



MANATEE
AMAZON EXPLORER

**M/V MANATEE AMAZON EXPLORER
8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS ITINERARY
MONDAY - MONDAY**



EXPLORING THE AMAZON

This is a journey that takes us into the endless heart of biodiversity, the Amazon Basin. Given the remote and pristine nature of this jungle, the very best way to explore it is by navigating down the Napo River on exclusively - designed vessel set to explore the Amazon in style.

The M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer allows our guests to experience unparalleled adventures in total comfort. Journey with us down freshwater rivers, both whitewater and black water, and encounter different Amazonian ecosystems, including the possibility to observe fascinating animals such as pink river dolphins, manatees, caimans and piranhas, as well as hundreds of native bird and primate species.

These amazing adventures are possible on board our exclusive vessel featuring: 10 Standard Cabins, which offer air conditioning, balconies and ceiling-to-floor windows, and private bathrooms with hot water, and our 4 Deluxe Cabins which come complete with all of the above, plus private balconies and private whirlpool bathtubs with a scenic view! Make yourself at home with our complete range of onboard amenities! We have a comfortable bar and lounge, conference room, a cozy reading room, a rainforest spa, a



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explorer's boutique, an *al fresco* lounge and dining room providing exceptional culinary offerings to our guests, and even an outdoor hot tub on the observation deck! We want to ensure that you enjoy the perfect rainforest journey in full comfort, navigating deep into the heart of one of the new seven wonders of the natural world – the Amazon.

We are committed to caring for natural resources and the conservation of local cultures by applying responsible and sustainable tourism practices and community involvement in all of our operations. We have also initiated Capi's Amazon River Station (CARS). This is a program that manages 3 non-profit sustainable rescue projects for endangered animals in the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest: The Charapas turtle, the Pink River Dolphin, and the Manatee.

ACTIVITIES AND ADVENTURES:

- Swimming
- Kayaking
- Birdwatching
- Jungle Hikes
- Canoe Excursions
- Cooking Lessons – Traditional Dishes
- Climbing the Observation Tower high in the Amazon canopy
- Native Family Visit
- Night Hikes
- Briefings given by Expert Naturalist Guides
- Demonstration of Regional Handicrafts
- BBQ Pit
- Traditional Amazonian Delicacies
- Camping (5 & 8 days Itineraries)



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DAY 1 - MONDAY: QUITO - COCA - NAPO RIVER



Our adventure begins in the city of Quito, Capital of Ecuador. After taking a short 30-minute flight from Quito to the Amazon city of Coca, located in the Province of San Francisco de Orellana, we will transfer to the dock and board our motorized canoe to begin our journey down the river for approximately an hour and a half, taking in the first sights and sounds of the Amazon. Soon, we will reach the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer and receive our welcome aboard.

Once we have settled into the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer, we will be joined by expert local naturalist guides who will provide us with a brief and informative introduction to the Ecuadorian Amazon, after which guests will have their first opportunity to discover the exciting features of our cruise ship: spacious social areas, comfortable suites, and the observation deck that allows us to admire the changing rainforest landscape as we glide down the Napo River.

After dinner, we will plunge straight into the Amazon by going for a nighttime forest walk to observe the forest's nocturnal activity and experience the thrill of the vivid noises and aromas that come from so much biodiversity.



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DAY 2 - TUESDAY: THE HEART OF YASUNI NATIONAL PARK (HOME OF THE
LEGENDARY PINK RIVER DOLPHIN)



Early in the morning, we will visit Yasuni National Park. This is a pristine and relatively undisturbed region of the Ecuadorian Amazon. Our guests will be pleased to learn that this is the home of the legendary Pink River Dolphin! In this area we can also find anacondas, river turtles and various primate species, as well as the colorful Hoatzin, a unique bird that is known locally as the "Stinky Turkey".

Later in the afternoon, we will go canoeing in a blackwater lake, home to giant otters and the magnificent, albeit elusive manatee. We will also enjoy a pleasant hike in the Riparian/Gallery Forest, where we have the chance to spot a flock of birds and marvel at the intricate organization of a colony of leaf-cutter ants by the "Giant Fig Tree", a truly majestic tree that is home to an abundance of wildlife, much like the "Giant Kapok Tree".



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DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY: QUECHUA FAMILY & CANOEING IN A BLACKWATER LAKE



We will start the day off by visiting an authentic Quechua family located on the banks of the Napo River, where we will receive cultural immersion and the opportunity to learn directly from members of the local community.

We will then board the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer for lunch and some leisure time as we continue our journey upstream. At this time, our guests are invited to participate in a cooking class with our chef who will share recipes and techniques for preparing exquisite traditional Ecuadorian food that you can replicate at home. Guests are also invited to try their hands at making traditional handicrafts.



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DAY 4 - THURSDAY: FOREST ADVENTURE & OBSERVATION CANOPY TOWER



Our guests can relax and enjoy the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer during the morning and disembark to explore the nearby forest for a walk to discover a myriad of different animals and plant species that can only be found in the Amazon basin.

In the afternoon, we will visit a canopy tower, built against a giant Kapok tree. The perspective at the top of this observation tower is truly glorious, looming above the lush treetops and providing a view of the sheer vastness of the Amazon Basin.

In the evening, we will bravely venture into the river on a canoe to search for black caimans with the help of our flashlights.



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DAY 5 - FRIDAY: INDILLAMA & NAPO RIVER - THE NORTHER SIDE OF YASUNÍ
NATIONAL PARK



We will begin the day kayaking along the Indillama River, one of the Napo River's tributaries, which leads us into Yasuni National Park. Kayaks are smooth and silent, providing the very best opportunity to observe wildlife. Canoes can also be used to travel in search of more wildlife. The choice is yours! In these waters, you will find yourself surrounded by lush greenery.

After an adventure-filled day, you may choose to take advantage of our observation deck where you can relax and experience a magical view under the stars.

Our more energetic guests may choose to unwind with a night walk through the jungle to observe nocturnal creatures.



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DAY 6 - SATURDAY: PAÑACocha BIOLOGICAL CORRIDOR



We continue to travel downstream to the Pañayacu River delta, where we will take a canoe trip to experience the sights of this fascinating water reserve. Pañacocha Lake is an ecosystem flooded by blackwaters. Pañacocha means "Piranha Lake" in the native Quechua language. The surrounding protected Rainforest is home to 9 species of primates, 500 species of birds and more than 100 fish species. This is the perfect habitat for Piranhas, the Water Monkey Fish (Arawana) and the White Caiman.

In this little piece of paradise, we will participate in nature walks led by our local naturalist guides, and relax at a nearby campsite where we will enjoy a delicious Amazon-style BBQ and refreshing beverages.

After lunch, we will do some kayaking, and the bravest among us will enjoy a nice refreshing swim in the Piranha Lake! We promise it's not as dangerous as it sounds!

Back on board the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer, our guests will have the opportunity to attend a lecture given by our concierge and watch an educational documentary about the region.



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DAY 7 - SUNDAY: PARROT CLAY LICKS - AMAZONIAN COMMUNITIES & OBSERVATION
TOWER



This morning, we will set out on canoes to observe one of the most incredible sights on this side of the Western Amazon – the Parrot Clay Licks. This unique place is rich in minerals and attracts hundreds of colorful parrots, parakeets and amazon birds, every day.

Later, we will visit a Quechua Cultural Center, where we will learn about Amazon communities and their ancestral culture, traditions, and cuisine. Members of the local community will teach us about indigenous lifestyles along the Napo River and we will have the opportunity to support the local community by purchasing handicrafts, local products, and souvenirs.

Before sunset, we will visit an observation tower in the rainforest canopy, which offers an astonishing 360-degree view of the Amazon basin and is the perfect photo opportunity! Birdwatchers and bird-lovers alike will especially enjoy this outing.



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DAY 8 - MONDAY: RETURN



This is where our adventure ends! Enjoy the last part of our return journey onboard and then disembark the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer to take the motorized canoe back to Coca (one-and-a-half-hour ride).

*For our guests with a more adventurous inclination, we are pleased to offer a camping program, which is an alternative manner to explore this enchanting destination. Contact us for more details! (Optional activity for the 5 & 8 days Itinerary)

NOTE: The foregoing itinerary is our standard operating model. We intend to offer everything as planned, and will make every effort to do so, however depending on inclement weather, technical or operational difficulties beyond our control, the M/V Manatee Amazon Explorer reserves the right to modify the itinerary without notice.