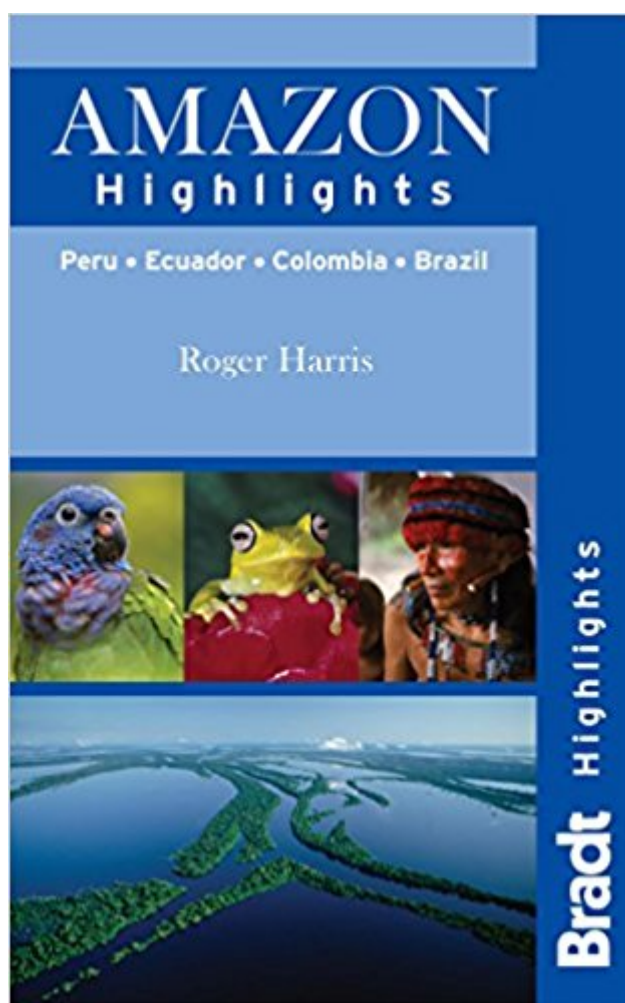




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Highlights: Peru • Ecuador • Colombia • Brazil (Bradt Highlights)



Synopsis

One-stop-shopping travel guideThe -- a region of mythic proportions, and of a mythic number of travel choices. Plenty of travel guides compare and contrast this or that hotel, lodge or restaurant in the various countries encompassed by the rainforest, and traversed by the world's biggest river. But when it comes to researching a trip that is right for you, an online search spills forth thousands of results. Online reviews only go so far. It is sometimes hard to tell if a review has been posted by the tour operator or lodge owner. That's where Highlights comes in. This book caters to the first-time traveler by narrowing down the choices.Â Â Based on more than 20 years of travel to the region, leading natural history and photography tours, author Roger Harris shares his experience to explain to the reader exactly what to look for in a tour operator. A step-by-step checklist allows the reader to easily see "red flags" to steer them away from the "cowboys" and toward reputable, reliable tour operators.Â Â The book highlights the most reputable and eco-conscious "tried and trusted" tour operators and lodges, as well as the best travel opportunities the has to offer. The book includes several sponsored sections featuring carefully selected tour operators renowned for their reputation and expertise, thus providing the reader an "insider" perspective of the region's travel opportunities. The book is lavishly illustrated with gorgeous photos, maps and even diagrams such as one that shows the variation in annual river level, and thus the best time to travel there. The author is a qualified biologist so the detailed natural history information is scientifically accurate. Comprising almost a third of the book, this section focuses on the animals and plants a first-time visitor is likely to see, rather than just the glamorous animals that are the sole interest of most travel guides or magazines. Other invaluable information includes health and safety, shopping tips, viewing wildlife and photography, and so much more. The book really does provide one-stop-shopping for a first-time traveller to the region.

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Customer Reviews

“Bradt Travel Guides simply have the best wildlife coverage of any of the popular guide books.”
—BBC Wildlife

Roger Harris has been travelling to the region for nearly 20 years, documenting the area's natural history. He manages Saving Species, a conservation group.

I do plan on going to the one day. I know it's currently ZIKA Heaven, but I know to take precautions and such. Still, I'd love to see the many wonders and beauty of the Rainforest, and this book is a great way to get a somewhat-condensed version of what to look out for in the region. It also gives great tips for what to do and dress and what to expect. It even gives some great outfitters and companies to be with. A little aged, but I'm betting it's still good!

This guidebook is a very helpful resource for planning a trip to the . It really distills much of what a traveller needs to know about the region--especially first time travelers. Specifically, it includes over 100 pages covering the flora and fauna--the spectacular wildlife that attracts people to the --the color-photos of the wildlife are really brilliant--nearly every page contains at least one such image--for someone with a passion for wildlife, travel and photography, that, ALONE, is worth the price of the book. The book next contains information about some of the most prominent tour operations--both American and British-based and locally-based. This is particularly helpful because travelers to this region will need at least one tour operator to help them navigate--often literally--the complex ecosystem that is the --you need the logistical support and field knowledge that a good tour operator can provide. Helping to distinguish the good operators from charlatans is one of the best things about this book. My favorite part of the book is the next section though--that is where the author distinguishes the main regions in the -- Peruvian from Brazilian from Colombian, etc. You get a very good idea of what each has to offer--pros and cons. In short this is an excellent initiation to travel to the . If you have a passion for exotic travel and wildlife-- like I do-- I really cannot think of a better place to start planning your trip than with this book.

This provides a good summary of the ian region as a whole. I would recommend this as a launching point only. Once we decided what country we were going to, we no longer had any use for this. Good luck!

very good book

This book is likely being funded by Peru's Tourism Board, and sponsored by lodges/tour guides/travel agencies. I purchased this book because I was looking for a comparison of The Rainforest regions (Manaus and Iquitos, specifically) to help in deciding which location would be the best bet for spotting the most wildlife. What would I see in one place that I could never see in another? Why go to this region and not the other? The book description indicated it would help in exactly this: "Should your base be in Manaus or Iquitos... Highlights cuts through the vast array of options...example itineraries and ideal starting points". However, the book never answers these questions in any meaningful way, it provides only the most elementary of details, and uses different methods for comparing one place to another. There are no sample itineraries. The only thing that you will find in this guidebook is a list of lodges, travel agencies, and tour operators who have likely paid for a spot. Shameless marketing strategy, and a totally useless guidebook.

I bought this book before reading the first review here on . And I am glad to say I did!! I bought the book really to get a sketch of the travel opportunities of this vast and challenging region. And it does an admirable job of that. I am not sure it sets out to do anything more, but the book contains an invaluable checklist of what to look for in tour operators. So it is evidently designed for someone who is looking to take an organized tour. This makes sense since lots of travel guides cater to independent travelers. I actually found sections provided by the tour operators really useful. There are so many players today, and fly-by-night operations, it really helped me see who are the established reputable tour operators. Yes, they partially sponsored the book--but the book was upfront and very clear about that fact. To my mind, that is a vote of trust and confidence in the author and publisher, both of whom are experienced in travel to this (and many other) region. Just because a tour operator supports a publication doesn't make them a scammer, and more to the point, shows that they want to contribute to informing prospective travelers to the region. And this is the kind of region that a traveler--even an experienced traveler--is more likely to want to use a tour operator of some kind. That expertise is more needed there than probably almost any other region

of the world. It's a shame the previous reviewer didn't see that point, because his review just doesn't reflect the beautiful images, high quality of writing or breadth of information in this book. It really didn't seem fair. If you're serious about preparing a trip to this region, I think this book will be very helpful--it certainly was for us.

This is to assist travellers in a more general way than the previous guides. It takes a delightful journey through the complexities of travel in South America. Rich in fact and written with the accessibility expected of the author, the visitor is led through the various areas with authenticity and integrity that is a given for Bradt travel guides. This is an excellent addition to a part of the world still waiting to be explored.

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