

EXPLORING THE KAW SAVANNAH
1 day or more



Guyane Evasion

Degrad des Cannes – 97354 Remire Montjoly (French Guiana)

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EXPLORING THE KAW MARSHES ON PIROGUE



To the south-east of Cayenne lies a broad strip of marshland bordered on its south by the mountains of Kaw and La Gabrielle. This marshland – known as the Kaw savannah - is inhabited by teeming and varied species, especially bird fauna typical of this biotope: herons, egrets, hoatzins and ducks but also kingfishers, jacanas, snipes and moorhens. The Kaw marshes are also home to batrachians and caimans—to be observed at nightfall. Your experienced guides will therefore take you on this “eco-trip” during both daytime hours and nighttime; using safe spots and remaining fully respectful of nature, you will come into close contact with some of the most fascinating creatures of Guiana.

MARSH TRIP WITH RICHE & KAW OR TIG DI LO

Marsh Trip – Caiman sightings (3pm to 10pm) – €55 per adult / €27.5 per child

Providers: TIG DI LO from 2.30pm to 10pm / RICHE & KAW from 3pm to 10pm

2.15pm or 2.45pm (depending on the tour provider) – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage for departure at 2.30pm or 3pm. Your pirogue (dugout canoe) will take you up the Kaw River along some 15 miles for commented observations of the marshland fauna and flora. You will then (late afternoon) enter part of the Wapou creek which gradually extends into flooded areas of the primeval forest—with remarkable species, noises and calls you guide will help you identify.

6pm – Stop by the creek to serve coffee and drinks. You can also bring your own picnic.

7.15pm – Your pirogue will cast off again for nighttime observations. The Kaw marshes are one of the last shelters in South America for the black caiman, the largest of all its species. Permanently hunted for its hide and meat, this reptile descended from the dinosaurs still lives in peace in the most inaccessible reaches of the reserve. A specialist will take you on a quest for this mythical animal and its cousins—red caimans (aka Cuvier’s dwarf caimans) and spectacled caimans.

10pm – Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

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Marsh Trip – Caiman & Scarlet Ibis sightings (2pm to 10pm) – €70 per adult / €35 per child (Note: only possible during the Scarlet Ibis season)

Provider: RICHE & KAW

1.45pm – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage for departure at 2pm. Your pirogue (dugout canoe) will take all the way down to the mouth of the Kaw River. Scarlet ibises are usually observed between 5pm and 6pm. Feel free to bring your own picnic. Caimans will be observed during the return trip. Sleeping overnight at Camp Trésor in a hammock or perched hut can be arranged (price quotation on request).

10pm – Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

MARSH TRIPS WITH GINGEMBRE SIROP

Trip 1 – Daytime pirogue trip – €25 per adult / €12.5 per child

Gingembre Sirop offers a 3-hour daytime trip through the flooded savannah of Kaw on a motorized pirogue. Includes a village tour.

Trip 2 – Nighttime pirogue trip from 7pm to 10 pm – €30 per adult / €15 per child

Gingembre Sirop also offers a nocturnal approach to caiman sighting (pirogue trip from 7pm to 10pm - dinner not included).

Trip 3 – Combined pirogue trip from 2.30pm to 10 pm – €60 per adult / €30 per child

Lastly, *Gingembre Sirop* offers a pirogue trip combining a tour of the flooded savannah in the afternoon and nocturnal observations after an included dinner in their own restaurant serving local food (Atipa fish, "viande bois" (bushmeat), creole soup, etc.). Note: drinks not included.



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MARSH TRIPS ON BOARD THE MORPHO BARGE



Protected from the weather under a canopy, you will spend some unforgettable daytime/nighttime moments on board the *Morpho*, a tour barge specially designed for the Kaw marshes. Equipped with a toilet and shower cabin, 14 military camp beds (with pillows, polar-fleece blankets and mosquito nets) and 6 tables, it can accommodate up to 16 people.

"Discovery" Trip from 9.30am to 3pm – €71 per adult / €35.5 per child

9.15am – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage to embark. The *Morpho* will then take you through a general tour of the marshes—with stops for a visit to the fishermen's village and the "Maison de la réserve" (reserve information center), separate pirogue trips and fishing time (baby tarpons).

Lunch served on board will be followed further navigation to explore the Wapou creek.

3pm – Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

"Caiman" Trip from 3.30pm to 9am (next day) – €94 per adult / €47 per child (no children under 12)

3.15pm – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage to embark. The *Morpho* will then motor up the Kaw River with numerous stops for swimming, fishing or observing the bird fauna. A special stop at the Wapou creek will allow you to try your hand at piranha fishing! Dinner will be served on board at nightfall – with a complimentary ti' punch – before the *Morpho* raises anchor again to go on a thrilling torchlight search for caimans...

9am (next day) – Breakfast on board and return trip to the landing stage—with hosts of early morning birds hovering by. Depending on the season, a fishing party may also take place (fishing for seasonal baby tarpons).

"Immersion" Trip lasting 24 hours (9.30am to 9.30am or 3.30pm to 3.30pm) – €139 per adult / €69.5 per child (no children under 12)

9.30am/3.30pm – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage to embark. This trip combines all types of marshland activities included in the other trip packages, spread over 24 hours. Dinner/lunch will be served in the village restaurant before the *Morpho* returns to the landing stage.

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MARSH TRIPS ON BOARD THE FLOATING ECO-LODGE



Package 1 – Discovery Day with full board - €79 per adult

9am – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage to board a motorized pirogue. Several stops will allow for marshland fauna observations, a tour of the fishermen's village and a visit to the "Maison de la réserve" (reserve information center) before the floating eco-lodge is reached, often surrounded by numerous birds such as cocoi herons, great egrets and jacanas.

This floating lodge will be your base camp throughout the day for swimming, fishing and paddling on canoes. Lunch will be served at 12.30am (drinks included). You can also paddle off to explore the Wapou creek and – with a bit of luck – encounter giant otters, sloths or even howler monkeys. Snacks will be served in the afternoon. **5pm** – Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

Package 2 – Nighttime Discovery with full board (5pm to 9am on the next day) - €79 per adult

5pm – Gathering at the Kaw landing stage to board a motorized pirogue which will take you to the floating eco-lodge where you can settle down in private cabins or bed bunks and hammocks. A candle-lit dinner will be served before you start on your nocturnal quest for caimans and other species revealed by searchlights. You may even encounter the capybara (the largest rodent on earth)—as well the three species of caimans: black ones, spectacled ones and smaller red ones (aka Cuvier's dwarf caimans). This nighttime experience is unforgettable. After a restful night on the floating lodge, breakfast will be served at dawn to allow for more bird watching. **9am** - Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

Package 3 – Daytime & Nighttime Discovery with full board (24 hours) - €158 per adult

5pm – Motorized pirogue trip to take you to the floating eco-lodge. Your nighttime observation quest will begin after dinner with searchlights helping you to spot the marshland caimans: small red ones (aka Cuvier's dwarf caimans), spectacled ones and the mighty black ones measuring up to 16.4 feet in length! A magical adventure... Your night will be safe from mosquito raids with net-protected private cabins or bed bunks and hammocks. Next morning breakfast will be served at dawn to allow for more bird watching. You will then explore the Wapou creek on canoe or pirogue, getting familiar with the giant otters and lush surroundings where varied orchids and bromeliads grow.

12.30am – Lunch followed by free time for swimming, fishing or more paddling on canoe. Numerous hovering marshland birds such as black jacanas and great egrets will accompany you on the return trip—with a stop to visit the fishermen's village and the "Maison de la réserve" (reserve information center). **5pm** – Arrival back at the Kaw landing stage.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Kaw Marshes floating eco-lodge provides:

A dormitory for 32 persons

- 12 hammocks
- 1 bunk bed for 2 (two single beds)
- 6 bunk beds for 3 (1 double bed+1 single bed)

Private bedrooms for 9 persons

- 2 rooms with a double bed
- 1 family suite for 5

Arrivals and departures all take place at the Kaw landing stage (your drive from Cayenne will take about 1 hour and 40 minutes).

What you need for your trip:

Sun hat or cap, sunglasses, T-shirt, swimming trunks/swimsuit, waterproof jacket, sun cream, camera, light hiking shoes (ideally waterproof), mosquito repellent, flashlight, picnic snacks for trips without full board.

If staying overnight: toiletry bag, small rucksack, spare clothes, full-length garments against the night cold.



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PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE: GFA CARAIBES, 46 rue Ernest Deproge, 97200 Fort de France (Martinique) / E5515309

PRICES

YOUR TRIP	PER PERSON
ON BOARD A MOTORIZED PIROGUE	
Marsh Trips (Tig di lo/Riché & Kaw)	
Caiman Sightings - Price per adult - 2.30pm/3pm to 10pm (without board)	€55.00
Caiman Sightings - Price per child - 2.30pm/3pm to 10pm (without board)	€27.50
Scarlet Ibis & Caiman Sightings - Price per adult - 2pm to 10pm (without board)	€70.00
Scarlet Ibis & Caiman Sightings - Price per child - 2pm to 10pm (without board)	€35.00
Marsh Trips (Gingembre Sirop)	
Trip 1 – 3-hour daytime tour – Price per adult (without board)	€25.00
Trip 1 – 3-hour daytime tour – Price per child under 10 (without board)	€15.50
Trip 2 – Nighttime tour (7pm to 10pm) – Price per adult (without board)	€30.00
Trip 2 – Nighttime tour (7pm to 10pm) – Price per child under 10 (without board)	€15.00
Trip 3 – Combined tour (3pm to 10pm) – Price per adult (dinner at the village restaurant – drinks not included)	€60.00
Trip 2 – Combined (3pm to 10pm) – Price per child under 10 (dinner at the village restaurant – drinks not included)	€30.00
ON BOARD THE FLOATING ECO-LODGE	
PACKAGE 1 – DISCOVERY DAY	
Price per adult with full board (9am to 5pm)	€79.00
Price per child under 12 with full board (9am to 5pm)	€39.50
Price per teenager between 12 and 17 with full board (9am to 5pm)	€63.20
Optional stay for the night – Price per adult or teenager	€59.00
Optional stay for the night – Price per child under 12	€30.00
PACKAGE 2 – NIGHTTIME DISCOVERY	
Price per adult with full board (5pm to 9am)	€98.00
Price per child under 12 with full board (5pm to 9am)	€49.00
Price per teenager between 12 and 17 with full board (5pm to 9am)	€78.40

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PACKAGE 3 – DAYTIME & NIGHTTIME DISCOVERY	
Price per adult with full board (9am to 9am or 5pm to 5pm)	€158.00
Price per child under 12 with full board (9am to 9am or 5pm to 5pm)	€79.00
Price per teenager between 12 and 17 with full board (9am to 9am or 5pm to 5pm)	€126.40
OPTIONAL PRIVATE ROOM	
Private room with double bed (extra charge per night)	€70.00
Family suite with 2 double beds+1 single bed (extra charge per night)	€198.00
ON BOARD THE MORPHO BARGE	
Discovery Trip (9.30am to 3pm) – Price per adult (lunch included)	€71.00
Discovery Trip (9.30am to 3pm) – Price per child under 12 (lunch included)	€35.50
Caiman Trip (3.30pm to 9am next day) – Price per adult (full board)	€94.00
Caiman Trip (3.30pm to 9am next day) – Price per child under 12 (full board)	€47.00
Immersion Trip (24 hours) – Price per adult (full board)	€139.00
Immersion Trip (24 hours) – Price per child under 12 (full board)	€69.50

We can also arrange for car/minivan shuttles to/from Cayenne, Montjoly or Matoury (price quotation on request).

LOCATION MAP



Your drive from Cayenne will take about an hour and forty minutes.
 Leave Cayenne by taking the east road (RN2) in the direction of Régina. At the Stoupan crossroads, turn left towards Roura; drive through the bridge across the Mahury River, then into the small town of Roura; turn left when facing the grocery store, then straight on, then take the last possible turn to the right; this will take you onto the Kaw Mountain road—follow on for some 50 km (ca. 31 miles); you should drive past the "Auberge de Camp Caiman" half-way to your destination (Kaw landing stage).
 On arrival at the Kaw riverside port, please use the available parking bays.

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