



The **DUALL** Jungle Tour ADVENTURE & EDUCATIONAL TOUR

Napo Wildlife Center & Yachana Lodge have joined efforts to provide you with an adventure and educational tour during your visit to the Ecuadorian Amazon where you will experience the best that these two award-winning eco lodges have to offer.

Yachana means ***“a place for learning”*** in the Kichwa language.

All tours have been developed based on this idea, which is so fundamental to Yachana’s mission that is to achieve sustainability through education.

You will enjoy first class accommodations and cuisine during your stay. Your multilingual indigenous guides will explain why Yachana’s focus is always on community and economic development with an emphasis on conservation and education. The tours give guests a glimpse of the culture and culinary aspects of the lives of the local people. Highlights include a visit to the Yachana Technical High School where more than 100 students from six Ecuadorian provinces are receiving a hands-on, practical education and learning to become entrepreneurs and leaders in their communities and to conserve the rainforest they call home.

The Napo Wildlife Center, NWC Amazon Lodge, is the greatest and ultimate alternative luxury eco-hotel in Ecuadorian Amazon. This ecotourism project includes the conservation of over 82 square miles of the most pristine Amazon Rain Forest within the Yasuni National Park, an important UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and the largest tract of tropical rain forest in Ecuador.

Yasuni’s amazing biodiversity includes more than **1530** species of birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. The flora is as bio diverse as the fauna with more than 5000 species of plants.

The lodge is owned 100% by the Añangu Kichwa community working for the protection of this area.

ITINERARY TOUR 6 DAYS – 5 NIGHTS

DAY 1:

Departing from Quito, take a 30-minute flight over the eastern Andes mountain range to the jungle city of Coca. You’ll be transferred from the airport to the river port where you will embark on a two and a half hour journey up the Napo River to Yachana Lodge on a comfortable, covered motorized canoe. Depending on weather conditions

the ride to the hotel could be also by private vehicle. A lunch box will be served during your journey to the lodge.

Once you arrive, you will receive a warm welcome from the staff accompanied by a refreshing welcome drink and a brief introduction to the facilities. Afterwards, you will have time to visit the butterfly house, scenic lookouts or enjoy a rest in your hammock.

In the afternoon you will learn to prepare jungle chocolate. Our chef will teach you about the process from collecting the cacao to preparing high quality organic chocolate.

Enjoy a delicious dinner and afterwards explore the mysteries of the forest on a night walk with your guide.

Day 2:

After breakfast, travel by canoe downriver five minutes to the community of Agua Santa where you will board Yachana's double-decker *ranchera* (typical local bus) and accompany your guide as he leads you on a journey into the rainforest stopping to observe birds, and possibly monkeys, along the way. Visit Yachana's biological research station manned by volunteers from Global Vision International and then travel on by canoe to the Yachana Technical High School

At the school you will learn about Yachana's unique model of sustainable education. Interact with students from various Amazon ethnic groups while you learn about their life in the rainforest. Discover the different technological innovations that Yachana Foundation is developing to improve the quality of life in the Ecuadorian Amazon. In the micro-enterprise area the students will explain the various projects including the production of traditional handicrafts.

You will also visit the organic farm where the students produce 35% of the food consumed at both the school and the lodge.

Return to the lodge for a traditional cooking demonstration with indigenous Kichwa chefs in a typical "choza" and learn to prepare typical foods from the region such as maito of tilapia, chontacuros and jungle salads. Afterwards, enjoy the foods you have prepared for lunch.

During the afternoon you will visit a local medicine man or shaman for a traditional cleansing ceremony and have the opportunity to test your skills at using a blowgun and spear.

Afterwards enjoy a refreshing swim and float down the river on inner tubes.

Before dinner try an exotic jungle drink in the bar while enjoying the sunset and spectacular view of the Napo River and the Andes mountains in the distance.

DAY 3:

After breakfast, travel to Coca where we will arrive at approximately 11:00 in time to board the canoe that will transport us to Napo Wildlife Center. The canoe ride along the Napo River takes approximately 2 hours and a box lunch will be served in route. Along the way birds like herons, kingfishers and others can be spotted. After arriving at NWC's entry dock we disembark for a short break and then take a majestic and peaceful 1-hour dugout canoe ride surrounded by trees overhead, paddling along a narrow creek that connects to the lake where the lodge is located. It is quite possible we will spot various species of monkeys as well as large birds like toucans, parrots or even macaws. We arrive late in the afternoon to the lodge and enjoy the breathtaking view of the Añangu Lake, a welcome drink and an introduction to the facilities. After dinner you have the option to hunt for caimans (alligators) around the lake with your guide while enjoying the symphony of the rainforest at night.

DAY 4:

Wake up early to reach the best and most easily accessible parrot clay licks in Ecuador located about 1 hour away from the lodge. Guests arrive just before parrot activity kicks off at the clay lick between 7:30 to 8:30. A total of 11 species of parrots, parakeets and macaws can be seen depending on weather conditions. Later, hike along a forest trail to visit the Kichwa community of Añangu and spend time with a family to share in their activities. Return to the creek and hike through the forest for about 30 minutes until we arrive to the second parrot clay lick where, if the weather conditions cooperate, will be able to find different species of parrots, parakeets and macaws. A box lunch will be served at the parrot clay lick observatory. Later in the afternoon we will arrive back at the lodge and have time to rest before dinner.

DAY 5:

After an early breakfast, we depart from the lodge to visit the finest canopy tower on the Napo. The 36-meter-high canopy tower was opened to guests in November 2004 and provides a great way to experience life above the forest floor. This is the second tower built at Napo Wildlife Center (the first is attached to the dining hall and allows great views of the lake). The canopy tower is located about 20 minutes from the lodge deep within the forest. As you ascend the 12-story tower, you pass through different levels of the forest and emerge on top of a huge *Ceiba* tree. Here you can cross onto a wooden platform that is actually built into the tree and experience the view formerly reserved only for the birds! The metal tower itself was constructed to the highest standards, is galvanized and has been carefully inspected by engineers so rest assured, your safety is our first priority. Tree platform specialists constructed the platform at the top of the tree as well so from top to bottom there is no finer canopy experience in Eastern Ecuador. Flocks of colorful tanagers pass right through the canopy of the tree, blue and yellow macaws fly past, in nearby trees Spider Monkeys search for fruit, two species of large toucans call in the early mornings and afternoons, and the world of the forest canopy opens before you. Birds that are virtually impossible to see from the

forest floor far below are suddenly right beside you, oblivious to your presence! After your canopy adventure, lunch is served at the lodge. In the afternoon, hike along a primary forest trail to discover the forest interior where you will probably spot lizards, colorful manakins or the unique and endemic Golden-mantle tamarin monkeys. After the hike, explore the lake and creeks by dugout canoe where you're almost sure to see a Giant Otter family along the way...

DAY 6:

After an early breakfast, depart on the final excursion canoeing back to the Napo River, along the way enjoying new sightings of Giant Otters, Monk Saki monkeys or many other rare birds. We'll take a short break at the docking area and then embark on the motorized canoe for the 2-hour return trip to Coca where you will be transferred to the airport to board your flight back to Quito.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a sample itinerary subject to change due to weather conditions, safety and particular interests of guests and groups. Changes and additions are made in order to maximize wildlife viewing and wilderness enjoyment, cultural interaction with local people and to make the most of your time in the Ecuadorian Amazon.

Additional information:

- Napo Wildlife Center and Yachana Lodge are Smart Voyager-certified ecolodges that implement sustainable tourism practices.
- Both lodges provide comfortable, spacious rooms with ventilation, lighting, and private bathrooms with hot water.
- The kitchen staffs prepare a wide variety of traditional dishes with organic products, most of which exemplify the traditional cuisine of the Amazon region.
- Transportation is by motorized canoe, which has a roof, comfortable seats, life jackets and is operated by a highly experienced canoe operator.
- The local community guides have many years of experience working in the Amazon. The guides intimately know the forest and the species that inhabit it, as well as guiding techniques that allow them to work well with individuals and groups alike.

Price:

TOUR 6 DAYS – 5 NIGHTS: US\$1350

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: US\$740

All prices are per person, valid through 2012 and are quoted in US dollars for adults. Children under 12 get discount on hotel prices in same parents room, and 50% on airfare. Children under 5 free in the same parents room and 50% on airfare.

Included: Accommodation, all meals, pure drinking water, river transportation and local Coca airport transfers, all excursions and activities including visits to the Añangu Kichwa Community the exclusive NWC's parrot-macaw clay licks, native multilingual guides, the Yasuni National Park entrance fee and use of rubber boots and rain ponchos when needed.

Not Included: Drinks, gratuities and any other item not specified

Maximum group size: 8 participants

For booking, please contact:

Napo Wildlife Center

Mariela Cárdenas

Phones: (+593 2) 600-5893

E-mail: marketing@napowildlifecenter.com

Yachana Lodge

Carmen Martin

Phones: (+593 2) 252-3777

E-mail: carmen.martin@yachana.com