



**SOUTHEAST BRAZIL: ATLANTIC FOREST ENDEMIC
PARADISE**

07 – 21 OCTOBER 2024



Green-headed Tanager is one of the many tanagers we will target on this tour (photo Riccardo Boschetti).

This classic southeast Brazil tour offers numerous highlights for those who are fond of spectacular birding sites and a great diversity of birds. Of the 1,868 bird species recorded in Brazil, 1,113 have been recorded in southeast Brazil, including a staggering 147 Brazilian endemics (61 percent of all endemic birds of Brazil). Despite being heavily populated, with 75 million people, a multitude of great birding sites can be found both in the vicinity of metropolitan areas as well as in remote areas of this fascinating part of the country. Join Birding Ecotours on this 15-day Brazil birding tour as we explore three main birding sites in the state of Sao Paulo.

First, we will visit Intervalles State Park, one of the finest birding destinations in southeast Brazil, where many amazing-looking birds can be found, such as **Swallow-tailed Cotinga**, **Crescent-chested Puffbird**, **Large-tailed Antshrike**, **White-bearded Antshrike**, and **Hooded Berryeater**, among many other specials.

We then will continue to the well-known Ubatuba area, where we will be delighted by species such as **Blond-crested Woodpecker**, **Bare-throated Bellbird**, **Spotted Bamboowren**, **Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant**, and **Festive Coquette**.



Festive Coquette is one of the many specials we will look for around Ubatuba.

Finally, we will spend a few days exploring Itatiaia National Park, one of the most famous birding sites in southeast Brazil. With a list of 357 species and comfortable accommodation, it is an excellent place to look for some sought-after species such as **Green-crowned Plovercrest**, **Brazilian Ruby**, **Saffron Toucanet**, **Black-and-gold Cotinga**, **Slaty Bristlefront**, **Surucua Trogon**, **Green-billed Toucan**, and a nice selection of colorful tanagers such as **Green-headed**, **Gilt-edged**, **Brassy-breasted**, and **Red-necked Tanagers**. After 15 days of great birding in Brazil you will be transferred to São Paulo to connect with your homebound flight.

This tour can be combined with our preceding **Argentina and Brazil: Cerrado, Pantanal, and Iguazu Falls birding tour**, and/or with our **Brazil: Cerrado Endemics, Brazilian Merganser, and Maned Wolf birding tour** which immediately follows this southeast Brazil birding tour.

Itinerary (15 days/14 nights)

Day 1. Arrival at São Paulo and transfer to Intervales

Upon your arrival at São Paulo airport (GRU), we will have an afternoon transfer to the Intervales State Park. If time permit, we will look for **Long-trained Nightjar** and with some luck, **Rusty-barred Owl**, which are found in the park after dark.

Overnight: Casa Pica Pau, Intervales State Park



Red-necked Tanager — one of the many tanager species we should see on this tour (photo Riccardo Boschetti).

Days 2-3 Two full days birding at Intervales State Park

We will have two full birding days to enjoy Intervales State Park, with our lodge conveniently located within the park. During our stay at Intervales State Park we will have the opportunity to find a multitude of species including **Black-fronted Piping Guan**, **Purple-crowned Plovercrest**, **Sao Paulo Tyrannulet**, **Giant Antshrike**, **White-bearded Antshrike**, **Sharpbill**, **Bertoni's Antbird**, **Rufous-breasted Leaftosser**, **Rufous-capped Spinetail**, **Grey-hooded Flycatcher**, **Scalloped Woodcreeper**, **Half-collared Sparrow**, **Eared Pygmy Tyrant**, **Blue-bellied Parrot**,

Black Hawk-Eagle, White-collared Foliage-gleaner, Star-throated Antwren, Cinnamon-vented Piha, Red-necked and Chestnut-backed Tanagers, Tufted Antshrike, Slaty-breasted Wood Rail, Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin, Squamate Antbird, Ochre-rumped Antbird, Hooded Berryeater, Oustalet's Tyrannulet, Pavonine Cuckoo, Helmeted Woodpecker, Pallid Spinetail, Cinnamon-vented Piha, and Red-ruffed Fruitcrow. At night we have chances for **Long-trained Nightjar, East Brazilian Pygmy Owl, and Rusty-barred Owl.**

Overnight: Casa Pica Pau, Intervales State Park

Day 4. Transfer to Tapiraí and birding Toucan's Trail

Toucan's Trail is a private reserve of about 70 hectares (0.7 square kilometers), and the lodge offers great experiences to observe and photograph some of the most beautiful birds of the Atlantic Forest. A great attraction is the large number of feeders that support a good selection of species. Perhaps the main attraction here is the most-wanted **Atlantic Royal Flycatcher**, a Brazilian endemic, found only in places with clear water and preserved forest.



Atlantic Royal Flycatcher is a stunner when it lifts its brightly colored crest!

We will also look for species such as **Variegated Antpitta, Dusky-legged Guan, Brazilian Ruby, Spot-billed Toucanet, Green-billed Toucan, Maroon-bellied Parakeet, Yellow-fronted, Blond-crested and White-spotted Woodpeckers, Ochre-collared Piculet, Surucua Trogon, Black-throated Grosbeak, Olive-green, Magpie, and Azure-shouldered Tanagers,** and at night we will try for **Black-capped Screech Owl, and Tawny-browed Owl.**

Overnight: Toucan's Trail Lodge

Day 5. Birding Toucan's Trail

We will have a full day birding the lodge grounds and will spend time watching the moth traps where every morning the lights attract endless numbers of bugs which allows visitors to witness many birds coming to feast on the bugs. Some of bird species we might find here include **Tufted Antshrike**, **Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher**, **Ferruginous Antbird**, **Planalto Woodcreeper**, **Sepia-capped Flycatcher**, **Grey-capped** and **Planalto Tyrannulets**, **Grey-hooded Attila**, **Sibilant Sirystes**, **Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner**, **Long-tailed Tyrant**, and **Masked Water Tyrant**.

Overnight: Toucan's Trail Lodge

Day 6. Transfer to Sitio Espinheiro Negro

After breakfast we will transfer to our new accommodation which has nice bird feeders attracting numerous tanagers including **Red-necked**, and **Green-headed Tanagers** and with luck, the endemic **Black-legged Dacnis**. This small but charming private property also provides a hide from where is possible to see **Ruddy Quail-Dove**, the endemic **Spot-winged Wood Quail**, and with luck, **Solitary Tinamou**.

Overnight: Sitio Espinheiro Negro

Day 7. Transfer to Peruíbe

After breakfast we will transfer to Guaraú in Peruíbe, located in the Juréia-Itatins Ecological Station, a paradise composed of a mosaic of different ecosystems. About 320 species are found in Guaraú, including 30 species endemic to Brazil and 11 species that are globally threatened.

Pousada Waldhaus has a rustic infrastructure with panoramic views of the ocean and the Serra dos Itatins range. Importantly the area hosts numerous forest trails, with large numbers of bird species right on our doorstep, additionally the beach is a just a five-minute walk away. Our most important target bird here is the endemic **Red-tailed Amazon**.

Overnight: Pousada Waldhaus, Guaraú

Day 8. Birding Peruíbe

We will spend the full day looking for **Red-tailed Amazon** at their roosting sites and also target the endemic **Black-backed Tanager**. Additionally, we may encounter other species such as **Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper**, **Star-throated Antwren**, **White-breasted Tapaculo**, **Black-legged Dacnis**, **White-banded Mockingbird**, **Yellow-throated Woodpecker**, **Buff-bellied Puffbird**, **Bicolored Conebill**, and many more.

Overnight: Pousada Waldhaus, Guaraú

Day 9. Transfer to Ubatuba

After breakfast we will leave Peruíbe and drive to Ubatuba, near the Rio de Janeiro state border. We will spend three nights at Ubatuba to maximize our chances to see all the specials such as

Festive Coquette, Saw-billed and Reddish Hermits, Brown-backed Parrotlet, Blond-crested Woodpecker, Crescent-chested Puffbird, Dusky Leaf-tosser, Scaled Antbird, Salvadori's and Unicolored Antwrens, Spot-breasted Antvireo, Slaty Bristlefront, Black-cheeked Gnateater, Fork-tailed Tody-Tyrant, Spotted Bamboowren, Sao Paulo Tyrannulet, Buff-throated Purple-tuft, Long-billed Wren, Red-necked and Brazilian Tanagers, and Green Honeycreeper. At night, with luck, we could find **Black-capped Screech Owl, Striped Owl, and Mottled Owl.**

Overnight: Ubatuba



***Brazilian Tanager**, another outrageously colored tanager that we'll target on this tour (photo Riccardo Boschetti).*

Days 10-11. Two full days birding at Ubatuba

We will spend two full days birding Ubatuba, looking for, in addition to the species listed above, **Buff-bellied Puffbird, Pale-browed Treehunter, Black-capped Foliage-gleaner, Bare-throated Bellbird, Blue Manakin, Planalto Tyrannulet, Green-headed and Olive-green, Tanagers, Eye-ringed Tody-Tyrant, Greenish Schiffornis, White-throated Spadebill, Grey-hooded Attila, Spot-billed Toucanet, Ochre-collared Piculet, Green-billed Toucan,** and if we are lucky, **Sharpbill,** and the secretive **Solitary Tinamou.**

Overnight Ubatuba

Day 12 Transfer to Itatiaia National Park

Today we will transfer from Ubatuba to Itatiaia National Park. The vegetation of the park is exuberant, as is the avifauna. Itatiaia hosts many of Brazil's exciting endemic species. Specials in the park include **Saffron Toucanet**, **Green-billed Toucan**, **Green-crowned Plovercrest**, **Surucua Trogon**, **Blond-crested Woodpecker**, **Itatiaia Spinetail**, **Slaty Bristlefront**, **Brazilian Laniisoma**, and **Black-and-gold Cotinga**.

Overnight: Hotel Do Ypê, Itatiaia



Blond-crested Woodpecker can be seen in Itatiaia National Park (photo Riccardo Boschetti).

Days 13-14. Two full days birding at Itatiaia National Park

We will spend two days looking for **Green-crowned Plovercrest**, **Frilled Coquette**, **Brazilian Ruby**, **Saffron Toucanet**, **Pileated Parrot**, **Yellow-fronted Woodpecker**, **Rufous-tailed Antbird**, **Itatiaia Spinetail**, **Serra do Mar** and **Grey-capped Tyrannulets**, **Black-and-gold Cotinga**, **White-bibbed Antbird**, **Velvety Black Tyrant**, **Pin-tailed Manakin**, **Brown**, **Brassy-breasted** and **Diademed Tanagers**, **Araucaria Tit-Spinetail**, **Itatiaia Spinetail**, **Black-capped Piprites**, **Black-billed Scythebill**, **Gilt-edged Tanager**, and **Speckle-breasted Antpitta**, while at night we'll try for **Tawny-browed Owl**.

Overnight: Hotel Ypê, Itatiaia



*Several toucans and toucanets can be seen on this tour, including **Saffron Toucanet**.*

Day 15. Departure from São Paulo

After some final morning birding around the lodge, we will leave towards São Paulo city and grab lunch along the road. We will then be transferred to the airport to connect with our international flights home.

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 international guide from the one advertised due to tour scheduling.

Duration: 15 days
Limit (Group size): 6 - 8
Dates: 07 - 21 October 2024
Start: São Paulo
Ends: São Paulo
Prices: US\$7,270 per person sharing (2024)
Single Supplements: US\$749 (2024)

In the event of fewer than six participants signing up to the tour there will be the option of a surcharge to guarantee departure. The amount of the surcharge will depend on how many participants are signed up to the tour and will occur if all participants agree.

Price includes:

All accommodation
Private transportation
Private tour leader
Local guides
Admission fees
Bottled water during the trip
Airport transfers

Price excludes:

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