

Amazon River Cruise - Amazon Star

5-day exploration of the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, in the Peruvian Amazon



The Amazon Rainforest accounts for over half of the world's remaining rainforest, encompassing much of Peru, Colombia and Brazil. The life force of this vast ecosystem is the Amazon River, which, extends across the northern half of the Latin American continent from its source in Peru, supporting over 5.5 million km squared of rainforest. This 5-day cruise itinerary takes you deep into the Peruvian Amazon, as you explore the labyrinthine waterways of the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, named after the two tributaries of the Amazon River that flow through the area – the Pacaya and the Samiria.

The cruise takes place on the Amazon Star, a mid-sized deluxe cruise boat. The Amazon Star features 5 upper deck and 7 lower deck cabins, as well as 2 spacious suites. All cabins have large picture windows for admiring the views, airconditioning and private en suite facilities. Each cabin has its own private balcony with seating.

The communal areas include an indoor and outdoor bar, a dining room, lecture room and an observation deck where guests can relax and enjoy the passing scenery. The experienced guides and boat crew are happy to share their



cooking skills, give briefings on daily excursions and informal lectures about the wildlife, flora and indigenous tribes.

Your Financial Protection



Day 1 - Arrive Iquitos, board Amazon Star

On arrival in Iquitos you'll be met by a boat representative and taken to visit some of city's varied attractions, starting with the Amazon Rescue Center (CREA), a foundation dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of manatees.

Your tour will continue with a visit to the Museum of Amazonian Indigenous Cultures for an insight into the lifestyle and ceremonial wear of the Amazon's traditional inhabitants. You'll also explore Casa Morey, now a boutique hotel, but originally a home built in 1913 by rubber baron Luis Morey. It is a wonderful example of the ostentatious architectural style that was popular during the rubber boom era.

After your tour, transfer to the port from where the Amazon Star sets sail. There will be an orientation and safety talk, as you begin to navigate the Amazon River.



Day 2 - Yarapa River explorations

Early in the morning you can head to the deck for bird watching. Peru contains over 1,800 bird species, of which over 400 are found in the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve. After breakfast you'll head onto the river in a smaller boat to discover some of the unique flora and fauna found on the river bank – keep an eye out for spider monkeys, sloths and caiman – before returning to the Amazon Star for lunch.

Following lunch and a talk about life in the Amazon, you depart again by small boat, continuing to explore the Yarapa River, a tributary of the Ucayali River.

Overnight on board the Amazon Star.

Day 3 - Yanallpa Stream/El Dorado River

Early this morning you sail to Yanallpa, a beautiful stream near the Ucayali River. After breakfast, visit a school and a local town where you will learn about the culture and traditions in the Amazon. There will also be the opportunity to purchase some handicrafts. Back on the boat you'll have a relaxing lunch while watching the world go by. For those who want to learn more, the naturalist guide will offer a talk on the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve.

This evening you can take a night walk along the El Dorado stream in search of nocturnal species; if you don't see them you'll certainly hear them!



Day 4 - El Dorado River/Supay Stream

Before breakfast journey out onto the El Dorado River and go fishing for the most famous of Pacaya Samiria's 256 fish species - the piranha.







Your journey then continues along the river – keep an eye out for endangered river turtles, monkeys and various birds flying overhead as you progress. After lunch you may wish to take a cookery class from the boats' chef; alternatively continue relaxing on deck and enjoying the views.

Later this afternoon you can explore Supay Stream by kayak, before returning to the Star for dinner and rest.



Day 5 - Disembark in Nauta and transfer to Iquitos Airport

Wake early this morning and disembark in Nauta by 6am. Breakfast will be taken en route to the airport in Iquitos, where you board your regional flight to connect with your international flight home.

NOTE – A version of this itinerary is also available for 4 days/3 nights, or a longer itinerary for 8 days/7 nights, which will include the opportunity to swim with pink river dolphins, as well as further kayaking and deeper jungle exploration. Please contact us for more information.

Price Guide:

The cost of this itinerary is from **£2,055 per person**, based on twin share and subject to availability at the time of booking. For more information, or if you would like to enquire about a tailor-made holiday combining part or all of the above itinerary, please <u>contact us</u>.

Includes:

- Arrival and departure airport transfers
- Naturalist and guides for excursions
- All entrance fees to the sites mentioned in the itinerary
- o All meals while onboard the Amazon Star
- Soft drinks, local wine and beer during meals
- o Pacava Samiria Nature Reserve fees
- Entrance to the Amazon Rescue Centre
- 4 nights in a lower deck cabin contact us for upgrade prices

Excludes:

- International and internal air fares
- Travel insurance please ask for a quote
- Items of a personal nature
- o Tips
- o Additional drinks



