

Frequently Asked Questions

Our passion is for...



THE VILLAGES (EARTH) WILL BE FILLED WITH THE
KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD AS
THE WATERS COVER THE AMAZON (SEA)
HAB. 2:14 (AO PARAPHRASE)

The Amazon River Basin is home to over 30,000 villages with only a 20% evangelical presence. However, God is moving! According to a 2025 Wall Street Journal article, the Amazon now leads the nation of Brazil in conversion to Christ. The growth has come through Brazilian and Americans traveling by boats, meeting physical needs and preaching the gospel. Even more encouraging, growth is projected to reach 50% over the next decade.

We are one of the few ministries mobilizing the American church to engage with the Amazon. Over the past 26 years, we've been honored to mobilize more than 450 teams comprising more than 9,000 volunteers, ministering to more than 300,000 villagers and drilling 260 water wells. However, we've only scratched the surface, and we invite you to join us in this movement of God in the Amazon River Basin.



PEOPLE WILL NOT BELIEVE THE WORDS OF YOUR MOUTH
UNTIL THEY FEEL THE TOUCH OF YOUR HANDS.
DR. RICHARD WALKER, MISSIONARY TO BRAZIL

WHAT WE DO

Amazon Outreach mobilizes short-term mission teams to support Brazilian churches in making disciples by sharing the love of Jesus throughout the Amazon River Basin. We employ Jesus' holistic approach, which addresses physical, relational, and spiritual needs simultaneously. We meet physical needs through medical, dental, vision and clean water ministries. We also address relational needs through ministries focused on men, women, children, and sports. By meeting physical and relational needs, we create a powerful bridge for the gospel.

WHY WE GO

- The people of the Amazon refer to themselves as "The Forgotten People." These humble Ribeirinhos (River People) live in deep material and spiritual poverty.
- Many villages are closed to local missionaries, but are very receptive to American teams offering medical, dental, and water services—local missionaries often call us “The Crow Bar Ministry.”
- Unfortunately, the vast majority of the population lacks access to the gospel. Villagers often hold a syncretized religion of diluted Christianity, Spiritism, and Macumba (voodoo), making them open to the gospel of Jesus Christ. The fields are ripe for harvest.
- They are underserved with medical care, dental services, and clean water. A leading cause of death for children is water-related illnesses.
- The Amazon River is vast, and its levels fluctuate by 40 feet each year, making the villages difficult to reach and navigate. Many villages are inaccessible by road, and few organizations, such as Amazon Outreach, serve these communities.

IS IT SAFE

There are inherent risks associated with all international travel. However, over the past 26 years, we have successfully mobilized more than 9,000 people, and everyone has returned safely. Our experienced Brazilian staff, including naval-certified captains, sailors, and cooks, ensures the safety of each trip. For the latest travel advisories, please refer to the State Department's Brazil International Travel Information.

[Brazil International Travel Information](#)

WHAT VACCINATIONS/PRESCRIPTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED

No vaccinations are required to enter Brazil, but several are recommended by the CDC.

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/brazil>

WHAT IS THE COST

The trip costs \$1,770, plus airfare and any selected extras (hotel and restaurants). Your trip leader will provide your price. This will cover airfare, food, lodging, transportation, medical/life travel insurance, and laundry services. However, it does not include personal items such as passports, visas, vaccines, airport meals, or gratuities. We also provide fundraising training and a personal fundraising link for tax-deductible online donations.

ARE VISAS REQUIRED

eVisas are required for entry into Brazil. They are good for 10 years with a cost of approximately \$80. For more details, please visit our website's resources page and click on the “eVisa” tab.

WHAT IS THE AO REFUND POLICY

Amazon Outreach (AO) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. Tax-deductible donations made to support a trip fee are non-refundable and are not contingent upon a team member's participation in the trip. If a team member needs to withdraw or if a trip is canceled, donations towards their trip will be retained as a trip credit (minus any potential airline penalties and credits) for no less than one year after the original trip date. Expired AO trip credits will be used by AO to further its charitable purposes.

WHAT IS THE AIRLINE'S CANCELED TICKET POLICY

If an airline ticket has been purchased, the original ticket value will be deducted from the team member's AO trip credit. The airline will retain ownership of the credit (not AO), and it must be redeemed through HighPoint Travel agency for any flight within one year of the original purchase date (not the original travel date). Please note that airline credits may be less than the value of the original ticket due to cancellation penalties. Occasionally, AO can utilize team members' airline credits with an additional name change fee. If AO can redeem a team member's airline credit, the value (minus any name change fees) will be applied to the team member's AO trip credit, extending the timeframe to redeem the airline credit by an additional year.

WHERE WILL WE GO

We will fly into Manaus, Brazil, where a commercial bus will transport the team from the airport to the mission boat (approximately a 30-minute journey). The team will spend the night aboard the boat as it travels toward our first village. Our Brazilian church partners will select the villages we serve.

WHO WILL WE SERVE

We primarily serve the local pastors and missionaries working in the Amazon River Basin. In partnership with them, we also support the Ribeirinhos (river people) and Indigenous tribes along the Amazon River.

WHAT WILL WE DO

Each trip is tailored based on the team's skills and abilities. Activities may include medical, dental, and eyeglass services, as well as Vacation Bible School (VBS), youth ministry, evangelism, water well drilling, and construction projects. We often play soccer to build connections and also creatively use other skills such as hair cutting, nail polishing, hair braiding, photography, and journalism. Our final day typically includes time for tourism and souvenir shopping.

HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN GO

Each trip requires a minimum of 20 participants and can accommodate up to 32 per boat. This includes everyone from middle schoolers to senior adults. Additionally, 20 to 30 Brazilians will join the team, including missionaries, pastors, translators, sailors, cooks, and laundry staff.

WHERE WILL WE EAT, SLEEP, ETC?

Our beautiful triple-decker mission boats serve as transportation, accommodations, dining areas, and mission bases. Team members sleep in open-air hammocks, but we also have a few air-conditioned cabins designated as sick bays.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL WEEK ON THE RIVER LOOK LIKE

While each trip can vary significantly, most follow a typical 9-day itinerary: Day 1: Travel to Manaus and board the boat, set up hammocks, and spend the night as the boat sets sail. Day 2: Travel day on the river to the first village. Day 3-7: Village ministry, Day 8: Return to Manaus (souvenir, explore), Day 9: Arrive home.

INTERESTED IN WHAT A TYPICAL DAY IN A VILLAGE LOOKS LIKE (View our YouTube channel)

Each trip may differ, but here's a typical schedule: 6am Sunrise (personal devotions encouraged), 7am Breakfast, 8am Devotion/Team Assignments, 9am-12pm Village Ministry (medical, dental, eyeglass, VBS, door-to-door evangelism), 12-2pm Lunch, 2-4pm Village Ministry (same as morning, but evangelism teams shift into Men's and Women's ministries), 4pm Worship Service, 5pm Soccer, 6pm Dinner (sunset), 7pm Debrief/Worship (sometimes worship service in the village, if not held earlier) 8pm Free, 10pm Lights Out.

WHEN CAN WE GO

You can join an existing trip or schedule a trip for any week of the year that our boats are available (minimum of 20 people). Check our trip schedule to join a trip <https://amazonoutreach.org/trips/>

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE LEAVE

Our Brazilian church partners will continue to follow up with disciple-making, leadership development, and church planting. Our main partners (Central Presbyterian of Manaus and First Baptist Parintins) conduct jungle pastor seminars that train lay pastors. We also seek churches willing to commit to long-term partnerships with our Brazilian partners by adopting a tributary and investing in the development of infrastructure. Examples include yearly trips, participating in jungle seminary training, supporting a river missionary, or building a church in a village.

EXTRA RESOURCES

Visit the [AO YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/@amazon_outreach), www.youtube.com/@amazon_outreach, and navigate to Playlists. We recommend exploring our training videos, which cover essential topics like "A Typical Day" and packing instructions.

AMAZONOUTREACH.ORG

Here you will find the answers and resources for almost everything

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