

Guyana – A Timeless Paradise

Naturetrek Tour Itinerary

Outline Itinerary

Day 1/2	Fly Georgetown, stay Cara Lodge (2-nights)
Days 3/12	Explore the pristine forests and open savannahs from ideally located lodges. (10-nights, 4 lodges).
Day 13/14	Cara Lodge (2-nights)
Day 15/16	Depart Georgetown/Land London

Departs

February and November

Focus

Birds, Mammals and a little Culture

Grading

A/B. A moderate level of fitness is required with a lot of time spent on foot in humid conditions.

Dates and Prices

See website (tour code GUY01) or brochure

Highlights

- Pristine rainforest holding a huge number and variety of bird species.
- Experience one of the world's last remaining untouched rainforests via chartered flights.
- Fly over the breathtaking Kaieteur Falls – five times the height of Niagara!
- Unique hospitality and welcomed like family at the different lodges.



Guianan Cock-of-the-rock, Harpy Eagle, Kaieteur Falls



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Introduction

Guyana lies at the point where the Caribbean meets South America on its North Atlantic seaboard, an almost unknown but incredible land of unspoiled natural beauty. It is known as 'the land of many waters' and is indeed a land of great rivers and waterfalls, and much, much more. A land of 83,000 square miles, of which over 80% consists of rainforest, much of which is still to be explored, where rivers are uncharted and mountains yet to be climbed.

English-speaking Guyana is truly a timeless paradise, a land of immense biodiversity, huge landscapes and unspoiled wonder, where more than 800 bird species, 225 species of mammals, 814 species of reptile and amphibian call home!

Jaguar still roam the vast forests and Giant River Otter, Black Caiman and Arapaima, the world's largest freshwater fish, still swim the rivers, with iconic Harpy Eagle, Hoatzin and Guianan Cock-of-the-rock still found perched in the tropical foliage.

In this unspoiled wonder of the world, we'll search for Guyana's jewels such as the endangered Golden Rocket Frog, the outstanding Scarlet Ibis and dazzling Green-tailed Jacamar. Orchids and other flowering plants are still rich in Guyana, with new orchid species frequently being discovered here.

Join us on this holiday into breathtaking, untouched, Guyanese lands in search of beautiful flora and fauna, dwarfed by immense canopies and massive savannahs, by which visiting here as naturalist-tourists we play a vital role in their preservation.



Canopy Walk at Atta Rainforest Lodge

Itinerary

NB. Please note that the itinerary below offers our planned programme of excursions. However, adverse weather & other local considerations can necessitate some re-ordering of the programme during the course of the tour, though this will always be done to maximise best use of the time and weather conditions available.

Day 1

Fly London to Georgetown

We depart from London on a late morning, scheduled flight from London Gatwick to Georgetown, via a short touchdown in St Lucia. From here we will transfer to the comfortable Cara Lodge, just an hour away.

Built in the 1840s and originally consisting of two houses, the hotel is one of the oldest wooden buildings in Georgetown. It has a long and romantic history associated with it and was the home of the first Lord Mayor of Georgetown. Over the years it has hosted many dignitaries including George V who stayed at the house in 1923 and planted the sapodilla tree in the front garden to mark the occasion! Dinner is at the groups own expense while at Cara Lodge. There is a restaurant on site. Stay Cara Lodge.

Day 2

Georgetown

This morning we will enjoy an exciting mid-morning city tour of Georgetown. In the afternoon we will take a drive through the heart of the city to the Stabroek Market area. Here we will join the afternoon commuters using the old ferry stelling to board the river taxis which are used to cross the Demerara River. We will take a slow cruise along and across the Demerara River learning about the history of the famous buildings along the waterfront. We then continue to see the Demerara Harbour Bridge, once the longest floating bridge in the world at a total length of 1,851m long.

We will cross under the bridge and tie up our boat near to the mangroves and as the sun sets over the river we will have a cold drink and some snacks and enjoy Scarlet Ibis, Snail Kites, and a range of herons and egrets as they settle into the mangroves to roost. Soon after the sun sets we return, enjoying the city and ship lights from the river. We will return then to Cara Lodge for dinner. Stay Cara Lodge.



Scarlet Ibis

Day 3

Kaieteur Falls and on to Iwokrama River Lodge

After breakfast we transfer by bus to Eugene F. Correia airport, where Red-breasted Blackbird sing and Snail Kites patrol. We take off in our chartered aircraft over endless rainforest to the majestic and breathtaking Kaieteur Falls, with its sheer drop of 822 feet - five times the height of Niagara Falls! – unique ecosystems and where an eternal rainbow arches over the mist covered boulders of the gorge. There are no falls in the world with this magnitude of water and sheer drop. The falls were first seen by a European in 1870 and are situated in the heart of Guyana on the Potaro River, a tributary of the Essequibo. Amerindian legend of the Patamona tribe tells of the old chief Kai



Kaieteur Falls

sacrificing himself over the falls to save his tribe. We shall land on the tabletop summit of a nearby tepuis and explore this amazing ecosystem, including the unique micro environment of the giant Tank Bromeliads, the largest in the world, in which the endemic tiny Golden Rocket Frog spends its entire life. We shall have time here to take in the incredible views of the falls and with luck, we shall experience the splendour of a male Guianan Cock-of-the-rock in full display!

After two hours at the falls, we must continue our flight to Fair View village before transferring in 4x4s to the Iwokrama River Lodge.

The Iwokrama Rainforest is a vast wilderness of one million acres. This protected area was established in 1996 as the Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development. Iwokrama is exceptional among conservation organizations because it joins with local people in every aspect of its work. From research to business, Iwokrama ensures local economic and social benefits from forest use and conservation. The Forest is in the homeland of the Makushi people, who have lived here and used the forest for thousands of years.

Having arrived at the lodge and settled in, we will be free to explore the trails with an Iwokrama guide, getting to grips with some of the more common species around the lodge. After dark, we'll set out on the river, in hope of finding one or another of its four species of caiman, and listen for nightbirds such as Spectacled Owl, White-winged Potoo, Rufous Potoo, Long-tailed Potoo, Zigzag Heron or Blackish Nightjar. Spotlighting may reveal a beautiful Boa constrictor, tree frogs and if we are extremely lucky even an Ocelot or Puma.

NB: Please note that in very rare cases we may not be able to land at Kaieteur Falls due to weather. This has only happened once in the 15 years we have operated the tour.

Accommodation Note: Accommodation is offered in eight spacious timber cabins with shingle roofs, en-suite bathroom facilities and veranda overlooking the river. Running water and flush toilets are standard, however water is not heated (and rarely desired in the tropical heat). Electricity is provided by a combination of solar and diesel generator systems, and wireless internet access is provided for free in the main building. Stay at Iwokrama River Lodge.

Day 4

Iwokrama River Lodge

Making an early start we will take to our boat on the Essequibo and circumnavigate Indian House Island giving us a chance for dawn song on the river including Marbled Wood-Quail, Band-rumped Swift, White-banded and Black-collared Swallows, and Guianan Streaked-Antwren before returning to the River Lodge for breakfast. After breakfast we shall bird along the extensive trail systems once more which allow good access into the forest.



Green-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula galbula*)

Rainforest mammals, though never conspicuous, are well represented at Iwokrama and with luck we may encounter the impressive Black Spider Monkey, as well as a Banded Tamandua, Kinkajou, or even the elusive Jaguar. Seeing mammals is however very difficult in dense rainforest and time spent along the dirt road that leads to the lodge offers our best chance in the hope that something may walk out into the open. Iwokrama boasts an avifauna of over 450

species, including the full spectrum of neotropical families. Large macaws still thrive here, and we should be treated to views of Blue and Yellow, Red and Green and Scarlet Macaws. Stay at Iwokrama River Lodge.

Day 5

Atta Rainforest Lodge

Making the most of the cooler morning conditions, we will travel once more by boat for half an hour or so to the foot of Turtle Mountain, where we will explore the trail visiting Turtle ponds and climbing to an elevation of about 900 feet for a spectacular view of the forest canopy below.

The trail to Turtle Mountain winds its way through beautiful primary forest, with the enormous trees towering above us. Screaming Pihas call loudly from their unseen perches, and with a little effort, we might locate one belting out its song, one of the true sounds of the rainforest.

Soon, we begin to ascend a steep incline, onwards and upwards we climb, frequently pausing to admire the wildlife and glorious flora. We will arrive at the forested summit of Turtle Mountain (975 ft asl) and make our way to an open viewpoint, from where the views out over the rainforest are stunning. It is so liberating to look over untouched rainforest that stretches as far as the eye can see. Here we may spot raptors soaring and Orange-breasted Falcon can be seen perched above the canopy on the lookout for prey.



Views from Turtle Mountain

This is the most strenuous of the walks that we undertake on this trip. Although often steep with uneven ground there are regular rest points to sit and take on water and an area to stop and enjoy the surroundings if anyone should feel a walk to the top is not possible for them. On the descent we will be looking for mixed feeding flocks of birds including species such as Wedge-billed and Amazon Barred Woodcreepers, Black-chinned Antbird and White-flanked Antwren.

For those that prefer you will be welcome to remain behind and relax at the lodge or come on the boat ride and part of the walk.

Following this activity and lunch we shall transfer to Atta lodge for dinner. The Iwokrama forest is rapidly gaining an international reputation for its healthy jaguar populations and although seeing Jaguar must be seen as a huge bonus rather than expectation, some have been lucky. This road is the only north – south access in Guyana and links the country to Brazil. Even so, traffic is only very occasional and interesting wildlife is often seen along the road such as Agouti, Tapir and Black Curassow though this will be down to luck and keeping a keen eye on the road ahead and behind! The journey concludes at Atta Lodge famous for its incredible Canopy Walkway. We will stay at Atta lodge for three nights.

Accommodation note: Atta Rainforest Lodge is 500 metres from the base of the Canopy Walkway, offering comfortable private-room accommodation with en-suite bathrooms, delicious home-cooked meals, and traditional Amerindian hospitality. The lodge is surrounded by tropical rainforest which offers a complete immersion in the rainforest experience. The main building is open sided with views across the gardens to the towering forest on all sides and houses the bar, dining area and kitchen. Stay at Atta Lodge.

Day 6 & 7

Atta Rainforest Lodge

For the next two mornings we shall enjoy dawn breaking from Atta's famous canopy walkway. This is an impressive series of suspension bridges and observation decks of up to 30 metres (98ft) in height and 154 metres (505ft) in length. The state-of-the-art construction allows trees to grow normally by using adjustable cables and braces throughout the support structure. The four observation decks enable visitors to view the mid and upper-level forest canopy and allow wildlife to remain relatively free from human intrusion.



Atta Rainforest Lodge

Painted Parakeet, Rufous-throated Sapphire, Guianan Puffbird, Green Aracari, Waved Woodpecker, Pygmy Antwren, Guianan Streaked-Antwren, Dusky Purpletuft, Purple-breasted Cotinga, Guianan Toucanet, Pompadour Cotinga, Buff-cheeked Greenlet, Caica Parrots and a host of canopy specialists may come within our view. From this tree top vantage point, you can sometimes see Red Howler Monkeys and Black Spider Monkeys. The trails also have an interpretative walk with the trees named and you can learn about their varied medicinal and other uses in the Macushi culture. Deer and agouti are also regular visitors to the lodge. As dark falls on the Canopy Walkway, we will hope to see the White-winged Potoo.

The forests here hold a healthy population of the magnificent Harpy Eagle and should the locals know of an active nest site, we will visit the nest at some point during our time at Atta. Nests are regularly found including at a reliable nest site not far away which has been used many times. Harpy Eagles can use the same nest over and over and others may have several nests that they rotate over the years. Even if no nest is possible to visit, Harpy Eagle has been seen many times around the grounds at Atta. Stay at Atta Lodge.

Day 8

Rewa Eco-Lodge

We will welcome the dawn chorus from the canopy walkway and then return to the lodge for breakfast before our adventure continues. From Atta, we travel through the rainforest to Corkwood in the Iwokrama Forest. Here, there is a short trail to hopefully view the brilliant Guianan Cock-of-the-rock. This trail is through pristine rainforest and the guides will explain how the plants are used

for medicine and other purposes. We will then continue our journey to Kwatamang Landing where we shall then travel by boat along the Rupununi River. As well as the bird life as we travel, there will hopefully be opportunities to find Giant River Otters and Black Caiman along the way. We are travelling to a remote area, and it will be a fascinating journey as we pass locals fishing and bathing in the river until we reach the Rewa River and the Amerindian community of Rewa. The journey is approximately 50 miles by river and can be as short as 2 hours and as long as 4 hours depending on the water level.

Rewa Village is located where the Rewa River runs into the Rupununi River in the North Rupununi. The surrounding area is rainforest, mountains and oxbow lakes and is teeming with wildlife. The community of approximately 220 people is predominately Macushi with a few families of the Wapashani and Patamona tribes and here villagers practice subsistence farming, fishing and hunting with little opportunity for cash employment. It will be a privilege indeed to stay here.

In 2005 the community constructed the Rewa Eco-lodge so that they could establish a sustainable eco-tourism business. The lodge itself is situated on the riverbank overlooking the Rewa River and along the riverbank tables and benches offer a relaxing location to enjoy this spectacular setting. The grassed clearing in the rainforest houses three benabs and six cabins. The largest benab is the kitchen and dining area with the other two benabs (each with two bedrooms) and six individual cabins are the accommodation. Hammocks are provided to relax in.

Later in the afternoon we take a short boat ride followed by a five-minute walk from the boat to a lovely oxbow lake. The magical setting is enhanced with a wooden deck out over the pond, allowing close-up views of the spectacular *Victoria amazonica*, the world's largest waterlily and the national flower of Guyana. The leaves that float on the water grow up to 3 metres in diameter with a submerged stalk of 7 to 8 metres! The flowers which bloom at dusk are white on the first night but by the third night, they change colour to pink and also change to a male flower. The golden colours across the pond at dusk combined with birds coming into roost provide a very special experience. Stay at Rewa Eco-lodge.

Day 9

Rewa

We shall enjoy breakfast at dawn overlooking the river before we then head out by boat along the Rewa and Rupununi River, into an oxbow lake to begin a walk up Awarmie Mountain. The climb is steep in a few sections but is generally not too difficult. Along the way, we may see a range of birds and hopefully encounter primates, with Black Spider Monkeys regularly found here.



Yellow-rumped Cacique

There is excellent birding along the trail here with White Bellbirds calling both from the scrubby woodland at the beginning of the trail and again from the forests far below you when reach the summit. Other species may include Ornate Hawk-eagle, Black Curassow, Red-fan Parrot, Guianan Puffbird, Todd's Antwren, Spotted Tanager and Bay-headed Tanager amongst others, in fantastic untouched habitat. The area also has a high density of macaws including Scarlet, Blue-and-yellow and Red-and-Green Macaws.



Grey-winged Trumpeter (*Psophia crepitans*)

There is a small plateau on the top of the mountain and in one direction, there are uninterrupted views back to the Rupununi River, some patches of Savannah and across to the distant Kanuku Mountains. In the other direction, there is a near vertical drop of at least 200m and the view reaches across great swathes of undisturbed forest to the distant Iwokrama Mountain and much closer, the Makarapan Mountain. Makarapan is the

oldest mountain in South America if not the world at an estimated age of an amazing two thousand million years!

Lunch shall be taken at the base of the mountain, after which, we return to the lodge.

In the afternoon, we take a boat up the Rewa River and then enjoy a 15-minute walk to Grass Pond. This pond or lake is about 3kms long and is a beautiful setting again with *Victoria amazonica* lilies. It has an excellent population of Arapaima, (reportedly the highest density in Guyana) the largest scaled freshwater fish in the world. During a late afternoon visit, we may find Brown Capuchin Monkey or Capybaras. Birds likely to be seen include Limpkin, Wattled Jacana, Black-collared Hawk, Green Kingfisher and Guianan Puffbird. As dusk settles, we again will watch the flower of the *Victoria amazonica* bloom. Another walk through the rainforest may allow the chance to observe the incredible Goliath bird-eating spider, the largest spider in the world by mass and size. The practice of calling theraphosids "bird-eating" derives from an early 18th-century copper engraving showing one eating a hummingbird.

These spiders can have a leg span of up to 28cm (11in), a body length of up to 11.9cm (4.7in) and can weigh up to 175g (6.2oz). Despite its name, it is rare for the Goliath bird-eating spider to actually prey on birds; in the wild, its diet consists primarily of other large arthropods, worms and

amphibians. In the wild, they have been observed feeding on rodents, frogs, toads, lizards and even snakes. Stay at Rewa Eco-lodge

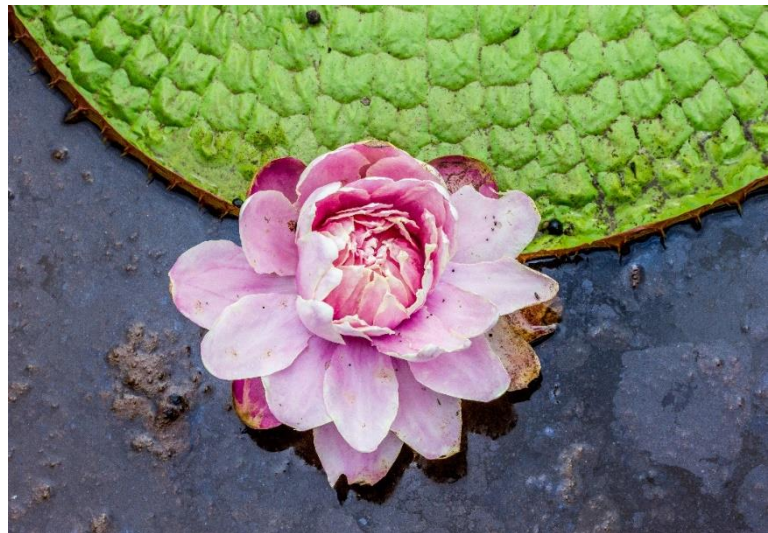
Accommodation note: One of the Guyana's most remote destinations. A community-tourism project of the small Makushi village of Rewa situated at the confluence of the Rupununi and Rewa Rivers. All rooms are en-suite, perfectly clean and comfortable but basic in nature. Each room has fan.

Day 10 - 12

Karanambu

After breakfast we say goodbye to staff and newfound friends at Rewa and board our boat once again for travel along the Rupununi River to Kwatamang Landing. We then travel through the rainforest to Genip Landing, stopping enroute at the Pakaraima Mountain Inn for lunch. Home-cooked food is served on the veranda along with fascinating stories from our local character and host, Charlie De Freitas.

From Ginep Landing we will take a boat trip on the Rupununi River to Karanambu Lodge where we shall stay for three nights. Depending on the river level, this trip offers an excellent opportunity to look for Giant Otters as there are several family groups which live along this stretch of the Rupununi River.



Victoria amazonica Water Lily, Guyana's national flower

Karanambu Lodge was home of the legendary Diane McTurk, widely known for her work in rehabilitating orphaned Giant River Otters to the wild. Sadly Diane passed away in December 2016. Thanks to Diane's incredible efforts the Giant River Otters are still present and doing well in Guyana and lodge owners and guides will be full of stories of the work that was done here to save them. Karanambu has a long history of visiting naturalists and Diane's father, Tiny McTurk, has welcomed David Attenborough among others.

The Rupununi Savannas are a vast land of far horizons and sun scorched plains, interrupted by patches of scrub and riparian woodland, swamps and lakes, together with a scattering of Amerindian villages and cattle ranches. The hospitality here, as it is at all lodges, feels unique in the way we will be welcomed as old friends into their home. Here at Karanambu we will be sure to sample their delicious rum punch which is in plentiful supply and enjoy dinner with the owners and guides where we discuss the day's events!

During our three-night stay, we will explore the maze of lagoons along the Rupununi River with our hosts, in search of Giant River Otters, scanning the treetops for family parties of Red Howler Monkeys and the exposed riverbanks for Black Caiman. These wonderful quiet backwaters are also



Giant Anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*)

home to the legendary Arapaima, the largest of all scaled freshwater fish. We shall visit lakes and ponds encountering Jabiru, egrets, herons and other water birds, and blanketed by the enormous pads of the *Victoria amazonica* water lily, Guyana's national flower. On one morning we make an early start to reach an area of rolling grasslands, which is home to a population of Giant Anteaters. With luck and help from the resident vacqueros we might locate one of these six-foot long animals excavating its breakfast

from one of the red termite mounds that stud the savannah. A star bird that can often be seen near to Karanambu is the bizarre Capuchin bird. Our skilled local guides sometimes know of the territories of these canopy-dwelling birds. With their bald heads, hump-shouldered appearance and strange growling song an encounter really makes for an unforgettable experience if we are fortunate enough to locate them. Stay at Karanambu for three nights.

Accommodation note: Rooms at Karanambu are clean and comfortable but basic in nature. All rooms are en-suite. We do get reports of bats high in the rafters of the main building and also occasionally in rooms so if you have a phobia of bats this should be taken into consideration. It is a wonderful base with superb habitats all around.

Day 13

Georgetown

Today we will leave the interior of Guyana for our flight back to Georgetown. The flight may be in the late morning or mid-afternoon. After an early morning excursion out into the savannah or a final boat ride from Karanambu we will transfer to the airstrip for our morning flight back to Georgetown and Cara Lodge. We will arrive back at Cara lodge and have some time to relax here before having dinner. Stay at Cara Lodge.

Day 14

Boat tour & Botanical Gardens

An early start this morning will see us taking a boat trip out on the Mahaica river to see Guyana's national bird the Hoatzin, which is found in abundance along this river system. The pheasant sized Hoatzin is herbivorous, eating leaves and fruit, and has an unusual digestive system with an enlarged crop which functions as a rumen. It also produces a horrible smell to scare away potential predators and hence its other name, the stink bird! On the way back we will go birding as opportunities arise. Exposed the mud flats may host feeding Scarlet Ibis, Little Blue and Tricolored herons, and several species of shorebirds while Magnificent Frigatebirds may be seen wheeling overhead.

Today we will take lunch at the Backyard Café. Backyard Café is located in the West Ruimveldt area where our host, guide and culinary master, Chef Delven Adams will welcome us to this exclusive hidden gem of a restaurant. The menu is whatever is in season at the time, being a Guyanese fusion from all over the world.



Hoatzin (*Ophisthocomus hoazin*)

If you are interested, you will be welcome to join in the preparation of a wonderful meal. Here we can sit

under the arbor and sip unique blends of juice or enjoy a cold Banks Beer, while taking in the sounds and smells of a delicious meal in a secluded backyard in Georgetown. Once the meal is ready, we will start eating our way through the courses. We will start with an appetizer, to an entrée and end up with a dessert.

To finish the days' exciting itinerary, we shall visit the extensive and beautiful Georgetown Botanical Gardens where, if we are lucky, we will have more views of the Blood-coloured Woodpecker. This astonishingly colourful *Veniliornis* is found only in the Guianas and even there almost wholly limited to the narrow coastal plain. The gardens host Snail Kite, Gray Hawk, Pearl Kite, Carib Grackle and Red-bellied Macaw. Walking on the trails in the back of the gardens we may see Yellow-chinned Spinetail, Black-crested Antshrike, Silver-beaked Tanager, Buff-breasted Wren, Golden-spangled Piculet and Ashy-headed Greenlet. We will enjoy the varied and exciting birding here before returning to Cara Lodge for dinner. Stay at Cara Lodge.

Day 15

Georgetown & Fly London

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight back to London. If flight times allow, we will make another visit to the Botanical Gardens this morning for some more birding before a lunch break..

Day 16

Land London

We will arrive back in London in the morning.

Tour Grading & Focus

This is an escorted natural history holiday suitable for most people with moderate fitness levels and mobility. Some walks are along narrow paths which can be steep in sections and humid, hot and sometimes muddy conditions need to be contended with. There may be the occasional scramble up river banks, biting insects and some steep slopes. As expected for a high-quality natural history holiday, there will be early starts needed to maximize our chances of viewing wildlife by being out at the most productive time of day. It must be remembered that all activities are optional and there is always the opportunity to stay and relax at the lodges and dip in and out of activities should you wish.

The focus of the tour is birds (mainly) and mammals, although we will look at and enjoy anything that we are lucky enough to encounter. We are sure to encounter a myriad of wild orchids and butterflies.

In most of South America, mammals are shy, retiring, present in low densities and largely crepuscular/nocturnal. As such, mammal-watching will comprise a small percentage of our time in the field on this holiday. Time and effort will be dedicated to looking for Giant River Otters, Giant Anteaters and primates, as well as cats (previous Naturetrek groups have been blessed with Jaguar, Puma and Ocelot sightings in Guyana), but felines must be considered as a real bonus rather than a realistic target. If your main ambition is to see a Jaguar, then you're best advised to head to the Pantanal in Brazil with us. Between sporadic but exciting encounters with mammals, the bulk of our time in Guyana will be spent birdwatching, as birds are the most conspicuous, best studied and accessible of the fauna here. Those looking for a wildlife holiday in Guyana with little or no focus on birds should consider a tailor-made holiday with us – we'd be delighted to help with arrangements. Please do call us for further help and advice. In Guyana, you will be rewarded with pristine landscapes, genuine wilderness, a small number of exciting encounters with iconic mammals and a wealth of fabulous birds. This is a rare chance to visit the remote and largely untouched habitats of a beautiful South American country.

Please do not hesitate to talk to the Operations Manager, Tom Mabbett (Tom@naturetrek.co.uk or 01962 733051), if you have any additional questions regarding this holiday.

Weather, Clothing & Equipment

As in any rainforest of the world, you should be prepared for rain at any stage, although hopefully not for long periods of time. Temperatures are likely to be warm to hot, and the air will be humid.

Please inspect the separate clothing list contained within the pre-departure information, of which a copy will be sent to you upon booking. Binoculars are of course essential for this holiday into the rainforests.

Luggage Allowance on Internal Charter Flights

Although standard international baggage regulations apply to transatlantic flights to Guyana, luggage allowance is however limited on the domestic charter flights you will be taking on the island.

On day 3 we charter a light aircraft to fly from Ogle Airstrip to Kaieteur and you will be affected by the limit in baggage here. Please remember though that unwanted/surplus baggage can be left behind in a secure lock-up at Cara Lodge in Georgetown. To give some idea of the procedure here, the plane we will use will depend on the group size and each plane has a specific payload (the maximum weight it can carry).

The plane we will use will either be the: Islander (9 Seater) – 1500lbs
Cessna Caravan (13 Seater) – 2500lbs

It isn't possible to give a specific luggage allowance in advance and a clearer estimation can be given nearer the time of departure. All passengers' body weight, inclusive of the local tour leader and pilot along with luggage, icebox, lunch and water must be within the payload above. Typically luggage is between 15 -20kg and group members still find a way to take large cameras, telescopes and binoculars!

The flight back to Ogle at the end of the tour is a scheduled flight with a weight allowance being specific at 9kg/20lbs per person. We get around this by purchasing an extra seat weighing 190lbs, which is then split between group members to give ample luggage allowance.

What's Included

All accommodation and meals are included, except for the evening meals at Cara Lodge. Snacks, drinks and items of a personal nature are not included in the price of the tour.

Extending Your Holiday

With the British Airways service from London Gatwick, we will be touching down in St Lucia so flights can be adjusted if anyone wishes to add nights there. Please contact Operations Manager Tom Mabbett (Tom@naturetrek.co.uk or 01962 733051) for further information and/or make sure to stipulate any interest in a possible extension upon booking.

How to book your place

In order to book your place on this holiday, please give us a call on 01962 733051 with a credit or debit card, book online at www.naturetrek.co.uk, or alternatively complete and post the booking form at the back of our main Naturetrek brochure, together with a deposit of 20% of the holiday cost plus any room supplements if required. If you do not have a copy of the brochure, please call us on 01962 733051 or request one via our website. Please stipulate any special requirements at the time of booking.

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Guianan Cock-of-the-rock (*Rupicola rupicola*)