

## STANDARD PROGRAM 7 NIGHTS – UAKARI LODGE

Visit the Mamirauá Reserve and discover its biodiversity, its communities and its efforts to conserve the Amazon. World Heritage of Nature, Mamirauá is the ideal destination for visitors who dream of visiting the Amazon. The reserve is part of one of the most protected areas of the tropical forest and is home to a rich ecosystem that includes species endemic to the region, such as the white uakari monkey.

Located in the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve, Uakari Lodge is a rustic and comfortable accommodation that floats on the waters, fully integrated with the landscape. It is administered jointly by the Mamirauá Institute and the riverside communities and its main objectives are to generate income for local communities, strengthen their community organization and create incentives for residents to promote the conservation of the area's natural resources.

The schedule is rich and informative. The activities are carried out with the accompaniment of local guides, great holders of the traditional knowledge of the region. There is also a bilingual ecotourism counselor (English / Portuguese) at the lodge who transmits scientific knowledge about the Reserve.



## 7 NIGHTS PROGRAM – CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS

**DAY 1:** We start our services with pick-up at the airport or at a hotel in Tefé. Then, we are driven to the port of Lago Tefé, where our motorboat leaves for a trip of one and a half hour. Right after departure, we pass the "meeting of the waters", where the black waters of Lake Tefé meet the white waters of the Solimões River.

The trip is a complete experience in itself. We observe the impressive dimensions of the Solimões River and once we enter the Mamirauá Reserve we see local riverside communities and their stilt houses, many of the more than 350 species of birds, mammals and aquatic animals such as caimans, botos and arapaimas, the largest fish in the Amazonian waters.

We are welcomed in the impressive floating accommodation by the local manager, the ecotourism counselor and the entire team, in a warm welcome. We are then instructed on the tours schedule and safety procedures. Right after check-in we will have lunch - always with lots of fresh food, mostly produced locally in the communities. We follow local tradition and rest in the hottest hours of the day. At 3:30 pm we head to our first activity in the program - an interpretive trail, where local guides will tell us about the várzea floodplain ecosystem and introduce the traditional use of many of their trees. In the period when the waters are already rising, flooding the trails and the entire forest, we take this introductory tour on boat, observing many species of fauna and flora from the main channel.

Dinner is served at 7 pm, followed by a presentation on the history of the Mamirauá Reserve and the projects being developed by the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Institute, a research unit financed and supervised by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil

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**DAY 2:** Mornings start early at Uakari lodge! At 6:30 am we have breakfast and leave for activities at 7:00 am, enjoying the coolest moments of the day and the hours when the forest is full of sounds and movements. We will take a hike for the installation of trail cameras, that will be capturing images of the animals until the last day... What will we observe? During the flooded season, we use the same trails where we walk in the dry season, but we travel them in a rowing canoe! It is impressive to observe the ability of our local guides to orient themselves in the igapó - as the flooded forest is known here.

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We go back to the lodge for another delicious lunch. Again the rest is until 3:30 pm, when we head for our second activity of the day - traditional fishing for piranhas, iconic fish and very abundant in this region. With the help of local guides, you will learn why they can be so dangerous!

**DAY 03:** After breakfast (with many of the local fruits and delicacies made from manioc) we set off for another trail in the forest, either walking or with the traditional canoes. We have a 14-track system, and our ecotourism counselors will make sure that we are always in a new area. With the immense biodiversity of the Amazon, we always find new things along the way.

We return for lunch and relax for a few hours in the hammocks on the balconies of our rooms that are overlooking the river. We leave at 3:30pm for a boat trip on Lake Mamirauá. It is our biggest trip in the reserve and you will learn more about the history of the area from the point of view of the local guides.

When we arrive at the lake, we have a snack while enjoying the sunset, always a spectacle of colors. On the way back, the spotlights are used to see nocturnal animals such as the huge caimans, which can be up to 4 meters long. Dinner and free time in the evening.

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**DAY 04:** After breakfast, leaving as usual at 7:00 am, the first thing we will do today is to visit a riverside community. A local guide takes us on a tour around his community, shows daily life by the river in a lowland forest - remembering that water levels can rise and fall about 12 meters each year, which requires a great adaptation of the local population!

At 15:30 pm we will have a rowing canoe ride. In the dry season we followed the main channel, watching closely the caimans and botos along the way. In the flooded period is another opportunity to explore the flooded forest, a unique experience that you should make the most of! The silence of the canoe that slides through the waters, inside or at the edges of the forest, will only be interrupted by the howl of the howler monkeys, the birdsong or the diving of the aquatic animals.

In the evening, after dinner, the biologists who conduct research in the area will come to the lodge to introduce the world of science, bringing information about a local animal, the result of their work and how scientific research helps the development of conservation strategies in the Reserve.

**DAY 05:** We will leave the lodge before daylight, at 5:30 am one of the local guides will be waiting for us by boat to see the sunrise on the Japurá River! The golden lights invading the entire landscape of river and forest, can be enjoyed having a delicious breakfast on the boat wherever we are. This is also a great opportunity to spot botos and tucuxis, graceful mammals that show off to people floating on the water.

We return a little earlier to the lodge, with time to rest before lunch and enjoy the floating facilities. Following our routine at 3:30 pm, we set out to explore another beautiful area of the special ecotourism zone, heading for a new trail or the Araçá lake, one of the many wonderful places known by local guides.

After dinner, there is the possibility of a more intimate experience with the forest, staying overnight in our house in the woods, a house approximately 6 meters high, mixing almost with the treetops, sleeping in hammocks and waking up to the sounds of the forest will surely mark you forever.



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**DAY 06:** Now the immersion will be in the riverside life, we will meet another community, just like in the first one, we will be led by a local guide and we will be able to know the lifestyle of the people who live in the reserve. We will also have lunch in the community, at the home of one of the families who in the afternoon will invite us to accompany one of their traditional activities.

We will have dinner at the lodge at the same time every day, then have a lecture on another topic with researchers from the Mamirauá Institute.

**DAY 07:** In the morning we will do a canoe ride, which always offers one of the best possibilities for wildlife sighting besides the silence for contemplation.

We will have lunch and rest as usual, the afternoon tour will be to contemplate the sunset on the Japurá River, where the beautiful colors will be the perfect frame to say goodbye to the reserve. We will have dinner at the lodge and then we'll watch the presentation of the results of the trail cameras sampling.

**DAY 08:** These are our last moments at Uakari Lodge. Breakfast at 6:15 am and we leave at 7:00 am for Tefé (for airport or hotel). The whole team will be available for photos and goodbyes, always very emotional moments that are in the memory of us all!

The schedule is described for the Monday to Monday package. In the Friday to Friday package, the order will be different, but the entire schedule will be fulfilled.

It is important to highlight that, in the area of ecotourism, there are several trails of varying lengths that cover different plant aspects of the Amazonian floodplain. The trail activities will always extend to new areas for the visitor.

\* Pick-up at the airport / hotel takes place according to the arrival time of Azul's only flights.

