

PHOTOGRAPHER | TEXT - ARMIDA MADNGISA

The Amazon is a remarkable place in South-America where nature enthusiasts are being spoiled. It is where untouched pristine primary forest is 'filled' with the most exotic items in the world: orchids, hummingbirds, poison dart frogs and even the most impressive creatures can be found here: Green Anaconda's, Harpy Eagles, Black Caimans and Large Macaws. The latter can be best identified with the Amazon: large, exotic and loud.

Suriname is also part of the Amazon and is also host to many of these wonderful creatures. One of them is called the Chestnut-fronted Macaw. It can be considered the little brother/sister of the Large Macaw, this explains why they are also known as Mini Macaws. The Chestnut-fronted Macaw is a widespread and common bird in the Amazon. Noisy and vivid birds that every morning bring the jungle to life with their lively chatter. Those who have experienced this first hand know what I am talking about. You can compare their excited morningchatter with first grade kids on their first day at school.

The Chestnut-fronted Macaw is a social bird and can be seen in groups of 5 – 8. They will 'consume' the morning sun before heading off to find some food (Inga fruits, berries, maripa nuts and blossoming flowers) Only when they have a break it is difficult to spot them as they like to devour their food in silence. The dropping of seeds or nuts will make their presence clear, but due to their camouflage plumage it will be difficult to spot them.

Breeding season is between November – April, where they will lay 2 or 3 eggs in a hollow tree. Both parents are involved during the whole breeding period.