

THE PANTANAL: THE WORLD'S LARGEST WETLANDS



Blue Dot Travel
Go somewhere different

October 2027 | 11 Days
Cost to be confirmed

Tour Highlights

- Viewing wild jaguars in their natural habitat, the world's largest tropical wetland
- The unique scenery of the Pantanal's vast, seasonally flooded plain
- Tranquil riverboat excursions with expert local naturalists
- Seeking giant anteaters, tapirs, capybaras, anacondas, giant river otters, and piranhas on safari expeditions
- Overnights in ideally situated wildlife lodges



THE PANTANAL



Tour overview

This journey takes you into one of South America's most iconic and contrasting landscapes—the world's most extensive wetlands. It's a genuinely unique Blue Dot experience, full of wildlife and natural wonders in places where few travellers tread.

The Pantanal region stretches across nearly 200,000 square kilometres — a vast mosaic of rivers, lagoons, and floodplains where wildlife thrives on a scale found nowhere else. Located in the upper Paraguay River basin, the Pantanal straddles the borders of Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay, with 80 per cent in Brazil.

The Brazilian Pantanal is an area brimming with life, and its floodplains create a unique ecosystem that annually hosts an extraordinary concentration of flora and fauna. As a destination, the Pantanal's wildlife is simply spectacular, comparable with the dense animal populations of Africa. The wetland provides a habitat for more than 650 bird species, including cormorants, egrets, herons, hyacinth macaws, ibis, jabiru storks and roseate spoonbills. On occasion, ocelot and even maned wolf are also spotted.

For this expedition, we have carefully chosen two lodges that offer the best opportunities for wildlife viewing, including capybaras, caimans, giant anteaters, giant otters, and the elusive jaguar. Due to an abundance of prey, the Pantanal's jaguars are the largest in the Americas and exhibit unique behaviours.

With such abundant biodiversity, there is always something to observe, even when relaxing on the veranda of your lodge. Your days will be filled with guided walks, river safaris, and exploration with local naturalists who are experts in the region's ecology.



Activity rating: Moderate

You must be capable of walking up to 8,000 steps daily; occasionally ascending 3–4 flights of steps; standing at attractions for 1–2 hours; boarding and disembarking transport unaided and handling your own luggage.

THE PANTANAL

Day 1 TRANSIT AUSTRALIA – SAO PAULO VIA SANTIAGO

Depart Australia for Santiago, Chile, and then connect to São Paulo, Brazil. We will be transferred to our hotel, where we will spend two nights. D

Day 2 SAO PAULO

After breakfast, the group will take a guided day tour of this vibrant city, which is Brazil's main financial centre. The tour will include Park Ibirapuera, the Cathedral of São Paulo, the Pateo do Colégio historical area, the local farmers' produce market, Batman Street art and points of interest along Paulista Street. Dinner at a local restaurant. B/D

Day 3 SAO PAULO – SOUTHERN PANTANAL

This morning we'll fly from São Paulo to Campo Grande, where we'll be met and transferred to the Caiman Ecological Lodge by road, a trip that will take around 3.5 hours. On arrival, we'll have a late lunch and then check into the accommodation for three nights. In the afternoon, we'll have a private guided safari in an effort to spot wildlife, including the giant anteaters, marsh deer, capybaras and a plethora of birdlife. B/L/D

Day 4 CAIMAN LODGE

The group will participate in various activities throughout the day. You'll have the opportunity to learn about the wildlife of the Pantanal with professional naturalists. Activities will include wildlife safaris, ecological walks, night explorations to view the nocturnal wildlife and canoeing for those interested. Keep a lookout for macaws, tapirs, armadillos, ocelots and of course the jaguars. B/L/D

Day 5, CAIMAN LODGE

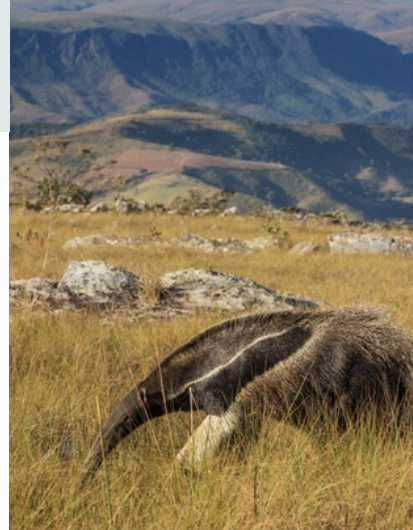
There are more activities today, including morning and afternoon adventures focusing mainly on the wildlife. Enjoy the lodge's facilities during any downtime we have. B/L/D

Day 6, TRANSFER TO PORTO JOFRE – SOUTHWILD JAGUAR SUITES

After breakfast and a morning safari, the group will return to the lodge for lunch before taking a charter flight to Porto Jofre, a small settlement on the Cuiaba River. From here, we will take a boat transfer to the Jaguar Suites, where we will stay for three nights. This region is regarded as the best place in the world to spot jaguars. B/L/D

Day 7 SOUTHWILD JAGUAR SUITES

The jaguar suites offer unmatched viewing of these big cats. Located in the epicentre of "Jaguarland," guests enjoy minimal – if any – commute time to jaguar sightings. Jaguars are frequently seen patrolling the riverbanks just meters from the suites. Each of the floating suites is a 30-square-meter haven, featuring floor-to-ceiling, 3.6-meter-wide glass doors that open onto a private screened porch with panoramic views of the river and forest. The suites are surrounded by pristine wilderness, where the sounds of howler monkeys, giant otters, and hundreds of bird species create a symphony of the wild. Despite being in a remote location, the suites are fully air-conditioned and include en-suite bathrooms, ensuring comfort without compromising the immersive experience. This is not just a stay—it's a front-row seat to one of the most thrilling wildlife spectacles imaginable. B/L/D



Day 8 SOUTHWILD JAGUAR SUITES

Your days at the suites will start with a buffet breakfast and then include wildlife spotting both from the lodge and also out on boating expeditions, in an effort to witness a variety of wildlife residing in the region. The owners of the lodge own and patrol around 7,500 acres of pristine “Jaguarland”. Tourists inevitably enjoy excellent sightings. Many of the famous photos of jaguars seen in magazines and shown on TV documentaries around the world are taken from this lodge. You'll have the opportunity to learn about the jaguars and other cats from the on-site naturalist. B/L/D

Day 9 TO BRASILIA

Today, we say goodbye to the world's largest wetlands and head back to Brasilia for an overnight stay. We'll take a charter flight from Porto Joffre to Quiaba and then on Brasilia. Check into our hotel for two nights. B/D

Day 10 BRASILIA

Today we will see the core sights of Brazil's capital city on a private tour. The main focus of the tour is the city's extraordinary architecture. You'll feel like you are walking in an outdoor museum. The city was UNESCO-listed in 1987, and after a visit, you'll see why. B/D

Day 11, NEXT DESTINATION (OR DEPART FOR HOME)

Blue Dot is currently developing tour options for Argentina, Machu Picchu and the Atacama Desert. Details for these extensions will be available shortly.

EXTENSION TOURS

ARGENTINA'S BEST - 15 days

Argentina will captivate you with its diverse landscapes, ranging from Patagonia to the Iguazú Falls. Discover Buenos Aires, the lively capital of tango and gastronomy; explore the pampas and Mendoza's vineyards; or be amazed by the glaciers in the southern region.

ATACAMA DESERT CHILE - 3 nights

Talk to us about extending your stay in the world's driest desert.

MACHU PICCHU - 6 days

Blue Dot can arrange for a visit to one of the world's greatest archaeological sites and its surroundings, the UNESCO-listed Machu Picchu.





Accommodation

Our hotels are carefully chosen in an effort to support local communities and to place you in a location that is ideal for experiencing the wildlife. You can expect your accommodation to be a mix of standard hotels, eco-lodges, and independently owned establishments, with one stay on a luxury river vessel. Below are examples of some of our accommodation on this tour:

Caiman Lodge, Pantanal, Brazil
www.caiman.com.br

South Wild Jaguar Suites
www.southwild.com

Mercure São Paulo Grand Plaza
www.accor.com/saopaulo

Why Blue Dot?

Travel is more than just moving from one place to another; it is an opportunity to explore this vast planet, connect with its people and marvel at its beauty. We have established a group of loyal, like-minded travellers who share this feeling and have taken multiple tours with us. With Blue Dot, you'll experience

- Thoughtfully designed itineraries with unique experiences
- Small, inclusive groups with a maximum of 16 travellers on most tours, and often fewer
- The support of both an Australian tour leader* and experienced local guides
- Programs designed to meet the needs of mature-age travellers
- Hands on, personalised service including customised flight bookings
- Tipping included in your tour cost

*Australian leaders accompany groups with more than 10 travellers.

Blue Dot welcomes solo travellers

In fact, over half of our clients are solo travellers. We understand it can be daunting to travel on your own, and we'll ensure your travel is inclusive and enjoyable, while prioritising your safety. You can confidently join our groups, knowing that we bring solo travellers together to share the camaraderie of an unforgettable adventure.

Enquiries and bookings

A \$1,000 deposit is required to secure your booking.
For more information:

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