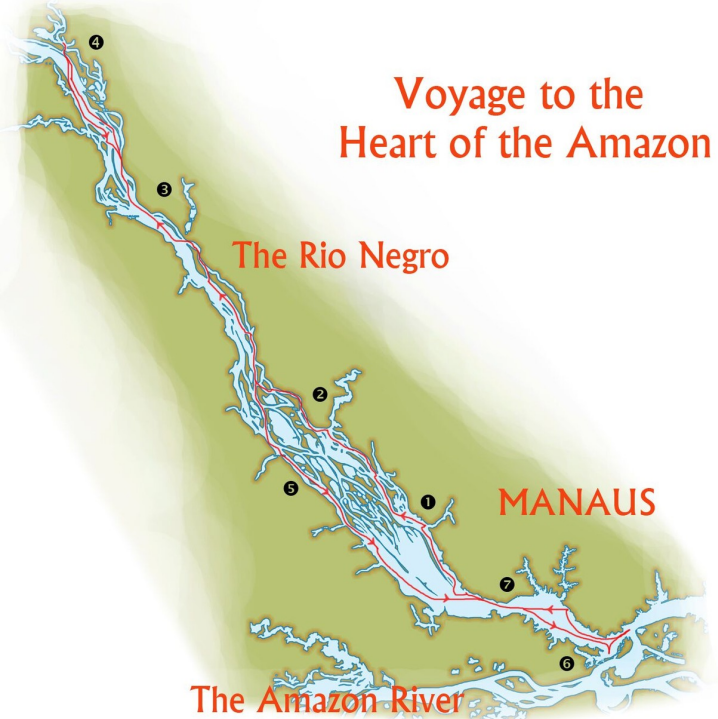




## AMAZON CRUISE AND PANTANAL WILDLIFE LODGE

Combine a wonderful Amazon cruise with a visit to the Pantanal - South America's prime wildlife watching wilderness. Start with a 6 (or 4) night cruise on the wonderful Tucano - A classic Amazon River vessel converted into a boutique cruise ship. Then fly to the Pantanal for a 4 night stay at the beautiful Caiman Lodge set in a 53,000 estate - Home to Jaguars, giant anteaters, maned wolves and tapirs. On Tucano we will venture along hidden uninhabited rivers deep into the wild woods where the magnificent plants and animals of the rainforest reign supreme. There are many active excursions into the forest. By day and by night we seek out the mysterious life that stirs in this vast wilderness forest. With our small group, (a maximum of 18 travelers), our skilled naturalist guides, and our expedition itinerary, we observe creatures almost never seen by other visitors. Far off the beaten path, we also visit small villages where the rhythms of life are tuned to the cycles of the wilderness. On the last day of the cruise we visit the Encontro das Aguas, the confluence of the world's two largest rivers, the Rio Negro and the mighty, magnificent, Amazon River itself. This experience is well beyond any ordinary cruise and way off the grid - the quintessential Amazon expedition cruise. We then fly to Campo Grande (Flight at extra expense) and transfer to our luxury lodge in the Pantanal - home to more than 450 species of birds and 130 species of mammal. We spend 4 days searching for the spectacular wildlife whilst learning about the local projects aimed at conserving Jaguars, Hyacinth Macaws, Blue fronted parrots, tapir and a 5600 hectare protected biome. During your stay in the Pantanal you will be taken on open vehicle wildlife safari, nocturnal walks, hiking trails through the

forest and have the opportunity to paddle a Canadian canoe on the lagoon by



the lodge.

### ITINERARY

Day 1 - Manaus - Embark and cruise to Rio Negro  
 Early this morning all guests board the vessel the Motor Yacht Tucano and depart upstream on the Rio Negro. Through the morning we will cruise through the world's largest river island system, the Anavilhanas Archipelago. From the observation deck



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we scan the magnificent tangle of vegetation at the water's edge. By mid-afternoon the vessel has gone beyond the frontier of settlement and entered a wilderness area. Both shores are covered by dense rainforest. Though we cannot predict what we will see, we have a good chance of observing pink river dolphins and a large collection of exotic birds. Most certainly we will be treated to magnificent forest vistas and the spectacular trees themselves.

In the late afternoon we embark in the launches and search for wildlife. We may also go for a swim in some of the world's most clean and refreshing water. (LD) We return to the M/Y Tucano for hors d'oeuvres on the observation deck and a toast to the rainforest sunset. Following dinner we will embark in our launches in search of nocturnal creatures such as the Caiman, the Amazon's crocodilians. We may also see one of the large night birds such as a Potoo with its bulging eyes and large mouth adapted to swallow the huge Mariposa Moths. (D)

### Day 2 - Rio Negro

An early start as we divide into small groups and explore the rainforest in our launches or kayaks, each group with a naturalist guide. We should hear and perhaps see howler monkeys and we should hear a morning serenade of toucans. After breakfast we go for a walk in the forest where we will get a good start on understanding Amazon ecology.

Around midday we return for lunch and the vessel will get underway, perhaps stopping at a place to swim. In the late afternoon we will again explore the forest in our launches and listen to the sunset chorus of birds, frogs and howler monkeys. (BLD)

### Day 3 - Rio Negro

An early exploration of the waking forest. We will keep our eyes open for sloths... on most trips we see them often. We return for breakfast followed by either on foot in the forest or an excursion in the launches. M/Y Tucano will travel during the middle of the day and we stop in the afternoon for an excursion. Tonight the vessel may travel a bit more as we marvel at the night sky crowded with stars. (BLD)

### Day 4 - Rio Negro

After two morning excursions The M/Y Tucano will navigate along the heavily forested shore, scouting for wildlife. We may stop for a visit at a settler's home carved out of the forest.

In the early afternoon we will be near an extraordinary river called the Rio Jauaperi. Here we will see a kind of forest known as the varzea. We will scout along the shoreline for some of the extraordinary creatures found only in this unique environment. Weather permitting we will have a night excursion to observe nocturnal creatures. (BLD)

### Day 5 - Rio Negro

We voyage to the west side of the Rio Negro and continue to scout in our launches and walk in the forest. We will explore according to the weather and water depth areas rarely visited by anyone else.

Tonight the M/Y Tucano goes downstream to arrive by morning near the confluence with the Amazon River. As we glide through the starry darkness this is a good night to sip the national drink of Brasil, the "Caipirinha" and perhaps try a bit of samba on the top deck. (BLD)



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### Day 6 - Encontra das Aguas

We begin the day with a dawn excursion searching for wakening wildlife followed by a full Brazilian breakfast. We will then go one last time into the forest.

In the mid-afternoon we will begin to journey downstream to arrive late in the day at the "Encontra das Aguas" a stark several mile long line where two of the world's largest rivers, the Amazon and the Rio Negro join in a turbulent maelstrom. Here the dark water of the Negro runs beside the opaque brown water of the Amazon.

At sunset the M/Y Tucano will once again turn her bows upstream on the Rio Negro and journey to our overnight anchorage north of the City of Manaus. As we pass in front of Manaus, we will marvel at the scale of one of the world's largest and most vibrant port cities, that is over one thousand miles from the sea. Tonight we will have a farewell dinner and prepare for an early departure in the morning. (BLD)

### Day 7 - Manaus to Campo Grande

Early this morning, after a hearty breakfast, all guests disembark from the M/Y Tucano. We will transfer to Manaus Airport for our flight to Campo Grande (Not included in the price).

Upon arrival at the airport in Campo Grande, guests will be transferred to their hotel. (B)

### Day 8 - Campo Grande

Following breakfast in the hotel, guests have a day at lesiure to explore the vibrant and multicultural city of Campo Grande. (B)

### Day 9 - Caiman Lodge

From the hotel in Campo Grande, we will be met and transferred to Caiman Lodge - a 3.5 hours drive.

After lunch and afternoon activities, we will settle into our accommodation and no doubt enjoy a sun-downer as the sun dips across the lagoon. (B,L,D)

### Days 10 -11

During your stay the following tours will be scheduled at the pousada; Nature walks, Canadian canoe rides, nocturnal walks and jeep safari´s, depending the weather conditions.

All tours are guided by Caimaners; young guides, at a university level, bi-lingual in English and Portuguese and trained in the fauna and flora of the Pantanal.

### #### Included activities

The trips mentioned below are scheduled at the pousada.

The trips will be carefully selected, depending the climate and time of the year and will be guided by local guides that know all about the flora and fauna that make this place unique. To avoid the intense heath during the day, the tours are taking place early in the morning and mid-afternoon, at these times of the day, the possibilities of seeing the movement of the animals are a lot bigger. During your stay all excursions and meals are included. Overnights at Caiman Ecological Refuge.(B,L,D)

### Activities included at Caiman Lodge

### #### Safari

Taken in 4x4 open vehicles, this tour reveals different



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landscapes in our search for wildlife. Be prepared for surprises along the way!

#### #### Nocturnal Spotlight

Whilst immersed in the nocturnal silence of the forest, discover the nighttime habits of animals such as the ocelot, giant anteater and jaguar.

#### #### Canadian Canoe Tour

Paddle leisurely through our bay and enjoy the beautiful, colourful sunset and unforgettable scenery.

#### #### Hiking Trails

A unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the flora and fauna and learn more about the Pantanal.

#### Day 12 -Transfer to Campo Grande

After breakfast transfer to the airport of Campo Grande in time for your flight out. (B)



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## YOUR SHIP: TUCANO

<b>YOUR SHIP:</b>	<b>Tucano</b>
<b>VESSEL TYPE:</b>	
	<b>82 feet</b>
<b>LENGTH:</b>	<b>21 feet</b>
<b>PASSENGER CAPACITY:</b>	<b>18-25</b>
<b>BUILT/REFURBISHED:</b>	

The Amazon expedition cruise vessel MY Tucano has comfortable cabins with large beds and private baths, and is air-conditioned throughout. With our small groups (Max. 18 pax), trained naturalist guides, and thoughtful itineraries, we offer a genuine, thrilling experience with the REAL Amazon rainforest. The Salon of the Motor Yacht Tucano is at the forward part of the vessel and is surrounded by a broad balcony. Thoroughly paneled and lighted by brass lamps, this room serves as our vessel library and dining room. It is a good place to observe the forest, read or relax. From this large space, filled with windows and situated at the front of the boat, you can see the fantastic forest around us. The top deck is open and has a large sun canopy -- a wonderful place to spot wildlife or soak in the vastness of the Amazon. There is also space to catch some sun and watch the Macaw parrots screeching across the afternoon sky. The middle deck has a wide balcony around the entire front of the boat. Passengers can see where we are going and observe monkeys jumping from one vine to another. Cabins All of the 9 cabins are comfortable. Most cabins have individual beds and some have above and below beds. Each cabin on

Tucano has a private bathroom with a shower, toilet, and a sink. We have hot water pressurized showers. Windows to See the Forest There are 76 large windows on Tucano and all of them open and close. There are large insect screens, though generally there are very very few mosquitos on our voyage. Air-Conditioning All the cabins and the Salon are air-conditioned. Every cabin has its own thermostat and individual controls. Your cabin can be as cool or as warm as you wish. Beautiful Woodwork All of the walls in the cabins have solid wood raised paneling... varnished and absolutely superb. Lovely Decks The decks in the cabins and living room are a deep brown natural finished wood that is kept highly polished. Dining Our meals are not gourmet, but wholesome, filling and delicious. We also serve many types of Amazon Fruits. Our cooks rise before dawn to make a large breakfast and there is always a tantalizing scent coming out of the Galley. Technical Specifications Cabins: 9 cabins with private facilities Group Areas: Forward facing salon and a full Observation Deck Crew: 8 Cruising Range: 1000 miles Air-conditioning: Central to all cabins Electricity: 110 volt/ 60 cycle Vessel Built and Launched: September 1997 Vessel Refit: August 2003 and annually Best time to travel in the Central Amazon Our trips take place in the very middle of the Amazon - a thousand miles from the ocean and 1700 miles from the Andes. We begin our voyages at about two degrees of the Equator and we explore north on one of the least inhabited, and wildest rivers in the Amazon, The Rio Negro. The temperatures in this area are warm year round, so the most important seasons are the rainy and dry season - but read on below and see that the rainy season is a



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good time to travel! The rainy season runs roughly from mid-December to mid-May, the temperature is a bit cooler than the dry season which runs roughly August -November. Amazonia! One important weather fact about central Amazonia is that it rains much much less than in the Peruvian Amazon or at the eastern Amazon of Brasil. It rains as much as 30% less than in these regions so the rainy season is much less pronounced. The average daytime temperature in the rainy season is usually in the mid-80's [F] with nighttime lows in the mid 70's to high 60's. In the dry season the daytime temperature can go up to the mid-90's though there is much variability and cool days are common. Nighttime temperatures during the dry season are usually in the mid-70's, though there are also some very cool nights. Rainy Season So, is it desirable to travel to the Amazon in the Rainy Season? Yes! Even though it does rain more this time of year, it is also true that many plants have evolved to fruit and flower during the rainy season which attracts pollinators, birds, and primates to the water's edge for us to observe. When it rains our expedition boat The Motor Yacht Tucano is very comfortable and will keep us dry and when the rain stops we go out exploring again. The gigantic thunderstorms are even a great pleasure to observe from the windows of the salon. Dry Season How about the dry Season? The dry season has some advantages too. The weather is dryer but more importantly, the lower water attracts some kinds of creatures that are not as commonly observed in the rainy season. The dry season is a time when the levels of most of the rivers in central Amazonia begin to drop, showing sandy beaches. This is a great time to see beach nesting birds like black skimmers and many kinds of terns, and also this is when the crocodilians of the Amazon mate and lay eggs..... and it is one of our travelers' great pleasures to listen to them bellowing

to one another in the dark Amazon night. When the waters are at their most shallow, in November through January, it is sometimes possible to see millions upon millions of migratory fish in the shallows laying eggs. These fish attract every type of tropical fishing bird including large storks, spoonbills, osprey, and countless millions of swallows. The Amazon's marine mammals, pink and grey dolphins and giant river otter crowd into the smaller channels gorging on the abundance of fish.

Staterooms Sizes by Number Stateroom Number | Stateroom Sq. Ft. | Bath Sq .Ft. | Total Sq. Ft. ---|---|---|--- 0 (Yellow Category) | 85 | 15 | 100 1 (Blue Category) | 70 | 25 | 95 2 (Green Category) | 70 | 25 | 95 3 (Yellow Category) | 86 | 28 | 114 4 (Yellow Category) | 86 | 28 | 114 5 (Yellow Category) | 80 | 23 | 103 6 (Yellow Category) | 80 | 24 | 104 7 (Green Category) | 62 | 24 | 86 8 (Blue Category) | 60



| 20 | 80



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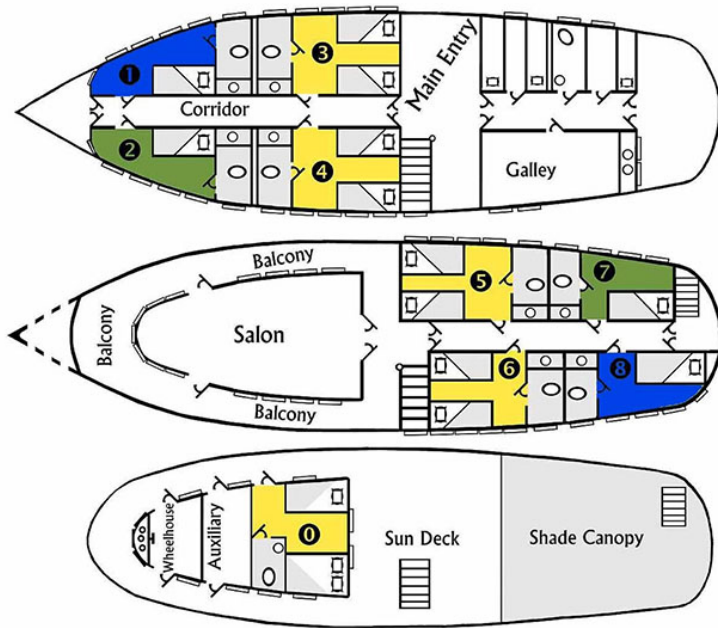
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP





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