The Greatest Voyage in Natural History Aboard the new La Estrella Amazonica

Giscover



# **Creating Amazon Experiences for 34 Years**



Classic style and modern amenities blend as you traverse the wilderness aboard International Expeditions' inviting, custom-built riverboat, the new *La Estrella Amazonica*.



Fish for piranha and learn about the fish's undeserved reputation.

Beyond the inland port of Iquitos, the Amazon landscape changes dramatically from bustling frontier town to encompassing wilderness. Boarding International Expeditions' new 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 are greeted like family while visiting local schools and a revered Shaman under the guidance of naturalists who were born and reared in similar villages.

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 Estralla 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."

Monica M. DeGrauwe of Clinton, Illinois

Explore the Amazon's tributaries



Visit our website to see rece www.IEtravel.com/Amazon





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## 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!







The Ribereño People Greet Us Like an Old Friend Returning Home

Our naturalists grew up in these river villages and IE is proud to have built deep friendships in this region over the past 34 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 one of the water treatment plants we've built. Showing off the catch of the da

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 decades.

#### Creating Amazon Experiences for 34 Years

IE pioneered Amazon travel and has been operating in the Peruvian Amazon since 1981. Since the debut of our Amazon Voyage in 1994 more than 30,000 guests have entrusted their adventures to IE. It is these three decades of insight and expertise that ensure the mysteries of the Amazon come alive.

#### **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.

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Signature Expedition

# AMAZON VOYAGE THE GREATEST VOYAGE IN NATURAL HISTORY

# 10 Days from \$4,398

"I thoroughly enjoyed the Amazon, from seeing wildlife to learning about the river people. I was very impressed with the individual attention which began when we were met in Lima and continued to the end of the trip. Also impressive was the many skills of the IE staff — cooking, guiding, playing musical instruments, singing, handling people and children. The Amazon Voyage was far beyond my expectations."

Mina Nokes of Bedford, New York

**10-DAY ITINERARY IN BRIEF** » Details online at www.IEtravel.com/Amazon

Day 1 • Friday U.S. / LIMA Fly independently to Lima, and overnight at the Swissôtel. (Meals Aloft)

Day 2 • Saturday LIMA / IQUITOS / EMBARK Enjoy an enriching tour of Lima, visiting Casa Aliaga, a private home dating back to the Conquistadors. Explore the Cathedral, Plaza de Armas and the monastery and catacombs of the Iglesia de San Francisco. Fly over the Andes to Iquitos, where we board our riverboat. Cruise slowly toward the confluence marking the beginning of the Amazon River, where your small group spends the night. (B,L,D)

Days 3-8 • Sunday-Friday **AMAZON RIVER & TRIBUTARIES** Spend the next six nights aboard our comfortable riverboat navigating deep into the tributaries of the Amazon — a web of forests and lakes that pulsates with a chorus of birdlife, far-off calls of primates and flash of butterflies. Enjoy unprecedented access to three habitats, varzea, igapó and palm flooded forest, including the deep reaches of the protected Pacaya-Samiria Reserve, for the greatest diversity of wildlife sightings. Nighttime excursions may reveal caimans, capybaras, common potoos, frogs and other nocturnal wildlife. Periodically throughout the

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year, guests may even release turtle hatchlings.

IE's daily excursions include pre-dawn birding, enriching lectures, school visits in local villages and even piranha fishing! Learn about the lives of the Ribereño people as we visit villages perched along the riverbanks. This is a fantastic opportunity to stroll through their gardens learning about medicinal plants from a local shaman. Depending on the villages visited during your voyage, you may also see an IE-funded water treatment tower.

Relax under the stars while the "house" band entertains with traditional Peruvian music and popular tunes. Pointing out details no guidebook could provide are your "family" of world-class naturalists and a local expedition leader, while an attentive crew ensures world-class service in the wild. (B,L,D Daily)

#### Day 9 • Saturday IQUITOS / LIMA / DEPART

In the morning we disembark in Iquitos. Enjoy a tour of this frontier city before visiting the IEfunded Las Malvinas Urban Garden project. After lunch, fly back to Lima and connect with your independent overnight flight home. (B,L)

**Day 10 • Sunday ARRIVE U.S.** Connect with flights home. (Meals Aloft)



### EXTEND YOUR STAY

Combine your Amazon Voyage with Machu Picchu & Cusco, more time in Lima, rainforest lodges or a private extension.

**CALL FOR DETAILS** 

### 🛪 2014 DEPARTURES

Jan 17, 24, 31	May 9, 30	Oct 3, 17, 24
Feb 7, 14, 21, 28	Jun 20	Nov 14, 21, 28
Mar 7, 14, 28	Jul 4, 18	Dec 19, 26
Apr 4, 25	Aug 15, 29	N. L. C.

#### LOWER DECK

\$4,398
\$6,647
.\$4,398
\$4,598
.\$3,665
.\$5,005
.\$5,005
\$4,598
\$4,598

\$150 discount for kids 7-18 Kids discount not valid on December departures.

Limited cabins available for solo travelers on every departure, some with no single supplement fee — a savings of \$2,249. Call for availability.

#### **On All Departures**

In-Country Airfare ......\$368 In-country airfare is subject to change and must be purchased through IE.

International Expeditions' experienced travel planners can easily assist you with the purchase of your airfare, travel protection plan or other travel needs.

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Visit to a remote ranger station used for scientific study
- Guided tours, lectures & field interpretation by local naturalists
- Fully escorted by an experienced expedition leader & two local naturalists
- Wildlife excursions on land & by skiff in three habitats: varzea, igapó and palm flooded forest
- Piranha fishing
- Pre-dawn birding
- Local village & school visits

- Nighttime skiff explorations & rainforest walks
- Cooking demonstrations
- Complimentary laundry service
- Guides' reception with complimentary wine & beer onboard daily
- All onboard meals
- Blessing ceremony with a local Shaman
- Tours of colonial Lima & Iquitos
- Tips to porters & waiters for included meals
- Arrival & departure transfers

**Expedition Price Does Not Include:** Airfare, passport and visa fees, park fees, items of a personal nature, and tips to naturalist guide, crew and expedition leader.



# Signature Expedition **AMAZON RIVERBOAT** + RAINFOREST LODGE

**2014 DEPARTURES** APR 11, 15 AUG 8, 12 NOV 7, 11

# 7 Days from \$3,298

» Details online at www.IEtravel.com/Amazon-Rainforest

NO TWO BENDS IN THE AMAZON RIVER ARE THE SAME, and this option offers travelers the quintessential opportunity to explore two very different parts of the legendary Amazon rainforest. Guests combine three nights on the river aboard the new La Estrella Amazonica with time at the distinct Ceiba Tops Lodge, Explore from above on the Canopy Walkway, where you ascend ten stories above the rainforest floor for a look at life in this seemingly endless canopy. Other highlights include a visit to Monkey Island Reserve and opportunity to meet the Yagua Indians.



**7-DAY ITINERARY IN BRIEF** » Details online at www.IEtravel.com/Amazon-Rainforest

Day 1 U.S. / LIMA Fly independently to Lima and overnight at the Costa del Sol Ramada. (Meals Aloft)

Day 2 LIMA / IQUITOS / MONKEY ISLAND Fly to Iquitos and head to Monkey Island, a private reserve. Board La Estrella Amazonica, our home for three nights. (B,L,D)

Day 3 AMAZON RIVER & **TRIBUTARIES** Awake on the Amazon River, seeing a panorama of rainforest, small villages and narrow tributaries. Watch for marsh birds and stroll through a river village. Try your hand at piranha fishing, with a chance to snack on the day's catch. (B,L,D)

Day 4 NEYSER'S RESERVE / AMAZON MEDICAL CLINIC / AMAZON LIBRARY After an early morning excursion, visit a private reserve where rainforest birds and animals that have been injured are brought to be rehabilitated. In a small Yagua village, learn about the tribe's smallscale agriculture, fishing and craft-making skills. Stop by the Amazon Medical Clinic operated by former IE traveler, Dr. Linnea Smith, as well as a local library. (B,L,D)

Day 5 CANOPY WALKWAY / **CEIBA TOPS** At a market browse stalls of rainforest fruits, vegetables and other household products traded among locals from different villages. Board boats and head onto the Napo River to a trailhead which takes us to the Canopy Walkway. IE conceived and funded the building of this system of suspended pathways and platforms in 1992. Ascend the walkway, emerging above the seemingly endless canopy. Visit an Enthnobotanical Garden, where over 240 medicinal plants are cultivated by a local Shaman, who explains natural healing and uses of the plants. Spend tonight at Ceiba Tops Lodge. (B,L,D)

Day 6 CEIBA TOPS / IQUITOS / LIMA / EN ROUTE Fly to Lima, where we tour the Cathedral, Plaza de Armas and the monastery and catacombs of the Igelsia de San Francisco. Enjoy dayrooms at the Swissôtel before transferring to the airport. (B,L)

Day 7 U.S. Arrive in the U.S. and meet your connecting flights. (Meals Aloft)



Blue-and-gold macaw

# Signature Expedition **AMAZON +** MACHU PICCHU

## 16 Days from \$7,396

FROM THE SPLENDOR OF ICONIC MACHU PICCHU to the vast expanse of green spreading out from all sides of the Amazon River, this journey combines two of Peru's most glorious monuments. Dedicated local naturalists and historians ensure you experience a true glimpse of life along the river and in the high reaches of the Andes.

"Johnny, Segundo and Renzo in the Amazon and Angel in the Andes made every aspect of the expedition very personal. We returned home feeling like we really got to know Peru. Like Arnold says: 'We'll be back.'"

Robert Marshall of Arcadia, Michigan

» Find complete extension details and pricing at www.IEtravel.com/Amazon



**16-DAY ITINERARY IN BRIEF** » Details online at www.IEtravel.com/Amazon

Day 1 U.S. / LIMA, PERU Fly independently to Lima, Peru, and overnight at the Swissôtel. (D Aloft)

Day 2 LIMA / IQUITOS / **EMBARK AMAZON RIVERBOAT** Tour Lima before flying to lauitos to embark our riverboat. (B,L,D)

Days 3-8 AMAZON RIVER & **TRIBUTARIES** Spend six nights on the tributaries of the Amazon. Daily excursions include pre-dawn birding, enriching daily lectures, school visits in local villages and even piranha fishing! (B,L,D Daily)

Day 9 IQUITOS / LIMA Enjoy a tour of Iquitos, stopping at the Las Malvinas garden project. Fly to Lima, and overnight at the Costa del Sol. (B,L)

Day 10 CUSCO / URUBAMBA **VALLEY** Fly to Cusco. Drive into the Urubamba Valley, stopping in Chinchero and the Urubamba Market. Overnight at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)

Days 11 & 12 MACHU **PICCHU** Spend two days roaming through this ancient



citadel, with both guided tours and time on our own. Wake early and hike to the Sun Gate or enjoy birding in the gardens surrounding the Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. (B,L,D Daily)

Day 13 OLLANTAYTAMBO / SACSAYHUAMÁN / CUSCO Catch the morning train back to the Sacred Valley. Explore the ancient fortress of Ollantaytambo. After a Paso Fino horse show at Wayra Ranch, continue toward Cusco. We stop at Sacsayhuamán — a fortress of massive stones. Spend two nights at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 14 CUSCO Explore the Koricancha sun temple, Santa Catalina Convent and the Cathedral. You have a free afternoon before a farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 15 LIMA / DEPART Fly back to Lima. Enjoy lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Dayrooms are available at the Swissôtel. Transfer to the airport this evening for flights home. (B,L)

Day 16 U.S. Arrive in the U.S. and connect with your flight home. (Meals Aloft)

# **WELCOME ABOARD!**

La Estrella Amazonica

**Classic Style and Modern Amenities Are Yours in the Wilderness** 





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



**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. Plush seating and overhead fans make this an ideal place to relax.



## **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 complimentary wine and beer, 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.













Stay in shape on vacation by taking advantage of the ship's onboard Fitness Room with stair climbers, stationary bikes and weights. Enjoy the passing scenery from our open-air Bar & Sun Deck.



Sample local delicacies and international favorites — including fresh fruits and vegetables purchased along the river. Large windows mean you'll never miss a dramatic sunset. naturalists in the air-conditioned Lecture Room — equipped with a 55-inch LCD TV, home theater system, movies and small library — while relaxing on comfy sofas.

Enjoy daily discussions by our

Our Dining Room is finished in classic riverboat style with gracious wooden floors and large windows. Tables seating 6-8 guests each allow you to get to know fellow travelers and guides.



Whether you're planning an extraordinary getaway to celebrate a milestone event or have a group of friends who love traveling together, why not charter our Amazon riverboat? IE can offer special benefits for small groups of 10 or more or on private charters!

See page 75 to learn more.

Fully equipped, modern commercial kitchen prepares dishes using fresh, local ingredients.

Passengers: 31 Max Ship's Registry: Peru

15 Cabins 12 Double Cabins 2 Triple Cabins / Suites 1 Dedicated Solo Cabin 4 Adjoining Cabins Each Deck (upon request) Guest cabins feature an inviting private balcony with two chairs to enjoy relaxing views.

Generous cabins are approx. 220 sq. ft. and furnished with either one king-size bed or two beds, two nightstands and a desk. Your entire cabin is accented with textiles and art from local communities. Plus, cabins offer a closet with ample storage and three 220 volt outlets.





















# 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 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 the "Johny & the Red 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 sturdy 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!