

Avatar Amazon Lodge Amazonia Experience 5 Days / 4 Nights

Please note that the below itinerary is subject to change according to climatic conditions, and other operational considerations beyond the control of PeruNorth.

Day 1: Iquitos - Avatar Amazon Lodge

This morning, we pick you up at Iquitos Airport or from your Iquitos hotel, and transfer you by private vehicle to Iquitos docks. On the way to the docks, we make a short tour of Iquitos city

9am approx: We board our speedboat, to make the journey along the Nanay River and then downstream along the Amazon River, the world's longest.

Before arriving at Avatar Lodge, we pay a visit to **Fundo Pedrito**, an animal nursery, where we can feed fish such as *paiche* (also known as *arapaima*) and piranhas; turtles; anacondas; parrots and macaws. We will also see the impressive *Victoria Regia* water lilies.

On arrival at Avatar, we check in and have lunch.

In the afternoon, we have a botanical walk or canoe trip. Avatar has professional, native guides who know all the routes in the area, and can point out the typical <u>flora and fauna</u> and the uses the locals find for them.

Dinner is back at the lodge at around 7pm, where there is also a cosy bar.

After dinner, we can accompany the guides on foot or by canoe - depending on the season - in search of spiders, crickets, scorpions, and praying mantis. We will also listen out for the distinctive sounds of owls, potoos and other nocturnal creatures.

Overnight at Avatar Amazon Lodge.

Meals provided: Lunch, Dinner

Days 2: Avatar Lodge

Early this morning, we have the option of a dawn excursion, to enjoy the sunrise in these unique surroundings. This is a great time to observe Amazonian birds in all their splendour. A good camera - and silence - is recommended for the best experience.

We return to the lodge around 8am for a well-earned breakfast

After breakfast, we walk to the **Avatar Lookout Tower**. From a height of 25 m (82 ft) we have a great view of the Amazon Rainforest. We then begin the Canopy Tour, consisting of 10 different stations. There are 5 ziplines of varying levels and lengths; 2 suspension bridges; a rope swing; a climbing net; and a rapel. (Max weight permitted: 100 kg (220 lbs))

We then visit a <u>Yagua</u> community, one of the 23 indigenous peoples living around Peru's Amazon River. We can enjoy a demonstration of their singing, dancing, hunting practices and handicrafts.

After this visit, we continue to the **Neiser Animal Refuge Centre**, to observe playful monkeys, parrots and macaws, sloths, turtles ... and the notorious anakonda.

We have lunch back at Avatar Lodge at 1pm.

In the afternoon, we make an exploratory walk in the Amazon rainforest to a 500-year old **ceiba tree** (known locally as a *huimba*) which stands 49 m (160 ft) tall and 3 m (10 ft) wide.

Dinner is back at the lodge at around 7pm, where there is also a cosy bar.

After dinner, the guides will explain some of the legends of Amazon mythology.

Overnight at Avatar Amazon Lodge.

Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Avatar Amazon Lodge: Full Day Jungle Adventure

After breakfast, we take the speedboats along the Amazon River to the village of **San Juan de Huashalado**, where we meet the inhabitants and see the diverse flora and fauna.

We then continue to the Yanayacu River, a blackwater river. Here we spend the day exploring by boat and on foot. We will spend time fishing and see the the famous giant tree, known as 'Lupuma'.

Lunch will be prepared by our guide, in either a local's home or a jungle camp.

After lunch, we visit the distillery in San Juan de Huashalado, where we learn how the typical sugar cane alcohol of the region is made ... and have the chance to sample!

We return to Avatar Lodge for dinner.

After dinner, we learn how to make - and drink - local Pisco cocktails.

Overnight at Avatar Amazon Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Avatar Amazon Lodge: Medicinal Plant Walk

After breakfast, we go on a Medicinal Plant Walk. In the remote regions of the Amazon, far from modern medicines, the locals have learnt how to make use of the myriad of plants to be found in the rainforest, such as *Cat's Claw, Indian Head Ginger, Copaiba, <u>Aguaje</u> ... and the hallucinogenic <i>Ayahuasca*. Our guide will point these out and explain how they are used.

Lunch back at Avatar Amazon Lodge.

The afternoon is free to relax at the lodge, and perhaps make use of the swimming pool.

Dinner and overnight at Avatar Amazon Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Avatar Amazon Lodge - Iquitos

This morning, after breakfast, we visit the nearby village of Fatima, where we learn about their traditions, drinks and lifestyle.

Before departing the rainforest, we plant a tree as part of Avatar's **Reforestation Programme**.

We return to the lodge to check out and have lunch.

Then at about 2.30pm, we take the speedboat back to Iquitos.

We arrive back in <u>lquitos</u> at approximately 4pm, and transfer you to the airport or your hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Included:

- Transfers
- Lodging in room with fan & private bathroom
- Meals, as stated
- Water, tea & coffee 24/7
- English-speaking guide
- Excursions
- Wellington boots
- Entrance fees
- Port taxes

Not included:

- Sodas & alcoholic drinks
- Souvenirs
- Tips
- Laundry
- Flights
- Insurance
- Services not mentioned above.