

La Casa del SUIZO

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Go deeper into the Jungle

4 days / 3 nights

Trek, paddle and swing through the lush, primary rainforest which surrounds La Casa del Suizo, led by our native guides who possess vast knowledge of the diverse local fauna and flora.

Included:

- Transport to and from La Casa del Suizo
- Canoe ride for entering and leaving the hotel
- 3 nights' accommodation
- River transport in activities
- All meals
- Bilingual guide
- Activities led by native guides
- Rubber boots in excursions
- Free Wi-Fi
- Taxes



Not included

- Drinks
- Tips

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Sample Itinerary

Subject to weather, availability and group interests

Day 1

The journey to La Casa del Suizo departs from Quito, Ecuador's capital, at 8:00am via private transportation.

The first leg of our voyage brings us to Papallacta, a small mountain village famous for its natural hot springs. Arriving between 10:00 and 10:30am, we take some time to visit these springs for a soothing dip in their steaming thermal waters, before lunch at the Hotel Papallacta. Shortly after noon, we continue on our route along a scenic stretch of road which takes us out of the majestic Andes highlands and down into the "Oriente", or Amazon region. Along the way there are several opportunities to stop for photographs, overlooking lush green valleys and sparkling waterfalls.



The road ends at Punta Ahuano, a tiny port town on the north bank of the Napo River, where canoes await for a late-afternoon, 15-minute ride downstream to La Casa del Suizo. We arrive with time to get settled and enjoy the sunset from the swimming pool with a welcome cocktail.

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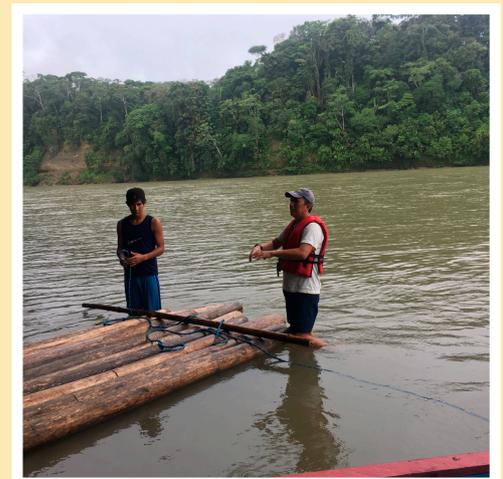
Sample Itinerary

During days 2 and 3 at La Casa del Suizo, we participate in several morning, afternoon and full day activities. These programs will begin after an early breakfast, and are led by both native and bilingual guides.

Note: the activities on day 2 and day 3 may be inverted. Others are also available

Day 2: Cultural encounters and wonderful wildlife

After breakfast we board a dugout canoe and navigate 20 minutes down the scenic Napo River. The destination is Cosano, where during a two-hour walk through primary rainforest we are going to lookout for tropical birds and interesting vegetation.



Just across the river from La Casa del Suizo is AmaZOOnico, a rescue centre for wounded and displaced tropical rainforest animals. Here we can see coatis, tapirs, and several species of monkey, snakes, and a variety of colourful birds, many of which wander around freely.

Lunch at La Casa del Suizo. Mid-afternoon, we continue on to the village of Ahuano, where we learn about traditional Quichua culture. A local host shows us how to make chicha, a typical beverage (tasting optional!), and demonstrates the spiritual cleansing rituals still practiced today throughout the surrounding community. Finally, we participate in a blowgun target-shooting contest – but don't expect to beat the natives!

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Day 3: Adventures on the river

We begin the day with an early breakfast. Walking through primary and secondary forest trails, we observe distinct species of birds and insects as well as a great variety of trees and medicinal plants. The guides explain how such plants are used not only in medicine, but also in construction and other local activities. Along the trails, there are several opportunities to up the adventure factor, with hanging bridges and vines for swinging from tree to tree like Tarzan.



We go on to experience the true adventure of explorers past, building and navigating a raft! On a small river island our guide shows us how to bind balsa logs together with rope to form a 'vessel', so those who wish can float down the Napo for about an hour, en route back to La Casa del Suizo. The duration of this visit is around 4 hours.

Lunch at La Casa del Suizo, followed by "The Island": a one-hour walk around a totally flat river island where we can spot a great variety of plants and insects. Later we visit the Mariposario (Butterfly House) where we witness the awesome life-cycles of butterflies.

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Sample Itinerary

Day 4:

After breakfast we depart for the trip up the mountains and back to the city. About halfway there, the bus stops at a lookout to stretch our legs and enjoy a lunch box before continuing on to Quito.

