

SPECIAL OFFER.
Book now! Details inside.

**AAAS Travels
ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions**

 **BETCHART EXPEDITIONS inc.**

UPPER AMAZON

EXPLORING PERU'S
PACAYA-SAMIRIA RESERVE

Travel with Dr. Lee Harper



OCTOBER 21-30, 2017 | ABOARD DELFIN II



DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

In an era when most of the Earth's surface has been mapped by satellite, one could argue that the Upper Amazon is the ultimate holdout—a bastion of mystery that resists technological intrusion. Hidden under a dense jungle canopy, this region is a vast floodplain forest. The river levels can rise and fall by several feet overnight, creating new networks of waterways or revealing new forest trails—each one never before explored by kayaker or hiker. Ever changing, this wilderness defies the mapmakers, and offers us a chance for genuine exploration.

Join Dr. Lee Harper aboard the *Delfin II*, October 21-30, 2017. This river ship is agile enough to sail up winding, wildlife-rich tributaries, while an onboard fleet of skiffs and kayaks allows us to venture even further afield. You'll find the ship is more than comfortable as our base camp, offering spacious, modern interiors and artful locally crafted accents. The air-conditioned top deck is an ideal place to spend the afternoon, watching the riverscapes glide by, and the open decks are perfect for catching the cooling evening breeze and sounds of the jungle.

The staff, unmatched in the region, will be the key to your experience. You'll go with a veteran expedition leader, a National Geographic guest speaker, and a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor—a naturalist who is specially trained to help you capitalize on the rare wildlife sightings while shooting in the often challenging conditions of the rain forest. In fact, many of the photos featured in this brochure were taken during an October 2016 voyage. And our handpicked local guides are especially skilled at finding wildlife, since most of them grew up along the river, and they are the most gracious hosts when we enter villages along the river.

The Amazon is an incredible, holistic travel experience unlike anything else. I hope you'll join us on this voyage. Book by March 31, 2017 and add a complimentary two-day *Taste of Lima* post-trip extension, October 29-31, 2017. Or choose to receive a \$500 voyage credit. **To make your reservation, please return the enclosed reservation form or call 800-252-4910.**

Sincerely,



Margaret M. Betchart

President, Betchart Expeditions, Inc.,

For AAAS Travels, ACS and Sigma Xi Expeditions

www.betchartexpeditions.com

P.S. Take advantage of your proximity to explore the archaeological, natural, and cultural wonders of Machu Picchu, Cusco, and Lima on our optional Peru pre-trip extension, October 16-21, 2017. Call for details, 800-252-4910.



Representing Betchart on this expedition will be **Dr. Lee Harper**. Lee is a conservation biologist who works with threatened birds, fish, and freshwater mussels, and has led numerous Betchart trips to the National Parks of Brazil, including to the Amazon where he did his Ph.D. research on ant-following birds and the effects of habitat fragmentation on tropical ecosystems at the WWF Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project near Manaus.

He also has led expeditions for Betchart to Belize and Cuba, and co-led the Atlantic Crossing in 2013 that saw the Total Solar Eclipse in the mid-Atlantic. Lee looks forward to exploring the Peruvian Amazon with you and sharing his knowledge of birds and tropical ecology.

Cover: Explore the Amazon aboard its finest riverboat, the Delfin II.

Opposite: Common squirrel monkey in rain forest canopy.

Ship's registry: Peru



EXPERIENCE THE RAIN FOREST WITH ALL YOUR SENSES

Discover the rain forest's wild pulse. Strange birdcalls fill the air. Foliage shakes overhead revealing monkeys gliding through the canopy. This seasonally flooded rain forest is a cathedral of green, opulent in vegetation so dense that what lies within much of its boundaries remains a mystery. Explore its narrow river tributaries with vaulted ceilings of vines, and perches for scores of rare birds. You'll see sloths, troops of vocal monkeys, colorful butterflies, caimans, and more. One afternoon you'll have a chance to swim in a peaceful lagoon frequented by pink river dolphins. On another, you can choose to transit the waterways by local catamaran and hike to a network of suspension bridges that go into the forest canopy and a habitat that is altogether different from the forest floor and the river. We'll have opportunities to explore recently exposed trails and forest during this low-water season. And the onboard fleet of kayaks enables serene, personal encounters with jungle wildness.



MEET THE PEOPLE LIVING IN HARMONY WITH THE AMAZON



Indigenous communities in the remote Amazon have lived in harmony with the land and river for millennia. These *riberieños* continue to make their lives on the banks of the river, staying close to ancestral traditions while embracing education and empowerment. Meet them in their dugout canoes on the river and in their stilt-home villages and schools. Encounter the women, men, and youth eager to share their community improvement projects and look forward to mutually rewarding encounters—like purchasing their handicrafts in village markets supported by the Lindblad Artisan Fund.

Clockwise from top: Guests spot wildlife in the late afternoon from a skiff; spot caimans on night excursions; meet the welcoming ribereños in their riverside communities; find colorful handicrafts in the markets.



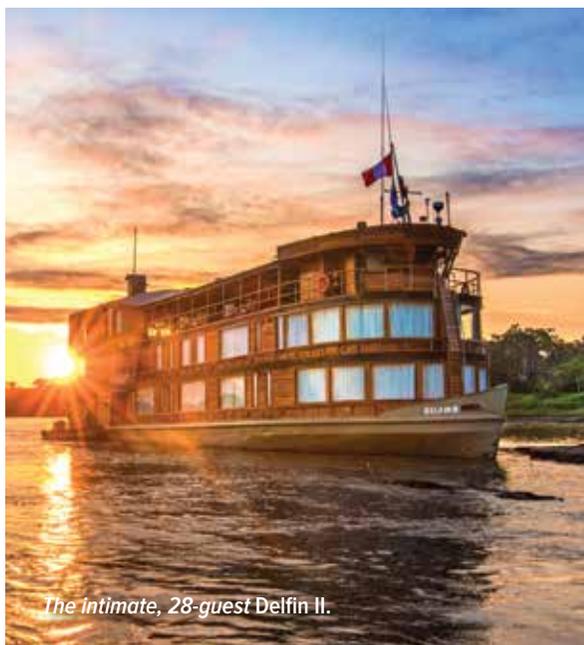
ENJOY LUXURY & COMFORT DEEP IN THE WILD

Discover the wildest reaches of the remote Amazon—in supreme comfort aboard the 28-guest *Delfin II*, the river's finest ship. Specially designed to sail these winding green-shrouded headwaters, it can venture into the jungle's wild heart—and its fleet of nimble skiffs and kayaks allows us to venture even deeper.

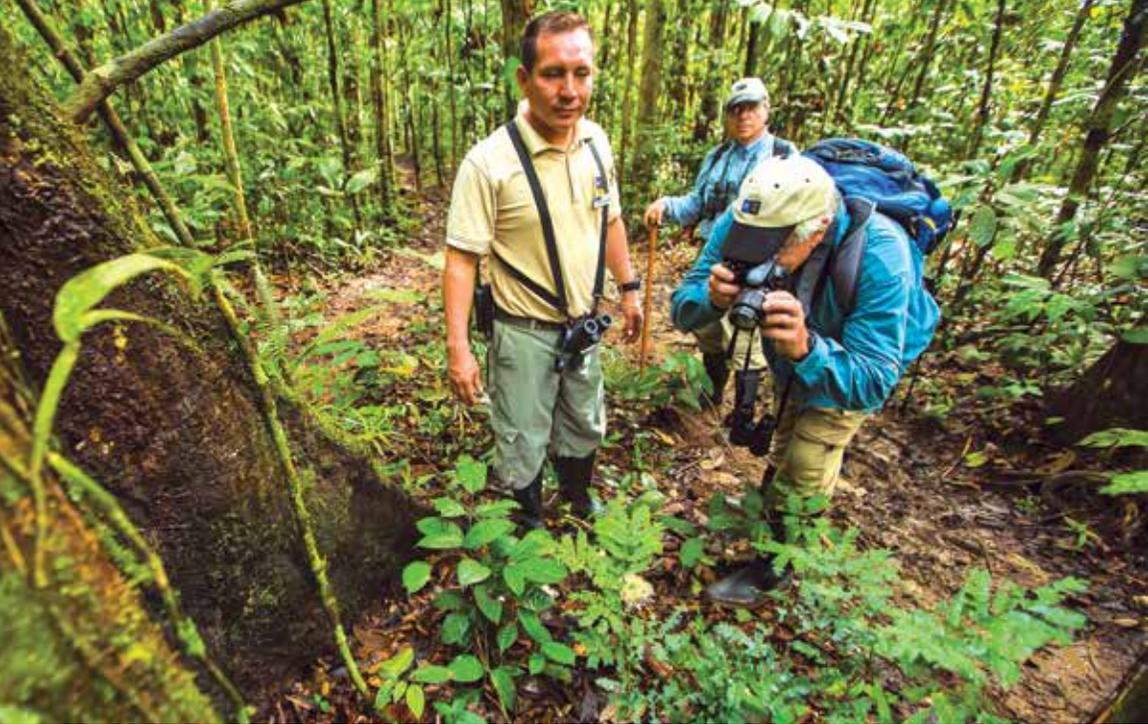
Panoramic windows bring extravagant river views inside the air-conditioned Top Deck and staterooms.

Rattan sofas in the lounge are perfect for relaxing and watching the riverscapes glide past in the afternoon, and they offer ideal seats for evening recaps and lively presentations on wildlife photography, medicinal plants in the Amazon, and much more.

Dining is a unique rain forest experience. From the rainbow of fresh-squeezed juices in the morning to the chocolate placed on your pillow each night, most of the ingredients used aboard are sustainably sourced from the region we explore. And Peru's tradition of flavorful fusion cuisine ensures that each day will offer fresh palate pleasures. The dining room's artful table settings are a surprise at every meal and feature décor crafted by gifted artisans in the village we'll visit. Enjoy active days exploring, and return to the finest accommodations on the river.



Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guest takes in the passing river views; spacious stateroom with panoramic river views; bartender aboard ship prepares a pisco sour; the lounge is a perfect place to relax with a book; dining is five-star and sustainable.



GO WITH THE TOP EXPEDITION TEAM

Travel with the best staff in the region, including a veteran expedition leader, a certified photo instructor, and a National Geographic guest speaker. Explore with local guides who grew up along the river and maintain deep ties to the communities we visit—their expertise ensures maximum wildlife sightings and rewarding, mutually beneficial encounters with the people of the Amazon. You'll also gain insight from National Geographic guest speaker Kitty Coley, a professional geologist, knowledgeable naturalist, avid birder, and who has a good familiarity with plants of the rain forest.



Naturalist points out wildlife.



Guest speaker Kitty Coley.

SHOOT YOUR BEST PHOTOS EVER



Take advantage of endless photo ops.

Your expedition sails with a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor at your service. This veteran naturalist is trained to assist you with camera settings; the basic elements of framing, composition, and lighting; and to provide shooting tips to ensure you go home with fantastic photos.

And since your photo instructor is a veteran naturalist, he or she is uniquely adept at helping you understand the nuances to shooting extraordinary wildlife photos in the dynamic environment of the Amazon.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Explore the forest at river's edge; guest photographs the diverse plant life; exploring the remarkable wilderness in a kayak; a scarlet macaw grooms itself.

UPPER AMAZON

ITINERARY: 10 DAYS/9 NIGHTS – ABOARD *DELFIN II*



Blue and yellow macaws and green parrots in flight.

Voyage to the headwaters of the mighty Amazon in the heart of Peru's rain forest aboard the elegant riverboat *Delfin II*. Slip through an intricate network of jungle waterways in a skiff or kayak, spotting various types of bird species, as well as caimans, tamarins, and sloths. Go on a bird-watching hike, peer up at towering ceiba trees, and witness glorious sunsets on the still waters of the Amazon River basin.

DAY 1: U.S./LIMA, PERU

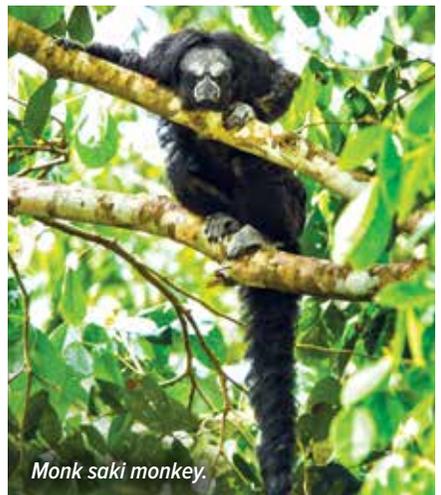
Arrive in Lima in late evening and transfer to the conveniently located Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel.

DAY 2: LIMA/IQUITOS/NAUTA

Enjoy a morning tour of Lima, then fly to Iquitos and continue overland to the riverside village of Nauta, where the *Delfin II* awaits. Settle into your cabin, and gather for a welcome dinner of fine Peruvian cuisine on board. Tonight, step out on deck to gaze at the magnificent Amazon night sky. (B,L,D)

DAYS 3–8: PACAYA-SAMIRIA NATIONAL RESERVE

Spend this week exploring the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, a pristine swath of jungle—stretching more than five million acres, and harboring some of the Amazon's most diverse flora and fauna. Bordered by the Marañón and the Ucayali, these two powerful rivers converge to create the famed Amazon, which floods annually with nutrient-rich waters.



Monk saki monkey.

Set out into this remarkable wilderness on daily excursions by skiff, kayak, and, where the water level permits, hikes on dry land. Spot sloths and monkeys, including variably colored saddleback tamarins, noisy howlers, and shaggy-tailed monk saki monkeys. Watch for an astounding variety of birds, from tanagers and hummingbirds to parrots and spectacular scarlet macaws. In the river, look for massive paiche fish, rare pink dolphins, and the infamous piranhas.

Enjoy an opportunity to swim in a lake in the reserve's interior. Seek out *Victoria amazonica*, a giant water lily that grows in small lagoons. Go on a bird-watching hike, listening for the vocal oropendola. Watch the sun set and hear a cacophonous symphony of nocturnal animals calling out across the treetops. Then slip through the forest in a skiff as night falls, using a spotlight to find caimans, frogs, fishing bats, and other creatures of the night.

Pay a visit to one of the communities on the reserve's edge and get to know the *riberaños*, those who live on the riverbanks, and their age-old traditions. Enjoy watching them make jewelry and other handicrafts. Learn how local subsistence farmers cultivate wild plants and trees to earn income and how the locals find fruits and plants with medicinal properties hidden in the jungle. (B,L,D Daily)

DAY 9: NAUTA/IQUITOS/LIMA

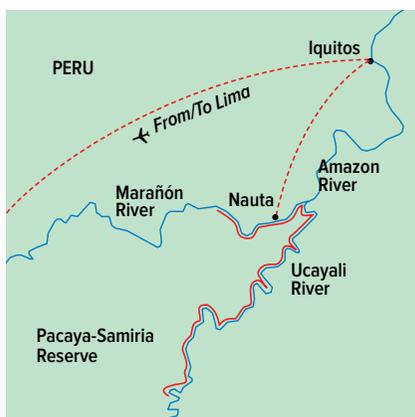
Enjoy one last morning excursion by skiff to view wildlife. After lunch, disembark in Nauta and return to Iquitos overland for a late-afternoon flight to Lima. Overnight at the Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel. (B,L)

DAY 10: LIMA/U.S.

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

OPTIONAL 2-DAY TASTE OF LIMA EXTENSION

Explore the cultural and culinary delights of this vibrant city in this post-extension with the fashionable Belmond Miraflores Park Hotel as your base. Call for details. Note: This extension is complimentary when booking before March 31, 2017.



Stilt-homes perched above the river in a local community.





DELFIN II—THE FINEST SHIP ON THE AMAZON

Capacity: 28 guests in 14 outside suites.

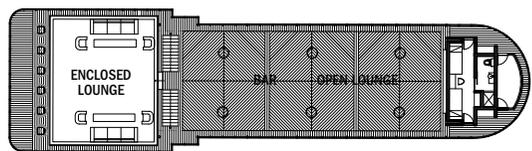
Registry: Peru. **Overall length:** 120 feet.

Public Areas: With sweeping views, public areas include an air-conditioned presentation room, open-air lounge and bar up top, and dining room with 270-degree view. A small library, exercise room and spa. Open bridge, where you are welcome to visit and watch the riverscapes go by.

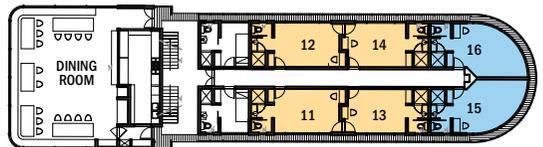
Dining: The air-conditioned dining room's large windows provide panoramic views. Beautifully prepared meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables. Often special dishes will include sustainable products of the rain forest and sauces made with exotic regional fruits.

Suites: Elegant, air-conditioned guest suites on the Main and Upper Decks all offer exceptional vistas. Each spacious suite has a minimalist décor with a luxurious overtone.

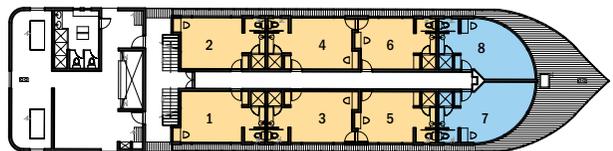
Expedition Equipment: 10-person skiffs—with individual seat cushions and plenty of leg room. Fleet of safe, nimble kayaks for up-close, personal exploration. Rain ponchos are kept handy in the skiffs. Rubber boots are provided before an excursion when needed.



TOP DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



Clockwise from top: The newly renovated Top Deck comfortably accommodates the entire expedition community during daily recap; enjoy Peru's tasty fusion cuisine aboard; the dining room offers unassigned tables with all guests served in a single seating; enjoy a massage at the end of an active day; soothing hardwoods in the suites create a wonderful glow.

SUITES: UPPER & MAIN DECK #1-6; 11-14 — Most suites have two twin beds which can convert to a king. Some suites can be connected for families traveling together. Each includes a large view window, a closet, easy chair and desk. Bathrooms include a large shower, separate toilet, and sink area.

MASTER SUITES: UPPER & MAIN DECK #7, 8, 15, 16 — The Master Suites feature all of the amenities listed above plus oversized windows which provide incredible 90-degree views. The Master Suites on the Main Deck feature two twin beds which can convert to a king, and Upper Deck Master Suites have king beds only.

Sole Occupancy & Shared Accommodations: Due to the limited number of cabins available, sole occupancy and shares are on a request basis only; please call for availability and rates.

Prices are per person, double occupancy.

ITINERARY	SUITE	MASTER SUITE	ADVANCE PAYMENT	AIRFARES
Upper Amazon: Exploring Peru's Pacaya-Samiria Reserve	\$6,990	\$8,260	\$1,000	Sample International Airfares: Round-trip Miami/Lima/Miami: Economy from \$800; Business from \$1,900. Internal Airfare: Lima/Iquitos/Lima: from \$440.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ Accommodations
- ✓ All meals & nonalcoholic beverages
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during nightly recap
- ✓ Environmentally friendly refillable water bottle
- ✓ Library
- ✓ The guidance & company of the expedition staff

ASHORE

- ✓ Two hotel nights in Lima
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to & from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of the expedition staff

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All shore activities
- ✓ Skiff & kayak explorations
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
- ✓ Photo instruction

SPECIAL OFFERS

SAVINGS: Book by March 31, 2017 and add a complimentary two-day *Taste of Lima* extension, October 29-31, 2017. Or choose to receive a \$500 voyage credit. Call for details, 800-252-4910.

BRING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COSTS INCLUDE: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels as per itinerary; all meals aboard ship and on land as indicated; all nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship; all shore excursions, sightseeing, and entrance fees; transfers to/from airport if traveling on group flights; use of kayaks and skiffs; all port taxes and service charges; gratuities to local guides/drivers; services of Lindblad Expeditions' natural history staff.

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; passport and visa fees; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, voyage DVD, email, and laundry; gratuities to ship's crew at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost. Lindblad Expeditions will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service charge. International and internal Peru tickets must be issued separately. Internal air must be ticketed by Lindblad. Fares are subject to change.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of US\$1,000 per person is payable by check.

FINAL PAYMENT: Due no later than 90 days prior to departure.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel protection and

medical insurance are available at extra cost. Information will be sent upon registration.

SMOKING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Maritime Enterprises' liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. Lindblad Maritime Enterprises reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the actual cost of fuel.

CANCELLATION POLICY	
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$450
119-90 days	Advance payment cost
89-60 days	25% of trip cost
59-45 days	50% of trip cost
44-0 days	No refund
<i>We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.</i>	



Please send reservation to:
Betchart Expeditions, Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014
Phone: (800) 252-4910 or
(408) 252-4910
E-mail: info@betchartexpeditions.com

RESERVATION FORM: UPPER AMAZON

ABOARD DELFIN II—OCTOBER 21-30, 2017

Please reserve _____ place(s)

Name 1: _____ (M/F): _____
(As it appears on passport)

Name 1: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: _____ (M/F): _____
(As it appears on passport)

Name 2: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Accommodations: Double Single Twin share w/friend

Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____

Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person).

Check made payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Membership: AAAS Sigma Xi ACS

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- » Discover the Amazon jungle from the comfort of *Delfin II*, the finest ship on the river.
- » Travel with Dr. Lee Harper and a top expedition team.
- » Explore the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, one of the last remaining true wilderness areas on the planet.
- » Spot the legendary wildlife: pink and gray dolphins, monk saki monkeys, piranhas, and scarlet macaws.
- » Meet the native *ribereños* on a visit to their riverside community.
- » Actively explore each day: Kayak, hike, swim, and ride a skiff.



AAAS Travels
ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions

 **BETCHART EXPEDITIONS** Inc.
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

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EXPLORE THE UPPER AMAZON!
OCTOBER 21-30, 2017

GRP-BET-AMZ17