

Itinerary for Guyana Tour - February or March 2018

DAY 1

- Depart Toronto on Caribbean Airlines Flight 607 at 11:00 p.m.

DAY 2 (D)

- Arrive at 5:10 a.m. in Georgetown, Guyana. Transfer by coach to Regency Suites Hotel.
- Rest of day at leisure.
- Welcome dinner included.
- Overnight at hotel.

Day 3 (B, L, D)

- Breakfast at Regency Suites Hotel.
- Mid-morning departure for the marina to take a boat to Arrowpoint Resort in the Demerara River.
- Stop at Santa Mission for a community interpretive tour and **shooting the mission and surrounds**
- After lunch, you will be briefed on the history and safety of the resort. The rest of the afternoon can be spent doing **photography: of the local exotic birds, of the sunset,**
- After dinner, you will take part in a *Creatures of the Night* expedition – a night walk on nearby trails and boat ride to view and **photograph nocturnal animals.**
- Overnight at the Arrowpoint Resort. **Shoot sunset**

4 Photo Shoots

Day 4 (B, L, D)

- **Choice of, bird-watching/photographing with our guides. Sunrise Shoot** (pre-breakfast).
- 8:00 a.m. – Breakfast served on veranda of Main Lodge.
- 10:00 a.m. – **Wabani Expedition shooting as we go**
- Buffet lunch at resort.
- Afternoon – relax on beach or speak to tour coordinator about mountain biking.
- 4:00 p.m. – Staff will demonstrate cassava bread-making Amerindian style with a tasting afterwards.
- **Photograph the food preparation**
- Buffet dinner on the beach around bonfire.
- Overnight at Arrowpoint Resort. **Photograph the Southern Cross and other celestial bodies.**

4 Photo Shoots

Day 5 (B, L, D)

- 7:00 a.m. depart Arrowpoint Resort (after breakfast).
- Take 1 hour boat and bus ride to CBJ Airport for 1 hour flight to Kaitum Falls, the world's highest single drop waterfall.
- **Spend 2 hours photographing the waterfalls and nearby sights** and then continue the flight to Rock View Lodge and Surama Lodge in the interior.
- 1:00 – Arrival at lodges and have lunch.
- **Rest of the day photographing the animals, local landscapes, and sunset..**

3 Photo Shoots

Day 6 (B, L, D)

- Rock View Lodge group – **Sunrise Shoot. Guided photo tours in/around the lodge, visit to Amerindian village and photograph the panorama nature trail**, Sleep at Rock View. (Laundry and Internet service available)
- Surama Lodge group – rise before dawn for walk across the savannah then gentle climb up **Surama mountain for birdlife photography along the trail. Breakfast served at lookout point – great Photo opportunities for views of the village, savannah, and Pakaraima Mountains.** Lunch at the resort. Guided tours in/around the lodge in the afternoon. **Visit local village, school, and medical facility for photographing local activities.** Dinner served at the lodge. **Night time educational walk to observe/ photograph night time wildlife.** Sleep at Surama.

6 Photo Shoots

Day 7 (B, L, D)

- Breakfast is at your respective lodges. **This day group switch of lodges and photo shooting.**
- Surama Lodge group will transfer to Rock View Lodge and enjoy Rock View itinerary (as above).
- Rock View group will transfer to Iwokrama Lodge. **Rest of the day free for photography of the eco-environment.** Paid options include: Guided visit to Tree Canopy Walkway and/or Turtle Mountain (extra fee required). Lunch and Dinner at Iwokrama Lodge.
- Sleep at Rock View/Iwokrama Lodges. **Photographing Sunset and Night photography**

5 Photo Shoots

Day 8 (B, L, D)

- Breakfast at respective lodges. **Sunrise Shoot**
- 10:00 a.m. – Shuttle to airstrip for flight to Baganara Resort.
- One group will go to Baganara Resort while the other group will go to Hurakabra Resort by boat.
- Lunch will be served after check-in.
- Baganara group – **Spend the afternoon doing photography**, kayaking, fishing, billiards, volleyball, cricket, soccer, or swimming at the beach.
- Hurakabra group – **Spend the afternoon doing photography**, kayaking, enjoying nature walks, bird-watching under the mango trees or 100 feet up on the water tower.
- Dinner at respective resorts.
- Quiet evening on your own. **Photograph sunset and Night Photography**

3 Photo Shoots

Day 9 and Day 10 (B, L, D)

- Breakfast at respective resorts. **Sunrise Shoot**
- 9:30 a.m. – Depart resorts by boat for Lake Mainstay Resort with a stop at Bartica, a small busy town with a Benedictine monastery. **Photographing Monastery and surrounds.**
- Boat will dock at Supernaam where you will transfer to a scenic bus tour en route to Lake Mainstay Resort.
- Lunch at Lake Mainstay Resort.
- Activities/amenities include: drinks and BBQ at Deck Bar, protected swimming area along the shore, beach volleyball, soccer, cricket, restaurant with traditional Guyanese dishes. **Photo shoot of area**
- Activities for a fee include: canoeing, jet ski, and speedboat rides.
- Optional tour for a fee: Bus trip further along Essequibo Coast road to the exciting village of Charity on the Pomeroon River. **Photograph the village and Native culture.**

4 Photo Shoots

Day 11(B)

- After breakfast, depart Lake Mainstay Resort for Regency Suites Hotel in Georgetown.
- Includes boat journey from Supenaam to Parika on the mighty Essequibo River and a vehicle journey from Parika to Georgetown. **Photo journal style shooting as we go**
- Time dependent: For a fee, take a Georgetown city tour. (We may make stops en route to Georgetown thereby arriving late in the day.) **Photograph the city and local activities.**
- Buy your own lunch and dinner on this day.

2 Photo Shoots

Day 12 (B, L)

- Day trip to Corentyne River. **Photograph the nature along the river.**
- Buy your own dinner on this day. **Final group dinner and evening social activities.**
- Spend night at Regency Suites Hotel.

1 Photo Shoot

Day 13 (B)

- Roraima Tour ends. For those leaving Guyana, transfer to airport for departure to Toronto on Caribbean Airline Flights #662/600 via Trinidad, departing Guyana at 10:15 a.m. and arriving in Trinidad 11:25 a.m. Flight leaves Trinidad 2:35 p.m. and arrives in Toronto 7:40 p.m.
- For those staying on, arrangements will be made for further accommodations.

GUYANA: South America's Undiscovered Nature Destination

(from <http://www.adventuretravelnews.com>)



Guyana lies where the Guiana Shield, one of the world's four remaining large tracts of relatively undisturbed tropical rainforest, meets the Amazon Basin in a breathtaking collision of nature. With verdant rainforest carpeting 80 percent of the country, and other habitats varying from exotic mangroves to wild coastal swamps, rugged Atlantic beaches, lofty mountain ranges and sprawling savannahs that conjure comparisons to eastern Africa, Guyana offers the chance to view remarkable wildlife against the backdrop of one of the world's most unspoiled

natural wilderness areas. Framed by Venezuela, Brazil, Suriname and the Atlantic Ocean, Guyana is a paradise for nature lovers. Besides the lure of millions of acres of primary rainforest, South America's only English-speaking country offers a rich biodiversity, welcoming Amerindian communities, frontier villages and unassuming eco-lodges. Most of Guyana's 83,000 square miles are unpopulated and undeveloped: 90 percent of Guyana's 760,000 inhabitants live along a sliver of coastland that is just five percent of the country's landmass. That means the majority of Guyana is a wild, tangled mess of nature.

Remarkable Flora and Fauna

Guyana's pristine ecosystems play host to a remarkable diversity of flora and fauna, including healthy populations of many species that are listed as threatened or endangered by CITES. To date, research has identified more than 225 species of mammals, 880 species of reptiles and amphibians, 815 species of birds and 6,500 species of plants. In the past few years, Guyana's reputation top Neotropical birdwatching destination has exploded. For birdwatchers, Guyana's fantastic range of more than 815 bird species include some 70 Guiana Shield endemics and other specialties including the magnificent Harpy Eagle, fluorescent Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, and an abundance of parrots and macaws that regularly fly overhead in flashes of bright color against emerald forest canopy.

Guyana's healthy mammal populations are regarded as exceptional, especially when compared with other Amazonian rainforests that have been ravaged by environmental degradation. Some of the

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world's largest species thrive here – Jaguar, Giant Anteater, Giant River Otter, Giant Armadillo, Black Caiman (alligator), Capybara (rodent), Arapaima (freshwater fish), Green Anaconda, Giant River Turtle, Leatherback Turtle – and odds are good that visitors will see at least a few while visiting Guyana. Other standout species include the Manatee, Tapir, Puma, Ocelot, Jaguarundi, eight primates, 120 species of bats, colorful poison dart frogs, four species of endangered sea turtles, Matamata Turtle, Bushmaster snake and Goliath Bird-eating Tarantula.

Ecotourism Playground

Tourism in Guyana is often described as unpretentious. Accommodations in the interior are intimate family-run lodges and authentic Amerindian villages where local guides unveil Guyana's mysteries through finely tuned eyes and ears, vast and practical knowledge, and harrowing, yet comical, stories.

Whether you come in search of birds and wildlife, to stay with an Amerindian family, to trek an unexplored jungle mountain, to try your luck at catch-and-release sport fishing, or to test your merits on a jungle survival course, there is much to explore in Guyana.

Regency Suites Hotel

The Regency Suites Hotel is centrally located in the heart of Georgetown, Guyana which is the capital of Guyana, the main area for business and pleasure. Since its inauguration in the year 2000, the impeccable service and features that the hotel offers to its guests has enabled it to attract diplomatic guests from international organizations such as: the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), United Nations, Caricom, Embassies, USAID, and European Union. Guests are pampered by the friendly staff and the luxurious rooms/suites which are equipped with all the amenities of international standards. The hotel features; Restaurant, Live Entertainment, Swimming Pool, Conference and 300 person Banquet Hall, 40 Rooms/Suites, Gym, Business Center, Room Service, Wireless Internet, and Airport Shuttle.

<http://regencyhotelguyana.com/>



Arrowpoint Nature Resort

One of the finer examples of Guyana's eco-tourism product, Arrowpoint coexists with its interior setting without ruffling the natural environment. Biking, bird-watching, and quiet, reflective strolls along its winding trails are just part of the "eco-adventure" product that it offers. Flowing past the Resort, the serene waters of the Kamuni Creek kiss a small, inviting expanse of white sandy beach.

<http://www.roraimaairways.com/wp/resorts/arrowpoint-nature-resort/>





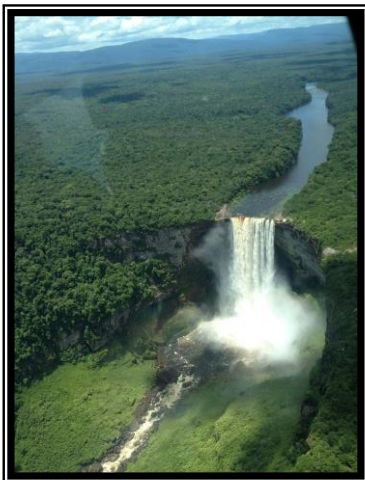
Santa Mission

Santa Mission is an Amerindian Village located across the Potaro River from Soesdyke. It is a beautiful village where you can relax for a day and return to Soesdyke feeling invigorated and refreshed.

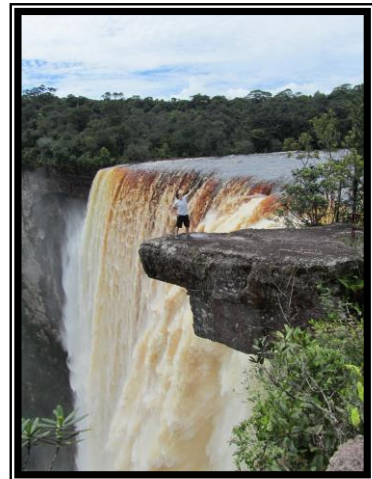


Kaieteur Falls

Kaieteur Falls is located on the Potaro River in central Essequibo, in Kaieteur National Park. It is 226 metres (741 ft) high when measured from its plunge over a sandstone and conglomerate cliff to the first break. It then



flows over a series of steep cascades that, when included in the measurements, bring the total height to 251 metres (822 ft). While many falls have greater height, few have the combination of height and water volume, and the falls are among the most powerful waterfalls in the world. Kaieteur Falls is about four times higher than Niagara Falls. According to a Patamona Indian legend, Kaieteur Falls was named for Kai, a chief, or Toshao who acted to save his people by paddling over the falls in an act of self-sacrifice to Makonaima, the great spirit. Another legend told by Amerindians: Kaieteur has been named after an unpleasant old man who was placed in a boat and shoved in the fall by his relatives. Thus the fall was named "Kaieteur" which means - "old-man-fall"!



Rock View Lodge

Nestled between the Amerindian villages of Annai and Rupertee where the Pakaraima foothills meet the tropical rainforest, Rock View Lodge offers comfortable lodging, outdoor and cultural activities, authentic Amerindian

hospitality, and access to everything else that central Guyana has to offer.

<http://rockviewlodge.com/>



SURAMA VILLAGE:

Surama village is a small Amerindian community of the Makushi people living in the north Rupununi region # 9. The word Surama, originally "SHURAMATA", means the place of spoiled Bar-B-Que (or where Bar-B-Que spoiled). The name derived during a tribal conflict between the Makushi and Carib many, many years ago. Surama village is situated in 5 sq miles of savannah land, surrounded by forest, hills and mountains of the Pakaraima mountain range. The life of the people is in the art and understanding of how to live with nature. It is a simple and basic way of life, living according to the laws of nature. The population is 287 and lives off the knowledge of the land. Although Surama has seen many, many moons, it was only in 1974 where R.F. Allicock and T.V Allicock invited a group of friends from Kwatamang and Wowetta to join 4 families in Surama to organize a proper village

system which will allow better management for the natural resources including the people. The village started with 86 souls, adults and children. This was the beginning of the present-day Surama. The village is located 6 km from the main road to the capital of Guyana.



<http://www.suramaecolodge.com/>

Iwokrama River Lodge

The Iwokrama International Centre For Rainforest Conservation and Development (IIC) was established to promote the conservation, sustainable and equitable utilisation of tropical rainforest in a manner that leads to lasting ecological, economic and social benefits. The Centre is responsible for the conservation and management of



1,000,000 acres in the Iwokrama Forest for research and development purposes. Half the area is retained as a Wilderness Preserve. Some sections of the forest are being logged using sustainable logging practices. A community-run Butterfly Farm is also part of the picture here. At the heart of Iwokrama's mission is a sustainable tourism program which hosts hundreds of visitors each year. Guests have an opportunity to learn about the research and conservation work at the Centre while experiencing the surrounding pristine rainforest first-hand. The most popular excursion is a climb to the top of nearby Turtle Mountain which offers breathtaking 360-degree views of the rainforest. This happens to be a great trek for birdspotting and wildlife observation, too.

<http://www.iwokrama.org/eco-tourism/iwokrama-river-lodge-and-research-centre/>

Turtle Mountain

Turtle mountain is a short boat ride from Iwokrama. After a climb to reach the summit, the view is spectacular. It's quite something when you see large birds flying beneath your line of vision. The Iwokrama Canopy Walkway was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is the only tourist canopy walkway in the Guiana Shield.



Baganara Resort

Baganara Island Resort is owned and operated by Evergreen Adventures Inc. It boasts 187 acres of lush green foliage and colourful tropical flowers. Five miles South of Bartica, it is the gateway to the unspoilt rainforest of Guyana and the junction where the great Essequibo and Mazaruni Rivers meet. The resort offers a variety of outdoor activities including canoeing, fishing, water skiing, kayaking, volleyball, table tennis, pools, banana boats, pedal boats or simply sunbathing and swimming. You can answer the call of the wild along our jungle walk, where you'll find many different species of flora and fauna.

<http://baganara.net/>



Bartica

Bartica is a small, busy town of maybe eight thousand people, with an orderly street grid, a hospital, a school, and a nearby Benedictine monastery, all situated on a sort of promontory where the Essequibo, Guyana's biggest river, is joined by its biggest tributary, the Mazaruni. Three miles up, the Mazaruni is in turn joined by its own most important tributary, the Cuyuni. At the confluence of these three great rivers, Bartica is sometimes called the "gateway to the interior." The name 'Bartica' comes from an Amerindian word meaning 'red earth', abundant in the area.

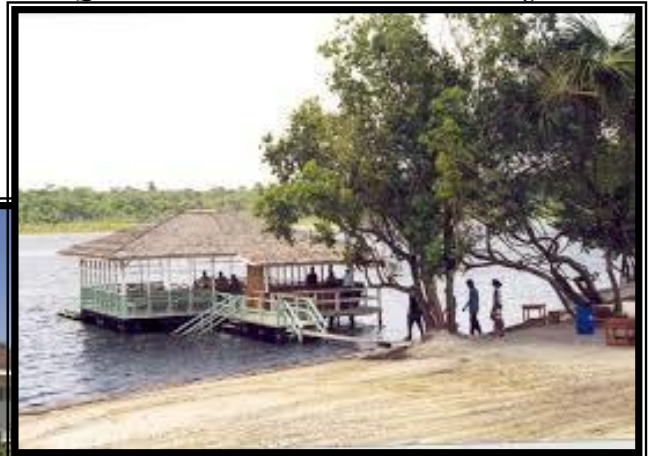
For more than a century, it has been the last outpost of "civilisation" for miners, loggers, missionaries, and explorers heading into Guyana's remote forested north-western region. In the early twentieth century, during Guyana's modest gold rush, it grew into something of a boom town, with saloons and brothels springing up to service hard-working, hard-living "pork-knockers", as gold and diamond prospectors were once called.

Bartica's history stretches even further back, to the earliest days of European colonial contact with this part of South America.

Lake Mainstay Resort

Lake Mainstay Resort is located on the shores of Lake Mainstay on the Essequibo Coast of Guyana. It is 15 minutes by car inland from the town of Anna Regina and next to the Whyaka Amerindian Village. The Arawak Indians first inhabited the area around Lake Mainstay; it was called 'Quacabuka', an Arawak word meaning 'in between'.

<http://www.lakemainstayresort.biz/>



Corentyne River

The Corentyne/Corantijn River is a river in northern South America in Suriname, it is the longest river in the country. The river originates in the Acarai Mountains and flows northward for approximately 724 km (450 mi) between Guyana and Suriname, emptying into the Atlantic Ocean near Corriverton, Guyana and Nieuw Nickerie, Suriname. A ferry service operates between these two towns.

The Guyanese–Surinamese border is the Guyanese river bank (the west bank of the river), but Guyana disputes this, based on the Thalweg Doctrine. The tribunal that defined the maritime boundary between Suriname and Guyana in 2007 confirmed Surinamese sovereignty over the full width of the Courantyne River.

