



The ultimate in 'hosted' angling adventures throughout the Amazon

UK Agent and Promotional Management for Amazon-Angler.com

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JAGUAR CAMP - GUYANA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

So, whether you are 'booked in' on our Jaguar Camp, or you have already been. This FAQ publication is here to help and support, and serves to provide valuable information on the trip, travel, camp-life, fishing etc for our future adventurers.

This will be updated quarterly with this being the first issue for summer 2020. If you have any additional comments and/or advice for others, then:

Contact us at: info@amazon-connect.co.uk and we will look to incorporate for the next issue.

Q	How much night fishing will we do?
A	Very little to none, caiman activity during darkness presents too much of a challenge. We have tried it before with only minimal success.
Q	Does line colour make any difference? i.e. yellow braid
A	Yes, we generally suggest 'moss green' as it is quite dull. Yellow / red / white are much brighter and have the potential to attract Piranha's which means you will lose your end tackle!!!!
Q	Is fly fishing an option?
A	Fly fishing is always an option and we would never rule it out. Countless trips have always proven that conventional lure fishing produces well along with 'cut-bait' for the Arapaima and Cats. If weight allows and you want to try it – go for it.
Q	What sort of rigs are best for the Catfish?
A	The Catfish grow to huge sizes, and many of them like to take you into structure, therefore a strong set-up is needed. 100lb braid as your main line, spliced to 6ft-10ft of 100lb mono. A good sinker, of 3-5oz on a running rig set-up (for fish welfare – No fixed leads) and for the business end, either a circle or 'J' hook at between 6/0 – 10/0 on 100lb single strand wire to a 100lb+ swivel. If you are fishing at depth (no Piranha), the single strand wire can be replaced with 200lb+ braided hook-link material.
Q	What sort of rigs are best for the Arapaima?
A	Variation of the Catfish set up. 100lb braided mainline spliced to 6ft – 10ft of 100lb mono leader straight to the hook. No sinker is required and circle hooks only to be used, suggest 6/0 to 10/0. Arapaima takes are quite gentle, but they spook easily, especially if they detect resistance.
Q	What are the best knots to use?
A	For splicing of braided mainline to mono / fluorocarbon leaders, the FG knot is 'bullet proof' provided tied correctly. This knot is super slim and passes through the rod eyes easily. Palomar and Snell knots are ideal for braid/mono/fluorocarbon to hooks and swivels and for the single strand wire to hooks and swivels, we recommend the haywire twist, which again is super strong when tied correctly. If unsure about tying these, there are some great tutorials / reminders available on YouTube, or alternatively there is a fantastic Apple App called ProKnot .



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Q	Full size – v – travel rods, which is better?
A	Always a difficult topic for discussion as a lot comes down to personal preference and 'what you have'. Full size rod sections in long rod tubes are physically more difficult to handle, and often attract additional costs on flights. Travel rods generally break down to 0.5m – 0.6m and can therefore be included within 'checked in' luggage. One thing to remember is that long rods are far more difficult to manage when fishing from the boats and ideal lengths for both catfishing and lure rods is 1.8m to 2.4m (max).
Q	How much money do I need to bring and what currency?
A	From the minute you arrive in Georgetown, your trip costs are covered, however, you will need some local currency for food & drink at the hotel (either side of the fishing) and Guyanese Dollar is best for this. If your arrival dates incur additional nights at the hotel, these can be paid for in \$US or via credit card (most major cards accepted). You will also need to bring US\$150 cash for tipping the camp staff and US\$30 cash as a contribution to the local village fees. Your host will collect these and distribute accordingly.
Q	If I have additional time in Georgetown, are there things to do?
A	Absolutely, there are several tours / excursions that you can take, and the hotel will be more than happy to provide information and make the arrangements for you. One of our recommendations is the incredible Kaieteur Falls which is on the River Potaro deep within the interior. This is a 1hr to 1.5hrs flight from Ogle airport, not the cheapest of trips, but a 'bucket list' visit nonetheless.
Q	What precautions do I need to take with bugs i.e. mozzies and sand flies etc?
A	Well, it's the Amazon and unfortunately, insects are a part of jungle life. Historically, we have never really suffered from excessive bug life on camp, but you should bring some good quality repellent, ideally with a high 'Deet' content, especially for evenings around the camp table, as ankles and elbows always seem to be a target.
Q	What kind of temperatures can I expect?
A	If you cater for daytime temperatures around 30°C you won't go far wrong. It is likely that there will be some rain during your trip, so make sure you have lightweight waterproofs. On cloudless days, good protection from the sun is vital. So, ensure you have a high factor sun cream, and if you are not used to the sun, think about clothing, long trousers, long sleeves, fingerless gloves and buffs, all these are great ways to protect yourself.
Q	Will I be safe whilst out fishing?
A	Absolutely, during the day you will be in the hands of our English-speaking guides, who are local (Amerindian) and fully understand the river system and its wildlife and it's important that you listen to them. They are there to put you into the right spot for fishing as well as to keep you safe throughout your trip. If you are in any doubt, talk to your host.
Q	Do you use wire traces (leaders)?
A	Many of the species have sharp teeth, particularly Piranha, so if you are targeting them, wire traces are useful (20lb – 30lb). For other species and to conceal the line as much as possible, splice your braided mainline to a mono / fluorocarbon leader (20lb-40lb), and tie on a suitably sized 'quick link' for ease in changing lures quickly. On the subject of 'quick links', choose ones of good quality and strength i.e. 'coastlock', the last thing you want is a hard fighting fish and the quick link opens up!!!



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Q	What are the weight limits on the trip?
A	Whilst your international flights into Georgetown may be 24Kg or more, the internal flights to Apoteri have stricter limits, so base your weight allowance on 20Kg (44lbs). This includes all luggage items, checked in and hand luggage. If needed, you can safely leave items at the hotel until you get back from the fishing i.e. clothes / shoes etc.
Q	What size 'leads' are best for the Catfishing?
A	This is purely down to the individual, but with fast flowing waters, a reasonable size is needed. 4oz-5oz is recommended, and flat pear grippers perform well. Don't forget that you will need a 'run ring' of a size that allows it to pass over any knots i.e. the FG. There are huge Jau Catfish, which love structure, so prepare to lose a few of these. Check your travel weight, but we would suggest you bring at least 12.
Q	What strength / type of mainline should I use?
A	20-30lb braid for general lure fishing, 30-50lb braid for working within the rapids. Generally, there are very few snags, other than the margins and the rapids. See previous FAQ (p1) for advice on Catfish & Arapaima.
Q	I have heard that the Piranha can bite through treble hooks, is this true?
A	Yes, Piranha will bite clean through factory fitted trebles, and Pacu will just crush them!! It is highly recommended that you change these out in favour of 2X (min) and preferably 4X versions. Cut the old ones off and add the uprated treble via a suitable split ring. Strong hooks can be sourced from many manufacturers including: Gamakatsu, VMC and Owner. Take care with this though, the added weight of the uprated hook can sometimes impact on the balance and behaviour of lures, so always worth a sanity check once changed.
Q	Do spoons, spinners and spinner-baits work?
A	Yes, these can be highly effective, and historically, bronze/copper/gold coloured spinners have been good with Pacu, Piranha, Bicuda etc. A selection of 'Mepps' type spinners in sizes 3 & 4 is a good addition to your kit. Spoons can also work, but we have not seen as much success with them as with spinners. The hugely mechanical spinnerbaits also work, but they are a little more susceptible to snags especially if you are fishing tight to the margins. Peacock Bass can certainly be taken on these across a wide range of colours.
Q	If I am on the boat for 8+ hours per day, are they comfortable?
A	The boats are generally comfortable with the majority having purpose made seating, however, for added comfort it is worthwhile bringing an inflatable cushion with you. These are widely available on-line, cost less than GBP10.00, are lightweight and can be an absolute godsend – definitely a top tip from us here at Amazon-Connect.
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