



## Amazon Adventure Experience

7 days - maximum 5 guests per guide (also available as a private tour)

The Yasuni National Park is one the most diverse area in the world; it is a convergence point for three unique regions, the Equator, Andes Mountains, and the Amazon rainforest. This tour will combine hiking, kayaking, and camping in the wild. All these activities will give you a different experience in the Amazon rainforest. After this tour, you will have lived something that no other lodge offers.

### **About the Tour:**

This itinerary covers more experiences in the jungle; if you are looking for a complete amazon adventure, this is for you. This tour combines hiking with two days of kayaking and two nights camping in the deep jungle: one night deep into the forest and the other on a river beach. This is a tour like no other, with more chances to see wildlife and to feel the amazon.

### **Specifications of the Tour:**

This tour is for active, outdoor lovers and adventure people. The pace of the tour is moderate to difficult (this varies depending on the group). We will hike and kayak during

the entire journey. Days will start with breakfast at 6:30 am and will end with a short night hike after dinner. At night, the group and guide will go over the following day's activities. We have inflatable kayaks with two seats. Even though there are no facilities the nights outside the main camp, you will have the comfort of tents, mattresses, a pillow, a cook, and a private canoe with a driver during these days. A motorized canoe will accompany us the whole time while kayaking and camping outside the main accommodation site to bring us back to the campsite when required.

## Itinerary

The times and length of the hikes are flexible and defined by the guide the day before. The guide may modify the plan on any particular day based on weather, wildlife activity, recent sighting information, and other factors.



### Day 1: Arrival at Mandari Panga

Upon arrival in Coca (bus terminal or airport), you'll be met by your local guide. Depending on your time of arrival, you'll have a chance for breakfast (not included) at "Maitos del Yasuni" a typical restaurant created by the association Challuwa Mikuna to benefit indigenous women.

We'll then begin a journey of about an hour and 45 minutes in land transport and another hour and a half in a motorized canoe along the Tiputini river. When we arrive at the camp, you will have time to get to know the facilities and settle into your tent. Enjoy a welcome drink; then a delicious lunch will be served in the main house.

In the afternoon, we'll cross to the other side of the Yitsu Yacu River for a walk of approximately 2 hours. We'll finish the afternoon enjoying the sunset onboard our motorized canoe, and when we return to camp, a delicious dinner served by candlelight will be ready for you.

### Day 2: Hiking the "Pecary Trail"

After an early breakfast (6:30), we will cross to the other side of the Tiputini river in a traditional canoe and start a walk of approximately 4 hours along a loop trail passing

through spectacular virgin jungle. We'll arrive at the lagoon of the anacondas where, with luck, you will be able to see this reptile so characteristic of the area.

We'll return to camp for lunch, and you'll have time to relax in your hammock or tent, walk around the campsite and even cool down with a swim in a tranquil tributary of the Tiputini river.

In the afternoon, we'll enjoy a pleasant traditional canoe trip in the Pishña lagoon (giant otter oxbow lagoon) for about 2 hours. This black water lagoon is a fascinating ecosystem, a blackwater lake where unique species live. We'll enjoy the sunset and then return to the campsite for dinner.

### **Day 3: Rio Tiputini and the Casa de la Abuela**

Early in the morning, we'll begin a trip along the Tiputini River in a traditional wooden canoe, and have breakfast during the trip while we enjoy the sunrise. During our trip we should be able to observe a wide variety of wildlife from our canoe, from diverse bird species to monkeys, river otters, river dolphins and much more; you'll be back at the camp around 11H30.

After our visit we'll have a delicious lunch, and have the chance to share with the staff of Mandari Panga who will offer you some of their handmade crafts. Time for a short rest or a swim, then around 15:30 we'll depart in our motorized canoe for the Casa de la Abuela (Grandmother's House), a traditional home where the matriarch of the community still lives. We'll learn about how traditional chocolate is made, which we'll serve with our dinner this evening. Time to enjoy amazing views of the sunset from this hilltop home, then we'll return to camp for a delicious dinner.

After dinner, we can take an optional night walk along a short trail called the Tucán Trail near the camp, about an hour in duration.



### **Day 4: Visit the Parrot Clay Lick**

After breakfast, we'll travel by canoe to a small river named Rumiyaçu and guided to a parrot clay lick. Normally many birds can be seen during the trip, and at the clay lick there are typically various colorful species of parrots we can observe.

We'll return to the camp around noon to have lunch, and then have some time to rest and relax. Around 3 pm, we'll kayak down the Tiputini river for a couple hours. We will stop on a river beach to make camp, while the canoe driver and cook put together the camp, you and your guides will do some fishing, looking for typical freshwater species such as pirañas and catfish. This will be prepared for your dinner.

### **Day 5: Exploring the Anaconda Lagoon**

After an early breakfast, we'll take our kayaks along the Tiputini until we arrive at the entrance for Amarun Cocha, Lake of the Anaconda, in the local kichwa language. Our journey will be about 3 hours, passing through pristine jungle along the way. This is a small blackwater lagoon in the heart of the pristine rainforest of Yasuni and is home to one of the largest snakes on the planet, the anaconda. With luck, we might see this fantastic creature while enjoying the stunning scenery of this region of flooded forest, where we might also see the legendary piranhas, caymans, boas, and more. We'll have a packed lunch on a river beach.

In the afternoon, we will explore more of the area and hike for a couple hours until reaching our next camping site. Around 4 pm we will make camp and enjoy the a quiet evening with the sounds of the jungle.



### **Day 6: Deep Amazon Kayaking Adventure, return to Mandari Panga**

After an early jungle breakfast, we'll have a chance to kayak further down the Tiputini river for about 2.5-3 hours. Around noon we will jump on the motorized to start our return to Mandaripanga camp. We will make a stop to have lunch in the canoe. After a quick rest on a river beach, we will hike back to the campsite. We'll return to camp at 6 pm, with the chance to experience the fantastic Amazon, and we may spot other wildlife active at sunset, such as capybaras, pacas, and frogs. Once we arrive, you can take a nice shower to help you to relax, at about 7 pm a delicious Amazonian dinner will be ready for you.

### **Day 7: Return to Coca**

Breakfast will be served early in the morning (depending on the time of the group's flight departure). We'll begin our trip in our motorized canoe for about an hour and a half; during the relaxing trip, you can say goodbye to the beauty of the Amazon rainforest. We'll then be met at the shores of the river and travel overland for about an hour and a half back to Coca, where you'll be dropped off at the airport or bus terminal for your return to Quito or travel to your next destination.

## **General Information:**

Tour runs with a minimum of 2 persons

There is no internet access in the lodge, and electricity is limited from 6 pm to 10 pm. We recommend taking enough batteries as well as a small solar panel. The CDC recommends vaccinating against yellow fever (not known to be present in Yasuni), tetanus, and hepatitis A (consult your doctor before traveling). While malaria is present in the Ecuadorian Amazon, it is very uncommon in the region thus we do not feel malaria medication is necessary for most people...however please consult with your doctor.

## **Included:**

- Transportation Coca - Mandari Panga - Coca
- Bilingual naturalist and native guide
- Accommodation in tents complete with mattress and bedding
- Use of rubber boots for hikes, life jacket for canoe travel
- Kayaking and camping equipment
- Three meals a day (starting with lunch on first day through breakfast on final day)
- Purified water

## **Not Included:**

- Transportation Quito - Coca - Quito
- Additional beverages and snacks; extra meals in Coca before and after the tour
- Rain ponchos
- Tips
- Personal Expenses
- Travel insurance

## **What to bring (recommendations):**

- ORIGINAL PASSPORT (in waterproof plastic bag)
- Fast drying, lightweight clothing including long sleeve shirts and pants
- A light jacket for colder nights
- Waterproof jacket or rain poncho
- Sandals or walking shoes
- Thick, absorbent hiking type socks
- Hat or cap
- Sunglasses, sunblock and repellent (no spray)

- Water bottle
- One small (waterproof recommended) daypack
- Flashlight or headlamp with spare batteries
- Plastic bags to protect electronic equipment
- Camera and Binoculars
- Swimming suit