AMAZON RIVER EXPEDITION

EXPLORE THE WORLD'S GREATEST WILDERNESS NOVEMBER 7-14, 2023





conservancytravel.org



EXPLORE THE LARGEST RIVER IN THE WORLD

during a journey full of discoveries by riverboat in the Peruvian Amazon. Discover an incredible variety of flora and fauna and encounters with indigenous communities.

From its first trickle high in the Andes Mountains, the Amazon River winds more than 4,200 miles through South America. The river and its thousand tributaries snake past frontier cities and remote villages in six countries before spilling 500 billion cubic feet of water into the Atlantic. More than just water, the Amazon is the lifeblood of a rainforest that is home to more than 40,000 plant species and an eclectic culture of shamans, farmers and curious children.

Observe an astounding diversity of bird species: At least 1,800 species – more than 50% of South America's recorded birdlife – have been spotted in Peru.

HIGHLIGHTS

- From huge ringed kingfishers to prehistoric hoatzins and chattering parrots, our daily nature excursions observe enough birdlife to engross even the most avid birder.
- Observe diverse wildlife during explorations in specially-designed excursion boats that navigate the ever-changing tributaries of the Peruvian Amazon.
- Gain insight into the environment and local Ribereños while learning about their schools, medicinal plants and traditional ceremonies.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

Independent Arrivals to Lima, Peru, 1 night; fly to Iquitos and transfer to Nauta to embark riverboat La Perla, 6 nights; disembark and fly Iquitos – Lima for independent departures.

Birding + Wildlife Viewing + Culture + Hiking & Nature Walks + Local Food & Markets Photography + Small-Boat Excursions + Small-Ship Expedition + Swimming



LIMA PRE-EXTENSION ITINERARY

Sunday, November 5 ARRIVALS IN LIMA, PERU

Independent arrivals to Lima, Peru. You'll be met upon arrival at Lima's Jorge Chavez International Airport and transferred to the hotel in the heart of Lima's Miraflores neighborhood.

Accommodations: Estelar Miraflores

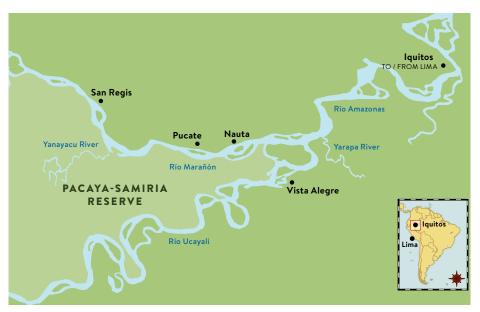
Monday & Tuesday, November 6 & 7 EXPLORE LIMA

Guided visits explore the highlights of the historic center of Lima and the modern city; the Larco Herrara Museum, the Pre-Inca Pachacamac archaeological site and Huaca Pucllana.

Wednesday, November 8 FLY TO IQUITOS / EMBARK LA PERLA

Includes Daily Breakfast; 2 Lunches Price \$749 per person in a double room \$1,199 single price.





AMAZON RIVER EXPEDITION ITINERARY

Day 1 • Tuesday, November 7 ARRIVALS IN LIMA, PERU

Independent arrivals to Lima, Peru. You'll be met upon arrival at Lima's Jorge Chavez International Airport and transferred to the hotel. Accommodations: Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel.

Day 2 • Wednesday, November 8 FLY TO IQUITOS / EMBARK LA PERLA After breakfast, fly from Lima to Iquitos and drive to the port of Nauta and embark riverboat, La Perla, our home for the next six nights.

During our river cruise, we'll explore the waterways and go ashore via the ship's small skiffs in the company of our expert naturalist guides, with excursions in the early morning and



late afternoon. After relaxing lunches aboard, our guides provide enriching presentations and discussions on the areas we visit, local culture and customs. The bartender will demonstrate the best recipe for the iconic Peruvian cocktail – the pisco sour and there will be ample time to refresh, relax and take in the scenery.

As we settle into our cabins and take in the panoramic views from the Observation Deck, the ship begins navigating the Marañon River.

After sunset, we'll head out to search for nocturnal wildlife with our naturalist guides.

Enjoy a special welcome reception and dinner aboard with live music from our ship's band. (B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla



Day 3 • Thursday, November 9 PACAYA SAMIRIA NATIONAL RESERVE / AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS / SHAMAN RITUALS

We'll begin our discovery of Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, one of the largest and most wellprotected conservation areas in Peru. Renowned for its biodiversity, the forest remains flooded for much of the year and is home to many reptile, amphibian, hundreds of bird, mammal and fish species, as well as thousands of wild and cultivated plant species.

Our wildlife observations include macaws, sloths, monkeys, toucans, trogons, quetzals, parrots and more. We'll have a special picnic breakfast on the Yanayacu River in Pucate, one of the best protected and preserved areas of the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, in an area often visited by pink dolphins. Then we board local canoes and paddle through one of the most beautiful aquatic ecosystems in the world. You may want to take a refreshing dip in the river.

Back on board the ship, lunch is served in the dining room. Afterwards, join our guides for a presentation on Amazon philosophy.

Go ashore this afternoon for a meeting with a shaman - a wise woman from the San Regis community who, with translation by our guides, shares her knowledge about ancestral rituals, medicinal plants and the Amazonian perspective, providing an opportunity





for reflection and spiritual exploration. We'll end with a tree planting ceremony as our contribution to the local environment.

Back aboard the riverboat, enjoy live music before dinner, then enjoy the sounds of the Amazon rainforest that surround us in the night. (B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla

Day 4 • Friday, November 10 SMALL BOAT EXCURSIONS / JUNGLE WALK / TRADITIONAL PIRANHA FISHING

Before breakfast, we'll take our small boats through Iquitos Brook, a privileged area for sighting numerous endemic species. Afterward, a buffet breakfast is served on board. On our morning jungle walk, we'll keep our eyes peeled for hummingbirds that collect nectar from the exquisite, huge flowers of the towering Heliconia Rostrata, or "false bird of paradise."

Enjoy lunch and mid-day relaxation aboard. This afternoon, we'll take our small boats to Shiriyacu stream, where our guides find the perfect location for piranha fishing, using traditional equipment and techniques. Back aboard the riverboat, enjoy live music before dinner. (B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla

Day 5 • Saturday, November 11 GASPARITO BROOK BIRDING / YACAPANA CREEK

Early morning boat excursion towards Gasparito Brook, a very popular area for bird and primate watching. After breakfast, our small boats take us to Marayali lagoon, where we observe wildlife and the giant waterlilies "Victoria Amazónica" the largest aquatic plants on the planet. Return to the ship for lunch on board and time to relax. In the afternoon, our small boats explore Yacapana Creek in search of new imposing landscapes and more endemic species of the Amazon. As we head back to the riverboat, enjoy the wonderful light and the incomparable colors that unfold in the sky during sunset. Few experiences compare to contemplating the endless colors on the Amazonian horizon, as night falls and the prodigious symphony of the forest envelopes us.

Enjoy a tranquil evening aboard with live music and delicious cuisine.(B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla



Day 6 • Sunday, November 12 BIRDLIFE ON THE UCAYALI AND YARAPA RIVERS / VISTA ALEGRE COMMUNITY

At dawn, we'll board the skiffs and glide along the banks of the Ucayali River to observe the beautiful Amazonian birds that fill the dense treetops, a true spectacle of color and life in the heart of the forest. Following breakfast, our small boats navigate through the black waters of the Yarapa River, where we'll search for toucans, parrots, macaws, iguanas, sloths and monkeys high up in the trees.

After a delicious lunch on board and siesta, our guides present a discussion on local Amazonian culture prior to this afternoon's visit to the town of Vista Alegre, where our guides facilitate conversations with members of the community



to learn about their daily life and timeless traditions.

Back on board, we'll enjoy live music and entertainment by the crew along with a delicious dinner. (B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla

Day 7 • Monday, November 13 SUNSET ON THE AMAZON RIVER

At dawn, we'll board the skiffs and glide along the banks of the Ucayali River to observe the beautiful Amazonian birds that fill the dense treetops, a true spectacle of color and life in the heart of the forest. Following breakfast, our small boats navigate through the black waters of the Yarapa River, where we'll search for toucans, parrots, macaws, iguanas, sloths and monkeys high up in the trees.

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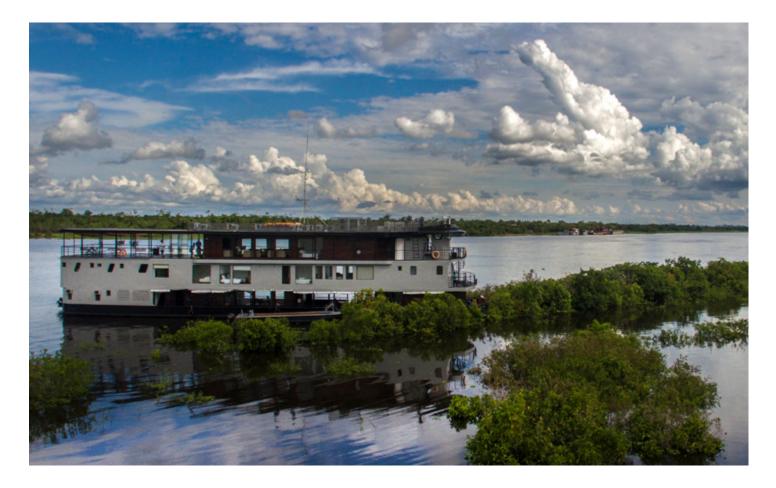
Back on board, we'll enjoy live music and entertainment by the crew along with a delicious dinner. (B,L,D) Accommodations: Aboard La Perla

Day 8 • Tuesday, November 14 DISEMBARKATION / FLY IQUITOS-LIMA / DEPARTURES

After breakfast on board, we'll arrive in the port city of Nauta, and have time for an early morning visit to the city market before we disembark and drive to Iquitos Airport for the flight to Lima. Independent departures from Lima. Please schedule your flight to the US to depart after 8:00 p.m. tonight. (B)

Please Note: Due to the ever-changing nature of the rainforest and conditions beyond our control, day-by-day activities are subject to weather, trail or river conditions on the day of operation. First and last day schedules may be adjusted to accommodate flight arrival/ departure times.





Riverboat La Perla

La Perla's 14 cabins blend modern amenities and traditional Amazonian style and feature a panoramic window. Each cabin has air conditioning, desk, closet, a chest with drawers, hair-dryer, toiletries, private bathroom with shower, 24-hour hot water and smoke detectors.

Meals aboard *La Perla* are a combination of traditional and international cuisine created with locally sourced ingredients. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served buffet style. Most special diets can be accommodated with advance notice.

Rubber boots and ponchos are provided on board the ship.

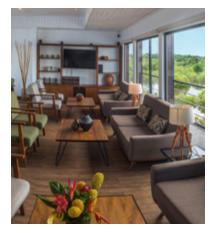
CABIN DESCRIPTIONS

Standard cabins: 151 sq. ft. with two twin beds convertible into king bed.

Amazon View cabins: 151 sq. ft. One cabin with one double bed; one cabin with one king bed; access to shared balcony.

Superior cabins: 215 sq. ft. with two twin beds convertible into king bed.











Estelar Miraflores (Lima Extension)

Avenida Alfredo Benavides 415 Miraflores, Lima

The modern and gracious 151-room hotel is in the heart of the exclusive Miraflores neighborhood. The Pisco 21 restaurant, located on the 21st floor, offers international fusion cuisine with panoramic views of the sea and city. Choose Standard Room with 1 Queen, 1 King or 1 Twin Beds. Rooms include Easy Connection Wi-Fi and bathroom with bathtub.

Costa Del Sol Wyndam

Located within Jorge Chávez International Airport, the Hotel Costa del Sol Ramada serves as a convenient stopover, with a walkway directly connecting the airport terminal to the hotel entrance.

The hotel features a restaurant, lounge, indoor pool, 24-hour fitness facilities, Jacuzzi, sauna and steam room and massage. Rooms are available either nightly or hourly, if needed, to recharge during a long layover.

Physical Activity and Health Considerations

Travel to the Amazon is a physically active expedition to a tropical destination that requires the ability to walk on unpaved terrain, climb in and out of small boats, climb stairs, embark and disembark airplanes with stairs while holding hand baggage, travel by small boat, embark and disembark motorcoach. Guests may choose to opt out of any scheduled activities and enjoy the comfort of the riverboat.

No specific vaccines are required by Peruvian Immigration for travel to the Peruvian Amazon. The CDC recommends all routine vaccines, anti-malarial prophylaxis, Typhoid, Hepatitis A/B and Yellow Fever vaccines.

To register for your Amazon expedition, please go to <u>conservancytravel.org/audubonperu2023</u> and complete the registration form, including your \$600 per person deposit. The Conservancy Travel team will call/email you on a first come, first served basis to confirm and enroll you in your cabin, and update your final amount due accordingly.

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OBSERVATION DECK PER PERSON

Superior Cabin	Double	\$4,529
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UPPER DECK PER PERSON

Standard Cabin Double	\$3,739
Amazon View Cabin Double	\$4,089
Standard Cabin Single	\$5,379

LOWER DECK PER PERSON

Superior Cabin Double		\$4,529
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Included

- Meals as indicated in the itinerary: 7 Breakfasts; 6 Lunches; 6 Dinners
- Domestic Airfare Lima Iquitos Lima
- Expertly guided sightseeing with English-speaking guides
- Transportation and entrance fees for all included visits as described in the itinerary
- Taxes, service, tips for included meals and porterage charges.
- Natural juices, coffee, tea and purified water are included with meals.

Not Included

- International airfare to Peru; passport and visa fees; excess baggage fees
- Gratuities to La Perla crew (recommended at \$105 per person)
- Travel insurance
- Personal items and expenses
- Alcoholic beverages and sodas
- Any other items not specifically mentioned as included

Final Payment due 120 days prior to departure. \$600 per person deposit required for main program. \$150 per person deposit required for extension.

Cancellations: \$150 penalty from time of booking until 120 days prior to departure. \$600 penalty from 119 - 90 days prior to departure. 50% of trip price from 89-61 days prior to departure. 100% of trip cost from 60-0 days prior to departure.





FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scot Duncan, PhD Executive Director scot@alaudubon.org

Conservancy Travel

This trip is designed and operated by Conservancy Travel (CT), a company with more than four decades of tour operator experience encompassing nearly every form of organized travel. CT has extensive experience in planning and operating eco-tours, educational, affinity, student groups, bespoke, luxury, soft-adventure, active outdoor, civil rights, birding and cultural tours in the United States and around the world.

Alabama Audubon

Alabama Audubon is Alabama's leading nonprofit promoting conservation and a greater knowledge of birds, their habitats, and the natural world. Alabama Audubon is pleased to provide information about this trip, but it has no responsibility for the design or operation of the trip. For each passenger who registers through the online portal identified in this brochure, a proportion of the ticket price for this trip goes to Alabama Audubon to support their outreach and conservation efforts.