

# Tambopata Eco Lodge Programs

## Rainforest Experience

### Day 1: River journey to lodge

After your flight to the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado you will be met by our staff, who will escort you during the fascinating three-hour boat trip along the Tambopata River to the Ecolodge. After time to relax and enjoy the comforts of the lodge, you will be invited on an afternoon guided trail walk as an introduction to the protected reserve's rainforest habitat.

### Day 2: Forest trail and lake canoeing

After an excellent breakfast and a short morning boat ride, we will set out along a forest trail to explore Lake Condénado by canoe. Swathed in rich tropical vegetation, forest wetlands are the best places for bird watching and the observation of other aquatic and terrestrial fauna. Back at the Ecolodge, after a superb meal in our restaurant, we will take to the river again in search of caiman and the other nocturnal rainforest species that fill the night air with their sounds.

### Day 3: Early morning river journey

Your stay in the Amazonian forest ends on the third day with a magical early morning return by river for the flight from Puerto Maldonado.

## Rainforest Encounter

### Day 1: River journey to lodge

Once we leave behind the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado, the vegetation will change from colonized deforested areas to virgin rainforest. After time to settle in at the lodge, in the afternoon one of our naturalist guides will invite you to explore the trails in the surrounding forest. **Frequently seen fauna on these trails includes saddle-back tamarinds, brown capuchins, agoutis, blue-morpho butterflies, trogons, toucans and many other bird species.** After dinner we will take a night walk in search of nocturnal rainforest species.

### Day 2: Bird and mammal clay licks

After an early breakfast, we will board our launch for the 9-kilometer ride upriver to the trailhead. We will spend an hour walking this trail, with plenty of time to observe Amazon flora and fauna along the way. **At the clay lick, we will await the arrival of the white-lipped peccaries** that tend to gather here to feed on mineral deposits. Moving on through the forest, we will continue to the **macaw lick, where in the early morning groups of scarlet and red-and-green macaws often gather to feed on clay deposits.** After plenty of time to observe birds, we will return to the river via another forest trail and take the launch back to the lodge in time for lunch. On the trails it is possible to see howler monkeys, capuchin monkeys and squirrel monkeys. After lunch, guests can choose from a number of options, including:

Exploring the trails around the Ecolodge.

Visiting a nearby forest farm.

Swimming in a stream that flows close to the lodge.

Relaxing and enjoying the facilities of the Ecolodge.

In the evening, we will return to the river in search of nocturnal fauna, including caiman, after meeting in the bar for a brief talk given by our guides about this fascinating nocturnal creature. We will search for caiman using flashlights to pick out their “eye shine” as they hunt along the river banks.

Day 3: Hike to Lake Sachavacayoc

After a short boat ride downriver, we will hike a forest trail to a spectacular lake. During the walk you will be introduced by your guide to more aspects of the forest and its fauna. At the lake it is possible to **spot black caimans and giant otters**. We will return to the Ecolodge for lunch, and you will have the afternoon free for relaxation and swimming.

Day 4: Return flight

Your stay in the Amazon basin ends on the fourth day with a magical early morning return by river for the flight from Puerto Maldonado. This is an excellent time of day for wildlife observation, as the forest awakens.

## Rainforest Explorer

Day 1: River journey to lodge

The jungle town of Puerto Maldonado is the starting point for this four-day stay in the rainforest. Our staff will meet you at the airport and escort you for the 72-kilometer river journey. Our launch will take us to the Ecolodge in three hours, while minimizing negative impact with its high fuel efficiency and fiberglass (rather than wooden) hull. This river journey serves as our first introduction to the rainforest, and upon arrival –after time to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of the Ecolodge- you will be invited to enter the forest you saw from the boat in the company of a naturalist guide.

Day 2: Forest trails and wetlands

Your first full day in the rainforest will be spent on the trail system leading to Lake Condenado and on the waters of the lake in one of our canoes as we search for local birdlife and other native fauna. **Forest lake systems are the best places to spot birds and other wildlife.**

Day 3: Deeper into the forest

The next day we will go much further into the forest to visit the wetland system around Lake Sachavacayoc. The forests around this beautiful lake teem with birdlife, and the waters are **home to black caiman and giant river otters**. Back at the Ecolodge in the afternoon, you will have time to relax in a hammock or explore our clearly marked trail system independently.

Day 4: Early morning river journey

We will leave the Ecolodge early in the morning for the return by river to Puerto Maldonado

## Rainforest Adventure

### Day 1: River journey to the lodge

After a scheduled flight and brief transfer, it is a remarkable experience to find oneself suddenly in a boat, journeying upriver through a rainforest teeming with biological diversity. After this remarkable three-hour experience you will arrive at the Ecolodge, where you will have a chance to relax before being invited to explore the surrounding forest.

### Day 2: Forest, lake and river

The next day, we will spend the morning on the trails and waters of Lake Condénado, in search of typical forest fauna, before boarding our boat in the afternoon for a 2-3 hour ride between forested banks to the remote **Chuncho macaw clay lick**, where we will explore the surrounding forest and spend the night in our **excellently equipped campsite**.

### Day 3: Spectacle of color and sound

The following day will begin before dawn for us, as we position ourselves to witness the scenes at the clay lick. Surrounded by typical rainforest flora, **this river bank is visited by parakeets, monkeys, deer, tapir and peccaries, but it is the colors and sounds of the different species of parrots and macaws which make this such a dramatic spectacle**. In the late morning we will return to the Ecolodge for lunch, and that evening we will search for nocturnal species along the river.

### Day 4: Early morning river journey

Today the river will once again serve as our highway as we travel back to the town for our return flight to the outside world.

## Rainforest Journey

### Day 1: River journey to lodge

After arriving at the Ecolodge via a fascinating 72 kilometer river journey, you will be free to settle into your excellent accommodation before being invited to enter the forest for the first time in the company of one of our naturalist guides.

### Day 2: Monkeys, birdlife and other fauna

Our first full day in the National Reserve will begin with a 4-6 hour boat ride even deeper into the forest to Colorado, **the world's largest known macaw clay lick**, where, after exploring the forests in the afternoon in search of species of fauna including troops of monkeys, **we will camp** in expectation of the scenes awaiting us the next morning.

### Day 3: A mass of birdlife

A macaw clay-lick in the first few hours after dawn is an incredible sight. As soon as the morning sun begins to shine on the sheer riverbank, **hundreds of parrots and macaws belonging to ten or more species arrive and perch in nearby trees**. They come in pairs or in flocks hundreds strong, depending on

the species. Then, with a flapping of wings and ear-splitting squawks, they begin landing on the face of the cliff to consume small portions of clay, creating a unique spectacle of color and sound. Back at the Ecolodge, we will once again enjoy the comforts of our cabins, the restaurant and bar, as well as venturing into the forest at night in search of nocturnal species.

Day 4: Early morning river journey

Our stay in the Amazonian forest ends today with an early morning boat ride to Puerto Maldonado. This is one of the best times to be on the river, as the wildlife begins to stir.

## Rainforest Expedition

Day 1: By river to the Ecolodge

Your rainforest expedition begins with a 72-kilometer river journey to the lodge. As we leave the town, the vegetation changes from colonized deforested areas to virgin rainforest. On arrival you'll have time to settle into the lodge and meet the staff before setting off for an introductory walk in the surrounding forest, accompanied by one of our naturalist guides. **Species here include saddle-back tamarins, brown capuchins, agoutis, blue-morpho butterflies and many bird species.**

Day 2: River, forest trails, camping

Today's 4-hour boat ride upriver will take us deep into the National Reserve to **an isolated clay lick where macaws, parrots and other fauna tend to gather** in huge numbers. After arrival at our camp and a good lunch, you will have the afternoon free to explore the area's forest trail system, spotting wildlife in the company of your naturalist guide. We will spend the night at our **riverside campsite**.

Day 3: Birdlife, monkeys and other forest fauna

Today will begin before dawn for us, as we need to get into position before the birds arrive at the clay lick. **Several hundred macaws and parrots visit the clay-lick daily.** This is indisputably one of the greatest spectacles the Amazon basin offers visitors. Following a late morning forest hike in search of some of the nine species of monkeys present in the area, after lunch we will explore a clear forest stream where it is safe to bathe, before spending another relaxing evening and night at our **campsite**.

Day 4: Clay lick, forest trails and wetlands

After a second opportunity to witness the spectacle at the lick, we will hike to an oxbow lake. These wetland ecosystems are among the best places in the Amazon basin to spot wildlife. **A family of giant otters** lives in the vicinity of the lake and is often observed. Birds abound here, **especially rufescent tiger-herons, great egrets, wattled jacanas and hoatzins**. Later, our final evening at the Ecolodge will be spent enjoying a fine meal, followed by a return to the river, in search of nocturnal species, including caimans.

Day 5: Early morning river journey

An early start is required for the boat trip back to the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado. Riverside wildlife is particularly active at this time of day. Howler monkeys are frequently seen and heard, staking out their territory.

**Services included**

All meals and accommodation from lunch on day one of your program to breakfast on the final day. All transport from your arrival at the town of Puerto Maldonado to your return to the local airport. All guided excursions described in the itinerary.

**Services not included**

Flights to and from Puerto Maldonado; entrance fee to the Tambopata National Reserve, payable directly to the Reserve authorities; any drinks you may purchase from the Ecolodge bar; tips.

NOTE: Additional days at the macaw clay licks are available for those wishing to spend more time at this unique location. For more information about how you can experience Peru's Amazon rainforests with Tambopata Ecolodge, contact us directly.