



**7-DAY CLASS IV+ ITINERARY (BORJA and TENA) \$995 Plus Equipment Rental (if needed)
October-November 2018**

This year we are offering a cataraft and inflatable kayak trip for **advanced** rowers/paddlers. On our Advanced Whitewater Trip you can expect to run some of Ecuador's best **Class III to IV+** runs in the Quijos and Napo valleys. What could be better than a week of Class III-IV+ in a tropical paradise? On these trips we generally utilize local taxis (4-door trucks) for the shuttles. While in the Quijos Valley we will stay at the Cabanas Tres Rios or a nice hotel in Borja so that we are close to the river. While in Tena we stay in a modest hostel. If your group wishes to stay in a more upscale hostel or hotel in Tena, we can arrange that for an added cost.

These are small-group (4 to 6, maybe 8 people max) trips for people that **bring their own equipment** down with them. A few inflatable kayaks and kayaks may be available locally to rent at additional cost. One or more of our cataraft packages may also be available for rent. You can purchase one of our "International Travel" cataraft packages to bring down as well. Contact Neil if you are willing to transport one of his catarafts down in exchange for a reduced rental price.

SAMPLE ITINERARY

*Please note that itineraries are subject to change due to water levels and the ability level of the group.

Day 1: Arrive to Quito airport. Most flights arrive at night but one of our ambassadors (a taxi driver) will be waiting in the lobby as you clear immigration and customs. If there are others in the group arriving at nearly the same time, you may have to wait a bit for them to arrive and fill the taxi. It is about a 2 hour drive over the 13,000 foot Papallacta Pass to our accommodations near the Rio Quijos. Once you arrive at the hotel in Borja, try to get some sleep; luckily, the next morning will not be an early one.

Day 2: After a leisurely breakfast, we will set up the catarafts or inflatable kayaks, and head to the river for a short run on the Borja section of the Rio Quijos. The Borja section down to the Sardinias Grande is mostly wide open Class III/III+ with one rapid of note - "Pica Piedra." After lunch, an afternoon run from Bridge 3 to Bridge 4 is available for those that wish to get more river time. The Bridge 3 section is a step up from the Borja section with two stout rapids before the Rio Cosanga. Below the Cosanga, the gradient lessens and the rapids are less difficult and more pool-drop in nature. Back at the hotel, enjoy a soak in the hot tub, a cold beer, or cocktail at the bar before dinner. **B, L, D**

Day 3: Another big day on the Rio Quijos, this time putting in Bridge 4 or at the Sardinias Grande for running the El Chaco, and Bombon sections of the Rio Quijos. In the El Chaco section, we'll encounter powerful Class IV/IV+ pool-drop rapids and a spectacular mini gorge where the columnar basalt has been twisted in several directions. Once we reach the confluence with the Oyacachi (there are some sticky holes here!) we enter the Bombon section where the rapids ease a bit. From the bridge at Bombon, it's a short drive back to Borja with a stop in El Chaco if anyone needs an ATM. Enjoy another fabulous meal, do some yoga, or enjoy the hot tub again. If flows are good and the group is up for it, we may do the Rio Oyacachi (Class IV/IV+) the next day before heading to Tena! **B, L, D**

Day 4: In the morning we will travel to the neighboring Napo Valley where the weather is warmer. For our afternoon run we will paddle the Rio Jatunyacu with its big-water pool-drop rapids (Class III-III+). We'll stay at Hostel Zumag Sisa in Tena with our friendly hosts Pablo and Marcia. The hostel is within walking distance of downtown so there is ample opportunity to experience everyday Ecuadorian life. We should be back in town in time to enjoy happy hour and a group meal at Marchelo's Italian restaurant, overlooking the river. **B, L, D**

Day 5: Today we are off to the Rio Piatua (water levels permitting). This is technical Class IV creeking with clear water and smooth granite boulders. It is a classic mix of Class III boulder gardens with occasional harder rapids. If the water is high, we will likely switch to the Rio Anzu. On the way back to Tena we will take a side trip to the historic town of Puerto Misahualli where you can take photos of the monkeys, shop for some local handicrafts or enjoy a cold cerveza in one of the bars around the park. Grab some cheap "grub" from one of the parkside grills - just ask for a skewer of chontacuro (palm beetle larvae). **B, L, D**

Day 6: We head to Mondayacu where the locals will come running to chase the trucks down to the trailhead in order to carry our gear into the lower Jondachi River. This is one of the premiere Class III/III+ jungle runs in the area. This run is very remote and has beautiful waterfalls spilling into the river, not to mention great rapids. Farewell BBQ at Hostel Zumag Sisa. With luck, Pablo will whip up a fresh batch of Jugo del Diablo (Devil Juice!) for those of you that enjoy a strong alcoholic beverage. **B, L, D**

Day 7: After a relaxing morning that can include a jungle tour (waterfalls, the giant Ceiba tree), we head back to Quito, hoping to arrive to the airport area by around 5pm. Most flights leave Quito around midnight these days. If you have a late flight out that night, you will have quite a few hours to kill. We can drop you off at a hotel out near the airport for a flight out the next day; however, you'll need to book the hotel yourself and arrange transport to the airport. **B, L**

All This for \$995 (plus gear rental if you don't bring your own)

Includes:

- Transport from Tababela to Borja, Borja to Tena, and Tena to Quito
- Local shuttles to and from rivers
- Lodging in Borja and Tena
- Food while in Borja and Tena as indicated on the itinerary
B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner
- Safety kayaker on the more difficult runs
- Porters on the Rio Jondachi

Trip does not include:

- Flights to/from Ecuador
- Lodging/meals before and after the trip
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Alcohol
- Gratuities for the safety kayakers
- Rental of equipment or personal gear
 - Cataract \$400
 - Inflatable Kayak \$300
 - Kayak \$300