

# The Rainforests of Peru Puerto Maldonado, Peru

**F**ly east from Lima or Cuzco to Puerto Maldonado, situated at the confluence of the mighty Madre de Dios and Tambopata Rivers. It is a bustling, frontier town, and its principal activities are gold mining, Brazil nut collecting, timber extraction, and eco-tourism.

**T**he average temperature is between 84° F and 100° F. December to March is usually hotter with an occasional refreshing afternoon rainfall. The rest of the year, with less rain and more sun, is another good time to see the jungle. Occasionally there is a sudden drop in temperature known as a *friaje*, when temperatures can dip to 50° F.

**Reserva Amazonica** is a privately-owned ecological reserve and research center on 10,000 hectares (24,710 acres), practicing innovative, sustainable use of the Amazon Rainforest since 1975. Scientific-based tourism started in 1978. Its spacious facilities and well-equipped private cabins assure guests an authentic, safe and comfortable stay.

**Refugio Amazonas** Opened in 2005, this is the latest addition to Rainforest Expeditions' Tambopata portfolio. As a charming 24-bedroom lodge, it is well placed on a 200-hectare private reserve on the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve. Rainforest Expeditions' **Tambopata Research Center (TRC)** is located deep in this reserve, providing a unique opportunity to know the untouched, virgin forest.



## Getting There:

The lodge is five km (one hour) down river by boat from Puerto Maldonado.

## Accommodations:

The individual bungalows are made of local materials in the architectural style of the native *Machiguenga* and *Ese'ija* people. They sit on raised platforms and all have private porches with two hammocks, private bathrooms with filtered water, mosquito netting, and large screened windows for optimal ventilation.

The comfortable, basic **Superior Bungalows** (313 sq. ft) with two twin beds or one double bed, a writing table, a private porch with two hammocks and a private bathroom and clear running water.

The **Riverview Cabins** are 434 sq. ft. with larger porches facing the river, two double beds, solar-heated hot water, electricity and fans. The extra-large (646 sq. ft) **Amazonian Suites** have either one king bed or two double beds, double wash basins, solar-heated hot water, electricity, fans, and special amenities such as citronella repellent, terry bathrobes and sandals.



Amazonian Suite (left) & Standard Bungalow (right)

## Getting There:

After arrival in Puerto Maldonado, it is a two and a half-hour boat ride from the Tambopata Port, passing the Tambopata National Reserve's checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit.

## Accommodations:

Refugio Amazonas has no electricity. Numerous kerosene lamps and candles provide light. A generator is turned on once a day to recharge batteries for guests or lodge facilities. The rooms are 7 x 4 meters so they can comfortably hold three beds, although most are set up for two. The walls dividing each room are built of cane, and extend from the floor to about 2.5 meters height making each room private. The side that looks out to the forest does not have a wall or screening of any kind, acting as a large window facing the forest. The reason this unprecedented design is because mosquitoes are not really a problem around the lodge clearing, and the open section allows for an intimate contact with the rain forest. A second, small window on the opposite side, set up very high, keeps the rooms well ventilated. Each room has a cold water private bathroom, and rooms are not soundproof. Doors are replaced with drapes and each room has beds, mosquito nets, bedside tables and hammocks or lounge chairs.



### Package Rates Per Person

	Superior Bungalow			Riverview Bungalow			Amazonian Suite		
	Db1	Sgl	Tpl	Db1	Sgl	Tpl	Db1	Sgl	Tpl
<b>3-Day Safari</b>	\$ 755	895	755	\$ 799	960	799	\$ 895	1078	895
<b>4-Day Safari</b>	\$ 900	1115	900	\$ 965	1195	965	\$1095	1368	1095
<b>5-Day Safari</b>	\$1059	1335	1059	\$1085	1439	1085	\$1420	1839	1420

**Safaris Include:** Round-trip airfare Cuzco to Puerto Maldonado, round-trip airport transfers in Pto. Maldonado, all meals, bottled water and non-alcoholic juice, nature trails, and your choice of excursions. Not included: Soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, gratuities and airport taxes.

**NOTE:** These packages are priced as extensions to one of the Peru programs from Cuzco. If originating in Lima, additional charges will apply.

### Package Rates Per Person

	Refugio Amazonas 3-Day Safari			Refugio Amazonas 4-Day Safari			Refugio Amazonas 5-Day Safari with 2 nights at TRC		
	Db1	Sgl	Tpl	Db1	Sgl	Tpl	Db1	Sgl	Tpl
	\$ 600	685	600	\$ 705	999	705	\$1190	1409	1190

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