

Full Itinerary

THE ADVENTUROUS AMAZON RIVER CRUISE



TALK TO OUR WELL
TRAVELLED TEAM OF
EXPERTS

Toll Free US and
Canada: 1 (855)
342-4127

Office open: Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 8:00pm, Friday 9:00am -
5:30pm (London time). Call
answered 24/7



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 2

DESTINATION:

The Adventurous Amazon River Cruise

DURATION:

9 Days/ 8 Nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Please arrange your flights into Lima Airport
[LIM] on Day 1 and to depart from Iquitos
Airport [IQT] on Day 9

PICKUP LOCATION:

Lima Airport [LIM]

OVERVIEW

May 08 - 16, 2026

Join us as we cruise down the Amazon River on our private, all-inclusive charter, immersing ourselves in the breathtaking Wildlife, Wilderness, and Indigenous Wonders of this extraordinary region.

Step into the world's largest and most biodiverse rainforest on an extraordinary journey aboard the exclusive luxurious Pure Amazon riverboat. From the bustling city of Iquitos to remote riverside villages and pristine blackwater streams, experience the Amazon like never before — encountering vibrant wildlife, engaging with indigenous communities, and immersing yourself in the rhythms of this magical ecosystem. Whether you're birdwatching at sunrise, kayaking through tranquil waterways, or sharing stories over a gourmet meal, every moment promises wonder and discovery.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Welcome to Lima

DAY 2 - All Aboard your Amazon Riverboat

DAY 3 - The Call of the Amazon

DAY 4 - Exploring the Pacaya Wilderness

DAY 5 - Raptors, Rainforest & River People

DAY 6 - Markets, River Life & Time to Unwind

DAY 7 - From Dawn to Dusk: Wildlife Encounters & Starry Skies

DAY 8 - Village Voices & Jungle Mirrors

DAY 9 - Farewell to the Amazon... Anyone Up for Machu Picchu?

FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO LIMA

Tonight, we'll be staying overnight at the airport hotel so that we can travel together as a group to Iquitos Airport. From there, we'll transfer directly to the boat and begin our incredible journey cruising along the Amazon River.

Take this evening to relax, settle in, and get ready for the amazing adventure that lies ahead!

Included meals: None

Accommodation: Costa Del Sol, Wyndham Grand Lima Airport Hotel

DAY 2 - ALL ABOARD YOUR AMAZON RIVERBOAT

After breakfast, we check out and make our way to the airport for our flight to Iquitos. Following a short journey, you'll receive a warm welcome before being transferred by road to the remote riverside town of Nauta. Here, your Amazon adventure truly begins as you step aboard the luxurious Pure Amazon riverboat – your comfortable floating home for the next few days of discovery.

Settle into your private suite, thoughtfully designed to immerse you in the rainforest's beauty without sacrificing comfort. Enjoy panoramic floor-to-ceiling windows that offer stunning views, a tablet for onboard communications and daily newspapers, individual climate control to create your perfect atmosphere, binoculars for wildlife spotting right from your room, and complimentary Wi-Fi to stay connected as you wish.

Then, relax into the Explorer's Lounge, where you'll receive a detailed introduction to your upcoming journey and have the opportunity to meet your fellow travellers and your Big Journey Host.

This evening, join us for a special welcome dinner featuring innovative dishes prepared by the onboard chefs, as the boat gently cruises overnight toward Yuracocha.

Included meals: Breakfast & Welcome Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 3 - THE CALL OF THE AMAZON

This morning, wake up to the enchanting sounds of the Amazon. If you're feeling adventurous, set out before breakfast on a sunrise birdwatching excursion, exploring Yuracocha's tranquil oxbow lakes, teeming with vibrant birdlife.

For those who prefer a more leisurely start, enjoy a hearty breakfast onboard before continuing your exploration of the enchanting blackwater streams of Dorado—a fantastic spot to observe monkeys, iguanas, and capture unforgettable wildlife photographs.

After lunch, once the heat subsides, the choice is yours: paddle silently through the forest waters on a kayak or try your hand at piranha fishing on a catch-and-release basis.

As night falls, embark on a magical night safari by skiff, which offers the chance to spot glowing caimans and other fascinating nocturnal creatures.

We end the day with a relaxed evening at your own pace and a delicious dinner prepared by the onboard chefs.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 4 - EXPLORING THE PACAYA WILDERNESS

This morning, there's another opportunity to rise early for an optional sunrise skiff excursion along the remote Pacaya River—an area rich in wildlife, including howler monkeys and the elusive giant river otter.

After returning onboard, enjoy a well-earned breakfast before heading back out by skiff to explore the vast, flooded forests that surround the river.

This afternoon is yours to enjoy at your own pace—relax on deck, attend a fascinating lecture given by one of our naturalist guides or cooking

demonstration, or choose from optional activities such as kayaking or swimming in the calm blackwater.

As evening falls, sit down to a refined dinner prepared by the onboard chefs while Pure Amazon cruises onwards to Yanallpa.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 5 - RAPTORS, RAINFOREST & RIVER PEOPLE

Rise early and board our familiar skiff for a peaceful birding adventure around Yanallpa, a stretch of rare “terra firma” forest that remains dry throughout the year. As the morning mist lifts, we scan the treetops and riverbanks for soaring raptors and vibrant parakeets flitting through the canopy. The forest comes alive at dawn, offering a magical start to our day.

After breakfast back onboard, we lace up our walking shoes for a guided trek along forest trails. Our expert guide introduces us to the region’s fascinating plant life, revealing how generations of local communities have used it for food, healing, and rituals. It’s an immersive and enlightening experience into the heart of Amazonian ecology.

We then visit a nearby riverside village, where we’re warmly welcomed by the local residents. This is a chance to connect on a deeper level—learning about their day-to-day lives, cultural traditions, and how they’ve adapted to live in harmony with the forest and the ever-changing river.

In the afternoon, we return to our skiff for a gentle exploration of Supay Creek, a narrow blackwater stream alive with wildlife. We might hear the distant roar of red howler monkeys or catch glimpses of birds, insects, and animals hidden in the foliage. For those feeling adventurous, there’s also the option to try catch-and-release fishing.

As evening falls, we gather back onboard for our nightly gathering and enjoy a beautifully prepared dinner, sharing stories and reflecting on a day rich with both natural wonders and cultural connection.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 6 - MARKETS, RIVER LIFE & TIME TO UNWIND

This morning, you’ll be glad to hear there’s no early excursion—so enjoy a well-deserved lie-in. Wake slowly to the sounds of the river and take your time over a leisurely breakfast onboard as the boat cruises gently back towards Nauta.

Late morning, we head ashore with your Big Journey host to explore Nauta’s colourful local market. This is a wonderful opportunity to immerse yourself in the flavours and crafts of Amazonian life—wander past stalls filled with exotic rainforest fruits, freshly caught river fish, and beautifully handcrafted items made by local artisans. It’s a lively, sensory experience offering a real insight into the region’s day-to-day life.

In the afternoon, we take to the water again for a peaceful skiff excursion along the quiet creeks and waterways that surround Nauta. Glide past riverbanks shaded by trees, watching for birds, sloths, and other local wildlife that call this ecosystem home.

Today is all about taking it slow and soaking up the Amazon at your own pace. Back onboard, you can relax in the lounge, enjoy the sunset from the deck, and unwind over another delicious dinner prepared by the onboard chefs.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 7 - FROM DAWN TO DUSK: WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS & STARRY SKIES

We begin our day with the option to rise early for a peaceful skiff excursion to Nauta Caño—a favourite for birdwatchers and nature lovers. This tranquil blackwater creek is a hotspot for early morning bird activity. With luck, we may spot black-collared hawks, vibrant tanagers, oropendolas with their yellow tails, and other rare and colourful species that make this region so remarkable.

After breakfast onboard, we journey deeper into the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve by skiff, exploring the pristine tributaries of Yanayacu Pucate. This lush area is teeming with wildlife—keep your eyes peeled for playful squirrel monkeys swinging through the trees, tiny tamarins

leaping from branch to branch, and iguanas sunbathing along the riverbanks.

If you're feeling adventurous, test your reflexes with some catch-and-release piranha fishing, a fun and safe way to engage with the river's more toothy inhabitants. Or, if you'd prefer to sit back and enjoy the scenery, simply relax and take it all in from the comfort of the skiff.

After lunch back onboard, the afternoon is yours to tailor. You may choose to paddle a double, sit-on kayak through the serene waters of Yanayaquillo, a narrow stream shaded by dense forest canopy. It's a wonderful way to connect with nature in near silence, spotting birds, insects, and maybe even monkeys in the overhanging trees.

Alternatively, opt for a skiff ride that begins in the golden light of late afternoon and transitions into a nocturnal safari. As dusk turns to darkness, we'll scan the riverbanks for glowing caiman eyes and listen for the calls of night monkeys and frogs. With a little luck, we may spot bats, owls, and other elusive creatures of the Amazon night.

Back onboard, we gather for another delicious dinner. If the skies are clear, join us on deck for a spot of stargazing—the Amazon night sky, free of light pollution, offers a breathtaking display of stars.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 8 - VILLAGE VOICES & JUNGLE MIRRORS

This morning offers one of the most enriching experiences of your journey as we visit the riverside village of Nueva Arica. Life here follows the rhythm of the river, with water levels rising and falling by up to 30 feet throughout the year. You'll meet welcoming local families and gain firsthand insight into how they adapt to such dramatic seasonal changes—whether it's building raised homes or navigating by canoe during high water.

After exploring the village, enjoy some free time to connect with the natural surroundings in your own way. Whether you choose a gentle kayaking excursion through the still blackwater lagoons or prefer to cool off with a refreshing swim in the calm, current-free channels, this is your chance to soak in the Amazon's peace and beauty one last time.

Later in the afternoon, we set off on a final guided walk through the jungle, this time towards the Samiria River, nicknamed "The Jungle Mirror" for its glassy, reflective surface. This pristine blackwater river is a haven for wildlife, and your expert guide will help you spot everything from the elusive three-toed sloth high in the trees, to the chorus of frogs, insects, and colourful birdlife that animate the forest floor and canopy. You'll also gain a deeper appreciation for the smaller wonders—camouflaged spiders, intricate leafcutter ant trails, and medicinal plants used for centuries by indigenous communities.

As the sun sets on your final full day, return to Pure Amazon for a special farewell dinner hosted by your onboard team. Share stories and highlights with your fellow travellers and reflect on the incredible memories you've made in this truly extraordinary part of the world.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Farewell Dinner

Accommodation: Pure Amazon Riverboat

DAY 9 - FAREWELL TO THE AMAZON... ANYONE UP FOR MACHU PICCHU?

Today marks the end of our Amazon adventure. After breakfast onboard, we disembark in Nauta for the final time and travel by road to Formabiap, a remarkable educational initiative. This program empowers indigenous youth from across the region to become teachers in their own communities—preserving culture, language, and traditional knowledge.

You'll be welcomed with music and smiles, then invited to learn about longhouse-building techniques, experience a spiritual cleansing ceremony led by an elder, and attend a fascinating presentation on the medicinal plants that have sustained Amazonian communities for generations.

Following this meaningful cultural encounter, you'll be transferred to Iquitos Airport for your onward journey.

But if you're not ready to end your adventure just yet, why not continue the journey with us on an unforgettable Peru extension? Travel into the heart of the Andes and stand in awe at one of the world's most iconic landmarks — Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: None

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Meet and greet services at Lima Airport [LIM]
- Private Charter
- Exclusive transfers between Iquitos and Nauta
- Guided shore excursions at least twice daily
- Briefings and enrichment lectures by our naturalist guides and will be a deeper dive into the Amazon
- All meals included
- All beverages, alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- Entrance fees to Pacaya Samiria National Reserve
- Laundry service
- Complimentary Starlink Wi-Fi
- Binoculars in every cabin
- Tablet for onboard communications, daily newspapers etc.
- Individual climate control in every cabin

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Please arrange your flights into Lima Airport [LIM] on Day 1 and to depart from Iquitos Airport [IQT] on Day 9
- Alcohol purchases made from the premium list
- Cigar purchases made from our premium list
- Personal expenses
- Personal Travel & Medical Insurance
- Gratuities
- Any COVID tests or related entry & exit requirements

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Flights:** International flights to/from your chosen destination are not included in this package. The Big Journey Company will be happy to provide a quotation for your flights—please contact us for further details.
- **Vaccinations & Health:** Vaccinations may be recommended depending on your destination. Please consult your doctor or travel clinic for the most up-to-date medical advice.
- **Visas & Entry Requirements:** Entry requirements vary by destination, and a visa may be required. Please refer to the travel tips section for full details. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the necessary travel documentation prior to departure.
- **Medical Needs:** Please inform The Big Journey Company prior to travel of any medical conditions or medications you take that we should be aware of to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- **Accommodation Check-in/Out:** Unless otherwise stated in your itinerary, check-in is after 2–3pm and check-out is before 10am. Please note that hotels may be subject to change to the same or similar standard due to availability.
- **Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations made within 90 days of departure are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Deposits are non-refundable, and balance payments are due 14 weeks prior to departure. It is your responsibility to ensure adequate travel insurance is in place to protect against the need to cancel your holiday.
- **Minimum Numbers:** The Big Journey Company host will accompany the tour should minimum guest numbers be met. We will confirm this closer to the departure date.
- **Terms & Conditions:** Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Journey Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation. This does not affect your statutory rights. All offers are subject to availability and space is limited.

BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

Call to Book

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