

# Yawanawa Emã Shení Shushuti

Join us for a once  
in a lifetime  
journey of healing  
and celebration in  
the Sacred Village  
of the Yawanawa

October  
22-31st, 2019

Yawanawa Indigenous Territory  
Acre, Brazilian Amazon, Brazil



A deep  
transformational  
experience,  
in the 'Sacred  
Village' of the  
Yawanawá  
people.

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You are invited to join us on a sacred journey of connection, healing, ancestral- memory, celebration and self-knowledge in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon.



Photo Insta @yawanawaretreats



# The Yawanawá

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There are about 1200 Yawanawá living in the Brazilian state of Acre, in villages along the banks of the Gregório river, where they have made their homes since time immemorial.

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The Yawanawá people's first contact with the *non-indigenous* world happened around the fourteenth century. It was an intense period of much conflict with the rubber barons and missionaries who invaded their lands and tried to forbid Yawanawá language, culture and spirituality. In the 1980s, chief Biraci Nixiwaka Brazil led his people in the struggle for the recognition of their native territories, and the Yawanawá became the first indigenous people to obtain the official rights to their lands in the state of Acre.

The Yawanawá have since then reclaimed their sacred medicines, rituals, song and dance, festivals, games, traditional body painting and adornment, artwork and food, in a profound journey of cultural revival.



# The Sacred Village

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The Yawanawa Emã Sheni Shushuti celebration will take place in the ancestral village of the Yawanawa People- The Sacred Village. The Sacred Village (Aldeia Sagrada) is the sacred ancestral sanctuary of the Yawanawa from the times when the entire tribe lived together united in a single village. It is there where the burial grounds of the Yawanawa elders and Pajes (Shamans) exist until today.

It was in the Sacred Village that the first contact with Western society was made. This contact marked the beginning of an era of repression by the missionaries and an era of enslavement for the exploitation of rubber. Decades later, when the Yawanawa regained the rights to their land, they stopped living in the Sacred Village and began to open new villages and re-writing their history. A great revival of Yawanawa culture, customs and spirituality took place and today the Yawanawa are living a new time.

The Sacred Village is the Spiritual center of Yawanawa culture; it is the place where all apprentices on the path of Yawanawa Spirituality undergo their Spiritual trainings and 'dietas' to become Pajes (Shamans). The land is blessed with fertile soil and rich biodiversity, including a large garden of medicinal plants preserving Yawanawa Ancestral Botanical plant knowledge.



Photo Insta @yawanawaretreats





# Today, \_\_\_\_\_

access to the Sacred Village is granted only in times of prayer and diet. For the occasion of this celebration, we will have the unique opportunity and immense privilege to embark on a deep Spiritual Journey while immersing in Yawanawá culture and Celebration within their most sacred territory.

During the Emã Sheni Shushuti celebration we will be received by a warm team of caretakers, including a Professional holistic Chef, Plant Medicine doctors, Pajes (Shamans) from several Yawanawa villages including Nova Esperança and Mutum, as well as young upcoming leaders of the community.

All will be working alongside Putanny Yawanawá, her husband Chief Nixiwaka Biraci Brazil, their son Biraci Iskunkua Junior, their son in law Paje Peu and their daughters Nawashahu, Ykashahu and Mukashahu who will be

## guiding our journey as a family.



Foto Insta @Yawanawadelf

Arte Insta @delfina.mt

# Putanny Yawanawá

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Yawanawá spirituality is a sacred territory where never a woman had dared to step, for since ancestral times, it had belonged exclusively to men.

In 2005, two women, Putanny and her sister Hushohu, were the first women to make the sacred oath of the Yawanawa people.. They have since been recognized as the first women to undergo Yawanawá spiritual training. After a year of strict diet, they earned their communities' respect as spiritual leaders, and opened the way into this sacred path for many other Yawanawá women. A break in tradition that united the male and female universes - and brought the magic of feminine spirituality to strengthen the Yawanawá culture.

Since 2016, Putanny has been receiving visitors in the Nova Esperança village, for an immersion in Yawanawa Spirituality in the form of a Healing Retreat. Participation in these Retreats, as well as in this Celebration, contribute to the construction, maintenance and development of the Sacred Village Ceremonial Center currently being built.





# Biraci Brasil

## Nixiwaka

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Chief Biraci Nixiwaka is one of the most relevant indigenous leaders of our time. He has dedicated his life to empowering his people and reclaiming their ancient culture and spirituality.

He was instrumental in having his people, the Yawanawa, be the first Indigenous tribe in Brazil to have their lands officially demarcated. After reconquering the rights over their land, encompassing 200 hectares of virgin forest in the heart of the Amazon, Nixiwaka, alongside his family, led the opening of their cultures to the world. He founded 'Nova Esperança' (New Hope) village, and created the Yawa Festival, which has been happening annually for the past 16 years, in celebration of Yawanawa traditions.

Nixiwaka oversees the development of many projects in his community, including the current project of rebuilding the Sacred Village, ensuring cultural preservation and the sustainable management of their ecological sanctuary. He is an exceptional orator, riveting story teller and a true visionary of the New Times humanity is presently embarking upon.



# Activities

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- <<>> Body Painting- the study of the sacred designs called KENE
- <<>> Smudging Circles with Sipá; sacred resin of the Yawanawá
- <<>> Ceremony of Rape Preparation and Rapé Circles
- <<>> Kampum (Kambo Frog Venom) Sessions
- <<>> Uni (Ayahuasca) Ceremonies
- <<>> Traditional Storytelling
- <<>> Jewelry and Crafts Bazaar
- <<>> Traditional Yawanawa Games
- <<>> Traditional Song Circles and Workshop
- <<>> Traditional Food and exceptional vegetarian cuisine
- <<>> Hike to the Samaúma Tree, the 'Mother' tree in the Amazon
- <<>> Free Time to integrate with the Healing Force of the Floresta



Foto Insta @txanamari



# Investment

<> Until the 31st of August, \$ 1750 (US)

<> Until the 31st of August, \$ 1900 (US)

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## What is included:

- Participation in all the activities, ceremonies, medicines, etc.
  - Contribution to the Yawanawá village and the Sacred Village
  - 2 nights double or triple room Hotel accommodation in Rio Branco (or CZS) with breakfast included
  - Transportation from Rio Branco (or CZS) to São Vicente (round trip)
  - Boat from São Vicente to the Sacred Village (round trip)
  - All meals during our stay in the village (traditional Yawanawá and Vegetarian cuisine)
  - 6 nights accommodation in the Yawanawá village (we will stay in traditional indigenous shelters - you must bring your own gear)
  - Bilingual guides (English/Portuguese)
  - Yawanawa guides and Team
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## Does not Include:

- International & domestic flights to Brazil and Acre
  - Meals in Cruzeiro do Su (or Rio Branco) and during the van or boat journeys.
  - Camping Equipment and personal gear
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# About me

I am a passionate globetrotter, media creator, activist, and social entrepreneur. Among other things I have been involved in different cultural exchange, sustainability and indigenous knowledge preservation initiatives in different parts of North and South America for over a decade.

Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, I have been traveling to the Amazon and different parts of Latin America for many years. I love working with people and groups and leading excursions into remote communities in different parts of Latin America.

Photography and Journeys page.

[www.ancient-futures.com](http://www.ancient-futures.com)





# Space is Limited!!

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Our last deadline for registration is September 15th, or until we reach the maximum limit of participants.

A Registration form will be emailed to you once your presence is confirmed. Your registration is not complete until you have emailed back the registration form and 50% of the payment due is paid.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We will send more detailed guidelines and travel checklist once we receive your confirmation.

<<>>YIHUUUUU!! <<>>

For more information:

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Photo Marcos Lopez