

Helicopter to Mount Roraima Canoe to Angel Falls Adventure

Venezuela

Mount Roraima is called South America's "lost world". A gigantic tableland encircled on all sides by vertical cliffs up to 700 m tall. Towering over the surrounding savannahs and rainforest like an immense fortress above the clouds, Roraima's summit has been isolated for millions of years and is home to bizarre landscapes of towering stone pinnacles, a valley of shimmering quartz crystals, and unique animals and plants found anywhere on earth. The discovery of Roraima inspired Arthur Conan Doyle's novel *The Lost World*.

This expedition offers you the chance to fly to the summit of Mount Roraima by helicopter, explore the lost world and see all of the key highlights that Roraima has to offer, then transfer for an adventurous canoe trip to the base of Angel Falls to see the world's tallest waterfall up close and personal.

Angel Falls is the tallest waterfall on Earth. At 979 m in height (nearly a vertical kilometre high), this immense cascade is twice the height of the Empire State building and fifteen times the height of Niagara Falls - it is one of the great natural spectacles of our world.

Although this expedition takes place in Venezuela, we recommend that this trip starts and finishes in Boa Vista, Brazil. Boa Vista is easy to reach by connecting flights or luxurious long distance buses from Manaus (which is a major hub for international flights).

Arriving in Manaus and travelling to Boa Vista offers many advantages. Manaus and Boa Vista are safer than Caracas, and also closer and easier to use as a base to travel to Roraima and Angel Falls. Starting this expedition from Manaus and Boa Vista also offers participants the advantage that they can spend a day or two before the expedition exploring Manaus' fascinating colonial heritage in the heart of the Amazon, relaxing and recovering from long flights to South America, before the trip begins.

While we typically meet participants in Boa Vista and return participants to that city, if you prefer, we can organise pick up/return to/from Manaus or Caracas.

COST: £2,500 per person for **14 days/13 nights** (all inclusive from start point to end point).

START POINT: Boa Vista, Brazil.

END POINT: Boa Vista, Brazil.

DATES: Monday February 5th to Sunday February 18th, 2018

GROUP SIZE: 6-10

BESPOKE TOUR: Alternatively, if you do not wish to join a group tour, we can customise a **private trip** to fit **your** dates and suit **your** interests. Please email us for details and a quote.

Email sales@redfernadventures.com for more information and to make bookings.

Optional pre- or post-expedition extensions: We can organise charter flights in light aircraft for aerial photographic flyover trips above Mount Roraima and Angel Falls. We can also organise add on trips from Manaus to explore the Amazon rainforest (see Amazon Adventure Expedition for a few of the possibilities). Please contact us for details.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Meet in Boa Vista. Transfer in charter vehicles to the Venezuelan border (approx 4 hours driving time). We cross the border, and arrive in Santa Elena, Venezuela. Lunch and snacks en-route. Dinner in restaurant in Santa Elena. Overnight in local hotel.

Day 2: Transfer into helicopter for flight to the summit of Mount Roraima.

Day 3, 4, 5 and 6: We explore the summit of Mount Roraima. **Note:** we can decide the itinerary of our time on the summit as a group, depending upon everyone's interests, the weather, and how much trekking we (as a group) would like to undertake. Recommended highlights include the Valley of the Crystals, the labyrinth of towering stone pinnacles, Lake Gladys, the Prow, Triple Point (the three way border of Venezuela, Guyana and Brazil) and the Oilbird Ravine (home to rare echo-locating oilbird *Steatornis caripensis*). The summit is the habitat for a plethora of orchids, bromeliads, airplants, carnivorous plants (*Brocchinia*, *Drosera*, *Genlisea*, *Heliamphora*, *Utricularia*), unique butterflies and toads, and a black and yellow spotted lizard called *Riolama*. A trek to La Ventana offers the chance to catch breathtaking views of some of the most spectacular scenery in South America. Other activities include sunrise walks to the western cliff tops to see spectacular sunrise views of the neighbouring plateau Kukenán Tepui bathed in sunlight. The exploration of El Carro view point to see the whole plateau. We can also visit the Jacuzzis (crystal lined pools), the Pit, the Valley of a Thousand Columns and spectacular rock formations. During our stay, we look out for the elusive South American coati (*Nasua nasua*). Campside dinner and overnight in tents inside caves.

Day 7: Pickup by helicopter from the summit of Mount Roraima. Transfer back to Santa Elena.

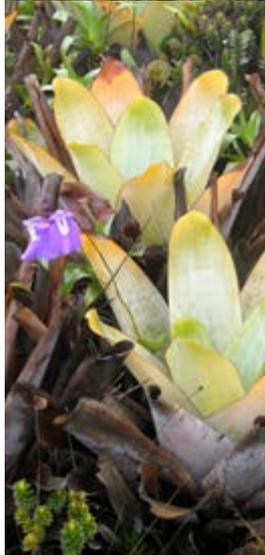
Day 8: Buffer day (in case of bad weather delaying pickup on day 8). Otherwise early breakfast then transfer into 4x4 vehicles for safari tour of the Gran Sabana. Sites to visit include Jasper Creek (waterfall made of blood red semi-precious gemstone), Agua Fría Falls, Yuruaní curtain falls, view point for the Eastern Plateaus, and visits to native Amerindian villages. Lunch in San Francisco village. Offroad journey (1.5 hour) to overnight in huts with beds at Paraitepui de Roraima (charming traditional village). During the journey we look out for giant anteaters.

Day 9: Transfer to Puerto Ordaz (either by internal flight if possible, or by vehicle stopping through the Gran Sabana at viewpoints). If by vehicle - long day of driving. Lunch and snacks en route. Dinner in restaurant in Santa Elena. Overnight in local hotel.

Day 10: Early transfer to catch light aircraft charter flight to Canaima. Flight duration approximately 1.5 hours, with scenic flyover Angel Falls (weather dependent). Landing at the native Pemón Amerindian village of Canaima. Transfer to motorised, traditional Pemón dugout canoes (curiaras) and travel upstream to Angel Falls camp (4 hrs in the canoes). Angel Falls camp is on the bank of the river opposite the mighty Angel Falls. We watch the sun set on the tallest waterfall on the planet. Dinner at Angel Falls camp. Overnight in hammocks.

Day 11: Breakfast in Angel Falls camp, and then cross the river in the canoes and then hike through the rainforest for 1 km to the base of Angel Falls to photograph the gigantic cascade and to bathe in the cascading waters of the falls. We have lunch at a scenic look out point, and then return to Angel Falls camp. Dinner at Angel Falls camp. Overnight in hammocks.

Day 12: After breakfast, we return by motorised canoes back to Canaima. After lunch in Canaima, we explore Canaima lagoon with a walk to Sapo Falls and, depending on water levels, either a walk behind the thundering curtain of water of Sapo Falls or Hacha Falls. Dinner and overnight in a posada (local hotel) in Canaima.





ITINERARY CONTINUED...

Day 13: Transfer in light aircraft to Santa Elena. Lunch and snacks en-route. Dinner in restaurant in Santa Elena. Overnight in local hotel.

Day 14: Transfer in charter vehicles from Santa Elena to the Venezuelan border with Brazil, and onwards to Boa Vista, Brazil.

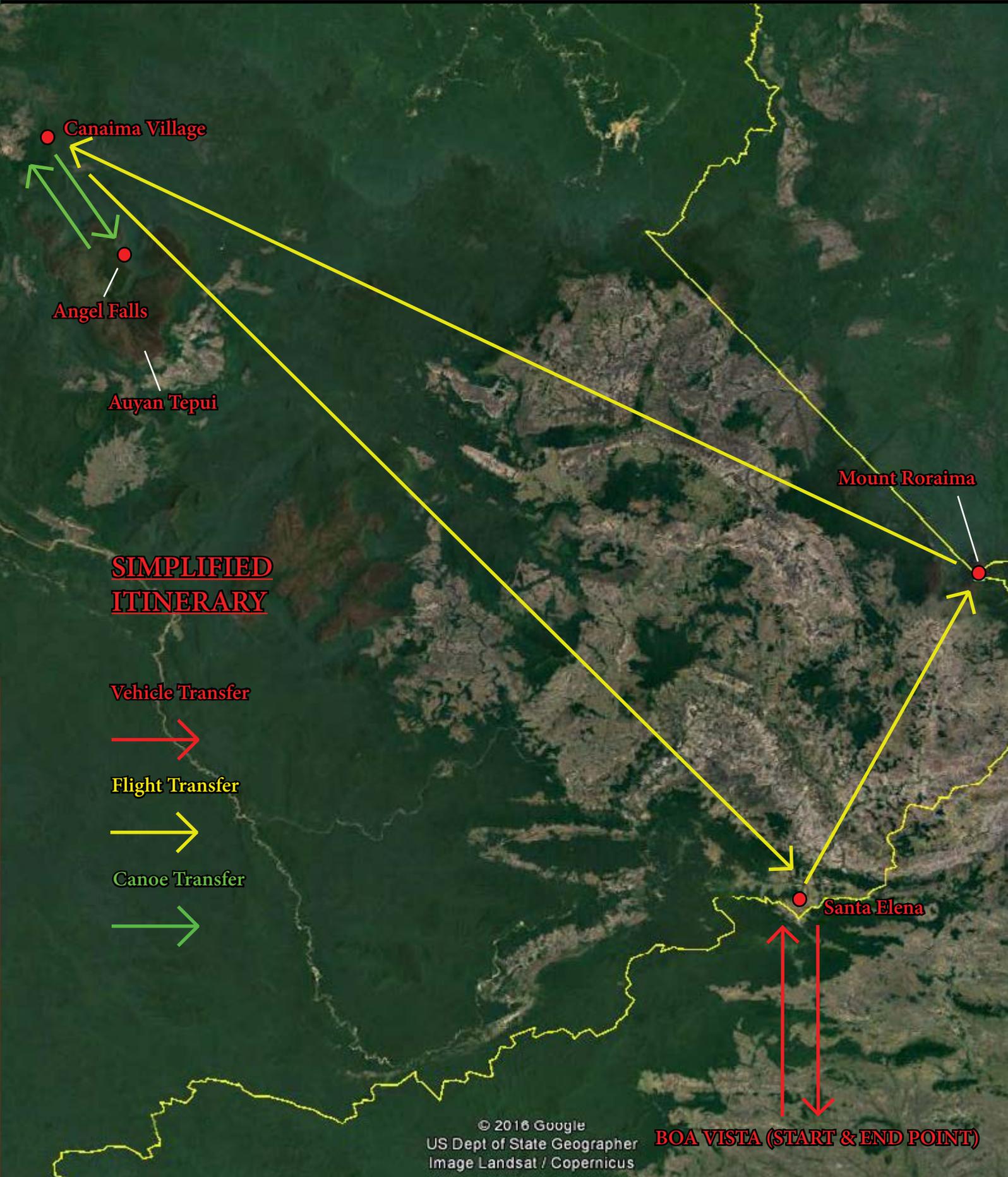
Please note: The itinerary of this expedition is weather dependent. If weather forecasts predict high changes or cloud or rain at the start of the expedition, we may reverse the order of the itinerary, and undertake the visit to Angel Falls before visiting Mount Roraima. The helicopter departure and pick up dates may adjust too, in response to weather conditions during the expedition.

Key Highlights during this expedition include spectacular views of Mount Roraima, the Jasper Creek which flows over blood red gemstone, the valley of the crystals (a valley on Roraima littered with countless quartz crystals), and the beautiful cascade of Angel Falls.



MAP USED WITH PERMISSION AND PROVIDED BY

Google Earth



Canaima Village

Angel Falls

Auyan Tepui

Mount Roraima

Santa Elena

SIMPLIFIED ITINERARY

Vehicle Transfer



Flight Transfer



Canoe Transfer



BOA VISTA (START & END POINT)

Visit: www.redfernadventures.com for further information,
many more image, videos, maps and more!



Visit: www.redfernadventures.com for further information,
many more image, videos, maps and more!

