



Hotel Victoria Regia & Heliconia Amazon Lodge 5 Days / 4 Night Specialized Birdwatching Tour Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve & Yanamono Communal Reserve

This 5-day, 2-centre itinerary takes in two remarkable ecosystems:

1. **Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve**, a rare white-sand forest containing more than 490 bird species, including a number of endemics.
2. *Islands on the Amazon River, around **Yanamono Communal Reserve**, such as Hondococha, Caño Cáceres, Quebrada Manco with a variety of forest types, where 150 species of birds have been recorded.*

Itinerary:

Day 1: Iquitos - Heliconia Amazon Lodge

On arrival at Iquitos Airport, we greet you and transfer you to your Iquitos hotel, the well-appointed Victoria Regia.

After check-in, there is time for a leisurely lunch at the hotel, after which you may wish to walk along the city's *malecon*, overlooking the Itaya River. Here you can observe Amazon shore birds.

Dinner and overnight at Hotel Victoria Regia.

Meals provided: Lunch, Dinner

Day 2: Iquitos - Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve - Quistococha Lagoon - Iquitos

We wake up early this morning, in order to drive 25 km along the road to Nauta, to the Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve.

Here, we meet a guide from the Reserve who will tell us about the rare *varillal* (white sand) soil, consisting of quartz and nutrient-rich *lacustrine* clay, which impacts upon the vegetation and ecosystem.

We then go in search of around 20 species of bird, including:

- Ancient Antwren
- Gray-legged Tinamou (December - March only)
- Mishana Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius villarejoi*)
- Northern Chestnut-tailed Antbird (*Myrmeciza castanea*)
- Pompadour Cotinga (*Xipholena punicea*)
- Allpahuayo Antbird (*Percnostola arenarum*)
- Iquitos Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila clementsii*)
- Brown-banded Puffbird (*Notharchus ordii*)
- Citron-bellied Attila (*Attila citriniventris*)
- Saffron-crested Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma chrysocephalum*)
- Yellow-throated Flycatcher (*Conopias parvusava*)

We then hike to **Quistococha Lagoon** to spend about two hours to observe flooded forest species, such as:

- Amazonian Parrotlet (*Nannopsittaca dachilleae*)
- Swallow-tailed Swift
- Point-tailed Palm creeper
- Sulphury Flycatcher
- Olivaceous Woodcreeper
- Lettered Aracari
- Chestnut-eared Aracari
- White-lored Euphonia
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Spotted Tody-Flycatcher
- Short-tailed Swifts

On the way back to Iquitos, Zone-tailed Hawks and Pearl Kites may be flying overhead.

Dinner and overnight at Hotel Victoria Regia.

Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve - Yanamono Rainforest - Heliconia Amazon River Lodge

Another early departure this morning in order to get to the Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve to observe more bird species, including white sand-forest endemics such as:

- Pearly Antshrike
- White-plumed Antbird
- Zimmer's Tody-Tyrant
- Orange-Crowned Manakin

- Ancient Antwren
- Paradise Jacamar
- White-browed Purpletuft, among others

We then drive back to Iquitos' Bellavista Nanay Port, in order to board our speedboat, to take us down the Amazon River to Heliconia Lodge. Along the way, we should spot Large and Yellow-billed Terns and perhaps Light Yellow-headed Vultures.

On arrival at the lodge, we settle in and have lunch, and then go for jungle hike into the nearby **Yanamono wetlands**. This is categorised as *varzea*: rainforest that is seasonally flooded by white water rivers and home to species such as:

- Pale-legged Hornero
- Warbling Antbird
- Violaceous Trogon
- White-eared Jacamar
- Buff-throated Woodcreeper

On higher ground, we find *terra firme* (unflooded) forest, with species that include:

- Golden-headed Manakin
- Red and Blue-headed Manakins
- Reddish Hermit
- Golden-collared Toucanet
- Fasciated Antshrike
- Short-billed Antwren

At the end of the day, we return to the lodge to relax.

Dinner and overnight at Heliconia Amazon River Lodge.

Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Yanamono Rainforest

Another early start for a bird watching expedition to Quebrada Caceres, a gully that is home to:

- Wattled Jacana
- White-eared Jacamar
- Black-capped Donacobius
- Red-capped Cardinal
- Amazon Kingfisher
- Green Kingfisher
- Ringed Kingfisher
- Black-Collared Hawk
- Amazonian Antshrike

- Amazonian-streaked Antwren
- Black Caracara
- Plumbeous Antbird
- Great Egret
- Greater Ani
- Squirrel Cuco
- Oriole Blackbird.

After breakfast, we take a walk terra firme forest in Yanamono, looking for:

- Black Fronted Nunbird
- Blue and Gray Tanager
- Roadside Hawk
- Yellow-headed Caracara
- Chachalaca
- White-throated Toucan
- Yellow-rumped Cacique

In the afternoon, we go by speed boat to the Napo River, a tributary of the Amazon, where we can see river shore species such as:

- Black-necked Red Cotinga
- Orange-eyed Flycatcher
- Swallow Wing and Chestnut-crowned Becard.

We then go to an oxbow lake to see:

- Hoatzins
- Plum-throated Cotinga,
- Black-collared Hawk
- Great Black Hawk
- Capped Heron
- American Pygmy Kingfisher
- Green and Rufous Kingfishers
- Amazon Kingfisher

If we are lucky, we may also spot [Amazon River Dolphin](#) (*Inia Geoffrensis*).

Dinner and overnight at Heliconia Amazon River Lodge.

Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Yanamono Rainforest - Iquitos

Early morning birding looking for:

- White-eared Jacamar
- Black-capped Donacobius

- Red-capped Cardinal
- Amazon Kingfisher
- Green and Ringed Kingfishers
- Black-collared Hawk
- Gilded and Scarlet-crowned Barbets
- Crimson-crested and Cream-colored Woodpecker
- Striped Woodcreeper
- Band-tailed Manakin

Lunch is taken back at the lodge.

After checking out, we take the speedboat back to Iquitos, arriving back in [Iquitos](#) at approximately 3pm, and transfer you to the airport or your hotel.

NB. An earlier transfer is available for earlier flights.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

NB. Please note that the above itinerary is subject to change according to operational considerations, such as weather and river levels, at the discretion of the guide.

Included:

- 2 nights at hotel in Iquitos.
- 2 nights at Heliconia Lodge.
- Private transfer (return) from Iquitos airport to hotel.
- Other transfers as described
- Private fast boat up the Amazon River to Heliconia Lodge and back.
- Expert birding guide (English & Spanish).
- Birding checklist.
- All meals stated in itinerary.
- Tea & coffee 24 hours a day.
- Wellington boots.
- Electricity: 5.30 - 8am; 12 - 1pm & 5.30 - 10pm.

Not included:

- Binoculars
- Sodas & alcoholic drinks
- Souvenirs
- Tips
- Laundry
- Flights
- Insurance
- Services not mentioned above.