

Grand Amazon Lodge - Become An Amazonian Tour 6 Days / 5 Nights

6D Become An Amazonian Tour Itinerary:

Day 1: Iquitos - Grand Amazon Lodge (L, D)

You will be met by your friendly bilingual guide at Iquitos airport and escorted to a private vehicle. Please note:

- If your flight arrives after 3:00pm, you will need to spend the first night at an Iquitos hotel.
- If you're staying at an Iquitos hotel, pick up is at 11:00am.

We then drive to **CREA** (*Centro de Rescate Amazonico*), more commonly known as the **Manatee Rescue Center**, whose objective is to provide rescue, rehabilitation and release of specimens of aquatic mammals and wildlife in danger in the Peruvian Amazon around Iquitos.

Here you can see - and feed - manatees, various monkey species, giant river otters, yellow-spotted turtles, sometimes sloths and macaws, and other animals.

NB. A picnic lunch will be served either at CREA or on the journey to the lodge, according to timings.

From *CREA*, it is a scenic, hour-long drive to **San Joaquin**, where we board a motorboat to make the journey up the Amazon River and then Yanayacu River to Grand Amazon Lodge.

After about an hour on the motorboat, you will be greeted at the lodge with a jungle refreshment and have time to settle into your private, river-view bungalow with bathroom, balcony, and hammock.

In the late afternoon, you have your first **adventure in the rainforest**, with a hike or a boat ride, in the company of your guide.



This is followed by a delicious Peruvian/international dinner in the beautiful octagonal dining room, with the Canoe Bar and lounge.

After dinner, you can go on a boat ride or a night hike to see **nocturnal animals** such as caimans, bats, frogs, night herons, owls ... and owl monkeys - the only primate in the Amazon active at night.

Overnight at Grand Amazon Lodge.

Day 2: Grand Amazon Lodge: Excursions (B, L, D)

After breakfast at the lodge, you are taken on a hike through the Amazon rainforest on the **Ceiba Tree Trail**. As well as the giant kapok (*Ceiba pentandra*), there are many trees with medicinal and commercial uses, which your guide will point out.

Amongst the abundant fauna you may see on the trail, there are **pygmy marmosets**, the smallest monkeys in the world.

After a delicious lunch back at the lodge, you'll take a boat ride up the Yanayacu river to look for wildlife such as:

- Brown capuchins
- Squirrel monkeys
- Howler monkeys
- Macaws
- Toucans
- Horned screamers
- Varieties of kingfishers
- Varieties of hawks.

When in season, the excursion ends with seeing the *Victoria amazonica*, the largest water lily in the world, and sunset views over the lake.

Once back at the lodge, you have another delicious dinner.



After dinner, if you still have the energy, you can go looking for nocturnal creatures again by boat or on foot. Or you can just relax at the Canoe Bar or in your bungalow.

Day 3: Grand Amazon Lodge: Excursions (B, L, D)

If you want to see the most wildlife possible, let your guide know and he will take you on a pre-breakfast excursion, for the best chances to see wildlife as it wakes up.

After breakfast at the lodge, you'll take a rainforest hike along another of our seven hiking trails, keeping an eye out for iguanas, sloths, anteaters, Hoatzin, and the endangered <u>Wattled Curassow</u>.

After lunch at the lodge, you'll have some great options for the afternoon:

- A boat ride to Sapote Lake to search for more wildlife or go fishing for piranhas.
- A boat excursion to the mouth of the Amazon River to see the pink dolphins.
- A quiet canoe ride to the Amazonian village of San Juan de Yanayacu, where you can:
 - Visit the artisanal market run by the village women
 - Have a beer at their bar house
 - Play football on the central field, surrounded by village houses.

After dinner back at the lodge, if you still have the energy, you can go looking for nocturnal creatures again by boat or on foot. Or you can just relax at the Canoe Bar or in your bungalow.

Day 4: Grand Amazon Lodge: San Pedro Excursion (B, L, D)

After an early breakfast at the lodge, you will head out on a full day excursion to **San Pedro**.

You'll start with a motorboat ride down the Yanayacu River and across the Amazon River to an area of *terra firme* rainforest, which is never flooded by the fluctuating water levels of Amazonia.



Once in San Pedro, you'll take a hike to search for wildlife. This area offers unique biodiversity, with birds and beautifully-coloured poisonous frogs that are not found in flooded forest areas.

Following the hike, you'll take a boat ride to **Porvenir**, a village on the banks of the Amazon River, where you'll have a picnic lunch.

After lunch, you'll get the chance to see how villagers make **rum** from sugar cane. You'll even get a chance to taste it!

You'll return to the lodge after the village visit, and the rest of the afternoon is free for a **siesta or relaxation** in the lounge area.

Dinner at the lodge will be followed by another optional **night excursion**. This is your last night to experience a boat ride or night hike to see the Amazon's nocturnal creatures.

If you've had your fill of Amazonian wildlife, you can always remain at the lodge to unwind at the bar or enjoy one last night on the balcony of your private bungalow.

Day 5: Grand Amazon Lodge: Excursions (B, L, D)

After breakfast at the lodge, you can choose the morning excursion that most tickles you fancy - something new or a particular favourite:

- A visit to the village of San Juan de Yanayacu.
- Piranha fishing
- Canoeing.
- Search for more elusive monkey species, such as Woolly Monkey or Titi Monkey.
- Birdwatching.

Lunch is back at the lodge.



In the afternoon, you can choose another trail or another lake to explore. With seven lakes and seven trails, there is quite a lot of choice ... and species always vary with every visit.

After dinner at the lodge, you have the option of a nocturnal boat ride or night hike.

Day 6: Grand Amazon Lodge - Iquitos (B,L)

After breakfast, take a final hike or boat tour to look for new species on your last day at the lodge.

You'll be back in time for one last tasty lunch at the lodge, before taking the speedboat for the one-hour ride up the Amazon River to *San Joaquin de Omaguas*. Along the way you will have good chances of seeing <u>Grey & Pink River Dolphins</u>, which are often to be found around San Joaquin.

From there, you'll take a private vehicle back to Iquitos, arriving at the airport or your hotel around 4:00pm.

NB. For those needing to catch an earlier flight, the last day plan can be shortened: and the earliest we can make is back to Iquitos airport is 10:00am, to catch a midday flight.

Please note:

- 1. All times and activities in the above itinerary are subject to change, owing to local climatic & logistical conditions.
- 2. You can adjust your activities, according to your interest & ability, in consultation with your private guide.



Included:

- 5 nights in private bungalow at Grand Amazon Lodge
- All meals whilst at lodge (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Private, English-speaking guide
- Excursions as described (or similar)
- Water, fruit, tea & coffee 24 hours p/day

Not Included:

- Services not specified in the programme
- Domestic & International flight tickets
- Extras and tips
- Local and International airport taxes (where applicable)
- Insurance
- Sodas & alcoholic beverages