

# **SWISS PHOTO TOUR 2019**

# SouthWild Pantanal x 4 nights & Jaguar Suites x 6 nights

#### Oct 16 Wed, 2019

### Cuiabá / SouthWild Pantanal Lodge

Arrival at the Cuiabá airport and reception by your local guide (early morning arrival is expected). Depart on a 3 hours transfer to SouthWild Pantanal property. Lunch is included either at a Brazilian buffet near the airport or on route. We head SouthWild Pantanal Lodge; driving 90 minutes on asphalt to the entrance of the famous Transpantaneira road follow by 2 hours on an unpaved route, one of the best wildlife viewing platforms in all Brazil. SouthWild Pantanal Lodge (a former cattle ranch called Fazenda Santa Tereza) is an eco-lodge on a 3,800-acre private nature reserve, located on the banks of the Pixaim River. Taking a boat ride or walking by the trail system of the lodge you are able to see three species of monkeys, up to 400 bird species, capybaras, caimans and Giant otters. After check-in in your rooms, get ready for the first activity at the lodge: the ocelot experience. From a special blind is possible to get unobstructed, close-up views of these secretive felines due to purpose-built, large hide. Enjoy the sunset at the Pantanal while wait the performance of one of these cats. This activity ends right on time to have dinner at lodge. Overnight SouthWild Pantanal (L, D)

# Oct 17 Thu, 2019

#### **SouthWild Pantanal**

Continue to explorer the lodge property either taking a boat ride or waking around the property. The trail system of the lodge (including the 2 observation platforms) is great for taking picture of birds, Brown Capuchin monkeys and Black-tailed marmosets. Later in the afternoon we will go back to the blind to wait for the ocelots. Overnight SouthWild Pantanal (B, L, D)

#### Oct 18 Fri, 2019

# SouthWild Pantanal / SouthWild Jaguar Suites

Before breakfast, walk around the lodge and dine area looking for photo opportunities by the bird feeders and bird-filled trees. Depart in an open sided, roofed Safari truck to the end of the Transpantaneira road to Porto Jofre. Here at Porto Jofre, the boat is awaiting our arrival around 10 a.m. to do the transfer 13 km upstream to Jaguar Research Center Reserve. If we see a Jaguar right away or another boat reports a Jaguar, we go straight to the Jaguar and postpone the check-in at the Suites but most of the time we can go straight to the suites, check-in and stretch our legs. Either way, return to SWJS for lunch. Rest a bit in your suite or cabin before an afternoon boat outing looking for jaguars, giant otters and other local species. Overnight SouthWild Jaguar Suites (B, L, D)

# Oct 19 Sat, Oct 20 Sun Oct 21 Mon, Oct 22 Tue & Oct 23 Wed, 2019 SouthWild Jaguar Suites

By using small motor boats, we spend the next five full days in the river mostly in one of these river channels: Three Brothers, Black Channel, Cuiaba or Piquiri River searching for jaguars and Giant Otters.



Years of research and tourism operations have proven that this region is the world's most productive location for sightings of habituated Jaguars. Guests generally see several of these huge predators during the day, many of them at very close range for extended periods. Return to the suites at the end of the afternoon in time to shower before dinner. While at Jaguar Suites, the group will enjoy informative presentations given by the local team. In addition, lectures would be given about other fascinating species of this area, including the Jabiru Stork, Paraguayan Caiman, Giant Otter and Capybara.

Overnight SouthWild Jaguar Suites (B, L, D)

#### Oct 24 Thu, 2019

#### SouthWild Jaguar Suites / SouthWild Pantanal

Breakfast served in the ship and after that check-out from the suites. Last morning activity in the river, looking for jaguars and other local fauna. Return to the ship for lunch. In the afternoon start the trip back to Porto Jofre. Road transfer to SouthWild Pantanal Lodge. Arrival at the lodge, dinner, and after that, leave on a 60-minutes night spotlighting in a photo safari truck (no activities at the Ocelot blond are programmed this day).

Overnight SouthWild Pantanal Lodge (B, L, D)

#### Oct 25 Fri, 2019

#### **SouthWild Pantanal**

Enjoy the sunrise in our platform or in a boat at the Pixaim River. Return to the lodge for breakfast. Rest of the day for activities at the lodge. After dinner, a final night spotlighting in a photo safari truck. Overnight SouthWild Pantanal Lodge (B, L, D)

#### Oct 26 Sat, 2019

#### SouthWild Pantanal / Cuiabá

Breakfast served at the lodge. At proper time, road transfer to Cuiabá. Departure on local flight to Guarulhos International Airport in São Paulo. Departure to Europe on your own. (B)



#### INCLUDED ON THE PACKAGE PRICE:

- Permanent assistance of an English speaking guide.
- All services were quoted and requested as private; however, the Ocelot Experience is not a private service so you may find other groups visiting the blind at the same time. The Tour Leader of the group would explain the activities that must to be done in preparation for the Ocelot observation.
- Transportation in confortable Vans from Cuiaba to SWP and in open photo safari truck from SWP to Porto Jofre. Regarding the transfer from/to Cuiabá, note that this price considers one land transfer for the whole group, from the beginning to the end of the tour. Additional transfers (early or late transfers) are possible when requested in advance and at an additional price
- ➤ Boat rides for jaguar searching of maximum 8 hours per day, divided in two periods of 4 hours each are included on the price. No special "Photo Boats" have been included in this price.
- Accommodation in standard **double** rooms with private bathroom facilities at SWP and **double** suites at JS. This Package includes 4 overnights at SouthWild Pantanal Lodge and 6 overnights at SouthWild Jaguar Suites. At Jaguar Research Center Reserve, the leader of the group will be accommodated at the Jaguar Flotel.
- Meals are included as per indicated on the itinerary starting with lunch on Oct 16<sup>th</sup> to breakfast on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Free WI-FI internet at SWP & SWJS whenever weather permits (about 95 % of the time) at certain areas of the lodges. Internet is open to all SouthWild guests.
- ➤ Unlimited free drinking water in large coolers at SWP & SW Flotel only. Do not forget to bring your Nalgene or metal water bottle to refill for free. Help to reduce plastic rubbish.

#### NOT INCLUDED ON THE PACKAGE PRICE:

- > Domestic airfares for all portions of the trip.
- ➤ Lunch on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>
- All extra expense generated due to cancelation or delay of the local flights, for weather reasons or others beyond of our control
- Insurance of equipment or personal medical insurance. Travelers are responsible to look for the proper insurance.
- > Special arrangement for photography and other additional services requested during the trip, not indicated as included on the price.
- > Tips, laundry service, alcoholic beverages, phone calls and other personal expenses.

#### **IMPORTANT COMMENTS**

#### About the Ocelot experience

- ➤ Please note that at this point, SW will have powerful triple lights on the scene so no one is allowed to use flash during the experience. The leader of each group is responsible for testing his/her own guests to make sure that there will be no flashes and no camera noises during the Ocelot experience. The SW team will check and test the equipment of the individual guests. In addition to this, there will be no talking of any kind--only messaging or typing on silent keyboards to communicate during the entire session.
- This group has the preference to choose the seats at the blind in case more guests sign for this activity. There is a room for each person to use tripod if wanted.



- At the moment, the ideal ground level positions at the moment are 7, which means 3 in each of the 1.6-m-wide boxes at ground level and 1 m in between those two boxes so that is room for 7 photographers. Configuration may vary for 2019.
- ➤ Given that the group has 4 nights at SWP, the ocelot experience has been included for the first two nights and the night spotlighting the final two nights. It is possible to change the order of the activities but we must inform this at least 2 days in advance October is a busy month at the Pantanal so probably the lodge will be full around those nights.

#### About the flights in/out Cuiabá

- Although for 2018 season there are better options for arrivals/departures for the route GRU/CGB/GRU, we need to look at the options for 2019, considering the following:
- On October 16<sup>th</sup>, arrivals in Cuiabá between 10:00 am and noon are the best options.
- > On October 26<sup>th</sup>, departures to Sao Paulo (Guarulhos international airport) after noon are the best option.
- ➤ Since March 2017, all Brazilian airlines are following new rules for baggage allowance. Despite of the fact that this affect mostly internal flights and international flights departing Brazil, we suggest to check with your agent that the baggage allowance of your airfare suites your needs.