

Interpretive Script: Sendero GUARANI (GUARANI Trail)

Ybycuí National Park

It is believed that the workers of the iron foundry “La Rosada” walked this path during their breaks from work to appreciate the natural beauty of their surroundings. Also, thanks to the inherited knowledge of medicinal herbs and their many uses from the indigenous Guaraní peoples, they cured their ailments with different plant species found on this trail. We invite you to get to know a part of our rich culture and to respect the plants used then and now.

STOP 1: URUNDE'Y PARA /Kingwood or Tigerwood/ (*Astronium fraxinifolium*)

This plant blooms in the winter and is a melliferous species. In popular medicine, it is used to treat skin ulcers, upset stomachs, hemorrhoids, and diarrhea. It has a high resistance to fungus, which makes it suitable for housing, posts, and flooring. The beams of the foundry La Rosada are made from Urunde'y para. To differentiate between this species and another species commonly known as yvya pere (*Apuleia leiocarpa*), you can squeeze the leaves, which smell almost exactly like mango.



STOP 2: KARAGUATAY (Place of Caraguatá)

In this stop you can observe a group of species known colloquially as piña silvestre (forest pineapple). It has artisanal uses; the leaves are cut and laced together in small quantities then put into water until they are tender enough to use. Afterwards, they are scrubbed until a whitish color appears and formed into mesh netting. This textile technique is one of the oldest in South America and demonstrates one of the most unique traditional styles of knitting.



STOP 3: YSYRY RYAPU (Sound of the creek)

The Mina creek is found inside of the boundaries of Parque Ybycuí. It is 25.45 kilometers long with a channel width varying from 1-3 meters and up to 15 meters in the natural pools. Appreciating the sound of water will help us connect to nature. Taking a quiet moment here is perfect, because apart from the sound of the water, you can hear many different birds.



STOP 4: YVAPOROITY ROGA /Home of Yvaporoitý/ (*Plinia rivularis*)

Yvaporoitý is a medicinal tree that can treat stomach problems like diarrhea, inflammation of the digestive tract, and inflammation of the stomach. Its fruit is edible, it is an ornamental tree, and it is found commonly in riparian forests. It is related to guava (*Psidium guajava*), yvapurú (*Plinia peruviana*), and ñangapiry (*Eugenia uniflora*), to mention some. You can note the similarities by comparing the trunks of each tree.



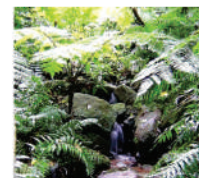
STOP 5: CHIPA RUPA / Chipa Bed/ (*Alchornea triplinervia*)

Chipa rupa's wood is suitable for designs that do not require a long duration or need to be resistant, like a doorframe, silverware handles, broomsticks, etc. Furthermore, it is often recommended for manufacturing crutches due to its elasticity, low compression, and lightness. Its flowers are melliferous. Chipa rupa's common name comes from the fact that the leaves are used to roll chipa (cheese bread). The other common name of this species is Tapia guasu'y because its trunk has large sprouts with a sticky substance that resemble the male reproductive organ.



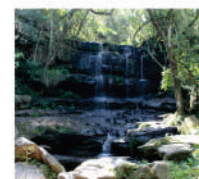
STOP 6: AMAMBAY RENDA (House of Ferns)

Considered living fossils, ferns are among some of the oldest plants on Earth and therefore have adapted to various environmental changes. They possess diverse medicinal uses, such as treatment for respiratory infections and as diuretics. They are ornamental. One of the objectives for Parque Nacional Ybycuí is the conservation of the Chachi (*Alsophylla cuspidata*), a tree-growing fern that is in danger of extinction according to the resolution SEAM No. 2.243/06 due to its extraction for orchid production.



STOP 7: SALTO GUARANI (Guaraní Waterfall)

Salto Guaraní is approximately 16 meters tall. At the bottom of the waterfall there is a natural pool that visitors use to cool off. It is one of the focuses of conservation of Parque Nacional Ybycuí and its name indicates the contentious idea that the waterfall looks like the face of an indigenous Guaraní. This place invites us to appreciate the marvel of nature. Let's take care of it!



It is not permitted to remove plants in this park. This is a crime and affects the conservation of these species.

We thank you for taking part in the conservation of Parque Nacional Ybycuí. Please share your beautiful photos to inspire more people to protect this site, and don't forget to take your trash with you!

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