

THE PANTANAL: The World's Largest Wetlands



Blue Dot Travel
Go somewhere different

12 October 2027 | 11 Days

\$16,950 per person

Twin share or double only

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 should be able to maintain a steady walking pace, manage flights of stairs, stand at attractions for periods of time, and board and disembark transport independently

THE PANTANAL

Day 1, Tuesday 12th October 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, Wednesday 13th October 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 Ibirapuera Park, the Cathedral of São Paulo, the Pateo do Colégio historical area, the local farmers' produce market, the Batman Street art, and points of interest along Paulista Street. Dinner at a local restaurant. B/D

Day 3, Thursday 14th October 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, Friday 15th October 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, Saturday 16th October 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, Sunday 17th October TRANSFER TO PORTO JOFRE

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 Hotel Porto Jofre, where we stay for three nights. This region is regarded as the best place in the world to spot jaguars. B/L/D

Day 7, Monday 18th October PORTO JOFRE

Our simple yet comfortable accommodation, Hotel Porto Jofre, is situated on the banks of the Cuiabá River in Brazil's Pantanal and is known for its jaguar-spotting expeditions and abundant river fishing. The hotel grounds contain large fruit trees popular with hyacinth macaws, while a jetty leads out to a lagoon with enormous Victoria Regia lilies. The unpretentious lodge delivers exactly what serious wildlife enthusiasts require: proximity to South America's most elusive predator. There will be no high-end pampering provided at our accommodation – you're here because this stretch of the Cuiabá River hosts the world's densest jaguar population. Between July and October, multiple sightings per day are common. Experienced local guides who know every spot in the vast river network ensure you have the best chance of wildlife sightings. Your spacious, neutrally furnished guestrooms will all offer air-con and a veranda with river or garden views. All meals at our accommodation are buffet-style. B/L/D



Day 8, Tuesday 19th October PORTE JOFRE

Hotel Pantanal Norte is located deep in the Pantanal wetlands, the ultimate wildlife haven in Brazil, and the jaguar capital of the Americas. Your days will start with a hearty breakfast, followed by wildlife spotting from the lodge and on boating expeditions. With a fascinating array of flora and fauna in the region, and surrounded by approximately 7,500 acres of pristine “Jaguarland”, wildlife enthusiasts are likely to enjoy excellent sightings. You’ll have the opportunity to learn about the jaguars and other cats from the on-site naturalist. B/L/D

Day 9, Wednesday 20th October TO BRASILIA

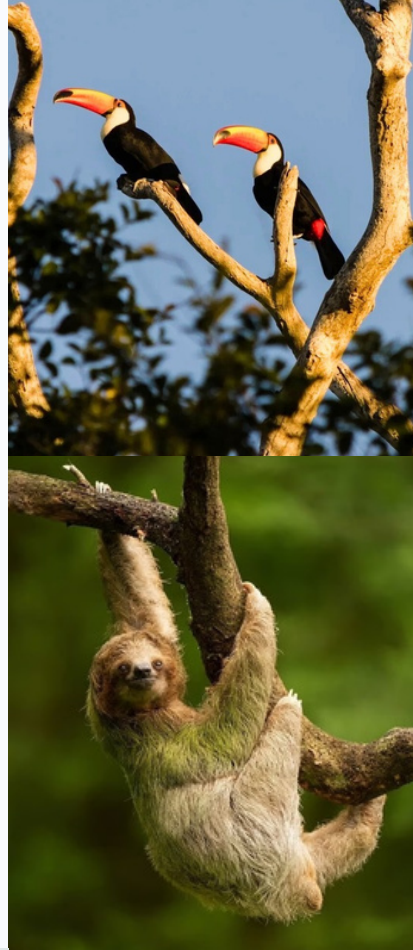
Today, we say goodbye to the world’s largest wetlands and head back to Brasilia for an overnight stay. We’ll take a charter flight from Porto Joffre to Quibá, then to Brasília. Check into our hotel for two nights. B/D

Day 10, Thursday 21st October BRASILIA

Today, we will visit the key sights of Brazil’s capital on a private tour. The tour’s main focus will be to explore 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, Friday 22nd October NEXT DESTINATION (OR DEPART FOR HOME)

Today, you can depart for home or continue your travels in South America. Blue Dot Travel can provide many options for extensions to your journey.



EXTEND YOUR JOURNEY!

ARGENTINA Visit the vineyards of Mendoza, wild Patagonia for some of nature’s best, the colonial and historical Salta in the north and Buenos Aires, the country’s vibrant capital.

BRAZIL Fly to vibrant Rio to take in the best this fabulous city has to offer, then fly to Salvador, the old capital with its Afro-Brazilian lifestyle and Recife, famous for its art, food and colonial buildings.

ATACAMA DESERT

The Atacama Desert is considered one of the driest coastal deserts in the world. It forms a continuous strip for nearly 1,000 km along the narrow coast of the northern third of Chile, with striking sand dunes and stone formations resembling a lunar landscape.

MEXICO AND CUBA

Join Blue Dot’s small group tour to Cuba and Mexico. From Mexico City, travel southeast to the UNESCO-listed Monte Albán, a large pre-Columbian archaeological site near Oaxaca and visit the extraordinary Mesoamerican pyramid at Teotihuacan. For more details, [click here](#).





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

Hotel Pantanal Norte
www.portojofre.com.br

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 per person deposit is required to secure your booking.

For more information:

☎ 02 9906 5770

✉ enquiries@bluedottravel.com.au