



## BIRDING NORTHEAST ARGENTINA: IBERÁ MARSHLANDS AND IGUAZÚ NATIONAL PARK

06 – 15 NOVEMBER 2027

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*The Iberá Marshlands host good numbers of **Southern Screamer**.*

### Overview

In Corrientes province, northeastern Argentina, lies the vast Iberá Marshlands, South America's second-largest wetland, after Brazil's Pantanal. Iberá, or as the Guaraní natives call it "Shining Waters", is a BirdLife International IBA and Ramsar Site as well as a national preserve. The reserve is nearly three times the size of the Everglades, protecting diverse habitats including lakes, swamps, palm groves, grasslands, and mature forests. Over 330 bird species, including **Jabiru, Snail Kite, Southern Screamer, Greater Rhea, Savanna Hawk, Black-collared Hawk, White Woodpecker, Scarlet-headed Blackbird, and Red-crested Cardinal**, as well as other animals such as **Capybara, Marsh Deer, Maned Wolf, Black-and-gold Howler Monkey, Large Hairy Armadillo, Yellow Anaconda, and Yacaré Caiman**, are all to be found.

The legendary *Gauchos* (Argentine cowboys) also call Iberá home; these "cowboys" live and work on the vast cattle ranches known as *estancias*, where they still use their traditional equestrian culture in daily life. It's on some of these *estancias* that we'll be staying to explore the region, as the hotels are few and far between.



*Yellow-fronted Woodpecker is one of several spectacular woodpecker species we may see on this tour.*

Join us to explore this captivating paradise, combined with a visit to the spectacular Iguazú Falls on the Brazilian border. We'll be spending three days in the spectacular Iguazú National Park on both the Argentinian and Brazilian sides, where birds include the likes of **Black-fronted Piping Guan, Toco Toucan, Chestnut-eared Aracari, Scaly-headed Parrot, Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet, Plumbeous Kite, Tropical Screech Owl, Short-tailed Nighthawk, Great Dusky Swift, Scale-throated Hermit, Black-throated Mango, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Surucua Trogon, Yellow-fronted Woodpecker, and Tufted Antshrike**, among many more.

This tour can be combined with our preceding **Birding Tour Argentina: Northwest from the foothills to puna**, and/or **Birding Tour Argentina: Southern Patagonia – Los Glaciares National Park and Austral Rail** which follows this tour.

### **Detailed Itinerary (10 days/9 nights)**

#### **Day 1. Buenos Aires**

The group arrives in Buenos Aires at Ministro Pistarini (Ezeiza) International Airport, then transfers to our hotel for the night. After settling in we'll do some afternoon birding at the Costanera Sur Ecological Preserve; here we may find species such as **Red-crested Cardinal**, **Coscoroba Swan**, **Silver Teal**, **Spot-flanked Gallinule**, **Nanday** and **Monk Parakeets**, **Crested Caracara**, **Pampa Finch**, **Spectacled Tyrant**, and **Black-and-rufous Warbling Finch** among many more as we explore the wetlands, grasslands, and woodlands.

Overnight: Hotel Dolmen/Hotel Pestana, Buenos Aires



*Strange-tailed Tyrant will be one of the targets on this north-eastern Argentina tour (photo Horacio Matarosso).*

#### **Day 2. Buenos Aires to Posadas**

We'll start the day with a transfer flight to Posadas. Our base for the next three nights will be the Estancia San Juan Poriahú. This ranch is found in the northwest corner of the Iberá Marshlands, which is considered the Argentinean Pantanal. The great variety of habitats such as savannas, forests, lakes, and wetlands host an impressive suite of birds, such as **Greater Rhea**, **Red-winged Tinamou**, **Savanna Hawk**, **Burrowing Owl**, **Southern Screamer**,



**Brazilian Teal, Anhinga, Roseate Spoonbill, Wood Stork, White-necked Heron, Maguari Stork, and Bare-faced Ibis.** Spending time in the grassland habitat we could get lucky with **White Monjita** and **Pampa Finch**, and **Picui Ground Dove**. Our final excursion for the day will be a nocturnal venture after dinner, when we'll be looking for **Crab-eating Fox, Tropical Screech Owl, and Scissor-tailed Nightjar.**

Overnight: Estancia San Juan Poriahú, Ituzaingó

### Day 3. Iberá Marshlands

We'll start the day in search of the largest rodent on the planet, **Capybara**, as we take a boat ride in the Iberá Marshlands. Birdlife here includes **Black-collared Hawk, Long-winged Harrier, Jabiru, Wattled Jacana, Black-capped Donacobius, Yellow-chinned Spinetail**, and the recently described endemic, **Ibera Seedeater**, as well as many more. We'll spend our afternoon exploring the indigenous forests, where we might have an opportunity to photograph groups of **Black-and-gold Howler Monkeys** as we search for birds such as **Dusky-legged Guan, Pale-crested Woodpecker, Blue-crowned Parakeet, White-winged and Green-backed Becards, Yellow-billed Cardinal, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Little Nightjar, and White-throated Hummingbird.**

Overnight: Estancia San Juan Poriahú, Ituzaingó



*Birding the Iberá Marshlands may produce sightings of the striking **Black-capped Donacobius.***

### Day 4. Iberá Marshlands

We will spend another day in this amazing area as we keep adding more birds to our list, such as **Southern Screamer, Ultramarine Grosbeak, Purple and Azure Gallinules, Strange-tailed Tyrant, Double-collared Seedeater, Pearly-bellied Seedeater, Green-winged**

**Saltator, Yellow-rumped Marshbird, Scarlet-headed Blackbird, and the Endangered Saffron-cowled Blackbird.**

Overnight: Estancia San Juan Poriahú, Ituzaingó



*The attractive **Scarlet-headed Blackbird** may be seen in the Iberá Marshlands.*

**Day 5. Iberá Marshlands to Iguazú National Park**

With a long drive north to Iguazú, we will leave immediately after breakfast. En route we will be visiting the ruins of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Jesuit Mission at San Ignacio. While admiring the ruins we will scan the surrounding area for **Bat Falcon, Pileated Parrot, Cobalt-rumped Parrotlet, Striped Cuckoo, Scale-throated Hermit, Black Jacobin, Surucua Trogon, Campo Flicker, Swallow Tanager, Brown-chested Martin, White-rumped Swallow, and Saffron Finch**. From here we have a six-hour drive to our hotel in Iguazú.

Overnight: Yvy Hotel de Selva, Iguazú

**Day 6. Iguazú National Park**

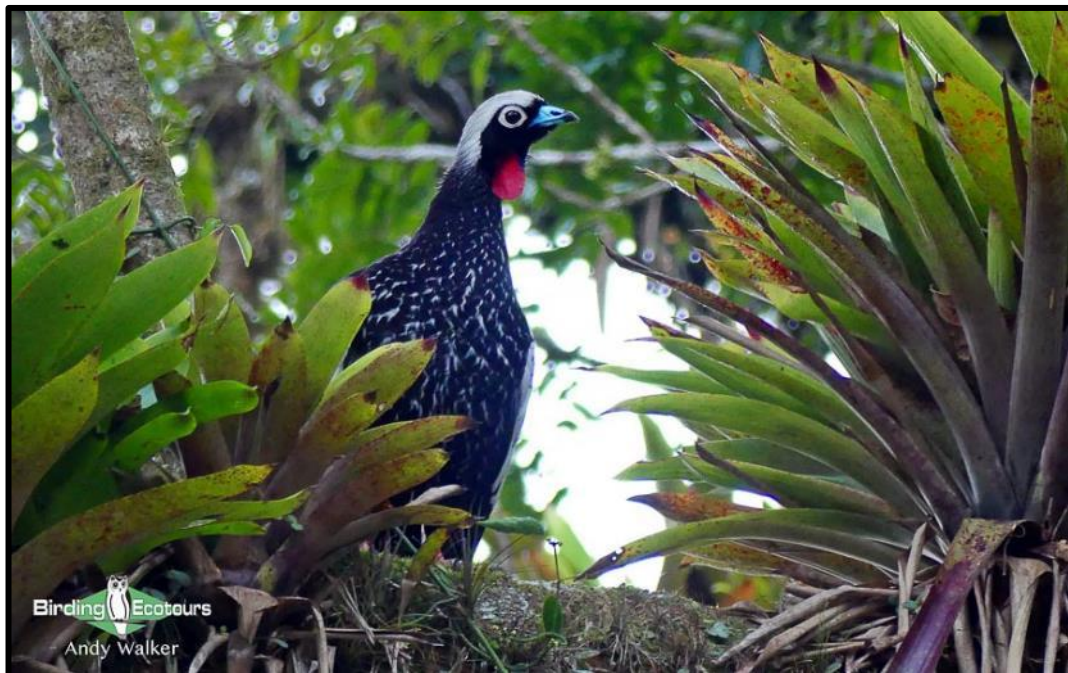
We will spend a full day walking and birding the forest trails of the Iguazú National Park, admiring the spectacular Iguazú Falls and the park's Atlantic Forest. Here, we have good chances of **Plumbeous Kite, Bat Falcon, Toco Toucan, Surucua Trogon, Rufous-capped Motmot, White-eared Puffbird, Yellow-fronted and Blond-crested Woodpeckers, Large-tailed Antshrike, and Swallow Tanager**. We'll also search for big flocks of **Great Dusky Swifts** before sunset as we visit the main falls of the Iguazú system, known as Devil's Gorge.

Overnight: Yvy Hotel de Selva, Iguazú

**Day 7. Iguazú National Park**

With another full day of birding in the Iguazú National Park we'll focus on finding new additions to our list. We'll be cleaning up on species such as **Black-fronted Piping Guan**, **Red-breasted Toucan**, **Squirrel Cuckoo**, **Speckle-breasted Antpitta**, **Rufous Gnateater**, and **Blackish-blue Seedeater**. Our afternoon birding session will be spent on a private property in Puerto Iguazú, known as Hummingbird Garden, where we can find over 12 species of hummingbirds coming to the feeders as well as various tanagers and finches. Birds to expect here include **Blue-tufted Starthroat**, **Black-throated Mango**, **Purple-crowned Plovercrest**, **Violet-capped Woodnymph**, **Rufous-throated Sapphire**, **Festive Coquette**, **Chestnut-bellied Euphonia**, **Golden-rumped Euphonia**, and **Chestnut-backed Tanager**, to name just a few.

Overnight: Yvy Hotel de Selva, Iguazú



*Black-fronted Piping Guan can be seen in Iguazú National Park.*

## Day 8. Iguazú to Surucua Reserva and Ecolodge

Today we make our way east through the Atlantic Forest of Iguazú National Park in search of **Solitary Tinamou**, **Green Ibis**, **Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle**, **Violaceous Quail-Dove**, and **Saffron Toucanet**. We will end our drive at the Surucua Reserva and Ecolodge, on the Iguazú River, a luxurious private property. Habitats here include palmito, bamboo-cane groves, and rainforest. We will spend the rest of the day birding the surrounding area in search of species such as **Orange-breasted Falcon**, **Black-fronted Piping Guan**, **Rusty-margined Guan**, **Spot-billed Toucanet**, **Rufous-capped Motmot**, **White-necked Puffbird**, **Blond-crested Woodpecker**, **Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper**, and **Chestnut-crowned Becard**. We will then spend some time looking for owls and nightjars after dinner.

Overnight: Cabañas San Sebastian de la Selva, Andrecito





*Blond-crested Woodpecker – another of the trip's major targets.*

### Day 9. Urugua-í Provincial Park

A full day birding around our lodge and at Urugua-í Provincial Park will likely provide us with birds such as **Grey-bellied** and **Zone-tailed Hawks**, **Black Hawk-Eagle**, **Grey-fronted Dove**, **Scaly-headed Parrot**, **Pavonine Cuckoo**, **Surucua** and **Atlantic Black-throated Trogons**, **Robust** and **Helmeted Woodpeckers**, **Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner**, **Black-billed Scythebill**, **Giant Antshrike**, **Bertoni's Antbird**, and **Red-ruffed Fruitcrow**. We will spend another owling session after dinner in search of **Mottled**, **Black-banded**, **Buff-fronted**, and **Spectacled Owls**, among other nocturnal species.

Overnight: Cabañas San Sebastian de la Selva, Andrecito

### Day 10. Transfer to Buenos Aires, departure

Today is mostly a travel day as we will be driving to Puerto Iguazú to catch our flight to Buenos Aires, where everyone can connect with their international flights or continue onto their next birding trip in Argentina.

*Please note that the itinerary cannot be guaranteed as it is only a rough guide and can be changed (usually slightly) due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides, and other factors. In addition, we sometimes have to use a different guide from the one advertised due to tour scheduling or other factors.*

### Tour Details

|                            |                                                                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Duration:</b>           | 10 days                                                                      |
| <b>Group size:</b>         | 6–12 (We have a higher limit for this than for most tours.)                  |
| <b>Dates:</b>              | 06–15 November 2027<br>06–15 November 2028                                   |
| <b>Start:</b>              | Ministro Pistarini (Ezeiza) International Airport, Buenos                    |
| <b>End:</b>                | Aires Puerto Iguazú, Argentina                                               |
| <b>Prices:</b>             | US\$ 6,370 per person sharing (2027)<br>US\$ 6,890 per person sharing (2028) |
| <b>Single supplements:</b> | US\$ 1,250 (2027)<br>US\$ 1,350 (2028)                                       |

**Price includes:**

Meals (from dinner on day 1 until breakfast on day 10)  
Accommodation  
Guiding fees  
Entrance fees  
All transport while on tour  
Tolls

**Price excludes:**

All flights  
Items of a personal nature, e.g. gifts  
Alcoholic drinks  
Personal insurance  
Gratuities (please see our [tipping guidelines blog](#))