

SOUTH AMERICA - REFUGIO AMAZONAS



INTRODUCTION

Refugio Amazonas is a 32-bedroom lodge four hours from Puerto Maldonado airport. It is ideal for science enthusiasts, soft adventurers and families. Refugio Amazonas is located in a 200-hectare private reserve within the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve.

Highlights include:

Clay Licks - Take a boat trip to the Chunchu Clay Lick inside the Tambopata National Reserve to see macaws descend to the clay lick on clear mornings.

Canopy Tower - A 30-metre scaffolding canopy tower gives you spectacular views of the vast expanses of standing forest with a good chance of spotting toucans, parrots, macaws or mixed species canopy flocks.

Camera Trapping at a Mammal Clay Lick - Configure camera traps at a nearby mammal clay lick and download wildlife photos from the past few days to help scientists find out what is present at The Big Grid, our 288 kilometre trail system experiment.

Life in the Rainforest - Visit a working jungle farm and a real Brazil nut concession to learn about the way of life in the rainforest. You will taste exotic tropical fruits and discover medicinal plants from the neighbouring local families that we are helping integrate into the ecotourism industry.

Lake - Paddle around the Lake Condonado on a catamaran, looking for wildlife such a hoatzin, caiman or horned screamers.

Natural Construction Rooms - Bedrooms open out onto the surrounding rainforest, allowing you to enjoy this diverse ecosystem even during downtime, with wild animals, including monkeys, often visible from the lodge. The dining room is a huge open building with a loft on the second story for an eye level view of the surrounding rainforest canopy.

Adventure in Nature - Kayak and Stand-Up Paddle on the Tambopata River and rappel to a Canopy Platform.

Wired Amazon Science Lab - Hang out with resident biologists as they peer through a stereoscope to properly identify insect specimens before mounting them and sending them off to the University of Guelph for genetic sequencing.

Children's Rainforest Trail - The Amazon's only trail for children and a playground beside the lodge.

Wellness Centre - Enjoy massages and aromatherapy at our wellness center.

TRIP CODE

PETSRO4

DURATION

4 Days

LOCATIONS

Peru

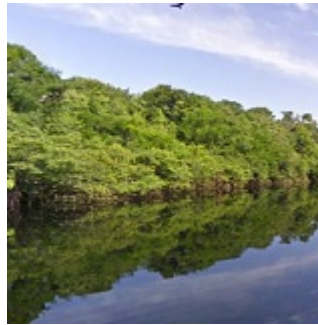


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ITINERARY

DAY 1: Puerto Maldonado - Refugio Amazonas

On arrival at Puerto Maldonado Airport, you will be met by a representative of Refugio Amazonas to begin the journey to Refugio. Enroute we will stop at the local office so that you can repack your luggage and only take what is required for the next four days. The rest will be stored securely in the office. Continue by road and a two and a half hour boat journey to Refugio Amazonas, located in a 200-hectare private reserve. The boat ride from the Tambopata River Port to Refugio Amazonas takes us past the Infierno Community and the Tambopata National Reserve checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit. A boxed lunch is provided to eat along the way. On arrival you will be welcomed to the lodge and given a brief orientation. After dinner at the lodge there is the option to join a night walk when most of the animals are active but sometimes difficult to see. The frogs are easier to see with their fascinating shapes and colours and fascinating sounds.



DAY 2: Refugio Amazonas

After breakfast venture out onto the lake by canoe or catamaran, looking for wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman, horned screamers, macaws and otters that are sometimes seen in the area. Back on land, a 30 minute walk from the lodge takes you to the 25 metre scaffolding canopy tower, complete with staircase running through the middle and providing safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built on high ground to give views of the primary rainforest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. Enjoy excellent views across the canopy and look for toucans, macaws and raptors. After lunch you will visit a farm to learn about local agriculture and Amazonian crops before an ethnobotanical tour to learn about the medicinal uses of the various plants and trees of the region. In the evening, Refugio Amazonas staff offer lectures covering topics such as conservation threats, opportunities and projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.



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DAY 3: Refugio Amazonas

Witness the audio and visual spectacle of a clay lick, watching vibrant coloured macaws, parrots and parakeets feast on clay. Species such as dusky-headed and cobalt-winged parakeets are often seen and with luck we may also see mealy and yellow-crowned Amazons, blue-headed pionus, severe macaw and orange-cheeked (Barraband`s) parrots. After lunch, take a short hike from the lodge brings us to a beautiful Brazil nut forest that has been harvested for decades. Here you can learn about the whole process of the rainforest's only sustainably harvested product, from collection through transportation to drying. In the afternoon, there will be a visit to a peccary clay lick, this time to see mammals. Wild rain forest pigs show up in herds of up to twenty to eat clay, alongside deer, guan and parakeets.



DAY 4: Refugio Amazonas - Puerto Maldonado

After breakfast, return to Puerto Maldonado for your departure flight. Depending on airline schedules, this may require a dawn departure. Please note schedule of activities are subject to change without notice.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

Inclusions


Accommodations
All meals
All tours, activity services and guides
Transfer from and to the airport of Puerto Maldonado
All river transportation

Exclusions:

International flights
Visa or reciprocity fees (if applicable)
Excess baggage charges
Additional nights during the trip due to flight cancellations
Alcoholic beverages or bottled water
Insurance of any kind
Personal expenses

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. This is a Tailor-Made itinerary which can be customised to create your own unique journey. Contact us to discuss your travel plans.
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

Refugio Amazonas plays its part for a sustainable Amazon. The lodge itself was crafted from local materials and good. The lodge sponsors a conservation project which allows guests to not only learn about new species but also contribute to their protection. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)