

# Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge & Tambo Yanayacu 4D / 3N 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 - Tambo 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 that can grow to over 50 m (165 ft) in height.

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.

As we continue down the Yanayacu River, we hope to see *kingfishers*, *hawks*, *egrets* and *Hoatzin* (*Opisthocomus hoatzin*) - a colourful bird with pre-historic features. We will also see bromeliads and epiphytes growing in the tree canopy; and the giant *Victoria Regia* water lily, which can grow up to 1.8 m (6 ft) in diameter.

After approximately half an hour, we arrive at **Tambo Yanayacu Lodge**, located on Falcon Creek, 61 km (38 miles) North-East of Iquitos.



We have time on arrival to rest and acquaint ourselves with the new surroundings, before heading out with the guide for a canoe ride or walk around the lodge.

We have lunch on return to the lodge

In the afternoon, we walk to see a giant Ceiba tree, and then to an interesting oxbow lake, home to the Horned Screamer (*Anhima cornuta*) - an eye-catching bird species that feeds on aquatic flora.

We walk back to Yanayacu Lodge for dinner and overnight.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Day 3: Tambo Yanayacu Lodge: Yagua Cocha & Yanayacu Timicuro

Before breakfast, we go on an early morning birdwatching excursion on the Yanayacu River. This is the best time to spot and photograph many bird species, as they feed on the river banks or dive into the water hunting for fish.

Breakfast back at the Lodge.

This morning, we visit **Yagua Cocha**. During the low water season - approximately July to November - we walk a trail to get there.

We are rewarded with one of the largest and most beautiful lakes in the area. Locals can be seen fishing. If you wish, you can join them on their canoes, as they paddle to the best fishing spots.

This is another good area to see Hoatzin, on the trees around the lake.

Lunch back at the Lodge.



After lunch, we make a trip to the other side of the Yanayacu River in order to visit a local village, *Yanayacu Timicuro*. We will be on the lookout for animals - particularly sloths - on the way there and back.

Return to the Lodge for rest and dinner.

After dinner, we can explore the jungle in darkness, either by canoe or on foot, in the company of the guide who can recognise the various sounds.

Overnight at Amazonas Sinchicuy Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 4: Tambo Yanayacu - Fundo Neiser - Sinchicuy Lodge - 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
- 1 nights' accommodation at Sinchicuy Lodge
- 2 nights' accommodation at Tambo Yanayacu 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