



## Brief Panama: Panama City, the Canal and Punta Caracol



Panama Canal

Built over the Caribbean Sea, along a mile long coral reefed coast, Punta Caracol is constructed using the traditional methods of the Archipelago: each handsomely crafted cabin is built upon stilts which support a wooden frame over the water and covered by a palm leaf roof – an unforgettable habitat congruent with the native communities of the region.

Punta Caracol was born out of the idea of creating an Acqua-Lodge in a totally virgin and natural environment. The idea is to offer guests a pure and intimate experience with nature in a place of singular beauty where they can relax in comfort.

Panama Canal Transit Market operates only on Saturdays, so ideal start date for this trip is Friday. This can be modified to suit your schedule by rearranging the itinerary, your travel consultant will prepare a customized itinerary for you. We offer a choice of 3, 4, 5-star and deluxe accommodations. The deluxe option includes The Panama Canal House in Panama City and the master suite at Punta Caracol Acqua Lodge.

This tour includes airfare allowance from Miami (US), on non-holiday dates. You do not need to fly via Miami; Yampu will fly you the most direct way to your city of destination. Depending on your travel dates and proximity of travel, we will quote you the most economical surcharge from your city or country of origin.

## Pricing

| Occupancy Type     | 3-Star  | 4-Star  | 5-Star  | Deluxe  |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Double Low Season  | \$ 3605 | \$ 3685 | \$ 4123 | \$ 4799 |
| Single Low Season  | \$ 5422 | \$ 5584 | \$ 5951 | \$ 7096 |
| Double High Season | \$ 4028 | \$ 4109 | \$ 4608 | \$ 5092 |
| Single High Season | \$ 5987 | \$ 6148 | \$ 6828 | \$ 7559 |

Prices shown above are per person, in US Dollars (\$).



Punta Caracol



Punta Caracol Acqua Lodge

## Itinerary

### Day 1

Panama City

Day flight to Panama City. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel.

### Day 2

Panama City – Panama Canal

(Only Saturdays) After breakfast, transfer to Flamenco Marina for our Panama Canal Partial transit check-in. At this point, you will depart to Gamboa Town (Panama Canal Mid-section) by bus (45 minutes transfer). Upon your arrival to Gamboa Dredging Division, you will start your excursion through Gatun Lake located at 85 feet about sea level. You will be passing by Gaillard Cut also known as Culebra Cut because its curves resemble a snake and is one of the main points of interest for visitors because it was carved through the Continental Divide.

Once at Gatun Lake you will sail through at the north end of the Gaillard Cut 13.7 kilometers on the way to Pedro Miguel Locks. In addition, you will observe the brand new construction among the Panama Canal, the Centennial Bridge, and then the boat will start to be lowered 27 feet in Pedro Miguel Locks and then enter Miraflores Lake, which is a small artificial body of fresh water that separates Pedro Miguel from Miraflores Locks. Next, the Pacific Queen will enter Miraflores Locks, where the boat will be lowered the last 54 feet until reach the Pacific Ocean. You will be passing under the Bridge of the Americas and will be able to admire the Bay of Panama and Panama City's splendorous skyline. The boat will disembark at Flamenco Marina where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

NOTE: this is a southbound transit. In some occasions the transit will done the way around.

### Day 3

Panama City– Bocas del Toro

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Bocas Del Toro. Upon arrival, the staff of Punta Caracol Acqua Lodge will be awaiting for you to take you by boat to this amazing lodge, traveling through small canals, passing local communities and mangroves, while enjoying the colors of the Caribbean Sea. You will arrive to Punta Caracol Acqua Lodge and will have the afternoon free to relax or to participate in any of the lodge's activities including fishing, snorkeling, scuba diving, jungle hiking, Kayaking or surfing. In the evening, dinner in a candlelight setting will be served at our restaurant.

### Day 4

Bocas del Toro

Depart early in the morning to Isla Colon and from this point, we will start an adventure around the one of the most beautiful Archipelagos around the Caribbean. You will be impressed of the crystal clear waters that surround these islands and will fall in love with the Caribbean culture of its inhabitants. You will visit "Dolphin Bay" during this tour, which is the main spot for dolphin watching.

The adventure will continue with the visit to Coral Cay, which is a lovely reef with lots of fish, corals and lobsters. Coral Cay has a rustic wooden-made restaurant on the sea, where you can delight the real Bocas Del Toro homemade seafood. After enjoying the delicious Bocas cuisine, you may jump out from your table to the sea and do snorkeling. Later, after a little walk in the middle of the jungle you will find one of the most

beautiful and largest beaches in Bocas del Toro's Archipelago: The Red Frog Beach. Its name comes from this rare frog species: Dendrobates Pumilio which is abundant in this place.

## Day 5

Punta Caracol in Bocas del Toro

Day at leisure to enjoy of the many optional activities the lodge has to offer. This activities include: visiting some of the most exotic and isolated virgin beaches located in the different Islands of the Archipelago, snorkeling at the Coral Reefs of the bay to see lots different kind of corals, tropical fishes and starfish, boat rides through the Island visiting Indian Communities, hiking in the rainforest to see the flora and fauna, motorized Canoe River Trips to search the slots and the white face monkeys, boat tours to meet dolphins in their natural living area or visiting Boca's town to buy some handcraft and admire its afro Caribbean colonial architecture style. You can also choose to stay in your terrace and read a good book while enjoying the breathtaking landscape.

## Day 6

Punta Caracol in Bocas del Toro

Day at leisure to enjoy of the many optional activities the lodge has to offer or just relax and stay in your terrace reading a good book while enjoying the breathtaking landscape.

## Day 7

Bocas del Toro – Panama City

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to Panama City and then connect with your flight back home.

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## Price includes:

Prices include international airfare from Miami to Panama round, domestic airfare from Panama City to Bocas del Toro, accommodation including daily continental breakfast and dinner, tours in English, all transfers between airports and hotels with assistance and baggage handling. Local airport taxes that are payable in the country of destination are not included. Taxes and security fees that can be paid at time of ticketing are already included in the quote (if airfare has been included in the quote).

Full Canal Transit Tour Dates (10 hours – \$58 surcharge):

2011: August 20 / September 17 / October 15 / November 19 / December 17

2012: January 14/ January 21 / February 11 / February 18 / March 10 / March 17 / April 21 / May 19 / June 16 / July 21 / August 18 / September 15 / October 20 / November 17 / December 15