

WILD VENEZUELA

Episode 01 - VENEZUELAN BIRDS – DIVERSITY

From the 9,000 species of birds inhabiting our planet, 40% are found in South America, making this the Bird Continent. Venezuela, a relatively small country the size of Texas and Oklahoma combined, can boast over 1,350 species. The reason for this avian richness is simple. The country holds more than 25 different ecosystems. This chapter shows some 100 species of Venezuelan birds in their natural habitats, exploring the biology, behavior, feeding adaptations and songs as well as their interaction with the environment. A kaleidoscope of shapes, colors, beaks and feathers in astounding close ups.

Episode 02 - VENEZUELAN BIRDS - BREEDING

Perhaps the most interesting aspects of the study of birds is their ability to adapt to aquatic environments as well as their various breeding behaviors. The first part deals with water birds in their natural habitat, showing the various techniques the individual species have developed to capture their prey. The remaining two thirds are devoted to the breeding strategies of various species including storks, lapwings, thornbirds, flycatchers, thrushes, seedeaters and fruiteaters. All shown during their breeding season. Close-ups of their unique behavioral patterns filmed for the first time in Venezuela.

Episode 03 - UNDERSEA VENEZUELA

If we exclude insects from the million of animal species classified to date, two third of the species left inhabit the seas. Venezuela has 1,700 miles of shoreline as well as numerous islands and archipelagoes in the Caribbean. Undersea Venezuela illustrates the fascinating richness of the reefs found in its waters. Dozen of species of fish and invertebrates, their individual characteristics, their behavioral patterns, the myths grown around them as well as their reality can be enjoyed with this fascinating video photography.

Episode 04 - THE CAPYBARA

Although neotropical fauna is characterized by an astounding wealth of species, it has very few large mammals. But, the evolutionary adaptation has lead to gigantic rodents. Including the largest in the world... the Capybara which may weight 130 pounds. This documentary summarizes over 10 years of research of the natural history of the Capybara and includes unpublished images of the biology and behavior of this South American colossus. The first and most comprehensive audiovisual documentary produced on the Capybara in Venezuela.

Episode 05 - MORROCOY NATIONAL PARK

Beautiful beaches with crystal clear waters, keys and islands, channels and mangroves, lagoons and salt ponds, sea birds, coral reefs, abundant marine life..... This is Morrocoy, a marine and submarine National Park which has the most important mangrove system in the southern Caribbean. The marine and submarine fauna make it the great ecological scene of the Venezuelan coast line. Beautiful landscapes and environments, marine birds, the fauna of the mangroves as well as the submarine fauna..All these and much more are to be found in Morrocoy.

Episode 06 - SOMEWHERE IN THE PLAINS OF THE ORINOCO

The Llanos.... a magical land of open, flooded plains in the rainy season that is burnt dry during the other half of the year when no rain falls. It is the home of hundreds of animal species living in perfect harmony with this, their difficult environment. An incredible wealth of species native to the Llanos make it one of the greatest genetic reservoirs of Venezuela. In this video we will observe more than 40 species of birds, both large and small reptiles, 20 species of mammals, fresh water fishes as well as insects, all in their habitats of savannas, bushes, woods and rivers. In the end we will observe the most astounding sunsets.

Episodes 07 & 08 - STRATEGIES FOR ANIMAL SURVIVAL I & II

Camouflage, inaccessibility, poison, flight, symbiosis, parasitism, hideaways, shields, forming groups, fleeing, spikes and knives; alarm calls, bright colors, distinctive smells, imitation, attack and defense, adapting to the night, adapting to man, a complex mosaic of survival strategies developed by animals to assure their survival in nature. All animal species are continually changing, both in their physical appearance and their behavior. It may take millions of years for these changes to come about. Those species that survive do so because during their long evolutionary process they have perfected certain strategies that permit them to develop successfully in their environment. These strategies are so efficient that they maintain the balance of life among the numerous species sharing the same habitat, from the smallest micro-environment to the most complex ecosystem.

Episode 09 -AIR, LAND AND SEA ANIMALS (Compilation)

More than 25 ecosystems are to be found in Venezuela including over 1,700 miles of shoreline and numerous off shore islands belonging to the Lesser Antilles, extensive mountain chains that form a part of the Andes with their stunning rain and cloud forests, the Orinoco Delta, the huge flood plains of the Llanos, the Lost World of the Guyana Shield, the ancient geological formations of the southern eastern Venezuela and finally the xerophitic zones of the coast. A tremendous number of species inhabits the kaleidoscope of environments, making Venezuela a country of extremely rich biodiversity. In this video we will travel through the images and discover the diversity and variety of birds, mammals, reptiles as well as underwater animals.

Episode 10 - THE BLUE-AND-WHITE SWALLOW

When we hear the words Flora and Fauna, we invariably imagine remote areas whose isolation has permitted a harmonious development of various species, far from man's reach and the uproar of his social and industrial organization. Although the above is mostly true, there are numerous species that have adapted to man's presence and prosper with us as without us. This chapter deals with the natural history of the Blue-and-White Swallow as well as the environment in which it lives together with other species that normally inhabit the mountain suburbs of large Latin American cities.

Episode 11 – THE ORINOCO CROCODILE

A cattle ranch, just like many of those that abound in the floodable plains of the Orinoco basin is the location where the adventure takes place. Half a century ago his owner decided to share the cattle business with conservation of the wealthy fauna of the region. Twenty years ago the first attempts to breed the Orinoco croc in captivity were made to save this endangered species, due to massive hunting for its valuable skin. The documentary shows the whole yearly process from egg collecting to the release in the wild. Several parallel episodes help to understand the environment and the fauna of the region. Filmed for the first time.

Episode 12 – MASAGUARAL, A NATURAL ZOO

20.000 acres of cattle land houses a wealthy fauna on its savannas, lagoons and riparian forests. The environment of this region is shown throughout the life of the most authentic animals of each area, especially mammals, reptiles and some icon birds. A scientific project on wedge capuchin monkeys is described by its author. Bizarre mammals like felines, anteaters, tayra, capybaras, howler monkeys, agoutis, and many more are shown in close ups, including its behavior and relations with the environment.

Episode 13 – BIRDS IN PARADISE

More than 350 species of birds inhabits the Masaguaral Ranch, making it one of the most sought after places for scientific study and observation. Many stories are told to understand this particular environment. Bizarre and exotic birds are shown in impressive shots, such as the southern lapwing, the thick-knee, the sunbittern, the burrowing owl, the crested currawong, caciques and oropendolas, flycatchers, woodpeckers, kites, hawks, caracaras and many more. Stunning behavior never shown before.