

PUERTO MALDONADO RAINFOREST – POSADA AMAZONAS

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS

Madre de Dios, Peru is a large department (or state) in the wild, southeastern part of the country. Its name means “Mother of God” and is a common Spanish synonym for “the Virgin Mary”. The rather generic name given to the Madre de Dios department in Peru is a reflection of how little was known about the region during the Spanish colonial era. Whereas some departments were assigned the same name used by the Incans, neither Incan people nor Spanish colonists settled in the southeastern Amazonian lowlands so the department was simply named in honor of one of the most revered figures in Roman Catholicism (the principle religion of the Spanish colonists).

In a sense, this name befit a wild, untamed wilderness of dense rainforests, trackless swamps, and meandering rivers flanked by unforgiving jungle as it was believed that outsiders only survived in such a place by the grace of God. In modern times, the Madre de Dios department has become much more accessible while still retaining its wild character.

Huge tracts of unbroken rainforest are protected in national parks, reserves, and by several Peruvian rainforest lodges. The lack of roads and low population also keeps many parts of Madre de Dios intact and devoid of development. Nevertheless, a recently constructed road that connects routes to the Pacific with routes to the Atlantic Ocean has brought more colonists to the region along with associated deforestation, hunting, and mining activities that could pose a threat to the rainforests of Madre de Dios, Peru.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

- Arrival & Reception by Guide
- Our guides are biologists, tourism professionals, or community members. Unless noted otherwise, our guides speak English. We assign guides at 10:1 ratio in Posada Amazonas. This means groups smaller than 10 people will be merged with other groups under one guide. If you would like a private guide or a guide in a language other than English please let us know.
- Transfer Airport to Puerto Maldonado Headquarters
- Upon arrival from Lima or Cusco, we will welcome you at the airport and drive you ten minutes to our Puerto Maldonado headquarters. While enjoying your first taste of the forest in our gardens we will ask you to pack only the necessary gear for your next few days, and leave the rest at our safe deposit. This helps us keep the boats and cargo light.
- Transfer Pto Maldonado Headquarters to Tambopata River Port
- Skirting Puerto Maldonado, we drive 20 kilometers to the Tambopata River Port, entering the Native Community of Infierno. The port is a communal business.

Informes y reservas

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- Boxed Lunch
- Transfer Boat - Tambopata River Port to Posada Amazonas
- The forty five minute boat ride from the Tambopata Port to Posada Amazonas will take us into the Community's Primary Forest Private Reserve.
- Orientation
- Upon arrival, the lodge manager will welcome you and brief you with important navigation and security tips.
- Canopy Tower
- A twenty minute walk from Posada Amazonas leads to the 30 meter scaffolding canopy tower. A bannistered staircase running through the middle provides safe access to the platforms above. From atop you obtain spectacular views of the vast expanses of standing forest cut by the Tambopata River winding through the middle. Now and then toucans, parrots or macaws are seen flying against the horizon, or mixed species canopy flocks land in the treetop next to you.
- Dinner
- Ecotourism Lecture
- A daily presentation on the Infierno ecotourism project is available every night from a staff member.
- Overnight at Posada Amazonas

DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Tres Chimbadas Oxbow Lake
- Tres Chimbadas is thirty minutes by boat and forty five minutes hiking from Posada Amazonas. Once there you will paddle around the lake in a catamaran, searching for the resident family of nine giant river otters (seen by 60% of our lake visitors) and other lakeside wildlife such as caiman, hoatzin and horned screamers. Otters are most active from dawn to eight or nine AM.
- Lunch
- Ethnobotanical Tour
- A twenty minute boat drive downriver leads you to a trail designed by the staff of the Centro Ñape. The Centro Ñape is a communal organization that produces medicines out of forest plants and administers them to patients who choose their little clinic. They have produced a trail which explains the different medicinal (and other) uses of selected plants.
- Dinner
- Night walk
- You will have the option of hiking out at night, when most of the mammals are active but rarely seen. Much easier to find are frogs with shapes and sounds as bizarre as their natural histories.
- Overnight at Posada Amazonas

DAY 3

- Parrot Clay Lick

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- This clay lick is only a twenty minute walk from Posada Amazonas. From a blind located about twenty meters away you will see dozens of parrots and parakeets descend on most clear mornings to ingest the clay on a river bank. Species such as Mealy and Yellow-headed Amazon, Blue-headed Parrot and Dusky headed Parakeet descend at this clay lick. The clay lick is active at dawn, during the late mornings and mid-afternoons.
- Breakfast
- Ceiba Trail Hike
- We leave from the lobby at Posada Amazonas and embark on a two hour hike crowned by the largest tree in the vicinity: a giant ceiba tree. During the hike we will focus on the natural history of the rain forest and its principal taxonomic groups.
- Lunch
- Farm Visit
- A thirty minute boat drive downriver takes us to the most complete farm in the community of Infierno. The owner grows a diverse variety of popular and unknown Amazon crops. In his garden, just about every plant and tree serves a purpose.
- Dinner
- Overnight at Posada Amazonas

DAY 4

- Breakfast
- Brazil Nut Trail and Camp
- A few minutes hike from the lodge is a beautiful old growth patch of Brazil Nut forest that has been harvested for decades (if not centuries) where the precarious remains of a camp used two months a year by Brazil Nut gatherers can still be experienced. We will be demonstrating the whole process of the rain forest's only sustainably harvested product from collection through transportation to drying.
- Lunch
- Overlook Walk
- This 2 km trail will bring us along the Tambopata River. We will be able to clearly separate a Terra Firme Forest from a Secondary Forest after this walk, as the trail crosses both habitats. Resting on the benches we can witness the Tambopata on its unhurried journey across the lowland rainforest.
- Dinner
- Overnight at Posada Amazonas

DAY 5

- Breakfast
- Transfer Boat - Posada Amazonas to Tambopata River Port
- Transfer Tambopata River Port to Pto Maldonado Headquarters
- Transfer Puerto Maldonado Headquarters to Airport
- We retrace our river and road journey back to Puerto Maldonado, our office and



the airport. Depending on airline schedules, this may require dawn departures.

NOTES

Included

Programmes based on double occupancy. Includes all meal, accommodations, and services, all river transportation, and transfer from and to the airport of Puerto Maldonado.

Not Included

International or domestic airfares, airport departure taxes or visa fees, excess baggage charges, additional nights during the trip due to flight cancellations, alcoholic beverages or bottled water, snacks, insurance of any kind, laundry, phone calls or messages, reconfirmation of flights and items of personal nature.

Boat Transportation

All our boats are 20 foot long, roofed canoes with four strokes outboard motors.

Transfer In (Puerto Maldonado to Lodge) : two departures daily at 13:00 and 14:30

Transfer-out (Lodge to Puerto Maldonado) : two departures daily at 07:00 and 08:00

For other schedule possibilities please consult us

We reserve the right to change the order of activities.

Although not valid for the rainforest part of Peru, we recommend that all foreign travelers bring their original passports in order to avoid the payment of national taxes (IGV 18%) at Hotels.

PUERTO MALDONADO RAINFOREST – REFUGIO AMAZONAS

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS

DAY 1

- Arrival & Reception by Guide
- Our guides are biologists, tourism professionals, or community members. Unless noted otherwise, our guides speak English. We assign guides at 10:1 ratio in Refugio Amazonas. This means groups smaller than 10 people will be merged with other groups under one guide. If you would like a private guide or a guide in a language other than English please let us know.
- Transfer Airport to Puerto Maldonado Headquarters
- Upon arrival from Lima or Cusco, we will welcome you at the airport and drive you ten minutes to our Puerto Maldonado headquarters. While enjoying your first taste of the forest in our gardens we will ask you to pack only the necessary

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gear for your next few days, and leave the rest at our safe deposit. This helps us keep the boats and cargo light.

- Transfer Pto Maldonado Headquarters to Tambopata River Port
- Skirting Puerto Maldonado, we drive 20 kilometers to the Tambopata River Port, entering the Native Community of Infierno. The port is a communal business.
- Transfer Boat - Tambopata River Port to Refugio Amazonas
- The two and a half hour boat ride from the Tambopata Port to Refugio Amazonas will take us past the Community of Infierno and the Tambopata National Reserve's checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit.
- Boxed Lunch
- Orientation
- Upon arrival, the lodge manager will welcome you and brief you with important navigation and security tips.
- Dinner
- Caiman Search
- We will be out at the river's edge at night, scanning the shores with headlamps and flashlights to catch the red gleams of reflection from caiman eyes.
- Overnight at Refugio Amazonas

DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Oxbow Lake Visit
- We will paddle around the lake on a canoe or a catamaran, looking for lakeside wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman and horned screamers, hoping to see the otters which are infrequently seen here. You will also be rewarded with overhead sightings of macaws.
- Canopy Tower
- A thirty minute walk from Refugio Amazonas leads to the 25 meter scaffolding canopy tower. A bannistered staircase running through the middle provides safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built upon high ground, therefore increasing your horizon of the continuous primary forest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. From here views of mixed species canopy flocks as well as toucans, macaws and raptors are likely.
- Lunch
- Farm Visit
- Five minutes downriver from the lodge lies a farm owned and managed by charismatic Don Manuel from the neighbouring community of Condenado. He grows a variety of popular and unknown Amazon crops - just about every plant and tree you see serves a purpose.
- Ethnobotanical Tour
- Along this trail we will find a variety of plants and trees that are used by the local population with at least the same variety of purposes. We will learn about the medicinal (and other) uses of Ajo-Sacha, Yuca de Venado, Uña de Gato, Charcot-Sacha, Para-Para, among several others.
- Dinner



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- Tambopata National Reserve Lectures
- Nightly lectures prepared by the staff of Refugio Amazonas cover conservation threats, opportunities and projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.
- Overnight at Refugio Amazonas

DAY 3

- Breakfast
- Parrot Clay Lick
- A fifteen minute boat ride and sixty minute walk from Refugio Amazonas is a clay lick used both by parrots and parakeets. From a blind you will see parrots and parakeets descend on most clear days to ingest the clay on a bank. Species such as Dusky headed and Cobalt winged Parakeet descend at this clay lick. With luck we will also see some or all of the following species in the early morning rush: Mealy and Yellow-crowned Amazons, Blue-headed Pionus, Severe macaw and Orange-cheeled (Barraband`s) Parrot. We visit the lick at dawn, when parrots are most active or in midmorning or early afternoon, when they are active.
- Lunch
- Brazil Nut Trail and Camp
- A few minutes hike from the lodge is a beautiful old growth patch of Brazil Nut forest that has been harvested for decades (if not centuries) where the precarious remains of a camp used two months a year by Brazil Nut gatherers can still be experienced. We will be demonstrating the whole process of the rain forest's only sustainably harvested product from collection through transportation to drying.
- Dinner
- Night walk
- You will have the option of hiking out at night, when most of the mammals are active but difficult to see. Easier to find are frogs with shapes and sounds as bizarre as their natural histories.
- Overnight at Refugio Amazonas

DAY 4

- Breakfast
- Mammal Clay Lick
- Twenty minutes walking from Refugio Amazonas is a peccary clay lick. These wild rain forest pigs show up in herds of five to twenty individuals to eat clay in the late morning. Chances of spotting them are around 15%, but well worth the short hike. Other wildlife also shows up including deer, guan and parakeets.
- Lunch
- Overlook Walk
- This 2 km trail will bring us along the Tambopata River. We will be able to clearly separate a Terra Firme Forest from a Secondary Forest after this walk, as the trail crosses both habitats. Resting on the benches we can witness the Tambopata on



its unhurried journey across the lowland rainforest.

- Dinner
- Overnight at Refugio Amazonas

DAY 5

- Breakfast
- Transfer Boat - Refugio Amazonas to Tambopata River Port
- Transfer Tambopata River Port to Pto Maldonado Headquarters
- Transfer Puerto Maldonado Headquarters to Airport
- We retrace our river and road journey back to Puerto Maldonado, our office and the airport. Depending on airline schedules, this may require dawn departures.

NOTES

Included

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Not Included

International or domestic airfares, airport departure taxes or visa fees, excess baggage charges, additional nights during the trip due to flight cancellations, alcoholic beverages or bottled water, snacks, insurance of any kind, laundry, phone calls or messages, reconfirmation of flights and items of personal nature.

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For other schedule possibilities please consult us

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PUERTO MALDONADO

RAINFOREST – TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

DAY 1

- Arrival & Reception by Guide
- Our guides are biologists, tourism professionals, or community members. Unless noted otherwise, our guides speak English. We assign guides at 6:1 ratio in Tambopata Research Center. This means groups smaller than 6 people will be merged with other groups under one guide. If you would like a private guide or a guide in a language other than English please let us know.
- Transfer Airport to Puerto Maldonado Headquarters
- Upon arrival from Lima or Cusco, we will welcome you at the airport and drive you ten minutes to our Puerto Maldonado headquarters. While enjoying your first taste of the forest in our gardens we will ask you to pack only the necessary gear for your next few days, and leave the rest at our safe deposit. This helps us keep the boats and cargo light.
- Transfer Pto Maldonado Headquarters to Tambopata River Port
- Skirting Puerto Maldonado, we drive 20 kilometers to the Tambopata River Port, entering the Native Community of Infierno. The port is a communal business.
- Transfer Boat - Tambopata River Port to Refugio Amazonas
- The two and a half hour boat ride from the Tambopata Port to Refugio Amazonas will take us past the Community of Infierno and the Tambopata National Reserve's checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit.
- Boxed Lunch
- Orientation
- Upon arrival, the lodge manager will welcome you and brief you with important navigation and security tips.
- Dinner
- Caiman Search
- We will be out at the river's edge at night, scanning the shores with headlamps and flashlights to catch the red gleams of reflection from caiman eyes.
- Overnight at Refugio Amazonas

DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Canopy Tower
- A thirty minute walk from Refugio Amazonas leads to the 25 meter scaffolding canopy tower. A bannistered staircase running through the middle provides

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safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built upon high ground, therefore increasing your horizon of the continuous primary forest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. From here views of mixed species canopy flocks as well as toucans, macaws and raptors are likely.

- Oxbow Lake Visit
- We will paddle around the lake on a canoe or a catamaran, looking for lakeside wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman and horned screamers, hoping to see the otters which are infrequently seen here. You will also be rewarded with overhead sightings of macaws.
- Transfer Boat - Refugio Amazonas to TRC
- Four and half hours by boat from Refugio Amazonas, in the pristine heart of the reserve, lies the Tambopata Research Center. One and half hours into our boat journey, as we cross the confluence with the Malinowski River, we will leave the final traces of human habitation behind. Within the 700,000 hectare uninhabited nucleus of the reserve, sightings of capybara, caiman, geese, macaws and other large species will become more frequent.
- Boxed Lunch
- Orientation
- Upon arrival, the lodge manager will welcome you and brief you with important navigation and security tips.
- Overlook Trail
- A three to five kilometer hike will lead us to overlooks commanding magnificent views of the Tambopata winding its way into the lowlands. The forest on this trail, regenerating on old bamboo forest, is good for Howler Monkey and Dusky Titi Monkey.
- Dinner
- Macaw Project Lectures
- After dinner scientists will provide an in depth look at the biology of macaws, their feeding habits, the theories for clay lick use, their breeding and feeding ecology, population fluctuations and the threats to their conservation.
- Overnight at Tambopata Research Center

DAY 3

- Macaw Clay Lick
- On most clear mornings of the year dozens of large macaws and hundreds of parrots congregate on this large river bank in a raucous and colorful spectacle which inspired a National Geographic cover story. Discretely located fifty meters from the cliff, we will observe Green-winged, Scarlet and Blue-and-gold Macaws and several species of smaller parrots descend to ingest clay. Outings are at dawn when the lick is most active.
- Breakfast
- Floodplain Trail
- This five kilometer trail covers the prototypical rain forest with immense trees criss-crossed by creeks and ponds. Amongst the figs, ceibas and shihuahuacos we will look for Squirrel, Brown Capuchin, and Spider Monkeys as well as peccaries. TRC is located within this habitat.

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- Lunch
- Pond Platform
- Ten minutes upriver from the lodge is a tiny pond with a platform in the middle. It is a great place to spot waterfowl such as Muscovy duck, sunbittern and hoatzin along with the woodpeckers, oropendolas, flycatchers and parakeets that call this pond their home.
- Dinner
- Overnight at Tambopata Research Center

DAY 4

- Macaw Clay Lick
- On most clear mornings of the year dozens of large macaws and hundreds of parrots congregate on this large river bank in a raucous and colorful spectacle which inspired a National Geographic cover story. Discretely located fifty meters from the cliff, we will observe Green-winged, Scarlet and Blue-and-gold Macaws and several species of smaller parrots descend to ingest clay. Outings are at dawn when the lick is most active.
- Breakfast
- Terra Firme Trail
- An entirely different habitat characterized by smaller, thinner trees atop hills and slopes is covered by this five kilometer trail. Saddleback tamarins are frequently found here. As we walk near the limits of the swamp we will also keep our eyes open for rare tapir tracks.
- Lunch
- Palm Swamp Trail
- Growing on the remains of an oxbow lake and providing both arboreal as well as terrestrial mammals with fruits throughout the year, the aguaje palms are one of the most important food sources in the rainforest. Demand for these fruits and great conditions for planting rice, makes the palm swamp also one of the most threatened habitats.
- Dinner
- Night walk
- You will have the option of hiking out at night, when most of the mammals are active but rarely seen. Much easier to find are frogs with shapes and sounds as bizarre as their natural histories.
- Overnight at Tambopata Research Center

DAY 5

- Breakfast
- CanopyTower
- A thirty minute hike from TRC in the Terra Firme forest leads a 17 meter scaffolding canopy tower. From the top you will obtain spectacular views of the vast expanses of standing forest. Toucans, parrots and macaws can be seen flying against the horizon. Flocks of mixed species of birds can also be

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seen flying and landing in the treetops next to you.

- Lunch
- Creeks Trail
- This is a different kind of Terra Firme forest, crossed by a number of creeks that will eventually reach the Tambopata River. Walking in the opposite direction of the river, we will focus on forest and creek ecology.
- Dinner
- Overnight at Tambopata Research Center

DAY 6

- Breakfast
- Time - off
- Time off to relax and enjoy the lodge surroundings, try out a new trail, or repeat your favorite activity.
- Lunch
- TRC Gardens
- After long hikes we can continue to bird within the confines of TRC. Species possible on the TRC clearing include: eventual canopy flocks, Squirrel Cuckoo, Masked Crimson Tanager, Cinammon- throated Woodcreeper, Speckled Chachalaca and Yellow-tufted Woodpecker.
- Dinner
- Overnight at Tambopata Research Center

DAY 7

- Breakfast
- Transfer Boat - TRC to Tambopata River Port
- Transfer Tambopata River Port to Pto Maldonado Headquarters
- Transfer Puerto Maldonado Headquarters to Airport
- We retrace our river and road journey back to Puerto Maldonado, our office and the airport. Depending on airline schedules, this may require dawn departures.

NOTES

Included

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Not Included

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Boat Transportation

Rainforest Expeditions boats are 20-foot long, roofed canoes. Outboard boat engine are 60hp
4 cycle, eco-friendly, low emission motors.

Transfer-in (From Puerto Maldonado to Lodge): we have two departures daily at 13:00 and 14:30

Transfer-out (Lodge to Puerto Maldonado): Early transfer Out about 5:00 AM in order to be on time for your flight Out that should depart after 13:00 hrs please be sure do not buy early fly out.

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