rotary youth exchange
Rotary Brazil
AMAzon
CAMP - BRASIL
STEP CAMP + FAMILY TO FAMILY
August 1st to 10th, 2025
€ 1,750 + flights
Amazing 10-DAY Short Term Camp full of NATURE, LEARNING AND ADVENTURE.
Get ready to live in a boat cruising the Amazon and Negro Rivers surrounded by the RAIN FOREST, FUN and all the flavors of the AMAZON.
Operated by:
BELO BRASIL TOURS
More Information and registration:
Anaides Orth

AMAZON EXPEDITION | ROTARY

2025

10 days in an ecological, cultural and humanitarian immersion

In 2025, Rotary includes another important purpose in its guidelines to direct its actions around the world: supporting the environmental experiences. Focusing on environmental matters will give the Rotary family more opportunities to promote positive changes around them, thus increasing the impact of the organization worldwide. Aiming to collaborate with that mission, we have created the Rotary Amazon Camp, a wonderful and immersive program for international students focusing on the build up of capacities to understand, reflect, increase awareness and action in the sustainable development field of the Earth's biggest tropical forest.

The activities of this program were thought aiming to expand and deepen knowledge about natural cycles, social structures, inspiring initiatives and the region's way of life. By showing how the Amazon plays a fundamental role in the challenge of maintaining our ever changing world a sustainable place, we encourage the exchange students to take their insights and learnings acquired in this journey to their professional lives, fields of study and communities. The idea is that participants can learn not only from community leaders and practitioners of forest sustainability, but also with and from each other.

Through a process of collective learning, we will build an experience, together, based on shared purpose, social work, and the values of the forest and its people.

Protecting the Amazon Forest means to protect mankind. We hope that the charms, the diversity and the richness of this experience will serve as an inspiration and an incentive for you to embrace your role as a defender of this forest, helping to keep it alive for all future generations to come.

Our goal is to unite a group of international students from all around the world. Multiple world views to face the complexity of our growing opportunities and global challenges. In order to coordinate the program, we have put together a team formed by local and professional leaders, who live and work in the region, as well as Belo Brasil's own team members.

This is a call to international students to allow themselves to be deeply touched by the Amazon Forest. An invitation for you to visit, get to know and fall in love with this magical place.

Icon identification

- Arrival
- Departure
- Tour
- Bike Tour
- Departure at dawn
- Sightseeing
- Dinner show
- Cave
- Museum
- Washing machine
- Relax
- Bus Tour
- Boat Tour
- Walk/Hike

HIGHLIGHTS

Travel like a native, sleeping on board in authentic organic cotton hammocks, tasting the local cuisine and getting to know the forest, its people and its challenges. You will have the chance to feel and live the essence of the Amazon and be touched by its diversity, richness, social structures, inspiring initiatives and way of life.

The rainforest is a place that is mysterious and complex, fascinating and compelling and incredibly giving and benevolent. In a world of constant environmental changes, it is important to take actions that address these several global challenges. Bringing together unique visions and values of people from different countries, areas of work or study and experiences, we create a multicultural environment of constant learning, where we share a single purpose: to defend the Amazon Rainforest and generate a positive impact on their traditional communities.

During the Rotary Amazon Camp, you will be able to:

· Spend 9 days in the Amazon on different experiences: the cultural part in the city of Manaus, capital of the Amazonas state, the Amazon jungle and its beauty in the area where there are more than 300 hundred waterfalls inside the jungle, and then navigating on the Amazon rivers (Amazonas and Negro rivers) on an Environmental Conservation Unit, inside an authentic Amazonian boat, supporting environmental sustainability and cultural preservation and taking care of local people living in traditional villages;

· Learn about the development of ecological projects when visiting research institutes on flora, fauna, water, climate, land use, history, and geography;

· Spread your wisdom through an humanitarian mission in typical Amazonian communities;

· Participating on a Tree Planting Project contributing to the preservation of the Amazon rainforest and sustainable development;

· Experience direct exchange with local traditional communities and share stories, learnings, frameworks, practices, and concepts, prototype solutions. Put learning into practice and test ideas together.

EXPEDITION MAP

- STARTS
- ENDS
- 1 STOPS
- BUS ROUTE
- BOAT ROUTE
- ARRIVAL
- DEPARTURE
- BOAT NAVIGATION
- CONSERVATION UNITS

1. Manaus
2. Figueiredo Village/ Night Trekking / Waterfalls
3. Meeting of waters of Negro and Solimões rivers / Amazon River
4. Lily Pads / Floating Village
5. First Night Sleep
6. Indian Tribe
7. Ariaú River / Canoe Ride
8. Manioc flour / Tapioca and Açaí House
9. The Pink Dolphin project
10. Amazon Traditional Community / Turtles of the Amazon project
11. Praia Grande river beach
12. Camping Area and Tree Planting Project

PROGRAM

August 01st (Friday)
YOUR CITY / MANAUS

ARRIVAL IN MANAUS

Welcome to Manaus!

When you arrive at the airport in Manaus, you will be greeted by Belo Brasil Tours' team, who will be wearing uniforms and waiting for the arrival of all students. They will be guiding everyone to board the bus/van which will take you to the Floating Pier, located at the Negro River, where we will board our boat, built with a typical Amazonian style, headed toward a great adventure. During the trip, we will sleep inside the boat, on authentic hammocks of the region, exactly like the natives' style, discovering the soul of the forest. Fantastic!

If possible, please, wear your Rotary t-shirt!

PLANE TICKETS: THE PURCHASE WITH BELO BRASIL IS MANDATORY. We will contact you by e-mail and WhatsApp, after the trip has been officially confirmed, sending the best options of airfare for you from your city to Manaus. **All tickets will be issued with an arrival schedule between 11:00a.m. and 03:00p.m..**

ATTENTION! Eventual exceptions will be evaluated according to each case. Any additional costs that might appear due to an arrival outside of our mandatory schedule, such as the need for a monitor, transportation, hotel stays and others, will be the student's sole responsibility.

ORIENTATION MEETING

This is the moment to go through all of the details and information about the trip, with the presence of the entire team. After receiving all orientations, you will be even more prepared to enjoy your fantastic trip to the fullest!

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

08:30p.m. - LECTURE WITH A LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE

The preservation of the Amazon and its people.
(The Magic and importance of the Amazon)

PROGRAM

August 02nd (Saturday)
MANAUS / PRESIDENTE FIGUEIREDO / MANAUS

Good morning!

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

08:00a.m. - BUS/VAN DEPARTURE TO PRESIDENTE FIGUEIREDO

After breakfast, we will board our private bus/van and ride along the road BR-174, crossing the Amazon forest, until we reach the city of Presidente Figueiredo.

10:30a.m. - ARRIVAL AT THE MAROAGA CAVE/GRUTA DA JUDEIA (PRESIDENTE FIGUEIREDO)

We will start one of our amazing adventures: a hike through a trail in the forest, heading to the Maroaga Cave. Legend has it that the cave was a hiding spot for the Waimiri/Atroari's tribe chief, who lends his name to the place. Since it is one of the most ancient geological formations in the north of Brazil and one of the few sand caves in our country which possesses a species of albino shrimp, as well as two other small, albino fishes, the area is also an object of study for many researchers.

The cave is located inside of an Environmental Protection Area, and we will have the opportunity to bathe in a waterfall in the middle of the forest.

Lunch (not included)

Next, we will make a visit to the Ecological Reserve Waterfall Sanctuary. Time for ecotourism in this gorgeous place, with its clear rushing waters and pristine natural pools, where you can swim. You will also have the opportunity to learn more about the flora and fauna that are particular to the region.

04:00P.M. - RETURN TO MANAUS

We will board our private bus/van and return to the boat, in Manaus. Our expected arrival in Manaus is at 06:30p.m.. You will have time to take a quick shower before dinner.

Dinner (included) will be served at the boat.

PRIVATE PRESENTATION OF A LOCAL FOLKLORIC SHOW (BOI BUMBÁ - PARINTINS FESTIVAL)

Immerse yourself watching a folkloric show and understand a little more about the ethnicity and traditions of the people of the forest who tell myths, tales and legends in the beat of the Marujada and the Batucada. The Folkloric Festival of Parintins is a popular party which happens, annually, during the last weekend of June, at the city/island of Parintins, located on the right margin of the Amazon River, in the Brazilian state of Amazonas. The event is recognized as Brazilian Cultural Heritage by IPHAN (National Institute for Historic and Artistic Heritage).

The presentations, which traditionally begin on the last Friday of the month of June and end on the following Sunday, symbolize a dispute between two folkloric groups, Boi Garantido (red) and Boi Caprichoso (blue), which sing and dance the local Amazonian legends.

A spectacular popular opera under the open sky which takes place at the Cultural Center of Parintins, popularly known as Bumbódromo, with a total capacity for 35 thousand spectators.

PROGRAM

August 03rd (Sunday)
MANAUS / BOAT EXPEDITION

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

08:00a.m. - DEPARTURE TO THE CULTURAL TOUR (MANAUS)

We will pass through the locations of Ponta Negra neighborhood, Amazon Theater (Opera House), Rio Negro Palace, Arena Amazônia, Port of Manaus and Fish and Handcraft Market.

Lunch (not included)

After the tour, our journey continues straight to the Floating Pier, located at the Negro River, we will go on a 6-day expedition through the Amazon jungle, sailing on the Amazon and Negro rivers.

We will board the boat and we will start navigating, heading toward south, down the Negro River, passing in front of the city to see the old dock, the fish market and the simplicity of the stilt houses, home to the natives that live by the river, until we finally get to the meeting of the waters of the rivers Negro and Solimões, that together form the Amazonas River - one of the most beautiful and natural phenomena of the Amazon region! Our guide, specialized in Amazon, will be on board, sharing valuable information and telling amazing stories, including the legends of the "caboclo" folk - the Anaconda, the Pink Dolphin and Yara, Goddess of the Waters.

We will also learn about the stories of battles between the Indian warriors Manaós (who originate from the tribe which existed where the city of Manaus is located nowadays) and the white invaders, combats which have forever marked the soul of the humble Amazonian people.

Next, we will head north to visit the Janauari Ecological Reserve, its villages and floating houses, and see its beautiful birds. Here, we will have the opportunity to see a little of the day-to-day activities and the life of the "caboclo" people, who live on the waters of the Amazon. And if we're lucky, we will see the memorable "queen of the lakes", the giant lily pads - a symbol of the Amazon.

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

PROGRAM

August 04th (Monday)
BOAT EXPEDITION

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

VISIT TO THE DESSANA TUKANA TRIBE OF AMAZON NATIVE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Fantastic visit to an Indian tribe from the Amazon - the Dessana. You will have the opportunity to experience a little of the day-to-day life of the true people of the forest! We will watch a ritual presentation which the Indians present using their musical instruments, built with materials from the forest. After the presentation, you will also have the opportunity to interact with the Indians, and will be able to try facial painting with dye that is made with pigments extracted from the trees of the forest, get to know their residence (maloca) and how the Indians live. You will also visit the tribe's Art Gallery and also the House of Medicines from the Forest.

We will take our motorized canoes and go inside the flooded rainforest paths (igapós) to see the Sumauma tree - considered by the Indians as the sacred tree of life, the mother of all trees. The Sumauma tree can reach up to 70 meters in height.

Lunch (included) will be served on the boat.

NAVIGATION BY THE ANAVILHANAS ARCHIPELAGO

Sailing further north, we will arrive at one of the Amazon paradises where we will be enchanted: the Anavilhanas Archipelago, the second largest fresh water archipelago on the planet. There are over 400 islands which form this magnificent set in the middle of the Negro River. We will anchor our boat at a beautiful lake, close to the archipelago, located inside of a Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS). You will have time to do some water activities (swimming, stand-up paddle and kayaking).

Hopefully, we will be able to watch a beautiful Amazonian sunset.

Right after dusk, we will board our authentic, regional motorized canoes again and sail through the streams for an exciting alligator night-spotting adventure. Our guide focuses a powerful flashlight on the margins of the streams so we can see the animals' eyes glowing. Then, we quietly approach the alligator, and with a lot of skill and care, the guide will capture the little reptile with his hands in order to tell us all about this amazing creature.

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

PROGRAM

August 05th (Tuesday)
BOAT EXPEDITION

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROJECT

We will sail toward the Amazon Pink Dolphin Environmental Education Project. The project is monitored by IBAMA/ICMBio. You will have the chance to observe the pink dolphins in the water and see them while they are fed by one of the project's monitors. Amazing!

Lunch (included) will be served on the boat.

WILDLIFE-SPOTTING

In the afternoon, we will reach our destination to stop the boat at a paradisiacal region of lakes and igapós (small rivers) inhabited by beautiful and exotic birds and charming pink dolphins from the Amazon.

Next, we will board our motorized canoes and sail the streams looking for birds and local animals, such as the sloth, in their natural habitat.

Relax and enjoy our water activities available.

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat).

After dinner, we will have a nice chat about the legends of the region, including stories about the pink dolphins and the Amazonian Indian tribes.

PROGRAM

August 06th (Wednesday)
BOAT EXPEDITION

Good morning!

Today, we will try a new adventure: fishing the famous Amazon piranhas! We will depart very early on board the canoes toward the flooded forests or streams. Carrying several bamboo poles and meat baits, the exciting experience of fishing one amongst over 30 kinds of piranha which exist on the Amazon river unfolds in a savory food tasting, with no interference to the environmental balance of the region.

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

VISIT TO THE MANIOC FLOUR/TAPIOCA AND AÇAÍ HOUSE

As a positive and transforming example of sustainability, we will visit the house of a family of "ribeirinhos", people who live by the riverside, and will be able to experience the production of manioc flour, which they produce to sell to the communities who live inside the Rio Negro Sustainable Development Reserve. There, parents and their daughters and sons live with their families. Each son/daughter possesses, along with his family circle, a wooden house, and everyone plants, harvests, produces and sells, together, the manioc flour - as well as other fruits harvested in the property, such as the açaí and nuts.

They will share their customs and will show us the manufacturing process of the flour and the tapioca. Fraternizing with this family, we will be able to see that happiness does not depend on much.

Time to enjoy some water activities (banana boat and buoy cross).

Lunch (included) will be served on the boat.

VISIT TO A LOCAL VILLAGE IN THE ACAJATUBA LAKE REGION

We will then sail through the lakes formed in the Acajatuba region toward the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Village, located inside the Rio Negro Sustainable Reserve. A typical and beautiful village of Amazon "ribeirinhos". Comprised of a population of approximately 230 people, the village possesses a school which is used by students of all the region. During the expedition, and together with community leaders, teachers and our team, we will perform sustainable and social actions involving the children and teens, sharing cultural, environmental and social experiences at the school and at the community.

VISIT TO THE TURTLES OF THE AMAZON PROJECT

We will visit the Turtles of the Amazon Project, located in the Negro River Sustainable Development Reserve. A beautiful and important protection project for the Amazonian chelonians.

Return to the community for a nice soccer match with the local people.

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

PROGRAM

August 07th (Thursday)
BOAT EXPEDITION

Watch the spectacular sunrise in the Amazon!

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

We will sail a little more up the Negro River, where we will be able to sight the Anavilhanas Archipelago once again, and will make a stop at a beautiful white sand beach to enjoy this paradise in the middle of the Amazon Forest. Time to sunbathe, swim and enjoy all water activities available on the expedition.

Lunch (included) will be served on the boat).

GET READY - SURVIVAL TREKKING

Get your backpack ready: water, sunscreen, insect repellent and a flashlight. The day's expedition will happen under the supervision of specialized jungle guides: a hike inside the forest! During the hike, the guide will provide survival notions in the forest, explain about Amazonian wildlife, the trees, fruits and wild berries, show which plants can be eaten or possess medicinal properties, how to extract food from the forest, and will even teach how to build a cabin made out of palm tree straw.

Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

PROGRAM

August 08th (Friday)
BOAT EXPEDITION

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

Today you can paddle in authentic indigenous canoes in the streams and lakes of rare beauty!

Explore our mini-library: Time to relax in the hammocks and read a good book.

Lunch (included) will be served on the boat.

In the afternoon, you can try to make some Indian handcraft from Amazon with our boat guides using seeds from the region.

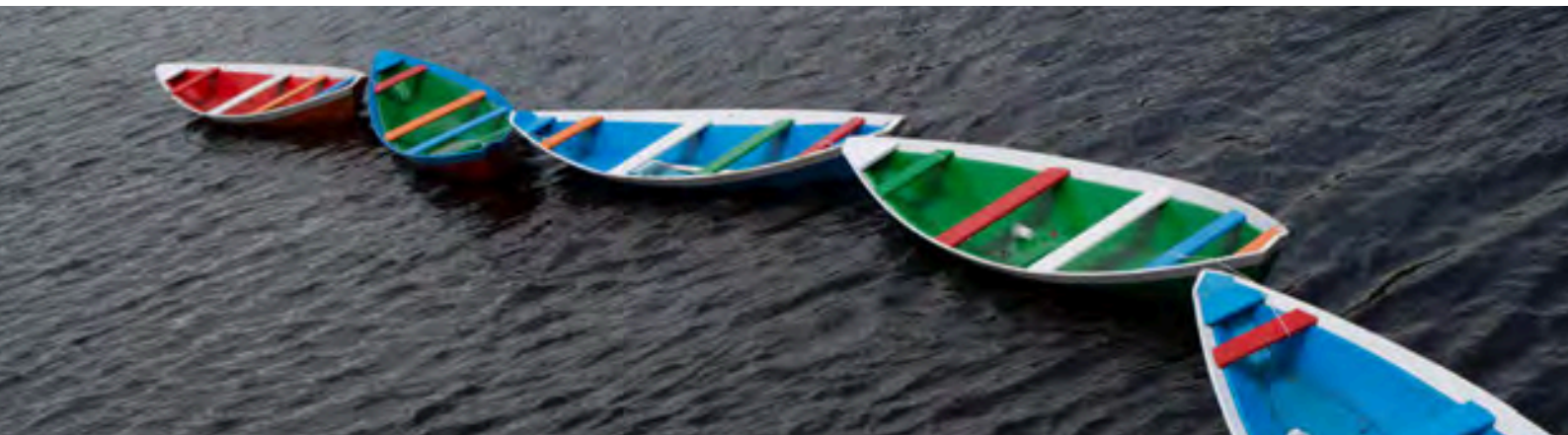
Dinner (included) will be served on the boat.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING IN THE FOREST

Get ready! Overnight in our camping hut inside the Amazon rainforest (optional). After dinner, get your hammock and other items (for sleeping) to take with you on this great adventure in the jungle.

We will board our motorized canoes which will take us to the shore of the rainforest. There, we will take a short walk until we reach our campsite. Our team will help you set up your hammock. Later, we will have the chance to seat by a nice fire and enjoy an amazing storytelling moment.

In the morning, we will return to the boat for breakfast.



PROGRAM

August 09th (Saturday)
BOAT EXPEDITION / MANAUS / YOUR CITY

Good morning!

Return from the rainforest campsite to the boat.

Breakfast (included) will be served on the boat.

PROJECT CARBON ZERO

Today, each participant will be invited to plant a tree in the Amazon, helping with the survival of the greatest tropical forest on our planet.

Next, we will sail down the Negro River toward Manaus, where we will end our journey.

Along the way to Manaus, we will have our farewell meeting on the boat.

Our expected arrival in Manaus is at around 20:00P.M..

PROGRAM

August 10th (Sunday)
MANAUS / YOUR CITY

We have reached the end of our journey...

It is time to say goodbye, but we are certain that all minds and hearts will be filled with the best memories.

Our team will guide and direct all participants to Manaus International Airport. **The return flights should depart between Saturday, August 09th, at 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 10th, at 06:00 a.m.,** but don't worry: we will be with you until the last moment, waving with a smile on our faces and waiting to see you again, soon.

PRICE

€1.750,00

Air tickets are not included in the price of the trip and depend upon your city of departure.

PAYMENT METHODS

International transfer, or bank deposit/bank invoice (in Brazil).
All payments should be completed up to 30 days before the trip starts.

INCLUDED

· 07 nights on an Amazon regional boat, sleeping on hammocks, including breakfast buffet style;

· 01 night in the forest sleeping in hammocks;

· Mineral water during the boat expedition – 24 hours a day;

· Breakfast, lunch and dinner all days (except lunch on the days in Manaus) Buffet style, including soda drink, fruit juice, or water in each meal. Meals with international menu and local Amazonian fishes, such as: pirarucu, tucunaré, tambaqui, surubi, jaraqui and others;

· Snack meals with tropical fruits and local pastries;

· Transfer in/out in Manaus and Presidente Figueiredo by tourist bus with air conditioning within the schedule stablished by the program;

· Cultural City tour in Manaus;

· Meeting of waters from Negro and Solimões rivers, that together form the Amazon River;

· Expeditions in motorized canoes inside igapós and igarapés in the Negro River;

· Piranha and other fish sportive fishing;

· Alligator and other animals' night-spotting activity;

· Expedition to the Janauari Ecological Reserve;

· Expedition to the Anavilhanas Archipelago;

· Trekkings, medium and high levels, in trails inside the Amazon Forest;

· 01 trekking to the Maroaga Cave;

· Presentation on a topic about the Amazon;

· Visit to a community of "caboclos" with social activities;

· Project Carbon Zero;

· Visit to the tribe of the "Dessana Tukana" indians;

· Pink dolphins activity;

· Visit to the Manioc flour/Tapioca and Açaí House, with demonstration of the manufacturing process of manioc flour and tapioca;

· Visit to the Turtles of the Amazon project;

· Stand-up paddle;

· Kayak;

· Indigenous canoe ride;

· Professional regional jungle guides;

· Cultural guide in Manaus;

· Rotary Chaperone;

· Belo Brasil Tours coordinator and monitor;

· Nurse on the boat expedition;

· Emergency first aid attention;

· Speed boat emergency support;

· First-aid medicines;

· 01 t-shirt;

· 01 reusable water bottle;

· 01 backpack.