



M/V AMATISTA

ITINERARY: 9 DAYS - 8 NIGHTS
Saturday - Sunday





Day 1: Sat: Lima

Arrive at any time at [Lima Airport](#). You will be met by a representative and transferred in a private vehicle to the hotel, a journey of about an hour.

The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your tour leader will review the details of your tour.

Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day, if you arrive early.

Overnight at San Agustin Exclusive Hotel, or similar, with breakfast.

Day 2: Sun: Lima - Iquitos - Amatista (B,L,D)

Take an early morning flight to the gateway to the Amazon, [Iquitos](#).

From the airport, it is a short drive to Iquitos's docks area, where we board the *Amatista*.

Once on board the ship, relax and soak in the natural beauty of the wild rainforest. Step out on deck to watch the riverbanks go by, as we cruise upstream on the Amazon River ... and keep eyes peeled for wildlife, such as [Amazon River Dolphins](#).

The river exploration begins with two boat excursions by motorized skiff, one during the day and one at night, in the company of an expert naturalist guide who describes the surrounding area, while spotting passing wildlife.

Day 3: Mon: Ucayali River: Pacaya Samiria National Reserve (B,L,D)

Rising early, we head out into [Pacaya Samiria](#) National Reserve, Peru's largest national park and home to more than 200 bird species and 10 primate species. Dawn is one of the best times to see birdlife, and so we will try to spot parrots, macaws, herons, kingfishers, swallows, martins, falcons, black collared hawks and many more.



In the afternoon, take a walk through the jungle and visit a local community to learn about their traditions. On the way, the guides will point out the interesting wildlife species that inhabit the riverbanks, and unusual fish and vegetation that can be found in the river. Stay on the lookout for squirrel and wooly monkeys, caimans and sloths.

After dinner, opt to go on a night excursion to Piranha Creek.

Day 4: Tue: Pacaya Samiria National Reserve

This morning, we explore the small riverside town of [Nauta](#). Here you have time to ride in a [mototaxi](#) and browse the local market where you can try your hand at bargaining and pick up some souvenirs.

Once back on board, we continue to cruise up the Marañón River, a major tributary of the Amazon.

In the afternoon, enjoy a jungle walk to the Sapisapi River and learn about medicinal plants, search for monkeys and keep an eye out for reptiles, such as turtles.

Days 5 – 7: Wed - Fri: Pacaya Samiria National Reserve (B,L,D)

Explore the Amazon River and some of its tributaries in the [Pacaya Samiria](#) National Reserve, Peru's largest national park and home to more than 200 bird species and 10 primate species.

Over the next few days, enjoy shore excursions, night excursions, educational lectures, a visit to a local shaman, an indigenous village, and the incredible wildlife of this lush area.

In the constantly changing Amazon we offer flexible itineraries, the naturalists onboard tailor each departure to the surroundings and water levels to ensure you get the most out of your Amazon adventure.

Here are some of the possible trips:

Morning Amazon Jungle Excursion in Pacaya Samiria National Reserve



Early morning excursion to watch the rainforest world wake up. Spot iguanas, river turtles, cormorants, or wattled jacana, and gain insight into another side of the jungle. You may also have the chance to view coqui and striated herons, macaws, squirrel and woolly monkeys, caimans, and sloths.

Along the way, the guides will point out the interesting wildlife species that inhabit the riverbanks, and unusual fish and vegetation that can be found in the river.

Ucayali River Afternoon Walking Excursion

Walk along the banks of the Ucayali River to explore the Yucuruchi region of the Amazon, and to have the opportunity to see the Victoria Regia water lily — a gigantic aquatic plant with leaves that measure up to 3m (10 ft) in diameter.

Keep a watch out for the Amazon River dolphin, giant otter, and the Amazonian manatee, which all make their home in the Ucayali's waters.

Local Living: Indigenous Family Visit

Be welcomed into the home of a local Indigenous family. Share conversation over a midday meal, and be introduced to their culture and way of life. Participate in an unforgettable opportunity to gain insight into a new and different world.

Recharge: Local Shaman Visit

Gain firsthand insight into [Shamanism](#) by meeting a practicing shaman in a river village. Be introduced to his spiritual healing craft and learn about rainforest plants that indigenous peoples have, for untold centuries, held to possess curative properties.

Night Time Boat Excursion in Pacaya Samiria National Reserve

Enjoy a nocturnal boat ride in the wild, and watch the Amazon become a different domain. Be on the lookout for bats, capybaras, black caimans, poison frogs, and a vast number of other species. See if our flashlights will reflect the 'red eye shine' of the black caiman ... or show the glowing yellow eyes of a jaguar!



Day 8: Sat: Pacaya Samiria National Reserve - Iquitos - Lima (B)

In the morning, we rise early to explore the impressive biodiversity of Choroyacu Creek. We explore the area's unusual ecosystem by motorized skiff, keeping a lookout for birds, monkeys and sloths.

We will find a quiet spot to enjoy a picnic breakfast, followed by piranha fishing on the Nahuapa River.

We also have the opportunity to experience river travel in a typical dugout canoe, constructed and powered by locals.

Having disembarked the *Amatista*, we drive back to Iquitos. En route we stop at the [Amazonian Manatee Rescue Centre](#), where we learn about their efforts in rescuing orphaned manatees. The centre helps to rehabilitate and reintroduce these endangered mammals back into the Amazon Basin. Take this opportunity to observe these amazing and lovable animals – be sure to bring your camera!

We then take the flight from Iquitos back to Lima, and are then transferred back to our Lima accommodation.

Enjoy the evening in the city.

Please note the order of the activities is sometimes changed for logistical reasons and the Manatee Rescue Centre may be visited earlier in the trip to allow enough time to enjoy the centre.

Overnight at San Agustin Exclusive Hotel, or similar

Day 9: Sun: Lima (B)

Depart at any time.

If you wish to spend longer in [Lima](#) or [elsewhere in Peru](#), we can certainly help with arrangements.



NB. 1. The itinerary may vary according the climate and seasons that determine the water level in the rivers and the life cycles of local wildlife; and in order to protect their natural habitat.

2. Visits to the towns depend on the availability of the communities. However, visits are carefully planned to avoid a negative effect on their cultural identity.