



WILD WATCH PERU

Exploring Manu Wilderness 8 days

Rate: \$ 1,250.00 p/p

Duration: 8 days/ 7 nights

Highlights: Salvador Oxbow Lake, canopy tower in Otorongo Lake, Macaw Clay Lick at Casa Machiguenga, navigation by motor boat on the Manu River, Giant kapok Trees, Cloud Forest, Guadalupe Caves, offspring in Manu, Pristine Forest exploration in Manu basin

Minimum participants: 02

Max participants: 6

Type Service: Group basis rate

Frequency: Daily Departures

DAY 1

Cusco – Guadalupe Lodge

The beginning of the Manu Road passes through numerous dry inner-mountain valleys and picturesque villages. This gives you a quick overview of locals' lifestyles and colorful clothes. A brief call at Ninamarca will give you the possibility to explore the pre-Incas tombs within this well archaeological site. The road includes various stops, so you can enjoy seeing the surrounding landscapes varying from high-mountains to humid forests. Next stop will occur in the village of Paucartambo which features beautiful arched colonial bridge. From Paucartambo the altitude will keep on increasing and the setting gradually gets enveloped by a cloudy mist. The road leads you to Acjanaco pass consisting in the main gateway to Manu National Park.

Once across Acjanaco Pass (3550 m / 11.647 ft) the environment dramatically changes from dry to wet valleys. Do not miss the splendid view when looking down toward the lowlands! The lush and misty cloud forest surrounded by massive rocks and waterfalls is perhaps the most fragile and threatened type of rainforest. In such environment filled with lichens and moss-carpeted soil, spotting birds will be the main target. You will get the chance to stare at a large variety of birds ranging from the Peruvian national bird, the brightly red Andean Cock-of-the-Rock displays to tanagers, toucans or quetzals. The path will head down to the Guadalupe lodge (560 m./1837 ft). Overnight in the lodge.

DAY 2

Guadalupe Lodge

In the morning, you will explore the foothill forest and palm forest is also an ideal spot to observe blue and yellow macaws as well as other interesting parrots and the capuchin Monkeys. You will head back to the lodge where a delightful breakfast awaits you full of fresh tropical fruits. From then, you will be guided through the garden and will learn about the different medicinal and traditional plants such as coca leaf, cacao, bamboo water, annatto, etc. As this time of the day, put on your swimsuits and enjoy a dip in the Guadalupe River.



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This crystalline and unpolluted current flows downstream from the core of the park. In the afternoon, depending on the group's wishes, there is a possibility of discovering a fascinating canyon and its caves which house some rare species of bats, spiders and scorpions. Ultimately, a walk within the bamboo forest will enable you to spot some monkeys. The day is ending with a night walk

DAY 3

Guadalupe Lodge – Casa Machiguenga

Early morning departure by land transport to the Diamante native community (4 hours' drive by car) then we continue our trip by motor boat towards the confluence with the Manu River, we enter the wild Manu National Park a brief stop at Limonal Park Ranger Station for check in, the exciting trip begins with full of sightings experiences, every river bend will bring us a view of unspoiled beauty.

We travel up river we'll search diligently for any signs of Jaguar, still only a slim chance but this river is perhaps the best location to find this magnificent mammal, just a few curves up the river the environment will change, there will be orders of magnitude more to look at, from hundred if not thousands of swallows and butterflies, every single sandbar being occupied by something interesting, we will keep a close watch for wildcats. In the mid- afternoon, we arrive at our rustic lodge which it's set aside a short distance from the Rio Manu in the heart of Manu National Park and for our following nights at this peaceful place. Overnight, Casa Machiguenga Lodge.

DAY 4

Casa Machiguenga

We will have the better part of two days to enjoy the Manu's Wilderness, on this morning you will explore the Salvador oxbow lake famous for its population of Giant Otters who usually breeds there, they can be seen at different times of the day, these gregarious and playful carnivorous spend good deal of their time fishing or playing by any side of the lake or just taking a sunbath on their favorite dead logs. We'll have access to a floating catamaran (two large canoes connected by wooden planks) with chairs set up for bird and wildlife viewing (which makes paddling around the lake easy and comfortable. Apart from looking for the giant river otters, we'll have the chance for many of the lake edge species, including the fabulous Hoatzin, Agami and herons, interesting raptors, colorful macaws Oropendolas and caciques, just floating around the lake will be one of the joys of the trip, while exploring the forest you will also search for more species of monkeys such as white fronted capuchin, pygmy marmoset

DAY 5

Casa Matsiguenka

During the morning time we will explore the trails that crosses the Terra Firme forest, where the world-famous Brazil Nuts grows. The guide will briefly explain about its biology Following the narrow trail, we walk towards the small clay lick that attracts parakeets and medium sized macaws. The clay lick is also a highlight of the trip, where some birds congregate to eat the clay, which they need on their diet. This activity takes at least a couple of hours.

We'll spend full afternoon walking along what is the "system of trails" in the opposite forest of the lodge and around the Salvador Oxbow Lake. Apart from the lake, the forest around Salvador



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Lake and the lodge is some of the best Amazonian rainforest we have seen, and a nice network of trails allows us to leisurely stroll on flat trails the rest of the day.

DAY 6

Casa Machiguenga

On this morning, we will take the motor boat to get navigate a bit downstream to access the Cocha Otorongo trails and platform. The view from the canopy tower is amazing as you would see the vegetation that encloses the lake which supports an entire family of giant river otters, large black caimans and harpy eagles that sporadically have seen over those locations, (the lake is not open for embarkation)

Moving deep into the heart of the forest is also an excellent environment to see the enormous kapok trees. These species are the emergent trees in the entire Amazon, they can reach up 190 feet tall. Following the trails, we can encounter troops of monkeys with no fewer than six species possible such as red howler, brown capuchin, squirrel monkey, tamarins, woolly, as well as the chance for numerous other birds such as curassow, guans, return to the lodge in the afternoon for dinner time.

DAY 7

Guadalupe Lodge - Cusco

This morning we'll board our boat and begin the journey down the Rio Manu back to the Rio Madre de Dios, returning to boat trip will be again very exciting with lots of bird activity on the many sandbars as well as side necked turtles sunning on the logs. This will be again another opportunity for catching a glimpse of the magnificent wildcats, caimans and birds.

After about four hours we will reach Boca Manu for brief stop and to refuel our boat and exploring the lower portion of the Madre de Dios. We will eventually depart Manus Wilderness and re-introduction into civilization; after 4 hours of overland transportation, we reach the Guadalupe Lodge time to encounter some creatures that dwell during the night time walks. We will have dinner and spend the overnight at Guadalupe Lodge.

DAY 8

Guadalupe Lodge - Cusco

Guided morning walks along the palm forest to look for the blue and yellow Macaws and enjoy a tasty breakfast and get ready to pack as you will soon start hit the road again to Cusco. The return trip will give us more opportunities to take glimpses of animals, birds along the Cloud Forest with impressing views of the exuberant vegetation's and majestic mountains that we approach while ascending to the Andean Mountain range, The arrival in Cusco should be around 5pm.

Inclusions

- Accommodation on double bed room on selected lodges
- Activities Listed in the Program
- All meals included (vegetarian, vegan mentioned in advance)
- Best available Lodges in the area



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- Duffel Bags for Travelling Light
- Entrance tickets to Manu National Park (Reserved Zone)
- Free Storage Room in Cusco
- Professionally Local Guide
- Rubber Boots
- Snacks (fresh fruits, cookies, chocolate)
- Unlimited Purified Water

Exclusions

- Alcoholic Drinks
- First day breakfast