



AQUA

M/V AQUA



PASSENGER
INFORMATION
BOOKLET



PASSENGER INFORMATION BOOKLET

M/V AQUA SPECIFICATIONS

Built:	2007
Port of embarkation:	Iquitos, Peru
Vessel's Registry:	Peru
Type of Vessel:	River Expedition Vessel
Length:	130 feet / 39.80 meters
Beam:	24 feet / 7.30 meters
Draft:	5 feet / 1.5 meters
Gross Tonnage:	400 tons
Cruising Speed:	10 knots
Electricity:	220 volts
Engines:	2 new Cummins 380 HP Marine Engines
Generators:	1 x 95 KVA Cummins and 1 x 65 KVA Cummins.
Water:	7000-liter water treatment plant
Safety:	Radio communication with separate battery pack, satellite phone, life jackets, flares and signals; fire extinguishers and smoke detectors in each cabin.
Launch Boats:	Three auxiliary aluminium launch boats equipped with four-stroke low emission engines; constant radio communication with the main vessel. Each boat has a capacity of 8-10 passengers.



- Crew:** 21, including a cruise director, paramedic and 3 English-speaking naturalist guides.
- Accommodation:** Up to 24 passengers
(Additional accommodation for one child in each cabin)
- Cabins:** 12 suites:
- 4 Master Suites measuring 240 sq. ft.
 - 8 Suites measuring 230 sq. ft.
 - All outside-facing with large panoramic windows
 - All air conditioned with en suite sitting areas
 - 4 interconnecting suites for families

Water

There is enough water for daily use produced by our water treatment plant. However, as on any cruise ship, we ask our guests to save as much water as possible.

Drinking Water

Upon arrival, you will be supplied with a complimentary water bottle which is yours to keep. Refill stations are available on the vessel.

Valuables

We suggest that you leave all valuable objects or money in the safety deposit box provided in each cabin.



THE CABINS

The M/V Aqua has 2 types of cabins:

- Suite measuring 230 square feet, with panoramic window (15 feet wide)
- Master Suite measuring 240 square feet, with larger panoramic window (20 feet wide)

The M/V Aqua's spacious, fully air-conditioned suites contain twin beds that can be converted to a California king-sized bed. Each suite features large, outward-facing panoramic windows and en suite sitting areas with a sofa and a chair. There is also an internal communications system.

Four suites are interconnected to cater to families. Suites are serviced three times a day. Room service is not available, but will be provided in the event of passenger illness.

The well-appointed bathrooms consist of a shower, toilet, sink, cabinet, hairdryer and a basket of toiletries, with fresh towels and the complimentary use of bathrobes.

Portable DVD players are available for loan at the Cruise Director's office.



SOCIAL AREAS

Boutique

There are no scheduled opening hours. The boutique can be opened upon request. Please contact the Cruise Director.

Dining Area

During meals in the dining room we ask our guests to wear casual clothing and shoes. The times for each meal will vary according to the daily program. Please refer to the information board. No reservations are required for meals. Wine with lunch and dinner is included.

Children's and vegetarian meals are available, please request in advance.

Bar

Bar times may vary according to weather conditions.

Corking fee is US\$ 15 per bottle.

We ask that shoes, shirts and trousers/shorts be worn in the bar, lounge and dining room.



COMMUNICATIONS

There are internal phones for communication between cabins and calls to the Cruise Director's office.

If you need to contact your home or office for any emergency, the M/V Aqua is equipped with a satellite phone. The cost of your call can be paid directly on board. We will inform you, prior to calling, of the current price of an international call.

DAILY ITINERARY

The day begins early with breakfast usually served at 7:00 a.m. followed by the first excursion of the day at 8:00 a.m.

You will return to the M/V Aqua for lunch, followed by sunbathing or a siesta while the yacht cruises the Amazon River. At around 4:00 p.m. you will go for your afternoon excursion, returning between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.

After dinner, our naturalist guides will brief you on what to expect on the next day's excursions. During the night, we will keep navigating the Amazon, arriving first thing in the morning at a new spot for the day's adventures.



Note: We reserve the right to alter itineraries due to prevailing or forecast weather conditions, due to technical or safety considerations or to meet Pacaya Samiria Reserve Regulations.

EXCURSIONS

There are certain items that are necessary for all excursions:

- Hat / Cap (preferably with large visor to protect neck)
- Sunscreen / Sunblock
- Insect Repellent (OFF brand is recommended)
- Camera / Film
- Sunglasses
- Water
- Long sleeve shirt
- Binoculars

If you forgot to bring any of these items with you, some of them will be available for purchase in the boutique. Binoculars are available for rent at US\$ 25.00 per trip.

The M/V Aqua stops at one or two visitor sites per day. In the event that landings are «dry», you will step from the skiff directly onto the land. Your guide and driver will assist you with a steady



hand. On shore please follow your guide who will walk at a leisurely pace. Your guides will interpret and explain the unusual sights you see. You will spend approximately 2 hours at each site, allowing plenty of time to explore and to photograph the abundant wildlife.

PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS

Passengers should be in good physical health in order to be able to make the most of their Amazon cruise. The nature treks may involve walking on irregular terrain. Embarking and disembarking from the skiffs requires that you be reasonably fit and sure-footed.

SAFETY

Once on board the crew will perform a safety drill. Please be sure to check exactly where the life vests are located in your cabin. Memorize your way to the deck in case an emergency should arise. Consult your Cruise Director or guide regarding any questions you may have.



Life vests are provided for use while riding in the skiffs. We insist that you use them for your own safety.

Always hold the guide or crew member's hand while embarking or disembarking, since the boat ladder and deck may be wet and the ground on dry landings is often slippery.

ON-BOARD PAYMENTS

Please keep track of your consumption of alcoholic beverages in order to avoid any confusion at the end of the cruise. Each drink must be signed for. The total bill should be paid for at the end of the cruise in US dollars. We accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

GRATUITIES

We are often asked what gratuity is appropriate for guides and crew. The quality of service should determine the amount of any tip.

From past experience, we recommend an amount in the range of US \$20.00 – US \$30.00 per passenger per day for the crew (to be



divided among all the crew members) and between US \$7.00 – US \$10.00 per passenger per day for the guide.

The total tip would therefore be somewhere between US \$81.00 - US \$120.00 per passenger in total for the 3 night passengers and US \$108.00 - US \$ 160.00 per passenger in total for the 4 night passengers.

Please bear in mind that is merely a suggestion, since we believe that gratuities are a very personal matter.

COMMENT CARDS

The night before the end of the cruise, your Cruise Director will issue a comment card for you to fill out. Please try to be as thorough as possible. We appreciate the time you take to do this because it is through your comments and suggestions that we can constantly improve our service. Please deposit the completed comment card inside the box provided for this purpose. Neither the guide nor the crew have access to the comment cards; only our Iquitos office manager will open the box.



SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is forbidden inside the M/V Aqua. However, smoking is permitted in the outside lounge and observation deck. Please ask the bartender for an ashtray; do not throw your cigarette stubs or ash into the water.

PACAYA SAMIRIA NATIONAL RESERVE REGULATIONS

Groups of no more than 10 visitors are led by a naturalist guide. This policy is intended to reduce the impact on the fragile ecosystems while providing a sense of solitude and privacy on the reserve.

- Follow your guide
- Do not disturb or remove any native plant or animal.
- Always follow the trails that are marked out by the guides.
- Do not take food on to the reserve.
- Do not smoke in the reserve.
- Do not litter.
- Try to wear light-colored clothes and avoid wearing jewelry.



WEATHER

The weather in Iquitos is warm and humid with average annual maximum temperature of 31°C (88°F) and minimum of 21°C (70°F). The low water season (June-November) and the high water season (December-May) feature particular differences in the plant and animal life as well as in the climate.

Conditions on the river change with the seasons, but each rewards visitors in different ways. During the high water season, the river and estuaries grow, allowing launch boats to venture deeper into the flooded forest. During the low water season, the river recedes and beautiful sandy river beaches form.

TIME ZONE

Standard time zone: UTC/GMT -5 hours
No daylight saving time

CURRENCY

The monetary unit of Peru is the Nuevo Sol. However all charges onboard the AQUA will be in US dollars.



THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- Memorize PIN codes of credit cards.
- Install or recharge batteries.
- Get maps.
- Check out what hospitals are covered by your health insurance.
- Get travel insurance that also includes emergency evacuation coverage, and make sure your insurance covers the activities you plan to do.

WHAT TO PACK

Life is casual aboard the M/V Aqua. We recommend that you bring:

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Hat
- Lightweight rain gear
- Sunscreen
- Extra socks
- Mosquito repellent (OFF is recommended)
- Binoculars 8x12
- Camera, memory cards, charger and spare batteries

We provide rubber boots and rain ponchos.



Don't forget to include some items that you can give away to the locals (t-shirts, pens and paper are especially prized).

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Our Amazon River voyages depart from the port city of Iquitos, Peru.

Iquitos' airport, Coronel Francisco Secada, is served by several daily flights from Lima, Peru's capital. The flights take approximately one hour and twenty five minutes.

AIRPORT TAXES

Departure tax can be paid in either US dollars or local currency. Payment is made after check-in and before entering the gate area.

US\$ 6.05 (Lima) and US\$ 4.50 (Iquitos) or the equivalent in Soles (domestic flights)

US\$ 30.25 or the equivalent in Soles (international flights)

Amounts are approximate and are subject to change without notice.



USEFUL DIRECTORY

PERU

Tourist Info and Assistance Service
Calle Loreto 201 - Plaza de Armas (Main Square), Iquitos
Tel: (51 1) 574 8000

LIMA'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Jorge Chávez International Airport
Avenida Elmer Faucett, s/n Callao, Apartdo 680, Lima-
Callao
Tel: (51 1) 517 3100.
Flight Information: (51 1) 595 0666
Fax : (51 1) 575 1662
Email : sugerencias@corpac.gob.pe
Website : www.lap.com.pe



IQUITOS' AIRPORT

Francisco Secada Vignetta International Airport
Kilometer marker 6, Av. Abelardo Quiñones.
Tel: (51 65) 26 0147 / 26 0151

HEALTH CENTER

Loreto Regional Hospital
Av. 28 de Julio s/n. Punchana, Iquitos.
Tel: (51 65) 25 2004 / 25 2733

POLTUR Iquitos - Tourism Police

Calle Sargento Lores 834.
Tel: (51 65) 24 2081

LAN PERU

Av. José Pardo 513, 1er piso, Miraflores, Lima, Perú.
Tel: (51 1) 213 8200
Fax: (51 1) 213 8355
www.lan.com



SUGGESTED WEBSITES

PERU INFORMATION – OFFICIAL SITE

Commission for the Promotion of Peru

<http://www.peru.info/perueng.asp>

LIMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Jorge Chavez International Airport

<http://www.lap.com.pe/ingles/>

PERU WEATHER INFORMATION

<http://www.senamhi.gob.pe/popup.php?obj=usr/dma/bolturi.htm>



AQUA EXPEDITIONS
LUXURY AMAZON VOYAGES

Iquitos' Office:

Calle Huallaga 215

Iquitos

Maynas

Loreto, Peru

Tel: (51 65) 60 1053

Fax: (51 65) 23 4827

Cel: (51 65) 965 700 600

www.aquaexpeditions.com
info@aquaexpeditions.com