

TOP SIGHTINGS 2014



JAGUAR – INKATERRA RESERVA AMAZONICA, JANUARY 2014

On our Twilight River excursion along with 16 travelers and Alberto, also an Inkaterra Explorer Guide, we saw an animal moving at the riverbank, just few meters away from the lodge. As Alberto pointed the flashlight we

could see the eye reflection of a big animal, we couldn't believe what we saw. An adult jaguar (*Pantera onca*) was lying in the middle of dry "Shapaja" palm leaves. It was difficult to see it clearly at first, but we decided to wait for its moves. Fortunately for us it did! After a few minutes the jaguar got up and walked into the rainforest disappearing from our sight. Everything happened in less than five minutes but we all got a great sighting of this magnificent feline.



ANACONDA – INKATERRA HACIENDA CONCEPCIÓN, JANUARY 2014

It was 10 a.m. when Inkaterra explorer guides Ghlemm and Justo were leading a group of travelers in the 'Cocha' excursion. Hidden in some bushes on the

shore of Concepción creek, a green anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*) was encountered. Though it remained tangled and its head could not be seen, a good look at its width and the tail's end allowed guides to estimate that this snake was about 4 meters long!



**ANDEAN BEAR CUB – INKATERRA
MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL,
APRIL 2014**

During the morning of March 31st, a young Andean bear was sighted by the shores of Vilcanota River (KM 108, close to Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel's heliport) by Inkaterra Explorer Guide Braulio Puma, while

guiding an excursion with four travellers. The cub climbed down a mountain and headed to the riverbed, where it stayed a few minutes before disappearing into the cloud forests of Machu Picchu.



**GIANT ANTEATER – INKATERRA
HACIENDA CONCEPCION, JUNE
2014**

During an excursion to Lake Sandoval, a group of travellers led by Inkaterra field guide Gabriel Barriga saw a bushy tail waving 50 meters away from them. What they found was a full-grown adult

Giant Anteater, one of the largest insectivorous mammals that are native to South America. Learn more about this amazing creature and why its finding was so peculiar.



**HARPY EAGLE – INKATERRA
HACIENDA CONCEPCIÓN,
SEPTEMBER 2014**

Inkaterra explorer guide José Luis Oquendo had an amazing encounter with one of the largest birds in South America. A Harpy Eagle (*Harpia harpija*) was found perched on *Ficus insipida* tree in one of the trails at Inkaterra Hacienda Concepción. The world's second largest eagle, it is currently an endangered species due to deforestation and illegal mining, main causes for loss of habitat. Though it is very hard to spot, José Luis was able to take a picture of the magnificent bird.



**TWO-TOED SLOTH – INKATERRA
RESERVA AMAZONICA, OCTOBER
2014**

At the Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica environs in Tambopata, the Inkaterra Canopy Walkway was built in 2004 to study biodiversity in the rainforest canopy. It is a 344m system of 2 towers, 8 platforms and 7 bridges at 100ft above the ground, which also contributes to eco-friendly activities such as bird watching and wildlife observation. For instance, on October 9th a group of travellers was able to enjoy a close encounter with a juvenile two-toed sloth (*Choloepus hoffmanni*), spotted by Inkaterra Friend Explorer Guide Carlota Soto.



**GHOST BAT – INKATERRA
HACIENDA CONCEPCIÓN,
NOVEMBER 2014**

On November 11th, Inkaterra explorer guide Elias León was leading a group of travellers in an excursion to Lake Sandoval, when they found by a most particular bat hanging under a Mauritia palm leaf (*Mauritia flexuosa*).

Everyone was in awe due to its unusual white color, proper of the Northern ghost bat (*Dicolidurus albus*). When the bat noticed the presence of travellers, it remained immobile as a defense mechanism. As it is a rare bat species found in Southeastern Peru, it offered one of this year's most memorable sightings.

**ANDEAN MOUNTAIN CAT – INKATERRA HACIENDA URUBAMBA, DECEMBER
2014**

Very early in the morning José Luis, Inkaterra Explorer Guide, was birding around Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba. After an hour and a half of walk, observed a sudden movement among the bushes, with the help of his binoculars, spotted an Andean Mountain cat (*Leopardus leopardus*) the most threatened feline species in South America. Jose could not believe the sighting of an endangered animal, which has only been previously seen in zoos. Unfortunately the remoteness and feline agility prevented photograph it.