

# APUJAÚ - 7 days

*Combination of the routes Apuaú Wild + Jaú National Park complete*

The left bank of the lower Rio Negro, the section between rivers Apuaú, Jauperi and Rio Branco, has a low density of population, abundant flora and fauna and mainly, a rich morphology. It is also where it is located the Anavilhanas National Park, besides the most beautiful and wild waterfalls in the whole region. Studies have shown that Anavilhanas islands, whose age of formation is estimated in 18,000 years ago, were formed by the deposit of the Rio Branco river discharges into the Rio Negro.

After we explore this area, we will conquer the Jau River, where the largest fresh water forest park in the world still holds enigmas to be revealed. Because of its relatively complicated access, its paths, waterfalls, and creeks are not heavily explored by tourists. Monkeys, sloths, dolphins, lowland pacas and birds can be observed on jungle nights, or in the river, close to sunset time. During the dry season, the giant otters are the attraction. Riverside communities with genuine northern Brazilian culture, give the human touch to a region where nature still runs the show. The park's water system is composed by 3 big rivers (Unini River on the north, Carabinani by the south and Jaú on the center) and an infinity of small streams of dark water. These rivers present a high water volume variation during the year.

The forests found on the banks of the rivers are called Igapó Forests and are flooded for a period of 6-8 months during the year. The dry forests are known as Firm Land Forests. This is the typical humid tropical forest, with trees that reach over 35 meters high, like the Samaúma. Its diversity represents 200 species per hectare.

The left bank of the lower Rio Negro presents, in its southeast portion, a solid plateau which favors the appearance of many waterfalls among the forest, in the Apaú River region. In contrast, sailing 100 km north-west of Rio Negro we find the flooded depression of the Rio Jaú basin, considered a refuge for equatorial fauna species in the Pleistocene Era, at a time when the Amazon was still a large Savannah.

**Recommended** For those looking for added value in adventure, leisure, waterfalls and a great contact with wildlife.

## **1st day: Manaus / Novo Airão / Anavilhanas**

- Transfer from the hotel in Manaus to Novo Airão: boarding at 09:00 am in an air-conditioned van.
- Quick explanation of the fauna, flora, watersheds, regional customs, maps study to trace the route and the distribution of Ecotourism in Rio Negro
- Arrival in Novo Airão close to lunchtime;
- Start of the Expedition in Anavilhanas Archipelago. Lunch on board;
- Anchorage for a quick speedboat ride through islands and lakes nearby;
- Probable viewing of **Tucuxi dolphins** (*Sotalia fluviatilis*), **Pink Dolphins** (*Inia Geoffrensis*) and of the birds of the season: **Maguari** (*Ardea cocoi*), **Hérons**

(Casmerodius Albus), **Blue and Red Macaws** (Ara Ararauna), **Parrots** (Amazona Festiva), **Heron-Tiger** (Tigrisoma lineatum), **Japiins** (Cacicus Jail), **Japós** (Psarocolius Decumanus) and **Otters** (Galbulidae), among others;

- Bath with lifebuoys on Rio Negro;
- We will carry on with the aquatic trails until we get near to the opposite bank, where the boat will be waiting for us;
- Dinner is served on board;
- Overnight stay in the cabin of the boat, while it navigates on the Apuaú river until Igarapé Içana.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> day: Circuit – ‘Wild Waterfalls in the Amazon’**

- The day rises in the region of **Apuaú River**. After breakfast, we sail by motorboat on the Igarapé Içana streams until we get to its main waterfall, with baths, diving in the river and other aquatic activities;
- ‘Caboclo’ Lunch: grilled fish and side dishes;
- After a nap in a hammock, we start hiking for about 1:30 in the virgin forest until we get to the waterfall of ‘Igarapé do Trovão’, another stream of the Apuaú river;
- We arrive to contemplate two natural pools and check in at the camp, already established by our staff;
- Dinner, campfire, caboclo folklore stories. Overnight in tents or hammocks, the customer's choice.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> day: Circuit - ‘Wild Waterfalls of the Amazon’**

- We are awoken to the sounds of the forest, our staff prepares breakfast, followed by leisure in the waterfall, pools and contemplation of the surrounding nature;
- On the way back, two options: return to the main boat by motorboat on the ‘Igarapé do Trovão’ stream or return on foot, followed by rafting canoeing style on ‘Igarapé Içana’, of considerable current;
- Boarding and return to Rio Negro, with lunch on board. Relaxation time in the comfort of the boat.

### **4<sup>th</sup> day: Jau National Park**

- Set sail to the IBAMA base, on the Park’s entrance
- Navigation by the **Jaú River**, a river of mirror-like waters, with probable sighting of water mammals and birds.
- Flood season:** anchorage and speedboat ride through the Park’s creeks, in an attempt to find the packs of **Giant Otters**.
- Dry Season:** Trip through Pauini River, exploring this tributary filled with boulders and waterfalls.
- Return to boat, navigation to the Aturiá community. Canoe night ride in the river, **with light-spotting of alligators** and nocturnal animals.

### **5<sup>th</sup> day: Jaú National Park**

- Anchorage at the **Aturiá community**. Visit to the community, and exchange with the locals, practice of local customs, orchard with fruits of the season, playing with the children, soccer, handicraft, river swim, etc.

- Visiting a **giant tree** around the community, a very old lady from the ancient forest.
- Aquatic trail with regional canoes**, seeking for Bico Monkeys and other animals.
- Lunch on board.
- Return to the IBAMA base, exit from the Park.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> day: Anavilhanas / Madadá**

- We start the day at Madadá.
- 3 hour hike (round trip) through virgin forest to the **Madadá Caves**.
- Upon return, visitation to native ranch, visitation to an orchard with fruits of the season.
- Swimming with floats at Negro River. Lunch on board.
- Returning to the boat, we set sail to the city of **Novo Airão**.
- Piranha fishing** before sunset.
- We fix anchor at fresh water beach (dry season) or lake inside the archipelago (flood season).
- Night animal foccusing (sloths, birds, alligators, etc)

#### **7<sup>o</sup> day: Novo Airão / Manaus**

- start the travel from Novo Airão.
- Interaction with dolphins
- City tour of Novo Airão, artisans and attractions of the city
- lunch
- arrive to Manaus at about 15:30.