

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

2 DAYS / 1 NIGHT with Cock-of-the-Rock



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! This package includes an excursion to see a local avian wonder – the Andean Cock-of-the-Rock

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 gourmet food, the fabulous views of forest and mountains, and our extensive network of safe, well-marked trails.

ITINERARY:

Day One:

- 6:15 / 6:30h Departure from your hotel.
- Arrival at Bellavista and breakfast. Guided hike.
- 13:00h Lunch.
- 15:00 departure in private transfer to a local Reserve to visit a fascinating **Cock-of-the-Rock** lek. Back to lodge around 18:30 PM.
- 19:00h Dinner.
- Maybe the Olinguito will visit tonight right at the Lodge!

Day Two:

- Early morning bird walk – highly recommended!
- 8:00h Breakfast
- Guided hike to a different area of our biodiverse reserve
- 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. 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. After a delicious lunch, and perhaps a siesta, you will leave for the trip to discover the strange Cock-of-the-Rock with its raucous antics! 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 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, take another guided hike (or if you wish, explore safely on your own!) Options include a different area and type of forest to explore, or 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 afterwards you choose your time of departure (14.30 – 15.00) Some people take a final hike in the forest, and some take a peaceful 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 at 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
- Excursion to Cock-of-the Rock lek. Includes guide, entry fee, transport
- Shared private transportation Quito-Bellavista-Quito



What is not included:

Drinks, tips, personal items, other services.

Note: Hiking routes are flexible.

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