

Mearim River - Tidal Bore

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Mearim River - Tidal Bore Latest News

Recently, a Brazilian surfer, known for surfing the world's longest tidal waves, uses the Mearim's pororoca to raise awareness about climate change and ecological degradation.

Mearim River

- The **Mearim River** is a major river located in **Maranhão state**, in **northern Brazil**.
- It **originates in southern Maranhão** and **drains northward** into the **Baía de São Marcos** (São Marcos Bay), where it forms a **common estuary** with the **Pindaré** and **Grajaú rivers**.
- The **river is ~800 km long**, flowing through **the Atlantic Coastal Plain marshlands** and passing through **dense tropical rainforests** and **mangrove ecosystems**.
- The river's **upper and middle courses** are marked by **rapids**, making them **non-navigable**, while **only the lower course** is **suitable for navigation**.
- The Mearim River forms the **southern boundary** of the **Tocantins-Araguaia-Maranhão moist forests ecoregion**, an important **biodiversity hotspot**.

Tidal Bore (Pororoca) Phenomenon

- The **Mearim River** is famous for its **pororoca**, a **tidal bore** that occurs when **high tides from the ocean** travel **upstream into the river**.
- The term **“pororoca”** is derived from the **Tupi Indigenous language**, meaning **“great roar”**, referring to the **thunderous sound** generated by the collision of **river and ocean waters**.
- A **tidal bore** is a **positive surge** of water created when **rising ocean tides** push **against river currents**, typically occurring during **spring tides** and **supermoons**.
- The **height of the bore** is generally **greater near the banks** of the river than at the centre and can **travel upstream for 30 minutes** after the peak high tide.
- The **Mearim pororoca** is one of the **last remaining tidal bores** of significant strength in Brazil, attracting **surfers** and **researchers**.

Mearim River - Tidal Bore FAQs

Q1: Where is the Mearim River located?

Ans: The Mearim River is located in the Maranhão state of northeastern Brazil and flows into the Atlantic Ocean.

Q2: What unique tidal phenomenon is observed in the Mearim River?

Ans: The Mearim River is known for the tidal bore called the “Pororoca,” where ocean tides push upstream against the river current, creating large waves.

Q3: Which other rivers globally experience tidal bores like the Mearim?

Ans: Rivers like the Amazon (Brazil), Qiantang (China), and Seine (France) also exhibit tidal bores.

Source: [REU](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mearim-river-tidal-bore/>

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