

## Wildlife Viewfinder Guide: Special mammalian blend in ringtail

*by Tim Herd*

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With a distinctively banded tail that's as long as its body, the ringtail is a cat-sized mammal that appears to have mixed parentage. Huge round eyes and large, rounded ears frame a foxlike face. Gray to tan fur, a ringed tail and five-toed feet like a raccoon, semiretractable claws like a cat and the ability to leap like a squirrel round out its best features. *Bassariscus astutus*

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