

## **CLOUD FOREST PARADISE** **STAY IN OUR UNIQUE LODGE WITH ITS EXTENSIVE RESERVE**

### **2 DAYS / 1 NIGHT**



**Our two-day trip is a wonderful way to become acquainted with the special environment of a cloud forest so close to Quito – only one hour 50 minutes away!**

**We offer our guests a unique stay in paradise, above the forest canopy, surrounded by myriads of hummingbirds!**

**You will enjoy our generous servings of wholesome international and national dishes, the fabulous views of forest and mountains, and our extensive network of safe, well-marked trails.**

#### **ITINERARY:**

##### **Day One:**

- 6:15h / 6:30h Departure from your hotel.
- Arrival at Bellavista and breakfast.
- 13:00h Lunch.
- Afternoon: Forest hike – discover the secrets of this forest - and/or bird watching
- 19:00h Dinner.
- Maybe the Olinguito will visit tonight right at the Lodge!

##### **Day Two:**

- Pre-breakfast: Early morning bird walk
- 8:00h Breakfast
- Guided hike to one of various waterfalls hidden deep in the forest
- 13:00h Lunch.
- Further time for own exploration, rest, photos and more.
- 14:30 / 15:00h Departure from Bellavista
- 17:00 / 17.30h Arrival at your hotel.



Leaving Quito, we pass the Middle of the World (Equator) monument and then descend a scenic mountain road with forested mountains almost all the way. Reaching the turn to Bellavista, you climb to the top of the mountain, again with fabulous views, where Bellavista lodge is perched. After breakfast, enjoy the flurry of hummingbirds and take a guided hike into the forest on our varied trails. After a delicious lunch, you can take a further guided hike with a Bellavista naturalist, or explore on your own. A guided hike will acquaint you with the exuberant vegetation (orchids, bromeliads) of the cloud forest, its bird life, and the fascinating adaptations to life in this special environment. The evening is relaxed – during or shortly after dinner, the Olinguito and Kinkajoo often visit the feeders right near the dining-room! There are also an incredible variety of moths, many of which are likely unknown to science.... After a refreshing night's sleep, an early morning bird hike in the serene morning light is well worthwhile – the best time for birds. At 8 a.m., an ample breakfast is served. Afterwards, perhaps explore on your own, or perhaps go with a guide to a waterfall (hikes according to guide suggestions, availability and your interests!) Every hike reveals something new even for those of us who are fortunate enough to live in the forest every day!!



Lunch is served at one, and departure time is around 14.30 – 15,00h. Some people take a final hike in the forest, and some take a short siesta, others observe the birds or admire the ever – changing patterns of mist, cloud and sunny mountain vistas.....

Finally, you leave, to be back in Quito before dusk.



**What to bring:**

- T-shirts or comfortable blouses/shirts
- Sweater or fleece for the evenings
- Quick drying trousers (blue jeans not recommended)
- Lightweight socks
- Change of clothes
- Sunhat and sunscreen
- Rain poncho (a few available if needed)

- Camera
- Rubber boots are provided – to size 47 (few pairs in large sizes)
- Binoculars recommended (available for rent)
- Water bottle for hikes
- Small daypack for hikes
- Flashlight and batteries
- Plastic bags to protect camera, etc

**What is included:**

- 5 meals.
- 1 night accommodation.
- Access to 700-hectare Bellavista Reserve.
- Shared hikes at Bellavista
- Transportation Quito-Bellavista-Quito

**What is not included:**

Drinks, tips, personal items, other services.

**Note:** Hiking routes are flexible.



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