



Amazonian lowlands extension 4 nights (More night can be added)

Sacha Lodge (or similar Amazonian Lodge). Three full days birding in the most biodiverse spot on the planet at a comfortable lowland lodge along the Napo River.*

We'll have three full days to scratch the surface of the avifauna in western Amazonia and get a feel for the complexity of rich habitats and microhabitats within easy reach of the lodge. One or two mornings we'll visit the amazing canopy towers, which offer privileged access to a world apart from the rest of the rainforest. Flocks of oropendolas, toucans, aracarís, tanagers, and euphonias roam the canopy in search of fruit, Spangled and Plum-throated Cotingas glow from the treetops, raptors perch on vantage points to dry off in the morning sun, White-browed Purpletufts and Crowned Slaty Flycatchers sally for insects, numerous parrots and macaws fly by or drop in if there is a fruiting tree nearby, and many other species wander past (and through!) the tower tree and canopy walk. An ample system of forest trails offer access to another component of the avifauna, with woodcreepers, antbirds, and tinamous particularly well represented, and we should encounter the vocally striking Screaming Piha. A number of clay licks (or "saladeros") exist nearby, and here we should see (and hear!) the spectacle of hundreds of parrots and parakeets coming in to nibble at the clay. We'll also enjoy numerous canoe rides around the lake by the lodge and along adjacent creeks, where the songs of Silvered and Plumbeous Antbirds reverberate through the flooded forest. Birds we'll be seeking here include Orange-crested Manakin, and the striking Long-billed Woodcreeper, plus several species of monkeys and the impressive Giant River Otter. The river-edge forest is home to numerous other species such as Masked Crimson and Magpie Tanagers, Rufous-headed Woodpecker, and Swallow-winged Puffbird. And then there are islands in the Río Napo, which, depending on their age, support a varied avifauna distinct from that found on the "mainland" only a few hundred yards away! Island specialties we hope to see include Black-and-white Antbird, Olive-spotted Hummingbird, Oriole Blackbird and at least three species of spinetails, plus more "expected" river birds such as Capped Heron, Collared Plover, and Yellow-billed Tern. No two trips are ever the same here, but they are all always awe-inspiring. Nights at Sacha lodge.

*This tour is designed to be part be added on as a pre or post-trip extension to any of our itineraries or day trips. Quito-Coca-Quito flight is included.

