Amazon River Expedition

cruising aboard
LA AMATISTA Expedition Vessel

February 1 to 10, 2013
Dear Alumni and Friends:

Visiting the mysterious Amazon River Basin, one of Earth’s most exotic natural realms and our planet’s largest rainforest ecosystem, is an unforgettable experience. The longest navigable river, the Amazon winds more than 4000 miles from its source in the Andes Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean, and its tributaries fan out over 1.5 million square miles to sustain the lush flora and extraordinary fauna of this fragile environment. Explore a boundless diversity of nature’s most wondrous offerings from delicate orchids to transparent glass frogs and pink river dolphins, from the treetops of the lush rainforest to the depths of blackwater tributaries.

Join us for this phenomenal natural history tour aboard a small, expedition river vessel uniquely designed to travel during this “high water” season along remote tributaries of the Amazon that are inaccessible at any other time of year, gliding into areas few other visitors have ever seen. LA AMATISTA is one of a limited number of passenger vessels allowed to cruise this portion of the Peruvian Amazon, and its craftsmanship evokes the 19th century’s age of discovery while providing comfortable accommodations. In an authentic atmosphere of exploration, cruise beyond the confluence of the Río Ucayali and Río Marañón—the legendary inception of the Amazon River—where the primeval calls of birds and wildlife echo across the rainforest. Travel far beyond civilization to the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, the largest wetlands refuge in the world, navigating blackwater rivers and walking in remote forests where the number of butterfly species climbs into the thousands, and many species have yet to be classified or even discovered.

From your expedition vessel, expert Peruvian naturalists will lead you through the rainforest to see rare indigenous species and guide you down the Amazon’s secretive, sinuous tributaries aboard special small excursion boats. You will also visit local villages to gain insight into the traditional way of life of the ribereños (river people) and see a shaman perform an ancient ritual. This custom-designed itinerary includes the choice of a one-night stay in a tented camp in the heart of the Peruvian jungle, highlighted by traditional storytelling and a meal of regional specialties.

In addition to the mystifying reaches of the Amazon, this unique program also includes two nights in Lima, Peru, featuring a visit to its historic city center, a UNESCO World Heritage site; and offers a magnificent Machu Picchu Post-Tour Option.

Space is extremely limited for this outstanding once-in-a-lifetime journey along the legendary Amazon River through the world’s greatest rainforest at a great value—reserve now while space and Early Booking Savings are available!

Go Green!

Regina Cross
Travel Coordinator
MSU Alumni Association

Travelers, whether alumni or friends, must be current MSUAA members to participate in Association travel offerings. For more information on membership rates, call the MSU Alumni Association at (877) 678-2586. You may also join online at www.alumni.msu.edu. Tour reservations will be confirmed upon verification of Alumni Association membership. Membership dues are non-refundable.
U.S./Lima, Peru
Friday, Day 1
Depart for Lima, Peru. Arrive later today in this cosmopolitan coastal city at the foot of the Andes Mountains. In Miraflores, an upscale cultural district located in the heart of the city, check into our hotel, the deluxe CASA ANDINA PRIVATE COLLECTION HOTEL.

Lima
Saturday, Day 2
Enjoy a tour of Lima, Peru’s capital, and see the UNESCO World Heritage site, Plaza de Armas, the city’s main square, pre-Columbian temples and colonial mansions. Visit the magnificent Casa Aliaga, built in 1535 as the residence of Don Jeronimo de Aliaga, the co-founder of Lima. It is the oldest private house in continuous use in the western hemisphere and has been inhabited by the same Aliaga family for 17 generations. It is filled with original 16th-century Spanish art and furniture. Then, see the 17th-century Convent and Church of San Francisco, a brilliant combination of Moorish and Baroque styles and one of the finest colonial churches in South America. The afternoon is at leisure.

Lima/Iquitos/Nauta/Río Amazonas
Sunday, Day 3
Following breakfast, fly to the frontier city of Iquitos. Visit a colorful Indian market before transferring to Nauta to embark the expedition vessel in time for lunch.

Early this afternoon, leave the modern world behind and begin your journey of discovery into one of the world’s most remote regions. Gather on the ship’s observation deck and watch as civilization fades and the vast Amazon River unfolds before you.

Río Amazonas/Río Marañón/Amazon Natural Park
Monday, Day 4
Awake in the heart of the Amazon Basin, where the dense jungle teems with the greatest diversity of plant and animal life on Earth and the perfect serenity of the river is broken only by the occasional fisherman padding in a traditional dugout canoe. Journey beyond the confluence of the Ucayali and Marañón rivers, up the Marañón branch. A team of expert naturalists will share their insight into this rich and complex ecosystem and help you identify fascinating species like the South American oriole and the gray and pink river dolphins, which often swim alongside the vessel. Keep an eye out for a three-toed sloth moving between trees in a slow-motion ballet, while hawks, kites and turkey vultures glide overhead and jabiru storks methodically search for food in the shallows.

In the afternoon, visit a typical village to experience the timeless way

Watch for scarlet macaws, some of the most colorful and social birds in the Amazon rainforest, often gathering atop tall trees.
of life of the *ribereños* (river people), who have inhabited the shores of the Amazon for generations. Enjoy a unique opportunity to interact with villagers and learn more about their special relationship with this remarkable environment.

Later this evening, take a special night excursion through the rainforest of the Amazon Natural Park in search of elusive nocturnal creatures such as caiman and bats, and admire a universe of stars.

**Amazon Natural Park/ Kapok Camp**  
**Tuesday, Day 5**  
A morning canoe ride across one of the park’s enchanting blackwater lakes introduces you to a riveting world of rare animals like the endearing capybara, a comically large, semi-aquatic rodent native only to South America. Walk through a spectacular rainforest of soaring ceiba trees that reach as high as 200 feet to form a vast canopy, and a profusion of palms, orchids and other tropical plants that flourish at ground level. Participate in a traditional Amazonian tree-planting ceremony dedicated to ensuring the longevity and health of the rainforest.

This afternoon, continue exploring the mysterious realm of the Amazon Natural Park. You can choose to return to the vessel or continue to the tented Kapok camp for an overnight stay. From the forest canopy walkway, observe the breathtaking wonders of the jungle and look for howler monkeys, colorful macaws and the rare electric-blue morpho butterfly. In camp, savor a hearty meal of regional specialties as our guides share their insights about the mysterious jungle and recount fascinating myths and legends that have been passed on for generations among the indigenous people of the Peruvian rainforest.

**Kapok Camp/Río Marañón**  
**Wednesday, Day 6**  
Watch for wildlife including macaws, egrets, oriole blackbirds and purple gallinules during a morning walk through a forest of massive ceiba trees. See the giant lupuna tree, one of the tallest species in the Amazon.

After lunch, try your hand at catching a red-bellied piranha during a fishing expedition with the vessel’s naturalist.

This evening, by special arrangement, meet a local shaman, or medicine man, who will perform a traditional ritual and explain how the *ribereños* have used indigenous plants and herbs for centuries to cure medical ailments.
Thursday, Day 7
Arrive at the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, the largest wetlands reserve in the world. Your expedition vessel is among the select few to cruise this narrow length of the Amazon River, where white-necked heron and wattled jacana dip into the shallow waters, and endangered scarlet macaws chatter through the forest’s canopy. Enjoy a special excursion aboard one of the vessel’s small boats through the remote Pucate Basin in search of exotic wildlife, including toucans and saddleback tamarind monkeys. Marvel at Victoria amazonica—giant water lilies—and enjoy a picnic lunch aboard the excursion boat while watching for gray and pink river dolphins to swim up to you.
Later, our onboard chef demonstrates the preparation of Amazonian specialties, including juanes, a regional favorite made of chicken and rice wrapped in banana leaves.

Friday, Day 8
Enter a virtually uninhabited portion of the Amazon where the river narrows. Board excursion boats and cruise up narrow tributaries while the vessel’s naturalists help you to observe captivating animal and plant life rarely detected by the untrained eye. Enjoy a final afternoon of cruising the Amazon en route to Nauta. Gather on the vessel’s upper deck for a festive farewell dinner as the sun sets over the lush flora of the passing rainforest.

Saturday, Day 9
Following breakfast, disembark LA AMATISTA and transfer to the Iquitos airport. Fly to Lima and check into our day-room accommodations in the CASA ANDINA PRIVATE COLLECTION HOTEL. Pursue the charms of Lima at your own pace this afternoon. Late tonight, transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S. or stay overnight in Lima and continue on the Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley Post-Tour Option.*

Sunday, Day 10
Your flight arrives in the U.S.

*Post-Tour Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Locally crafted expedition vessel serving the Peruvian Upper Amazon

Cruise aboard one of the Amazon’s small expedition river vessels specifically designed to navigate the unique waters of the Upper Amazon River and its tributaries. LA AMATISTA features an extraordinary itinerary encompassing the remote, untouched rainforest in the protected Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, a natural ecosystem that has survived for centuries. Cruising with only 30 passengers, LA AMATISTA provides an intimate, casual ambiance with a friendly and attentive crew.

Throughout the cruise, two highly trained, English-speaking naturalists provide expert insight into the Amazon’s amazing array of biodiversity, wildlife and the culture of the indigenous peoples.

Each comfortable, outside cabin has two twin beds or one double bed, private bathroom facilities and individual climate control.

Onboard dining features plentiful Peruvian and international cuisine prepared each day from the freshest vegetables, fruit, fish and local ingredients. The backdrop for every meal is an ever-changing vista of the Amazon’s exotic beauty as viewed through the floor-to-ceiling windows in the dining salon.

LA AMATISTA features a specially designed, spacious open-air observation deck offering panoramic viewing by day, spectacular stargazing at night and a full bar. The vessel is equipped with a fleet of excursion boats ideal for shore visits into the most remote reaches of the Upper Amazon.
Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley Post-Tour Option*

Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience featuring Machu Picchu, the “Lost City of the Incas,” the Incan and colonial traditions of Cuzco, and the lush Sacred Valley.

Located high in the Peruvian Andes, Machu Picchu was obscured from humankind for 400 years until Yale Professor Hiram Bingham literally stumbled upon it in 1911. A century of extensive research and study still has not revealed the secrets of its purpose, its residents or its abandonment; nevertheless, this UNESCO World Heritage site has been carefully excavated and preserved.

The rushing Urubamba River flows through the beautiful Sacred Valley, where ancient engineering marvels, such as the fortress of Ollantaytambo, stand as lasting testimony to the powerful and far-reaching Inca empire. Here, village craftsmen employ age-old techniques to weave intricate tapestries and sculpt colorful pottery.

In the historic Inca capital of Cuzco, a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Incan stone fortress of Sacsayhuamán and grand Baroque- and Renaissance-style churches provide a fascinating mix of pre-Columbian and colonial influences.

Day 1 Lima, Peru
Day 2 Lima/Cuzco/Sacred Valley
Day 3 Sacred Valley/Scenic train ride to Machu Picchu
Day 4 Machu Picchu/Transfer to Cuzco
Day 5 Cuzco
Day 6 Cuzco/Lima
Day 7 Lima/Return to the U.S.

Plaza de Armas is the magnificent center of historic Cuzco.

Included Features

In Lima
- Two nights in the deluxe Casa Andina Private Collection Hotel, including a full breakfast.
- Day-room (Day 9) accommodations in the Casa Andina Private Collection Hotel.
- Private guided tour of Lima’s historic colonial district, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Visit the lively native market.

On board La Amatista
- Six-night cruise round trip from Nauta on the Amazon, Marañón and Pucate rivers and their tributaries and into the Amazon Natural Park.
- Comfortable, first-class accommodations with private bathroom facilities and air conditioning.
- Choice to stay overnight in a traditional tented camp in the Amazon Natural Park or remain on board the ship.
- All meals aboard ship served in single seatings.
- Naturalist-led small boat excursions through flooded forests and blackwater rivers in search of exotic Amazonian wildlife.
- Nature walks through the virgin rainforest led by expert naturalists who emphasize the habitat’s unique flora and fauna.
- Walk among the giant ceiba trees on a raised walkway through the forest canopy.
- Specially arranged visit to an Amazon village to learn more about the traditional culture, history and customs of the indigenous ribereños.
- Floating picnic to watch for pink river dolphins.
- Excursion to see the fascinating Victoria amazonica giant water lilies.
- Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to plant a tree and make a lasting contribution to the preservation of the Amazon Basin’s endangered rainforest.
- Exclusive presentation by a Jíbaro shaman who will perform traditional spiritual rites and demonstrate ancient medicinal practices that are still commonly used today.
- Nighttime excursion to search for nocturnal animals, such as caiman and capybara.
- Opportunity to fish for exotic red-bellied piranha.

Enhanced Travel Services
- All transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants who have purchased their air tickets through Gohagan & Company and whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined in the itinerary, with experienced, English-speaking local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers in Lima.
- Experienced Travel Director to accompany you throughout the travel program.
- Hospitality desk in the hotels and aboard ship.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
Learn how generations of Amazon ribereños have lived in harmony with their unique environment.

**Early Booking Savings** - Reserve by August 9, 2012, and Save $2000 per couple!

**Land/Cruise Tariff**  
*(per person, based on double occupancy)*

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<th>Cabin Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>Regular Price August 9, 2012</th>
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<td>Two twin beds or one double bed (limited availability), First Deck.</td>
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<td>$4895</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>$4195</td>
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- Singles are available in cabin category B at $5395 and in cabin category A at $5695 on or before August 9, 2012. Add $1000 for reservations made after August 9, 2012.

- Taxes are an additional $90 per person and are subject to change.

**Amazon River Expedition Reservation Form**

Send to: Thomas P. Gohaghan & Company  
Eleven South LaSalle Street, Second Floor  
Chicago, IL 60603-1240  
Phone: (800) 922-3088/Fax: (312) 609-1141

Or, for more information, please call the MSU Alumni Association at (888) 697-2863.

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<td>Preferred name(s) on badge(s) &lt;br&gt;Tour No. 153-02/01/13-063</td>
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Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley Post-Tour Option. By forwarding of deposit, you accept and agree to the Terms and Conditions:

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $______ as deposit. Make checks payable to 2013 Amazon River Expedition.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $______ to:<br>  - Visa  - MasterCard
- Card Number <br>Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by October 29, 2012.

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:

- 1st Choice ____ 2nd Choice ____
- Double occupancy (one double bed).
- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley Post-Tour Option

- Double at $2395 per person.
- Single at $2995 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

- I/We want you to book my/our air from

  (fill in departure city)

to Lima, Peru, with return from Lima, Peru, at additional cost to be advised.†

- Economy Class
- Business Class
- First Class

†Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
Listen for the sounds of red and black bower monkeys reverberating through the rainforest canopy.

CONTRACT: TERMS & CONDITIONS. IMPORTANT READ CAREFULLY.

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip, including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity of any third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, sickness, illness, the lack of availability of or access to appropriate medical attention, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart on time.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any member as a participant on these trips at any time. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel/cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Gohagan is not responsible therefore and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, but not limited to, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.

NOT INCLUDED: Taxes; passport, visa and associated fees; those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan or in writing, accident/sickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; gratuities to ship personnel, naturalists and hotel personnel; optional sightseeing excursions; baggage charges on aircraft; local departure air/airport tax(es); airfare and associated local taxes, airport facility and security surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical fitness that may require special medical attention or physical assistance for handling equipment.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by August 9, 2012. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the subbooking through 120 days prior to departure; from 93 through 119 days prior to departure, $600 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 45 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 44 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication. All rates, taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the “Included Features” section of the brochure; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel/ship on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you have not purchased your international air arrangements through Gohagan or if you are arriving earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight on land due to flight schedule(s); meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all other services not specifically mentioned in the “Included Features” section.

AIRFARE: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current luggage allowance policy.

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to these Terms and Conditions, the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent.

The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms and conditions of this contract.

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