

Pink Dolphins in Paradise: The Amazon

Feb. 20-March 4, 2012

*“According to legend,
there is an enchanted
place on the Amazon
River where many pink
river dolphins live. Once*

*in a while they transform into the Omacha, the dolphin that
transformed into a man.”*



Fundacion Omacha is a non-profit foundation created to protect natural ecosystems in Colombia. Their goals are the conservation of biodiversity in the Amazon, Orinoco and Caribbean, through educational campaigns, and research

involving many endangered species such as river dolphins, river otters, jaguars, birds and manatees. In conjunction with Sacajawea Tours (specialists in small group eco tours and excursions through remote regions of the world), a tour to the remote southern border area of Colombia is organized. If you have ever wanted to explore one of the most biologically and culturally diverse places on earth, this is your opportunity to do so.

This tour begins in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cartagena de Indias on the northern Colombian coast on Monday February 20th 2012 and ends here on Sunday March 4th 2012. (13 days)

We will spend two days in Cartagena seeing the walled city and fortress, and checking out the main neighbourhoods: San Pedro, Dan Diego, and Gethsemani. We will visit the Peninsula of Boca Grande to enjoy the spectacular seawalk. We will go to the Archipelago Islas del Rosario and see the amazing coral reefs and



incredible marine diversity. This is one of the most important Marine National Parks in Colombia.

Following this we will depart for the south and explore the watery byways of this jungle paradise. We will hike





the “mata-mata” trail, explore the jungle looking for amphibians and



reptiles at dusk, enjoy the noise of the jungle, see the traditional

housing of the Makuna tribe, travel up the famous Amazon River, see the largest lilies in the world, etc. Dr.

Trujillo will talk to us about the area and Omacha’s conservation efforts.

There will be night visits to the river.

We will learn traditional fishing techniques. This trip would not be complete without an hour’s trip into the jungle by boat to visit Dr.Sara Bennett, founder of the Primate Rehabilitation Center at the Amacayacu National Park. We will also visit communities in the area where we will learn about current innovative projects conducted in partnership with Omacha to do research and conservation in the Amazon. And much more!

The price is \$4200.00 Canadian.



This includes: **some** entrance fees, accommodation, breakfasts, domestic travel, some lunches and some dinners, **but not** international travel, airport taxes and fees, some entrance fees, some lunches and dinners, and tips and expenses of a



personal nature including laundry, telephone and beverages. If you are intrigued or interested please contact us and we will be happy to respond.



A non-refundable **deposit** of \$800 will hold you a place in this tour. **Half payment** is due September 15, 2011, with a **final payment** due October 31, 2011.

A visit to this incredible part of the world is a door way to understanding the marvelously innovative conservation efforts going on in South America, where academic interests are teamed with traditional people's enthusiasm to make our world a better place. (A sizeable donation from all client fares is donated to Omacha.)

Our guides:



Catalina Gomez is a PhD student in biology at Dalhousie University, Canada. She has focused her work and studies on the potential of top

predators, such as river dolphins, to be used as ecological indicators in freshwater ecosystems. She is an active staff member of Fundacion Omacha, a leading Colombian environmental organization, dedicated to conservation and research of aquatic ecosystems, and is a member of the South American River Dolphin Protected Area network (SARDPAN) which is an innovative effort to bring together local researchers and indigenous communities to develop the first network of proposed and existing protected areas.



Fernando Trujillo is Scientific Director of Foundation Omacha, an NGO established in 1993 to promote conservation in the Amazon and Orinoco river basins in South America through education and research. He leads a large team of conservationists who have since the 1990's worked to establish effective management initiatives to protect wildlife such as the river dolphins, giant otters, jaguars, manatee, turtles and caimans.



Nicola Davies is a British writer, zoologist and television presenter, and lives in Wales, UK. She began her career studying geese, bats and humpbacked whales and then became a researcher and presenter for the BBC Natural History Unit . Since then she has written many children's books on various aspects of the natural world from blue whales, turtles and bats to parasites, climate change and the biology of size.

Jennifer Modigliani is a professional photographer of 20 years, with an anthropological background and has



more than a decade of experience as a tour coordinator. She divides her time between Halifax and the Annapolis Valley in N.S., when not away. Her interests inform her selection of tour goals and itineraries.

We are looking forward to meeting you! Please phone or write for more information.

Our regards.
Jennifer Modigliani
Sacajawea Tours



DETAILS

Dates: Feb.20-March 4, 2012
Point of Departure: Cartagena, Colombia
Duration: 13 days
Price \$4200.00 Canadian
Deposit to hold place on trip: \$800.00

Book with Sacajawea Tours 902-532-0279; 902-579-3344

Email: jennifer@sacajaweatours.com

- 1) Please note that guests are **required** to have *Travel Insurance and Medical Evacuation* coverage for this trip.
- 2) Visas not required for Australian, Canadians, U.S. citizens, British.
- 3) Health: advised to carry first aid kits. Vaccinations against tuberculosis and hepatitis B are sometimes recommended. Hepatitis C occurs. Outbreaks of dengue fever occur more frequently than in the past. **Vaccination for Yellow Fever is necessary.**
- 4) Guests are **encouraged to obtain cancellation insurance** due to non-refundable payments
- 5) Dates and prices subject to change

* A reduction in this fare can be obtained by submitting an early deposit prior to June 1st. 2011

** A single supplement is unknown at writing

***Images on this brochure are courtesy of the internet, Fundacion Omacha and Catalina Gomez

