

Optional Pre-trip Extension: Wolf Valley Camp, Parnaíba Headwaters National Park

July 14 – 22, 2023



ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

JULY 14 - DEPART US

Overnight flight to São Paulo.

JULY 15 - BELO HORIZONTE

Arrive in Belo Horizonte, transfer to your hotel and have dinner. *Overnight at Linx Hotel. (D)*

JULY 16 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

Arrive in the early morning to Belo Horizonte, take the hotel shuttle to the hotel for a short rest, then take the shuttle back to the airport for your flight to Barreiras. Upon arrival you will be met by your local guide and then journey the 150 miles by way of paved roads to the cliff and valley region of Wolf Camps, situated in the Parnaíba Headwaters National Park. Located in the wild savannas, Wolf Camp is the only place in the world where you are almost guaranteed to see the endangered maned wolves and flocks of 40-100 Hyacinth Macaws in perfect light. Settle in at the camp and then begin with wildlife viewing and dinner. *Overnight at Wolf Valley Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 17 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

This morning (4:30 am), coffee and a light breakfast will be served before you head to the macaw blind, just before dawn, to prepare for the arrival of Hyacinth Macaws who will come to feast on palm nuts in the dry forest clearing. The rare Hyacinth Macaw was near extinction, but conservation efforts, including ecotourism, helped save this spectacular bird, that is actually the largest species of Macaw. Locals now help guard the bird and protect its habitat as an economically significant natural resource. Return to camp at around 9 am for a proper breakfast and then drive 16 miles out to the center of the park to enjoy the amazing cliff scenery and search for birds such as Burrowing Owls, Red-legged Seriemas, Greater Rea and also nesting Blue and Gold Macaws. In the evening, you'll have the chance to see the maned wolf. The world's tallest wild canid, this long-legged, approximately 55 lb. wolf is considered to be the most attractive wild member of the canid family. The wolf is a solitary, specialized hunter of large rodents and birds in the tropical savannas and open, dry woodlands of Brazil and Bolivia. *Overnight at Wolf Cliffs Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 18 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

Full day exploring on the Wolf Cliffs Camp, and at the Hyacinth Macaw blind for birding. Some species are more readily observed in the Mato Grosso do Sul than on the main Pantanal trip including giant anteaters, giant armadillo, peccaries (2 sp.), Pampas deer (4 sp.), Tufted-eared Marmosets, black-and-gold howler monkeys, Brazilian porcupine, the

rare hoary fox, and of course maned wolves. Birds more easily observed include King Vulture, Swallow-tailed Hummingbird, Russet-mantled Foliage-gleaner, Collared Crescentchest, and Curl-crested Jay. Some species are cerrado (tropical savanna) specialists like the Cock-tailed Tyrant and White-rumped and White-banded Tanagers. Hyacinth Macaws are readily seen but there will be others that frequent the area like Blue-and-yellow, Red-shouldered, and Green Macaws, which will be nesting during this season. The rare Blaze-winged Parakeet, along with the Jenday Parakeet (a close relative to the extinct Carolina Parakeet), both frequent the area as well. Spend the evening observing and photographing the maned wolves. *Overnight at Wolf Cliffs Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 19 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

Early morning birding and photography at the Hyacinth Macaw blind followed by breakfast. After breakfast, you'll have time at leisure to explore and go birding, botanizing, or to seek out butterflies, frogs, and megamammals to photograph. The Simpsons will coach you on techniques for getting the perfect shot. Spend the evening observing and photographing the maned wolves. *Overnight at Wolf Cliffs Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 20 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

Early morning birding and photography at the Hyacinth Macaw blind followed by breakfast. The remainder of the morning is at leisure to relax or spend more time in the blind. After lunch, on the way back to Wolf Camp stop at a century-old grove of mango trees where black-and-gold howler monkeys lounge. *Overnight at Wolf Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 21 - PARNAÍBA HEADWATERS PARK

This morning drive approximately 40 minutes to an area of the park where habituated bearded capuchin monkeys use their own specially selected igneous rock to smash open the same palm nuts that the Hyacinth Macaws love to eat. *Overnight at Wolf Camp. (BLD)*

JULY 22 - CUIABÁ

This morning drive to Barreiras for the flight to Belo Horizonte, and then continue to São Paulo to connect to Cuiabá to start your main program. *(B)*

EXTENSION PRICING

\$5,225 (based on 6-10 participants)

\$4,555 (based on 11 participants)

Cost includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, activities listed in itinerary, private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, internal flights, full-time guide for duration of program, bottled water on the bus and carbon offset.

Cost does not include items of a personal nature, gratuities, or international airfare.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

*Cost is based on double occupancy rooms; single rooms are available at an additional \$620 per person. A deposit of \$200 is required by participants to register and reserve a space on the program. Reservations can be made online or by paper form. Reservations made less than 150 days prior to departure require full payment. **Deposit is not refundable.** Final payments are due February 14, 2023 and are not refundable.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit holbrook.travellsimpson-extbr23 or contact Ann and Rob Simpson at annrobsimpson@snphotos.com