

Amazon

Amazonas

Natural attractions in the Amazonas region of Colombia are abundant and extremely impressive. The area boasts lush landscapes, natural parks, dense jungle, large lakes and elaborate river systems. It is also home to all manner of exotic animals including Amazon River dolphins, giant turtles, and monkeys. The buzzing city of Leticia, commonly used as the base from which to explore the area, offers a range of adventure activities such as canyoning, rappelling and kayaking. The area is also an important center of indigenous culture, with a number of communities living nearby.

Natural Attractions

Ecotourism is undoubtedly the major draw of Leticia and the Amazonas region in general. There are a wealth of excellent tours and exotic natural attractions to explore. The best way to see these is with a guide or in a small tour arranged within Leticia itself. Some of the most popular options are included below:

Amacayacu National Park: A nature reserve of nearly 300,000 hectares which is home to a diverse range of birds and animals including jaguars, macaws and parrots, manatees, Amazon River dolphins, tapirs, anacondas, piranhas and the golden lion tamarin monkey. Accommodation is available in the park, as are activities such as tours of indigenous villages, night boat rights, hiking and climbing.

Cahuinari National Park: A 575,000 hectare national park located between the Cahuinari and Bernando rivers. Notable animals that inhabit the area are black caimans, which grow up to 10m long and are often visible along the banks of the two rivers, and the rare Charapa turtle, the largest fresh water turtle alive today.

San Martin de Amacayacu: A small community of indigenous Ticuna people, located in beautiful surroundings inhabited by abundant wildlife. It can be reached from the trails through the Amacayacu national park or via Puerto Nariño.

Lake Yahuaracas: A crystal clear lake located on the edge of Leticia, which is home to the pink-coloured Amazon River Dolphin.

Tarapoto Lake: Located about 20 minutes outside Puerto Nariño, or two hours from Leticia, the lake offers a variety of activities including boat trips, sport fishing, and water skiing. The site, surrounded by large rubber plants, also houses giant water lilies and fresh water dolphin species.

Tanimboca reserve: Just outside Leticia, the Tanimboca reserve is a great place to trek, fish, or to do canopying. If you wish you stay the night here, the most impressive options are the treehouses built some 12m up into the jungle canopy. In Doesel Tanimboca you can also engage in activities such as canopying, rappelling and kayaking. The site has five elevated platforms from which you can observe the wide variety of animal species and birds in the park. You can also hang hammocks and sleep here.