

UPPER & MIDDLE RIO NEGRO - 9 days

Includes Anavilhanas Archipelago and Jau National Park

“Cabeça do Cachorro” (“Head of the Dog”), the most untouched native Indian region in Brazil, the frontier of their civilization and entrance of the Guyanas Plateau; many are the titles that recognize the Upper Rio Negro as a “wild” tourist attraction. It is a place with different culture and values that breeds a different kind of man. When you explore the waterways of the upper stretch of one of the world’s oldest rivers, navigating by its islands and beaches, boulder gardens and rapids, riverside mountains, and native communities to which we have privileged access, it is natural that your worldview expands as a result. Many different realities be found and great experiences be lived. “Katerre”, which means “good things” in the Yanomami language, certainly will be heard during our expedition until we get to Middle Rio Negro. There you can find Mariuá, the world's largest river archipelago with 700 islands, and many beaches, parrots, and macaws. And, last but not least, the nostalgic town of Barcelos, the first capital of Amazonas.



The Upper Rio Negro, particularly between Santa Isabel and Sao Gabriel da Cachoeira, is one of the most beautiful regions of the Amazon with mountains to riverside and unique landscapes. Throughout its complex island formation, there are beaches and large boulders. On good weather days, we see the outline of Pico da Neblina.

Anthropologically important, it is the birthplace of Baré, Baniwa Tariano, Tukano and Dessano nations, as well as the greatest empire of the Upper Amazon Indians, the tribe of the Yanomami. The Middle Rio Negro has a lot of sedimented white sand in its course. In summer, there are the most beautiful freshwater beaches the man has ever known. The vegetation of its islands make the ideal habitat for parrots and macaws, considered the most intelligent

and scandalous birds of the planet.

Day 1: São Gabriel > Upper Rio Negro

- 7:25 am: MAO/SGB – flight by commercial aircraft and reception at the airport;
- City-tour at Sao Gabriel da Cachoeira, the most indigenous city of Brazil;
- Lunch at local restaurant;
- Bags are shipped to the port of Camanaus, where the boat is anchored;
- Descent through the rapids to the port of Camanaus (30 min) by motorboat. Beginning of expedition through Upper Rio Negro.



Day 2: Pedral do Jacaré > Yanuri River

- The expedition explores this beautiful region with islands, waterfalls, rapids and surrounded by indigenous communities. Some of the activities are:
 - o Cultural exchange and chat with natives;
 - o Learning the local customs, particularities of cultivated vegetation, medicinal plants, gardens and agroforestry tour, water springs;
 - o Playing sports with the locals (optional);
 - o Streams tour by motorboat;
 - o Visiting the Yanomami indigenous territory;
 - o Motorboat tour to the Yanuri waterfall (dry season), where you can snorkel to observe fish;
 - o Visiting the communities Tessado and Jacamin.

Day 3: Baré Indigenous Community and region

- Expedition to explore Baré Indian territory and its many beaches;
- Cultural exchange and chat with natives;
- Relaxing on the beaches of the region;
- Participation on the community traditional festivals (when available);

- Fishing focusing on stingrays and other nocturnal animals;
- Motorboat tours through the region and wild animals sightseeing.

Day 4: Ariranha Ridge

- Expedition to explore the mountains of Ariranha Ridge;
- Climbing to the top of the riverside mountain – level: medium-easy (about 250m in height);
- Potential observation of rare birds;
- High altitude tropical vegetation;
- Meditation and exercises on the rock plateau at the summit;
- Watching the sunsets at the peak, with a beautiful view of the great extension of Rio Negro;
- We return to the boat for dinner and overnight

Day 5: Pedral do Tucunaré

- Expedition to explore this beautiful region with islands, rapids and surrounded by local communities. Some of the activities are:
- Historic site of St. Augustine, with a tower in ruins built at the beginning of the century in colonial style by Mrs. Jandira's family;
- Cultural exchange and chat with natives;
- Local customs and festivals;
- Purchase of palm fiber crafts, excellent quality;
- Playing sports with the locals (optional);
- Motorboat tour by the beaches and streams in search of otters;
- Canoe tour by night;
- Visiting the communities Tacará and Boa Esperança.



Day 6: Barcelos and Middle Rio Negro

- Tour by the ancient capital of Amazonas state: Barcelos. It has charm and history, excellent handcraft, and welcoming people;
- We stop at Mariuá, world's biggest fluvial Archipelago, for a refreshing swim in the river;

- Almost at sunset hour we will visit an overnight point of thousands of parrots for a great impact spectacle;
- Dinner on board.

Day 7: Mariuá Archipelago – Ecological Sanctuary

- Navigation through the largest river archipelago in the world, with stops at:
 - o Carvoeiro village;
 - o Rio Branco and Rio Negro – “Meeting of Waters”;
 - o Visit and contemplation of the Samaúma Mirapinima, the largest tree in the region.

Day 8: Jau National Park

(Dry Season) Today we will get to Rio Jau, a great tributary of Rio Negro that gives us access to another tributary, the Pauini River, which is one of the greatest spectacles of the Lower Rio Negro: the waterfalls of Rio Pauini. It will be a day of swimming and aquatic leisure with float, canoes and picnics on stone plateaus.

Day 9: Anavilhanas – Novo Airao

- * navigating through the Anavilhanas Archipelago to Novo Airao
- * swimming with the pink dolphins
- * city tour, then transfer to Manaus airport or hotel by van

Because of fluctuations in the flights to Sao Gabriel and Barcelos, we advise that clients arrive to Manaus 2 days ahead of time.