



Amazon Rainforest Conservation Volunteering in Peru



Availability : Available all year.

Project Start & End Days : Saturday to Saturday

Project Work Days : Monday to Fridays (weekends are free)

Age Requirement : Must be 18 years or over.

Nearest Airport : Padre Aldamiz International Airport

Location of Projects :

You'll live in the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve. Getting there is a short boat ride from Puerto Maldonado city in the Madre de Dios region of southeast Peru. You'll find yourself surrounded by lakes, canopy bridges and nature reserves.

Tambopata sits right in the heart of this incredible scenery. Making it the perfect hub to immerse yourself in the beauty of the surroundings, while listening to the sound of numerous bird species calling from the trees, including harpy eagles.

Program description :

Ready to be a force for good? Join us in the Amazon Basin of southeast Peru. Here we explore, learn and collectively contribute to the conservation of one of the world's most diverse ecosystems. Located in the Tambopata National Reserve in South America, our focus is on preserving the remarkable biodiversity of this tropical rainforest. Participate in monitoring species such as pumas, jaguars, sloths, spider and capuchin monkeys, river otters and anacondas as you immerse yourself in the wondrous beauty of the Amazon.

You'll engage in various hands-on projects. From primate behavioural studies where you can collect data on capuchin and black spider monkeys, to camera trapping where you might spot pumas or jaguars, mammal transects, pitfall traps, habitat evaluation, vegetation plots and angiosperm phenology studies. Your participation directly supports ongoing efforts to maintain the conservation area.

You will contribute to the preservation of the Peruvian Amazon and the wildlife – like pumas, monkeys and sloths – that call it home. You'll also gain valuable insights into the complexities of rainforest ecosystems.

Volunteering meets independent research

Our volunteer project extends beyond typical volunteering – we encourage independent research. In Tambopata, we help participants develop scientific projects with standardised data collection – imagine doing your dissertation on river otters or Capuchin monkeys! Blending academic pursuits with practical conservation efforts, participants can use these projects for university reports or theses.

Species

The reserve is a biodiversity hotspot, home to a variety of species. From jaguars and

pumas to sloths, anacondas, giant anteaters and harpy eagles, the area is teeming with diverse wildlife. Notably, it's the sole spot in Latin America where successfully reintroduced spider monkeys thrive. Witness this iconic species in its natural habitat, along with capuchin monkeys, river otters and more – a dream for nature enthusiasts and conservationists.

About the accomodation :

Participants stay in shared bungalows, each accommodating four people with bathroom and shower facilities (no hot water showers). Communal spaces include a dining room, library, terrace with hammocks and a study area. The area offers field materials, games and books, along with an extensive trail system within the forest. Additionally, there's a space for playing volleyball.

For those seeking an accommodation upgrade, private bungalows are available. For staying connected, enjoy Starlink from 07:00 AM to 10:00 PM, offering download speeds of 30mbps and upload speeds of 20mbps.

Food Arrangements :

Enjoy sustainable meals with breakfast, lunch and dinner provided, prepared using locally sourced vegetables and fruits.

Schedule :

Every day is a blend of structure and flexibility, offering volunteers the opportunity to shape their experience. Here's a glimpse into what a typical day might look like:

7:00– 8:00 AM: Start your day with a hearty breakfast at the research centre.

8:00–11:30 AM: Project work time. This may include activities such as primate behavioural studies where you'll collect data on black spider monkeys, including social activities, diet and their use of habitat.

12:00–1:00 PM: Take a break for lunch.

1:00–2:00 PM: Take some time to relax and recharge, especially important in the warm climate and after survey work.

2:00–5:30 PM: Resume project work, which may involve maintaining plots and evaluating habitat conditions, recording data on tree metrics like diameter, height and mortality rates.

7:00–8:00 PM: Assist with preparing a delicious Peruvian meal and enjoy it with your fellow team members.

8:00 PM onwards: Discuss plans for the next day and unwind with games, movies or connecting with friends and family back home. You can also participate in additional lessons or presentations if you wish.

Each day offers a unique opportunity to contribute to meaningful research while following your interests and passions.

Freetime :

Unwind and enjoy during your free time! Depending on the season, there might be planned activities like volleyball games, beach outings or river trips – great chances to connect with your crew.

Every other weekend, add some variety with a night in Puerto Maldonado. Delve into Peruvian cuisine, explore local shops, meet locals and relax in a comfy hotel. The areas around Puerto Maldonado offer fantastic natural spots to explore. Whether you prefer a relaxed river swim or an adventure-packed weekend, your free time is all about creating those memorable moments.