

The Tambopata Madidi Wilderness

Discover the world's largest
pristine rainforest





Three extraordinary, contiguous Amazon reserves lie only a 25-minute flight from Cusco - the great Tambopata Madidi Wilderness on the Peru-Bolivia border. Taken together, these parks are two-thirds the size of Costa Rica and protect the most species-rich natural habitats in the world (January 1994 and March 2000 cover stories, *National Geographic Magazine*). No other company can offer you as much wildlife viewing in the greater Tambopata-Madidi region.

The intimate Heath River provides the fastest and easiest route to the uninhabited, un hunted core of these parks, a vast 2.5-million-acre (one-million-hectare) wilderness full of the five top predators of the Amazon--Jaguar, Giant Otter, Black Caiman, Harpy Eagle, and Anaconda. The un hunted region of Manu (the other great Peruvian nature reserve) is only 750,000 acres (300,000 hectares) and demands more money and time to visit.

The Heath River features the world's most accessible large macaw lick, which has registered up to 260 large macaws in one day, making it one of the five largest recorded macaw licks in the world. Though all five of these licks are spectacular, the Heath Lick is by far the most economical to visit, making it ideal for a short Amazon itinerary to combine with the Inca sites of Cusco and Machu Picchu. The Heath lick is the only one of the five that can be reached the same day that you fly by jet from Cusco, thus saving one or two nights over other licks.

Travelers enjoy warm pancakes and coffee while viewing the photogenic Heath Macaw Lick from a comfortable floating blind anchored only 100 feet (30 metres) away, a fraction of the distance from which one views the more remote clay licks in Tambopata. Finally, the rainforest on both sides of the Heath River is fully representative of the world's most biologically diverse habitat--the Amazon forest at the foot of the eastern slope of the Andes.



Sandoval Lake Lodge



Located deep in Peru's Tambopata National Reserve, our lodge overlooks sparkling, palm-rimmed Sandoval Lake, the most beautiful and wildlife-rich of all lakes in Tambopata-Madidi. This privileged location gives you exclusive access to the lake in the early morning and late afternoon, the choice hours for wildlife viewing and photography. No other lodge in Tambopata-Madidi is on the banks of a protected oxbow lake.

Our short Sandoval Lake program includes two nights of fully-screened accommodation in 25 double-occupancy rooms complete with en suite facilities with hot-water showers, electricity, fans, meals, airport transfers in Puerto Maldonado, naturalist guides, lake excursions by day in search of Giant Otters, monkeys, and macaws, forest excursions, night excursions in search of caimans, and evening slide shows. Our lodge specializes in small groups and



individualized attention in our overriding quest to conserve the lake and surrounding rainforest. Sandoval Lake Lodge is built out of ecologically-correct driftwood mahogany and is owned jointly by a nonprofit conservation group and five families of indigenous Brazil nut collectors. Daily departures from Lima or Cusco.

One- or three-night programs also available. Prices start at \$130 USD.



Hoatzin ⁽²⁾



Dendrobatid Frog (*Allobates* sp.) ⁽¹⁾



Giant Otter ⁽²⁾

Tambopata National Reserve, Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, Peru - Madidi National Park, Bolivia



Macaw clay lick



Catamaran on Sandoval Lake



Ese'Eja Indians of
Sonene Indigenous Community ⁽¹⁾



Heath River Wildlife Center

The Best Combination in Tambopata



Every person in Sonene speaks the original indigenous language, with Spanish being a distant second used mostly in school and to trade with outsiders and, now, to chat with pampered guests. Women from Sonene hold daily crafts workshops at the lodge, teaching visitors tribal traditions handed down through the millennia.

Only four hours by river from Puerto Maldonado airport, Heath River Wildlife Center is the gateway to the largest uninhabited and un hunted rainforest in the Amazon. An immensely photogenic macaw clay lick, capybaras, oxbow lakes with Giant Otters, hundreds of birds and mammal species and a lodge 100%-owned by the Ese'eja Indians of Sonene make the Heath the best combination of nature and culture in the entire Amazon. No other lodge in Tambopata is 100% owned and operated by a community of lowland Indians.

Though very traditional, the lodge in Sonene does not sacrifice comfort in the least. Guests enjoy roomy, private, double-occupancy bungalows with electric fans and en-suite facilities with hot showers. The combination of the most accessible and most photogenic large macaw lick and the warmth and uniquely traditional hospitality of our Indian hosts make Heath River Wildlife Center and Sandoval Lake Lodge the Amazon's best value in wildlife and authentic rainforest adventure.

Programs of 3, 4, or 5 nights. Prices start at \$520 USD.



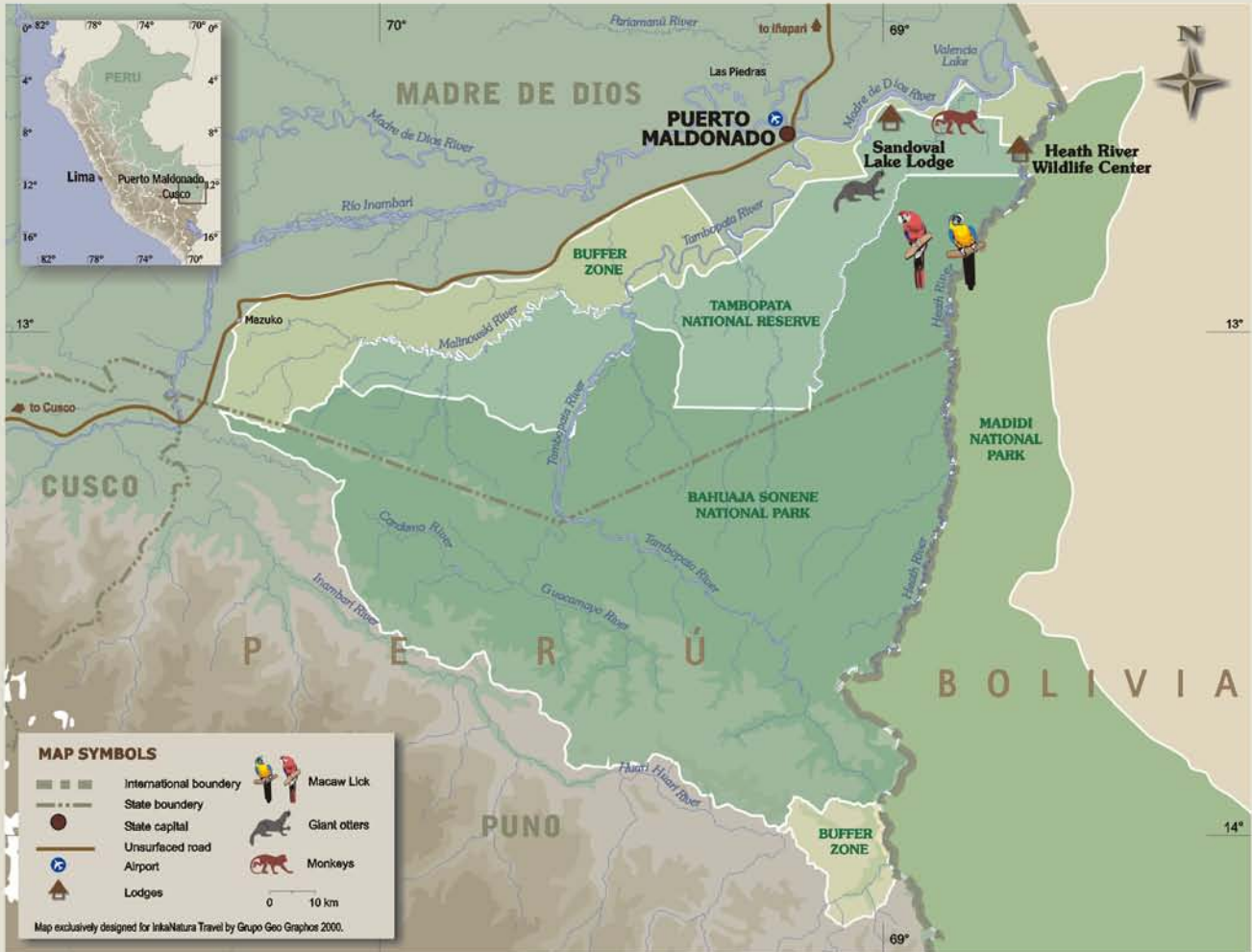
Capybara ⁽²⁾



Black-spotted Barbet ⁽¹⁾



Bolivian Squirrel Monkey ⁽²⁾



Useful references

- Macaws : Winged Rainbows by Charles Munn. Cover story, January 1994 National Geographic Magazine
- Madidi, Bolivia's Spectacular New National Park by Steve Kemper. Cover story, March 2000 National Geographic Magazine
- "Where the Andes meet the Amazon". 2001. by Kim MacQuarrie with photos by Andre Baertschi.

Important Tips

- Low season and group rates available.
- Highly recommended by prestigious travel guides (South American Handbook, Lonely Planet, and Insight Guides).
- Tambopata and Heath combine well with Cusco, Machu Picchu, and Inca Trail.

Packing list

- Good binoculars and camera gear
- Hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, water bottle
- Rainwear
- Insect repellent (20% "DEET" in forest, and Avon's "Skin-So-Soft" lotion for daytime on river)
- Passport and photocopy for trip to Heath
- Valid Yellow Fever vaccination card (no cases in Peru in more than 50 years, but required nonetheless)
- 3-4 T-shirts, 2-3 long-sleeve shirts
- 2-3 pairs of long cotton trousers
- 2 pair sneakers, OR 1 pair + 1 pr hiking boots
- 4 pairs absorbent socks
- 1 small & 1 large flashlight & extra batteries
- From May-Sept, very warm coat (down or similar) AND a thick sweater in case of cold fronts, which bring 47°F (8°C) temperatures

For more information contact your travel professional or

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