

Peru and the Amazon Rain Forest

Bartlett, R.D., & Bartlett, P. **Reptiles and Amphibians of the Amazon.** University Press of Florida, 2003. Guide to more than 250 reptiles and amphibians common to the Amazonian regions of Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, and Colombia. Photos accompany text that describes appearance, range, size and color, and lists similar species. Paperback, 448 pgs.

Bates, Henry Walter. **The Naturalist on the River Amazons.** The Narrative Press, 2002. Charles Darwin encouraged Bates to write this book about his 11-year experience exploring and collecting insects in the Amazon Basin. Paperback, 432 pgs.

Beaver, Paul. **Diary of an Amazon Jungle Guide: Amazing Encounters with Tropical Nature and Culture.** AE Publications, 2008. A personal account of the natural history and culture of the western Amazon by scientist, explorer and conservationist Paul Beaver. Paperback, 313 pgs.

Carson, W., & Schnitzer, S. (Eds.). **Tropical Forest Community Ecology.** Wiley-Blackwell, 2008. Covers patterns of species distribution, maintenance of species diversity, the community ecology of tropical animals, forest regeneration and conservation of tropical ecosystems, with contributions from some of the world's leading tropical ecologists. Paperback, 536 pgs.

Castner, James. **Amazon Insects: A Photo Guide.** Feline Press, 2000. A guide to commonly encountered insects of the Amazon Basin, with 200 color photos. Each species gets a portrait and accompanying text, including a brief description in Spanish. Paperback, 160 pgs.

Castner, James. **Explorama's Amazon: A Journey Through The Rainforest Of Peru.** Feline Press, 2000. Info about the forest, its flora and fauna, local and indigenous peoples, and facilities. More than 160 color photos grace the pages of what many will consider a coffee table book. Paperback, 184 pgs.

Castner, J.L., Timme, S.L., & Duke, J.A. **A Field Guide to Medicinal and Useful Plants of the Upper Amazon.** Feline Press, 1998. A color guide that identifies and describes more than 120 species of plants found in the Amazon Basin. In addition to plants of strict medicinal use, other species of cultural and agricultural importance are discussed. Paperback, 154 pgs.

Comiskey, J.A., & Dallmeier, F. (Eds.). **Forest Biodiversity in North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.** CRC Press, 1998. The second of two high-level, data-rich volumes documenting the latest findings on forest biodiversity. Hardcover, 792 pgs.

Coningham, John. **Walking the Jungle: An Adventurer's Guide to the Amazon.** Burford Books, 2003. Firsthand knowledge of how to prepare for a trip to the Amazon. Info on bird species, dangerous animals and necessary gear. Paperback, 250 pgs.

Corneio, F., & Janovec, J. **Seeds of Amazonian Plants.** Princeton Field Guides. Princeton University Press, 2010. Provides descriptions of seeds, habitat, trunk, bark, leaves, infructescence and fruit; features 750 color photos; covers 544 genera and 131 families; includes seed identification key; compact, portable. Paperback, 192 pgs.

Davis, Wade. **One River: Explorations and Discoveries in the Amazon Rain Forest.** Simon & Schuster, 1997. Two interwoven tales of scientific adventure explore the Amazon Basin, bearing witness to the destruction of its indigenous culture and natural wonders. Paperback, 544 pgs.

Emmons, L., & Feer, F. **Neotropical Rainforest Mammals.** University of Chicago Press, 1997. Illustrated field guide to 226 species, with 195 maps showing the distribution and geographic range of each. Includes info on identifying characteristics, similar species, vocalizations, behavior, natural history, geographic range, conservation status and more. Paperback, 396 pgs.

Forrest, John. **Peru.** Culture Smart! Series. Kuperard, 2012. Charts the rapid changes taking place, and describes how history and geography have shaped contemporary Peruvian values and attitudes. Provides insights into religious, public, and private life. Paperback, 168 pgs.

Forsyth, Adrian. **Nature of the Rainforest: Costa Rica and Beyond.** Cornell University Press, 2008. Discuss biodiversity, coevolution, rarity, chemical defense, nutrient cycling, and camouflage. Four chapters devoted to specific habitats and regions of Costa Rica and Peru. Paperback, 200 pgs.

Forsyth, A., & Miyata, K. **Tropical Nature: Life and Death in the Rain Forests of Central and South America.** Charles Scribner's Sons, 1987. Covers habitats, ecology, plants and animals of the Central and South American rainforest. Offers travel advice. Paperback, 248 pgs.

Gentry, Alwyn H. **A Field Guide to the Families and Genera of Woody Plants of Northwest South America.** University of Chicago Press, 1996. One of the world's top experts on tropical plants, Gentry filled this guide with illustrations and step-by-step keys to identification, focusing on characters that are present year-round, including bark, leaves and odor. Paperback, 920 pgs.

Goulding, M., Barthem, R., & Ferreira, E. **The Smithsonian Atlas of the Amazon.** Smithsonian Books, 2003. A comprehensive view of the Amazon River and its 13 major tributaries. Includes over 150 color maps and nearly 300 photos of the river and rainforest. Discusses why we all should be concerned about deforestation and the loss of biodiversity. Hardcover, 256 pgs.

Hecht, S.B., & Cockburn, A. **The Fate of the Forest: Developers, Destroyers, and Defenders of the Amazon.** University of Chicago Press, 2011. Explores the role of humans in destroying, and saving, this vast, forested region. Centers on Chico Mendes, the labor and environmental organizer assassinated after successful confrontations with big ranchers. Paperback, 408 pgs.

Hemming, John. **Tree of Rivers: The Story of the Amazon.** Thames & Hudson, 2009. Recalls the adventures and misadventures of explorers, Jesuit ecclesiastics, 19th century botanists and greedy rubber barons. Discusses current threats and efforts taking place to utilize, protect and understand the Amazon. Paperback, 368 pgs.

Hicks, N., Carrasco, D., & Whitwam, L. (Photographers). **Peru.** DK Travel, 2012. Provides insider tips, with listings of hotels, restaurants and shops. Covers all major areas from Lima and the Amazon Basin to Canyon Country and the Northern Desert. Explores culture, history and architecture. Paperback, 352 pgs.

Hoorn, C., & Wesselingh, F. (Eds.). **Amazonia: Landscape and Species Evolution**. Wiley-Blackwell, 2010. Focuses on geological history as the critical factor in determining the present biodiversity and landscapes of Amazonia. Hardcover, 464 pgs.

Jenkins, Dilwyn. **The Rough Guide to Peru**. Rough Guides, 2012. Expert info on everything from hiking the Inca Trail and wildlife-spotting in the Amazon, to shopping for souvenirs. A travel guide with clear maps and detailed coverage of all regions. Paperback, 608 pgs.

Kricher, John. **A Neotropical Companion**. Princeton University Press, 1999. An introduction to Central and South America, their remarkable rainforests and other ecosystems, and the animals that live there. Includes chapters on Neotropical ecosystems, human ecology, and the effects of deforestation. Biodiversity and its preservation are discussed throughout. Paperback, 451 pgs.

London, M., & Kelly, B. **The Last Forest: The Amazon in the Age of Globalization**. Random House, 2007. A series of startling human encounters - interviews with government ministers and environmental crusaders, millionaire ranchers and disenfranchised slum dwellers - chronicle the transformation of the Amazon Basin. Hardcover, 336 pgs.

Lowman, Margaret. **Life in the Treetops: Adventures of a Woman in Field Biology**. Yale University Press, 2000. Lowman describes her challenges as a working wife, single parent, and field biologist studying forest canopies around the world. Paperback, 240 pgs.

Lowman, M., & Rinker, H.B. **Forest Canopies**. Academic Press, 2004. Represents a synthesis of data, anecdotes, case studies, observations, and recommendations from nearly 60 scientists and educators from around the world who look at the biodiversity, ecology, evolution, and conservation of forest canopy ecosystems. Hardcover, 544 pgs.

Lowman, M., Burgess, J., Burgess, E., & Prance, G. **It's a Jungle Up There: More Tales from the Treetops**. Yale University Press, 2008. Recounts the adventures of Lowman and her 2 sons, in remote parts of the world, from the perspectives of both kids and parent. Their explorations and discoveries nurture a family ethic for conservation. Paperback, 320 pgs.

Lowman, M., Schowalter, T., & Franklin, J. **Methods in Forest Canopy Research**. University of California Press, 2012. A comprehensive overview of methods for reaching the canopy, and the best ways to measure how the canopy, atmosphere and forest floor interact. Addresses how to replicate experiments in challenging environments. Hardcover, 240 pgs.

Lowman, M., Devy, S., & Ganesh, T. (Eds.). **Treetops at Risk: Challenges of Global Canopy Ecology and Conservation**. Springer, 2013. Human activities are degrading forests and threatening biodiversity at an accelerated rate. This book examines past accomplishments and future initiatives that are critical to forest conservation. Hardcover, 464 pgs.

Matthiessen, Peter. **The Cloud Forest: A Chronicle of the South American Wilderness**. Penguin Books, 1987. Matthiessen crisscrossed 10,000 miles of the South American wilderness, following the trails of old explorers. He encountered river bandits, tribesmen, the evidence of ancient ruins, and discovered fossils in the depths of the Peruvian jungle. Paperback, 288 pgs.

Millard, Candice. **The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey.** Anchor, 2006. An account of Roosevelt's harrowing attempt to descend an unmapped tributary of the Amazon, resulting in a series of hardships: lost canoes and supplies, starvation, disease, drowning, and murder. Three men died, and Roosevelt was brought to the brink of suicide. Paperback, 432 pgs.

Miranda, C., Waterson, L., McCarthy, C., Sainsbury, B., & Raub, K. **Discover Peru.** Lonely Planet, 2013. Travel guide to the best sights and experiences. Discover Lima's cuisine, fly over Nazca lines, walk on a floating island of reeds, explore Machu Picchu, spot exotic wildlife in the Amazon, and more. Paperback, 368 pgs.

Montgomery, Sy. **Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest.** Chelsea Green Publishing, 2009. Takes readers on four separate journeys, exploring the river-dwelling dolphins' natural history, chronicling their conservation pressures, unraveling their prehistoric roots, and visiting with shamans who delve into the Encante, an underwater world. Paperback, 253 pgs.

Orin, S., Degregori, I., & Kirk, R. **The Peru Reader: History, Culture, Politics.** Duke University Press, 2005. Covers Peru's history from its pre-Columbian civilizations to the 21st century. Presents essays, folklore, historical documents, poetry, etc., by Peruvian intellectuals, politicians, peasants, street vendors, maids, and Amazonian Indians alike. Paperback, 600 pgs.

Pearson, D.L., & Beletsky, L.D. **Peru.** Travellers' Wildlife Guides. Interlink Books, 2004. Contains all the information you need to find, identify, and learn about Peru's magnificent animal and plant life. Paperback, 492 pgs.

Plotkin, Mark. **Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice.** Penguin Books, 1994. An ethnobotanist recounts his time with Amazonian shamans, telling of rituals, curare (lethal arrow poison) and the hallucinogenic snuff that permits communication with the spirit world. Shares his concern for the erosion of our environment and the culture of native peoples. Paperback, 328 pgs.

Restall, R., Rodner, C., & Lentino, M. **Birds of Northern South America: An Identification Guide.** Volume 2. Yale University Press, 2007. Designed for use in the field, providing detailed accounts of every known bird species from Ecuador to French Guiana, with maps and info about specific marks, habitat and behavior. Paperback, 656 pgs.

Roth, I., & Lindorf, H. **South American Medicinal Plants.** Springer, 2002. Lists a variety of South American flora, with a focus on Venezuela. Covers 80-plus plant families, with botanical info of individual species and their use in South American medicine. Hardcover, 492 pgs.

Russell, Tony. **The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Trees of the Americas.** Anness, 2005. A richly illustrated guide to the most beautiful, best-loved and popular trees of the USA, Canada, and Central and South America. Hardcover, 256 pgs.

Schaan, Denise P. **Sacred Geographies of Ancient Amazonia: Historical Ecology of Social Complexity.** Left Coast Press, 2013. Explores new evidence of large-scale land and resource management to tell a new history of ancient indigenous Amazonia. Contributes to the study of human-environment relations of past and present indigenous societies. Paperback, 233 pages.

Schulenberg, T.S., Stotz, D.F., Lane, D.F., O'Neill, J.P. **Birds of Peru**. Princeton University Press, 2010. This comprehensive field guide features every one of Peru's 1,817 bird species and shows the distinct plumages of each in high-quality color plates opposite concise descriptions and distribution maps, making this book easier to use in the field. Paperback, 664 pgs.

Smith, Nigel J.H. **The Amazon River Forest: A Natural History of Plants, Animals, and People**. Oxford University Press, 1999. Explores the ecological, cultural, and socioeconomic issues surrounding animal husbandry, domestication of game, annual cropping, agroforestry, and the gathering of forest products. Paperback, 208 pgs.

Smith, N., Mori, S., Henderson, A., Stevenson, D., & Heald, S. (Eds.). **Flowering Plants of the Neotropics**. Princeton University Press, 2003. Covers 280-plus families of plants, ranging from Mexico's deserts to the lowland rainforests of Amazonia. Describes features, diversity, distribution, habitat, classification, botany, history and economic uses. Hardcover, 680 pgs.

Stafford, Ed. **Walking the Amazon: 860 Days. One Step at a Time**. Plume, 2012. In 2008, Stafford set off to become the first man to walk the entire length of the Amazon, starting on the Pacific coast of Peru. On his 4,000-plus mile journey, he witnessed the devastation of deforestation firsthand, and the pressure on tribes due to loss of habitats. Paperback, 320 pgs.

Tomlinson, Henry Major. **The Sea and the Jungle**. Nabu Press, 2010. Encountering jungle villages and exotic flora and fauna (the meddlesome insects in particular attracted his attention), Tomlinson humorously recorded all he saw during his 2000-mile journey by steamship up the Amazon in 1909. Considered a masterpiece of travel literature. Paperback, 374 pgs.

Weisberger, Jonathon M. **Rainforest Medicine: Preserving Indigenous Science and Biodiversity in the Upper Amazon**. North Atlantic Books, 2013. In-depth essays on plant-based medicine and indigenous science, with a focus on ayahuasca, from four Amazonian societies: deep forest, urban, lowland rainforest and mountain. Paperback, 432 pgs.

Whitaker, Robert. **The Mapmaker's Wife**. Delta, 2004. An 18th century expedition to South America is launched by French scientists, one of whom falls in love with a Peruvian woman. This true story recounts the woman's quest to find her husband in the jungle, after a 20-year separation. Her survival in the Amazon remains unprecedented. Paperback, 353 pgs.