

# SPECIAL OFFER

## THE MOST NATURAL WORLD POPULATION OF *JUBAEA* "HACIENDA LAS PALMAS DE COCALAN"

### Presentation:

"Hacienda Las Palmas de Cocalan" is the second largest *Jubaea chilensis* concentration area in Chile, after the well-known Palmas de Ocoa which is located in La Ocoa National Park, owned and managed by the State. This is the most relevant palm trees area and symbolizes a unique sample where some sectors represent the closest structure to natural patterns with a broad range of ages among trees that concentrate young and medium aged individuals. The rest of living palm population is old and in a very decaying stage; most individuals range between 250-300 years old, as it can be witnessed in Cocalan Valley. It has been proven that Chile originally had about 5.000.000 individuals, but today this amount has decreased to 120.000 natural trees, approximately.

### Area and geographical location:

"Hacienda Las Palmas de Cocalan" has 3.400 ha. with an estimated amount of 40.000 palm trees. The property is located in Las Cabras, VI Region, at 160 Km. (100 miles) from Santiago, Chile's capital city. (Geographical coordinates are: 32°12' South and 71°10' West).

### Importance (Main characteristics):

The Chilean palm has probably been the most important forestry species in Central Chile. A very dramatic reduction of palm trees population has become evident as a consequence of the total harvest of palm fruit as well as its uncontrolled exploitation in the past decades to clear soils for agricultural practices and for urban growth purposes, particularly, in the surroundings of Valparaiso. Today, palm tree individuals appear in very few stands, most of them with old individuals. But, two of the locations are the most important: Ocoa and Cocalan.

### Conservation:

This property is a unique reserve, a relict, with a significant economic value as well as with cultural and social importance. This is the main reason why Palm Tree Friends wish to preserve "Hacienda Las Palmas de Cocalan" with all the characteristics of the species cultivation, an attractive inner work of the rural culture and economic activities. The conservation of the Chilean Palm under a rational, effective and sustainable use through ecotouristic services as well as through a complementary sustainable production will make possible the conservation of this natural world patrimony.

Special offer over US\$ 3.000.000

For more information contact: [palms\\_of\\_cocalan@vtr.net](mailto:palms_of_cocalan@vtr.net)





## PALM TOUR OF THE AMAZON

### A RIVERBOAT TOUR TO SEE THE PALMS OF THE AMAZON

Once again we will offer a *Palm Tour of the Amazon*. This tour is designed for palm enthusiasts who are interested in experiencing the rich and diverse palm flora of the Amazon. We will explore the central Amazon region, a fascinating ecosystem with a great diversity of plants, animals, birds, and fish. The region includes a variety of palm habitats and we will look for several interesting species—*Barcella odora*, *Manicaria saccifera*, *Leopoldinia pulchra*, *Leopoldinia major*, *Leopoldinia piassaba*, *Mauritiella aculeata*, *Mauritia carana*, and *Euterpe catinga*. Along the river margins and in nearby forests we will see a great variety of species of *Syagrus*, *Hyospathe*, *Socratea*, *Iriartella*, *Oenocarpus*, *Geonoma*, *Bactris*, *Astrocaryum*, *Mauritia*, and *Euterpe*. On each of the previous trips we have seen between 50 and 60 different species of palm.

The trip is planned to take advantage of the good weather of the dry season. We will live and travel aboard a brand-new, comfortable Amazonian riverboat. The boat has air-conditioning, showers, and toilets in each cabin, and a small library of books on Amazonian natural history. The owner/captain is the legendary Amazon guide Moacir Fortes, who took us on our earlier trips. Mo, as he is known to one and all, is fluent in several languages, and enjoys sharing the fascinating, and often humorous, legends of the Amazon region, where he grew up.

In our motorized canoes we can travel among the rain forest trees, enjoying close up views of palms and other plant and animal life (on previous trips we have seen the giant Amazon water lily and an anaconda!). We will often get off our boat for short hikes in the forest, and to visit the friendly caboclos who live along the riverbanks. These people use an amazing variety of palms in their daily lives and always know of some interesting palm that grows not far away! Frequent swims, fishing opportunities, and occasional cookouts add to the enjoyment of our trip. In Manaus, our port of departure in Brazil, we will visit the famous Opera House and be able to buy such artifacts as hammocks made from palm fiber and also sample ice cream made from the fruits of *Euterpe* and *Astrocaryum*!

The tour will be led by Dr. Andrew Henderson of the New York Botanical Garden. Henderson is author of *Palms of the Amazon* and *Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas*. Participants will receive complementary copies of the *Field Guide*. The 10-day trip is planned for 9–19<sup>th</sup> October 2006, immediately following the IPS biennial. For additional information see <http://www.nybg.org/botany/amazonpalmtour/> or contact Andrew Henderson at [ahenderson@nybg.org](mailto:ahenderson@nybg.org), or by phone at 718 817 8973, or by mail at The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458.

Fee: estimated \$3400 including round trip airfare from Miami, accommodation, meals, and field trips.



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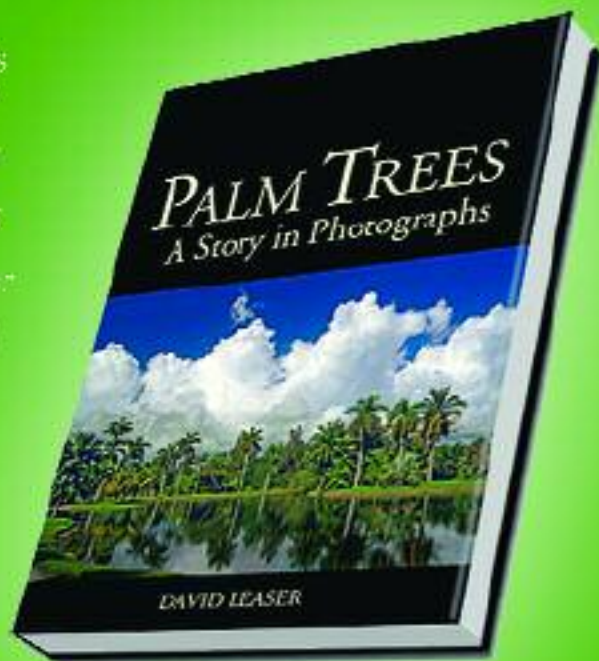
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