

VISITATION TO THE BLUE-EYED GROUND-DOVE NATURE RESERVE [2020]



Blue-eyed Ground-dove Nature Reserve

- It is located in the north of Minas Gerais State, 180 km from Montes Claros in the municipality of Botumirim. The area comprises 593 hectares (1465 acres) and was created with the objective of guaranteeing the conservation of the only known population of the *Columbina cyanopsis*.

- The reserve was acquired by SAVE Brasil in partnership with the Rainforest Trust. Located in a priority area for the conservation of birds in Minas Gerais, it is located in an area of Cerrado Rocky Outcrops (*Campo Rupestre*), which also includes species typical of the Caatinga, such as the Caatinga antwren (*Herpsilochmus sellowi*), the Silvery-cheeked antshrike (*Sakesphorus cristatus*) and Stripe-backed antbird (*Myrmorchilus strigilatus*), among others.



Learn more about the Blue-eyed Ground-dove

The Blue-eyed Ground-dove is one of the rarest birds in the world, given as possibly extinct, it was rediscovered in 2015 after 75

The visiting to the **Blue-eyed Ground-dove Nature Reserve** is always welcome and understood as an opportunity for everyone to know not only the species itself, but all the work and protocol to protect it. SAVE Brasil seeks to adapt its work to international standards of management in areas where there are critically endangered species. Note that this may imply some restrictions and constraints, always for the benefit of the species.

How to plan your visit?

- To schedule your visit, write to rolinhadoplanalto@savebrasil.org.br informing the dates of interest for availability and scheduling consultation.
- **Foreign visitors entrance to the Reserve costs USD 35 per day. This cost helps us maintain the Reserve and the Blue-eyed Ground-dove conservation project.**
- Payment must be made using [Paypal](#).
- The local guide must be paid in cash on the day of the visit, according to the **minimum suggestion**:
 - 1 group (1 to 5 tourists) pays BRL 50,00 for a period of up to 4 hours inside the reserve;
- [Amigos da SAVE Brasil](#) (our membership program) are exempt from fees.

How to get there?

The main access to Botumirim can be done through Mário Ribeiro Airport (MOC) in Montes Claros, followed by car on the BR-251 and MG-307 (asphalted) highways. The airport has car rental companies; it is not essential to use a four-wheel drive vehicle, however, off-road capabilities might improve the experience (Renault Duster e.g.). SAVE Brasil does not have a vehicle in Botumirim for commuting.

Where to stay?

Pousada do Vale	(38) 9 9985 1022
Pousada Campina da Serra	(38) 9 9908 9167
Eco-Chalé Almazen	(38) 9 9920 1475
Pousada Camping	

years without news of its occurrence. Less than 20 individuals are currently known. It is critically endangered (CR). The species has blue eyes and derives its scientific name (*Columbina cyanopsis*). Its area of occupation includes the Cerrado Rocky Fields of the central region of Brazil.



More information about Botumirim, MG

The municipality has the privilege of being the home of the Blue-eyed Ground-dove, in addition, endemic species of the Espinhaço ridge make up the avifauna, such as the Hyacinth Visorbearer (*Augastes scutatus*) and the Cipo Canastero (*Asthenes luizae*). The region has diverse vegetation, with elements of the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado, Rocky Fields and about 200 species are present in the area. The accompaniment of a bird guide of the region is recommended for a better experience in the tour.

Botumirim has basic services, but cash payment in cash is recommended. There is a Post Office agency besides a the Bradesco bank. Cell phone only from the VIVO carrier.

See below some conditions necessary for the visit.

- The visitation should be accompanied by local guide indicated by SAVE Brasil (even when there is an external guide);
- The maximum number of visitors in each day is 5 people (+ guide);
- The visitation to the reserve is limited in up to 2 days per visitor (or group);
- The frequency of visits is determined by the coordination of the reserve;
- The playback use is restricted;
- The approach distance informed by the local guide must be respected;
- Visitors should stay on the tracks determined by the local guide.

These simple actions are aimed at protecting the very rare Blue-eyed Ground-dove and its delicate habitat. The visitor should keep in mind that the safety and well-being of the species are always in the first place. Your participation is fundamental in the conservation of the species!

Important, if you need any help booking rooms for your stay, please, feel free to contact us. The hotels are not prepared yet to communicate in English.

For more information or to clarify any doubts, we are at your disposal.

Sincerely,

SAVE Brasil Team

BirdLife/SAVE Brasil

Rua Fernão Dias, 219, cj. 2, Pinheiros

05427-010, São Paulo, SP, Brasil

Tel: 55-11-38152862

www.savebrasil.org.br | <http://www.facebook.com/SAVEBrasil>

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