



Foto: Pedro Lima

## Building New Concepts for Wildlife Conservation

### **About BioBrasil.**

We are a small Foundation dedicated to preservation of endangered ecosystems, and to research within them. We are closely allied to the American foundation Tropical Nature ([www.tropicalnature.org](http://www.tropicalnature.org)). We are not a tourist agency, but encourage visitors interested in ecosystems and their fauna as groups or individuals. In a project in Jeremoaba, Bahia, over the past 9 years we have succeeded in building up the population of Lear's Macaw from 30 pairs to some 250 pairs today, by creating alternative employment and environmental awareness in a community previously trading these macaws. Two further projects are in the Atlantic Forest of SE Bahia - one making a comprehensive census of the birds, the other demonstrating the possibilities of reforestation for small farmers on degraded land as a source of furniture wood, in place of timber from native Atlantic forest, an endangered ecosystem. A new preservation cum eco-tourism project is under development in the Pantanal national park, again in partnership with Tropical Nature.

### **Our major project is in the state of Piauí, NE Brazil – Hyacinth Cliffs.**

The Foundation has a well-guarded reserve of 4,200 hectares alongside the Parnaíba Headwaters National Park – one of the largest in Brazil, and an important example of the *cerrado* ecosystem. Nearby, in the states of Piauí, Maranhão and Bahia, the “deforestation front”, to extend mechanized soyabean production, is an ever-present threat.

### **What can you see there?**

Year-round there is a rich variety of birds and animals, including spectacular groups (>100) of Hyacinth Macaws, Red-and-Green Macaws, Red-Legged Seriema, Greater Rhea, White Woodpecker and many others from hawks to hummers. We also have capuchin monkeys, maned wolf, tufted marmosets, armadillos and deer. The wildlife has been filmed by National Geographic, and there is active research into the use of tools by the capuchin monkeys! There have been few studies of fauna in the *cerrado*, and almost none in Piauí, but we have catalogued more than 250 bird species in our Reserve.

### Accommodation and guides.

The Reserve has two groups of 7 chalets (twin, with bath) and a camp area, all strategically placed for optimum observation and photography. Many species are accustomed to our presence, helped with supplementary feeding.

Our staff are all local families, friendly and knowledgeable. A small library will help you with some identification problems. We serve local food, cooked by the same families.



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### How to get there.

The Reserve is near São Gonzalo, a town at the southern point of Piauí, but is best reached from Barreiras in Bahia, 4hrs by road. Barreiras has regular air services from Salvador, São Paulo and Brasília, and bus services from Salvador and Brasília.



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### Contact for further info and reservations.

Prior reservations are important, especially in June-July (high season for macaws) and if you want transport from Barreiras (advisable!).

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***ANY PROFITS FROM ECO-TOURISM WILL BE INVESTED IN THESE AND OTHER PROJECTS: PRESERVATION AND RESEARCH ARE OUR SOLE OBJECTIVES!***