

Jungle trip to the Harakmbut natives

Amarakaeri: Tracking the Jaguar at the Rio Azul

11 days / 11 nights
 Begin: daily between May and October
 (at least 4 participants)

Experience the fascinating jungle of the Amazon lowlands in a very special way. You will accompany the Harakmbut natives who have recognized ecotourism as their chance to keep their culture alive and contribute to conservation. You will plunge into a world full of wild animals and exotic plants and at the same time learn about the traditional way of life and history of the Harakmbut natives. This extraordinary jungle trip leads you through the Manu National Park and the Reserva Comunal Amarakaeri. The Tropical Rainforest in southern Peru is one of the most important conservation units in the world with an incomparable diversity of life. We invite you to experience the beauty of this area, descending from the orchid laden Cloud Forest to untouched Amazon Lowland Rainforest where monkeys abound and Giant Otters, Anacondas and Jaguars still exist.

Day 1. Tag: from Cusco to Tambo Paititi Lodge

We start our jungle tour leaving from Cusco in the early morning in our private bus. During the journey along the small road, we will pass an impressive landscape and small communities. Leaving the colonial village of Paucartambo behind, we reach the Acjanaco Pass (3550 m), the entrance to the Manu National Park. There you will have a first view over the eastern slopes of the Andes to the canopy of the Amazon rainforest. Descending further down you will observe the fascinating change from the Altiplano to the Cloud Forest of the Manu National Park with its unique fauna and flora. In the early afternoon you will reach Tambo Paititi (1500 m).

Day 2: from Tambo Paititi to Shintuya

This morning offers an opportunity for the observation of the Manu Cloud Forest's wildlife. After breakfast you will take our bus and continue your jungle tour down the Kosñipata valley to the Amazon rainforest. In the afternoon you will reach

the little village of Shintuya, here we will meet the Harakmbut, who will be our company and guides for the next days. We will spend the night in Shintuya.

Day 3: from Shintuya to Tambo Sengke

After breakfast we visit a parrots' clay lick, where different smaller parrot species appear in the early morning. Later you will start for a hike through the Amazon Rainforest together with your native guides to Tambo Segnke. The Harakmbut will show you the fauna and flora of their reserve; you will have an insight into their traditional knowledge about the habits of the animals living in the Amazon rainforest as well as the plants and their medical use. Your efforts will be rewarded with a refreshing bath in the river. Dinner in Tambo Segnke with typical dishes, later you can enjoy conversation with the Harakmbut natives and listen to their stories.

Day 4: Ishilivre river

We continue our hike through the rainforest to the river Ishilivre. Till afternoon we walk along the river shore and our native guides will show us where they first met the white people 50 years ago or where they were fighting against the Toiletries. We camp at the shore of the Ishilivre River.

Day 5 to day 10: rafting in the jungle

One more time we will cross the jungle to get to the river Azul, where our rafting adventure begins. You will be invited to help the Harakmbut building some rafts, after loading the equipment our river expedition can start. It will take us 5 to 6 days to reach the union with the Madre de Dios River through untouched rainforest. During these days we will drift downstream, and depending on the water level we have to go through some soft rapids. We will camp on nice sand beaches with camp fire. Both rafts and campsites and the company of our native guides will give us the best opportunities for wildlife observation.

Day 11: Puerto Maldonado

On our last day we will reach the Madre de Dios River near a Harakmbut community, where a motorboat will be waiting for us to take us to the small village of Colorado. There we will continue by bus to Puerto Maldonado, overnight in a Hotel.