



PERU

Investigating Ecology of the Amazon

10 DAYS | Choose your dates

About this trip

The rich biodiversity of the Peruvian Amazon offers scientists a fascinating living laboratory to explore. This program includes opportunities to observe rare, endemic, and endangered species in their natural environments while exploring the topics of biology, ecology, and conservation. At the Amazon Research Center, students can learn about grid-trail systems and gain valuable hands-on research experience while assisting scientists with the collection of population data on birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. Expert lectures and group discussions focusing on Amazonian biodiversity are included to enhance field activities.

Your students will...

- Gain hands-on scientific research experience while collecting population data on birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals at the Amazon Research Center.
- Examine the biodiversity inhabiting a variety of Amazonian ecosystems including riverine, restinga, swamp, varzea, and terra firme.
- Learn about poison dart frog conservation and the breeding study project at Frog Valley.
- Observe rare and endemic species such as the red-faced bald uakari monkey.

Educational Connections



Environmental
Studies



Biology



Conservation



Investigation &
Research

What's included?

- Flights within Peru
- Bilingual local guide
- Driver
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting

Itinerary

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DAY 1 - DEPART US

Overnight flight to Lima, Peru.

DAY 2 - AMAZON

Upon arrival in Lima, connect with the flight to Iquitos. From there, journey by speedboat along the Amazon River to Tahuayo Lodge. Along the way, you can see many marsh birds, as well as small villages dotting the river banks. Continue up a smaller tributary, the Tahuayo River, which leads to the Área de Conservación Regional Comunal Tamshiyacu Tahuayo (ACRCTT). Exceeding 1.1 million acres, the ACRCTT is the most diverse bioserve in northeastern Peru. Studies have found more trees, primates, and non-volant mammals here than in any other site studied in the Amazon. An evening boat excursion provides an opportunity to see nocturnal fauna such as pauraques, potoos, nightjars, herons, owls, bats, and night monkeys. *Overnight at Tahuayo Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 3 - AMAZON

Have a program orientation with your guide this morning, then spend the day exploring the varzea ecosystem. This forest is flooded one to three months out of the year and is characterized by a unique assemblage of flora and fauna. Look for pygmy marmosets, owl monkeys, mealy parrots, and a manakin breeding lek. Treetop platforms provide panoramic views and opportunities for close-up observation of orchids and giant bromeliads. The zip line canopy is an exciting way for visitors to fly above the forest from platform to platform. This evening, engage in discussions on the history of the ACRCTT reserve and an overview of the conservation program. *Overnight at Tahuayo Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 4 - AMAZON

Spend a full day exploring the terra firme ecosystem along the Quebrada Blanco tributary of the Tahuayo River. Terra firme is high forest of rolling hills that does not flood, and consequently has the Amazon's richest diversity of flora and fauna. En route, visit the Mauritia Palm Agronomy Conservation Project to learn about their efforts. Next, trek to Frog Valley to learn about the poison dart frog conservation and breeding study project. Take an evening hike in varzea forest to see nocturnal mammals, amphibians, insects, and reptiles. *Overnight at Tahuayo Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 5 - AMAZON

Travel upriver by motorized boats to the Amazon Research Center Lodge (ARC). En route, stop to view the wildlife of riverine ecology including bats, monkeys, sloths, toucans, anhingas, and raptorial birds. This evening, your lecture will be on the research program of the ARC. *Overnight at Amazon Research Center Lodge. (BLD)*

DAYS 6-8 - AMAZON

The main research facility of the ARC consists of a series of transect trails laid out as a grid to facilitate sampling population density in the forest. Ecosystems represented on the grid include high restinga (forest that is flooded once every few years), low restinga (forest that is flooded for a month every other year), and aguajal (swamp). In the mornings and afternoons, hike the trails with trained observers to collect data on birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals,

including the red-faced bald uakari monkey, which exists only in the ACRCTT. In the evenings, group discussions will focus on a variety of aspects of Amazonian biodiversity. *Overnights at Amazon Research Center Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 9 - LIMA/DEPART

This morning, participate in a final hike along the trail grid. After lunch, return by boat to Iquitos for your connection to Lima before your international flight home. *(BL)*

DAY 10 - ARRIVE US

Arrive home following your overnight flight.

Program pricing

\$2,060 (21 participants + 3 leaders)

\$2,155 (14 participants + 2 leaders)

\$2,335 (7 participants + 1 leader)

Price includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, internal flights, private transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, full-time guide for the duration of the program, and carbon offset.

International airfare, gratuities, and items of a personal nature are not included.

Valid for travel in 2021.

Travel protection

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/ Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

The fine print

Rates are based on triple/quad occupancy for participants; single rooms are available at an additional cost. Complimentary leader accommodations may be single or double occupancy based on availability. International airfare is included for complimentary leaders. Holiday surcharges may apply. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due upon booking. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are non-refundable.



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe