

HOMELAND IMMERSION & CONTACTO MATSÉS

# Matsés Amazon Expedition 2027



LIVE ALONGSIDE THE MATSÉS

## Deep in the Amazon. Invited into Matsés life.

**23 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 2027**

Planned dates, allowing a few days either side for weather disruption.  
Puerto Alegre, Río Yaquerana, Peruvian Amazon.

COMMUNITY / PHOTO

# Time with the Matsés



01 / THE EXPEDITION

# Into the Matsés homeland

## Arrive by river. Stay with the people.

Fly into Angamos, then travel by boat along the Río Yaquerana, camping beside the river on the way to Puerto Alegre. Here, deep in the Peruvian Amazon near the Brazilian border, we will sleep in the community maloka, spend time with Matsés families and enter the daily rhythm of life in

## Hear the history from those who lived it

Sit with elders who carry memories of first contact and the changes that followed. Ask questions. Hear their accounts in their own words. Walk with people whose knowledge of the forest has been learned through hunting, gathering, growing food and working with its plants.

## Contacto Matsés / 30 August

On 30 August, Matsés communities gather to commemorate peaceful contact in 1969. Songs, dancing, food, games and stories bring generations together. We are invited to be there as people remember their past and celebrate the culture they continue to carry forward.

## Reciprocity and community support

The trip supports the families involved in hosting, guiding, transport, food preparation and cultural activities. Funds also contribute towards community supplies, projects and traditional knowledge preservation. Previous support includes the maloka, built with contributions from our 2024 trip, and school supplies. Buying crafts directly from their makers provides additional

02 / EXPERIENCES

# Experience life in the forest

- Walk into the rainforest with Matsés hunters and guides, learning how they read and move through the forest.
- Sit with the elders. Hear stories of life before contact, what changed and what they want remembered.
- Share everyday life with families: food preparation, language, conversation and time together in the village.
- Experience Kambo directly with Matsés practitioners, where offered, within the community that carries this knowledge.
- Look for Acaté frogs in their natural habitat and learn about traditional Kambo collection, where conditions allow.
- Learn about Nunu, Sananga and the plants, vines and roots used by Matsés practitioners.
- See how traditional clothing and crafts are made, with opportunities to learn from their makers.
- Travel the Río Yaquerana by boat, with forest on either bank and nights camping beside the river.
- Join Contacto Matsés as invited guests and buy handmade crafts directly from Matsés families.

## Time to be there

Some days will take us into the forest or onto the river. Others will centre on village life, conversations and celebrations. We leave room for what our hosts want to share. Traditional medicine participation is entirely voluntary.

**REMOTE FOREST • RIVER TRAVEL • COMMUNITY LIFE**

Come ready to listen, get involved and live with the conditions of the forest.

03 / DOCUMENTARY

# The elders on camera



## Documentary filming during the expedition

A documentary made to Netflix-level production standards will be filmed during the expedition, focusing on Matsés culture, history and firsthand accounts from the elders.

### Their voices. Their accounts.

Some elders lived through first contact. Their memories hold details that outside accounts have missed: how events were experienced, what was lost and how life changed. The documentary will record these firsthand voices while the people who carry them can still tell their own stories.

### What participants can expect

A film crew and filming activity will be present during the trip. Arrangements for appearing on camera, including consent, will be explained before filming. Community permission and respect for restrictions on recording remain essential.

Netflix-level describes the intended production standard. It does not indicate a confirmed Netflix commission or distribution agreement.

04 / TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

# Iquitos to Puerto Alegre

## 01 IQUITOS

The expedition begins in Iquitos. Arrange and pay for your own travel to and from the city. The final meeting point and departure arrangements will be shared before travel.

## 02 ANGAMOS

We plan to fly from Iquitos to Angamos. Flights are heavily dependent on weather and may be delayed.

## 03 RÍO YAQUERANA

Continue by boat towards Puerto Alegre, with approximately two nights camping along the riverbank on the outward section. Bring your own lightweight waterproof tent and sleeping equipment.

## 04 PUERTO ALEGRE

Stay in the community maloka and sleep in hammocks. Expect basic washing and toilet facilities, insects, humidity and limited privacy.

### Allow time for disruption

Planned dates are 23 August to 3 September 2027. Departure and return may shift a few days either side. Keep travel arrangements flexible and allow additional time around the expedition.

### Offline and off-grid

There is no phone signal in the village or during the river section. Expect to be offline after leaving Angamos until we return. Electricity is extremely limited. Inform family beforehand, bring power banks and protect electronics from humidity. Participants carry their own bags and

05 / INCLUSIONS

# What your booking covers

## Included

Flights between Iquitos and Angamos, with the arranged baggage allowance; boat transport, fuel and local expedition transport; food while in Matsés territory; community accommodation; Matsés guides and boat drivers; entry permissions required for the planned route; community activities, treks and forest walks; traditional medicine experiences where offered; Contacto

## Not included

International flights; travel to and from Iquitos; Iquitos accommodation and meals before and after the expedition; personal travel insurance; medical preparation; passports, visas and other documents; tents and personal equipment; spending money and craft purchases; additional

## Health and insurance

Comprehensive travel insurance covering remote travel, medical emergencies and emergency evacuation is mandatory. Check cover for the planned activities and any traditional medicine participation you intend to undertake. Medical care is difficult to access in this environment.

## Personal preparation

Be ready for extended boat travel, jungle walking, heat, humidity and basic sleeping arrangements. Seek individual travel-health advice before departure. Share relevant conditions, medications, allergies and mobility needs during booking. Joining the expedition does not

## 06 / BOOKING &amp; CONDUCT

# Payment and responsibilities

| PAY IN FULL   | THREE INSTALMENTS |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <b>£2,695</b> | <b>£900 each</b>  |
|               | Total £2,700      |

## Full payment by 1 May 2027

Choose one payment in full or three instalments. The full balance must be paid by 1 May 2027.

## Cancellation by a participant

All payments are non-refundable. If you cancel your booking, the full price for your chosen payment option remains payable by the deadline, subject to your statutory rights.

## Respect and conduct

Follow the guidance of Lewis, Matsés guides and community leaders. Stay with the group and do not leave the village or enter the forest alone. Respect homes, community rules and personal boundaries. Obtain permission before photography or filming, and respect restrictions on recording ceremonies and knowledge. Alcohol, recreational drugs and disruptive behaviour are

## Before making travel arrangements

Confirm the final meeting and flight arrangements with Lewis. Allow a few days either side of the planned dates for disruption, and keep insurance details and essential documents available offline.

## 07 / PACKING CHECKLIST

# Clothing, camp & equipment

Tick off essentials as you prepare. Pack for rain, humidity and limited electricity.

## Clothing & footwear

- ☐ Lightweight long-sleeved shirts
- ☐ Quick-drying trousers and T-shirts
- ☐ Shorts, underwear and hiking socks
- ☐ Warm layer for cooler nights
- ☐ Waterproof jacket and overtrousers
- ☐ Hat and sunglasses
- ☐ Swimwear and quick-drying towel
- ☐ Walking boots and wellington boots
- ☐ Water shoes and village footwear

## Bags & waterproofing

- ☐ Backpack or duffel and day pack
- ☐ Dry bags and backpack rain cover
- ☐ Waterproof document pouch
- ☐ Zip bags for smaller items

## Sleeping equipment

- ☐ Lightweight waterproof tent
- ☐ Suitable mosquito net
- ☐ Sleeping liner or light sleeping bag
- ☐ Camping mattress or roll mat
- ☐ Small pillow and light blanket
- ☐ Earplugs and eye mask if wanted

## Power & practical kit

- ☐ Head torch and spare batteries
- ☐ Power banks and charging cables
- ☐ Travel adapter
- ☐ Refillable water bottle
- ☐ Notebook and pens
- ☐ Camera if wanted
- ☐ Small equipment repair kit

Pack only what you can carry. Keep critical documents, medication and electronics protected from water.

08 / FINAL PREPARATION

# Ready for the forest

## Personal care

- ☐ Personal prescribed medication
- ☐ Prescription copies where needed
- ☐ Personal first-aid supplies
- ☐ Toiletries and menstrual products
- ☐ Insect repellent and sunscreen
- ☐ Hand sanitiser and toilet paper
- ☐ Personal water-treatment supplies

## Documents & money

- ☐ Passport and travel confirmations
- ☐ Insurance with evacuation cover
- ☐ Insurance details saved offline
- ☐ Emergency contact information
- ☐ Copies of important documents
- ☐ Peruvian soles for purchases

## Before leaving Iquitos

- ☐ Charge batteries and power banks
- ☐ Download essential documents
- ☐ Waterproof bags and electronics
- ☐ Tell family you will be offline
- ☐ Leave non-essential luggage securely
- ☐ Check final departure arrangements

## Optional community gifts

- ☐ School supplies, notebooks and pens
- ☐ Fishing line and hooks
- ☐ Sewing supplies
- ☐ Torches and batteries
- ☐ Useful clothing

Coordinate gifts to reflect current community needs. Remove unnecessary packaging and avoid sweets or processed foods.

**Bring patience and flexibility. The expedition follows forest conditions and the decisions of our Matsés hosts.**