



The Jaguars of Pantanal

Reni Pani Pop-up tours
presents the Jaguars of
Pantanal

25th July – 4th August 2017



Jaguar

The **jaguar** needs to introduction. It is the only extant *Panthera* species native to the Americas and it is the third-largest feline after the tiger and lion. The jaguar's present range extends from Southwestern United States and Mexico across much of Central America and south to Paraguay and northern Argentina. Brazil is a stronghold and the Pantanal is the best place in the world to see these otherwise elusive big cats.

This spotted cat most closely resembles the leopard physically, although it is usually larger and of sturdier build and its behavioral and habitat characteristics are closer to those of the tiger. While dense rainforest is its preferred habitat, the jaguar will range across a variety of forested and open terrains. Its preferred habitats are usually swamps and wooded regions, but jaguars also live in scrublands and deserts. The jaguar is notable, along with the tiger, as a feline that enjoys swimming.

The jaguar is a near threatened species and its numbers are declining. Threats include loss and fragmentation of habitat. While international trade in jaguars or their parts is prohibited, the cat is still frequently killed by humans, particularly in conflicts with ranchers and farmers in South America.

In Pantanal the Jaguar is safe and easily viewable in and around the Cuiaba River. It is here that we will spend 5 nights doing river safaris for the best chance of not just viewing the Jaguar but also witnessing and photographing some rare behavior.



The Pantanal

The **Pantanal** encompasses the world's largest tropical wetland area. It is located mostly within the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso do Sul. It sprawls over an area estimated at between 140,000 and 195,000 square kilometers.

The Pantanal is home to one of the largest and healthiest Jaguar populations on anywhere on Earth. Among the rarest animals to inhabit the wetland of the Pantanal are the Marsh Deer and the Giant River Otters. Parts of the Pantanal are also home to the following endangered or threatened species: the Hyacinth Macaw, the Crowned Solitary Eagle, the Maned Wolf, the Bush Dog, the South American Tapir and the Giant Anteater. Common species in the Pantanal include the Capybara and the Yacare Caiman. With over 10 million Caiman the Pantanal is the place with the highest crocodilian density anywhere in the world.

In Total the Pantanal ecosystem is thought to be home to 1,000 bird species, 400 fish species, 300 mammalian species, 480 reptile species and over 9000 different subspecies of invertebrates making it one of the most bio-diverse wildlife habitats in the world. We will spend 9 nights in this magical wilderness and will attempt to see its rare and elusive wildlife.



DETAILED ITINERARY



25 Jul ARRIVAL IN CUIABA (-/-/-)

Arrival in Cuiaba airport and private transfer to the hotel (Our service includes a private transfer for each passenger from airport to the Slaviero Slim Hotel, done by a Portuguese-speaking driver using a closed, air-conditioned vehicle. This transfer does not include an English-speaking guide).

Overnight at Htl Slaviero Cuiaba Varzea Grande

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g488170-d8465418-Reviews-Slaviero_Slim_Cuiaba_Aeroporto-Cuiaba_State_of_Mato_Grosso.html

26 Jul CUIABA – POUSO ALEGRE (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Your guide will meet you at the lobby of the hotel and leave in an air-conditioned vehicle at 800 am to drive 2:15h-2:45h to Pouso Alegre lodge. If you stop to look at wildlife along the way, your trip to the lodge could last quite a bit longer. The idea is to reach the lodge before lunch time.

Pouso Alegre is a traditional, 10,000-hectare cattle ranch that now is one of the leading private nature reserves in all the Pantanal. One of the owners holds a graduate degree in ecology from the Federal University in Cuiabá, and the property is one of the best places in the world to see Brazilian Tapirs and also a very good place to see Giant Anteaters.

Lunch and dinner included

Overnight at Pouso Alegre

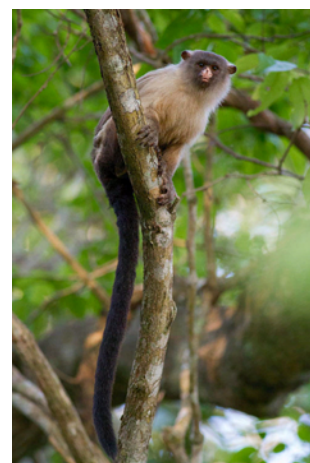
https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g1191961-d3524436-Reviews-Pouso_Alegre_Lodge-Pocone_State_of_Mato_Grosso.html

27 Jul POUSO ALEGRE (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Activities at the lodge organized by our guide and the team at Pouso Alegre. Safari truck at disposal for activities.

Lunch and dinner included. Overnight at Pousa Alegre...



28 Jul POUSO ALEGRE – JAGUARLAND (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Right after breakfast, you will board our photo safari truck with sun/rain roof and drive 6 km east on the private driveway of Pouso Alegre and then 110 km south on the dirt and gravel road known as “the Transpantaneira”. There will be quite a few stops to see wildlife along the side of the road. Arrive end of road to take Jaguar-watching boats 13 Km upstream to Jaguar Research Center Reserve and check into the Jaguar Flotel. Lunch.

4-h boat outing in the afternoon in search of Jaguars and Giant Otters. Dinner. Science Lecture.

Overnight at Jaguar Flotel

29Jul -1 Aug JAGUARLAND (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Two 4-h boat outings per day to search for Jaguars and Giant Otters on the various river channels of “Jaguarland”. These channels include the Three Brothers, the Black Channel, the Cuiaba and the Piquiri.

Lunch and dinner included. Science Lecture

Overnight at Jaguar Flotel



2 Aug JAGUARLAND- SOUTHWILD PANTANAL (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Morning boat until 8:00 – 8:30, then boat transfer 13 Km downstream to Porto Jofre and road transfer to SouthWild Pantanal Lodge in closed, air-conditioned vehicle. Lunch. In afternoon, 2-h motorboat outing on the wildlife-rich Pixaim River. Walk 500 metres from the lodge and wait from 500 pm until 715 pm at the Ocelot Blind to try to get good views of one of the five different Ocelots that come on almost every evening to this blind. As of this writing, in the last 210 nights, at least one or more Ocelots came to this blind in 200 nights. In other words, only on ten nights did an ocelot not come. That is a 95% probability that at least one Ocelot comes to the site on any given night. Only one time in the last 210 nights (15 May to 15 November 2016) were there two nights in a row on which at least one Ocelot did not show. SouthWild Pantanal now is the best place in the world to see this beautiful, shy cat, which looks like a mini-Jaguar. See the website:

www.ocelotphoto.com

for more details.

Dinner. After dinner, a one-hour spotlight outings in our safari truck.

Overnight at Southwild Pantanal Lodge



3 Aug SOUTHWILD PANTANAL (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Trained guides will organize and adjust the schedule of wildlife outings according to recent sightings, weather and guest preferences. Each day includes one forest walk and one outing by boat, car or horseback. Enjoy our two wildlife viewing towers, one of which is strategically-located at only 16 metres from an active Jabirú nest, the world's only such Jabiru viewing tower. The breeding pair is very habituated, so you can observe them and take excellent photos from the 12-metre-high platform at the top of the tower. The platform is slightly above eye level with the nest. Visit the Ocelot Blind again in the early evening.

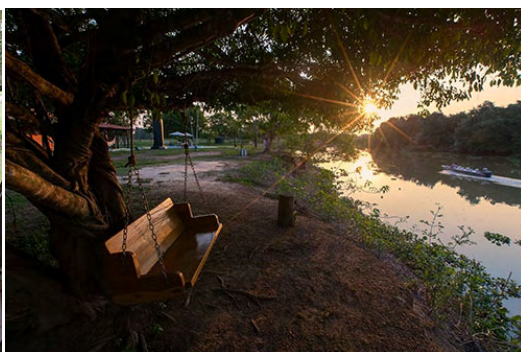
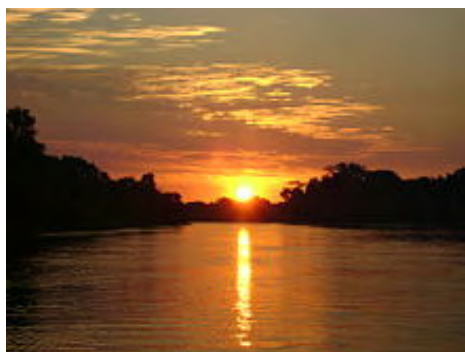
Lunch and dinner included.

Overnight at Southwild Pantanal Lodge

4 Aug SOUTHWILD PANTANAL – CUIABA (B/-/-)

Breakfast

At the proper time, normally between 600 am and 730 am, the whole group is transferred 3.5-4h back to the Cuiaba airport in a private, air-conditioned vehicle. Arrival at the airport check in and departure for your next destination. (For instance, if your flight departs at 1630h, the group should leave SWP at 1000-1030 am.)



The Tour includes:

- Tour leader from Reni Pani Jungle Lodge
- English-speaking naturalist guide.
- Accommodation based on double in the hotel as described in the itinerary.
- Transfer from/to hotel as noted.
- Meals and excursions as noted
- Free WIFI internet at SouthWild Pantanal and at the Jaguar Flotel, but it operates about 95% of the time—not 100% and is not guaranteed.
- Unlimited, free drinking water from large coolers at SouthWild Pantanal and at Jaguar Flotel. Please bring your own Nalgene or metal water bottles to refill for free.

Not included

- Flights
 - Meals not mentioned
 - Extra expenses
 - Tips
 - Soft drinks, small bottles of water, beer, wines, mixed drinks.
 - Laundry
 - Insurance
-
- Early or late check out

TOUR LEADER

Aly Rashid



Wildlife and the wilderness has been a passion for Aly ever since childhood. This passion for wildlife inspired him to work with his family to set up and run Reni Pani Jungle Lodge, one of the finest wilderness camps in India. At Reni Pani Aly has been heading the naturalist team for over 7 years and in this time his passion for wildlife has been instilled in the ethos of the lodge atmosphere. A trained naturalist and ornithologist, he has travelled across the country and has been involved with wildlife in various localities. His deep involvement with Satpura since his childhood has been a motivation to protect and conserve wildlife in this landscape. He continuously conducts wildlife awareness programs at local schools and regularly participates in wildlife census studies in the Satpura Tiger Reserve. Aly inspired Reni Pani's camera trap studies in the reserve forest area outside the park that revealed breeding population of several large carnivores like leopards, wild dogs and sloth bear and also the presence of a young male tiger. His passion for research and conservation has also taken him to Panna National Park where he worked with renowned small cat expert and scientist Shekhar Kolipaka for the Caracal Research and Conservation Project in May 2014.