



## 2010/2011 AGUA BOA LODGE SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

### What to Bring

An up to date passport with at least six months to its expiry date, and valid visa (where required) are needed for entry in to Brazil. On entry in to Brazil a **“visitors entry card”** must be completed by all visitors, do not lose your **“visitors entry card”** as you will need it on leaving Brazil. Loss of this document will cause delays in guests passing through passport control on leaving Brazil. We also advise that guests bring their certificate of vaccination with them, and also have copies of all travel documents.

To ensure you have an enjoyable stay at the Agua Boa Amazon Lodge, we recommend you bring suitable clothing for your days on the river. With temperatures often reaching the mid 30's centigrade, a hat and UV protective long sleeved fishing shirts and trousers are a must with high factor sun protection cream for those uncovered areas.

The most commonly used rod on the Agua Boa river is an 8 or 9 weight. Your lines should be those designed for high temperatures such as the top quality Rio SW Clouser Tropical Taper, Tropical Outbound Short floating lines and for the sinking a 200 or 300 grain Deep Sea Sink Tip. Leaders should also be those designed for the tropical temperatures, we recommend the Rio 44lb and 33lb Hard Saltwater mono, and yes we do mean 33lb and 44lb!

No need to bring your whole wardrobe with you, **the daily laundry service** enables all visitors to travel light when visiting the Lodge. Don't forget that light weight rain jacket, it is the Amazon rain forest after all.

**A Note about Visas**

A tourist visa is required of all travelers to Brazil. Do not forget to get one or check to make sure that your current visa is valid. There are countless nightmares about Americans arriving in Brazil without one. The visa is only valid for 90 days so do not apply too early. Also make certain your passport does not expire within 6 months of your trip.

**DMS Visa**

Contact: Dastagir Samee (goes by Samee)  
Telephone: 202-745-3815  
E-mail: [dsamee@dmsvisainternational.com](mailto:dsamee@dmsvisainternational.com)  
Website: [www.dmsvisainternational.com](http://www.dmsvisainternational.com)  
2651 Connecticut Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008

**ZIERER VISA AGENCY OFFICES:**

WASHINGTON DC  
1625 K Street NW, Suite 102  
Washington DC 20006  
Phone: (866) 788-1100  
Fax: (202) 265-3061  
Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm EST

SAN FRANCISCO  
165 Post Street, 3rd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
Phone: (866) 788-1100  
Fax: (415) 495-4491  
Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm PST

NEW YORK  
60 East 42nd Street, Suite 1250  
New York, NY 10165  
Phone: (866) 788-1100 or (212) 258-5520  
Fax: (212) 949-6544

HOUSTON  
Two Greenway Plaza, Suite 275  
Houston, TX 77046  
Phone: (866) 788-1100  
Fax: 713-621-1512

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS  
165 Post Street, 3rd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
Phone: (415) 962-4990  
Fax: (415) 901-0815

*It can also be done through a Brazilian consulate.*

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## **RODS & REELS**

9 WT to 8 WT 8 ½ to 9 foot in length

We suggest a large arbor reel with a great drag for your reel.

## **LINES**

8 or 9 WT Rio Floating SW Clouser Tropical Taper or Tropical Outbound Short 8 or 9 WT Rio Tropical Floating/Intermediate Saltwater DS 200 Rio Deep Sea Sink Tip – can be used with 8 or 9 WT rod DS 300 Rio Deep Sea Sink Tip – can be used with 9 or 10 WT rod 30lb backing Line cleaner Knot tying tool

## **LEADER MATERIAL**

44 lb Hard Saltwater Mono (Rio)

33 lb Hard Saltwater Mono (Rio)

## **FLIES**

Large streamers – deceivers, whistlers, etc with large bead-chain eyes, dumbbell eyes etc. stick on eyes Poppers – Waller Pearly Poppers, Big Boy Trevally Poppers Hook sizes 1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0. Bring roughly 3 dozen total flies, six should be top-water flies like the banger, 6 of the big baitfish patterns similar to the Puglisi Mackerel or Keliher Herring, 2 dozen should be of the deceiver or lead eye variety. The Fly Shop will be happy to send a sample package if you are a fly tier. Contact them for an updated fly list.

## **BOAT BAG**

Stripping gloves (also provides sun protection), or stripping tape for fingers Binoculars 30# Boga Grip Clippers/nippers First aid kit Torch/flashlight & spare batteries Hook sharpener Pliers Superglue Knife (Leatherman multi tool) Measuring tape Mosquito repellent (needed in Manaus, and for the “no-see-ums” at the Lodge) Ziploc bags and rubbish/garbage bag Light rain suit Hat Sunglasses Sun gloves Sun protection cream/sun screen Hand towel for boat

## **PERSONAL**

Passport and two photo copies Visa (Brazilian) if required Credit card and cash (cash for Lodge staff tips/gratuities)

## **Manaus**

Manaus is the capital of the Brazilian Amazon. It is the first stop of your journey to the Agua Boa Amazon lodge. On arrival at Eduardo Gomes international airport you will be met by our representative Ray Santos, who will arrange for your transfer to your hotel.

Located just 100 meters in elevation on the left eastern bank of the Rio Negro, Manaus provides the opportunity for numerous excursions into the city or on the Rio Negro. If you arrive during the day or stay there longer than one night, you can visit some of the numerous sights. Manaus has some attractive museums and historical buildings such as the Renaissance style Opera House "Amazon Theatre" which was built at the end of the 19th century. The two city parks and the (small) Zoo are options for relaxing walks.

Brazilian culinary specialties Manaus style are not in short supply, with a variety of local fish, beef, rice and beans being the regional cuisine. For those guests who enjoy a “meat

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feast”, a visit to the Churrascaria Buffalo is a must. You will be spoiled for choice with different cuts of, beef, lamb, pork, etc cooked and presented to you on the spit. An experience for eyes and palate alike, and it keeps coming until you can’t eat any more.

The feijoada national dish is a delicious black bean stew with dried meat, smoked sausage, tongue, pig ears and feet, and is flavored with cloves, bay leaves, pepper, garlic and onions. The dish is served with rice, toasted manioc flour, kale and orange slices.

Interested in music? Manaus offers numerous locations with the opportunity to explore the regional styles such as Forró, Axé und Carimbó. Manaus is also considered along with Rio de Janeiro as the second world capital of Samba, there is an annual Carnival which runs from early February through late March.

### **Health**

Although we believe that there are no malaria, and no dengue mosquito’s on the Agua Boa, all guests travelling to the Agua Boa Amazon lodge will transit through an international airport or city where malaria or dengue mosquito’s may be present. The recommended vaccinations and health precautions that should be taken for travel to Brazil are updated on a regular basis by the various health organizations around the globe. We therefore advise that all guests contact their own doctor and/or the local centre for disease control for the country in which they reside, whereupon the most up to date advice regarding vaccinations and health precautions for travel to Brazil can be found.

### **Useful Links**

#### **Nature and Wildlife**

- Chico Mendes Institute: [www.chicomendes.org.br/index\\_english.html](http://www.chicomendes.org.br/index_english.html)
- WWF: [www.worldwildlife.org/what/wherewework/amazon/index.html](http://www.worldwildlife.org/what/wherewework/amazon/index.html)

#### **Links to health organizations and centers for disease control:**

- The World Health Organization: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)
- USA: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

## **Peacock Bass**

There are three species of peacock bass present: the butterfly, spotted and temensis.

The Butterfly Peacock is the most numerous in the system. Butterflies are aggressive takers on poppers and 3-4 inch streamers. They are great fighters and jump often. They range between 2 and 8 pounds with approximately a 3 pound average in the system. Butterfly Peacocks provide plenty of action between shots at larger fish.

The spotted and temensis peacock bass are both a totally different beast. These two species (or one depending on who you talk to) are the largest of the peacocks and can attain weights of 25 pounds.

These Peacocks are some of the most aggressive game fish on the planet. They wander in schools of up to 40 fish and feed together working bait like bluefish. It is difficult to describe a school of these large peacocks in full feeding frenzy. Needless to say that 1 pound baitfish are flying everywhere in a desperate attempt to escape. In many cases the baitfish will jump onto to dry land to escape. If you can get your fly into the action, the results are spectacular: a ferocious take, a blistering run, a jump and or a run into structure are just a few of the possible obstacles you might be confronted with.

The other jungle species are also well worth pursuing. The arowana looks and acts a lot like a tarpon. They have huge scales, are air breathers, spooky and wander through the river and lagoons in schools in search of baitfish, bugs etc. Arowana are a surface oriented fish. They are very visible and provide exciting sight casting when conditions are right.

Beware, they are spooky and difficult to hook and land. Arowana have a split eye that allows them to see above and below the water. As a result, they are very sensitive to false casting and an unnatural movement to the fly. Smaller patterns stripped slowly and in short increments seem to be the most successful. Remember -- watch the fish and try to keep your fly as close to the fish as possible when retrieving your fly. Arowana have a jaw similar to tarpon and require a hard strike. They are an aerial fighter and good runner. Arowana average 6-10 lbs, but can reach nearly 15 pounds.

## **Peacock Bass Fishing**

Peacock bass fishing is a complicated affair that requires some patience initially to land the larger fish. Here are a few fishing tips that we think will help you on your trip.

To understand peacock bass, you need to first consider their habitat. Most everything in the Amazon is being eaten, or is in the process of eating something else. As a general rule fish in the Amazon are built tough with razor sharp teeth or brutal strength. This makes for interesting fishing as some fish will cut you off and others will pull you straight into the structure and tangle you up. Peacock bass do not have the razor sharp teeth, but there is not a fish that is tougher in fresh water. They are happy to break rods and the toughest tippet going to get away.

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Peacock habits vary to a large degree depending on the size of the fish. Small to mid-size peacocks tend to congregate around structure for both food and protection. Large peacocks tend to feel a little more comfortable in not getting eaten by predators. Over time they become bullies and roam the lagoons and river channels in packs.

Peacock bass are a pursuit predator, which means that they will keep after their prey until it is either in their belly or on the shore. It is not uncommon to have large peacocks drive shoals of baitfish onto the shore. Believe it or not, we have seen peacocks fly out of the water in unsuccessful attempts to get small birds. Certainly it sounds ridiculous. After your trip, our guess is that you will believe it.

### **Fishing tips**

Fish everything...structure, shoreline, middle of the lagoon etc... Don't get keyed into just casting at the bank. Also, if your partner gets a strike, throw in the same area. Remember these fish are attracted to commotion. The most important tip we can give you is trust your guide's instincts.

The guides at Agua Boa are experienced and will do their best to get you into fish. While they may not be as polished as guides you have come to expect in other parts of the world, they are all natives of the Amazon and deeply enjoy sharing this environment with fishermen.

We suggest you rig two rods for your fishing. Set one up with a sinking line and a big fish fly and the other with a floating line and a 3-5 inch deceiver type pattern.

Strip rapidly in medium length (say 6-10inches per strip) and focus less on the speed of the strip than on keeping the slack out of the line between strips and keeping your rod tip pointed at the fish and low to the water. Strip at a comfortable yet rapid pace until you either see the fish eat or feel the fish hit. Keep a sharp hook, hit them hard, strip down and hit them again...then hang on tight...and enjoy!!!

When you have hooked a big peacock, don't try to muscle him or you will lose your fish, break your tip and/or rod. Once hooked, be sure to let large and small peacocks run. Remember to let your drag do the work. With peacocks you will want to be sure to keep your fingers away from the reel handle on any run. If you forget, bruised knuckles will help you remember on future fish.

Peacocks usually make unstoppable runs. When they stop, apply heavy pressure. When a peacock takes off, you must let him run. Don't worry about the fish getting wrapped up in cover. If you think you can keep him away from it by applying pressure late in the fight that is fine. Once they get into cover, give the fish slack and let your guide help get the fish out with the boat. Many times the fish will swim back in the direction it came and get you untangled. In a worst case scenario, your guide may swim down to untangle the fish.

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