Option 3. Amazon & Rio

3 night extension
GENERAL INFORMATION

CLIMATE:
Brazil is marked by highly varied climates. It goes from the humidity of the Amazon Region, the dry heat of the Northeastern region and the permanently pleasant warm weather of most of the coastal area, to cool evening temperatures in many parts of the plateau and a temperate climate in the South. The seasons in Brazil, are the opposite way round to the Northern Hemisphere seasons of Europe and the United States. The medium annual temperature is 28°C in the North and 20°C in the South. During the months of May and June, in Rio de Janeiro, the average temperature is 25°C.

VISAS & PASSPORTS:
An entry visa is not required for holders of passports from European or South American countries. As a matter of reciprocity, a visa is required for those from North America. For further information about the necessary documentation and where visas can be obtained, please consult your local Brazilian embassy. Tourist visas can be renewed for a period of 180 days per year. Passports must be valid for at least six months after the planned date of arrival in Brazil.

CURRENCY:
The currency in Brazil is the Real (abbreviated to R$). Dollars and traveler's checks can be easily changed in hotels, authorized banks and travel agencies. International credit cards are accepted in most hotels, shops and restaurants, however always notify your bank before you travel to avoid your card being blocked when you try to use it in Brazil. The exchange rate fluctuates regularly. The American dollar, in the past months, has been around R$ 3.80.

TIME ZONES:
Brazil covers three time zones. The time in Brasilia is the official time in Brazil, usually 3 hours behind GMT (London). This changes with the start of Summer Time (the clocks go forward an hour).

SHOPPING:
Brazil offers a great variety of shopping: from boutiques to hippie markets; from precious and semi-precious stones, to creative handicrafts. Shopping centers are open from 10am to 10pm from Monday to Saturday and from 3pm to 9m on Sundays.

LANGUAGE:
The national language of Brazil is Portuguese.

HEALTH:
It is recommended to have the vaccination against yellow fever, for tourists that intend to visit the following Brazilian states: Acre, Amazonas, Amapa, Federal District, Goias, Maranhão, Mato Grosso do Sul, Para, Rondonia, Roraima and Tocantins. If you have recently visited a country, which is known to suffer from outbreaks of Yellow Fever, you will need to show that you have been vaccinated against the disease.

TIPS:
The service charge of 10% is included in the bills in most restaurants and bars. Therefore, additional tips are optional and are usually between 10% and 15% of the bill. For tour guides and drivers, tips are recommended at the client’s discretion.

**CUISINE:**
The Brazilian cuisine is rich and varied with Portuguese and African influences. The most typical Brazilian dish is the “feijoada”: served in big casseroles, it is a stew of black beans with beef and pork. Usually it is served with manioc flour, rice and slices of fresh orange. There is also the famous Brazilian barbecue, usually served in restaurant in a “rodizio” system, where several kinds of grilled meats are brought to the tables on a skewer and cut directly on the plates of the costumers. The food from Bahia has stronger flavors. There is the famous “Vatapa”: made with shrimps, fish oil, coconut milk, bread and oil. The national drink is the famous “Caipirinha”: made with sugar cane alcohol called cachaca, mixed with lime, sugar and ice.

**AIRPORT TAXES:**
International and domestic airport taxes are charged. Most of the time, these taxes are already included in your air ticket. However please verify it is included before departure.

**CLOTHING:**
Light clothes and comfortable shoes are recommended. Passengers should take sun glasses, sun block with a high UV rating and swimming clothes. A jacket is recommended as many places have strong air conditioning.

**ELECTRICITY:**
The electric current in most of Brazil is 110 V. Many hotels have adaptors if necessary, although it is recommended to bring your own travel adaptors.

**TELEPHONES:**
Public telephones accept phone cards that cost around R$ 20,00 (approx. US$9,00) and can be bought at local newspaper stands. Mobile phones: The main providers of GSM 1800 technologies are: TIM Brasil, OI and Claro. The international dialing code for Brazil is 00 + 55. The regional code for Rio de Janeiro is 21.
Manaus is the capital of Brazil’s largest state Amazonas, and is located in the Northwest of the country. It is an ideal starting point when visiting the rest of the Amazon region. Tour boats leave Manaus to see the Meeting of the Waters, where the black waters of the Negro River meet the white waters of the Solimões River, flowing side by side without mixing for several miles. Visitors can also explore riverbanks and streams, swim and canoe in placid lakes or simply walk in the lush forest. Those in search of real adventures may even choose to go deep into the jungle and experience the Brazilian Amazon and all its flora and fauna face-to-face.

Rainy and Dry Seasons: Rainy season takes place from December to July with its peak of rainfall in between May–July. Dry season runs from July to December and the rivers reach their minimum level from October–December. These patterns may vary depending on the area. Consequently, some lodges may be affected during such periods where the waters reach higher or lower levels that may result in rescheduling or replacement of activities/tours. In some cases walking tours may only be done by boat or may even be replaced by other options (rainy season) or longer walks from river banks to lodges or other areas may be required including detours with bridges over mud puddles or springs (dry season).
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<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>AM</th>
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|       |    | • Arrival at Manaus Airport and transfer to Amazon Ecopark Lodge  
|       |    | • Check in and accommodation at Amazon Ecopark  
|       |    | • Visit to the Monkey's Jungle  
| DAY 2 | • Morning Nature Hike | • Buffet lunch at the lodge's restaurant (beverages not included)  
|       |    | • Visit to local Amazonian residents  
| DAY 3 | • Meeting of the waters | • Private transfer out to Manaus airport to catch your connecting flight back home  
|       |    | • Overnight in Rio with airport round trip transfer (private basis) |
Day 1 – Friday | Feb 17 2017
RIO – MANAUS

Arrival at Manaus Airport and transfer to Amazon Ecopark Lodge

Depart Rio on G3 5809 at 11:35. Arrival at Manaus airport at 13:45 you will be met and transferred to Amazon Ecopark lodge. This shared transfer is done by ground transportation and a regional boat, for a short navigation to the secluded area where the lodge is located. Transfer time is estimated in 45 minutes to 1h, in total.

Check in and accommodation at Amazon Ecopark

Upon arrival at the lodge, you will be welcomed by the staff with a local fruit juice during your check-in and brief instructions regarding the lodge facilities.

The facilities for rehabilitation and re-introduction of wild animals in their habitat (known as the Monkey forest), was created in 1991 with the intention of receiving animals which have been confiscated from illegal commerce. This is a joint project with the Municipal Secretary of Environment and Sustainability. In this center, the animals are initially put into quarantine to be evaluated and taken care of by a team of veterinarians and biologists. In partnership with the FFV (Live Forest Foundation), a nonprofit institution overseen by Amazon Ecopark Lodge, a unique feeding system has been developed. Twice a day, (10:30 & 15:30), the animals receive supplements of their natural diet, ensuring that they are being fed the necessary nutrients. The Monkey Forest is open to guests at feeding times, always accompanied by a credentialed professional, permitting guests to film and photograph these animals in a natural and safe environment. Duration: 40 minutes to 1 hour.

IMPORTANT! Twice a year the monkeys move away for 2–3 weeks to travel through the forest and demarcate their land. During this period will not be possible to see the monkeys, only the one in quarantine.

Buffet dinner at the lodge's restaurant (beverages not included) After dinner, Canoe tour with possibility of alligator spotting. Depart lodge in paddle or motorized canoes, to appreciate the sounds of the jungle at night, with
the possibility to spot small alligators (or other nightly creatures). Alligators are spotted because their eyes shine like small red lights, once the alligator is spotted by the guide spotlight, the guide will try to catch a small alligator with his own hands and bring it on to the canoe, and a brief explanation of their habitat follows. The alligator will then be safely release back to the river. (No harm is done to any of the animals). Duration: about 1 hour, a bilingual guide accompanies every group.

Overnight at Amazon Ecopark lodge in Traditional room

**Day 2 – Saturday | Feb 18 2017**

**AMAZON**

**Morning Nature Hike**

Biodiversity is the main characteristics of ECOPARK. It includes uncatalogued species in virgin rainforest natural savannahs and creeks. Several streams of crystal clear warm water also run through the local. During tour the guide will lead clients educating them about the local flora & fauna, how and where to find edible fruits and potable water, first aid, how to find their way in the forest and much more.

Duration: 1 to 3 hours (depending on health conditions of participants).

Buffet lunch at the lodge’s restaurant (beverages not included)

**Visit to local amazonian residents**

Besides being home to a multitude of flora and fauna the immense Amazon jungle is the residence of the caboclo people who are the descendants of native Indians. On this guided tour we will visit the local “caboclo” village where we will learn about their traditional customs and rituals as well as experience their unique lifestyle, from their classical houses to their distinct and curious foods.

Depart the lodge on boat or motorized canoe, accompanied by a Bilingual guide. Duration: 40 minutes to 1 hour.
There will be an opportunity to swim with pink dolphins. Buffet dinner at the lodge’s restaurant (beverages not included)

Overnight at Amazon Ecopark lodge in traditional room.

Day 3 – Sunday | Feb 19 2017
MANAUS – RIO

Meeting of the waters

After breakfast, check out, and depart ECOPARK on board of a regional double deck boat. The boat goes down the Negro River navigating along the shore of the City of Manaus allowing passengers to view the Amazonas Theater the Port of Manaus the Customs and the interesting aspects of the local life – the stilt houses for instance. Arrival at The Meeting of the Waters by 11h30am. It’s a spectacular merging of Negro and Solimões Rivers. From this point on both rivers form the famous Amazon River that runs all the way to the Atlantic Ocean. The waters of the two rivers run together for about 12kms, side by side, without mixing. The phenomenon happens due to differences in temperature, density and speed of the waters of the rivers.
Located in the midst of the lush jungle, close to Manaus city, just one hour from the Manaus International Airport, the Amazon Ecopark Lodge is a tourist, scientific and educational complex, founded in 1991. The educational research center is perfect for those interested in discovering the rainforest and all its wonders.

The Ecopark Lodge offers tour packages for groups of all sizes and a variety of interests. It is most known for its unique rainforest survival courses. Bilingual guides with knowledge of the region will teach you how and where to find edible fruits and potable water, conduct first aid, build shelter, make rope bridges, and other life-saving techniques. Further activities include adventure trips on the river, piranha fishing, and hiking through the jungle.

There are 70 guestrooms classified in 3 categories: Traditional (wood bungalow) Superior (Brickwork bungalow) and Plus Superior (New brickwork bungalow). The restaurant serves regional Brazilian cuisine. Each room includes a private entrance, porch, and bathroom, as well as air conditioning, hot showers, and screened windows. The rustic bungalows are pleasantly decorated and provide the comforts of home in an exotic setting.

Transfer to Amazon Ecopark jungle lodge from Manaus is done in 2 steps, all together takes about 1 hour to get to/from lodge as follows:

Step one – Manaus/ Tauá Port – by Van, Micro bus or Bus (takes aprox. 20min)

Step two – Tauá Port/ Lodge – by boat (aprox. 30min)
Transfer to Manaus for your flight G3 5630 departing at 14:17 to Rio. On arrival at 20:20 you will be met and transferred to your hotel Windsor Atlantica for overnight stay.

HOTEL SELECTION RIO DE JANEIRO

Windsor Atlantica

Located on the famous Avenida Atlântica, with a panoramic view of Copacabana, and easy access to the airport, downtown, Ipanema, and Leblon, the new 5-star Windsor Atlântica Hotel is an ideal lodging option for tourists and business travelers alike. The brand new hotel features 545 rooms, all furnished and decorated to provide comfort and well-being. The rooms are divided into Presidential, Executive, and Junior Suites, and Luxury, Superior Plus, Superior Executive, Superior and Studio Apartments. Every room is equipped with air-conditioning, a mini-bar, a work station with WIFI, an LCD TV, and an electronic safe. The staff at the Windsor Atlântica Hotel is well-trained and committed to providing their guests with a variety of leisure and entertainment options. On the 38th floor, guests will find a top-of-the-line SPA with a fitness center, a sauna, spa treatments, Jacuzzis, a beauty salon, and a Pilates and Power Plate room. There are also two pools in the hotel; one of the 4th floor and one on the 39th floor. Guests do not even need to leave the hotel to have a spectacular dining experience. In addition to the fresh buffet every morning, guests can dine at one of three in-house restaurants, grab a drink at the lobby bar, or indulge in 24-hour room service.

Day 4 – Sunday | Feb 20 2017
RIO – LONDON
Day at Leisure.

Late afternoon transfer to Rio Airport for your flight KL 706 departing at 20:45 to London.