

PERU: CONSERVATION IN THE AMAZON

BIENVENIDO! - Welcome to Peru!

From the Amazon Rainforest, Lake Titicaca, the mysterious Inca ruins and the ultimately inspiring Machu Picchu experience, a trip to Peru is a journey into a magical dimension!

This is not a country that needs selling for anyone who has read anything on Peru or heard the tales of other travellers. Peru is sublime.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into South America and the Peruvian culture.
- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.
- Experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who'll meet you at the airport on your arrival - helps you **feel safe and never alone!**
- An in-depth Induction makes you **feel local straight away!**
- A unique insight into another culture – **see it from the inside** in a way you could never do as a tourist.
- An opportunity to **make lifelong friends from all over the world.**
- And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**



SUMMARY FACTFILE

Start Dates	One start date every month
Duration	From 2 weeks and up to 1 year, subject to visa restrictions.
Requirements	No qualifications needed, just lots of enthusiasm for nature!
Price	For up-to-date prices, please check our website www.travellersworldwide.com
What's included	▶ Accommodation ▶ Food ▶ Jungle Expedition ▶ Meeting you at the Airport ▶ Transfer to your accommodation ▶ Transport to and from your project ▶ Full pre-departure support ▶ Local in-country team support and backup ▶ 24-hr emergency support ▶ Two free T-Shirts
What's not included	Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required but we'll provide necessary documents and assistance), Return transfer to airport.
Who can do this Project?	All projects are open to all nationalities. You need to be aged between 17 and 70+

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

Projects undertaken at the centre fall under three main areas; **conservation, sustainability and education.**

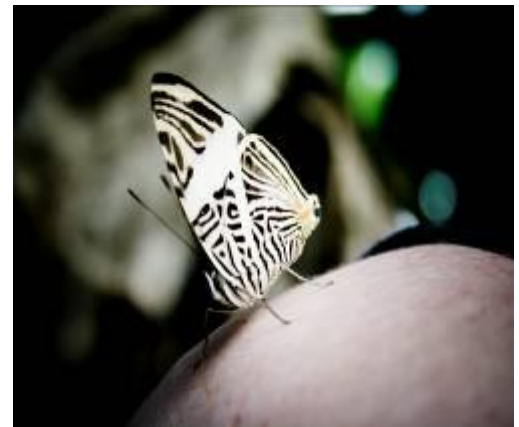
Volunteers benefit from onsite training (see below) and also actively assist in environmental monitoring at multiple locations. As you stay longer, you will take on increasing levels of data collection and project management responsibilities (depending on your abilities). The longer you participate on the project, the more skills and understanding you will develop.

You will be involved in different aspects of these projects depending on the season and individual requirements of each project at the time of your placement.

Professional Training

A productive volunteer knows WHY they are doing the work; they understand exactly WHAT the work is and HOW to do it. Volunteers are taught to be independent thinkers with skills to make a difference on projects. Volunteers will be trained on the following:

- First Aid & basic rainforest survival skills
- Tropical ecology
- Conservation & sustainability
- Natural history
- Astronomy
- Cultural diversity
- Wilderness ethics & natural resources conservation
- Flora & fauna monitoring
- Reforestation & agro-forestry
- Ethno-botany
- Environmental education



4-DAY JUNGLE EXPEDITION:

If you enrol on the Amazon Project for 4 weeks or longer you will go on a 4day/3night jungle expedition. *Please see website for prices.*

Expedition includes visiting a breathtaking hot water spring and white water rafting down local rivers with incredible views. (The trek will be allocated at the time and dictated by factors like number of volunteers, weather, etc.) During the trek you'll be camping out in the rainforest to really get to know you're new surroundings.

Work Content

The purpose of the work is to monitor and better understand rainforest biodiversity with a view to providing sustainable solutions and improved rainforest conservation.

As with all Conservation projects, your work will depend on what is required at the time your project takes place. It is also governed by uncontrollable factors, such as the weather, nesting seasons, etc.

This unique adventure starts from the moment that you land on Peruvian soil. Upon your arrival in Cusco you will be met at the airport and taken to your accommodation to rest from your journey. The following day, after an orientation session, you will have a city tour around Cusco, the ancient Inca capital. The next day you will start your journey from Cusco to the centre, with a very special one night stopover in a beautiful



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cloud forest. This stopover not only splits up the 10 hour journey but also provides you will a wonderful opportunity to experience this unique ecosystem and to possibly spot a Cock-of-the-Rock, the national bird of Peru.

The next day you will continue your journey, which ends with a boat trip down the river to the centre. Upon your arrival and after settling in, you'll have a short, informal welcome and orientation session. The following day you'll be taken on a guided walk into the forest. This will be followed by a half-day introduction to the rainforest and how it works. The project will match volunteers to their interest, providing an exposure to all the projects in the first week and then assigning volunteer to tasks they find interesting and where they will have the most impact. This tailored approach enriches the volunteer's time and creates better overall results. You will receive active training to introduce you to your new surroundings of the Amazon Rainforest and help you to learn more about the environment here. Volunteers will now also have the opportunity to work on community projects (see below) in a nearby small town situated approximately one hour away. Here you will experience life in an Amazonian community and assist with projects such as rebuilding and refurbishment of the local school. This is a rare and wonderful chance to be closely involved with such a community.

Overall your time on this project will be filled with variety, valuable conservation experience and worthwhile, important work within this precious ecosystem.

Work is primarily field based with some data processing and analysis at the centre. Volunteers can expect to work in the forest most days.

As mentioned above, this is a multi-activity project. There are many different projects and types of projects on the go at the same time, but you will also be guided and encouraged to work on your own projects as well. *"When I arrived, all the volunteers were working on their own projects and they took great pride in showing me what they were doing. They all felt their efforts were benefiting the local community."* (Paul White) The degree to which you'll run or assist on such projects will depend upon your abilities.

The Managers at the centre take responsibility for ensuring that volunteer abilities are matched to tasks they are assigned to. Volunteers who have specific skills that may be of use will be encouraged to use them. Work appraisals take place on a weekly basis to tackle this issue.

Although you are not required to speak Spanish, if you can learn some basics before you go, it will help you interact with staff and Peruvian researchers at the centre as well as with local communities. Volunteers that are interested in participating in educational programmes and the Ecology Club will need a strong Spanish ability.

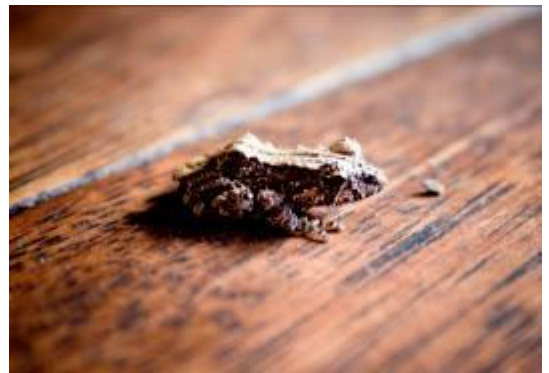
Below are some examples of the types of activities that are carried out at the Centre:

Mammal Studies

- An platform observation point deep within the jungle, off the trail, enables volunteers to spend the night watching for mammals visiting a mammal claylick (or collpa).
- The huge range of mammals living around the main camp and in and off the trails makes it possible to observe directly and indirectly the activities of different types of monkeys, tapirs, peccaries, armadillos, pumas and more.
- If you want to focus on a particular animal, gather prints and set up an observation point the staff will be more than happy to share their local knowledge with you and help you create your own unique field guide.

Bird Studies

- The project has one of the only clay-licks (or collpas) in South America visited by the rare and endangered Blue Headed Macaw as well as many other species of large macaws, parrots and parakeets.
- Population surveys are carried out recording what you see and hear on our daily afternoon parrot census walks in the jungle.
- Your ability to identify species is enhanced by the use of recordings played to you in training as well as in the field practice. Due to the large number of species, volunteers assist the project coordinator with observation on the parrot census and at the collpa, by watching the sky and listening for birds with the coordinator, who will test you regularly to



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improve your knowledge!

- The Blue Headed Macaw project links to a series of wider studies being undertaken across the neotropics into the nesting, mating and feeding habits of endangered species of birds.
- Data inputting enables us to eventually analyse our findings and compare them longitudinally and geographically with other research stations.
- Hummingbird feeding project. Construction of a 'garden' of different coloured hummingbird feeders (plastic bottles filled with sugary water), to try and associate species with different coloured plants

Plant Studies

- Weekly all-day expeditions as part of the Biomass study to collect seeds, leaves and fruits from traps set deep inside the forest, to clean and maintain the traps fortnightly, to photograph changes in the canopy structure over time and to take part in Fenology surveys. (*Fenology studies involve studying the patterns of fruiting, seeding, flowering and foliage to ascertain the dynamics of samples of the rainforest*)
- Sorting and recording the information collected from the traps and preparing for sending to Lima for analysis and eventual preparation of a unique and insightful report into the condition of this area of rainforest.
- Understanding the medicinal and other uses of different types of plants by different groups living locally including Harakmbut, Matsinguenga and Yine by working with staff on the trails and in the medicinal plant garden, also by testing local remedies for everything from an upset stomach to rheumatism!
- Data inputting enables us to share our findings and contribute to greater knowledge of the rainforest globally.



Sustainable development in action

The centre has a range of ongoing sustainable development projects designed to test out new ideas and technologies for the Amazonian rainforest environment. These might include testing a new type of weather monitoring station, creating a waste water management system from natural materials, assessing best methods for monitoring the river flow and its impact locally on fauna and flora or conducting workshops with local people on alternative energy sources. Volunteers can get involved at every level and become a part of the change in the reserve.

Cutting paths to form new 'arrays' for surveying the jungle is one example of science and development coming together. Arrays are large grids (each path is around 1 km long). They are the trails that the observers use when recording wildlife, plantlife and all forms of biodiversity, changes in climate and when conducting other specific scientific explorations. For mapping the paths and arrays volunteers go out with GPS units and use the information to draw maps of the area. Two examples of these arrays are plots currently being used by Oxford University to assess the carbon sequestration capacity of different types of Amazonian rainforest.

The Centre is keen to develop sustainable practices on the site and then, where successful, introduce these to the local population. One volunteer has set up a compost system and taught the staff to use it to make compost from the kitchen waste. This has tied in nicely with another volunteer's work to plant a garden on the site outside the accommodation buildings, (where the soil is particularly poor). Fruit and vegetables are flourishing in our onsite Biogarden which serves as a useful model locally particularly as anything brought in from the town tends to rot fairly quickly in this environment.

As you can see, there is a lot of scope here to develop new ideas and/or projects. This is a placement where you can really make a difference, particularly if you have initiative.

During the day there are activities such as swimming in the river, though you can only swim if supervised and depending



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on river condition, it rises and falls very rapidly! Some of the staff are trained in climbing and may be persuaded to teach you how to access the canopy (climbing trees using ropes). Some scientists use this method in their work when studying birds or trees. It is safe (when under instruction) but can be difficult.

Community Development

Since 2006 the project has been working with local families and communities to change land management and improve livelihoods. Providing new models for sustainable agriculture and agro-forestry strategies that can be implemented by local people in their back yard or in abandoned agricultural land. Volunteers are essential in helping build infrastructure and source the bio garden materials as well as providing the monitoring and evaluation with local families.

Example Activities:

- Collection and preparation of building material
- Construction of irrigation and roofing systems
- Seed germination, planting and monitoring
- Production control and quality assessment

The Centre and it's Environment

The Centre itself covers 640 hectares in a seemingly endless rainforest which stretches across Brazil and to the Atlantic Ocean. This is the Amazon! Mammals in the area include peccaries, puma, jaguar, armadillos and various monkeys. Tortoises and lizards are also present.

Currently 365 species of birds have been recorded in the area including parrots, hummingbirds and the rather bizarre Hoatzin. The resident bird expert, Claudia, is very enthusiastic about birds and her knowledge is truly exceptional. As one of our people said, *"Working with her is a privilege!"* Like any jungle there are lots of insects including tarantulas, as well as snakes, these however are seen only very infrequently.

One of the main reasons this area was selected for study was that within a reasonably small area the land has been impacted upon by agriculture and human activity in the past. This is why there are such a variety of forest types within the private reserve (forests in different stages of re-growth as well as in different ecosystems). It is through comparative studies between the old and new forest that conservationists aim to learn more about the effect of human activity on biodiversity as well as the ability of forests to regenerate. A 25km trail system provides access to the different eco-systems located with the private reserve.

The environment is relaxing, with nice weather, good views, excellent accommodation and very pleasant company. Entertainment is very much home-made and there is a real community spirit among the volunteers whilst still allowing for 'personal space'. Volunteers are well cared for whilst living in the excitement of the jungle. All of the staff are enthusiastic, helpful and caring. There are opportunities for engaging in leisure activities such as swimming and climbing.



"The experience I gained was invaluable. I learned about current environmental issues and really got to know communities and the culture of the area. The experience really opened my eyes to the world around me."

Lindsey Peterson

A Typical Day

The following is a rough description of a typical day and will hopefully give you a feel for the project life. On this project you're likely to come into contact with a variety of different and interesting species. They also encourage exposure to projects even though you may not be working directly on them. Typical days vary depending on the type of project volunteers are involved in. The macaw, parrot and parakeet monitoring project, for instance, starts at 5.00am. Other projects generally start later and go on later in the day.



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- 6.30–7.45: Breakfast
- 8.00 – 12.30: Project work (Morning Session)
- 12.30 – 1.00: Shower & Relax
- 1.00 – 2.30: Lunch & Free time
- 2.30 – 4.30: Project Work (Afternoon Session)
- 4.30 – 6.00: Report & results write up back at centre
- 6.00 – 7.00: Free time
- 7.00 – 8.30: Dinner
- 8.30 – 9.30: After dinner socialising
- 9.30 – 10.30: Typical bedtime

A Typical Week

- Ecology seminars where you can learn about the local wildlife and environment
- Interactive sessions with resident naturalists to learn about their projects
- Assemblies in which the centre Manger will provide general information updates and notices
- Opportunities for you to give presentations on your work
- Laptop DVD nights.
- Swimming / bathing in the river
- Trips to Salvacion
- Sunday afternoon football matches: Volunteers & Staff vs Local Communities (players and spectators welcome)
- Ecology Club: An opportunity for volunteers to interact with local children.

Usually you will be expected to work six days a week although generally you will find Saturday to be a half day. The project understands that valued work comes from volunteers who are motivated. If you need a rest or a reassignment to raise your motivation, just talk to the project managers who will try and help you.

Hours will vary depending on what work is being carried out at the time. You should expect to work between 30-40 hours per week and get a minimum of one full day off per week.

LOCATION:

Ever dreamed of being on an adventure where you travel to the other side of the world and venture into the deep jungle? Well, on this project you'll do just that.

The great journey begins when your plane descends, breaking through the clouds and sweeping through the Andes into Cusco. Your heart may jump a few beats as the plane twists and turns through the mountains and you land in heart and soul of South America. Cusco, located in southern Peru, is a city with some of the most beautiful views in the world. Surrounded by the Andes, it's known as the "Archaeological Capital of the Americas". It is the oldest city in the Western hemisphere and the cradle of the ancient Inca Civilization.

An Extraordinary Journey from Cusco

At daybreak the journey begins. However, this journey is far from ordinary. The stories you've heard and films you've watched become reality as your vehicle treks through the majestic Andes. For the first hour the roads are tarmac and relatively smooth and comfortable - but after this, the fun and adventure begins ... you hit the dirt track that is the main road to the reserve.



The roads down to the project are so narrow that traffic is only allowed to travel one way and the direction alternates each day, allowing transport to go back and forth.

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Leaving Cusco, you head over the Andes, stopping at Paucartambo for about an hour to learn about an Andean community. During the first part of the journey you'll travel through beautiful colonial villages. Continuing, you'll climb higher and higher into the mountains, looking down on the wild rivers below that start to look more like roads. Suddenly you're within touching distance of the clouds above and it finally dawns on you that you're actually here, traveling through the longest and most famous mountain range in the world ... the fantastic Andes!

At about 12,500 ft you enter the reserve, the gateway to the Amazon, before descending into the mist of the Cloud Forest. As you descend, you begin to notice that vegetation is becoming thicker, greener and denser. At the Cloud Forest you'll rest and experience your first night in the Amazon. This stop at the Cloud Forest allows you the chance to explore and learn about the local eco-system. You might even see the 'Cock of the Rock' (National Bird of Peru).

The following morning, after a night's stay, you'll continue by road through the tropical lowland rainforest to a small village called Atalaya. At this point you are now only about 2000ft above sea level, so everything feels much warmer. Here the road ends and you'll complete the final leg by motorised canoe that navigates down the turbulent Alto Madre de Dios River to the centre, situated near the river banks.

After two days of traveling from Cusco, you've arrived at your project site, where you'll learn, develop, experience and make a difference to the future of the majestic Amazon rainforest.

This project takes place right inside the emerald Amazon Rainforests of Peru! In a large conservation area located in the South Eastern corner of Peru. There is a rich diversity of different ecosystems in this location.

The Reserve was recognised in 1987, being declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. It achieved this status due to its abundance of wildlife and high species biodiversity, many of which have yet to be documented.

The park is approximately the size of Wales (20,000 sq km). Some of the area is being opened up to limited ecotourism (with tourists paying up to US\$300 per day to stay in the eco-lodges). The closest city is **Cusco**, which is approximately 8 hours drive by 4x4 vehicle.

The centre that we work with is located in Reserve next to the Alto Madre de Dios River, a tributary of the Amazon. The design of the facility complements its surroundings using traditional thatching techniques whilst incorporating more modern design to provide comfortable lodging. Great emphasis is also placed on utilising the latest in natural resource management to maintain the site. As an added bonus, there is a waterfall bordering the site!

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD:

This project is idyllically placed on the edge of the **Amazon Rainforest**, on a hill next to a river. This place has a special feel to it - It is relaxed and peaceful and has been tastefully constructed in keeping with its surroundings. At present the area has six thatched buildings. Three are accommodation houses with a classroom/workroom on the ground floor and a bedroom area above. You will be sharing a room with other volunteers. All buildings have open walls and are fresh and airy.

The bathroom is a separate block consisting of six cubicles, each containing a (Western) flush toilet, hand basin and a cold shower. There are also extra washbasins, and a large sink in which to do your laundry. There is a dining and relaxation area with tables and a few armchairs, as well as a library and covered hammock area.

Lighting is by candle (not allowed in bedroom areas) and there is generally no electricity on the site. There is, however, a generator which is run for a few hours every night in order to charge camera, batteries, etc. We recommend that you take out a portable headlight torch and a few other items, but we'll provide you with a list of recommended items to take with you before you leave.

Food is provided and you'll have three meals per day - breakfast, lunch and dinner. The food is wholesome and mainly vegetarian, with lots of pasta, rice, soup and fruit juice. The accommodation is not 5 star (it is the jungle after all), but it is very acceptable. There is always a flask of hot water, tea, coffee and filtered (safe) drinking water available in the dining room. The cook is able to cater for a number of specialised diets, although choices may be limited.



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VISAS:

For most nationalities visas are not required for a stay of 180 days or less. If you do require a visa, we will liaise with you about your visa requirements, and make the visa process very easy.

FLIGHTS:

You have the option to arrange your own flights or we can assist you with your flight arrangements. If you would like us to do this for you, we will liaise with you regarding available flights and dates to suit you. All arrangements for your flight bookings/payments will be fulfilled by [Murray Rogers Travel Limited](#), ATOL No. 6856.

INDUCTION ON ARRIVAL:

You'll be met on arrival and spend two nights in the city, where you'll have an orientation and induction day that will allow you time to explore the city and purchase any additional equipment you might need. It will also give you time to acclimatise yourself to your new environment before embarking on the journey to your project. The Centre is in the world's largest tropical rainforest and believed to contain more than half of the world's species.

COSTS:

Please see the prices pages of our website [Full Price List](#). The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile projects

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

For every volunteer, a donation is made by Travellers on your behalf into the [Bridge The Gap Foundation](#). This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

COUNTRY PROFILE:

Peru is the third largest country in South America and divides into three chief areas; the cavernous Andes, the coastal region of the Atacama Desert, and the concentrated rainforests of the Amazon. This is a country primed for adventure which softly summons the quest seekers amongst us!

The Andes are still one of the world's most unstable mountain ranges, with frequent earthquakes, landslides, and flash floods. Despite such instability, the Andes are also the site of the most fascinating pre-Columbian cities of South America-like the great city of the clouds, **Machu Picchu**.

Also of great interest is Peru's narrow, lowland coastal region, a northern extension of the Atacama Desert. Although the Atacama is generally known as the most arid region on the planet, the climate along Peru's shores is made cooler and less dry by La Garuúa, a dense fog created by the collision

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of the frigid waters of the Humboldt Current with the heated sands of the Atacama. Lima, Trujillo, and Chiclayo, three of Peru's major population centres, are located along this coastal desert.

Peru's third great region is the dense forest that surrounds the headwaters of the **Amazon** beneath the eastern slopes of the Andes. This part of the country is so inaccessible that only the most adventurous and intrepid travelers should attempt to penetrate its mysterious emerald depths. In fact, the region's capital of Iquitos, a city of 400,000, is accessible only by air or by boat up the Amazon.

The rainy season is between November and April with the worst of the rain occurring from December to March. Work at the Centre does continue through the rainy season because the arrays (working paths) are designed to be useable throughout the year.

THINGS TO DO IN: PERU

This is the Amazon Jungle – unique, exciting, wonderful, tranquil and awesome - but it isn't a placement for people who want to party the night away. There are board games, books to read and other 'quiet' activities. At night the world is lit by candlelight. Most people start their work early, getting up between 4 and 5am, consequently people tend to go to bed early. *"Some nights we watched a DVD on the laptop, (somewhat surreal, sitting in a jungle clearing watching a laptop crawling with moths!) Occasionally we just sat and socialised over a beer."*

During the day there are activities such as swimming in the river, complete with vines to swing from ("Hello Tarzan!"). You can only swim if supervised and depending on river conditions however. The manager is a keen climber and may be persuaded to teach you how to access the canopy, by climbing trees using ropes. Some scientists use this method in their work when studying birds. It is safe when under instruction, but can be difficult.

Although there are lots of places to visit in Peru, there are few external places to visit whilst on your project. In the dry season the nearest town is a 1¼ hour walk away (after crossing the river) and it is a safe walk. In the wet season it may be possible to reach another village by boat, but it would not be possible to walk. Sometimes it may be possible to get a lift with other volunteers or staff and perhaps spend a few days in **Cusco**. Generally however volunteers tend to stay at the Centre for the duration of their placement and visit Cusco at the end of their project when they can spend more time in this fascinating city, visiting the enchanting **Machu Picchu**, and the surrounding Sacred Valley.

Lodging can be provided for up to 36 visitors depending on the type of accommodation required, ranging from dormitory style quarters to the privacy of twin share rooms. Bedding and mosquito nets are provided.

The twin storey accommodation buildings are all furnished with personal storage cupboards upstairs and white boards, tables and chairs on the ground floor. Each building also has a fire extinguisher, sand bucket, emergency whistle and the centre handbook.

There are areas where volunteers can socialise, read, play board games etc. There is also a small bar available after dinner.

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VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK:

"This is an experience of a lifetime, one for people from all walks of life. Also anyone who likes great food because the food is awesome here considering where we are. Also, the bathrooms are heaven compared to

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places even back in the UK. It has been an amazing experience for me in so many ways. I'm even thinking of coming back to Peru to work in the future, maybe in conservation. All in all, I'm becoming very used to this way of life and not looking forward to going back home."

Lawrence Smart

I have gained a great understanding of the real life of the Amazon rainforest, ranging from the chaotic sounds of the Peccaries during the day to the peaceful sounds of the night time insects and frogs. I have learnt a huge amount of about all kinds of animals. Ranging from insects, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and exotic birds like the Macaws, parrots and parakeets. I have gained enough understanding of all these animals that I can now identify them instantly. In my free time I have had enjoyment of fishing with the clean air and the overwhelming view of the river and the forest around me. I have also had the chance to go swimming in the river after a long trek through the jungle observing all kinds of animals, as well as swimming in the small pools of the streams within the forest. The whole experience of helping out in this project has given me a great satisfaction, knowing that my work here is helping towards a great and important course within conservation.

My favourite experience at my placement was the sightings of the Wholly and the Squirrel Monkey. Although they are very different in many ways, they were equally exciting. On my second day in the forest I saw 20-30 small Squirrel Monkeys that ended up to be all around me jumping from one tree to another. Some of which were very curious and were trying to get a better view of me. A couple of weeks later I saw the Wholly monkey, one of the largest monkeys here. Which were huge, almost like gorillas. They were the most impressive things I've ever seen.

I would definitely recommend this placement to anyone interested in nature. The forest itself is the most beautiful place you possibly could go. Filled with all kinds of plants, flowers, insects and a huge variety of different animals, some of which are harder to see than others.

Samm Bennett

I have gained valuable experience whilst working with 2 botanists here in plant collections and identification. I have gained experience in visiting other cultures, in a country that is quite poverty stricken. This has heightened my respect for other people's cultural activities and beliefs. I have also gained a lot of experience in botany fieldwork which is great for my studies in botanical horticulture and will help me develop my knowledge of plants and plant ecosystems in the future. I have seen many different types of flora growing in lowland Amazon, Cloud forest and more arid flora on the mountainside, by seeing these my understanding of these plants has increased. It is also quite good to experience living in a small group in for a long period of time; it can be challenging but is good fun and character building!!

Joe Robbins

HOW TO BOOK:

Please complete a [booking form](#) online or you can send a postal booking from our free brochure. When we receive this, we'll telephone you to discuss the details and then start the exciting process of planning your trip!

We do hope you'll join us and are confident that you'll find this an incredible experience. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions - we'll be happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

You may also be interested in other courses with Travellers – please visit our [website](#) for details of all our projects. In fact you can choose from over 300 projects in 19 countries!



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