

# **JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF THE AMAZON RAINFOREST**

## **CHIEF ISKU KUA'S BIRTHDAY**

### **July 26 – August 5**

YAWANAWA CULTURAL IMMERSION at the ISKUVAKEHUHU TRADITIONAL SCHOOL

**New Hope Village – Acre, Brazil – Amazon Rainforest**



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## WITH CHIEF ISKU KUA AND THE FAMILY FROM THE NEW HOPE VILLAGE

Participate in a transformative 10-day retreat.

Experience a truly extraordinary moment where nature meets a vibrant and inspiring energy. Immerse yourself in a vibrant atmosphere filled with joy, music, and celebration, as we honor the rich traditions of the Yawanawá people.

This journey will not only take you to the deep heart of the Amazon, but will also open paths to an encounter with your inner world. We will also celebrate Chief Isku Kua's birthday during his traditional diet—a special moment of strength, presence, and meaning. A celebration that will be etched in your memory for a lifetime.

### What to Expect:

Disconnect from the outside world and surrender to the vibrant presence and breathtaking beauty of the forest.

- Traditional Rituals: Participate in profound ceremonies and listen to inspiring stories that touch the soul.
- Deep Connections: More than a trip, a chance to create real connections — with yourself and with others.
- Wisdom is Forest Medicine: Get closer to ancestral healing practices and the living intelligence of nature.
- Support the Yawanawa Community: Contribute directly to strengthening and shaping the future of the community, while experiencing transformative moments and forging new friendships. Remarkable.

Get ready for a week full of connection, exploration, and unforgettable memories!

# Chief Isku Kua



Birací Junior “Isku Kua” is the Yawanawa Chief of the Nova Esperança Village and is both the founder and leader of the Center for Traditional Studies and the Yawanawa Language, Iskuvakehuhu. He is not only the spiritual leader of his village, but is also internationally recognized.

As a visionary young leader, he is shaping a brighter future while drawing wisdom from the past. He has been initiated into the highest spiritual practices within the Yawanawa tradition. In his role as chief of the New Hope Village, he oversees a community of over 300 people while inspiring millions with his powerful message.

Isku Kua is dedicated to helping its people recover their culture and language, protect the Amazon Rainforest, and develop programs that empower the Yawanawa people toward sovereignty.

Furthermore, Isku Kua is a talented musician, conveying the spiritual teachings and cultural essence of the Yawanawa through his music, which you can explore on Spotify.



# OS YAWANAWÁS

The Yawanawá are an indigenous community in the state of Acre, Brazil, located in the heart of the Amazon rainforest. Known as the People of the Peccary, they see themselves as the Guardians of the Forest. They encountered the first non-indigenous colonizers in the 14th century and faced slavery and cultural genocide at the hands of rubber barons and missionaries who threatened their culture and language.

After gaining their freedom thanks to the efforts of Chief Biraci Nixiwaka Brasil in the 1980s, he spearheaded efforts for territorial recognition, making the Yawanawá the first indigenous community in Acre to secure territorial rights. They received official land recognition, protecting 500,000 acres of rainforest. Since then, they have worked to revive their culture, recovering sacred practices in medicine, rituals, art, and cuisine. However, their language and traditions are critically endangered and at risk of extinction within two generations if not revitalized.

The Yawanawá have a deep connection with nature, which is central to their identity. They express their reverence through Mariri songs and depend on nature for food, medicine, and inspiration for their body paintings.

Approximately 1,200 Yawanawá individuals live along the Gregório River.





## NEW HOPE VILLAGE

Our immersive experience takes place in the 'Nova Esperança' village, the largest settlement of the Yawanawá people. This village was established as a refuge for the Yawanawá after missionaries were expelled from their indigenous territory. It was here that they began to rebuild their history with resilience and hope.

Home to over 300 residents, Nova Esperança is the most populous Yawanawá village. Beyond daily activities and responsibilities, the village welcomes visitors from around the world, inviting them to immerse themselves in the Yawanawá culture, music, and plant medicine. These retreats and cultural experiences inspire the younger generation of Yawanawá to deepen their connection to their ancestral, spiritual, and cultural heritage. Our presence will support this effort, allowing us the honor and privilege of witnessing the Yawanawá way of life in the stunning Amazon rainforest.





# ISKUVAKEHUHU TRADITIONAL SCHOOL

New Hope - Yawanawá Territory

Isku Vakehuhu is a traditional school of the Yawanawá people, located approximately seven hours upstream on the Gregório River, within the Yawanawá Indigenous Reserve, far removed from the outside world.

In October 2022, the Nova Esperança Village inaugurated a new center focused on the study and promotion of Yawanawá culture and traditions. Called "Isku Vakehuhu," this center serves as a central meeting point for children and young people.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

During our time in the village of Nova Esperança, we will be staying in rustic wooden accommodations that can sleep four people. The eco-friendly cabins each have two bunk beds. There is space to hang a hammock if you wish to bring one.

This departure from modern comforts fosters a stronger connection with the land, the community, and ourselves. It allows us to embrace the wisdom of a more harmonious and intentional lifestyle, grounded in simplicity, mindfulness, and a deep appreciation for life's essentials. Accommodation is based on quadruple occupancy, with some double occupancy options available at a different price.



## ABOUT THE FOOD

- Meals will focus on a traditional Amazonian diet, and while accommodating vegan preferences is challenging, it is possible.
- Breakfast typically includes eggs, cassava, and various types of bread.
- Lunch and dinner feature meat or fish soups and dishes with cassava, rice, and vegetable side dishes.
- Please inform us in advance of any dietary restrictions so we can better accommodate you.
- You are welcome to bring snacks or nutritional supplements that meet your needs, although we ask that you take back all packaging and waste.
- Tea and black coffee will be available.
- Filtered well water will be provided at room temperature; consider using a thermos to keep it chilled.



The happy kitchen team

# WHAT TO BRING

- Bring Brazilian Reais in cash with you. You will need money for the village, laundry, private treatments, the market, and tips for the staff.
- The average price is between R\$ 500 and R\$ 5000.

## Inside the Suitcase:

- Lightweight long-sleeved shirts for protection against the sun and insects.
- Leggings or lightweight pants/shorts.
- Short-sleeved T-shirts and shorts.
- A warm sweater, poncho, or shawl for cold nights.
- Swimsuit and quick-drying towel.
- Extra swimwear that you don't mind getting stained with clay.
- Attire for the ceremony. Please dress respectfully for the children and elderly. The nights are cold.
- Comfortable footwear: flip-flops or Crocs are recommended.
- Hiking shoes are optional. If rain is forecast, you might want to buy rain boots in Cruzeiro.
- Long socks are useful for protection against insects.
- A light rain jacket is suggested if you are sensitive to damp weather and rain during the boat trip.
- Bring sunscreen, a hat, and sun protection items.
- Pillow and sheets for a single bed.
- Blanket or sleeping bag for cold nights.
- A light hammock, if you want to relax.
- Natural repellent; citronella is effective. Copaiba is also effective.
- Tiger balm can be helpful for mosquito bites.
- Biodegradable soaps
- First aid kit for pain, inflammation and allergies.
- Bottles with built-in water filters, like the Grayl. Thermal bottles help keep your water cool.
- Hand fan
- Camping chair. Ideally lightweight and foldable.
- Flashlight — ideally with a red light.
- 127-volt power adapter.
- A trash bag for your suitcase, to protect it from rain and mud. Think about the trip there and back.

Before arriving at the village, I suggest you download the "WISE" and/or "REMITLY" app for payments for private sessions (music, healing, etc.), as well as for gifts and jewelry from the craft market. This is the most ideal way to exchange money within the Yawanawa Territory.

## ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- 2-3 Uni (Ayahuasca) Ceremony
- Traditional face and body painting
- Rapéh and Sananga circle
- Traditional games
- Clay bath
- Medicinal herb bath
- Forest walk Learning about medicinal herbs
- Physical and spiritual purification
- Craft and traditional jewelry fair
- Visit to the sacred Samaúma tree;
- Storytelling
- Music circles;
- Learning traditional Yawanawá songs
- Integration circles and community gatherings.
- Additional cost: Kapu (Kambô), private classes and healings.



## YOUR CONTRIBUTION: US\$ 2,600

Early bird discount: \$ 2300 before April 30, 2026

Last Minute contribution: \$ 2750 after July 10, 2026

A non-refundable deposit of \$750 is required upon registration to secure your spot.

Full payment for regular and advance prices due by July 10th.  
Cancellations made after July 23rd are non-refundable, only available as a credit usable in the following year.

### The price includes:

In the Village: accommodation in eco-friendly cabins with quadruple occupancy, meals throughout your stay,

- Logistics: transportation between Cruzeiro do Sul Airport (CZS) and the hotel, accommodation in CZS, and transportation between CZS and Aldeia Nova Esperança.

The price above does not include: your round-trip flights to Cruzeiro, private healing sessions, laundry services, crafts, or classes.



To guarantee your spot, follow these two steps:

- 1) Send your non-refundable deposit of R\$ 750 via Pix or bank transfer, credit card (with added fees and installment interest), or Boletão (bank slip).
- 2) Fill out the registration form (link below)

Full payment must be made by July 10th.

## **PAYMENT METHOD**

Payment Plan Options Please contact us to inquire about this.

### Flight Arrangements

We recommend that you arrange your flights as soon as possible, as there are limited options for Cruzeiro do Sul. We will provide all the necessary details after your registration.

[Click this link and confirm your registration - WhatsApp](#)

## Travel dates and flight information:

Arrival in Cruzeiro do Sul  
July 26th on GOL flight 1758

Departure from Cruzeiro to Brasilia  
August 5th on GOL flight 1759

## WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

- Complete the Registration Form
- Registration closes on July 20th\*
- Spaces are limited. Your spot will only be reserved once you submit the registration fee.
- Full payment required by July 10, 2026 for both promotional and regular pricing.
- Confirmation of a valid passport
- Speak with your guide by phone or Zoom before or during registration.
- Your flight information
- Sign and email the Exemption Form before your trip.



### **Important fact:**

If you are an international traveler, the sooner you book your international flight, the better price you can get. Therefore, we encourage you to register in advance. I am available to assist you with this process. Planning ahead is crucial.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

For visitors from outside Brazil:

- Make sure you have a valid passport and check the expiration date.
- No visa is required to enter Brazil.
- Vaccinations are not mandatory, but it is advisable to do your research. Common vaccines include tetanus, typhoid fever, yellow fever, and hepatitis A.
- In Acre, Brazil, electrical outlets require a 127-volt adapter. Travel adapters are easy to find in town before reaching the village.
- Portuguese is the official language, but there will be English translation at all events.

For everyone:

- Be prepared for varying weather conditions: rain, sunny and warmer days, and cooler nights. August is not the rainy season in the Amazon basin, but it's good to be prepared.
- Insect bites can become inflamed and itchy; take medication if you are sensitive.
- WIFI is generally available in the village, although there may be some limitations.
- To protect the Yawanawa community and your group, avoid traveling to the Yawanawa Territory if you have symptoms such as a cough or fever.

This is a "Leave no trace" immersion experience; please observe the policy of taking everything you bring with you. This especially includes plastic and non-compostable materials.

# WHAT TO BUY IN CRUZEIRO

On the cruise, we'll have a few hours to check into the hotel, freshen up, and have lunch at the supermarket. Here, we can buy snacks, essentials, and items for our trip. Key items to buy include:

- Pillow (for sleeping and boat trips)
- Immersion chair (label with your name)
- Single bed sheets and pillowcase
- Mosquito net (if needed)
- Blanket (for ceremonies and colder nights)
- Bath towel
- Hammocks (optional for sleeping in the cabin)
- Food for the boat trip
- Small gifts for the boatmen.

You can also withdraw up to \$400-\$500 from an ATM, but it's advisable to exchange money in Brasília.

Approximate individual prices in Brazilian reais to buy these items in Cruzeiro:

- Pillows: R\$140
- Cotton sheets: R\$127
- Cotton towel: R\$59
- Blanket: R\$60
- Chair: R\$89
- Mosquito net: R\$95

We have the opportunity to order these items in advance.





ACCREDITED PARTNER

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