

## NATURALISTS GUIDES

Delfin Amazon Cruises has assembled a talented and experienced team of naturalist and interpretive Amazon River guides who are the most important and essential ingredient in our cruises. Their expert knowledge of plants and birdlife, and the history of this part of the Amazon, will be the difference between a visit to Peru and an unforgettable life experience in the jungle. Put together, they have decades of invaluable experience.

Most of our guides were born and raised in the rainforest they now call their office, in small communities that are spread throughout the Peruvian Amazon. They spent their childhoods walking the forest paths, climbing trees to pick fruit, fishing the small streams, and chasing iguanas along the shoreline. Now, they are proud to share their knowledge and passion with our travelers from around the world.

Many of them have also participated in training sessions and projects with Peruvian and North American professors, researchers, scientists, and other professionals of similar leagues.

All our guides are bilingual in Spanish and English, and some have additional language aptitudes. You will also discover during a cruise that they have delightful musical talents to boast!

### RUDY FLORES LOZANO



Rudy lived in the native community of Yaguas in Pevas for 7 years before moving to the city of Iquitos. After finishing his schooling in Iquitos, Rudy studied at the institute Dwight David Eisenhower to become a jungle guide.

During his time off, he was lucky to meet many tourists and local people, including a local shaman who knew a great deal about the medicinal plants and flora and fauna. For Rudy, this shaman was an important teacher in the sounds of the birds and animals, and it made a big impression on how he was able to communicate with the animals - he was able to get fish from the water like a person can collect fruit from trees, and Rudy learned more and more of this majestic greenery that is the Amazon.

Rudy has 6 beautiful children that live in Iquitos and looks forward to revealing the mysteries of the Amazon during our expeditions.

## ADONAY RODRIGUEZ



Adonay was born in Texas, on the banks of the Amazon River in a jungle community called Tamishiyacu. Here, he was raised with his five siblings by his parents who practiced subsistence living through farming, fishing and hunting in the Amazon rain forest and where his education, love and understanding of the environment became part of who he is today. Adonay attended primary and secondary school in Texas and stayed until he was 20 years old, whereupon he made the decision to move to the big city of Iquitos and start a new life.

His first job was at a chicken farm, but he soon left that for broom-making, until he got a position at a rain forest lodge where visitors came to see the marvels of the Amazon basin. The lodge was located near the small community of Indiana, where he met his future wife, and with whom he now has 4 children, all living in Iquitos.

Before starting his family, Adonay worked for several different jungle lodges where he came into contact with university groups and professional biologists, ornithologists, ichthyologists, and all the other "ologists" imaginable. Through his time with them, Adonay received the best education available about the Amazon rainforest and its importance to the world.

Apart from his time in the lodges, Adonay also had the opportunity to work with groups who came for jungle survival training, and later led groups around different parts of Peru, including the Andean region, and to Brazil, Ecuador and Galápagos. His talent in the realm of music is also a bonus to all who get to travel with him, as his singing and guitar abilities add tremendously to the enjoyment of his company. Adonay has been working exclusively with the Delfin I & II since 2006 and is an integral part of the Amazon team.

## RENNINGER "RENNY" COQUINCHE



Renninger (whom we lovingly call Renny) was born in a small town named Puerto Mercedes on the banks of the Rio Huallaga in the Peruvian Amazon. His childhood was spent here walking the forest paths, climbing trees to pick fruit, fishing the small streams and chasing iguanas along the shoreline. Renninger attended the town school, but when he was 12 years old, his father moved the family to the larger town of Yurimaguas in order to assure an education for his children. Here, Renny was responsible for looking after his siblings, being the oldest of 12 children. The beginning of the oil boom in the Amazon coincided with his graduation from secondary school. International exploration companies arrived. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Renninger worked for one of these companies for the next 4 years.

When the oil boom went into a decline, Renny came to Iquitos in search of other job possibilities, and because of the English he learned in school, he quickly found work in tourism. Beginning as a junior guide, after a few years Renny became the lead naturalist for the company

he helped build. Over the years, Renny has had the opportunity to participate in many training sessions with both Peruvian and North American professors. He has also worked with various scientific groups and individuals who have come to the Amazon, including the renowned botanist Alwyn Gentry and ornithologist Theodore Parker. Working in tourism gives Renny great satisfaction and has given him the opportunity to visit the United States for a lecture series on the biodiversity of Peru through an invitation by the Nature Conservancy. It is hard for him to believe that 30 years have passed since he first started guiding and teaching outsiders about the fascinating Amazon rainforest.

## ERICSON PINEDO SALAS



Ericson was born in Iquitos, Peru to a Brazilian father and a Peruvian mother. Ericson enrolled in the Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana (UNAP) to study English as a second language for three years.

He officially joined the naturalist guide pool for the Amazon in 2008 and apart from working in many of the local lodges, he has also had the opportunity to work for many expedition ships navigating the Amazon River. Ericson is thrilled to be part of Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic's natural history staff team on the Delfin II and is looking forward to sharing his passion and knowledge of the area with everyone.

## SANDRO SORIA DEL ÁGUILA



Sandro was born in Requena, a city Nací en la ciudad de Requena, on the banks of the River Trapiche.

He studied the career of official tour guide at the Dwight David Eisenhower Technical School for 3 years and have been working as a guide for 14 years.

He is always trying on each trip that our clients take a pleasant experience of our attention on board and our Amazon.

## CAPTAINS

### JEDDY ESCOBEDO



He studied at the Naval Technical Training Center (CITEN) of the Peruvian Navy and specialized in Pilotage. His work experience was obtained working in different Dependencies of the Peruvian Navy, among which stands out:

Office of Commercial Operations in the Operations area, which has Motochatas that carry out navigations in the Amazon and Putumayo rivers, reaching our national territory in Gueppi to the North-East end.

Peruvian Armada Ship B.A.P. "UCAYALI" (Fluvial Cañonera) from 2000 to 2005 and Peruvian Armed Ship B.A.P. "MARAÑON" (Fluvial Cañonera) from 2008 to 2015 sailing in the different rivers of the Peruvian Amazon.

He also worked in operations in the Fourth Naval Zone Pucallpa, acquiring experience in navigations in this area.

### DARWIN MORI



He studied at the Naval Technical Training Center (CITEN) of the Peruvian Navy and specialization in Pilotage.

His work experience was obtained working in different Dependencies of the Peruvian Navy for 23 years, among which highlights:

Office of Commercial Operations in the Operations area, which has Motochatas that carry out navigations in the Amazon and Putumayo rivers, reaching our national territory in Gueppi to the North-East end.

Peruvian Armada Ship B.A.P. "AMAZONAS" (Fluvial cannon) from 1999 to 2009 and Peruvian Armada B.A.P. "UCAYALI" (Fluvial Cañonera) from 2009 to 2015 sailing in the different rivers of the Peruvian Amazon and international navigations to Leticia (Colombia) and Manaus (Brazil).

This experience allowed him to acquire the necessary knowledge to be able to perform efficiently as a River Patron in our tourism halls.

## OMAR MELÉNDEZ



He studied at the Naval Technical Training Center (CITEN) of the Peruvian Navy and specialization in Pilotage. He also followed courses for Fluvial Operators and Boat Management.

His work experience was obtained working in different Dependencies of the Peruvian Navy and civil companies. His experience in the middle companies was obtained working in tourism companies among which we can highlight:

Amazonian Expeditions S.R.L, Tu Selva SAC, Biblical Union of Peru (Amazon Hope) and Amazonian Transport Service, among others.

This experience allowed him to acquire the necessary knowledge to be able to perform efficiently as a River Patron in our tourism halls.

## JAVIER LAZO



He studied at the Naval Technical Training Center (CITEN) of the Peruvian Navy and specialization in Pilotage.

His work experience was obtained working in different Dependencies of the Peruvian Navy for 23 years, highlighting his work in the Fluvial canners navigating in the different rivers of the Peruvian Amazon. He also worked in medium-sized companies, among which SERTRANS S.A. as Fluvial Pattern.

This experience allowed him to acquire the necessary knowledge to be able to perform efficiently as a River Patron in our tourism halls.