

RIVER EXPEDITION TOUR

Enjoy an exciting boat ride up the mighty Essequibo River and be fascinated by the historical sites along the way, including the ruins of a 17th century Dutch Fort on Fort Island. Embrace nature at its very best.



The River Expedition Tour carries you to some of the most beautiful rainforests in the world and provides a quick getaway for nature lovers and adventurers.

The trip begins after leaving the rendezvous at 07:00 hours then driving over the Demerara Floating Bridge to Parika. An exciting boat ride up the mighty Essequibo River provides much contrast to the quiet visit to the ruins of a 17th century Dutch Fort on Fort Island.



Stop over for approximately ½ hour at Fort Island for sightseeing, then onto Baganara Island Resort for an appetizing lunch and leisure time to unwind. After we depart Baganara we head back to city making a stopover at The Guyana Heritage Museum for a brief visit.



Irons, enamel lunch carriers, ice-shavers, three-legged iron pots, 18th and 19th century maps, coins and stamps, other artifacts and an impressive collection of books by Guyanese authors awaken a sense of nostalgia. It was obvious that the collection of these artifacts at the Guyana Heritage Museum, situated at Kastev, West Coast Demerara was as a result of love for one's country, dedication and hard work over a number of years.



After our tour we head onwards to the city.

MAXIMUM: 50

DURATION: Approximately 8-9 hours

NOTES: All meals, water and soft beverages included. Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Take along a swim suit and towel if desired.



SANTA MISSION/ARROW POINT TOUR

Arrow Point is within the Santa Mission Amerindian Community and is named after the many Arrow Trees found in the area, which is used to make their arrows for hunting. The Resort itself is set against the backdrop of the Rainforest which is a haven for birdwatchers and nature lover since there is an abundance of wildlife including 350 species of birds. There is also a maze of jungle trails used for Nature Walks and Mountain Biking. In the foreground is a stretch of white sandy beach sloping gently into the refreshing cool blackwaters of the Pokerero Creek.



Activities -The activities at Santa Mission and Arrow Point are numerous, educational and exciting. Whether it's the thrill of Community Interpretation, Bird Watching, the excitement of Mountain Biking, Hiking, Kayaking, Pedal boating, Surf-Biking or simply relaxing in a hammock with a book, visitors will discover nature while having great fun and adventure.

Experience the thrill and adventure of:

- Cultural Interpretation – Interpretative Tour to Santa Mission (our host community)
- **Wabani Expedition** - Conducted tour into the forest to Lucky Seed Landing then kayaking back to the resort through Alligator Alley
- Mountain biking along the maze of jungle trails aback the resort.
- Surf-bike rides; canoeing and swimming in the cool waters off the beach in front of the resort.
- Exploring the smaller jungle creeks by canoe with our experienced guides.
- Listening to the soothing rhythm of the wind wafting through the troolie leaf roof while you lay in your gently swaying hammock.

MAXIMUM: 30

DURATION: Approximately 8-9 hours

NOTES: All meals, water and soft beverages are included. Wear comfortable clothing (light cotton) and walking shoes. Take along a swim suit if desired.

RESORT HOPPING

MARUDI CREEK RESORT

This small resort is one created with environmental concerns in mind and the 'no music allowed' policy means that you can actually hear the sounds of nature around you. This rustic resort has some 20 small benabs, scattered throughout the site, each with a table, benches and chairs perfect for picnicking. The black water creek is surrounded by white sand that leads into the dense forest on the edge of the resort.



Marudi Creek is a perfect spot for a quiet day trip from the city, but overnight options are also available in the form of camping (bring your own hammock and tent) or in the simple cabin furnished with beds and a small table; bathrooms are in a separate building and meals are prepared on order. The Resort is located one mile of the Linden Soesdyke Highway.

SPLASHMINS RESORT

Located 45 minutes from Georgetown, Splashmin's is a popular weekend destination for locals seeking to capture a piece of the Caribbean that eludes Guyana's shores; white sand beaches and water fit for swimming.



The Resort has developed more than 60 acres of lands that offers different slices of Guyana, in a clean, contained and well-manicured environment. The white sand beach stretches for nearly a mile and the lake is divided into sections for swimming, lounging in a floating chair, kayaking, pedal boating or jet skiing.



Other options at Splashmin's include a tour of their farm where tropical fruits and vegetables are grown and some people choose to spend their day picnicking under the shade of the farm's palm trees. There is also a 45 minute creek and savannah tour that offers a glimpse of the untamed side of the resort.

For the more active, there is basketball, volleyball and cricket. A bar, snack shop and full restaurant are on site, but there are also plenty of small thatched benabs with tables and benches for picnicking.

MAXIMUM: 40

DURATION: Approximately 8 hours

NOTES: All meals, water and soft beverages are included. Wear comfortable clothing (shorts and t-shirts) and sandals. Also take along swim wear and towel.

CITY TOUR, DEMERARA DISTILLERS LIMITED TOUR AND MANGROVE HERITAGE TOUR

DEMERARA DISTILLERS LIMITED TOUR

Specially designed and built on the site of the old Plantation Diamond on the East Bank of the Demerara River, the Rum Heritage Centre features a photographic archive exhibition, a display of original machinery and parts from our historic distilleries, miniature models of Stills past and present - and other important heritage pieces.

Visitors can enjoy sampling from the range of El Dorado award-winning premium products on display at the unique 'barrel bar', constructed almost entirely of old oak casks including the bar stools. There is also a small amphitheatre where they can be entertained and informed by feature documentaries, related visual presentations and lectures on Rums by our experts.

Currently on display in the Centre is a real treasure trove. Items include a batch redistillation still that was used in the early 1940s, two hydrostatic pressure controllers that were used on the Savalle stills in the early 1950s, and a small copper double retort pot still that used to be employed in rum experimentation. There is also a classic wooden steam boiler manufactured in 1945, a plate heat exchanger and a molasses clarifier/yeast separator.

Bringing the whole exhibition to life are a number of beautifully constructed scale models of both the wooden Coffey still and the modern metal Coffey still, the double wooden pot still, the Savalle still and an interesting old Brigs gin still.



CITY TOUR

On the City tour, you will make several stops along the way to learn about Georgetown and the many heritage buildings. An experienced guide will walk with you along the streets and avenues of the City pointing out all monuments, colonial buildings and government offices including providing a bit of history. A bus will be available to shuttle you between areas of interest. You will have opportunity to purchase souvenirs and trinkets on this tour.



MANGROVE HERITAGE TRAIL

A 30mins ride from Georgetown will take you to the 2.5 km mangrove reserve nestled between the Golden Grove and Belfield communities. Designated as Guyana's first Mangrove Reserve in 2011 the area boasts:

- 4 species of mangroves
- Several species of birds including Flamingos, Scarlet Ibis, Wattled Jacana, Egret and Heron

- A wetland area rich with Tilapia and Patwa, ideal for fishing
- Wild monkeys in the mangrove forest
- Hives which produce liquid gold mangrove honey
- Incredibly rich heritage

The tour begins with a brief introduction and orientation at the imposing 150 year old Visitor Center which was once the estate house of McLean and a sugar plantation. Here you will be introduced to the rich heritage of the surrounding communities and learn about mangrove conservation and management.

MAXIMUM: 50

DURATION: Approximately 8 hours

NOTES: All meals, water and soft beverages are included. Each individual is required to wear suitable shoes (no heels) and hard hats (which are provided on location) before the tour is conducted.

SURAMA/ ANNAI/ARANAPUTA

Travelling to the Rupununi is a worthwhile experience, whether by bus or airplane. Visitors will be awed by the towering forest cover that line the roadway leading to this Region and will experience the rainforest as they wind through what deems to be a never ending road.

The first stop on your tour is the Amerindian Village, Annai. Unlike the rest of the country which is sheltered by thick and largely inaccessible rain forest, Annai finds itself on an open savannah. Life here is quiet and simple and visitors will enjoy the tranquility of their environs.

Rock View Lodge which is managed by Mr. Colin Edwards is located in the village. Visitors may pay a visit to the Lodge and engage in activities such as bird watching, horse back riding or simply enjoy the day at the Rock pool.



The open plains of the Rupununi make wildlife spotting much easier than in the jungle as well. Visitors may have the chance of spotting tapirs and maybe even jaguars if you are very lucky. Up in the nearby mountains it is also possible to spot a number of monkey species, and some interesting smaller creatures like Poison Arrow Dart Frogs.



The next stop on the tour is the Amerindian Village, Surama. The village is set in five square miles of savannah which is ringed by the forest covered Pakaraima Mountains. Surama's inhabitants are mainly from the Macushi tribe and still observe many of the traditional practices of their forebears.

This isolated and idyllic location offers an escape from the concrete jungle to a serene and peaceful existence with nature. Dawn hikes, led by Surama guides across the savannah and up Surama Mountain, reveal a multitude of birds and fantastic vistas. Visitors can enjoy the day exploring the village or take a hike up Surama Mountain to view abundant wildlife or a calm canoe trip down the Burro Burro River which allows opportunity to observe Giant River Otters, Tapir, Tira, Spider Monkeys and many more species.

The last stop on your trip is the Amerindian community, Aranaputa. Visitors to this community may take a hike up Clarence Mountain and experience a view like no other. Nestled at the foot of the Village, Clarence Mountain is an exhilarating climb that allows visitors a simple but beautiful view of the Pakaraima Mountains and the surrounding Savannah below.

After a climb, visitors can pay a visit to Aranaputa peanut butter factory, which is a locally-run cooperative supplying food to families, schools, and lodges across the Rupununi, while employing a dozen full- and part-time workers from the surrounding villages.

Approximately 700 acres of Rupununi farmland are dedicated to peanut cultivation, much of which is channeled to the Aranaputa cooperative. The peanut butter cooperative serves an important role in local economic development by giving farmers a local outlet for their produce, while providing affordable, hygenic, nutritional, locally-produced food to community residents.

Visitors to the factory learn about the cooperative's history and efforts to provide meaningful employment and economic opportunity to the surrounding community. Visitors may also get a chance to try their hand at the old hand-crank peanut butter press and to sample the factory's delicious output.

MAXIMUM: 39

DURATION: Approximately 8-9 hours

NOTES: Small aircraft will be the mode of transportation, seating capacity of each is 13 persons. To move between locations, ground transportation will be provided. All meals, water and soft beverages are provided. Wear light clothing and comfortable shoes.

KAIETEUR AND ORINDUIK FALLS

This is a flying adventure taking you to Kaieteur & Orinduik Falls for an all-inclusive one day tour. The Aircraft departs from Ogle and lands at Kaieteur after a 1 hour 5 minutes flight. Two hours are spent on ground touring the Kaieteur National Park, and viewing of the majestic Kaieteur Falls from several vantage positions. The Aircraft then takes you for a 25 mins flight to Orinduik Falls which is located on the Guyana/Brazilian Border, amongst rolling savannah hills. Here you have Lunch, bathe and relax for 2 hours before boarding the aircraft for a 1:30 hour flight back to Ogle.

Kaieteur Falls - Discovered by European, Charles Barrington Brown, on April 29, 1870. This falls is situated in the heart of the Guyana's rainforest on the Potaro River, which is a tributary to the mighty Essequibo River. Kaieteur is considered one of the world's natural wonders. It flows over a sandstone conglomerate tableland into a deep gorge, a drop of 822 ft or 5 times the height of Niagara Falls. There are no other falls in the world with the magnitude of this sheer drop of 721 ft. This fact make the falls a must see phenomenon.



Orinduik Falls - Where the Rainforest suddenly gives way to wide expanses of rolling Savannah hills and the Ireng River flows the divide, forming the border between Guyana and its giant neighbour Brazil, lies a wonder for the eyes to behold Orinduik Water Falls. Cascading over small and giant rocks of solid jasper, forming natural swimming pools and body massaging jacuzzies. The Smooth red Jasper is a marvel to see and touch. The name of this falls was derived from the Patamona word "Orin" which means sensational to feel.



MAXIMUM: 65

DURATION: Approximately 7 – 8 hours.

NOTES: Small aircraft will be the mode of transportation. A guide will be present at all times making stops at different points for photo opportunities. Take a swim suit for the Orinduik Falls stop. All meals, water and soft beverages are included. Wear light clothing and comfortable walking shoes.

IWOKRAMA AND CANOPY WALKWAY TOURS

As part of Guyana's efforts to conserve forests and biodiversity, the Iwokrama Reserve was dedicated to the Commonwealth in 1989 for the purpose of research by the Iwokrama International Centre (IIC). The IIC was established in 1996 with the mandate to test the proposition that conservation, environmental balance and sustainable economic activity can be mutually reinforcing. It has become a living laboratory for sustainable tropical forest management and research into global warming.



The Iwokrama Forest represents 1.7% of Guyana's land mass, covering almost one million acres (3,710 sq. km /1,432 sq. miles) with a boundary of 442km (274 miles). The area is covered with lush, lowland tropical forest, and dominated by tropical trees with a dense canopy 20-30 metres (66-98 ft.) high. At 1000 metres (3,281 ft.), the Iwokrama Mountains once provided a "place of refuge" for the Makushi people and are now a refuge for an extraordinarily diverse range of wildlife. Iwokrama lies within the Guiana Shield, a tropical rainforest that covers much of Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana, as well as eastern and southern Venezuela, and northeast Brazil.

Iwokrama's Giant Inhabitants

Iwokrama is a vast habitat for some of the largest, and rarest, creatures on Earth, including:

- World's highest numbers of fish (420) and bat (90) species for any area this size;
- World's largest scaled freshwater fish – Arapaima;
- World's largest alligator/caiman – Black Caiman;
- World's largest anteater – Giant Anteater;
- World's largest otter – Giant Otter;
- World's largest freshwater turtle – Giant River Turtle;
- World's largest snake – Anaconda;
- World's largest pit viper – Bushmaster;
- World's largest rodent – Capybara;
- Americas' largest eagle – Harpy Eagle;
- South America's largest cat – Jaguar.

THE CANOPY WALKWAY

Opened in November 2003, the 154 metre (505 ft.) Iwokrama Canopy Walkway offers a unique experience in the region and envelopes you in the jungle's mid-level canopy through a series of suspension bridges and decks from heights of up to 30 metres (98 ft.). The journey starts with an adventurous hour long drive along a road that is known for its great opportunity to see wildlife, including the elusive jaguar and ends at Atta Rainforest Lodge. It gives visitors a new view of the mid and upper canopy of the forest and allows wildlife to be relatively free from human intrusion.



MAXIMUM: 39

DURATION: 8-9 hours

NOTES: The mode of transportation will be by small aircraft which seats 13 persons each, and ground transportation by 4 X 4 vehicle. All meals, water and soft beverages are included. Waterproof walking/hiking boots; long trousers preferably made of cotton-polyester mix; T-shirts or short-sleeved shirts; light colours are preferable (darker colours can attract insects); raingear poncho or raincoat; hat and sun-screen; insect repellent; medication which you may require; binoculars; a water container; a Camera with flash.

**13TH ANNUAL
CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (STC-13)**

GEORGETOWN, GUYANA – APRIL 15-18, 2012

STUDY TOUR SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION FORM

Please select all Study Tours in order of Preference – 1 being the most preferred. Please sign up early to have the best chance of securing your most preferred tour.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012

- River Expedition Tour
- Santa Mission/Arrow Point Tour
- Resort Hopping -- Marudi Creek Resort and Splashmins Resort
- City Tour, Demerara Distillers Limited Tour and Mangrove Heritage Tour
- Kaieteur And Orinduik Falls
- Surama/Annai/Aranaputa Tour
- Iwokrama and Canopy Walkway Tours

REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me for my first available option as indicated above. I understand that tours are limited and that I will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis.

I have already registered for STC-13.

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

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