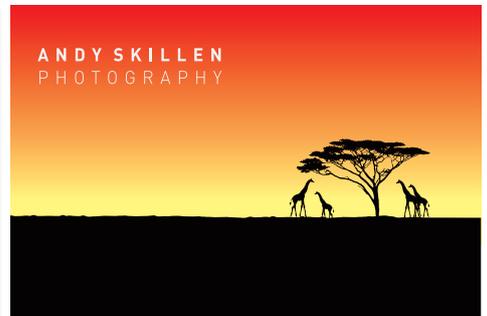


Adventures in the Amazon

Trip dates: 1-12 July 2020

Location: Amazon Basin, Brazil

Group size: 6; Cost GBP 6,295 per person



AN INCREDIBLE 11 NIGHT, 12 DAY WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHIC ADVENTURE TO SOME OF THE MOST EXCITING WILDLIFE AREAS OF THE AMAZON BASIN. THIS TRIP IS ESCORTED THROUGHOUT BY ANDY SKILLEN, AND IS GEARED TO GIVE YOU A SUPERIOR PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE IN UNCROWDED SHOOTING CONDITIONS.

WITH A GROUP SIZE OF JUST 6, YOU ARE GUARANTEED PLENTY OF TUITION TIME, AND ALSO PLENTY OF ROOM IN WHICH TO WORK. THIS TRIP IS TIMED TO MAXIMISE PHOTOGRAPHIC SITUATIONS WITH SOME OF THE REGION'S KEY FAUNA, AS WELL AS PROVIDE PLENTY OF CONTEXTUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAINSTREAM PORTFOLIO-BUILDING. BY WORKING IN A VARIETY OF LOCATIONS, AND USING A NETWORK OF CONTACTS AS WELL AS SOME ESPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED HIDES, WE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CAPTURE WILDLIFE NOT OFTEN RECORDED BY MOST, CURSORY VISITS TO THIS GLOBALLY CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- EXCLUSIVE GROUP SIZE OF JUST 6 GUESTS
- 4 DIFFERENT SHOOTING LOCATIONS, EXPOSING YOU TO A HUGE BREADTH OF PHOTO SITUATIONS
- ACCESS TO 26,000 HECTARES OF PRIVATE AMAZON-LAND, CONTAINING FANTASTIC PRIMATE LIFE
- THREE NIGHTS ON A SMALL SHIP CRUISING IN JAU NATIONAL PARK
- ON-FOOT PHOTOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT WITH RESEARCH-HABITUATED
- LARGE NUMBERS OF MACAWS AND OTHER BIRDLIFE IN
- ACCESS TO SPECIALIST TOWERS FOR EYE-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY WITH HARPY EAGLES
- WORKING WITH THE ORGANISATION MAPPING FRUITING TREES, INCREASING OUR PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES
- UP-CLOSE POSSIBILITIES WITH PINK DOLPHINS IN CLEAR WATER
- AIR-CONDITIONED BUSH-CAMP IN THE JUNGLE
- ESCORTED THROUGHOUT BY ANDY SKILLEN
- AS MUCH, OR AS LITTLE, PHOTOGRAPHIC TUITION AS NEEDED!

COSTS AND LOGISTICS

- **Group size:** 6 guests only
- **GBP 6,295** per person, based on twin-share accommodation
- **Start point:** Manaus Airport, Brazil
- **End point:** Sao Paulo Airport Brazil

Note: You will be collected from Manaus airport at the start of the itinerary, and at the end will be booked through from Alta Floresta back to Sao Paulo. We time the arrival in the latter to connect with some of the major routes heading back to Europe overnight. However, depending on your choice of carrier, you may need to stay a night in Sao Paulo at the end. We can help and advise on this much nearer the time.

WHAT'S INCLUDED...

- 2 nights accommodation at Amazon Ecopark
- 3 nights accommodation on small cruise ship in Jau National Park
- Flight from Manaus to Cuiaba
- 1 night at Portal Paraiso
- Flight Cuiaba to Alta Floresta
- 2 nights at air-conditioned jungle camp (tented accommodation)
- Full access to all trails, hides and towers throughout
- 3 nights at SWL Amazon Lodge
- Flight Alta Floresta to Sao Paulo (note this is via Cuiaba)
- All photographic tuition and naturalist guiding throughout
- All meals



WHAT'S NOT...

- International and/or any domestic flight to/from the itinerary start/end points
- Items of a personal nature
- Drinks (other than drinking water)
- Visa fees as appropriate
- Gratuities

YOUR ITINERARY....

Day 1: Arrive in Manaus and transfer to EcoPark Lodge (2 nights)

You will most likely arrive in Manaus – the capital of the Amazon in many respects – around lunchtime, and will be collected from the airport. From here, we will transport everyone to the EcoPark lodge, stopping for lunch on the way, which will be home for the next two nights. On arrival, we will settle in, unpack those cameras (this is boot-camp remember!) and be out capturing some of the life that teems directly around the lodge and on the trails nearby.

Day 2: Meeting of the Waters

Today we will be seeking some of the spectacular giant water lilies that are abundant in this area, and the life that they support. Our aim will always be to capture the Amazon at its most atmospheric, and that will mean early starts and adjusting our shooting style as each day unfolds. There are some competition-winning images that can be obtained in this area, focusing particularly on context and the positioning of our subjects within their environment. There are also troops of monkeys in this area that are very used to human visitors, and as such give us some great portrait opportunities that wouldn't be possible elsewhere. **Overnight at EcoPark.**

Days 3-5: Jau National Park and Anavilhanas (3 nights)

Our accommodation will now shift to being water-based for the next three nights as we launch ourselves into a whole range of new and exciting photo locations. We will cruise to Jau National Park from the EcoPark, stopping to give ourselves some key encounters with the Amazonian pink dolphin, which in this area occupy clear, tea-coloured water and provide beautiful images as their colour stands out so dramatically. A true once-in-a-lifetime set of shots! The wild dolphins here are part of a key conservation project, and as such are habituated to human contact. You will be able to stand in the water also, and shoot them above/below water as they interact with us. As we enter Jau NP, we will then be switching to more terrestrial wildlife, with the star of the show being the Golden Backed Uakari monkey. This is one of the Amazon's rarest primates, and is hardly ever photographed. A selection of images of these is commercially very useful indeed, and we have access to three semi-habituated troops in the area. Other primates and opportunities will also present themselves too of course, and we will also have the delight of the river-scapes as we cruise gently upstream.

Day 6: Fly to Cuiaba and overnight (1 night)

We will have cruised through the night to leave Jau, and will end back in Manaus in time to ensure we can connect for our flight to Cuiaba (all included), and a quick touch-down in Pantanal country. From here, we will move to one of the more wildlife-rich lodges that is near to the town for overnight, and make the most of the different terrain and opportunities it provides.

Day 7-8: Fly to Alta Floresta, and onto jungle camp (2 nights)

In the morning, after some early start photo sessions with the local birdlife, coatis and, well, whatever else shows up!, we will head back to Cuiaba airport for our short flight to Alta Floresta (all included). From here we have a road transfer deep into the heart of Harpy Eagle territory. These magnificent raptors are amongst the rarest on the planet, and are famous – amongst other things – for grabbing monkeys out of trees. We work with an organization that has been instrumental in their conservation, and has mapped a number of active nest sites. Our stay at the camp, which will be in air-conditioned tents, will give us access to some of the towers that have been erected to get eye-level photography with these apex predators. This will be one of the main areas of focus for us in the next day and a half, but we will also be looking for other wildlife and opportunities as well. After all, where the predators are...so are the prey. The chances for some spectacular photography here are incredible. Nowhere else is this possible in South America.

Days 9-11: SWL Amazon Lodge (3 nights)

Leaving the jungle camp behind, we transfer to our final location of this epic Amazon photo adventure, the SWL lodge which is just a couple of hours away. From here we will spend the last 3 days of our stay on a private tract of land – some 26,000 hectares – using the fruiting tree maps to locate and photograph a wide diversity of Amazonian primates, birds. The fruiting trees provide great behavioural shots and with plenty of trails for us to explore by vehicle and on foot, as well as river-based opportunities on the 900 metre wide Juruena river, our remaining memory card space will rapidly fill. At all times, we'll be looking not to just “grab” images, but shoot the scene in its entirety and build a real picture of wildlife in the Amazon.

Day 12: Depart Alta Floresta, back to Sao Paulo

Unfortunately, all adventures must come to an end at some point, but with our cameras utterly worn out (and perhaps ourselves too!), we will drag ourselves reluctantly back to Alta Floresta airport and flights back to Sao Paulo (included).



EXTENSIONS...BEFORE AND AFTER...

There are a number of options for those visiting the region at this time of year, and we are pleased to offer some suggestions. Of course, you'll probably feel pretty exhausted after this photographic boot-camp with Andy, but if you think you will still have the energy, and a few spare gigabytes, then let us know and we will use our network of contacts and places we have frequented to shoot personally, to put some other options for you. As a note, Andy does not accompany the extensions (due to time pressures), but will personally oversee their planning and implementation.



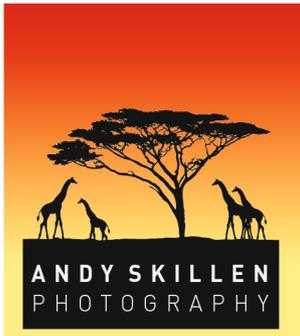
WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

To reserve your space on this very, very special Amazonian adventure, either:

- a. send an email to Andy@faunavista.com or Carrie@faunavista.com to register your interest and receive a booking form
- b. download the generic booking form using the link on the page from where you obtained your itinerary, fill it out, and send it to either email address as above.

Charity...a permanent winner

Andy's photography is all about giving some thing back; back to a world that has given him such a wealth of memorable experiences and opportunities. As a result, a proportion of all the profits we make from every perspective of Andy's work is donated to some of the world's leading wildlife charities. These include the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF), Animals Asia and the Bushlife Foundation – for which Andy and Carrie are the UK ambassadors. Your holiday is not just therefore an adventure for yourself, your friends and your family, but a true contributor to the frontline of wildlife conservation.



CHANGING THE IMAGE OF WILDLIFE TRAVEL...

