



Adventure tours that delve deeper

5-day Manu adventure

TRIP LENGTH: Five days
STARTS AND ENDS: Cusco

Down in the Amazon basin, off the edge of the tourist map, lies Manu: arguably the most biodiverse area in the world and, due to not being exactly easily accessible, incredibly untouched. If you're looking for genuine adventure on your Amazon jungle trip, and are happy to do without hot showers, luxury accommodations, and (gasp!) internet access for a few days, then Manu is for you!

Day 1 Over the edge!

We'll leave Cusco early this morning and head past Inca ruins and historic colonial highland towns to Tres Cruces, where the Andes suddenly give way and the Amazon Basin is laid out before us. Here we'll start our descent of the Pacific slope of the Andes, spending the night in a high-rainforest lodge at the very beginning of Manu. Tonight, and every night of the trip, we'll have the chance to make the most of our time in the Amazon jungle with an optional night hike to spot frogs, tarantulas, and exotic insects.

Accommodation: Rustic lodge in the Amazon jungle

Meals: All meals included

Day 2 Boat to Boca Manu

Today we're likely to spot various famous birds – including Peru's national bird, the bizarre, hammerheaded gallito de las rocas (cock of the rock) – on our way to the frontier town of Atalaya, where we'll board our own outboard canoe and take to the waters of the Rio Madre de Dios (the Mother of God river – its name gives you a sense of its scale!) spotting herons, vultures and more. This evening there's the chance to see caimans (crocodiles) and capybaras during our night hike from our riverside lodge.

Accommodation: Rustic lodge in the Amazon jungle

Meals: All meals included

Day 3 River journey through the heart of the jungle

We are now deep into the Manu Buffer Zone, and today's long boat journey offers the trip's best opportunities for diverse wildlife spotting, with high likelihood of spotting caimans, herons, capybaras, macaws and jaguars, to name just a few, going about their everyday business along the river.

Accommodation: Rustic lodge in the Amazon jungle

Meals: All meals included

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Day 4 Get close to parrots, tapirs and more

We'll get up early to boat and hike through the jungle to a clay lick whose nearby camouflaged lookout gives us incredible opportunities to observe parrots, macaws, sloths and other creatures that come to lick the clay, whose mineral content aids their digestion.

After resting in the heat of the day, later in the afternoon we'll hike to a tapir lookout and settle down for the night with sleeping bags and mosquito nets, giving ourselves the entire night to spot these notoriously shy, nocturnal creatures from up close.

Accommodation: Tapir observation platform in the Amazon jungle

Meals: All meals included

Day 5 Back to Cusco

A long journey, by boat to the jungle outpost of Colorado, then by vehicle, brings us back to Cusco. Of course, there are plenty of opportunities along the way for last glimpses of herons, flycatchers, hummingbirds, and dozens of Amazon animals and plants.

Meals: Breakfast and lunch included

What's included:

- All accommodation (*based on twin-share. Single Supplement available for US\$200*)
- All ground transport (*vehicle and boat*)
- All activities specified in itinerary
- Dedicated Aspiring Adventures Manu specialist guide
- Entrance to all attractions specified in itinerary
- All meals as specified (*five breakfasts, five lunches, four dinners*)
- Drinking water

What's not included:

- Tip for your guide, cook, driver and boatmen

Accommodations:

The lodges where we stay on this trip are noted more for their incredible access to wildlife than their luxury! Please do not expect hot water in the shower or internet access – that way you'll appreciate the bonus when you do get them!

Please note some lodges do not have double beds, only singles, so while we will accommodate all rooming requests we can, this will not always be possible for couples who prefer to share a bed.