



JUNGLE GUIDE COURSE (WGA Level II)



SURAMA, GUYANA
31st October-20th November,
2023

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JUNGLE GUIDE COURSE

This experience will start in Georgetown, where the participants will learn how to prepare for an expedition when arriving to a new country. This is one of the most neglected lessons of expedition courses as arrival and getting to location often is one of the biggest risks but as well as most complicated tasks. We will go shopping, talk about safety in capitals, who to speak to and how to safely get around.

The first part of this course will start in Rock Landing, the basecamp where you will get the theory and practical experience on the fundamentals of jungle life, safety and survival. This will prepare you for the second part of the training.

By taking people away from the comforts of Rock Landing, taking away amenities and putting them in more and more primitive settings until they are left with just a belt kit, a machete, a bow and arrow, and a few other tools to survive for 2 days on their own. Once the survival training is done we will have a short preparation phase and then the group will head out for the mountain expedition. Here the members will be taking care of various roles on the expedition team in a rotational system. They have already learned the fundamentals, but here we put it into the system of a team as a whole and the various roles will every day have to attend the tasks and jobs such as leadership, planning, running camp, appointing jobs and overseeing the medical fitness and capabilities of the team.





JUNGLE GUIDE COURSE

Surama community and background

The village and community of Surama is on a land owned by Amerindians. It is on a small piece of Savannah surrounded by rainforest in the North Rupununi district and can be reached by travelling to Lethem by the Brazilian border and then overland via 4x4 taking approximately 5 hours or, alternatively, by direct flight from Ogle airport taking 60 min. It is one of the best accesses to primary rainforest in Guyana, accessible all year round, and holds one of the largest diversities of wildlife.

The village is predominantly inhabited by the Makushi and Arawak tribes, who live in small households spread out all over the village's title land. The villagers live predominantly from tourism, traditional hunting, fishing, and agriculture.

By north and west, it shares boundaries with the Iwokrama protected area, the largest protected area in Guyana; by east, the foothills of the Pakaraima mountains; and by south, the most northern part of the Rupununi Savannah. Close by the village runs the Burro Burro River, which is a river that can be navigated with engine boats and runs from its source in the Pakaraima Mountains to the Essequibo River, Guyana's largest and longest river.

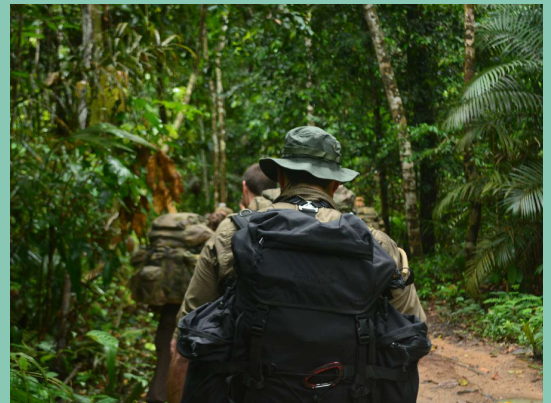




LEARNING OBJECTIVES

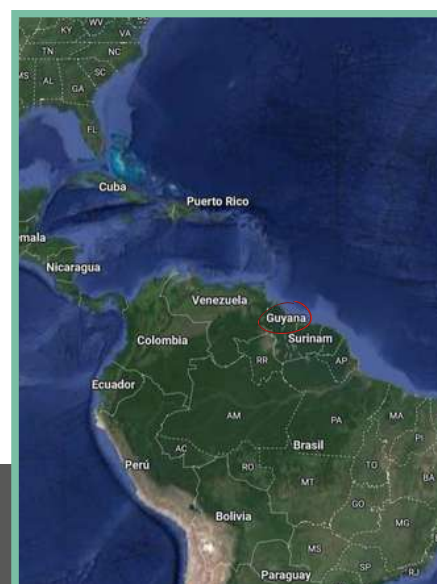
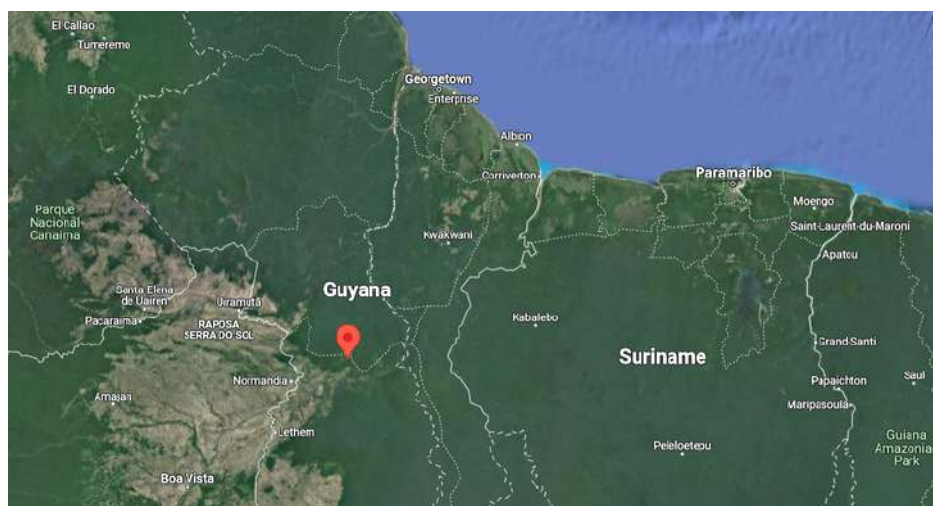
04

- 01** Survival and other outdoor skills relevant to specific Jungle environments
- 02** Push your comfort zone and deepen your own connection to nature
- 03** Awareness and consciousness on personal growth
- 04** Natural leadership and self-care
- 05** Transmission of sustainable practices to minimize environmental impacts
- 06** Understanding of participant's behavior and apply leadership techniques efficiently in order to manage group dynamics
- 07** Plan, evaluate risks and execute multi day activities in Jungle environments
- 08** Hunting, tracking, navigation, camping and wildlife observation in Jungle environments
- 09** Live a full and intense, once in a life time, Jungle immersion experience





WHERE?



COURSE DETAILS



Language of course:
English



Minimum requirements:
Strong motivation, physically
in shape, level B2 of English



**Minimum/maximum of
participants:**
8/12



Payment deadline:
15th of September, 2023

**Confirmation/cancellation
date:** September 1st, 2023



Part 1. Online preparation:
10th of October, 2023

**Part 2. WG level 1 -
Jungle Environments**
6th - 13th of November,
2023

**Part 3. WG level -
Jungle Environments**
14th - 26th of November,
2023



COURSE STRUCTURE

JUNGLE ENVIRONMENTS (WG1 Module 4)

ONLINE TRAINING

DAY 1



Emergency plan and risk assessment



GEORGETOWN - EXPEDITION PREPARATION

DAY
2-3



The first night we meet each other and there will be a formal brief of the plan for the course. Formal introduction to the capital city, Georgetown, and learning how being in an area like this should be handled with expedition teams: safety, shopping, local interaction.



CULTURAL IMMERSION - INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

DAY 4



Travel in a small prop plane to the little village of Surama (or to Lethem and then drive to Surama). Ethics in indigenous communities and culturally sensitive settings. Basic introduction to safety and hiking in the jungle.



THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL FOUNDATION - LANDING ROCK BASE CAMP

DAYS
5-9



Introduction camp, hygiene, facilities, timings, rules and safety in the jungle. Tropical diseases, priorities of survival, machete course, dangers and hazards of the flora and fauna. Starting a fire, getting clean drinking water, setting up hammock systems, using machetes, bows, arrows, and fishing kit, making Yari Yari bait fishing rod, Cukrite worm from palm nuts, nightspotting (meeting the nocturnal animals), traps in the jungle, making a bamboo pot, improvised torch. Survival psychology, the dangers and hazards of the jungle, and wildlife knowledge.



JUNGLE ENVIRONMENTS - WG Level 2

DEEP JUNGLE AND INTRODUCTION TO EXPEDITION LIFE

DAYS
10-11



Camp setting and maintenance. Learn to build expedition camp, making bush latrines, getting water and firewood, and making sure that we effectively live and thrive in the jungle, hygiene. We will practice how to make a shelter, basic navigation skills and more advanced fishing methods, smoking and preserving meat, cook what you catch, tracking of animals. Safety and protocol in place for the solo survival experience.



SURVIVAL EXPERIENCE

DAYS
12-14



You will be left alone to survive for 2 days, until rescue arrives, with only a few and carefully selected tools allowed, such as a machete, bow and arrow, water bottle, fire kit, and fishing kit. You will have to make your shelter and fire, and establish routines that ensure that you can get water to drink and fish to eat. The battle of the mind and the long nights will truly show what you are capable of. *Can you make it work? Do you have what it takes to survive the jungle?* During the second day, the rescue team will come and save you! The team will then move back to the safety camp and the team members will relax and recover from the experience on the third day.



MOUNTAIN EXPEDITION TRAINING

DAYS
15-19



Team roles will be rotated during the expedition's days: you will have to attend the tasks such as leadership, planning, running camp, appointing jobs and overseeing the medical fitness and capabilities of the team. You will practice basic jungle navigation, river crossings, how to choose the campground for the night. Communication while on expedition. Daily debrief in camp with special focus on challenges to overcome and reflections on how to adapt. We will end back at Surama Eco lodge. After arriving and a break, we will start breaking down equipment, drying it, and storing it in Surama, as part of the equipment maintenance learning process.



BACK TO GEORGETOWN - DEPARTURE

DAYS
20-21



Final night out in town. Next day, departure home.





COURSE STRUCTURE

This Wilderness Guide level 2 is only accessible after completion of the Wilderness Guide Level 1 course (first 3 modules + 28 days of practical period). On some occasions we can allow students to access it without Level 1, a clear summary of experience and personal motivation would need to be provided and will be carefully evaluated. In this case, the official EWES certification of Level 2 can only be issued if the Level 1 is completed in a later stage. Please contact us for more information.

Wilderness Guide course - Core modules

WG Level 1 - MODULE 1	THEORY 5 days - 50 hours +8 hrs online introduction Alta Garrotxa, Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural leadership Risk management Equipment Nutrition Wilderness ecology and nature conservation Business development Navigation Expedition planning 	
WG Level 1 - MODULE 2	WILDERNESS ADVANCED FIRST AID (WAFA) 5 days - 50 hours Alta Garrotxa, Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilisation, treatment and evacuation guidelines Accident scene management Basic life support systems First aid related to environmental threats Musculoskeletal system Evacuation procedures Wilderness medicine & medical kits 	
WG Level 1 - MODULE 3	WILDERNESS GUIDE & SURVIVAL INTRODUCTION 7 days - 84 hours Vall de Madriu, Andorra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mountain navigation Shelter building Axe and knife handling Firemaking Tracking Wildlife observation Group dynamics Personal development and natural leadership 	
WG Level 1 - MODULE 4	ELECTIVE MODULE (only one is obligatory) 7 days - 84 hours Environment specific	 	PRACTICAL PERIOD WG Level 1 REQUIRES THE COMPLETION OF A PRACTICAL PERIOD OF 28 DAYS: 6 days of preparation/planning 22 days in the field with a WGA certified guide (at least 50 % of the time) Required to obtain the WG1 certification

WG1 - Elective modules

WG Level 2	COLD ENVIRONMENTS MODULE 7 days - 84 hours Vercors or Pyrenees, France	
WG Level 2	ARID ENVIRONMENTS MODULE 7 days - 84 hours Doñana National Park, Spain	
WG Level 2	WILDLIFE & TRACKING MODULE 7 days - 84 hours Tarcu Mountains, Romania	
WG Level 2	JUNGLE ENVIRONMENTS MODULE Included in WG - Level 2 Surama, Cuyana	

WG - Level 2

WG Level 2	ARCTIC ENVIRONMENTS 21 days Sarek National Park, Sweden	
WG Level 2	DESERT ENVIRONMENTS 21 days To Be Confirmed	
WG Level 2	WILDLIFE & TRACKING 21 days To Be Confirmed	
WG Level 2	JUNGLE ENVIRONMENTS 21 days Surama, Cuyana	





COURSE INVESTMENT

Course fee:
4.850 € per person

Services included:

- ALL LODGING: 21 Days / 20 Nights (2 nights hotel in Georgetown, 2 nights at Eco lodge, 16 nights in the jungle)
- ALL MEALS (except in Georgetown): 51 meals (17 Breakfast, 17 Lunch, 17 Dinner)
- DOMESTIC FLIGHT from Georgetown to Rupununi
- ALL TRANSFERS in Rupununi (4x4/Bus Lethem – Surama return)
- BOAT TRANSPORTATION (jungle survival and expedition, 10 days)
- JUNGLE EQUIPMENT (see what to bring and what is given below)
 - All group jungle kit
 - Topographic maps for expedition
 - Expendables such as fishing equipment, arrows, bows, machetes etc.
- TAXES: community fee and taxes
- CREW: all guides, captains, bowman, cooks (up to 8 over 18 days)
- All in-country preparations (done in advance)
- All in-country purchases
- TRAINING CAMP: stay at Rock Landing training base
- SAFETY:
 - Garmin inreach and handheld radios
 - Medical kit
 - Safety vehicle standby in Surama throughout the stay

Not included:

- International airfare
- Meals in the capital (Georgetown)
- Taxi from airport to the capital (cost approx. \$70 each way)
- Alcohol
- Excess luggage for domestic flight (25 lbs allowance)
- Tips for guides (is paid collectively to one portion and shared equally among guides)
- Personal travel insurance (will have to be sent in advance)
- Cost of medical clearance (if needed)
- Malaria prophylaxis (consult personal doctor)
- Anything not mentioned in the document



WHAT WE WILL PROVIDE FOR THE COURSE (1/2):

Hammock	Lightweight, with a built-in mosquito net.
Basha/Tarp	To keep the rain off.
Rucksack	You can bring your own or we will provide it. It needs to be robust and big enough to carry your gear plus group stores. A 75 Liter pack is fine.
Belt kit	PLCE belt to carry a machete, fish kit, fire kit, water bottle, etc.
Iodine:	1 x 20ml bottle of iodine droplets. Do not bring anything else including iodine tablets unless you have an allergy or other such medical problem with iodine.
Blanket	We will provide a lightweight sleeping bag. If you do have your own, please feel free to bring it along, but it must be very small and lightweight.
Hydration bag	They hold 2 or 3 liters. It means you can sip water on the move.
Canoe Bag	To line your rucksack and keep the contents dry during river crossings etc
Machete/knife	With leather sheath
Bow and Arrow	Locally made bow and arrow
Dry bags	Water-resistant bags you use to compartmentalize your kit within your rucksack.
Eating kit	Mess tin and spoon.

Machete and bow and arrow can be bought after the course for 150 USD





WHAT WE WILL PROVIDE FOR THE COURSE (2/2):

Sleeping mat	For powdering your feet under your basha and the likes
Compass/Whistle:	Silva type, marked in degrees and or mils + orange emergency whistle.
Safety kit:	As needed and includes lifejackets, comms kit, med kit, rope, etc.
Miscellaneous kit:	We will provide all sorts of odds and ends like ziplock bags, duct tape, extra string, fishing kit, etc.

If you have some of this kit yourself and wish to bring it as you are more comfortable with it then fine, bring it.

Please keep your kit to the minimum and as light as possible. Some of the small planes will not take off if you bring the kitchen sink, so it will be left behind. All the gear you bring with you should weigh no more than 10kg.

The provided gear is a rental packages included in the course price and would to be returned after the course. In case you are interested to bring the personal package bow, arrow and machete back home with you this has an additional price of 150USD, You can decide on this after completing the course.



Surama Eco Lodge



THE LOCAL TEAM

Anders Andersen - Senior survival instructor and expedition leader



Anders has spent the last 10 years working in remote and austere environments across the world. His first experience was back in Guyana where he started guiding trips into the Kanuku Mountains and later got involved in the British Bushmasters UK as survival instructor. Later, he became a consultant for TV productions, working with health, safety, logistics, and advice for tropical environments. He has personally worked in Ethiopia, the Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Brazil, Suriname, and Iceland, among other places, and has planned and overseen safety on several large expeditions, including the first ascent of Guyana's largest river, Essequiobe, from source to sea and the first crossing of the Kanuku Mountains from east to west.

Lionel James - Senior survival instructor and expedition leader



Born and raised in Surama village Lionel started his life following his parents out they bled natural rubber from the famous Balata tree. Later, as tourism started, Lionel got involved in Bushmasters UK where he quickly became Senior survival instructor and was leading expeditions independently with his colleagues from Surama. Lionel have worked on countless TV productions as survival and environmental expert and even starred in a life swap program where he exchanged life with a British citizen for a month

Vivian Smith - Expedition leader



From Rewa village deep inside the jungle, Vivian has been working with tourism since he was a teenager. His village is known for its great fishing for river monsters and access to remote jungles. Vivian was a member of the 2021 Kanuku Mountain Crossing team, which traveled over 420 kilometers over land in virgin forest, and has also worked on a variety of TV productions as a tropical expert and team leader.



PROJECT PARTNERS

European Wilderness Education School (EWES)

We believe all life on earth is connected. We are one. . . we are nature. We are co-creating a world in which all beings are connected to everyone and everything. We do this by creating experiences of being and learning in nature and inspiring to lead and live from that wisdom. The experience of our guides and experts allow us to explore to the edge within a caring and empowering environment and the best safety standards framework. After fifteen years learning, growing and evolving, EWES has transformed into an intentional community of purpose driven, committed, passionate individuals who thrive in the knowledge, a continuous pursuit for genuine growth and evolution targeting health, awareness, and most of all joy for life. Association EWES is a training institute certified by the Wilderness Guides Association (WGA) and accredited by the Institute of Professional Education of La Pobla de Segur in Catalunya.



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The Wild Tales



The Wild Tales is a Extreme adventure company making Survival courses, Expeditions and TV productions in the rainforest of Guyana, South America. With a team of Indigenous guides and international instructors and expedition leaders we embark on some of the wildest adventures the jungle has to offer. From one of the most intimate jungle survival courses, that leaves participants to survive by themselves. To expeditions deep in to uncharted terrain in the search for rare animals, archaeological sites or mountain peaks. When we are not out exploring we work as consultants and on ground under many known survival challenges and adventure TV productions covering safety, logistics and local knowledge. Join us to explore one of the most remote corners of the world, accompanied by our colleagues from indigenous communities across this amazing country.

www.thewildtales.com



WE ARE

Creating experiences of Being and learning in nature

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Dare to join us on that wonderful journey. . .



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CONTACT INFORMATION EWES

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In collaboration with:

