

PINK DOLPHIN TRAIL ADVENTURE 6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS
CUYABENO WILDLIFE RESERVE – BORDER WITH PERU
REMOTE DESTINATION OFF THE BEATEN TRACK – FULL ADVENTURE TOUR



ZANCUDO LAGOON (IRIPARI)

ABOUT CUYABENO WILDLIFE RESERVE

Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve is a protected area located in the North – East of Ecuador, bordering Peru to the East. Cuyabeno was established in 1979 and currently has an area of about 6000 square kilometers of Pristine Amazonian Rainforest. This stunning Rainforest contains an incredible variety of species of plants and animals, thus becoming one of the most biologically rich areas on Earth. Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve also has a breathtaking landscape that includes forest, rivers and lagoons.

The following facts tell us that Cuyabeno is actually one of the most biologically rich areas on Earth.

There have been identified 473 species of plants in a single hectare (100 m by 100 m). In Cuyabeno exists approximately 3000-4000 species of identified plants, 165 species of mammals including the legendary pink river dolphin, 81 species of amphibians, 54 species of Reptiles, 500 species of birds, 200 to 300 species of fish.

The Cuyabeno wildlife reserve is also home to 5 indigenous nationalities spread over 7 communities. Kichwua, Shuar, Siona, Secoya and Cofán are the five nationalities that exist and survive in the reserve, some of them still maintain their ancestral customs.

PINK DOLPHIN TRAIL ADVENTURE - 6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS

AGUARICO RIVER, IRIPARI (ZANCUDO) LAGOON & AND LAGARTO COCHA RIVER FLOODED FOREST SYSTEM - BORDER WITH PERU

FOR NATURE LOVERS ONLY – DEEP IN THE JUNGLE WITH 5 NIGHTS COMFORTABLE CAMPING

This tour is of an easy active rating designed for everyone who loves camping in the middle of the Nature

This great Amazon adventure start from the cities of Lago Agrio or Coca at the North East of the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest. You will navigate on Aguarico river and will end visiting the Eastern part of the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest. Your whole journey will be around 500 Km in total navigating on the Aguarico and Lagarto Cocha River at the border with Perú. During this fantastic tour you have the opportunity to visit Iripari Lake (Zancudo Cocha) which is the largest black water lake in the Ecuadorian Amazon. You will also have the chance to admire the biggest flooded forest in our Ecuadorian Amazon where you will easily observe the legendary pink fresh water Dolphin (Innia Geoffrensis).

ITINERARY

DAY 1.- LAGO AGRIO OR COCA – AGUARICO RIVER – ZANCUDO CAMP - IRIPARI (ZANCUDO) LAGOON

Your journey starts in the morning with a 2-hour drive from Lago Agrio or Coca cities to “Tierras Orientales” Village at shore of the Aguarico River. Here we’ll start our fantastic Amazon Rainforest experience by navigating on a motorized canoe downstream along this beautiful white water river until we’ll arrive at the mouth of the Cuyabeno River, a small and breathtaking black water river which is a tributary of the Aguarico, here with some luck we will have our first watch of the legendary pink Fresh water Dolphin (Inia geoffrensis). During this first relaxing journey we’ll make a stop for a delicious picnic lunch and if you wish, a refreshing swim. From here we’ll continue navigating downstream Aguarico river until we reach the Zancudo Kichwua Native Territory. This is a fantastic journey navigating East into the deep Amazon rain forest. Tonight, the accommodation will be in comfortable tents at the shore of the river or, if level of river permits, we will camp next to the beautiful Zancudo Lake. Welcome cocktail, Dinner.

Navigation time 5 hours.

DAY 2.- ZANCUDO CAMP – ZANCUDO COCHA LAKE (IRIPARI)

Early in the morning we’ll navigate slowly for a bird watching trip and to enjoy the fantastic sounds of the Rainforest life.

After breakfast we’ll start our day with a hike in the marvelous primary Amazon rainforest, one of the most biologically rich places on Earth. During the trek our guide will explain the use of important plants for the Native’s survival and with some luck we’ll see impressive wildlife. After Lunch and a relaxing time, we’ll explore by motorized canoe the beautiful Zancudo (Iripari) lake and its stunning landscape with good chances of observing wildlife. This lake is also a good place to enjoy a refreshing swim. After enjoying a beautiful sunset we’ll return to the camp. At night and before dinner we’ll take a short hike where it is possible to see giant insects, spiders, snakes and enjoy the fantastic sounds of the night life in the Amazon. Return to the campsite for Dinner.

DAY 3.- ZANCUDO CAMPSITE – AGUARICO RIVER - LAGARTO COCHA RIVER FLOODED FOREST SYSTEM

In the morning we’ll pack up our equipment and navigate by motorized canoe downstream on the Aguarico river towards Lagarto Cocha river, a tributary of Aguarico river, and the actual border between Peru and Ecuador. Lagarto Cocha River in native language means “the river of the Caimans”. We’ll continue upstream along the Lagarto River deep into the Rainforest to explore this spectacular system of river and lakes. We’ll arrive at Delfin Cocha Lake or “the lake of Dolphins” where we’ll have the best chances of seeing the Amazonian Freshwater Pink and Grey River Dolphins (Inia geoffrensis and Sotalia fluviatilis), and why not have a swim with them too? Picnic Lunch. In the afternoon we’ll look for a good place to set up our Camp. Late in the afternoon we’ll navigate slowly up Lagarto River looking for new species of wildlife until the Sun sets on the beautiful landscape. In the night and from the motorized canoe we’ll navigate downstream towards our camp. In the way we’ll search for wildlife which includes: Night birds, Snakes, Bats, Caimans, Frogs and more. Return to the Camp and Dinner. Night in tents at the shore of Lagarto Cocha River.

Navigation time 4 hours

DAY 4.- LAGARTO COCHA RIVER FLOODED FOREST SYSTEM

Early in the morning we’ll navigate slowly for a bird watching trip and to enjoy the fantastic sounds of the Rainforest life. After breakfast, we’ll continue our adventure navigating up river, deep in the rainforest with excellent chances of spotting wildlife including: Parrots and Macaws, Herons, Egrets, Toucans and many other different species of birds. With some luck we’ll see some of the 10 species of Monkeys that live in the Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve. This journey will take us to a remote Secoya Indigenous Community. Secoya people are ancestral people with great knowledge of their environment, flora and fauna. A Secoya Native Indigenous guide will tell us about their traditional way of life in the Jungle. Here we’ll be part of the making of the Casabe (Manioc or Yuca) bread starting from the extraction of the Casabe roots to the final product that is a special type of bread which is large, round and flat. Casabe is an important part of Indigenous people traditional diet. Here our picnic lunch will include Casabe bread. After lunch we go for a walk in the Jungle accompany by a Secoya Native Indigenous guide who will tell us about their traditional way of life in the Jungle. Return to the Camp site. Dinner.

DAY 5.- LAGARTO COCHA RIVER FLOODED FOREST SYSTEM

After breakfast we'll visit the stunning flooded forest and its lagoons with great chances of watching wildlife including the legendary pink Dolphin. After lunch, there will be time to relax at the camp site. Later in the afternoon we will go out to try our luck at fishing piranhas and with some luck enjoy a beautiful sunset. In the night and before dinner we'll go for a second exiting hike. Farewell dinner.

DAY 6.- LAGARTO COCHA RIVER CAMP - AGUARICO RIVER – TIERRAS ORIENTALES - LAGO AGRIO OR COCA

After an early breakfast we will prepare to depart, we will break camp and navigate downstream along the Lagarto River towards the Aguarico, once on Aguarico river we will continue upstream to Tierras Orientales village. During the way we'll enjoy a delicious picnic lunch. From Tierras Orientales our car will drive us back to Lago Agrio or Coca cities (arrival at about 3-4 pm.). Navigation time 7 hours

END OF OUR SERVICES

INCLUDED IN OUR SERVICES:

Transportation from Lago Agrio or Coca Cities (Bus & Canoe); Experienced bilingual naturalist guide / translator; Rubber boots (up to No 46); Rain coat (Poncho); Life jackets; Accommodation in traditional huts and Tents (double and single occupancy); bedding and camping mattress; Towel; Biodegradable soap; Lunch and dinner on the first day; Three meals a day on the next days and breakfast and lunch on the last day; Purified bottled water; Tea; Coffee; Cuisine that caters vegetarians and vegans; Airport and bus station transfers in Lago Agrio or Coca.

NOT INCLUDED:

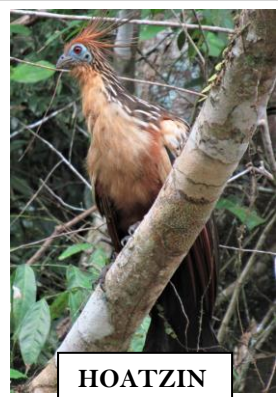
Your transport Quito - Lago Agrio or Coca – Quito; Accommodation and meals in Lago Agrio or Coca; Alcoholics drinks at a reduced price e.g. \$3 for a 750ml Pilsener beer; Additional beverages and tips; Souvenirs from Native Communities; Any no specified service.

RECOMMENDED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

You must bring your original Passport, Long-sleeved T-shirts, T-shirts, Cotton socks, Towel, Shorts, Sandals or walking shoes, Light waterproof wind-breaker, First aid kit, Swimming suit and towel, Hat or cap, Sunglasses with a strap, One small waterproof daypack, biodegradable soap for camping only, Insect repellent, Sun block and Sunburn lotion, Zip lock plastic bags, Camera and spare camera batteries, Flashlight (torch) with spare batteries, Binoculars, Notepad/pen.



MOTORIZED CANOE NAVIGATION



HOATZIN



ANACONDA ENJOYING A CAYMAN MEAL



PINK DOLPHIN



**LAGARTO COCHA RIVER CAMPSITE
EQUIPPED WITH A SHOWER AND TOILET**



**COMFORTABLE
CAMPING IN
TRADITIONAL
HUTS**

**SPACIOUS TENTS
DOUBLE OR
SINGLE
ALL CAMPING
EQUIPMENT
INCLUDED**

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT YOUR TRIP

- ❖ Please remember that Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve is a stunning area, one of the most complex and bio diverse richest places on earth that contains a great amount of wildlife. We will explore a Pristine Rain Forest area where a few tourists visit and few native people live, therefore chances of watching wildlife are great. Every day by canoe and on foot we'll be searching for wildlife including Macaws, Parrots, Toucans, Monkeys, Freshwater dolphins, Caimans and Anacondas, however observing wildlife in their natural environment depends of some factors that include weather conditions and some luck.
- ❖ You will be walking slowly in primary forest on trails opened by the natives that in some areas implies crossing by flooded and muddy areas, in general the terrain is flat and do not demand much effort. A maximum walking time is of approximate 3 hours at a time.
- ❖ Please remember that the name Rainforest comes precisely from the 4000mm (about 12 feet) of rain it receives a year. Our canoes, motorized canoes or paddling canoes do not have roof so please expect heavy rain at any time. Our canoes are comfortable and provided with sits for two people each one with cushions and life jackets. Your luggage will be covered and protected against rain water. During all the navigation journeys you'll always have access to cold drinks.
- ❖ Our Campsites are located on the margin of the river so that we will not need to carry the equipment for long distances, but you will need to be able to transport your own luggage for short distances. We'll ask that everyone assist in setting up the campsites.
- ❖ We'll visit the most pristine and remote area of the Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve and in order to reach our furthest destination we'll need to travel by motorized canoe a distance of around 500 Km in a return 6-day trip.
- ❖ The Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve is a protected area and to get there we'll have to drive and navigate throughout Oil installations, secondary forest and farms. Once we enter the Reserve the landscape will change into a beautiful pristine Amazon Rainforest.