

# Travel Guide to the Amazon

By: Jack Collins

That time of the year has arrived. The time of year where you might start planning a wonderful summer vacation. You may be thinking about Florida or the shores of the east coast. Maybe you are thinking about the Grand Canyon or Yellowstone National Park. These are great suggestions for vacations; but how unoriginal can you get? My recommendation for spicing up a summer would be to head south of the equator to beautiful Brazil.

When you first heard Brazil you probably thought of the beautiful girls, wide beaches and great food of Rio de Janeiro. Maybe you want to try the Brazilian national drink, the caipirinha. Maybe you have heard of paradise...I mean Buzios, Brazil. Or even one of the prettiest falls in the world, Iguazu Falls. To be honest, there are beautiful beaches and waterfalls everywhere. Only in Brazil can you find the largest rainforest on the planet.



A beautiful sunset over the Amazon Rainforest.

The Amazon Rainforest is unique to any piece of nature. It contains flooded forests, enormous rivers, and millions of different species of animals and plants. Did you know that the

Amazon River contains a man eating cat fish? Don't worry that's deep down river. It has everything one could possibly desire pertaining to nature. So why not bring the family or that special someone down to Brazil. It will be an unforgettable experience (unless you drink to many caipirinhas) and a trip of a lifetime. If you choose to bring your kids, the rainforest is a great educational experience.



One of the many species of monkeys located in the rainforest.

Here, I am going to plan out for you a wonderful, experience of a lifetime. Follow this game plan and thank me later.

Before you leave the US:

- Book a flight with Varig Airlines. They are the main airlines carrier in Brazil and fly out of Boston, Los Angeles, Washington or Miami.
- Purchase a Portuguese dictionary.
- Consult your doctor two months before you leave to see what immunization shot you may need. He will also give you malaria medicine and, hopefully,

Cipro (you will be come best friends with it).



This is the distinct line where the Rio Negro and the Amazon River meet.

- For the more adventurous, camping in the deep Amazon

If you are interested, please call and plan a trip with a travel agent. They will set you up with an unbelievable trip which you can tell your friends all about.

Possible plans when you arrive in Manaus:

- After a long flight to Brazil, I recommend staying at the Tropical Manaus Resort. You will be able to relax around to pool and at the “swim up” bar. Did I mention they have their own zoo filled with all kinds of animals including monkeys!
- From the Tropical Manaus Resort, a boat will come and pick your group and others up to bring you to the Eco Amazon Lodge. The Eco Lodge has great food and nice living quarters. Once you hire a guide, these are the following activities that you can do:
  - Cayman hunting
  - Bird watching
  - Night canoe trips
  - Feed the monkeys
  - Nature walk
  - Amazon survival tour
  - Paraná fishing
  - Deep water exploration of the Amazon