

Pantanal pre-tour

JANUARY 10-14, 2027

A compact five-day add-on combining Bonito's crystal-clear rivers with a taste of the southern Pantanal before joining the main Bolivia trip in Santa Cruz.



**US\$750
/ 900**

pp double / single
occupancy

Designed as a simple group add-on. The indicative price includes four hotel nights with air conditioning, private/group transport throughout the pre-tour, the Bonito excursions, the Pantanal boat outings and the onward road transfer from the Bolivian border to Santa Cruz. The São Paulo-Bonito flight and meals/drinks are excluded.

At a glance

DAY 0 - SUN 10 JAN

Arrive Bonito

Arrive at 10:30 and, if the flight is on time, head directly from the airport to a late Gruta do Lago Azul visit before checking in.

DAY 1 - MON 11 JAN

Bonito highlight day

Crystal-clear river flotation at Rio da Prata, followed by Buraco das Araras.

DAY 2 - TUE 12 JAN

Bonito to Corumba

Road transfer to the Paraguay River and optional sunset / night wildlife cruise.

DAY 3 - WED 13 JAN

Pantanal wildlife

Full-day boat-based wildlife safari from Corumba during the lush wet season.

DAY 4 - THU 14 JAN

Cross into Bolivia

Transfer from Corumba to the border, immigration at Puerto Quijarro and included onward road transfer to Santa Cruz for the start of the main Bolivia trip.

Bonito: caves and crystal-clear rivers

Bonito is deliberately kept short: one flexible arrival afternoon and one full activity day. Excursions use timed-entry vouchers and should be reserved in advance, especially for a group.

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SUN
10 JAN

Arrival in Bonito + Gruta do Lago Azul

Arrive at **Bonito Airport at approximately 10:30**. If the flight is on schedule, meet the vehicle at the airport and **go directly to Gruta do Lago Azul** for a pre-booked late entry, with hotel check-in afterwards.

The guided visit descends into Bonito's iconic limestone cavern to view its deep blue underground lake. It is a contemplative visit rather than a swimming excursion and takes about 1 hour 20 minutes at the attraction, plus transfers.

10:30 arrival

Airport - cave transfer

Gruta do Lago Azul

Overnight: Bonito

Timing note: Gruta do Lago Azul currently has timed visits up to around 14:00. The plan therefore depends on securing a late slot and the 10:30 flight arriving on time. If a delay makes the cave impossible, the afternoon simply becomes free time in Bonito.

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MON
11 JAN

Rio da Prata flotation + Buraco das Araras

Full-day excursion with private/group transport from Bonito. The main experience is the **Rio da Prata flotation**: a guided drift through exceptionally clear spring-fed water, surrounded by schools of fish and submerged vegetation. Equipment and guide are provided; lunch is normally part of the attraction.

In the afternoon, continue to **Buraco das Araras**, a huge natural sinkhole and protected birding site. A gentle walking trail leads to observation platforms where red-and-green macaws and many other species are frequently seen.

Full-day van

Snorkelling / flotation

Wildlife

Overnight: Bonito

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TUE
12 JAN

Road to Corumba + sunset on the Paraguay River

After breakfast, travel by road from Bonito to **Corumba**, approximately 4-5 hours away. Check in to the hotel and take some time to relax.

Late afternoon, head onto the **Paraguay River for a sunset wildlife cruise**. If conditions allow, continue into dusk for *focagem noturna* - spotlighting for caimans and other nocturnal wildlife.

Private/group road transfer

Sunset cruise

Night spotlighting

Overnight: Corumba

Pantanal wildlife and the Bolivia connection

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WED
13 JAN

Full-day Pantanal wildlife excursion

Spend the day on a **wildlife-focused boat safari from Corumba**, exploring the Paraguay River and quieter channels of the southern Pantanal. January brings a green, flooded landscape with extensive waterways and excellent birdlife.

Look for **capybaras, caimans, giant otters, monkeys, macaws, jabiru storks, herons and other wetland birds** while experiencing the flooded Pantanal ecosystem.

6-8 hour target

Covered boat preferred

Wildlife guide

Overnight: Corumba

Wet-season plan: ordinary rain is manageable, but thunderstorms or strong winds may require a later departure, shorter route or cancellation. The boat schedule should remain flexible.

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THU
14 JAN

Cross into Bolivia and continue to Santa Cruz

Leave Corumba early for the **Brazil-Bolivia border**. After Brazilian exit and Bolivian entry formalities, meet the pre-arranged vehicle in or near **Puerto Quijarro**.

Continue by road to **Santa Cruz de la Sierra**. This transfer is included in the pre-tour, with arrival planned for the evening.

Corumba - border transfer

Immigration buffer

Transfer to Santa Cruz included

Overnight: Santa Cruz

US\$750 / 900 pp

US\$750 pp sharing a twin/double room or **US\$900 pp** in a single room. Indicative pricing; final cost depends on group size and confirmed January rates.

Expected to include

- 4 hotel nights, AC and private bathroom
- Airport, activity and intercity transport
- Bonito admissions, guides and flotation equipment
- Sunset/night cruise + full-day Pantanal boat excursion
- Corumba - border - Santa Cruz road transfers

Not included: São Paulo - Bonito flight; food and drinks except anything inherently included by an attraction; travel insurance and personal expenses.