

A close-up photograph of two macaws perched on a wooden branch. The macaw on the left is a Blue and Yellow Macaw, with vibrant blue wings and a yellow body. The macaw on the right is a Red and Blue Macaw, with a bright red body and blue wings. Both birds have large, dark beaks and are looking towards the right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a tropical rainforest setting.

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AMAZON RAINFOREST LODGE

PERU EXTENSION

4 DAYS



EXPERIENCE THE AMAZON

Want to stay on for a few extra days of high octane adventure and explore the lush and lively Amazon? We are offering the option of a 4-day package based at the Refugio Amazonas Lodge. This biodiverse private 200-hectare reserve is located in a brilliant Brazilian nut forest within the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve. The Refugio Amazonas Lodge is located four hours by motorized canoe from the Puerto Maldonado airport.

What's included during your stay? Three daily savoury meals, tea/coffee, a rainbow of macaws, activities, guided excursions (a shared service with other lodge guests) and transfers to and from the airport.

Things you should know:

- The order and scheduling of activities may be modified due to weather.
- You will have to bring a small bag to re-pack your luggage for the three nights at the lodge as your main luggage will NOT travel with you. Fret not, it will be securely stored in the lodge's office in town.
- Rooms at the lodge are simple but comfortable with en suite flush toilets, mosquito nets and (brace yourself) showers with cold water only.
- Your visit to Refugio Amazonas contributes directly to the Wired Amazon Project and its efforts to conserve and learn more about the biodiversity of the Tambopata National Reserve.

For more information please contact:
adventure@wildwomenexpeditions.com or call 1 (888) 993-1222.

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Upon arrival in Puerto Maldonado, the “gateway city to the Amazon jungle”, we will be greeted by our energetic bilingual guide and board a bus for a one-hour transfer to our next mode of transport: a one-hour boat ride along the serene Tambopata River to Refugio Amazonas Lodge. Instead of planes, trains and automobiles– it’s a plane, bus and boat! Our first taste of Amazonian cuisine will be alfresco, on the boat!

Be binocular-ready! We’ll scan the riverbanks, branches and skies for our first sightings: the rainbow blur of macaws, stock-still herons, caiman and even capybara! In the treetops, we’ll be on high alert for curious brown capuchin and dusky titi monkeys.

This jungle refuge with its low-impact design sits in the pounding heart of the rainforest and has all the amenities and necessary pampering pleasures (yes, massage!).

A gentle 30-minute walk from the lodge will lead us to a 35m canopy tower (a staircase with railings provides safe access to the top for those who are jittery and vertigo-prone). From the top, it’s a mesmerizing view of the National Reserve of Tambopata. Toucans, macaws and raptors enjoy the same view, but often from a little higher in the sky.

We’ll immerse ourselves in the full-throttle jungle hospitality with a welcome drink before checking into our rooms. There will be time to chill out before dinner with the natural soundtrack on HIGH! There’s actually a bird called the horned screamer!

Fun fact: This eco-hostel is the headquarters of Wired Amazon, the first citizen science project that permits guests to be citizen scientists and contribute to the region’s dynamic research on species like the elusive jaguar and white-lipped peccary! Frequently, a lucky guest discovers a brand new tiger-moth, scorpion-wasp, caddisfly or treehopper species. It could be you!

Meals Included: Lunch, Dinner

Tonight’s Sweet Sleep: Refugio Amazonas Lodge



The next two days will be an awesome and educational combo of birds, Brazil nuts, lessons in sustainability and the goosebumpy thrill of a night walk through the jungle!

DAY TWO: Lake Condonado/Don Manuel's Organic Farm/Night Hike

Today, we will navigate around Lake Condonado in search of the dramatic hoatzin, a tropical bird of many names! It's also known as the stinkbird, reptile bird and Canje pheasant. We'll also look for the brilliant Martin Fisherman (kingfisher), alligators and rare river otters while learning about the differences of a lake and river ecosystem.

Later, we'll visit the neighbouring organic farm of Don Manuel, which is just five minutes along the river (by boat) from the lodge. He will show us the typical crops of the area and no doubt surprise us with some of his exotic fruit bounty.

We will have the option of taking a daring night walk through the jungle just as most of the nocturnal mammals come to life. They might be difficult to see but we'll definitely hear them! The frogs and their nightly chorus are truly a marvel.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Tonight's Sweet Sleep: Refugio Amazonas Lodge

DAY 3: Brazil Nut Farm Visit, Medicinal Plant Trail and Wired Amazon Lecture

Today is going to be NUTS! We are going to learn everything about the vital and decadent Brazil nut and its origin at a Brazil nut farm that's situated close to the lodge. Locally, this nut is often referred to as a 'chestnut' but it differs greatly from the North American interpretation of a chestnut.

Brazil nut harvesting is a valuable, sustainable source of income for residents of Puerto Maldonado who collect and process the divine nut once a year in the dry months between the rainy season.

Later, we'll learn about the other treasures that are grown in the forest on a medicinal plant trail. We'll be introduced to a wide variety of healing plants and trees that the local

population has relied on for years. The Amazon forest's medicine cabinet includes an ever-growing list of remedies like Sacha-Ajos ("forest garlic"), Uña De Gato (Cat's Claw) and Ayahuasca, a South American psychoactive brew. This 'tea' is gaining interest with travelers desperate for enlightenment from its guaranteed high and curative powers. The sacred elixir is still used in ceremony by some tribes. The Psychotria viridis shrub along with the stalks of the Banisteriopsis caapi vine are cleaned, smashed, brewed and distilled into a highly-concentrated formula. Free samples will not be provided!

Later, we'll take advantage of a lecture presented by researchers from the Wired Amazon Project about the opportunities and challenges of their unique projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Tonight's Sweet Sleep: Refugio Amazonas Lodge



After a nourishing early breakfast, we'll start our trip back to Puerto Maldonado following our original boat and bus route.

We will be able to experience a surreal sunrise over the river—one that will no doubt lead to quiet reflection and meditation on the amazing Amazon days behind us.

We'll emerge from the jungle restored (and probably with an unexpected Brazil nut craving!) and pick up our stored luggage from the lodge's office in town before continuing to the airport for flights back to Lima and onward! A guide will be present until the departure flight in case there are any last minute changes or needs.

Please note: Flights from Puerto Maldonado to Lima usually arrive between 4pm and 5pm. Please take note of this incase you have an international connection flight.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Tonight's Sweet Sleep: Refugio Amazonas Lodge

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

Wild Women Expeditions and our local partners intend to adhere to the described itinerary. This is only a general guide to follow on your tour of the region. Our itineraries are subject to change, as we cannot predict the weather or other environmental conditions. We are continually striving to make improvements to all our trips based on feedback from Wild Women members, guides, partners, and other research. We reserve the right to alter itineraries based on the above at any time.

*Itinerary version as of January 16, 2023..