

GETTING THERE AND AROUND

Visitors to the Region can either chart their own way to their chosen destinations, or book their trip with an experienced guide or tour operator who will make the most of your time and ensure your visit is pleasant and memorable.

Travelling Overland

Travelling overland entails booking a seat with one of the popular minibus services who ply the Linden to Lethem highway daily, offering stops at various points along the journey. The minibus ride usually entails an 8-16 hour adventurous ride. It is much less expensive than flying, and luggage limits are far less restrictive.

Once you have arrived at your lodge, arrangements for ground and/or river transport to your next destination can be made by the lodge. The Rupununi is vast and sparsely populated so making your arrangements well in advance is strongly advised. Most vehicles used to traverse the area are 4x4's, motorcycles and trucks.

Travelling by Air

Local airlines, Trans Guyana Airways and Air Services Limited, offer daily scheduled flights to Lethem and other areas in the Rupununi. It is advisable to book with the companies well in advance before travelling, as seats are limited and easily filled. Flights can also be chartered from these and other airline companies to destinations within the region.



WHEN TO VISIT

Visiting the Rupununi during the September-April peak season will offer you a different experience than visiting in the green season from May-August. Both seasons have their benefits. Wildlife spotting is easier during the peak season while the green season offer better birding experiences and river trips.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Guyana Tourism Authority is available to ensure you make the most of your time and choose the travel options that are most aligned with your interests and

Guyana Tourism Authority

www.guyanaturism.com

info@guyanaturism.com

592-219-0094-6

#discoverguyana



@guyanaundiscovered



@discoverguyana



@discoverguyana



@gotoguyana

Images provided by Deonarine Chan, GTA, Ian Craddock, Pete Oxford & Zachary Johnston

Rupununi



Explore the Rupununi

....Where Savannas, Mountains and Rainforests Merge

Escape the ordinary; discover a lost world; experience true adventure that others only dream of - take a journey into the Rupununi! This extensive natural savannah area covers 5,000 square miles of pristine grasslands, wetlands, virgin forest covered mountains, and waterfall laden streams. It is home to vibrant wildlife and many endangered and protected species.

The Rupununi is one of Guyana's most culturally diverse regions. With indigenous peoples blending seamlessly with their Brazilian counterparts, it is home to the Wapishana, Makushi and Wai-Wai peoples. Owing to the savannah's remoteness from the rest of the country, most trade is conducted with Brazil, and you're likely to hear locals speaking Portuguese.



Experiences

Whether visiting on your own or using a tour operator or local guide, there are a diverse array of experiences to suit anyone looking for authentic nature, culture and adventurous experiences or simply a tranquil and pristine location for rest and relaxation. A sampling includes:

Natural Attractions Home to golden savannas, three mountain ranges -- the Iwokrama, Pakaraima and Kanuku - many popular waterfalls such as Jordan, Moco and Kumu and local swim holes, and what many explorers believed to be the location of the lost city of El Dorado.

Welcoming Communities Learn about the rhythm of life of the indigenous peoples of Guyana by staying in community-run eco-lodges and having meaningful interactions during hikes and river trips. Your experience will be both fulfilling and transformational; it will have a positive and direct impact on the lives of the people you visit. Some of the best experiences can be had in Surama, Rewa, Yupukari, Karasabai, Shulinab and many others.

Wildlife Considered Guyana's most biologically diverse region, the Rupununi boasts 250 species of birds, 18 of which are native only to the lowland forests of the Guianas. It is also home to the jaguar, the largest cat in South America; the arapaima, the world's largest scaled freshwater fish; the world's largest otter and anteaters; and it's a great place to spot the harpy eagle, one of the world's most powerful raptors.

Adventure Haven There is much to do in the Rupununi from nature walking, wildlife spotting, birding, and sport fishing to 4x4 drives through the savannas, nature photography, canoeing wild rivers, or simply basking in the awe inspiring views of the savannas from a mountain top.

Local Food & Cuisine Plan to sample indigenous foods such as cassava bread, farine with tuma pot (a meat dish that is cooked in cassava water with a variety of spices) and tasso (preserved salted beef strips). Cassava and potato based beverages such as piwari, cassiri and parakari are available, as well as locally produced cashew peanut butter and honey.

Arts & Craft Intricately hand woven baskets and handbags, as well as locally made clothing, jewellery, and balata figurines can be found at the lodges and villages where you will visit. These arts and crafts are a primary source of income for many, so don't miss an opportunity to meet the artisans and support their work through your purchase.

Special Events:

Special Events Top events include the annual Rupununi Music and Arts Festival which happens every February at Manari Ranch and the Rupununi and Sand Creek Rodeo during Easter. For off-road enthusiasts, the North Pakaraima Safari coincides with the Rodeo, and the South Rupununi Safari occurs every November. Those looking to sample authentic Rupununi fare should plan for the annual Lethem Town Week in October.

Plan Your Trip

LODGING, ACTIVITIES AND TOURS

Set amid the savannas and surrounding mountains, there is a diversity of lodging options to suit a wide-variety of tastes and budgets. Award-winning eco-lodges include Surama Eco-lodge, Rewa Eco-lodge, Iwokrama, ATTA and Caiman House. Working ranches not to be missed include Manari, Waikin, Dadanawa and Saddle Mountain. Other favorites include Rockview Lodge, Karanambu and Pakaraima Mountain Inn.

From soft to hard adventure, there is so much to do in the Rupununi. Best of all it can be tailored to suit your needs. Booking tours with licenced tour operators and lodges that adhere to sustainable travel practices is recommended before you visit.

A full listing can be found at www.guyanatourism.com.

