February 2 to 14, 2020
Cruise aboard the
Exclusively Chartered
Expedition Vessel ZAFIRO
February 2 to 14, 2020
Dear alumni and friends:

Join us for an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime experience in the mysterious Amazon River Basin, Earth’s most biodiverse natural realm and largest rainforest ecosystem, coupled with the marvels of the awe-inspiring Machu Picchu, the legendary “Lost City of the Incas.”

The longest navigable river in the world, the Amazon—referred to as the Río Amazonas in Spanish—winds more than 4000 miles from its source in the Andes Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean. Our phenomenal natural history voyage begins aboard the deluxe, exclusively chartered Zafiro, an ideal small expedition river ship uniquely designed to be one of a limited number of passenger vessels permitted to navigate the remote tributaries of the Peruvian Amazon and the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, the largest wetlands refuge in the world. The ship cruises past the confluence of the Río Ucayali and Río Marañón, the inception of the Amazon River. The ship’s English-speaking naturalists will guide us through this fragile bionetwork to see endemic butterflies, pink river dolphins, squirrel-sized tamarins and enormous blooming water lilies. We will also visit local villages to gain insight into the culture and traditional way of life of the ribereños (indigenous Amazonian peoples).

Our unique expedition continues in the Sacred Valley of Urubamba, the cradle of the erstwhile mighty Inca Empire. The mountainous pastoral landscape is dotted with archaeological sites and rustic towns, brimming with culture as vibrant as the tapestries and ceramics crafted there. This wondrous valley connects Machu Picchu and the Inca capital, Cuzco (or Cusco), whose historic center has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. The Andean portion of our journey is underscored by a visit to Machu Picchu, lost to the world for over four centuries and now a UNESCO World Heritage site. It encompasses more than 200 archaeological treasures surrounded by emerald-green peaks which deftly obscured the citadel from human eyes for so many years.

The perfect complement to your Peruvian expedition is the Colonial Lima Pre-Program Option in the coastal capital’s historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This outstanding small group expedition is a great value and will sell out quickly. Reserve now while space and early booking savings are available.

Sincerely,

Kathy Barnard
Executive Director of Alumni Relations

Office of Alumni Relations Disclaimer

The University of Idaho, through its Office of Alumni Relations, is pleased to provide this service of facilitating travel opportunities for its alumni and friends. We strive to work with the best partners to make available interesting and enriching travel options for University of Idaho alumni. Please note that the university does not conduct tours, nor does it act as an agent for guests interested in tours. The Office of Alumni Relations acts as a facilitator with tour operators, with whom tour participants make arrangements for completing travel. We’re pleased to act as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions or concerns that may arise before, during or after your tour. The Office of Alumni Relations encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the tour operator’s cancellation and refund policies, and also to investigate available services such as trip cancellation insurance.

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Photo this page: Bask in the bright Andean sun, regarded as a deity by the Incas, as it illuminates the storied ruins of Machu Picchu.
U.S./Lima, Perú
Sunday, Day 1
Depart for Perú’s cosmopolitan capital, Lima, situated on the Pacific coast and framed by the foothills of the Andes Mountains. Arrive late this evening and check into the Wyndham Costa Del Sol Lima Hotel.

Lima/Iquitos/Nauta/Río Amazonas
Monday, Day 2
This morning, fly to vibrant Iquitos, an important rubber boom city during the late 19th century that attracted thousands of immigrants who hoped to build their fortunes in the Amazon River Basin. After lunch in a local restaurant, walk through the Plaza de Armas and see the Casa de Fierro—or Iron House—designed by Gustave Eiffel for the International Exposition of Paris in 1889 and still considered one of the finest examples of civil architecture in Perú.

Transfer to Nauta and embark the Zafiro to begin your voyage of discovery into one of the world’s most remote regions. Gather on the ship’s Observation Deck and watch as modern civilization fades away and the ever-changing panorama of the Amazon River unfolds before you. Enjoy the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening.

Please note: Itinerary may vary based on wildlife sightings, water levels and navigability.

Cover photo: Wind through the mysterious Amazon River aboard the deluxe Zafiro, the ideal way to explore the largest rainforest ecosystem on Earth.

Río Amazonas/Río Ucayali
Tuesday, Day 3
Awaken in the heart of the Amazon Basin, where the dense jungle teems with the greatest diversity of plant and animal life on Earth and the perfect serenity of the river is broken only by the occasional fisherman passing by in a traditional dugout canoe. Embark one of the vessel’s small excursion boats to look for wildlife along a pristine tributary.

This afternoon, visit a butterfly farm and meet ribereños who—as part of their ongoing conservation efforts—raise several of the thousands of butterfly species that live in the Amazon’s unique ecosystem, including the rare blue morpho.

Watch for the sleek, spotted coat of the elusive jaguar as it slinks through the tropical rainforest.

Río Amazonas/Río Ucayali/Río Marañón
Wednesday, Day 4
Explore the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, the largest wetlands reserve in the world and a veritable avian paradise.
This area is home to the endearing capybara—a large, semi-aquatic rodent endemic to South America—and a profusion of rare palms, orchids and other tropical plants. Watch for pink and gray river dolphins swimming alongside the boat.

After lunch, board a small river skiff in search of exotic wildlife, including toucans and saddleback tamarin monkeys, and marvel at the giant *Victoria amazonica* water lilies.

**Río Marañón/Río Pucate/Río Ucayali**

**Thursday, Day 5**

Under the shade of the mystical rainforest canopy, enjoy a picnic breakfast while you watch for capped heron and wattled jacana dipping into nearby shallow waters. In this mysterious realm of lofty ceiba trees that reach as high as 200 feet, listen for raucous scarlet macaws chattering in the canopy and watch for trogons, puffbirds and tropical rails.

By special arrangement this afternoon, meet a local shaman, who will perform an Amazonian ritual and explain how the ribereños have used indigenous medicinal plants for centuries. Participate in a special tree-planting ceremony dedicated to ensuring the longevity of the rainforest.

This evening, search for elusive nocturnal creatures such as caimans and bats on a nighttime excursion into the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve—a vast blanket of stars shines above you, impossibly bright this close to the equator.

**Río Marañón/Nauta**

**Friday, Day 6**

Enter a virtually uninhabited portion of the Amazon where the river narrows. Board excursion boats and cruise along labyrinthine blackwater tributaries while the naturalists point out animal and plant life rarely detected by the untrained eye. Also on this excursion, try fishing for the famous red-bellied piranha.

This afternoon, stop in a riverside village for a demonstration on how to prepare Amazonian specialties, including *juanes*, a regional favorite of banana leaf wraps filled with chicken and rice.

During a visit to another Amazonian village, learn more about the ribereños’ timeless way of life and special relationship with this remarkable environment.

Gather on the ship’s Observation Deck to enjoy a final evening of cruising the Amazon and a festive farewell as the sun sets over the lush flora of the rainforest.

**Nauta/Iquitos/Cuzco/Sacred Valley**

**Saturday, Day 7**

Disembark the ZAFIRO and fly from Iquitos to Cuzco via Lima. On arrival, transfer to the Sacred Valley of Urubamba, a scenic stretch...
of ancient ruins and small towns nestled in the Peruvian Andes where Quechua, the Inca language, is still widely spoken. Check into the Sonesta Posada del Inca Hotel and enjoy dinner in the hotel this evening.

Sacred Valley Sunday, Day 8
In the rustic villages of Chinchero and Urubamba, visit the Interpretation Center of Andean Textiles and the Pablo Seminario Workshop to see colorful handicraft demonstrations and learn more about the practical and decorative arts of ancestral Peruvian cultures still thriving today. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant.

Sacred Valley/ Machu Picchu Monday, Day 9
Admire the spectacular archaeological site and ancient engineering marvel of the impressive fortress of Ollantaytambo, which stands as a lasting testament to the powerful and far-reaching Inca Empire. Enjoy a panoramic train ride to Machu Picchu through vibrant highland jungles.

Experience legendary Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage site perched on a lush, verdant peak in the Peruvian Andes. Lunch is included in a restaurant at the ruins. Enjoy the stunning walking tour of this historic sanctuary. This evening, check into the Five-Star Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel, located amid exquisite botanical gardens and waterfalls at the foot of Machu Picchu, and enjoy dinner in the hotel.

Machu Picchu/Cuzco Tuesday, Day 10
Early this morning, choose to return to the ruins of Machu Picchu for the unforgettable sight of the sun rising through the morning mist or enjoy time at leisure. Lunch is included before your return to Ollantaytambo via a panoramic train ride.

This afternoon, check into the deluxe JW Marriott El Convento in Cuzco, ideally located in the city’s historical center and surrounded by quaint cobblestone streets. Dinner is included.

Cuzco Wednesday, Day 11
On the outskirts of the historic Inca capital of Cuzco, explore the ruins of Sacsayhuamán Archaeological Park. This stone fortress—

Look for the South American coati, a member of the raccoon family, eating fruit high in the canopy.

Keep an eye out for the scarlet macaw, the largest neotropical parrot, beloved for its flamboyant plumage.

Hear the throaty call of the gregarious red howler monkey, one of the Amazon’s most recognizable species.
MV ZAFIRO

The deluxe ZAFIRO, specifically designed to navigate the Upper Amazon River and its tributaries, carries a maximum of 36 guests. This spacious yet intimate ship offers a unique way to experience this fragile ecosystem of colorful wildlife and abundant flora within the most extraordinary, remote and untouched rainforest.

Throughout the cruise, English-speaking naturalists provide expert insight into the Amazon's biodiversity and the culture of the indigenous people during lectures, small boat excursions and nature walks.

Each deluxe, air conditioned, river-view Suite or Stateroom has either a private balcony or a floor-to-ceiling panoramic window. Amenities include two twin beds or one king bed, minibar, safe and a private bathroom with shower and hair dryer.

Peruvian and international cuisine is prepared daily from fresh local ingredients, and the dining room's panoramic windows provide a scenic backdrop for meals.

The ZAFIRO features a specially designed, spacious, open-air Observation Deck offering scenic views by day and spectacular stargazing at night; an outdoor bar and lounge; indoor reading lounge; and fitness room and massage services. The ship is equipped with small excursion boats ideal for entering the river’s most remote tributaries. There is no doctor on board.

Cuzco/Lima
Thursday, Day 12
Fly from Cuzco to Lima, where day-room accommodations have been reserved in the Wyndham Costa Del Sol Lima Hotel. This afternoon is at leisure. Late tonight, board your return flight to the U.S.

U.S.
Friday, Day 13
Arrive in the U.S.

Colonial Lima
Pre-Program Option

The ideal introduction to your Peruvian exploration is its coastal capital, Lima, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Its historic center showcases proud colonial mansions and modern architecture around the Plaza de Armas, the city’s main square. See the colonial Cathedral of Lima, which dates back to 1535; inside, see its 14 ornate chapels and the tomb of Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro. Visit the 17th-century colonial Convent and Church of San Francisco. Tour the opulent Casa de Aliaga, built in 1559 as the residence of Don Jerónimo de Aliaga, the co-founder of Lima. Enjoy two nights in the deluxe JW Marriott Lima Hotel, located in the upscale and cultural Miraflores district.

The Pre-Program Option is available at an additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

a UNESCO World Heritage site along with Cuzco—was built of stones varying in shape and size without the use of mortar.

During the city tour of Cuzco, visit Koricancha (Temple of the Sun), recognized as the holiest site in Inca mythology and known as the crown jewel of the Inca capital, as well as the Baroque- and Renaissance-style Cuzco Cathedral, built in 1559. After lunch, enjoy your afternoon at leisure.
Included Features

**In Lima**
- One night in the Wyndham Costa Del Sol Lima Hotel with full breakfast the next day.
- Day-room accommodations in the Wyndham Costa Del Sol Lima Hotel on Day 12. Flights round trip Lima and Iquitos.

**In Iquitos**
- City tour, including lunch in a local restaurant. Transfers round trip Iquitos and Nauta.

**On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe ZAFIRO**
- Five-night cruise round trip Nauta on the Amazon, Ucayali, Marañón and Pucate Rivers.
- Deluxe, air-conditioned, river-view Suite or Stateroom.
- All meals aboard ship; beer or wine with lunch and dinner.
- Welcome Reception with light refreshments.
- Visit to a butterfly conservation farm operated by locals.
- Boat excursion into the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve to encounter pink river dolphins.
- Small boat excursion to see giant water lilies.
- Nature walk through the virgin rainforest led by expert naturalists who identify the flora and fauna.
- Exclusive presentation by a Jíbaro-Ashual shaman.
- Nighttime excursion in search of nocturnal rainforest animals.
- Red-bellied piranha fishing expedition.
- Specially arranged visit to an Amazonian village to learn more about the indigenous ribereños.
- Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to plant a tree in the Amazon rainforest.
- Cooking demonstration of Amazonian specialties.
- Flights round trip Lima and Cuzco.

**In Machu Picchu and Cuzco**
- Two nights in the charming, colonial-style Sonesta Posada del Inca Hotel in the Sacred Valley.
- One night in the Five-Star Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel, one of the finest eco-hotels in Latin America.
- Two nights in Cuzco’s deluxe JW Marriott El Convento Hotel, ideally located in the city center.
- Five breakfasts, four lunches and three dinners.
- Excursion to the Interpretation Center of Andean Textiles in the Sacred Valley village of Chinchero.
- Visit to the fascinating Pablo Seminario Workshop in Urubamba to observe Andean artisanship.
- Excursion to stunning Machu Picchu, the fabled “Lost City of the Incas.”
- Tour of the terraced Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo.
- Visit to the grand Spanish-colonial Cuzco Cathedral.
- Round-trip train ride Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu.

**Always Included**
- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers in Lima and Iquitos.
- Complimentary refillable water bottle and purified water stations aboard ship.
- Hospitality desk in the hotels and aboard ship.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Cradled by the soaring peaks of the Andes Mountains, the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu summons awe and wonder like few other places. Undiscovered for four centuries until American explorer Hiram Bingham unearthed the site in 1911, Machu Picchu was built in the 15th century as a summer retreat for the Inca emperor Pachacuti. Clinging to thickly forested slopes 8000 feet above sea level and tucked deep in the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu's remote location impeded Spanish conquest and adds to the site's ethereal aura. Duly anointed with UNESCO World Heritage status and regarded as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, Machu Picchu showcases the Incas’ engineering prowess and astronomical genius in a mosaic of mystical altars, complex aqueducts and granite steps unfathomably carved from escarpments.

These stairs and andenes (agricultural terraces built into the mountainside), where llamas nonchalantly graze, lead to the site’s most symbolic structures, including the Temple of the Sun and Intihuatana, a large ceremonial stone used by Inca priests for astrological predictions.

From the ancient citadel, traverse the lush Sacred Valley to the historic Inca capital of Cuzco, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See Baroque- and Renaissance-style churches alongside Inca temples, exemplifying the city’s fascinating mix of pre-Columbian and colonial influences, and visit the holy stone fortress of Sacsayhuamán on this comprehensive journey of immersion in the history, myths and legends of the ancient Inca Empire.

In Cuzco’s Plaza de Armas, see the 16th-century Jesuit church, one of the best examples of colonial Baroque style.
Explore the Amazon River and its tributaries, home to the Victoria amazonica giant water lily.

MY ZAFIRO

Send to: 2020 Amazon River Expedition and Machu Picchu
University of Idaho Office of Alumni Relations
c/o Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:

1st choice ______ 2nd choice ______

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one king bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Lima Pre-Program Option

- Double at $545 per person.
- Single at $745 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

OMAR RIVER EXPEDITION AND MACHU PICCHU RESERVATION FORM

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:

1st choice ______ 2nd choice ______

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one king bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Lima Pre-Program Option

- Double at $545 per person.
- Single at $745 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

1/We want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised,‡ from:

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy
- Business Class
- First Class

‡ Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

1/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
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ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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