

TERRITORIO HUAORANI

CAMPING TOURS GARENO LODGE 6 DAYS-5 NIGHT

DAY 1

We meet you in Tena by our staff. We have a 77 Km drive, about 2.5 hours, along the Napo River to the Lodge situated in the Napo and Pastaza province. On the way we have the opportunity to see many different birds, as Parrots, Toucans and sometimes monkeys. We arrive before dark. Now in Gareno Lodge we discuss the camping tour of the next days. Afterwards we enjoy a welcome cocktail and then dinner.

DAY 2

In the morning, after breakfast, we take our equipment and accompanied by a native guide we will discover flora and fauna and the Huaorani culture. We will explore their various plants to know more about life in the jungle. The Huaorani people in their traditional "bare dress" will show us how to survive in the jungle by recollecting jungle fruits. They will show us how to make the traditional houses, how make the handicrafts and curare uses.

We will have a lunch break in the virgin jungle at noon while you appreciate the shadow of the giant trees Ceibo ficus of approximately 40 meters tall. In the afternoon we walk for 2 ó 3 hours more after we will prepare our tents for camp in the middle of the jungle. We will cook for you to prepare a candlelight dinner.

DAY 3

After breakfast, we take an introductory hike of about 3 ó 4 hours that traverses both terra firme (never flooded whose composition with predominantly tall trees and little understory vegetation) and varzea (occasionally floated) forest, winding through majestic trees and across quiet streams, the trail has two overlooks as it winds the community; the first one has tree trunk or big leaf seats for some much-needed rest and to allow you to enjoy the view over the forest canopy, where you may see vultures and eagles soaring and also trees in bloom.

Now finally we arrive to the Nushino River, at noon where you have time to plunge into the water; the canoe will have brought up your swimsuit and sandals and are plenty of places of change if you use your imagination. The Huaorani love swimming and playing in the water and may join you. Lunch is served on the beach. In the early afternoon we install our camp close to the river is possible in the beach and afterwards we go fishing, after dinner.

DAY 4

In the morning after the breakfast we drift the river down in canoe and have the possibility to observe different birds and mammals. After the lunch we follow the river Nushino to the Huaorani village Tepapare to have a break and admire the life in the community, buy their beautiful handicrafts, weapons, bags, necklaces, hammocks, test the chichi jungle juice, with banana ó yucca manioc cassava. Also it is possible to join with them in a traditional hunt with their blowgun and with curare poisoned darts. In the afternoon we navigate down in the same Nushino River; until arrive to the hidden lagoon for some fishing. Here we camp close to the hidden lagoon and prepare again our dinner. After dinner we do a walk in the night, since most rainforest animals are nocturnal especially mammals and amphibian this is your best opportunity to see some of these elusive creatures or at least hear climbing through the trees or digging for food. The insects and bats, both attracted by your light, and other animals reveal their presence by the reflection of their eyes, especially CAIMANS around the lake.

DAY 5

Early in the morning after the breakfast we go back to the hidden lagoon to an oxbow lake formed by Nushino River and walk inland for a while. Here it is possible appreciate the sound and sights of the rainforest. Leaving early you're to catch many birds unawares and the tranquility allows. If lucky, and quiet you may catch a glimpse of the extraordinary Hoatzin (one of the few birds that feeds almost exclusively on leaves) as well as anacondas, capybaras, (world's largest rodent) and caimans(types of alligator). At noon we have lunch and afterwards we go down the river in canoe until we arrive to the Huaorani trails. Now we go on an hike with guides that explain more about the complex system of the rainforest for 3 or 4 hours. Finally we arrive again the Meñepare and Gareno community. From here we take the oil route and arrive at the Gareno Lodge before the dark to celebrate and chat of our experience of the jungle.

DAY 6

Very early in the morning we make a little hike to observe birds and mammals (option). After breakfast we pack up our equipment and wait the car, we continue between traditional Huaorani territory and that of the petroleum companies. At the point where a road built by oil companies in the early 1990 we leave the forest and head to "civilization". The symbols of the modern deforestation are the roads. They provide access and means for human population to grow at a rapid rate, which affects indigenous people by displacing them from the best and most accessible agricultural soils, reducing territory available for hunting and gathering. This brief journey through oil territory illustrate of the threat facing the rainforest and Huaorani people.

Return to Tena and back to Quito and other destinations.