targets of this lowland Atlantic Forest will be Kinglet Manakin (*Machaeropterus regulus*), White-crowned Manakin (*Dixiphia pipra*), Blue-backed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia pareola*), Scaled Antbird (*Drymophila squamata*), Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher (*Conopophaga melanops*), Band-tailed Antwren (*Myrmotherula urosticta*), Cinereous-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis hypospodia*), Great-billed [Margaretta's] Hermit (*Phaethornis malaris margarettae*), Turquoise [White-bellied] Tanager (*Tangara mexicana brasiliensis*), Opal-rumped [Silvery-breasted] Tanager (*Tangara velia cyanomelas*), the nominal race of White-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa morphoeus morphoeus*) and many others.



Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher



Bahia Tapaculo



Day 2: AM Birding. Transfer to **BOA NOVA** (+/-3½hrs [200km]) for PM Birding.

Area description: located in the Southwestern part of Bahia, Boa Nova is famous among birders due to its highly diverse bird community (+430 species), with typical elements of montane Atlantic Forest, Caatinga, and a unique transitional area between the Atlantic Forest and Caatinga known as “mata-de-cipó” (Vine Forest). This variety of habitats provide a rich avifauna, with many globally threatened species that motivated the Brazilian Government to create a mosaic of Protected Areas in the region; National Park and Wildlife Refuge of Boa Nova, with 13.000 and 15.000 hectares, respectively. There is a place nearby the hotel (20min), with a natural hummingbird garden full of ground cacti (*Melocactus bahiensis*) that blossom every afternoon attracting many nice hummingbirds. Fortunately, this pristine and unique area is now owned and protected by a Brazilian couple of birders who are constantly improving facilities (hides and birdfeeders) especially for bird photographers. Although there is no species that only occur in this area, you will have excellent photo opportunities of hummers, caatinga birds and more. So, if you are a keen bird photographer or like to enjoy a special scenario you will love to visit the famous “Lajedo dos beija-flores”.



Ruby-topaz Hummingbird



Stripe-breasted Starthroat



In the neighboring municipality (Poçoões), there is a young birder (Mateus) who found some rarities. It is important to mention that some areas in Poçoões are not reached by van and, in case of rain, not even on 4-wheel drives. The birding area that could be reached by van (if not raining) is a trail with a certain level of difficulty (steep) and will depend on the fitness of the group.

Targets: one of the main highlights is the Slender Antbird (*Rhopornis ardesiacus*), confined to the “mata-de-cipó” vegetation where we could also find the Narrow-billed Antwren (*Formicivora iheringi*) and Hangnest Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus nidipendulus*). In the Caatinga habitat nearby we will see Silvery-checked Antshrike (*Sakesphorus cristatus*), Catinga Antwren (*Herpsilochmus sellowi*), Gray-eyed Greenlet (*Hylophilus amaurocephalus*), Black-bellied Antwren (*Formicivora melanogaster*), Spotted Piculet (*Picumnus pygmaeus*), among others. In the Montane Atlantic Forest we search for Striated Softtail (*Thripophaga macroura*), Bahia Spinetail (*Synallaxis cinerea*), Rio de Janeiro Antbird (*Cercomacra brasiliana*), Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus furcatus*), Crescent-chested Puffbird (*Malacoptila striata*), Rufous-headed Tanager (*Hemithraupis ruficapilla*), Black-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus falcularius*), Pallid Spinetail (*Cranioleuca pallida*), Least Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium minutissimum*), White-eyed Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus leucophthalmus*), Pin-tailed Manakin (*Ilicura militaris*), Scale-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis eurynome*), Spot-breasted Antvireo (*Dysithamnus stictothorax*), Ferruginous Antbird (*Drymophila ferruginea*), Gray-hooded Attila (*Attila rufus*), Gilt-edged Tanager (*Tangara cyanoventris*) and many others. Here, we will also have chances of seeing the fantastic Giant Snipe (*Gallinago undulata*). In the hummingbird garden (Lajedo dos beija-flores), we could see Sapphire-spangled Emerald (*Amazilia lactea*), Swallow-tailed Hummingbird (*Eupetomena macroura*), Planalto Hermit (*Phaethornis pretrei*), Stripe-breasted Starthroat (*Heliomaster squamosus*), Ruby-Topaz Hummingbird (*Chrysolampis mosquitus*), Glittering-bellied Emerald (*Chlorostilbon lucidus*) depending on season, among others. The highlights in Poçoões include the rare Wied’s Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma aurifrons*), White-bibbed Antbird (*Myrmoderus loricatus*), Greenish Schiffornis (*Schiffornis virescens*), Scaled Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes squamatus*), Swallow-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia caudata*) and others. There is also a place to see the Three-toed Jacamar (*Jacamaralcyon tridactyla*) but the access is restricted to 4-wheel drives, if not raining.

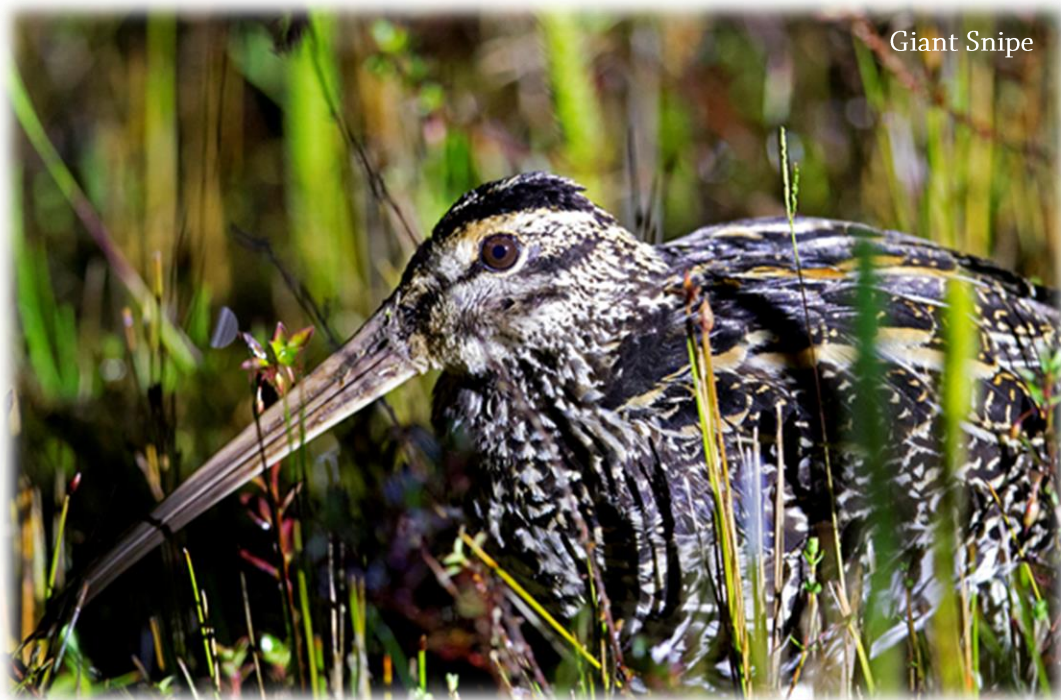


Striated Softtail





Slender Antbird



Giant Snipe

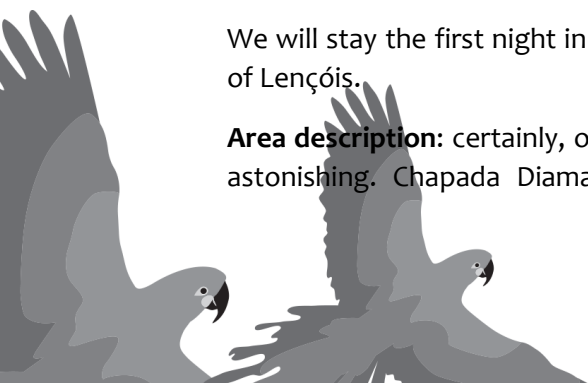
Day 3: AM and PM Birding in the Boa Nova area.

Day 4: AM Birding in Poçoões area and PM Birding in the Boa Nova area.

Day 5: AM Birding if needed and transfer to **CHAPADA DIAMANTINA** (+/-5hrs [320Km]) for PM Birding.

We will stay the first night in the town of Mucugê and the 2 following 2 nights in the town of Lençóis.

Area description: certainly, one of the most impressive places in Brazil, the landscapes are astonishing. Chapada Diamantina is part of a long series of highlands linked to the



Espinhaço mountain range, which extend from north of Minas Gerais through Bahia. There is a high diversity of habitats such as Caatinga, Cerrado, Campo Rupestre (arid mountain shrubs), Humid and Gallery Forests and, along with that, of course, a high diversity of birds (almost 400 species). Most of these beautiful landscapes and pristine habitat are part of the Chapada Diamantina National Park which protects, by law, 152.000 hectares. Because of the scenic views, preserved habitat, and waterfalls, this is one of the most visited places in the state of Bahia by tourists willing to connect with nature.



Targets: our main targets in the Chapada Diamantina area are the Hooded Visorbearer (*Augastes lumachella*), Sincora Antwren (*Formicivora grantsaui*) and Diamantina Tapaculo (*Scytalopus diamantinensis*), the last two described to science just in 2007. We have a long list of birds to look for besides the three mentioned above: Collared Crescentchest (*Melanopareia torquata*), Helmeted Manakin (*Antilophia galeata*), Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma pallescens*), Surucua [Orange-bellied] Trogon (*Trogon surrucura aurantius*), Black-throated Saltator (*Saltatricula atricollis*), Rufous Nightjar (*Anurostomus rufus*), Broad-tipped Hermit (*Anopetia gounellei*), São Francisco Sparrow (*Arremon franciscanus*), Great Xenops (*Megaxenops parnaguae*), Rufous-sided Pygmy-Tyrant (*Euscarthmus rufomarginatus*), Blue Finch (*Porphyrospiza caerulescens*), White-banded Tanager (*Neothraupis fasciata*), Rufous-winged Antshrike (*Thamnophilus torquatus*), East Brazilian Chachalaca (*Ortalis araucuan*), Copper Seedeater (*Sporophila bouvreuil*), Green-winged Saltator (*Saltator similis*), Gilt-edged Tanager (*Tangara cyanoventris*), Horned Sungem (*Heliactin bilophus*), Grey-backed Tachuri (*Polystictus superciliaris*), Buff-throated Pampa-finch (*Embernagra longicauda*) and more.





Hooded Visorbearer



Sincora Antwren



Diamantina Tapaculo

Days 6 and 7: AM and PM Birding.

Day 8: AM Birding. Transfer to Salvador Airport (+/-6hrs [410Km]) for evening departures.

