



Zaltana Riverboat – Rio Negro

Itinerary: 5 Days / 4 Nights

Day 1 – Manaus | Embarkation | Rio Negro

Your journey begins in Manaus, where you are welcomed by your host and transferred to the Zaltana Riverboat.

As you step onboard, the rhythm of the river begins to set the tone. Settle into your panoramic suite and meet the crew before gathering on deck for a welcome moment overlooking the Rio Negro.

As the boat begins its navigation, the vastness of the Amazon reveals itself, shifting light, dark waters, and the first glimpses of wildlife along the riverbanks. Along the way, you pass the iconic Meeting of the Waters, where the dark waters of the Rio Negro flow alongside the sandy-colored Amazon River without mixing for several kilometers, a natural phenomenon created by differences in temperature, speed, and density.

One of the unexpected highlights of traveling along the Lower Rio Negro is the opportunity to connect with the *ribeirinhos*, the traditional communities who live along its banks. Visit a local indigenous family from the Tucano and Dessana ethnic groups and learn about their efforts to preserve their cultural heritage, including knowledge of medicinal plants and handcrafted traditions.

Meals included: lunch, dinner

Day 2/3 – Exploring the Anavilhanas Archipelago

Navigate through the Anavilhanas Archipelago, one of the largest river island systems in the world.

Continue into the Cuieiras River, a quiet blackwater tributary of the Rio Negro, known for its calm waters, preserved forests, and intimate access to the rhythms of the Amazon. Here, the landscape becomes more secluded, offering a deeper sense of immersion.

Mornings focus on wildlife observation, while afternoons balance exploration and rest.

Explore narrow channels and flooded forests by skiff, moving quietly through mirror-like waters that reflect the sky and forest canopy. Guided walks reveal the complexity of the ecosystem, from medicinal plants to the subtle presence of wildlife hidden within the forest. Throughout the day, there are opportunities to observe birds, primates, and aquatic life,



including the pink river dolphin. Canoe journeys provide close contact with the environment, allowing you to experience the forest at water level.

For those interested, there is also the opportunity to learn traditional artisanal fishing techniques alongside local guides, offering insight into the practices and knowledge of river communities.

In the evening, optional night excursions reveal the hidden life of the Amazon — sounds, movements, and nocturnal species rarely seen.

Return onboard for an evening of fine dining and quiet reflection under the Amazon sky.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Day 4 – Cultural Encounters & River Communities

Visit riverside communities and experience life along the Rio Negro.

These encounters offer insight into local traditions, knowledge, and the relationship between people and the forest. Moments are unhurried and respectful, allowing for genuine connection.

Wildlife encounters continue throughout the day and may include monkeys and a variety of endemic species.

Back onboard, the journey unfolds at a gentle pace, with time to reflect, relax, or simply observe the ever-changing landscape.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Day 5 – Return Navigation | Manaus

Begin your return journey along the Rio Negro. Enjoy a final morning on the water, with opportunities for photography and observation.

Your journey comes to an end after lunch and your transfer to the airport, leaving you with a deeper understanding of the Amazon, not only as a destination, but as a living, breathing system.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch