



## WILD WATCH PERU

### Manu Reserved Zone Express 6 days 2022-B

**Duration:** 6 days/ 5 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:** 08

**Type Service:** Group basis rate

**Frequency:** Fixed Departures / Private Departures anytime

#### DAY 1

##### **Cusco – Guadalupe Lodge**

After Picking you up in Cusco, 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. The next stop will occur in the village of Paucartambo which features a 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 of 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 an 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 if lucky the wooly monkeys. The road will head down to the Guadalupe lodge (560 m./1837 ft). Overnight at Guadalupe Lodge (Private Toilets, Hot Showers, WIFI). Upon arrival to the property, you will be able to explore a loop trail that traverse the swamp forest in the search of the capuchin and night monkeys and encounter interesting bird activity before dusk such as the blue and yellow macaws, woodpeckers, oropendolas among others.

#### DAY 2

##### **Guadalupe Lodge - Boca Manu – Casa Machiguenga**

We depart as early as possible to the Atalaya port to embark our motor boat (roofed to prevent any sudden rain and sun shine) so we will appreciate the view of how we will leave behind the Andean Mountain and getting immersed into the dense rainforest, amazing views of the river flowing towards the horizon and gradually the mountains disappearing and much flatter of evergreen forest, you will be able to observe myriads of colorful birds such as; macaws, parrots, toucans, caciques, oropendolas, the navigation it's along the lower basin of the Alto Madre de Dios River, this travel route provides good chances to observe some interesting wildlife such as; capybaras, monkeys etc. After around 5 hours of boat travel, we will reach the confluence with the Manu River, we stop briefly at the Limonal ranger station for check-in then, we travel upriver 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 reach the Casa Matsigueka lodge (before dusk) which it's set aside a short distance from the Rio Manu in the heart of Manu National Park and staying the following couple of nights. \* Night walks are optional and depend on travelers' desires.



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### DAY 3

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#### **Casa Machiguenga (Trail Exploration – Lake Explorations – Macaw clay lick)**

We will have the better part to enjoy the Manu's Wilderness, in the morning, we 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, In the forest around the lake we'll also search for more species of monkeys such as white fronted capuchin, pygmy marmoset. Apart from the lake, the forest around Salvador 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.

During the midday we will explore the terra Firme, the route takes you through Terraza Forest" forest which is the habitat for Brazil nut (bertholletia excelsa) among others species of trees as you move deep into the heart of the forest is also an excellent place to run into troops of monkeys, the we will reach the macaw clay lick that attracts the red and green macaws visiting this clay lick is also always a big highlight of the trip. Overnight: Casa Machiguenga lodge. (Please notice that the time to visit the Salvador lagoon on this day its subject of availability)

### DAY 4

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#### **Casa Machiguenga – El Dorado Lodge**

This morning we'll board our boat and begin the journey down the Rio Manu. In the way we will pass by the trailhead of the Otorongo Oxbow Lake, where we will be able to walk inside of pristine and to have an impression of how the forest looks like it by inside, there is a trail network that allows visiting a canopy tower that overlooks the lake and swamps and few other wooden platforms to observe some aquatic wildlife and alligators. This forest section also harbors one of the largest kapok trees, visitors can walk nearby its root system to see its enormous size. We'll also have access and briefly to see untouched rainforest. 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 Jaguar. After about four hours we will reach the Limonal ranger station to register out and brief stop for toilets. Lunch will be served on the boat and we arrive the Dorado Lodge by mid afternoon to have enough time to explore the surroundings, night walk available depending of wishes of the group

### DAY 5

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#### **El Dorado Lodge – Guadalupe Lodge**

This morning we will have the opportunity to visit the Macaw Clay lick that is located in the vicinity of the lodge, you will be able to see how many medium sized macaws, Parrots & Parakeets will gather to eat some mineral from the bare soil then, we will boat up the fast flowing braided and clear water upper Madre de Dios in the morning as we start our five hours back journey to Atalaya this is the last chance to spot the capybara, the world's largest rodent. We'll keep a close watch for raptors, as we have seen numerous Kites, as well as fun birds such as Vultures, eagles. We'll continue navigating the upper Alto Madre de Dios River and our re-introduction into civilization at Atalaya Port, after one hour of overland transportation, we reach the Guadalupe Lodge and having time for some night walk around the area.



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### DAY 6

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#### Guadalupe Lodge - Cusco

A morning walk before breakfast to explore the foothill forest to look for the Woolly and Capuchin monkeys, you could encounter some emblematic birds of the Amazon rainforest such as macaws, toucans, woodpeckers, etc. The walk routes it's a loop, then allowing you to explore the caves and canyons to see animals that only live in darkness, spider scorpions, and different species of bats \* flashlights are needed Upon your return, your tasty breakfast will be ready, then you will need to pack and start hitting the road again to Cusco. The way back will give more opportunities to glimpse some more animals and discover the wildlife of the cloud forest and have impressive views of the exuberant cloud forest with waterfall, and cascades. The arrival in Cusco should be around 4 pm. \*\* Please if you need an earlier arrival to Cusco let us know.

#### Inclusions

- Accommodation on double bed room at Guadalupe Lodge, Boca Manu Lodge & Casa Machiguenga.
- Activities Listed in the Program
- All meals included (vegetarian, vegan mentioned in advance)
- Best available Lodges in the area
- 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

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- Alcoholic Drinks
- First day breakfast
- Nights on Single Supplement