

# Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge 5D / 4N Itinerary



# **Itinerary**

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

### Day 1: Iquitos - Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge

A guide from Sinchicuy will welcome us at Iquitos Airport, from where we will be transferred to the city.

Along the way, we have a brief tour of the highlights of <u>lquitos</u>, a jungle town that turned from a small, dusty outpost to the most important port city in the Amazon basin in the late 19th Century/early 20th Century, on account of the 'Rubber Boom'.



We board our speedboats, and set sail on the Amazon, the world's largest river, to make the 32 km (20 mile) journey downstream to Sinchicuy Lodge.

On arrival, we check in and then set off on our **EcoCultural Circuit** to explore the Sinchicuy Watershed Ecosystem. This involves a short walk or canoe ride to *Nuevo Peru* where a <u>Yagua</u> community has been established.

Here, we learn something of their customs; see their unique apparel made of palm fibres; and can even try using a *pucuna* (blowgun).



We return to Sinchicuy for lunch. The lodge chefs use many ingredients sourced from the river or local farms.

In the afternoon, we go on an **Ethno-botanic Walk** during which the guides will point out some of the typical plant species of the Amazon, such as *Cat's Claw, Sour Cane, Copaiba, <u>Aguaje</u>* ... and even *Ayahuasca*, a vine that can be distilled into a hallucinogen.

We visit a shaman's house to learn about the specific medical and spiritual uses of the flora of the region.

We then visit a typical Amazon riverside village, **Santa María del Ojeal.** We see a farm which has a rudimentary sugar cane crusher, and fruit orchard, and can interact with villagers as we wander past their houses, schools, churches and shops.

The village has a **sustainable development project** that is made possible by the support of ecotourism.

We can watch the sun set back at the lodge, before heading back into the jungle by canoe or on foot - to enjoy the sounds of the various nocturnal creatures.

We have dinner on return to the lodge, after which the guides will describe some of the many myths and legends of Amazonia.

Overnight at Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner



#### Day 2: Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge: Full day at Yanayacu

After breakfast, we take the speedboat to the opposite side of the Amazon River (known locally as *huashalado*) to begin our Flora & Fauna Programme exploring the primary jungle of **The Yanayacu Watershed Ecosystem**.

From our open boats, we should be able to spot the iconic Amazon River Dolphins.

On arrival at the village of **Huashalado**, we make the short walk to the Yanayacu River, where another boat is waiting to take us into the *Kingdom of the Giant Trees*, so-called on account of the size of some of the 'lupuna' (*Ceiba pentandra*) trees.

This is a favourite site for birds, as the nearby river provides ample fish and the thick forest offers numerous fruits and possibilities for nestling. With luck, we may also spot monkeys moving through the treetops or a sloth hanging from a branch.

We have a picnic lunch in the boat or on the river's edge.

After lunch, we either hike a trail through primary rainforest or take a ride by canoe – depending on the season - to observe more of the flora of this ecosystem, such as the Victoria Regia water lily, which can grow up to 1.8 m (6 ft) in diameter.

On the way back to the lodge, we have the chance to do some native-style fishing, with a simple rod made of bamboo, for piranhas and other species.

Once back at Sinchicuy Lodge, we have the choice of an evening canoe ride or time to relax in a hammock or enjoy a drink at the *Clavohuasca Bar*.

Dinner at Lodge.

Overnight at Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner





# Day 3: Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge: Tree Planting & Fatima Village

Breakfasts at the lodge feature juices and preserves made from fruits grown locally, such as papaya, orange, melon, and cocona.

After this healthy start to the day, we invite guests to plant a tree near the lodge, to assist with **reforestation** ... and leave a tangible memento of your stay.

We then visit the village of **Fatima** to observe various Amazonian species, such as monkeys, achunis, macaws, toucans, boa constrictors and lizards to be found there.

We return to the lodge for lunch.

After a post-prandial rest, we take you on another rainforest expedition, by motorboat or on foot, depending on the water levels.

Dinner & overnight at Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Day 4: Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge: Morphosapi Butterfly Farm

After breakfast, we go by motorboat the village of San Rafael. This is home to the *Morphosapi Butterfly Sanctuary* a 100% community-owned and operated project promotes environmental education and the conservation of the sixteen different species of butterfly that live in the area. It is supported by *IIAP* (Research Institute of the Peruvian Amazon).

After learning about their reproductive cycle, and admiring their beautiful colours and shape, we can release some butterflies into the surrounding rainforest so that they can help the bees in pollinating flowers.

We return to the lodge for lunch.

After a post-prandial rest, we take you on another rainforest expedition, by motorboat or on foot, depending on the water levels.

Dinner & overnight at Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



# Day 5: Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge - Fundo Neiser - Iquitos

After breakfast, we visit the **Fundo Neiser Centre**, a rescue sanctuary for Amazonian animals that have been illegally traded or injured.

Here we can see sloths, monkeys, coatis, macaws, toucans, boas and lizards, among others.

We return to Sinchicuy Lodge for lunch.



At the appropriate time, we take the speedboat back to Iquitos airport or hotel.

End of Services

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

### Included:

- Transfer Iquitos airport or hotel Sinchicuy Lodge Iquitos airport or hotel
- 4 nights' accommodation at Sinchicuy Lodge
- All meals as described
- Excursions as described
- English-speaking guide

### **Not Included:**

- Flight tickets
- Airport taxes
- Tips
- Laundry
- Drinks at the bar
- Personal Expenses
- Insurance