Birding Vale do Café, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

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Given that 2022 is the 200th anniversary of Brazil’s independence, it seems appropriate to celebrate the country’s fabulous avian offerings. Three experienced birders from Rio de Janeiro (two of whose latest book is reviewed in Neotropical Birding 28: 77) offer a guide to one of their favourite (and lesser known) birding regions in the state.

\[1\text{ Singing male Bare-throated Bellbird } Procnias rubicollis, \text{ September 2017}
\] (Gabriel Mello: 5irmaosmello.com.br  @irmaosmello_rj). One of a pleasing number of exciting birds to be found in the Vale do Café, this Near Threatened cottinga can be seen in Arcádia, Miguel Pereira.

Unless otherwise stated, all photographs are by Daniel Mello (irmaosmello.com.br  @irmaosmello_rj). All photos were taken in Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil. Where the month and year of the photo are not provided, they are unavailable.