BIRDWATCHING TOUR

SPECIAL PACKAGE

Total Immersion for Bird Enthusiasts

The Amazon is one of the main destinations for birdwatchers worldwide. With a high number of endemic species, it becomes a fantastic destination like few others.

The unique characteristics of the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve, an immense area of protected várzea floodplain, make this area an intriguing place for the sighting of birds typical of this type of ecosystem. There are several species that can only be seen, for example, on islands of the Solimões River.

Uakari lodge offers the possibility to combine the comfort of a floating accommodation fully integrated with this landscape and contact with researchers and specialized guides, who can provide all the information a birdwatcher







Why choose this experience?

Venturing into the floodplain you can:

- Marvel at the Hoatzin (*Opisthocomus hoazin*). It is a unique bird, with awkward movements, a stylish plume and a touch of ruminant: it manages to digest leaves thanks to the bacteria in its digestive system.
- See and review the Wattled Curassow (*Crax globulosa*), which has one of the last healthy populations of the species in Mamirauá: seen high in the trees, it reaches 82 cm in length.
- See details (and test the binocular's optical set), even the tiny Black-bellied Thorntail (*Discosura langsdorffi*), one of the smallest hummingbirds in Brazil and threatened with extinction.
- Dream of an encounter with the Harpy Eagle (*Harpia harpyja*), the strongest and one of the largest birds of prey in the world very difficult to spot.

Currently, 377 species of birds have been identified in the Special Ecotourism Zone of the Mamirauá Reserve, many of which are endemic to the várzea floodplain environment.

In the dry season or in the flood season? - Different opportunities for birdwatchers according to the season:

In the flooding and flooded periods, which can start as early as December and go until the end of August, the best sightings are made with rowing canoes. With the flooded trails, the tour is done very close to the canopy very quietly, and the birds are much closer, perched or in flight.

During ebb and dry seasons, which begins in mid-August and runs through early December, birds that feed on fish, such as herons (Ardeidae) and cormorants (*Nannopterum brasilianus*) can be seen in large numbers. The flocks are impressive.





Birdwatching Program — 04 nights

Visitors will be met at Tefé airport and will proceed to the city's port. There you will find a boat that will take you to Uakari lodge. After traveling on the Solimões River for about an hour, you will enter the channel of Lago Mamirauá. In this way it is already possible to see Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Chrysomus icterocephalus*) and Oriole Blackbird (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*), as well as aquatic animals such as the boto (*Inia geoffrensis*) and the tucuxi (*Sotalia fluviatilis*).

It is within the Mamirauá Reserve that the Uakari lodge floats integrated into the landscape of the Amazon floodplain. It is strategically located in an area rich in fauna, close to the head of Lake Mamirauá, which gives the name to the Reserve. This large preservation area protects more than 1,124,000 hectares of forest, rivers and lakes and is home to several rare and threatened species, some of which are found only within the limits of the reserve, such as the black-headed squirrel monkey (*Saimiri vanzolinii*) and in the middle Solimões river region such as the impressive white uakari monkeys (*Cacajao calvus calvus*). The Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve is not only a successful conservation project, but also a pioneering project that has integrated the local population in the work of preserving the floodplain forest. In addition, research work in the most diverse areas occurs throughout the Reserve, producing knowledge about the floodplain and its biodiversity.

As the landscape in Mamirauá changes so much during the year, the program is also adapted to the water level so that the visitor can make the most of his stay. The birdwatching package allows programming to be organized according to the interests of the tourist. The ecotourism counselors will organize the tours according to the species and habitats of most interest to the birdwatcher.

Below is a model itinerary, with some ideas of what can be done during your stay.



BIRDWATCHING PROGRAM - 4 NIGHTS

Day 1: After check-in, visitors will explore Paraná do Apara, an area extremely rich in avifauna, on a small motor boat. Some birds can already be seen that afternoon, such as the Festive Parrot (*Amazona festiva*) and Short-tailed Parrot (*Graydidascalus brachyurus*), White-throated Toucan (*Ramphastos tucanus*) in addition to several other animals such as monkeys and alligators.

Upon returning to the lodge, together with the ecotourism counselors, visitors will be able to organize the program for the next few days according to their interest! In addition to private boats and specialized guides, the birdwatching program guarantees flexibility in breakfast and lunch times.

Day 2: After breakfast, which can be programmed for before dawn, a trail will be taken in search of the most impressive birds in the floodplain, such as the Scarlet-crowned Barbet (*Capito aurovirens*) and the White-chinned Jacamar (*Galbula tombacea*). On the trail you can also find the incredible sloths (*Bradypus variegatus*), the loud howler monkeys (*Alouatta juara*) and the emblematic uakari (*Cacajao calvus calvus*).

In the afternoon a different trail will be visited. Other birds may be seen entering the floodplain, such as the Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*) or the Zimmer's Woodcreeper (*Dendroplex kienerii*). With any luck you can even see the elusive Zigzag Heron (*Zebrilus undulatus*). During the flood period, the trails are made in rowing canoes, allowing an even quieter movement within the forest, in addition to greater proximity to the treetops.

After dinner, a boat trip or a trail to spot birds and other nocturnal animals is scheduled, with emphasis on snakes and insects.

Day 3: This morning we will discover another trail of the floodplain, of the 14 possible ones. Choosing between beach habitats, high sandbank or chavascal, we will have the chance to look for other species, such as the Razor-billed Curassow (*Pauxi tuberosa*), Chestnut-capped Puffbird (*Bucco macrodactylus*), Slate-colored Hawk (*Buteogallus schistaceus*), Plumbeous Antbird (*Myrmelastes hyperythrus*) and others.



BIRDWATCHING PROGRAM - 4 NIGHTS

During the afternoon the group will visit Lake Mamirauá. On the way to the head of the lake, it is possible to spot uakaris (*Cacajao calvus calvus*), black caimans (*Melanosuchus niger*) and also Horned Screamers (*Anhima cornuta*), Hoatzins (*Opistocomus hoazin*) to flocks, Tui Parakeets (*Brotogeris sanctithomae*) the Spot-breasted Woodpeckers (*Colaptes punctigula*). The broader scenery at the head of the lake features an impressive sunset, full of shades of yellow, red and pink reflected in the water as in a mirror. It will be nighttime at the time of return and once again visitors will have the chance to see nocturnal birds like the Great Potoos (*Nyctibius grandis*), in addition to the traditional (and impressive) caiman spotting.

Day 4: On this day, the morning will be dedicated to bird watching on the banks of the Solimões and Japurá rivers. Certain species inhabit only this type of environment, such as the Parker's Spinetail (*Cranioleuca vulpecula*) and the Red-and-white Spinetail (*Certhiaxis mustelinus*). The grassy areas of the borders, on the other hand, can harbor Wing-barred Piprites (Piprites chloris) and Chestnut-bellied Seedeater (Sporophila castaneiventris), the Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch (Sporophila angolensis) and the Lesson's Seedeater (*Sporophila bouvronides*). The afternoon will be dedicated to exploring another trail, walking or canoeing in the igapó.

Day 5: These are our last moments at Uakari lodge. Breakfast at 6:15 am and we leave at 7:00 am for Tefé (to the airport or a hotel). The whole team will be available for photos and goodbyes, always very emotional moments that are in the memory of us all!





Attractive species that can be seen in activities

Dry / flooding seasons (August - April)

- Motor boat: Crax globulosa, Porphyrio martinicus (most likely from January to April), Amazona festiva
- Night drive: caimans and night birds: Nyctibius grandis, Nyctibius griseus, Tyto furcata
- Trail in lowland forest: Crax globulosa, Zebrilus undulatus, Galbula tombacea, Capito aurovirens, Ramphastos tucanus, Ramphastos vitellinus, Picumnus lafresnayi, Nasica longirostris, Sakesphorus canadensis, Dendroplex kienerii, Schiffornis major
- Canoe in the river channels: Crax globulosa, Amazona festiva, Ramphastos tucanus, Ramphastos vitellinus, Gymnoderus foetidus
- Trail in island environments: Cephalopterus ornatus, Myrmochanes hemileucus, Furnarius minor (easily seen in the Caburini community), Certhiaxis mustelinus, Cranioleuca vulpecula
- Lake Mamirauá: Anhima cornuta, Agamia agami, Amazona festiva, Opistochomus hoazin, Gymnoderus foetidus, Certhiaxis mustelinus, Cranioleuca vulpecula
- Night drive returning from the Lake: Cochlearius cochlearius, Nyctiprogne leucopyga, Hydropsalis climacocerca, Nyctibius gandis, Nyctibius griseus, Tyto furcata
- Night trail: In this activity it is rare to see birds, being more conducive to the observation of insects and spiders.
- Other attractions of this time: black caimans, spectacled caimans

Flooded / Ebb season (April-August)

- Apara boat trip: Crax globulosa, Amazona festiva, Opistochomus hoazin, Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis, Ramphastos tucanus, Ramphastos vitellinus, Gymnoderus foetidus, Sakesphorus canadensis
- Boat trip: Ara macao, Porphyrio martinicus, Amazona festiva, Capito aurovirens, Ramphastos tucanus, Ramphastos vitellinus, Gymnoderus foetidus
- Canoe in lowland forest: Galbula tombacea, Capito aurovirens, Ramphastos tucanus, Ramphastos vitellinus, Nasica longirostris
- Lake Mamirauá: Anhima cornuta, Amazona festiva, Opistochomus hoazin, Gymnoderus foetidus, Certhiaxis mustelinus, Cranioleuca vulpecula
- Night drive returning from the Lake: Nyctiprogne leucopyga, Hydropsalis climacocerca, Nyctibius gandis, Nyctibius griseus, Tyto furcata

- Other attractions of this season:

- The white uakari monkey is a little easier to be observed, especially on canoe trips within the forest.
- Sloths are more easily observed from February to May.

Rare species to be observed: *Harpia harpyja*, *Pteroglossus azara*, *Picumnus lafresnayi*, *Myrmotherula assimilis*, *Pipra filicauda*.

Package includes:

- Full board + trail snacks + a bottle of wine per night;
- Exclusive boat for day trips;
- Exclusive and specialized birdwatching guide.

