

TEXAS  **EXES**[®]
— FLYING LONGHORNS —

Amazon Adventure & Machu Picchu





Voyage of Discovery

From the Amazon River Basin, where the dense jungle teems with the greatest diversity of plant and animal life on Earth, to the emerald-green peaks of Machu Picchu, your Peruvian expedition is a journey of natural wonder and ancient mysteries. Leave the modern world behind as you begin your 11-day voyage into one of the world's most remote regions. Spend one night in Peru's capital city of Lima before embarking on a three-night river cruise through the tributaries of the Peruvian Amazon and the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve — the largest wetlands refuge on the planet. Watch for toucans, pink and gray dolphins and tamarin monkeys on private guided excursions through the rainforest, including a nighttime jungle outing that takes you on a quest for such nocturnal animals as caiman and bats. Our expedition continues from the Amazon to the Sacred Valley of Urubamba and on to the incomparable Machu Picchu — a UNESCO World Heritage site that encompasses more than 200 archaeological treasures that had been obscured from the outside world for more than four centuries.

Front cover: *Zafiro on the Amazon River*



Squirrel monkey



Explore the Amazon on river skiffs

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Dear Texas Ex:

Join us for an unforgettable journey to the legendary Amazon River Basin, where the biodiversity of Earth's largest rainforest ecosystem is coupled with the marvels of awe-inspiring Machu Picchu, the legendary "Lost City of the Incas."

This 11-day, 10-night land and river itinerary features deluxe hotel accommodations and an exclusively chartered cruise aboard the deluxe **Zafiro**, a small expedition boat specifically designed to be one of few passenger vessels permitted to navigate the remote tributaries of the Peruvian Amazon and the pristine wetlands of Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve. On board and on excursions, English-speaking naturalists will guide us through this fragile biome to see endemic butterflies, endangered pink river dolphins, squirrel-sized tamarins, resplendent bird-life and enormous blooming water lilies.

Our unique expedition takes us from the Amazon River Basin to the Sacred Valley of Urubamba, the cradle of the mighty Inca Empire. This stunning landscape of snowcapped peaks, ancient agricultural terraces and flowering meadows is dotted with magnificent archaeological sites and picturesque Quechua villages. This wondrous valley connects Machu Picchu and the UNESCO-inscribed, ancient Inca capital of Cuzco. The highlight of our extraordinary Andean experience is a visit to Machu Picchu, unparalleled in its aura of mystery and majesty.

This outstanding itinerary is brought to you by the Texas Exes travel program, which supports the association's mission of promoting and protecting The University of Texas at Austin and uniting its alumni around the world. While you do not have to be an alumnus of UT to travel with us, we do ask that all Flying Longhorns travelers have an active membership in the Texas Exes. Memberships start at just \$50.

The association is a huge proponent of continuing education and there is no better classroom than our world. Experience rich history and culture in the company of your fellow Longhorns! Are you ready for the adventure of a lifetime? We're standing by to answer all of your questions and/or take your reservation. Capacity is limited on this popular program and it may sell out quickly. Additional information about all Texas Exes Flying Longhorns trips can be found at travel@texasexes.org

Best regards,

Your Flying Longhorns Travel Team,
Margaret, Janice, and Leslie

**Contact the Flying Longhorns office to secure your spot:
1-800-594-3900 or travel@texasexes.org**



Protecting Our Planet

Winding over more than 4,400 miles from the Andes Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean, the Amazon River flows through nine South American countries and vast tracts of virgin rainforest producing one-fifth of the world's freshwater supply. More than one-third of all species recorded in the world are found in the Amazon River Basin, constituting the largest plant and animal species on Earth. This majestic, jungle-fringed region is also home to many indigenous river people, or *riberieños*, who have lived in harmony with the forest for centuries. Often referred to as the “lungs of the planet,” the Amazon River Basin is home to the world's largest tropical rainforest and plays a vital role in regulating Earth's climate and producing oxygen—despite the fact that survival of its wondrous species remains under threat from deforestation, mining and agriculture. Efforts are being made to protect this natural treasure and its inhabitants—including conservation initiatives, sustainable development projects and a drive to promote eco-tourism. However, much more needs to be done to ensure that its people, plants and animals can thrive for generations to come.





Machu Picchu & the Sacred Valley

Cradled by the soaring peaks of the Andes Mountains, the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu evokes awe and wonder like few places on Earth. Our itinerary includes an extraordinary opportunity to experience the majesty of this “lost city of the Incas” and other treasures of the lush Sacred Valley. Built in the 15th century as a summer retreat for the Inca Emperor Pachacutec, Machu Picchu was unknown to the outside world for four centuries until American explorer Hiram Bingham III stumbled upon it in 1911. A century of extensive research and study still has not revealed the secrets of its purpose, its residents or its abandonment; nevertheless, this UNESCO World Heritage site has been carefully excavated and preserved. Our exploration of the Sacred Valley’s ancient engineering marvels also includes a visit to the fortress of Ollantaytambo, which stands as a lasting testimony to the powerful and far-reaching Inca Empire. Here, village craftsmen employ age-old techniques to weave intricate tapestries and sculpt colorful pottery. You will also discover the Inca stone fortress of Sacsayhuamán in the Inca capital of Cuzco and see the UNESCO-designated city’s grand Baroque- and Renaissance-style churches — a fascinating mix of pre-Columbian and colonial influences.



Llamas in Machu Picchu



Ollantaytambo fortress

INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the river boat and at hotels
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your guest room and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



2025 | 11-DAY/10-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City/
Lima, Peru

Day 1 | March 11

Arrive in Peru's cosmopolitan capital of Lima and check into the **Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel**.

Lima/Iquitos/Nauta/
Embark/Amazon River

Day 2 | March 12

This morning, fly to vibrant Iquitos, an important rubber boom center during the late 19th century that attracted thousands of immigrants.

From there, you will embark the deluxe **Zafiro** to cruise deep into this vital and remote biosphere. Naturalists will share insight into the Amazon Basin's complex ecosystem. Attend a Welcome Reception and watch civilization fade away. (B,L,R,D)

Marañón River/Yanayacu-
Pucate River/Ucayali

Day 3 | March 13

Wake up in the heart of the Amazon Basin, where the jungle

teems with the greatest diversity of plant and animal life on Earth.

Enjoy a picnic breakfast served under the shade of a magnificent rainforest canopy. Watch for white-necked heron and wattled jacana dipping into nearby shallow waters.

From there, you will meet an authentic local shaman, who will perform a traditional ritual and explain how the *riberños* have used indigenous medicinal plants and herbs to cure ailments for centuries.

Return to the boat for dinner, followed by an expedition into the darkness of the jungle. Search for nocturnal creatures — including caimans and bats — on a nighttime safari by skiff into the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve as a vast blanket of stars glow above you. (B,L,D)

Marañón River/Nauta

Day 4 | March 14

Embark on a morning fishing excursion in San José de Zarapanga — a virtually

uninhabited portion of the Amazon. Skiffs will take you through the labyrinthine, Shiriyacu black water tributaries while the vessel's naturalists point out animal and plant life rarely detected by the untrained eye. Then, try your hand at catching the famous red-bellied piranha.

This afternoon, we stop in a local village for a demonstration on how to prepare an Amazonian dish known as *juanes*, a regional favorite made of chicken and rice, wrapped in banana leaves.

Gather on the vessel's upper deck to enjoy a final evening cruising the Amazon and a festive Farewell Reception as the sun sets over the rainforest. (B,L,R,D)

Disembark/Iquitos/Lima/
Cuzco/Urubamba Valley

Day 5 | March 15

Disembark the river boat and fly from Iquitos via Lima to Cuzco. On arrival, transfer to the Sacred Valley of Urubamba, a scenic stretch of ancient ruins and small towns nestled in the



Hoatzin birds



Take a night excursion to see such nocturnal animals as the caiman



Toco toucans



Three-toed sloth

Peruvian Andes.

Check into the **Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba Hotel**. (B,D)

Sacred Valley

Day 6 | March 16

After a morning at leisure, travel to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Ollantaytambo, which contains ruins of a temple and fortress where Inca nobility fled when the Spaniards invaded Cuzco. Located on the side of a mountain along the Urubamba River, this well-preserved archeological site includes remnants of lavish 15th century palaces built for the rulers of the day. From there, you will visit the workshop of renowned ceramics artist Pablo Seminario, a gallery and art center devoted to preserving the production techniques and designs of ancient Peruvian cultures. (B)

Urubamba Valley/ Machu Picchu

Day 7 | March 17

Check out of the hotel after breakfast as we make our

journey to Machu Picchu — the lost city of the Incas. Some believe this UNESCO-inscribed, 15th century citadel was the Inca civilization’s most stunning urban achievement, with stone walls, terraces and ramps that appear to have been naturally carved in the rock escarpments. Spend the afternoon exploring the wonders of Machu Picchu.

Later this evening, check in to the deluxe **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel**, a luxurious respite from a day of touring. (B,L,D)

Machu Picchu/Cuzco

Day 8 | March 18

Explore more of the ruins of Machu Picchu or enjoy some of the natural history activities. After lunch, board a scenic train back to Ollantaytambo and transfer to a deluxe hotel in historic Cuzco. (B,L,D)

Cuzco

Day 9 | March 19

Your day begins with a tour of the Sacsayhuamán

Archaeological Park, a fortified Inca citadel and ceremonial site that dates to the 15th century. According to historical writings, construction of the complex of stone structures required the labor of an estimated 20,000 people working over a period of about 70 years.

Continue to the heart of Cuzco for visits to the historic cathedral and ruins of Coricancha, known as the Temple of the Sun. This ornate religious complex was once considered the center of the Inca world. Attend a Farewell Reception this evening. (B,L,R)

Cuzco/Lima

Day 10 | March 20

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima and enjoy the use of a day room at the **Wyndham Costa Del Sol Lima Airport Hotel** before your overnight flight back to your home city. (B)

Arrive in Home City

Day 11 | March 21

Arrive in your home city.

Pink river dolphin



Jibaro-Ashual shaman





Deluxe Hotel Accommodations

Hotels selected for this expedition from Lima to the Sacred Valley and on to Machu Picchu and Cuzco are all ideally located, each offering a unique perspective on the sites we visit. The **Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel** is the perfect place to begin and end your journey as we fly into the heart of Peru. Other properties include the **Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba Hotel** in the centuries-old city of Cuzco and the **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel** — nestled amid 12 acres of stunningly lush cloud forest at Machu Picchu.



Zafiro

The deluxe **Zafiro**, specially designed to non-invasively navigate the unique waters of the Upper Amazon River and its tributaries, carries only 36 guests. This spacious yet intimate river boat offers a unique way to experience the colorful wildlife and cultures within the most extraordinary, remote, and untouched rainforest in the protected Pacaya Samiria National Reserve. Throughout the cruise, English speaking, highly trained naturalists provide expert insight into the Amazon's amazing array of biodiversity during excursions and nature walks.



2025 DEPARTURE DATE

March 11 to 21

(Tour Begins: March 11)

Category-Description	Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
B Panoramic view, floor-to-ceiling window. 226 sq. ft. Lower Deck.	\$9,695	\$8,695
A Panoramic view, sliding glass doors with private balcony. 226 sq. ft. Upper Deck.	\$10,595	\$9,595
Master Suite Larger suite with 90-degree front- and side-facing floor-to-ceiling window. 248 sq. ft. Lower Deck.	\$11,495	\$10,495
Zafiro Suite Largest suite with 180-degree front-facing window, private forward balcony, Jacuzzi and sitting area with sofa and chair. 480 sq. ft. Upper Deck.	\$12,695	\$11,695

***Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 6/23/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes.

Single supplements apply to category B at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%.

Port taxes are an additional \$415 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment.

This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/

Final payment due November 12, 2024

To secure your spot, Contact the Flying Longhorns office: 1-800-594-3900 or travel@texasesexes.org



PRE-EXTENSION OPTION

Lima

March 10 to 12, 2025 (Program Begins: March 10)

The Peruvian capital of Lima provides the ideal two-night prelude to your expedition. The city's UNESCO-inscribed historical center showcases colonial mansions amid modern architecture. Visit the 16th-century Cathedral of Lima, where the remains of Francisco Pizarro are entombed. Tour the 17th-century Church and Convent of San Francisco and discover the opulent Casa de Aliaga, built in 1535 as the residence of Don Jerónimo de Aliaga, co-founder of Lima. This 16th-century gem is the oldest private house in continuous use in South America, spanning 17 generations. Enjoy two nights in the deluxe **Miraflores Park Belmond Hotel**.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$795

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,025



POST-EXTENSION OPTION

Cuzco

March 20 to 23, 2025 (Program Ends: March 23)

Conclude your Peruvian expedition with two-nights in the UNESCO-inscribed city of Cuzco. As one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the western hemisphere, it retains examples of early Incan architecture as well as Spanish colonial structures. Visit the Inca ruins of Moray and the Maras salt terraces, known as the "salt of the Andes." You will also enjoy an excursion to a local market with a cooking demonstration and lunch. Accommodations are in an ideally located, luxury hotel.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$995

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,310

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Early Booking Savings* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!

Machu Picchu



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