

WATERWAYS ADVENTURES

1.-PARÁ FALLS.-The Caura reserve is a fluvial system with dense forests, practically untouched by agricultural and other human commercial development because of its inaccessibility. As one of the most pristine ecosystems in South America, the Caura basin and its inhabitants remain a tantalizing mystery to conservation biologists. The lack of human activity in the region leads us to believe that the Caura is a thriving ecosystem that may contain many species unknown to Science and a beauty comparable only to other areas of the Orinoco-Amazon Basin. This documentary shows the trip to the Pará Falls, a little known spot in the Caura Reserve. About a dozen falls a hundred feet tall form a lagoon where the only noises we hear are those of the water and jungle around it. Fascinating landscapes of the river, jungles, islands, fauna of the region and indian villages makes it an unforgettable journey for the ecotourist seeking for adventures.

2.-MAGICAL AUTANA.-The mighty Orinoco River drains the Amazon region of Venezuela together with the rivers sweeping down through the unexplored jungles of the Guayana Shield highlands. "Amazonas" is the wildest and least populated region of the nation and perhaps the continent. To visit this region we leave civilization behind and enter the world of ancient Indigenous cultures, pristine rainforests and meandering rivers. Navigating upstream the Orinoco, the Sipapo and Autana rivers we meet a magical table top mountain, the Autana, the sacred "Tree of all the Fruits" of the Piaroa indians. We will travel along the meandering rivers to discover the wonders of the Amazonian forests, its jungles, its ancient indigenous cultures. We reach the Magical Autana after a 2 hour trekking to a sight seeing mountain in front of it. Also are shown a forest slide, an indian market, an indian cemetery, indian fishermen and finally..... rafting in the Orinoco.

3.-DIVING LOS ROQUES.-Los Roques is an archipelago of pristine coral islands located 100 miles east of Bonaire along the chain of the Lesser Antilles. The abundance and diversity of species in its waters is hardly surpassed by a handful of other Caribbean destinations and the healthy condition of the reefs are appreciated and mentioned in numerous chronicles, making it one of the most sought after places for scuba diving in the Caribbean. Los Roques has it all. Discover what the Caribbean was like 30 years ago. A week of diving adventure aboard the Antares Dancer shows us the pristine and healthy reefs, the varied and abundant fauna, lusty soft-coral forests, caves, and thousands, thousands of fishes. Discover the diving in Los Roques in a luxury liveaboard and enjoy the marine environments of this coralline atoll unique in the Caribbean. Outstanding video images of the undersea life of this little known spot for divers.

4.-THE GREAT FALLS.-(Kerepacupai-Merú) Forty five percent of Venezuelan territory lies southern the Orinoco, the Guiana Highlands, part of the Pre-Cambrian Shield which is one of the oldest rock formations in the Planet. This is a magnificent land of table mountains, sheer cliffs, and savannah uplands with immense rivers and thousands of waterfalls, among which is the highest in the world: Kerepacupai-Merú in indian language, best know as Angel Falls, the Great Falls. The Canaima National Park is the third largest in the world encompassing 12,000 square miles. The adventure starts in the Canaima lagoon with a dozen waterfalls coming down from the Carrao river highs. From there the expedition to Angel Falls takes place. We experience rushing rivers, peaceful savannas, dangerous rapids, immense massifs, lush vegetation, orchids and rare animals in this trip to the highest falls in the world at the end of the Journey.

5.-THE FLOW OF THE TIDES.- The Orinoco delta is a vast, intricate labyrinth of waterways weaving through a shimmering jungle to carry the waters of the Orinoco to the Atlantic Ocean. The Orinoco Delta was formed over the course of thousands of years as the mighty river has deposited millions of tons of sediment into the ocean. Only during the last century, some 400 square miles has been added to the delta, which continues to extend into the Atlantic at a rate over 100 feet per year over its entire 225 miles coastline. We will feel the flow of the tides, will encounter flooded jungles with a fauna and flora characteristics, piranha fishing, canoeing, a warao indian shaman ceremony, warao houses and handicrafts and a whole chapter of jungle wisdom lectured by a warao guide. Roots, trees, saps, leaves, barks, vines to cure diseases, to dig canoes, to make handicrafts, to communicate with people and much more.

6.-THE SOUL OF THE LLANOS.- The Orinoco Plains, the LLANOS, comprises almost 40% of Venezuelan territory, over 100.000 square miles, in the middle of the country, mostly north of the Orinoco. It is one of the greatest fauna reservoirs of South America, housing near 400 species of birds and many mammals including river dolphins, reptiles and hundreds of fishes. Through this documentary we will experience the lifestyle of the Llanos, its people and its vast Nature. We will be birdwatching and looking at other animals in rivers, plains and forests. Horse riding, fishing, river dolphins, the Casabe making, handmilkind, nightwatching, cattle operation and even a typical Fiesta Llanera (music and dance) with instruments and singers area among the events shown in the piece.

7.-THE BLUE PARADISE.-Sailing. Sunbathing, snorkeling, kayaking, surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, free diving, scuba diving, bonefishing, birds, mangroves, healthy reefs, splendid landscapes, unforgettable sunsets..... a different kind of vacation, a different way of enjoying life, all what you dreamed of a Caribbean island, Los Roques has it all. Far from the crowds, far for the hurricane belt, The Blue Paradise offers the tourists unforgettable vacations in one of the most pristine areas of the southern Caribbean, a not well known hideaway, a protected Marine Park which harbours all the marine and submarine ecosystems. Throughout this documentary you will experience how the Caribbean was 30 years ago in terms of natural wilderness under modern plans for conservation and management. Several environmental projects are briefly described by its authors, as well as many testimonials from tourists and experts in varied aquatic sports

8.-DIVING JEWELS IN THE CARIBBEAN.- Cozumel, Grand Cayman and the Bahamas are among the best diving sites in the Caribbean. Cozumel is the largest inhabited island of México and legendary since Jacques Cousteau made a documentary in 1961. It is very notable for the underwater visibility and the health of its reefs. A trip to Chichén-Itzá shows us one of the best preserved Mayan ruins in the whole empire. The Cayman islands are renowned among divers because of its vertical walls. One of the most thrilling experiences in the world is diving in Stingray City, an experience that will last forever. A visit to the Turtle Farm and the Botanical Gardens will give us another reason to visit Grand Cayman. The Bahamas is a well know destination for divers due to the many chances to see sharks and other big animals. We will aboard the Nekton and experience the diving freedom along the course of the northern Bahamas. Dolphins, rays, turtles and sharks are to be seen in this documentary, along with thousands of fish in several wrecks.

9.-FEATHERED FANTASY.-The south-eastern part of Venezuela is well known in South America for its tremendous variety of avian species. It has several special ecosystems, and is the home of some of the most bizarre species in this country.The Tepuis (Tabletop mountains), the Gran Sabana, the Sierra de Lema and the Orinoco Amazonian rainforest house many endemic species and it is the Mecca of Birdwatchers from all parts of the world. Guided by an expert host, we will see fantastic birds in outstanding close ups singing, calling or displaying its unique behavior. The blacksmith sound of the White and Bearded Bellbirds, the chainsaw call of the Capuchin bird, the splendid colored cotingas, the fabulous Cock-of-the Rock, the dance of the Scarlet-Fronted Manakin, ten species of hummingbirds, trogons, toucans, finches, flycatchers, flowerpiercers, and many more. And to bring this piece to a fitting close we go to the Orinoco Delta in search of the most powerful eagle on the planet, the Harpy Eagle.

10.-THE ANDES ADVENTURE.- The action starts in Mérida State where we will enjoy the experiences of paragliding, canyoning, mountain biking and bridge jumping. After all that excitement we will move to the foothills of Sierra Nevada for the rafting adventure. One of the most amazing and thrilling experiences in Venezuela is rafting the rivers coming down from the Andes to the floodable plains of the Orinoco. This adventure takes place in the Sinigüis river guided by the most experienced operator in the area. A short training with a couple of instructors from New Zealand and a rehearsal in the Acequias river will provide us with the skills. The day after we are ready for the fun, first the trip upstream with the boat to the launching site, the preparation with the gear, the excitement and then the moment of truth...Rapid after rapid we realize this is an experience to remember for a long time. Enjoy the landscape, the archaeological sites, the people, the camp and the emotion to do it again and again and again. It's the rafting fever that gets in possession of our souls....

11.-KAYAKING THE DELTA.- The Orinoco Delta is the third largest delta in the world behind the Amazon. Five intrepid expeditionaries take the decision to kayak the Orinoco Delta in a 200 miles journey along seven days. Chris Patterson, a Venezuelan resident adventurer, his brother Phil and friend Brenden from Scotland, Alexandra, a Venezuelan photographer and "Piña", a warao guide, jump into the kayaks with minimum luggage, food and support gear to chase rain, the burning sun, chill, and adversity to test themselves to their limits in this never made journey to the atlantic ocean to arrive to the coast in front of the island of Trinidad. They visit and stay in warao houses and share their lifestyle, they enjoy the exhuberant nature and wildlife, they eat their local food, listen at their little know music, sleep in hammocks and discover one of the most pristine and still innocent Indian tribes in South America, the second largest in Venezuela with 24.000 members.

12.-MOUNTAIN AND SEA DESTINATIONS.-This documentary guides us throught six different wild destinations starting at the Gran Sabana highlands with its countless waterfalls, then the Cueva del Guácharo (The Oilbird Cave) in the Caripe mountains, where we will know about this amazing nocturnal bird. The next destination is the hiking of the Morros de San Juan at the Llanos gateway, followed by a birding adventure in the Henry Pittier National Park where more than 500 species find their home, almost 80% of the amount of the birds found in North America. From there we move to Morrocoy National Park, one of the most sought after places by scuba divers in the north eastern Venezuela and finally we jump to the diving paradise of Bonaire, one of the three Dutch Caribbean jewels in the southern Caribbean and the home of the diving freedom.

13.-THE BEST WILD PLACES.-Venezuela houses more than 25 different Ecosystems in its ample geography including The Andes, a long coastline and numerous islands and archipelagoes, many mountain ranges, the Orinoco Delta, the central floodable plains and the vast Orinoco-Amazon rain forest system which covers more than 40% of its territory of near 400.000 square miles. The choose for the traveler is endless. This documentary shows in a dense compilation most of the best wild areas that make Venezuela a paradise for the naturalist and the adventurer traveler. The Magical Autana trip to the sacred Piaroa mountain, the breathtaking journey to the highest waterfalls in the wolrd, Angel Falls, the surprising land known as the Orinoco Delta where its inhabitants, the warao tribe, unveils the secrets of their jungle, the Los Roques archipelago, one of the most pristine submarine ecosystems in the Caribbean, plenty of fish life, the floodable plains of the Orinoco, a smaller version of the Pantanal, famous for its bird life where one can admire more than 350 different species of birds, especially the waterfowl in huge flocks and to bring this piece to a fitting close we will go to The Andes, not precisely for admiring its peaceful way of life but for showing the extreme sports travelers can enjoy in this amazing land.