

3-Day Amazon Jungle in Hakuna Matata Lodge



An experience intended for active, adventurous, **intrepid and energetic people**. **Amazon Rainforest Experience awaits you!** You will enjoy a hike through jungle and rivers, refresh in **waterfalls and natural pools**, and explore caves in the **Amazon lowlands**.

With this, we recommend that you do not miss the fun and **exciting program venturing to the Amazon**, and do not allow anyone else to tell you about an experience, live it. Spend the night in the jungle and rest at **Hakuna Matata Lodge**, one of the **best places in the Amazon**.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Descend into the Amazon jungle and start the adventure.



Adventure begins with a remarkable descent into the jungle. But it's not all downhill as you traverse the World Heritage-listed Sumaco Biosphere Reserve experiencing dramatic temperature and vegetation changes across altitudes from 4,100 msl to 600 msl. Climbing up out of Quito, we cross the Papallacta Pass Shrine, wind down into the Valley of Waterfalls, climb up to the Macaw view point pass and finally descend into the steamy Amazon basin passing through Kichwa villages and tropical rainforest to the Lodge.

After enjoying a delicious lunch at the lodge's Restaurant Pangaea you'll be refueled for your first jungle exploration on horseback. This excursion is suitable for both beginners and experienced riders. Accompanied by our professional guide and on well-trained horses you'll take a very varied ride of about three hours. The route crosses small rivers and traverses mildly sloping hills amidst rich jungle flora.

Alternatively, you can choose to take a guided hike. The medicinal properties of plants and trees, insects and age-old customs are explained by our English-speaking local guide. Walking through private jungle, secondary forest and fields, step by step you'll get closer to that unique wisdom that distinguishes the indigenous people of the area from the non-natives.

Day 2: Live a day in the life of Ecuador's jungle



You'll start the day with a delicious breakfast before driving for a couple of hours into the jungle. In a small native village on the banks of the Río Arajuno, you'll board a motorized canoe, the preferred mode of transport to navigate the extensive waterways of the Napo river and its tributaries. Depending on weather conditions, number of participants and specific interests of the group, your guide will design a route for the day.

Rich flora, in primary and secondary forest, and fauna, in the form of birds, insects, amphibians and reptiles, will be introduced by your guide during walks and canoe trips. Explanations of the use of medicinal plants, trees and herbs by the native people will be given. Tubing on one of the quiet rivers through primary forest is an especially serene experience.

Day 3: Raft the Upper Napo River (The longest river in Ecuador)



After an early morning breakfast we drive up into the jungle to the start of our rafting adventure on the Upper Napo River, also known as the Jatunyacu, which means “Big Water” in Quichua. Big is probably the best word to describe this river: big waves and tons of fun! This jungle river shows no signs of contamination as it flows from the Llanganates National Park – an extremely rugged and uninhabited mountain range believed by some to be the hiding place of Inca gold. You'll finish the day by climbing back up over the rim of the Amazon basin into the Andes and Quito City.

The tour includes:

- 3-night accommodation in the chosen category (Cabins, Lodge, Supreme)
- Certified Naturalist Guide (English-speaking)
- Native local Guide
- All tickets for the activities planned in the program
- All meals (from dinner on the day of arrival to breakfast on the day of departure)
- Lodge facilities; including swimming pool, river area, hiking trails
- Rubber boots (available up to size 47)

Extension rafting:

International rafting Guide (English-speaking)

First-class equipment for the river (paddle, helmet, life jacket)

Transportation to the start of the rafting and back to the Lodge

Picnic lunch, water and soft drinks

Communication instruments for emergencies

Safety kayak

First aid kit

The tour doesn't include:

- Travel/Medical insurances
- Activities not mentioned in the program (Extra cost)
- Personal expenses
- Extra meals not mentioned in the program
- Tips
- Soft and alcoholic drinks

What to bring?

Passport and copies, personal medications, sunscreen, sun hat, sunglasses, light clothing, easy to dry and preferably light colors (t-shirt, shorts for the morning and long pants, long-sleeved t-shirt for the afternoons), swimsuit, lightweight raincoat, hiking shoes, sandals and cash for your personal expenses.

Additionally for excursions:

Small backpack for the excursion, small towel and T-shirt to change into, plastic case for camera and cell phone, binoculars, water bottle, insect repellent.