UPPER AMAZON

EXPLORING PERU’S PACAYA-SAMIRIA RESERVE

ABOARD DELFIN II | MARCH 21-30, 2020
HOWDY, AGS!

There’s a sense of enchantment about being out on the fabled Amazon River, as you listen to the symphony of noises emanating from the depths of the jungle. Part of the mystery of the Amazon is the fact that the omnipresent wildlife is so skilled at concealment; but as you get the hang of spotting, trying to outdo your guide, your excitement will quickly escalate.

Join us for an exploration of Peru’s massively biodiverse Pacaya-Samiria Reserve aboard the Delfin II, the perfect platform for discovering this living, breathing forest. This exquisite, 28-guest ship is specially designed for the river environment and to keep you connected to it—open, airy decks and spacious cabins, each with an expansive window wall, afford nonstop views of life along the Amazon. Delfin II is equipped with comfortable, custom-made skiffs that are able to thread through narrow canopied waterways. Plus, she carries a fleet of kayaks, providing rare, intimate experiences with this magical environment.

Each day you will have rewarding natural history experiences and meaningful cultural encounters with the people who call the river home. And you’ll return to the ship’s cool confines to enjoy wonderful company, music, and excellent meals that highlight the remarkable flavors of the region.

The staff, unmatched in the region, will be the key to your experience. You’ll go with a veteran expedition leader and a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor—a naturalist who is specially trained to help you capitalize on the rare wildlife sightings while shooting in the often-challenging conditions of the rain forest. The handpicked local guides are especially skilled at finding wildlife, since most of them grew up along the river, and they are the most gracious hosts when you enter villages along the river.

The Amazon is an all-five-senses travel experience unlike anything else. I hope you’ll join us on this voyage, March 21-30, 2020. To reserve your place, please call us at 979-845-7514 or 800-633-7514, or return the enclosed reservation form.

Gig ‘em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D. Marisa Liles
Director of Travel – Director of Travel –
Outreach and Engagement Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students The Association of Former Students

Cover: Delfin II, Upper Amazon. ©David Vargas
Opposite: Squirrel monkey in rain forest canopy. ©David Vargas
EXPLORE THE WORLD’S MOST BIODIVERSE RAIN FOREST

We’ll actively explore, getting out on one or more outings each day, with each group following the lead of the naturalist, and interest of the guests, not banding together like a bus tour. To discover the intricate networks of the seasonally flooded forest, we’ll board Delfin II’s three skiffs, guided by drivers who are agile navigators and eagle-eyed spotters. They help us develop our jungle eyes—to find the elusive species that make exploring the Amazon so fascinating. Cruising clear water, stained black with tannins mirroring the sky, we might see pink and gray dolphins feeding while chattering terns dive for prey they’ve chased to the surface. Or in the brown water tributaries, spot common squirrel monkeys, a yellow-handed titi, or perhaps a small group of shy monk saki monkeys will show themselves. Or find myriad bird species—like the motmot, striated herons, blue-and-yellow and scarlet macaws, along with diverse kingfishers, flycatchers, weaverbirds, and more.
Your visit to Amazonas may rank among your most meaningful cultural experiences. Lindblad-National Geographic guests are exclusively invited by Minga Peru to visit one of the riverside villages where they work. Minga Peru, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2018, is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to effect social change through the empowerment of women and families in rural communities of the Peruvian Amazon. You’ll be received warmly by the women of a village community along the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve. They’ll share their projects with you, while children of all ages watch, read, or play nearby. One of the women will tell the story of how she discovered Minga Peru and how it changed her life. Other women, dressed in traditional blouses, will reveal the skills behind the handicrafts you see aboard *Delfin II* and in the village markets.

*Clockwise from top: Spot wildlife along the river during frequent skiff rides; search for caimans on night excursions; meet the welcoming ribereños in their riverside communities.*
THE PERFECT BASE CAMP: DELFIN II

Explore the remote Amazon in supreme comfort aboard the intimate Delfin II. Your base for daily explorations, the ship has a distinct advantage over any land-based camp—she moves, to give you an ever-varied experience of the Amazon’s diverse landscapes and wonders. Specially designed to sail these winding headwaters, she can venture into the jungle’s wild heart—and her fleet of nimble skiffs and kayaks allows you to venture even deeper. Back aboard, relax on the airy observation deck or visit the wellness specialist.

Delfin II’s steel exterior is clad in tropical hardwoods, and her interior gleams with wood floors and lacquered palm ceilings. Both the lounge and the dining room are welcoming and expansive public spaces, with generous walls of windows to keep you connected to the nonstop panorama outside. Spacious, comfortable cabins, also with river-framing windows, are the perfect ending to active days.

EXPERIENCE THE AMAZON WITH ALL YOUR SENSES

As you travel along the Amazon, you experience this internationally acclaimed cuisine (the first to earn a Cultural Heritage of the Americas award) from the comfort of a welcoming dining room, crafted by local artisans. Wake up to a rainbow of fresh-squeezed juices, experience seasonal ingredients relatively unknown outside the region and end your night with chocolate placed on your pillow. Take the recipes back with you, too, as you’ll have the opportunity to make ceviche, Peru’s national dish, and a pisco sour, its national drink.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guest takes in the dramatic scenery; spacious suite with panoramic river views; bartender aboard ship prepares a pisco sour; Peru’s tradition of flavorful fusion cuisine ensures daily palate pleasures; the dining room provides expansive views and outstanding meals.
A seasoned Lindblad-National Geographic expedition leader and an experienced team of Peruvian naturalists accompany your voyage. Many of the naturalists were born in towns along the riverbanks and educated in schools in Iquitos. All are fluent in English, and their personal knowledge, along with their scientific training, makes for a fascinating story, as authentic as it is well-informed. One naturalist for every ten guests and a spectrum of specialties—biology, ornithology, ichthyology, and lepidopterology—ensure a daily diversity of interests and personalities for you.

The Upper Amazon is rife with spectacular photo ops—from colorful birds to picturesque reflections on the mirrored water. You’ll travel with a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, trained to help you with your camera settings, composition, and lighting so you’re better able to capture the moments at the heart of the voyage, and go home with some of the best shots of your life.

Opportunity page (clockwise from top): Guests explore a forest trail; guest photographs the diverse plant life; exploring the remarkable wilderness in a kayak; a scarlet macaw grooms itself.
Voyage to the headwaters of the mighty Amazon in the heart of Peru’s rain forest aboard the elegant riverboat *Delfin II*. Slip through an intricate network of jungle waterways in a skiff or kayak, spotting various types of bird species, as well as caimans, tamarins, and sloths. Go on a bird-watching hike, peer up at towering ceiba trees, and witness glorious sunsets on the still waters of the Amazon River basin.

**DAY 1: U.S./LIMA, PERU**
Arrive in Lima in late evening and transfer to the conveniently located Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel.

**DAY 2: LIMA/IQUITOS/NAUTA/EMBARK**
This morning fly to Iquitos and continue overland to the riverside village of Nauta, where the *Delfin II* awaits. Settle into your cabin, and gather for a welcome dinner of fine Peruvian cuisine on board. Tonight, step out on deck to gaze at the magnificent Amazon night sky. (B,L,D)

**DAYS 3–8: PACAYA-SAMIRIA NATIONAL RESERVE**
Spend this week exploring the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve—a pristine swath of jungle stretching more than five million acres and harboring some of the Amazon’s most fascinating flora and fauna. Bordered by the Marañón and the Ucayali, these two powerful rivers converge to create the famed Amazon, which floods annually with nutrient-rich waters.
Set out into this remarkable wilderness on daily excursions by skiff, kayak, and foot on dry land. Skim past giant lily pads afloat on black-water lakes, and venture deep into the rain forest on narrow tributaries. Spot sloths and monkeys, including variably colored saddleback tamarins, noisy howlers, and shaggy-tailed monk saki monkeys. Watch for an astounding variety of birds, from tanagers and hummingbirds to parrots and endangered scarlet macaws. In the river, look for signs of the massive paiche fish, the Amazon’s largest; rare pink dolphins; and the legendary piranhas.

Enjoy an opportunity to swim in a lake in the reserve’s interior. Seek out Victoria amazonica, a giant water lily that grows in small lagoons. Go on a bird-watching hike, listening for the vocal oropendola and then looking for its telltale yellow tail. Watch the sun set and listen to a cacophonous symphony of nocturnal animals calling out across the treetops. Then slip through the forest in a skiff as night falls, using a spotlight to find caimans, frogs, fishing bats, and other creatures of the night.

One of the unexpected joys of traveling in the Upper Amazon of Peru is the interaction you have with the local ribereños, the traditional people who live on the riverbanks. Visit one of the communities and see the projects that Lindblad-National Geographic supports through Minga Peru, a local nonprofit, including a variety of handicrafts, women’s health initiatives, and sustainable farming. (B,L,D Daily)

**DAY 9: DISEMBARK/NAUTA/IQUITOS/LIMA**

Disembark in Nauta, stopping at the Amazon Rescue Center on the drive to Iquitos. Fly to Lima, where we visit Museo Larco and celebrate with a farewell dinner. Overnight at the Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel. (B,L,D)

**DAY 10: LIMA/U.S.**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)
**DELFIN II**

**Capacity:** 14 cabins accommodating 28 guests.

**Registry:** Peru. **Overall length:** 120 feet.

**Public Areas:** With sweeping views, public areas include an air-conditioned presentation room, open-air lounge and bar up top, and dining room with 270-degree views. A small library, exercise room and spa. Open bridge, where you are welcome to visit and watch the riverscapes go by.

**Meals:** The air-conditioned dining room’s large windows provide panoramic views. Beautifully prepared meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables. Often special dishes will include sustainable products of the rain forest and sauces made with exotic regional fruits.

**Suites:** Elegant, air-conditioned guest suites on the Main and Upper Decks all offer exceptional vistas. Each spacious suite has a minimalist décor with a luxurious overtone. Enjoy complimentary body lotion, shampoo, and conditioner.

**Expedition Equipment:** 12-person skiffs with individual seat cushions and ample leg room. Fleet of safe, nimble kayaks and stand-up paddleboards for personal exploration. Rain ponchos are kept handy in the skiffs. Rubber boots are provided as needed.

*indicates adjoining cabins*
Clockwise from top: The panoramic enclosed lounge on the Observation Deck comfortably accommodates the entire expedition community during daily recap; most of the ingredients used aboard are sustainably sourced from the surrounding rain forest; the dining room offers unassigned tables with all guests served in a single seating; enjoy a massage at the end of an active day; the spacious, air-conditioned suites provide excellent amenities and views.

**SUITES:** UPPER & MAIN DECK #1-6, 11-14 — Most suites have two twin beds which can convert to a king. With a window wall, easy chair, desk and ample closet. Bathrooms include a large shower, separate toilet, and sink area. Suites 4/6 and 3/5 are available as interconnecting.

**MASTER SUITES:** UPPER & MAIN DECK #7, 8, 15, 16 — The Master Suites feature all of the amenities listed above plus oversized windows which provide incredible 90-degree views. The Master Suites on the Main Deck feature two twin beds which can convert to a king, and Upper Deck Master Suites have king beds only.

**Solo Occupancy:** Due to the limited number of cabins available, solo occupancy is on a request basis only; please call for availability and rates.

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Prices are per person, double occupancy.

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<tr>
<th>ITINERARY</th>
<th>SUITE</th>
<th>MASTER SUITE</th>
<th>ADVANCE PAYMENT</th>
<th>AIRFARES</th>
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</thead>
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INCLUSIVE PRICING

ABOARD SHIP
✓ All meals & nonalcoholic beverages
✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
✓ Hors d’oeuvres & snacks during nightly recap
✓ Environmentally friendly refillable water bottle
✓ Library
✓ Exercise room
✓ The guidance & company of the expedition staff

ASHORE
✓ Two hotel nights with breakfast in Lima
✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
✓ Transfers to & from group flights
✓ The expertise of the expedition staff

ACTIVITIES
✓ All shore activities
✓ Skiff, kayak & paddleboard explorations
✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
✓ Photo instruction

BRING THE KIDS: Sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take $500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COSTS INCLUDE: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels as per itinerary; all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship; meals on land as indicated; all shore excursions, sightseeing, and entrance fees; special access permits; transfers to/from group flights; use of kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and skiffs; tips (except to ship’s crew), taxes, and service charges; and services of Lindblad Expeditions’ expedition staff. Unused services or items included in the program are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED: International and internal airfare; passport, visa, and immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as Wi-Fi access, laundry; gratuities to ship’s crew are at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost, including internal Peru fare (Lima/Iquitos/Lima). International and internal tickets must be issued separately. Internal air must be ticketed by Lindblad Expeditions. Lindblad will assist in making your international air arrangements for a $50 per person service charge. Fares are subject to change.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of US$750 per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or check.

FINAL PAYMENT: Payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel and medical insurance are available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you upon registration.

SMOKING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country’s requirement.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions’ and the National Geographic Society’s liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship’s ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Note: Itinerary and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs including, but not limited to, increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, the right is reserved to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

CANCELLATION POLICY

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<tr>
<th>Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 or more days</td>
<td>$350</td>
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<tr>
<td>119-90 days</td>
<td>Advance payment cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>89-60 days</td>
<td>25% of trip cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>59–45 days</td>
<td>50% of trip cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>44–0 days</td>
<td>No refund</td>
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We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

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RESERVATION FORM: UPPER AMAZON
ABOARD DELFIN II—MARCH 21-30, 2020

Please reserve ____________ place(s).

Name 1: _______________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)
Name 1: ___________________________________ Date of Birth: _______________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: _______________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)
Name 2: ___________________________________ Date of Birth: _______________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ________________________________________________________________
City:_____________________________________ State:________________ Zip: _________

Home Phone: ___________________________ Business Phone: _________________________
Cell Phone: _____________________________ Fax: ________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________________

Accommodations:☐ Double ☐ Single ☐ Twin share w/friend
☐ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: __________________________ 2nd choice: ______________________________

☐ Enclosed is my advance payment of $________________________ ($750 per person).
Check made payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

☐ Charge my advance payment of $________________________ ($750 per person) to my
☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover

Account Number: __________________________ Expires: ______________________________

Cardholder Signature: __________________________ Date: ____________________________

Please send reservation to:
The Association of Former Students
Attn: Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840-2918
Phone: 979-845-7514
Toll Free: 800-633-7514
Fax: 979-845-9263
EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

» Discover the Amazon wilderness from the comfort of the elegant 14-cabin *Delfin II*.

» Explore the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, one of the last remaining true wilderness areas on the planet.

» Spot the Amazon’s legendary wildlife: pink and gray dolphins, monk saki monkeys, piranhas, and scarlet macaws.

» Get acquainted with native *ribereños* on a visit to a community at the river’s edge.

» Travel with a top expedition team and a certified photo instructor.

*DELFIN II JOINED RELAIS & CHATEAUX*
A tribute to the total immersion in local nature and culture—and exquisite Amazonian-Peruvian cuisine aboard.