

# AMAZON

THE GREATEST VOYAGE IN NATURAL HISTORY ABOARD THE AMAZON'S FINEST RIVERBOAT

**MARCH 25-APRIL 3, 2016** 









Knowledgeable local naturalists ensure you learn about the Amazon's plants, wildlife, people and history.



Earth's largest water lily, Victoria Regia, can only be found growing wild in the Amazon.

# **Defining the Amazon Experience for 35 Years**

Beyond the inland port of Iquitos, the Amazon landscape changes dramatically from bustling frontier town to encompassing wilderness. Boarding International Expeditions' riverboat, *La Estrella Amazonica*, allows you to travel past the reaches of civilization and deep into the heart of the living rainforest. More than 1,300 species of birds, 40,000 plant species, grey and pink river dolphins and an abundance of primates can be found in the lush, ever-changing jungle we know simply as "The Amazon."

While outsiders rarely visit the villages scattered along the riverbanks, our guests — under the guidance of naturalists who were born and reared in similar villages — are greeted like family while visiting local schools and a revered Shaman.

IE's three decades of insight and expertise ensure you become fully immersed in the living labyrinth of forests, wildlife and people along the river. The purpose-built *La Estrella Amazonica* offers unrivaled comfort while allowing IE guests to responsibly travel further into the ever-smaller waterways and increasingly remote corners of the Upper Amazon Basin. This is the wilderness you can truly only experience and understand when traveling with the pioneer in Amazon travel.

"Every aspect of the voyage was well-planned and stress free for us. All of the hassles of traveling were gone. We were able to experience the Amazon rainforest — something most people only dream about."









# Get to Know All the Amazon's Inhabitants

The Peruvian Amazon's sprawling tangle of rivers, creeks, forests and lagoons is not only home to an astounding diversity of wildlife, it is also home to an extraordinary culture of Ribereños people. On daily guided excursions we explore the fascinating relationship of this river and the inhabitants who live perched along its banks.





# The Atmosphere Pulsates with a Chorus of Life

From huge ringed kingfishers to prehistoric hoatzins and chattering parrots, our daily nature excursions observe enough birdlife to engross even the most avid birder. You may even be lucky enough to see squirrel and howler monkeys, marmosets and tamarins, which hide in the forest's dark depths. Since IE is the only company exploring three separate habitats, including the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve, our guests observe more species than any other Amazon travelers. Keep your camera ready!







# Join "Old Friends" to Preserve the Amazon

Our naturalists grew up in these river villages and IE is proud to have built deep friendships in this region over the past 35 years. This means you'll be greeted like family while learning about the schools, medicinal plants and traditional ceremonies. Plus, you may have an opportunity to see how choosing IE makes a positive impact while visiting schools where we've provided point-of-use water filtration systems.

More Travelers Trust Their Amazon Experience to IE Than Any Other Company Whether you are looking for the most authentic way to explore the rainforest or simply want the expertise only the pioneer in Amazon travel can provide, no other travel company has taken more guests into the depths of the Peruvian Amazon over the past three

# Excursion Boats Built for Wildlife Observation

IE's spacious excursion boats feature cushioned open seating down both sides, rather than forward-facing bench seating found on other tours. This allows you to move around, enjoying the best wildlife sightings. Our open seating grants our naturalist guides the flexibility to move around the excursion boat, pointing out species in your field guide book, and providing you with ample personal attention.

### **Local Experts**

IE's seasoned local naturalists and Expedition Leaders offer an authentic nature experience like no other. These hand-selected professionals are not only highly trained and educated, but passionate about their homeland and proud to provide unrivaled access to the rainforest. Why travel with an American tour leader when you can have local experts?



### Your Home on the River

Aboard IE's custom-designed La Estrella Amazonica you enjoy access to the deepest reaches of the Peruvian Amazon without sacrificing comfort. Our riverboat was purpose-built for Amazon exploration and offers private balconies for every cabin, a Fitness Room and the river's largest Observation Deck. Each generous cabin is air conditioned with private baths and decorated using textiles from Amazonian tribes.

# Amazon Voyage 10-DAY EXPEDITION ITINERARY

**Day 1 • Friday** ARRIVE LIMA Fly independently to Lima, Peru and overnight at the Swissôtel. (D Aloft)

Day 2 • Saturday LIMA / IQUITOS /
EMBARK RIVERBOAT / AMAZON RIVER
Fly over the Andes to Iquitos, where
we enjoy an encounter at the Manatee
Research Center and survey the history
of local tribes at a small museum.
Board our riverboat, home for seven
days. Enjoy stargazing and storytelling
with our local guides while cruising
slowly on the Amazon River toward the
confluence of the Marañón and Ucayali
Rivers. (B,L,D)

Day 3 • Sunday ORIGIN OF THE AMAZON RIVER / RÍO UCAYALI Wake to the everchanging panorama of jungle life. Our first exploration, at the origin of this mighty river, navigates the waterways aboard stable excursion boats to areas where we may find marsh birds such as oriole blackbirds, green ibis and yellow-headed caracaras. Venture into the flooded *varzea* in search of a variety of birds, giant water lilies, monkeys and sloths. (B,L,D)

Day 4 • Monday RÍO UCAYALI /
PACAYA-SAMIRIA RESERVE Explore
this tangled realm of forest, rivers and
lagoons on foot and aboard excursion
boats, looking for pink dolphins and
wading birds. Our naturalists share
local lore and explain how pink river
dolphins use sound to hunt. While
exploring, look for monk saki and
squirrel monkeys. (B,L,D)



# samiria reserve This morning, enjoy a peaceful breakfast along the blackwater Sapote Creek. Excursion boats grant us deeper access to this vast wetland as we continue to the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve. At night, board excursion boats and perhaps walk in the rainforest for a chance to find caimans, capybaras, common potoos, frogs, fishing bats and

nocturnal wildlife. (B,L,D)

Day 5 • Tuesday RÍO PACAYA / PACAYA-

PACAYA-SAMIRIA RESERVE Once reaching the depths of the reserve we hike through the *igapó* (seasonally flooded forest). Periodically throughout the year, guests may even release turtle hatchlings. On an afternoon excursion we search for scarlet macaws, hoatzins, black-collared hawks and red howler monkeys. (B,L,D)







Day 7 • Thursday RÍO UCAYALI / PACAYA-SAMIRIA RESERVE Learn about the lives of the Ribereño people as we visit a village perched on the riverbanks. Stroll through their gardens learning about medicinal plants from the village shaman, visit a school or join in a game of soccer. Depending on the villages visited during your voyage, you may also have the opportunity to see an IEfunded water treatment tower. The clean drinking water provided by these towers is having an enormous positive health impact in remote river villages. (B,L,D)

Day 8 • Friday AMAZON RIVER
Enjoy an early morning birdwatching excursion along the Yarapa River.
After breakfast, try your hand at piranha fishing in Ubos Lake. Back aboard our ship, take advantage of the open-air top deck, learning to make Peruvian dishes or enjoying a lecture.
After dark, while sipping a cup of ginger tea, float peacefully and listen to the symphony of sound from the forest. (B,L,D)

Day 9 • Saturday IQUITOS / LIMA / DEPART Disembark in Iquitos and fly back to Lima for lunch. Dayrooms are provided until you connect with overnight flights home. (B,L)

Day 10 • Sunday ARRIVE HOME Connect with flights home. (Meals Aloft)



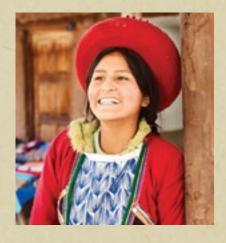
Day 9 • Saturday IQUITOS / LIMA Fly from Iquitos to Lima and overnight at the Costa de Sol. (B,L)

Day 10 • Sunday LIMA / CUSCO / URUBAMBA VALLEY Fly to Cusco — the heart of the Inca Empire. Drive into the historic Urubamba Valley, stopping in Chinchero to browse Andean handicrafts. Visit the Urubamba Market and spend tonight at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)

Days 11 & 12 • Monday & Tuesday

MACHU PICCHU Board the train to Machu Picchu, where we spend the afternoon exploring the ruins. Spend the next two nights at the Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 13 • Wednesday OLLANTAYTAMBO / SACSAYHUAMÁN / CUSCO Catch the morning train back to the Sacred Valley. Explore the mighty archaeological wonder of Ollantaytambo, where ancient temples and fortresses were built to protect the Sacred Valley. After a Paso Fino horse show at Wayra Ranch, continue to Cusco. We stop at Sacsayhuamán — a huge fortress of massive stones which zigzags across the side of the mountain. Spend tonight at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)



Day 14 • Thursday CUSCO Stroll the streets of Cusco, exploring the Koricancha — also known as Santo Domingo, Santa Catalina Convent and the Cathedral. The afternoon is free to explore on your own before a farewell dinner featuring Andean fare. Return to the Aranwa Hotel for the night. (B,L,D)

Day 15 • Friday CUSCO / LIMA / EN ROUTE Fly back across the Andes to Lima. Enjoy a superb lunch of local delicacies before an afternoon at leisure. Dayrooms are available at the Swissôtel. Transfer to the airport this evening for flights home. (B,L)

Day 16 • Saturday ARRIVE
Arrive and connect with your flight
home. (Meals Aloft)





**Explore** expedition-style aboard spacious, **comfortable excursion boats** or try IE's 15 **Hobie kayaks** for up-close encounters with jungle wildlife and the winding waterways.

**Sample** local delicacies and international favorites — including fresh fruits and vegetables purchased along the river. Large windows in the Dining Room, mean you'll never miss a dramatic sunset.



**Unwind** with a cup of Peruvian coffee on your cabin's **private balcony** — ideal for staying surrounded by the symphony of tree frogs and birdlife while contemplating your day.

A covered, open-air bar stocks bottled water, sodas, wine, local beer and your favorite cocktails. Cushy seating and overhead fans make this an ideal place to relax or chat with your guides and fellow passengers.



## **Unrivaled Expedition Experiences**

Our newly constructed riverboat is not just a new place to stay; it offers you a new way to navigate the mysteries of the Amazon. Imagine stargazing from our purpose-built Observation Deck, the largest of any boat on the Amazon, learning about the stars of the Southern constellations or chatting about local folklore. After drifting down narrow tributaries aboard our sturdy excursion boats or hiking through thick jungle, relax in the enhanced Lecture Room. Each night, guides hold discussions on the history, geography and wildlife in air-conditioned comfort. Evening guides' receptions include not only a complimentary Peruvian specialty cocktail, wine, beer or soda, but a chance to be entertained as the boat's crew plays traditional music.



## **Modern Comfort in the Wild**

La Estrella Amazonica is designed to offer you an unprecedented personal experience in this untamed frontier. Spacious, air-conditioned cabins — each approximately 220 sq. ft. — feature floor-to-ceiling windows and private balconies, so you are constantly surrounded by rainforest vistas. Cabin interiors feature furniture hand-crafted by Peruvian artisans, plush linens and roomy private baths.

























# A Day in the Life: The Greatest Voyage in Natural History

Each day in the Amazon is a new adventure, and IE's seasoned guides have years of experience adjusting each day's schedule to make the most of changing seasons, wildlife sightings and local festivities. While the daily itinerary may vary, the events of a typical day on the Amazon River follow a similar pattern.

**6:30 AM** Our naturalists know the best time to observe some of the Amazon's 1,800 species is just before dawn, and they are happy to join you on the Observation Deck for optional bird-watching.

**8:00 AM** Start your day with fresh exotic fruits purchased in villages along the river, along with a strong cup of Peruvian coffee.

**9:00 AM** Head into narrow Amazon tributaries aboard sturdy excursion boats. Watch for birdlife and primates as you glide down narrow tributaries. Lucky guests may also encounter friendly local fishermen bringing their catch to market.

**12:00 PM** The lunch buffet offers something for every taste and a delicious array of ice cream — we recommend the *lucuma*.

**1:00 PM** *Siesta* time is perfect for relaxing or reading in common areas or on your private balcony.

**2:00 PM** Afternoon excursions include a refreshing dip in Amazonian waters, wildlife viewing and a visit to a Ribereño village. IE intentionally varies village visits to ensure an authentic experience.

**6:00 PM** Is your favorite band the "Chunky Monkeys" or maybe "Johnny & the Howlers"? IE's crew entertains each night, playing both traditional music and unexpected favorites – like The Beatles - on Peruvian instruments.

**7:15 PM** Lively conversation is coupled with delicious Peruvian and Continental fare to make meal times a special experience.

**8:30 PM** Settle into the comfy Lecture Room for a briefing on the history, geography and wildlife of the Amazon by our highly educated local naturalists.

**9:00 PM** Board IE's spacious excursion boats for a nighttime foray into the rainforest and tributaries. Our guides are experts at spotting the glowing red eyes of caimans in the water!

- Four cabins on each deck (13&15; 14&16; 23&25; 24&26) can easily be converted to create two adjoining suites — ideal for families.
- Guides' reception with a complimentary Peruvian cocktail, wine, beer or soda onboard daily.
- Covered, open-air bar stocks complimentary cold bottled water, sodas and wine and local beer for purchase.
- For excursions, board two 18-passenger excursion boats accompanied by knowledgeable local naturalists.
- Ship built following SOLAS and MARPOL international guidelines, and exceeds Peruvian safety standards.
- International environmental standards guided all the most environmentally responsible boat on

2 Triple Cabins / Suites (Cabins 14&24)

1 Dedicated Solo Cabin (Cabin 12)

4 Adjoining Cabins Each Deck

(upon request)

Ship's Registry: Peru

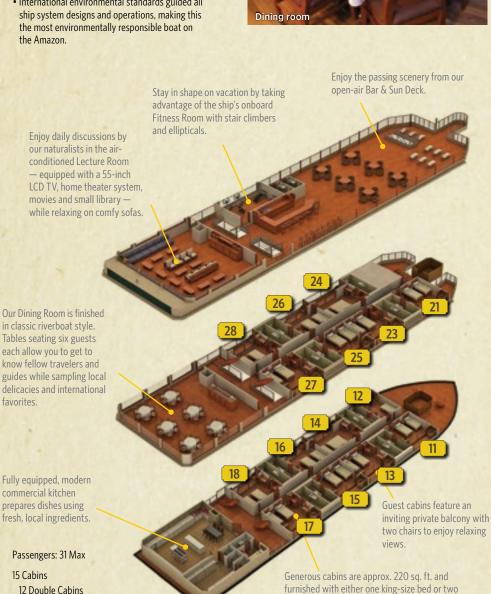


beds, two nightstands and a desk. Your entire

communities. Plus, cabins offer a closet with

ample storage and three 220 volt outlets.

cabin is accented with textiles and art from local



### 🛪 MARCH 25-APRIL 3, 2016

LOWER DECK PER PERSON	11	
Double Occupancy	.\$4,498	
Single Occupancy	. \$6,747	
Solo Cabin (Cabin 12)	.\$4,498	
Suite Double Occupancy	\$4,698	
Suite Triple Occupancy	. \$3,745	
UPPER DECK PER PERSON		
Double Occupancy	\$4,698	
Single Occupancy	.\$6,947	
Suite Double Occupancy	\$4,898	
Suite Triple Occupancy	. \$3,915	
In-Country Airfare		
in-country annale is subject to change and must be purchased throughte.		

### Machu Picchu & Cusco Extension APRIL 3-9, 2016

Double Occupancy	
Park Fee	

Park fees and in-country airfare are subject to change. In-country airfare must be purchased through IE

#### What's Included

- · Full educational program with lectures & field interpretation
- Guides' receptions onboard with complimentary beer, specialty Peruvian cocktail, soft drink & wine
- All scheduled transportation by land & boat
- Local village & school visits
- Cooking demonstration
- · Scientist-led encounter with manatees
- Accompaniment of experienced Expedition Leader
- All excursions accompanied by Englishspeaking naturalist guides.
- Complete pre-departure information to help you get the most out of your expedition.
- · All meals onboard
- All transfers, porterage & service charges.
- Complimentary on-board laundry
- In summary, everything except international and in-country airfare; U.S. domestic and international departure taxes; ticketing fee; fuel surcharge; passport fees; tips to guides, Expedition Leader and crew; and items of a personal nature.

Final Payment due 90 days prior to departure. \$600 per person deposit required for main program. \$150 per person deposit required for extension.

Cancellations: \$300 per person penalty from time of booking until 90 days prior to departure. 50% of trip price per person from 89-61 days prior to departure. 100% of trip cost per person from 60-0 days prior to departure.

Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. CST:2045230-20



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ABOARD THE AMAZON'S FINEST NEW RIVERBOAT



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