



## Overview Amazon River Cruise

The Queen of Enin, better known as Reina de Enín, is the only Amazonian cruise that is located in the southern part of the Amazon River. Among the 8 countries that make up the basin, of almost 8 thousand square kilometers of surface, Brazil, Peru, and Ecuador, have Cruises. All of them in the north of it. The Bolivian Amazon is the most untouched of all, the best preserved and with the largest area of forests without intervening. This makes the Queen's area of operations, as the most preserved Amazon of all, the fundamental argument for being the best Amazonian cruise among all.





## **Llanos de Moxos : Largest protected wetland in the World**

The Llanos de Moxos, a tropical savanna ecoregion of northern Bolivia known as the Beni savanna head of the Bolivian and continental Amazon Basin is the largest seasonally flooded surface in the world, with unique characteristics on our planet. Every year for 3 to 4 months between 100,000 and 155,000 km<sup>2</sup> of pampas are flooded (ERTS satellite program) with an average of 1 meter or more in depth. These floodplains are considered one of the largest protected wetland on the planet (WWF) with its more than 30 navigable rivers, and its infinity of lagoons scattered throughout its length.

These wetlands are especially valued for their rich natural diversity: to date, they have identified 131 species of mammals, 568 of birds, 102 of reptiles, 62 of amphibians, 625 of fish and at least 1000 of plants.

The region is crossed by three main rivers: the Beni, to the west, the Iténez or Guaporé, to the east, and the Mamoré, in the central region where our ship navigates. These rivers come together to form the Madeira River, the main tributary of the Amazon River.







## Archeology: Beni and the Pre-columbian mounds

Beni was a very important center of a pre-Columbian civilization known as the hydraulic culture of Las Lomas (the hills), a culture that constructed over 20,000 man-made artificial hills, all interconnected by thousands of square kilometers of aqueducts, channels, embankments, artificial lakes, and lagoons, as well as terraces.

In this region, they lived from 800 BC to 1200 AD Pre-Columbian cultures, such as the "Moxos Hydraulic Culture", which was characterized by the intelligent use of hydraulic infrastructure to manage the water of that vast territory of plains. In that, they based an intensive agricultural production that allowed the survival of those towns.

Among our prestigious guests, we would mention renowned archaeologists Clark Erickson who has enthused us with his studies and hypotheses of the hydraulic culture that inhabited the area thousands of years ago leaving a legacy of hills, ridges, and mysteries that today can be seen in this region.

Our tour includes a presentation on-board about the latest archaeological discoveries in the region as well as walks to the pre-columbian mounds where we will find all kinds of buried ceramic fragments along our paths.







## Mamore River and Bolivian dolphins

The Bolivian river dolphin has many morphological differences with respect to other dolphins, and it is considered a species in itself. It differs from other species by the greater number of teeth, larger size, and a smaller cranial cavity.

After more than 30 years of scientific controversy, genetic and molecular biology studies have recently confirmed that the river dolphin found in Bolivian territory belongs to a unique species in the world, irreplaceable and confined solely to Bolivian territory. The same studies that confirmed this fact have also revealed that *Inia boliviensis* (scientific name of the Bolivian dolphin - D'Orbigny, 1834) has undergone a fascinating evolutionary process, since the ancestor of the species arrived in Bolivian territory and never again had genetic contact with the rest of the dolphins of the central Amazon, producing a violent speciation within Bolivian territory about 5000 to 50,000 years ago and not 5 to 8 million years ago as previously believed.

The causes of this particular process have attracted the attention of scientists and it is now believed that the characteristics of the Bolivian Amazon which differ markedly from those of the central Amazon have greatly influenced the process that gave rise to this new species.

We have been actively participating in supporting research of the Bolivian Dolphin through workshops that have taken place onboard our ship.







## Indigenous communities

In the Madera Basin and particularly in the Llanos de Mojos, there is the largest concentration of isolated indigenous languages in the world (without affiliation to any other linguistic family). Though there are at least 8 different indigenous groups in the area the most common along the Mamoré river are the Mojeña and Yuracaré families. Both present two contrasting cultural systems, while the Mojeña population presents the typical features of the Jesuit “reduction” settlements of the 17th century, the Yuracaré population represents one of the groups that did not come into contact with the Jesuit missions.

Of the scarce indigenous groups that we find along the river, our tour includes visits to a Yuracaré community of 5 families where we will have a chance to interact with them and learn about their way of life.







## 4 Day Itinerary

**High water season** (December through April)

DAY 1: Set sail on the breathtaking Ibare River. We will then proceed to the Boca (the confluence of the Mamoré and Ibare rivers) area, a favorite feeding area for the local dolphins. From there we'll take a quick boat ride to watch the sunset and catch a glimpse of the local monkeys. During the night, we'll feast while enjoying a presentation of the Archaeology of the Moxos region.

DAY 2: Enjoy a scenic walk through the jungle. Set sail, southwards, on the majestic Mamoré River, get ready for Native fishing in nearby lagoons. During the night we'll go on a Caimaneada (caiman watching).

DAY 3: We'll exchange goods with the locals and visit a native community. As an alternative, others may choose to try the Abubuya baths in the great Mamoré (Abubuya: floating devices).

DAY 4: Farewell activities according to preference: wildlife sightseeing from the terraces or bathing on the nearby sand beaches.





### Low water season (May through June)

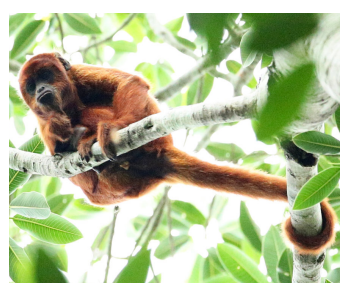
DAY 1: Set sail, northwards, on the majestic Mamoré River, born in the Andean heights. Get ready for Native fishing. Walks and baths along white solitary sand beaches. Later on we'll enjoy a rejuvenating Mud bath, get ready for some fun. We'll also be able to observe river dolphins or bufeos as they are known in the region. During the night we'll go on a Caimaneada (caiman watching).

DAY 2: We'll exchange goods with the locals. Ride horses on a cattle ranch, and visit a native community. Jungle river tubing and baths in the great Mamoré (Abubuya)

During the night we'll feast while enjoying a presentation of the Archeology of the Moxos region.

DAY 3: Enjoy a scenic walk through the jungle. From there, we'll head towards the Boca (the confluence of the Mamoré and Ibare rivers) area, a favorite feeding area for the local dolphins. Night camp.

DAY 4: We'll start the day with a walk through the prehistoric artificial mounds, home to an ancient civilization that inhabited the area. From there we will return to port on board smaller boats along the Ibare River.

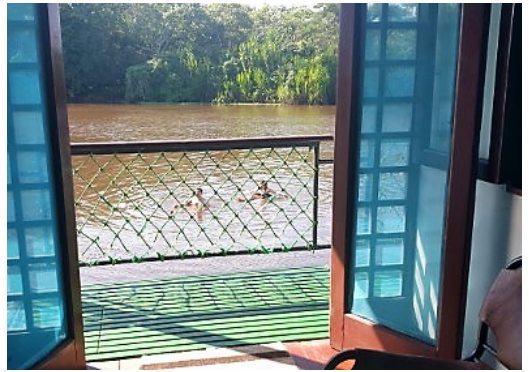






## The river boat Queen of Enin

The Queen of Enin is 26 meters long, with all the services to accommodate up to 34 people in three levels. Our rooms have **private bathrooms and air conditioning**. Our vessel is surrounded by open-air terraces on the three floors, with hammocks and comfortable relaxing chairs. Our multiple terraces permit us to serve our buffet food inside or outside as you prefer. We also count a 24/7 bar where we have board games and a library of fiction novels and research books about the Bolivian Amazon region.







## The enterprise - Creative Tours

The Queen of Enín is part of an important chain of tour operators since 1984. In 2011 this chain was renewed as Creative Tours revolutionizing the traditional market of conventional operations in the Bolivian territory, focusing on developing strong connections between the Andes and the Amazon, in order to show two wonders of the world - Moxos and the Salt Flats of Uyuni, with extraordinary trips.

Creative tours is a company made up of autonomous teams, distributed in key places in the country with decision-making capacity in order to offer the best possible programs for each of our clients; being this the basis of a chain of excellence from the beginning to the end of our contact with our travelers. Creative Tours brings together the following: The Amazon River Cruise "Queen of Enin", the Jungle Hotel "El Puente", the mountain hotel "Berghotel Carolina", and an agency in Uyuni with its own operation "Uyuni Expediciones" - partner of the Tayka Hotels and creator of the "Ruta Tayka" in the Bolivian Salt Flats.







## Geographic Location

The southern main access to the Amazon basin is through Trinidad a town 45-minute flight from Santa Cruz de la Sierra International Airport. The original town, a Jesuit mission, was flooded since this part of the Amazon basin is crossed by several tributaries of the giant Mamoré (mother of all waters). Its population was moved to its current location, 9 miles away in 1769. Today a dike partly surrounds the city to protect it from floods. Trinidad is an ideal place to begin expeditions into the Llanos de Moxos and to experience the Amazon rain forests. Just 12 kilometers away is the usual port that we use in order to begin our exploration of the Municipal Protected Area "Ibare Mamoré" which is a representative example of the Bolivian Amazon that shelters endemic species. This park is also a shared space with the native communities who see their economy strengthened and way of life guaranteed with the Eco-tourism activities that the Reina de Enín develops navigating through its two main rivers.



Things to do in Trinidad in case you want to stay a few more days include visits to the Trinidad Botanical Museum, the Fish Museum - Museo Ictícola de Trinidad, and the Kenneth Lee Ethno-Archaeological Museum. Overflights to see the hydrologic pre-Columbian culture with all its canals, and artificial lagoons can also be arranged.







## Testimonies and Commentaries

*"If you are someone who wants to go off the beaten path and experience very rural Bolivia and the Amazon Basin, this is quite possibly the best way to do it. The meals are, shockingly, amazing! The crew blends in and becomes part of your family within a few minutes. The rooms even have AC for a few hours during the day if you need it. The Amazon region is everything you would expect. **Snakes, sloths, monkeys, dolphins, alligators, birds**, and more. We traveled in the rainy season and came well prepared for mosquitoes which is a must (but not as bad as we thought). We enjoyed taking the smaller boats out to sight see and to swim. We even took the boats out at night to look for alligators. By the way, this stretch of the river that the boat is on is some of the most untouched regions of the Amazon. **This is a great adventure for families** (we have a 3 year old) and for those who want to get away." Dr. B. Shultz from Texas, US.*

*"The Reina de Enin (Amazon River Cruise) and crew, from captain, crew, Chef, the owner were all skilled, kind, fun and cared that we had a good time. We saw **monkeys orange, brown, pink dolphin, yellow, blue, black, white birds**. Orange and blue butterflies, sloths and heard wild beautiful sounds plus. Thousands of stars more than anywhere else. Thank you for a fun, educational and wonderful travel experience. Did I mention the food? Fantástico!" Michael Morrissey - Documentarian .*

*Very creative with program, wonderful nature, we saw a plenty animals, **excellent food**, very friendly boat staff, I wasn't bored here the one minute :) I was very impressed by creative activities of the stay. We had a fun and unforgettable time on the boat. All people working here are amazing, friendly company. Thank you so much for this experience and amazing time. (M. Del Carpio - Great Britain)*

*"Traveling this way is one of the classic Amazon experiences, and an excellent way to get a feel for the immense scale of the forest and the lifestyle of its inhabitants. The river boat glide through the forest at a languid pace, with plenty of opportunities for spotting **wildlife** along the way, particularly caiman, pink river dolphins and innumerable birds. Every so often the dense vegetation of the river bank breaks to reveal a riverside settlement, usually no more than a cluster of thatched houses on stilts." Traveling **down the Río Mamore**. - roughguides.com*





## Onboard services and details about our ship

- Guide services are provided in Spanish and English
- The crew consists of 6 or more members, depending on the size of the group.
- The Reina del Enin has 4 auxiliary motorboats and a canoe for additional tours.
- There is cell phone coverage along certain portions of the route. In case of an emergency a smaller boat can be dispatched to find a signal.
- The culinary service consists of a buffet made up of local fruits (5 varieties) that accompany the breakfast service. Lunch and dinner include two types of meats or fish, fresh and cooked vegetables. There is an additional Bar service on board (not included in the price) which includes a variety of soft drinks, cocktails and alcoholic beverages.
- In case of dietary restrictions or particular requirements, we advise clients to notify our offices in advance.
- Cabins provide sockets with an electrical current of 220V, fans and air conditioning devices. At night, these services are suspended from 22:30 to 07:00 due to electrical limitations.
- Our ground staff (Trinidad office) is responsible for the reconfirmation of air tickets and any other service at the request of the passengers.

See more of our tour at our website: <https://amazonasrivercruise.com>

### Contact Information

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