



7-DAY CLASS III/III+ ITINERARY (NAPO and QUIJOS VALLEYS) \$1000 per person Plus Equipment Rental. Based on a group of 4+ paddlers. (Double Occupancy – 2 persons/room). Single supplement adds \$150. See pricing at end for smaller groups.

This year we are offering a Class III-III+ cataraft, raft, inflatable kayak, SUP, or hardshell trip for **intermediate paddlers** to the Napo Valley (Archidona) with a day spent in the Quijos Valley (Baeza). What could be better than a week of Class III-III+ boating in a tropical paradise? This trip is for people who want to maximize their river time and only take a week off of work. Travel on the weekend, boat during the week and travel back to the USA on the following weekend. Set dates in **November and December 2022**.

These are small-group (6-8 people max) trips for people that **bring their own equipment** down with them. You will be responsible for bringing your own equipment (cataraft, raft, paddle cat, IK, SUP, or kayak) and personal gear (PFD, helmet, skirt, paddle). Rafts, inflatable kayaks and kayaks are available to rent locally at additional cost if you cannot bring your own equipment. One complete cataraft package will also be available to rent. Personal gear is also available to rent for an additional charge. Most of the rivers on this trip are suitable for intermediate paddlers/rowers with moderately difficult rapids that are fun, but not scary. Every day on the river, we will be accompanied by an experienced local kayaker who will take pictures and provide support, as well as the catarafts that provide additional safety for intermediate paddlers.



We'll stay at the beautiful Pacha Eco Lodge Glamping-Hotel with internet, hot showers, glamping cabins with king beds, restaurant, and a safe place for your equipment. The glamping cabins are beautiful, perched above the Rio Misahualli. Each cabin is private so the occupants can stay in their own space with a small private terrace. Bathroom/shower facilities are located in a separate building on the sprawling estate. The grounds are planted with native vegetation and include a chakra where some of the food is grown. There may be up to two rooms with private bath available for an additional charge to upgrade. A delicious Breakfast and Dinner will be provided at the hotel and lunches will be provided on the river. The restaurant has a spectacular view of the surrounding hills/mountains and the Rio Misahualli below.



If there are Covid-19 regulations and restrictions, they will be enforced for the safety of participants and those around them. To minimize the potential for Covid-19 infection, the group will travel as a “pod” with limited interaction with others outside the hotel.



SAMPLE ITINERARY

***Please note that this is a sample itinerary**, actual trips may be different due to changing water levels and the ability level of the trip participants. We will take this into account when determining which rivers to run each day. In Ecuador many of the rapids are rated lower (and more realistically) such that the Class III Jatanyacu may feel more like a III+ to you depending on the water level. The Rio Quijos and Jondachi/Hollin are more difficult and have some rapids that would be rated Class IV in an American guidebook. These trips are leisurely, short river days and a relaxing day in the middle. If the group is more gung-ho, we can do longer days!

Pre-Trip: Travel and arrive to Quito airport. Most flights arrive at night. You will need to stay in one of the airport hotels or arrange for airport pickup by one of the hotels in Tababela. If you arrive in Ecuador a day or more before the trip and want to check out the city of Quito, you will need to make your way to Tababela the night before the trip to facilitate meeting with the group and transport. Hotels and meals before the trip are not included, but we can recommend some places to stay in Tababela.

Day 1 (Sunday): A private van/truck will pick the group up around 10 am (exact time to be confirmed) and you'll be transported over the 13,000 foot Papallacta Pass and drop down into the Amazon Basin. On the way, check out views of the Class V Rio Papallacta and Class IV+ Rio Quijos. Pacha Eco Lodge is located 3 hours from Quito. Once here, we will get you set up in your glamping cabin or Pacha Room with private bath. Then you can discover our self-guided trails around the property. For today's lunch you can try a delicious local dish prepared with fresh ingredients. Today we will set all the gear and boats to be ready! Finally, tonight an amazing welcome dinner will be waiting for you in our restaurant. Cold cerveza too!

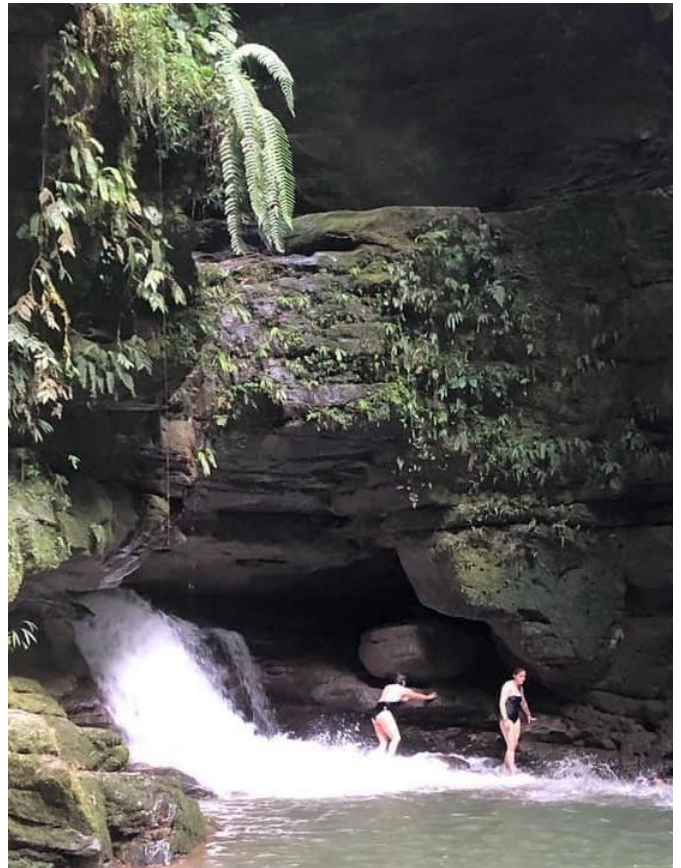
Day 2 (Monday): Today we'll have an easy, relaxing day on a Class II-III run on the Rio Napo. We'll take out at the historic town of Puerto Misahualli where you can take photos of the monkeys, shop for some local handicrafts or enjoy a cold cerveza in one of the bars around the park. Grab some cheap "grub" from one of the parkside grills - just ask for a skewer of chontacuro (palm beetle larvae). Afterwards we can visit the giant Ceiba tree (it's huge!). If time allows, we can visit the Sinchi Warmi ("Strong Woman") Amazon Lodge to learn the story of these Kichwa women who started an all-female run tilapia farm and grew it into a thriving hotel and resort in the heart of the Amazon jungle. Then it is back to Pacha to relax before dinner.



Day 3 (Tuesday): At the beginning of the day, after breakfast, we will have a 50 min road trip in order to reach Cando, our put-in for the Rio Jatan Yacu; Cando is a Kichwa Community located in the Llanganates National Park. This destination filled with mystery and legend, boasts some of the most beautiful landscape and grand biodiversity in the country. Enjoy a riverside lunch at Shandia where you can check out (and purchase) some local handicrafts from the indigenous Kichwa. The fun is not over, we'll continue on the river to Puerto Napo before heading back to Archidona. We may stop in Tena on the way to check out the Mercado, indigenous arts, and any shopping that needs to be done. Dinner at Pacha will be delicious.



Day 4 (Wednesday): We head to Mondayacu where the locals will come running to chase the trucks down to the trailhead in order to carry our boats into the lower Jondachi River. We'll hike (45 minutes) with our own gear. Once we reach the river, the group can enjoy a side excursion to the "Gran Canon" while the boats are being inflated. 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 fun rapids. We will take out near the last bridge over the Rio Jondachi, only a short distance from Pacha, but on a 4x4 road. If the group is game, we can plan to continue downstream and enter the Rio Hollin. After joining the Rio Hollin, the volume increases substantially and there are a number of fun pool-drop rapids, including the infamous "Wafflemaker" (Class IV). Either way, we are only a short drive from Pacha and a hot shower before drinks and dinner.



Day 5 (Thursday): Today we'll take a break and relax at the lodge, go for a hike or bike ride, or explore the local area with one of the locals from Archidona. If people wish, we can paddle a fun, scenic Class II stretch of the Rio Misahualli downstream of the lodge into Tena.

Day 6 (Friday): Today we'll get up early and drive to Baeza for a big day on the Rio Quijos, putting in at Bridge 2 and running down to Bridge 4. This section is pretty continuous Class III+ at low to moderate flows and is relatively steep in the upper part. After the Rio Cosanga joins and adds some water, the river is more pool-drop in nature and with a lower gradient. If water levels are good, we may extend the run through the Borja section. This short section has mostly Class III/III+ rapids with one harder rapid in "Pica Piedra." We'll get back to Pacha in plenty of time for dinner.



Day 7 (Saturday): After another delicious breakfast, pack up your gear to get ready to travel back to Quito. A private van/truck will transport the group back to Quito, with a stop to enjoy the Papillacta hot springs (\$9 per person). We shoot for leaving Pacha before noon, so you can enjoy the hot springs with an evening drop-off at the airport. We can drop you off at a hotel 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.



Post-Trip: Travel and arrive to USA. Many flights out leave very early in the morning, so you may want to book a hotel near the airport or one of the hotels in Tababela with airport drop-off. Hotels and meals not included. We can recommend some places to stay in Tababela.

All this for \$1000 per person (plus gear rental if you don't bring your own) based on a group of 4 or more paddlers.

Trip cost includes:

- Transport from Tababela to Archidona and from Archidona to Quito Airport
- Local shuttles to and from rivers
- Lodging at Pacha Eco Lodge (6 nights)
- All meals while at Pacha
- Support kayaker/photographer on all river days
- Porters to carry gear to the Rio Jondachi
- River/community entrance fees

Trip cost does not include:

- Flights to/from Ecuador
- Hotels/meals pre- and post-trip
- Entrance fees to side excursions (e.g., Papallacta Hot Springs)
- Alcoholic beverages
- Gratuities for the safety kayakers/drivers
- Rental of equipment or personal gear – rafts kayaks, and inflatable kayaks are available to rent

Are you a single, couple, or can't get a group of 4 together? We can accommodate you! For trips with less than 4 people, the cost is \$1200 per person (add \$150 if a single, not sharing a room). We will do our best to combine small groups on the same dates so that everyone gets the 4+ group price. You must arrive Saturday, the day prior to the pick-up in Quito/Tababela so that a single transport vehicle can be used for all of the combined people.

Additional charges for upgrades and add-ons:

- Upgrade to 6 nights in the Pacha Room with private bath with two people (\$180/person)
- Single supplement for people unwilling to share a cabin (\$150); \$320 for single in Pacha Room
- Extra day of lodging and meals without boating (\$60 per person); \$85 if single not sharing room
- Extra day of boating with lodging, meals, and support kayaker/photographer (\$150 per person); \$175 single if not sharing a room

Trips are currently scheduled for November 13-19 and December 4-10, 2022. Book now and have a great trip before Christmas! There is a special trip scheduled for December 11-17 with a two-day add-on until the 19th to accommodate a Swiftwater Rescue Course where you will receive your ACA Level 4 certification. This trip is geared towards Class III boaters looking to step up to Class IV and costs \$1420 per person. If your group would like different dates, contact Neil (gearhead@golightoutdoors.com) to see if other dates are available.

Booking a Trip: Contact Neil with your desired trip from the scheduled dates. Once the dates and number of people are set, you will be required to pay a \$400 per person deposit to hold the dates and

reserve the rooms. Worried about cancellations? We recommend purchasing travel insurance when booking so you are covered in the event of cancellation due to illness.

Cancellation Policy: \$400 per person deposit required to reserve booking. If you cancel more than 60 days prior to the trip, you will receive a full refund. If you cancel between 60 and 30 days prior to the trip, you will receive a refund of \$350. If you cancel 30 days or less prior to trip, no refund will be given.

Want to spend more time in Ecuador and boat even more rivers in different areas? We can do that for you! Contact Neil with your desired trip length and he will do his best to get you on the rivers.

Are you an advanced (Class IV-V) boater? Check out our Class IV/IV+ itinerary!

