



Amazon Peacock Bass 2016



Leaving for a week of fishing is something most men dream about, but few attempt. The mental hurdle of what will the company do without me or I'll be missing too much of my kid's school activities precludes so many from enjoying the activity that has brought our club together. Most find the company and family do just fine, and things really do go well when you are gone. Plus, you return with your batteries recharged.

As you pack, you say to yourself, "I think I need this," or, "what if I am the only one without that?" Again, the reality does not meet all the things that go on in your head as you really need so little to enjoy your time on the water. Such was the case for the 7 PWF guests and the 3 others who joined us on our 6 day adventure of Peacock Bass fishing down the famed Amazon River.



**Toby Boatman
19 lb Peacock**



Piranha

More than 20 percent of the world oxygen is produced in the Amazon Rainforest. More than half of the world's estimated 10 million species of plants, animals, and insects live in the tropical rainforests. One-fifth of the world's fresh water is in the Amazon Basin.

The 10 of us came from all parts of Texas and Arkansas, and we met in Miami to take the 5.5 hour flight to the heart of the Amazon River: Manaus, Brazil. Manaus is a large city of 2 million residents and is located in the middle of the Amazon rainforest. Access to the city is primarily by boat or airplane. This isolation helped preserve both the nature, as well as the culture of the city. The culture of Manaus, more than in any other urban area of Brazil, preserves the habits of Native Brazilian tribes. The city is the main entrance to visit the fauna and flora of the Brazilian Amazon. Few places in the world afford such a variety of plants, birds, insects, and fishes.



Steve Alexander
8 lb Arowana



Brooks McCall
22.5 lb Peacock

We arrived at 9:00 Friday night, spent the night at the Manaus Wyndham, and drove to our waiting 4 story house boat approximately 200 miles away early Saturday afternoon. As you might expect, we shared stories of all the big ones we had caught and lost on previous fishing adventures. This trip had members who fished all over the world for exotic species, to fisherman who's best fishing had been cat fishing in Tanks near their home town. We got our reels spooled with line, choose our rods, and were given all the tackle we needed. After getting set up we tucked in and dreamed of the famed Peacock Bass that we would be catching the next day.

The boat crew had been up since 3:30 AM to prepare our daily feast of Eggs, bacon, fresh fruit, cereals, cheeses, meat tray, homemade cinnamon, sugar donuts, and a host of other goodies. Most of us awoke at

5:00 AM, with no alarm needed as we knew our guides would be ready at 6:00 AM sharp with our 16 foot aluminum bass boats. We meet back at the boat at 11:30 AM for lunch and a quick nap and just enough time to share about all the ones we caught and lost. We head back out at 1:30 pm, and end the fishing day about 30 minutes before dark. Each evening brings us appetizers, stories, beer, wine, dinner, more wine, and more beer. We end the day one with 121 fish.



**Tom Peel
20 lb Peacock**



**Jack DeVaney
24 lb Peacock**

Day 2 through 6 brings much of the same and we end the week with 787 fish. Including 92 fish over 10lbs, 35 fish over 15 pounds and 11 fish over 20 pounds. For those of you wondering "Is that good?" Yes, that is good. In fact, likely a trip of a lifetime for several of us. The big fish were as plentiful as any Peacock Trip our outfitter has had in more than 20+ years of fishing the Amazon. To put it in perspective, we caught more fish over 10 lbs in the first two days than we did two years ago in 6 days of fishing. But, as they say, that is fishing. We were fortunate to catch the water levels just right.

On a personal note, I have completed my 7th hosted trip and have so enjoyed the friendships and fellowship time I have with our family of Private Water Fishing members. So many of you return year after year and trip after trip. We always have a few new guys, who add to the experience and grow our out of the country PWF trips.

Steve Alexander



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