

Guyana Rupununi Safari

Duration: Approx. 10 days & 9 nights (Inclusive of Rupununi Expo 2013)

Price range: USD 1,995./person

Minimum: 2 persons

Category: Hard Adventure

Introduction

The Guyana Rupununi Safari (GRS) would coincide with the annual Rupununi Expo-Rupununi Largest Exposition. Its' main objective is to develop and promote tourism related activities, particularly, Community Based Tourism (CBT), in Region 9, by allowing participants to experience the tropical rainforest of the Iwokrama Reserve, cultural diversities of the Guyana/Brazil Frontier, rich culture of the Macushis and Wapishanas (Indigenous Peoples), scenic beauty of the South Pakaraima & Kanuku Mountains, Rupununi Wetlands and Savannahs.

The GRS would also support the drive to promote Domestic Tourism and complement the objectives of the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS). The GRS would commence from Georgetown and conclude at Achawib/Karaudarnaua-Deep South Rupununi. Participants would enjoy the activities of the annual Rupununi Rodeo and continue to the main Amerindian Villages of Region 9, before returning to Lethem for its conclusion.

Participants would also have the option to visit Boa Vista in neighboring Brazil on Easter Saturday.

Guyana's Hinterland-the Rupununi Savannahs & Wetlands

The Rupununi is a vast are of dry grassland with sparse trees, termites mounds and wooded hills in the Southwest of the country.

The savannah is divided into the North and South Rupununi by the Kanuku Mountains and scattered with occasional Amerindian villages and a few large cattle ranches dating back to the 19th century. Every year, during the rainy season you can see hundreds of Heron, Egret Anhinga, Ibis, Jabiru Storks and other avian fauna fishing the flooded Savannahs.

Rupununi is an area rich in wildlife, particularly rare and endangered species such as the Arapaima-largest freshwater fish, Black Caiman, Giant Otter, Jaguar -South America's largest cat, Giant Anteater. Bird life is rich, particularly in the forest galleries, and the Kanuku Mountains provide a home for the Harpy Eagle, the world's largest and fiercest Eagle.

Itinerary

Friday, November 15, 2013-Day 1

Depart Georgetown 20.00 hrs; Brief stops at Mabura (Police Check Point);

Saturday, November 16, 2013-Day 2

Arrive Kurupukari (Essequibo River Crossing) 06.00 hrs; breakfast; continue through Iwokrama Rainforest Reserve; brief stops at Annai, Rock View

Lodge (Oasis); arrived Lethem (Savannah Inn Hotel)14.00 hrs; Orientation; overnight at Rodeo ground camping facilities, or independent arrangement.

Sunday, November 17, 2013-Day 3

Depart Lethem 09.00 hrs; brief stops at Pariquaranau, Shulinab, arrive Sand Creek 12.00 hrs; games & other activities; overnight

Monday, November 18, 2013- Day 4

Depart Sand Creek 08.00 hrs; brief stops at Dadanawa Ranch, Rupunau, Shea, Arrive Maruranau, 16.00 hrs. Games/Campfire: overnight

Tuesday, November 19, 2013-Day 5

Depart Maruraunau 08.00 hrs; arrive Awarewaunau 10.00 hrs- continue to Aishalton overnight and hold camp fire/ cultural show.

Wednesday, November 20, 2013-Day 6

Depart Aishalton 08.00 hrs; arrive Karaudarnaua continue to Achawib and return to Karaudarnaua, -overnight

Thursday, November 21, 2013-Day 7

Depart Karaudarnaua 08.00 hrs; arrive Sowariwau 12.00 hrs; proceed to Katoonarib-overnight

Friday, November 22, 2013-Day 8

Depart Katoonarib 08.00 hrs, arrive Lethem 12.00 hrs- overnight

Saturday, November 23, 2013-Day 9

Rupununi Exposition- overnight Lethem

Sunday, November 24, 2013-Day 10

Depart Lethem 06.00 hrs; arrive Georgetown 18.00 hrs

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRIP

CAMPING EQUIPMENT

- ❖ Camping tent and battery light (12 volts) Q-Beam
- ❖ Blanket
- ❖ Torchlight (with extra batteries)
- ❖ Garbage bags
- ❖ Personal belongings such as warm clothing, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, deodorant, etc.
- ❖ Personal medical kit, buckets

N.B. Camping Ground facilities will be provided at all overnight destinations for those travelling as part of the contingent. Others requiring alternative accommodation are required to make those arrangements at the earliest opportunity.

Organizer's Responsibilities

The Organizers of the SRS would coordinate the tour and undertake the logistical and administrative functions in preparation of the trip. Persons with vehicles interested in participating will be required to pay a nominal registration fee. Persons without vehicles and are desirous of being part of the SRS can contact the Organizers for information.

1. To seek permission from the Brazilian Embassy to drive vehicles over to Brazil and waiver of any related costs
2. Clearance for those persons in the contingent, list of names
3. To request a waiver of the toll to cross at Kurupukari- request a discount from Mekdeci Mining Co
4. To advertisement of the activities in the press (early)
5. Write to GuyOil and other potential sponsors for support
6. Tour Guiding Services in Brazil
7. Camping ground facilities
8. Collaboration and notification of the RCCI and Consulate in Brazil for welcome of visitors
9. Media
10. Seek Sponsorship for the Beverages to brand the event - Banks DIH, Ansa McAl, or DDL
11. Invite and inform the GDF and GPF to provide security escort and emergency assistance if required

General Advisory

- ❖ All transportation arrangement will be the onus of the participants except where applicable to Tour Operators
- ❖ The Regional facilities will be made available for outdoor sleeping, however it will be best to pack the following for outdoor sleeping:
 - Tents
 - Sleeping bags
 - Small tarp poling
 - Folding cots
 - Other appropriate sleeping equipment
- ❖ Washroom facilities will be those available at the schools and other regional facilities in the areas of sleepover.
- ❖ Permissions for entry to Amerindian reservations will be arranged by the Organizers.
- ❖ All participants of the Safari area advised to be respectful of local cultures and to display a sense of discipline in Amerindian Communities.

For further information contact

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