



Sample Itinerary - Freshwater Exotics Expeditions 2022 Experience Ornamental Fish Collection in the Volta Grande / Xingu / Iriri October 2022

Day 1:

Arrive to Belém and enjoy dinner with us (hopefully) at Estação das Docas. If you like to play it safe and plan for possible flight delays you are welcome to arrive one day earlier. We are happy to arrange another night at the hotel for you.

Day 2:

Enjoy breakfast and relax before our early afternoon flight to Altamira. Arrival to Altamira, get settled into a hotel overlooking the Rio Xingu. Join us for a welcome dinner on us, to become acquainted with the group, discuss the week's events, procedures and other important information. Attendance to this dinner is required. Pack and prepare for an early morning departure.

Day 3, 4 & 5:

7 AM departure for Volta Grande - 3 day/2 night trip

Learn how fish are collected in this region. A chance to see L46, L174, L27, *Retroculus xinguensis*, *Corydoras* and more. Stop to see ancient stone carvings and fishing in an Igarapé (small stream) if water levels allow. Take in the breathtaking views of Cachoeira de Jericoa. Snorkeling is possible. Witness the damage done by the Belo Monte dam. Experience the sheer magnificence of this unique and precious endangered ecosystem before it's gone. Sleep two nights at an encampment along the riverbank and taste Caldo de Acari, a local delicacy. Arrive back to Altamira before sunset on Day 5. The night is yours to enjoy at the pool or a lovely restaurant. Ask us for recommendations!

Day 6:

Visit Leandro Sousa's showroom and breeding facility at the University of Altamira. Learn about their breeding projects with L46, L82, L333 and see many more native species. Possibly stop at an intermediary facility to see how fish are kept before being transported to the exporters in Belém. Possibly take a tour of the Belo Monte Dam to witness first hand why the Volta Grande is in danger. If a tour is not possible (depending on the size of our group) we will drive to Belo Monte so that you can see the dam. Dinner together or individually depending on group dynamic/wishes. Pack and prepare for an early morning departure.

Day 7, 8 & 9:

7 AM departure for Rio Iriri/Rio Xingu – 3 day/2 night trip

There is a chance to see L177, L18, L25, L14, L354, L82 and many more. Snorkel and explore this unique and beautiful area of the Amazon. Enjoy a stop at Cachoeira da Espirito. We will sleep in hammocks at encampments along the riverbank. Arrive back in Altamira before sunset on Day 9, the night is yours to enjoy at the pool or a lovely restaurant. Ask us for recommendations! Dinner together or individually depending on group dynamic/wishes.

Day 10:

Play at the beach in the morning, lounge by the pool or take a walk around town. Catch our flight back to Belém midafternoon. Check into the hotel in Belém and enjoy your evening strolling the Estação das Docas. Dinner together or individually depending on group dynamic/wishes.

Day 11:

Get our Covid tests. It is possible to visit an export facility today as well, depending on the time frame with our Covid testing. Some suggestions for the rest of the day: visit Mangal das Garças Ecological Park (free admission), learn about Belém's history by exploring the Forte do Presépio. Take in the historic sites of Ver-O-Peso Fish Market and Açaí Fair. Sign up for an evening river boat tour and see the city from on the water. Stroll the Estação das Docas with a delicious gelato! Dinner together or individually depending on group dynamic/wishes.

Day 12:

Visit to one of the largest export facilities in South America. Enjoy any of the activities listed for Day 11. Dinner together or individually depending on group dynamic/wishes.

Day 13:

Catch your International flight home.