



## Refugio Amazonas : 4D

from : USD 946.00

SEASON	All year
DURATION	4 days / 3 nights (Puerto Maldonado - Puerto Maldonado)
FITNESS LEVEL	Easy
DEPARTURE DATES	Daily
ACTIVITIES	Nature observation with an ecological focus

Explore the biologically diverse Tambopata National Reserve for three nights and learn more about the wonders of the Amazon basin. See how the local brazil nut industry contributes to rainforest conservation, visit a parrot clay lick and get a bird's eye view of the rainforest canopy from an observation tower.

Refugio Amazonas is built on a 200-hectare private reserve in the Tambopata National Reserve buffer zone. Refugio Amazonas cooperates with neighboring communities of brazil nut harvesters, extending the benefits of ecotourism to those families committed to the sustainable use of the forest within the buffer zone.

### Day 1: Puerto Maldonado - Refugio Amazonas

Upon arrival in Puerto Maldonado, you will be met by our guides and transferred to the river port, where our boat journey to Refugio Amazonas will begin. The two-hour and thirty-minute boat ride from the Tambopata river port to Refugio Amazonas will take us past the community of Infierno and the Tambopata National Reserve checkpoints, before we enter the buffer zone of this 1.3 million-hectare protected natural area. Upon arrival at the lodge, the manager will welcome the group and provide you with a brief presentation which includes safety information. After dinner, we will return to the river and scan the banks with headlamps and flashlights, in search of the red eye shine of caimans.

#### Overnight stay at Refugio Amazonas



### Day 2: Refugio Amazonas

Today you will have a very active morning. After an early breakfast, we will visit an oxbow lake by canoe or catamaran, watching out for lakeside wildlife such as hoatzins, caimans, and horned screamers, and also hoping to spot the giant river otters that can be seen occasionally here. You will almost certainly be rewarded with sightings of macaws flying overhead. From the lake, we will visit the Canopy Tower located just a thirty-minute walk from Refugio Amazonas. A secure staircase provides access to the canopy platforms of this twenty-five-meter tower. The tower has been built on high ground, thereby enhancing the panoramic views of the primary forest seen from the top. From here it is possible to observe the flight of mixed species of birds in the canopy, as well as toucans and macaws.

After returning to the lodge for lunch, in the afternoon we will take a short boat ride to the farm owned and managed by charismatic Don Manuel, from the neighboring community of Condenado. He grows a variety of Amazonian crops. In the Amazon, just about every plant and tree you see serves a purpose. We will then continue our day by walking an ethnobotanical trail, along which we will find a variety of plants and trees used by the local population. We will learn about the medicinal (and other) uses of *ajo-sacha*, *yuca de venado*, *uña de gato*, *charcot-sacha* and *para-para*, to name just a few local plants. **Overnight stay at Refugio Amazonas**



### Day 3: Refugio Amazonas

After an early breakfast, we will start our day with a fifteen-minute boat ride and one hour walk from Refugio Amazonas to a clay lick used by parrots and parakeets. From a strategic viewpoint, it is possible to observe parrots and parakeets as they arrive to ingest the clay on the riverbank. Species such as dusky-headed and cobalt-winged parakeets are frequent visitors to this clay lick. With luck, we may also see some or all of the following species in the early morning rush: mealy and yellow-crowned Amazons, blue-headed parrot, chestnut-fronted macaw and orange-cheeked parrot. We will visit the lick at dawn, mid-morning and/or the early afternoon when parrots are most active. After this dazzling spectacle, we will return to the lodge for lunch and a rest. In the afternoon we will make a short hike to an old growth patch of brazil nut forest. This forest has been harvested for decades, possibly centuries. Here we will find a camp used only two months a year by brazil nut gatherers. We may even be lucky enough to meet some of these local people and witness the harvesting process, from collection through to transporting and drying. Later, we will hike to a nearby peccary clay lick. These wild rainforest pigs show up in herds of five to twenty individuals to ingest clay. There is

around a 15% chance of spotting them, making the short hike well worth the effort. Other wildlife also visits the clay lick, including deer, guans and parakeets. After dinner, we will have the option of hiking out into the forest at night, when most mammals are active but are difficult to see. We will certainly hear and possibly spot some of the many species of frogs that fill the night air with their distinctive calls.

### Overnight stay at Refugio Amazonas



### Day 4: Refugio Amazonas - Puerto Maldonado

After an early breakfast, we will return to Puerto Maldonado by boat, where you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Cusco or Lima. Depending on airline schedules, this may require a dawn departure.



### Included

TRANSPORT	Transfers and Boat for the tours
OVERNIGHT	Jungle Lodge 3 / Total Nights 3
TOURS	According to program, including the daily activities + expert guide
ENTRANCE FEE / PERMITS	To the attractions included in the program
MEALS	Bx3 Lx3 Dx3

### Not included

TRANSPORT	International / domestic flights
EXTRAS	Travel insurance, additional nights at lodge due to bad weather or flight cancellations, tips, tours & meals not mentioned in the itinerary

### Rates 2019

#### 2019 cost per person in US dollars

Service	1 Pax	2-3 Paxs
GROUP SERVICE	1217	946

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