

Visitor guide



Manu Biological Station

Where the Andes Meets the Amazon



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Overview

Manu Biological Station (MBS), formerly known as Villa Carmen, is situated at the foothills of the Peruvian Andes in the region of Cusco. Manu's location constitutes a unique cultural and natural crossroads. At the foot of the Andes mountain range, in the surroundings of MBS, are the Andean cloud forest and the Amazonian lowland forest, as well as Amazonian and Andean indigenous cultures that blend in this tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot. Established in 2010, MBS protects 7,600 acres of tropical forests in the buffer zone of Manu National Park and serves as the perfect natural laboratory to study and monitor the biodiversity along the Andes-Amazon elevation gradient, collaborate with neighboring indigenous communities, and promote sustainable practices.

Our Mission, Vision, and Programs

Mission

To discover and understand the biodiversity of the Andes-Amazon and to build innovative science-driven, field-based conservation programs in partnership with indigenous people, policymakers, and civil society.

Vision

To empower a diverse community of conservationists with the knowledge and training needed to protect the greatest concentration of biodiversity on the planet

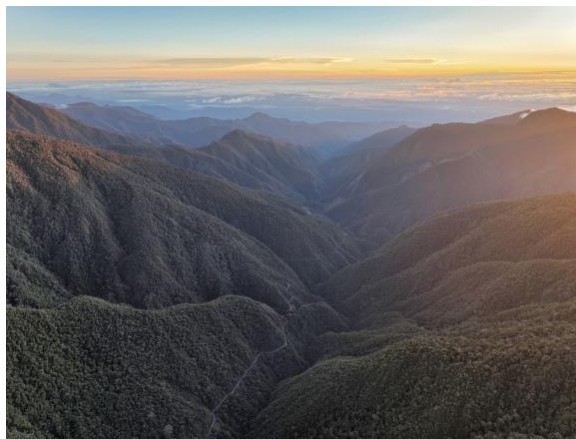
Our **programs** focus on three key themes that aim to inform and guide conservation strategies along the Andes-Amazon gradient. For detailed information about our programs, please visit manubio.org

- Science and Education
- Ecotourism
- Regenerative Agriculture

Site Description

Location

Manu Biological Station (12°53'S, 71°24'W) is located approximately 6-7 hours by road from Cusco, Peru. The 7,600-acre property is 1.5 km north of the town of Pilcopata at the confluence of the Piñi-Piñi and Pilcopata Rivers, in the district of Kosñipata, province of Paucartambo, department of Cusco. MBS covers an elevation gradient of 1600 to 4000 feet (488 to 1219 meters).



Kosñipata Valley, Cusco. Photo credit: Rhett Butler.

Flora and Fauna

Manu Biological Station is a hotspot for butterflies, reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, orchids and more. Driving to the station, just before reaching Pilcopata, there are farm fields and successional forests that provide great views of jays, aracari, woodpeckers, and macaws. Once inside the property gate of MBS, there's a clay lick that attracts feeding macaws and parrots. In the forest edge along the road leading to the lodge, there are nunbirds, jays, swallow tanagers, and hawks.

The lodge grounds are dripping with birds: guans, chachalacas, macaws, parrots, oropendolas, caciques, red-capped cardinals, and hummingbirds (including golden-tailed sapphires, rufous-crested coquettes, and buff-tailed sicklebills). Outside the dining hall is a series of maintained fishponds, which are a permanent habitat for

hoatzins, tiger herons, kingfishers, sunbitterns, gallinules, snail kites, and woodpeckers. Unique sightings around the ponds included a tawny-bellied screech owl being flushed from a woodpecker hole and a (not too-) dwarf caiman seen at night. Well-maintained trails just outside the cabins lead to a nearby tinamou and wood-rail observation hide.

MBS is also home to mammals such as tapir, deer, capybaras, agoutis, and large cats. In 2022, camera traps images and videos captured the first record of the spectacled bear at 1000 m within the forests protected by the station.

Habitats

Along the 680 meters elevation gradient, MBS encompasses various habitats that harbor most of the Earth's terrestrial diversity. Habitats that dominate lower elevations include crops and pastures, followed by riparian successional vegetation. As we move up upwards, secondary successional vegetation and bamboo forests transition to lower mountain rainforests leading to premontane forests at higher elevations. Aquatic habitats include ponds, streams, three waterfalls, and the Piñi-Piñi, Tono and Pilcopata rivers.

Protected Areas

MBS is embedded in one of the largest rainforest areas in the world with exceptional conservation conditions, the Manu Biosphere Reserve. This landscape straddles the regions of Cusco and Madre de Dios in southeastern Peru. It encompasses a mosaic of protected areas, indigenous territories, and private and public conservation concessions safeguarding more than 2 000 000 ha of tropical forests and some of the last populations of indigenous people. Five protected areas surround MBS, including Manu and Alto Purus National Parks, Megantoni National Sanctuary, Amarakaeri Communal Reserve, and the Reserve for Indigenous People in Voluntary Isolation. MBS neighbors the Haramba Queros Wachipaeri Ecological Reserve and Santa Rosa de Huacaria Conservation Concession and is close to over one dozen local communities from different indigenous groups that form part of one of Peru's most important networks of protected lands.

Social Economic

The social-economic context in the surroundings of MBS is complex given the blend of cultures from Amazonian indigenous people and Andean migrants, locally known as colonos. With social disruptions dating

back to the first half of the 20th century, local indigenous people in the region have shifted from a subsistence to a market-based economy. Currently, the population inhabiting the town of Pilcopata and neighboring indigenous communities have developed diversified livelihoods that include commercial agriculture, logging, the emergence of ecotourism and community-based conservation with the support of environmental organizations that work in the buffer zone of Manu National Park.

Kids and young adults have access to primary and secondary education in Pilcopata, after that those who would like to attend college must travel to the city of Cusco. Limited income-generating opportunities and education are the main important drivers of migration from the local communities to Pilcopata or Cusco (Tello, 2014). Tello (2014) reported that in 2009 about one third of the population of Queros resided in Pilcopata.

Climate

The average temperature is 22 °C, with a minimum of 10 °C (a drop in temperature occurs periodically between May and September during cold fronts or "frijas") and a maximum of 32 °C. Precipitation is ~4000 mm/year, the wettest month is February (rainy season November-March), and the driest is August.

Facilities

Our facilities include:

- 11 Double cabins with private bathrooms
- Two dorms with shared bathrooms
- Dining room area and lounge
- Large multipurpose meeting space
- Laboratory with equipment, tables, and benches
- A scientific library including in-house field guides of local flora and fauna
- Access to 40 km/25 miles of geo-referenced trails
- Easy access to the nearby town of Pilcopata
- Access to two neighboring indigenous communities (with prior approval)
- A regenerative agriculture program, including an organic farm and garden and an on-site fish farm

Indigenous Neighbors and Local Communities

Manu's location is unique due to its proximity to the Haramba Queros Wachipaeri Ecological Reserve to the south and the Santa Rosa de Huacaria Conservation Concession to the west. These indigenous protected lands are home to three indigenous ethnic groups: Machiguenga, Wachipaeri, and Quechua, who sustain their livelihoods by conserving their natural resources while maintaining their cultural traditions. Amazon Conservation (ACA) and Conservación Amazónica (ACCA) helped establish the Haramba-Queros Wachipaeri Reserve, the world's first conservation concession managed by an indigenous group and had supported various conservation programs in both communities to develop sustainable economic opportunities. Visitors can plan a visit to immerse themselves in their ancestral culture and learn more about their engagement in conservation efforts. Some learning experiences include arrow shooting, fish farming, fishing, handicraft, basketry, traditional foods and drinks, and more. *Note:* These activities involve an additional cost.



A Machiguenga woman with her son, Santa Rosa de Huacaria. Photo credit: Carla Mere

Our Organic Farm and Gardens

In our organic farm we are growing five varieties of lettuce, tomatoes, cabbage, peppers, spinach, and several spices. The greenhouse in which they are grown was an old barn and it has been recovered as a greenhouse with approximately 200 square meters. We are also recuperating what used to be a vegetable mandala into a butterfly and hummingbird garden where a mixture of colors and plants guide you through a relaxing trail system, that lead you to our future genomics lab or to the fishponds where you will see the amazing hoatzins. The overall landscape setting of the station and lodge will take you through a set of trails where you will always be in contact with nature, though waterfalls and exuberant vegetation.

The Fantastic Journey

How to get there

The 7-hour journey begins in the city of Cusco. Most flights to Cusco depart from Lima, Peru's capital. Once in Cusco, the vans that go to MBS depart from San Jeronimo, located approximately 15 min from the airport. The road is paved for the first couple hours of the journey until reaching the culture-rich town of Paucartambo. Public transportation usually stops here for 15 minutes, which can be used to go to the bathrooms, to grab snacks or to enjoy the town center with its dancing sculptures. The remaining part of the trip is through the unpaved and winding Manu road along the Kosñipata valley with spectacular views from Puna grasslands to lowland montane forests. If you are lucky, you will see some fantastic wildlife, such as the Andean Cock-of-the-Rock, or who knows, even a spectacled bear. Enjoy the magnificent journey from the Andes to the Amazon!

Travel Logistics

The only option to get to MSB is by road, but you could choose between private or public transportation. If you choose public transportation, the vans depart from Cusco at 11 am and 4 pm every day. We request our visitors to take the 11 am van to arrive at the station during daylight hours. You can contact TRANSPORTE YULISA via WhatsApp in advance to reserve your seat (see information below). If you decide to go directly from the Cusco airport to the departure location, take a taxi and tell the driver that you are going to **Control San Jeronimo, paradero para Paucartambo**. The taxi from Cusco airport to San Jeronimo costs maximum s./20.00 nuevos soles (Peruvian currency). Once you reach the departure location, ask for "TRANSPORTES YULISSA" or Celia. Arrive 30 minutes before the time of departure. The van makes a short stop in the town of Paucartambo to buy some food and snacks and use the restrooms (located on the upper floor of the market to the left of the road). From Paucartambo, the van goes directly to MBS. The ticket costs s./35.00 nuevos soles. We recommend this service; it's safe, affordable, and comfortable.

Private transportation is available, and the approximate cost is 700 soles or 180 dollars. Whether you choose private or public transportation, our team offers support to help you coordinate your travel logistics. If you

need assistance, please contact us at manubio@conservacionamazonica.org or bherrera@amazonjourneys.pe

Note: We recommend having cash in Peruvian nuevos soles available for local transportation fees and the purchase of other personal expenses. Please consider taking medication before your travel if you are prone to motion or altitude sickness.

TRANSPORTE YULISA

Contact name: Yulissa or Celia

Cellphone: (+51) 984-647-009 | (+51) 984-990-613

Departs from: Control de San Jeronimo- Cusco city

Time: 11 am & 4 pm

Travel Health

All visitors must have travel and medical insurance to cover any medical assistance in an emergency while in MBS. Please contact your health insurance company to learn about your coverage options and find the travel insurance that best suits your needs. The nearest medical center is 5 minutes away from the field station in the town of Pilcopata. This medical center is a very basic emergency post. In case of serious injuries, you will be taken to the city of Cusco.

Please contact health professionals in your country to ensure you are up to date on all your regular vaccinations and boosters and have the recommended vaccinations to enter Peru (e.g., yellow fever, tetanus, hepatitis). More specific requirements for travel to Peru regarding COVID-19 immunization can be found at the following link: <https://www.peru.travel/en/covid>.

COVID-19 information – COVID protocols are in place for the security of our visitors and staff members. Vaccination proof will be requested upon reservation or arrival.

Staying with us

Accommodation

With a total capacity of 60 visitors, our accommodations include six luxurious cabins with floor-to-ceiling screened windows with a panoramic view of Manu's fishponds and three small sized-cabins. Each cabin features a small lounge area and is fully furnished with comfortable beds (your choice of single or double) with mosquito nets, a clothes rack, a desk and chairs, and a private luxurious bathroom with hot water.

Additionally, Manu has two dorms with a capacity of ~20 people per dorm. One dorm has two large rooms, accommodating 8-12 people per room, featuring bunk beds and shared bathrooms with no hot water. The second dorm is a two-floor building with five separate rooms, each with single beds and/or bunk beds. Bathrooms in this building are shared with hot water. Both dorms have mosquito nets, fans, chairs, and furniture to store clothes and personal items.

Food

Our meals include local and fresh Peruvian and regional cuisine, using food sources from Manu's organic farm and garden. Meat consumption includes only fish and chicken. Vegetarians are welcome. Drinkable water, coffee, tea, and fruits are available anytime in the dining area. Sodas and beers are available at an extra cost. Meals are served at the following times seven days a week: Breakfast at 7:00 am, Lunch at 12:30 pm, and Dinner at 7:00 pm.

Please let us know in advance if you have any dietary restrictions to plan accordingly before your arrival.

Electricity and Communication

Wi-Fi is available in the station's facilities. We have 24-hour electricity at MBS and, thus, recommend bringing the power adapters that fit the outlets in Peru. The energy voltage is 220V. There is good cell phone coverage in the station and the town of Pilcopata, but Movistar only provides internet service. We suggest our visitors

who stay for an extended period purchase a Claro or Movistar SIM card before arriving at the station, either in Cusco or Lima. Otherwise, contact your phone service provider for international rates and plans.

Laundry & Housekeeping

At Manu Biological Station, we wash clothes by hand. Researchers, students, and volunteers are responsible for purchasing laundry soap/detergent (only biodegradable) before arrival. You won't find biodegradable items in Pilcopata. Toiletries and basic sanitary supplies can be found in Pilcopata.

Language

Spanish and English are the main languages spoken in the station, but team members are fluent in Italian, French, German, and Polish. It is desirable that visitors have a basic knowledge of one of the two main languages to make their stay more rewarding. Spanish is not a requirement for our visitors; however, a basic level of proficiency will allow them to engage better and communicate with local people.

Rates

The following rates are per person/per day and include three meals per day.

Note: Peruvians have a 40% discount.

Accommodation	Price in US dollars
Single Cabin with private bathroom	210
Double cabin with private bathroom	150
Two bed shared dorm with shared bathroom	75
Twelve bed shared dorm with shared bathroom	70
Tour guide in shared dorm	40
Driver in shared dorm	30
Visitor trail access	30
Visitor trail access and lunch (+ breakfast, lunch, or dinner)	45 (+15)

How to book and Pay

Please contact us at manubio@conservacionamazonica.org if you have any questions regarding rates or reservations.

Contact Numbers

Station Manager

Alejandro Lopera, alejandro.lopera@gmail.com

Cellphone (+51) 952455319, WhatsApp (+57)3124319938

Lab Manager

Juliana Morales, jmoralesmonje@gmail.com

Cellphone (+51) 938723673

Science Coordinator

Elena Chaboteaux

Cellphone (+51) 914553148

Building Community

Being a Good Citizen

1. No smoking inside our facilities.
2. Drugs are prohibited.
3. Alcohol is sold in the bar in moderate quantities, and no drinking is allowed outside this area.
4. Wear closed-toed, long pants and long sleeve shirts when outdoors.
5. Please take all personal items that are difficult to recycle (e.g., batteries, spray bottles).

6. Keep your personal belonging safe. We do not take responsibility for any loss or damage.
7. Maintain the shared spaces in an orderly and hygienic manner.
8. Do not flush paper or any other sanitary product into the toilet. Use the bins.
9. Conserve energy and water. These are limited resources; treat them accordingly.
10. Please respect quiet hours between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am.
11. We foster and encourage a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion amongst our visitors. We are against unlawful and unfair discrimination of people regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, religion, disability, or any other aspect that makes them unique.

Safety

To minimize the potential risks associated with tropical environments, such as poisonous snakes, biting insects, and dehydration, among others, we provide the **Dos and Don'ts** at Manu Biological Station.

Dos	Don'ts
Use insect repellent, rubber boots, long pants, and a long-sleeve shirt on forest trails	Swim in the rivers
Carry enough water to prevent dehydration	Handle or collect wildlife (research permit required)
Carry a flashlight, extra batteries, and the trail map	Going out alone on the trails or to the town
Be aware of your surroundings	Leave trash on the forest trails
If you have allergic reactions, always carry your medicine with you	Go outside Manu's property without prior notice
Cover your legs, arms, and feet when in the station's facilities	
Sign out on the whiteboard when going out on the trails, including the trails you will be on and the time you expect to return	

How can you help

Social Media

Are you following us on social media? Stay connected with our work! We share about Manu's research, field courses, programs, wildlife, and more!

You can find us on:

- Instagram: **@manu.biostation**
- Facebook: **@manu.biologicalstation**
- Youtube: **@manubiostation3451**

Photography

Whether photography is your hobby or profession, or you are a highly skilled photographer, we are always looking for the best pictures that capture the essence of nature in MBS. The photos you share will help spread the conservation efforts taking place at MBS.

Share your talents by:

- Submit photos (manubio@conservacionamazonica.org) that we can use for Manu's publications and other media purposes.
- Tagging us on your photos using our social media accounts and hashtags **#manubiostation #peru**

Volunteering

Check the Manu Volunteer Program for detailed information!

Donating Books/Equipment

Support our mission by donating books, equipment, or any other informational resource in good condition. With your donations, you will support and empower a community of engaged conservationists who make a difference in safeguarding the greatest forest on our planet.

Please reach out to the Station Manager or Science Coordinator if you want to donate during your visit.

Give a Lecture

Making science accessible to people with various degrees of scientific knowledge is one of our purposes. We believe that visitors can benefit from the knowledge of visiting researchers, educators, naturalists and engage with science and conservation in biological stations. If you are willing to share your expertise on any topic related to nature, environmental science, or conservation, please reach out to the Science Coordinator to schedule a time and date for your lecture during your visit.

Donate

It is not too late to save the Amazon! Help us protect this unique and vital ecosystem by supporting our science-driven and field-based conservation programs and expanding our impact on the next generation of forest stewards. Please consider [donating today](#).

Our conservation efforts rely on supporters like you. Thank you!

Resources and Recommendations

Research Permits

Researchers interested on conducting their projects at MBS and/or outside Protected Areas in Peru will need to fill out forms required by the Servicio Nacional Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre (SERFOR, or the National Forestry and Wildlife Service). The forms include 1) an application form, 2) curriculum vitae of the Principal Investigator,

3) list of all participant researchers, 4) research plan, 5) a cover letter, 5) agreement among all the national and international institutions participating in the project, and a 7) Prior Informed consent (this latter only if the research involves local or indigenous knowledge). All the forms must be filled out in Spanish. We recommend researchers to submit the forms at least two or three months prior to the start of their projects. The forms and information regarding the online application process are available on the following link: [SERFOR research permit](#).

Contact us at manubio@conservacionamazonica.org if you have any question regarding research permits. Please note that researchers need to show the SERFOR authorization to successfully book their reservations with us.

Visa

The Peruvian government issues tourist visas for a maximum of 90 days to citizens of the United States, Canada, and the European Union upon entering the country. The visa is granted at the Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima. Visa requirements for citizens from other countries may vary. Thus, we recommend verifying this information with your country's embassy in Peru. For volunteers who plan to stay for an extended period, MBS can provide a letter specifying that they will remain in a volunteering program, but please note this decision relies solely on the immigration officer.

Guides

Access several field guides with scientific information across various taxa in the Manu region. Please download a printable version of these field guides [here](#).

Maps

We have maps of Manu's trail system, habitats, and topography. Please download a printable version of these maps [here](#).

Visitors can download the **Avenza Maps** app on their mobiles for free and upload Manu's trail map to the app.

Recommended Readings

- [Tropical Nature](#) - Forsyth & Miyata
- [Life on a little-known Planet](#) - Evans
- [Floods of Fortune](#) - Goulding

- [Tropical Plant Collecting](#) - Mori, Berkov, Gracie & Hecklau
- [Four Neotropical Forests](#) - Gentry
- [A Neotropical Companion](#) - Kricher

Citizen Science Apps

Whether the purpose of your visit is related to research, education, training, volunteering, or just exploring nature, knowing what you encounter is always rewarding. Fortunately, several smartphone apps can help you quickly identify flora and fauna surrounding you and allow you to become a citizen scientist by contributing your nature observations to the science community. You need a username to create an account, search for Manu Biological Station as your geographic location, and explore and upload your nature observations. Before your arrival, we recommend downloading the following apps on your device (for free) to learn more about species identification and Manu's biodiversity.

eBird is one of the most widely used birding apps that allows users to track their bird sightings in real-time. The idea consists of keeping track of all the birds you see during a hike and, in the end, submitting a checklist with all the bird observations. You can provide even more detailed information, such as the number of individuals per species, how long you spent birding, how far you traveled, etc. Manu Biological Station is a birding hotspot in eBird, with over 600 species recorded up until now. You can find the eBird list here: [eBird List Manu Biological Station](#)

Merlin Bird ID – this app allows you to identify bird species by song/calls and through photos. The Sound ID feature captures the bird sounds in your surroundings and shows real-time suggestions for species calls. The Photo ID feature allows you to upload a photo from your phone and offers a list of possible matches. This feature works offline, allowing you to identify the bird no matter how deep in the forest you are. This app uses the observations recorded in eBird.

iNaturalist is a nature identification app used for plants, insects, birds; you name it! Upload photos of your observation, and share them on the app, and users will help you identify the species. Similarly, by commenting on their photos, you can help other users identify their observations. You can find Manu's iNaturalist observations here: [iNaturalist Manu Biological Station](#)

What to bring

Below we provide a list of the main personal items, equipment, and materials you will need during your stay and travel. We have a strong policy against single-use plastics and non-reusable batteries. We recommend bringing reusable water bottles and environmentally friendly self-care products.

Clothing

- Quick dry field clothes – particularly long-sleeve shirts and long pants to prevent sunburn, insect bites, and other potential hazards.
- Rain jacket, poncho – you will need a **waterproof** jacket. Ponchos can be purchased in the local town of Cusco or Pilcopata.
- Cap/hat – prevent sunburn
- Plenty pairs of socks and underwear
- Rubber boots are essential for your daily activities. They can handle rain and mud and provide further protection against snakebites.
- Sneakers – Sneakers can be used in town or within the station's facilities. Visitors **cannot walk barefoot or with sandals** within MBS property.

Gear

- Rechargeable flashlight/headlamps –required for those who plan to do nocturnal hikes and walk along the pathways inside the station's facilities
- Rechargeable batteries – rechargeable batteries are not easily available in Peru. Please make sure to bring them from your country of departure.
- Insect repellent (preferably non-toxic) – biting insects are more abundant near water bodies and during dawn and dusk. Please apply insect repellent, as they are the best protection against tropical diseases, along with appropriate clothing.
- Sunscreen above 50 UV
- Binoculars, camera
- Daypack – a small pack to carry your essential field items, such as a water bottle, notebook, rain jacket, snacks, etc.

Personal Items

- First aid kit
- Toiletry supplies (preferably biodegradable)
- Personal medications
- Ziplock bags to protect your equipment and personal documents.
- Reusable water bottles
- Quick drying towel
- Field notebooks
- Limited cash in Peru's currency (Nuevos Soles) - Cash will be needed to cover local transportation from Cusco to the station and return, local transportation within Cusco, snacks, or other personal items available in Pilcopata. Debit or credit cards can be used in the city of Cusco. Make sure to report your travel plans to your bank before your travel.
- Snacks – you can bring personal snacks such as nuts or energetic bars.
- Spanish dictionary – it will be helpful to communicate with the local people.
- COVID-19 antigen rapid test – visitors must take a COVID-19 antigen test the day before arrival at the station. We recommend bringing a few of these tests. [COVID-19 testing is not free in Peru.](#)

Manu Volunteer Program

Philosophy and Strategy

Surrounded by the unique biological and cultural diversity in this tropical hotspot, our volunteer program aims to engage and train the next generation of forest stewards on regenerative agriculture, wildlife research, and conservation in the Amazon. Whether you are passionate about conservation, agronomy, sustainability, or interested in learning about one of the most biodiverse ecosystems on Earth, this is a unique opportunity to contribute to our conservation efforts. You will work hard, but at the same time, this program will be a life-

changing experience that will allow you to learn, interact with people from different backgrounds, and have fun!

Volunteers arrive to the station on the first day of each month and commit to join the program for a minimum of 50 days. Volunteers that would like to stay for longer periods will have 10 days off after the 50 days of fun and hard work. The program includes academic content and an introductory week of training on the following topics: Biodiversity of the Manu region, Crop diversity and demos, Fundamentals of soils, pest control, crops, and Agroecology. At the end of the program, all volunteers receive a certificate.

The Two Kinds of Volunteers

Volunteers can participate in any of our two programs:

Regenerative Agriculture and Conservation - This program promotes regenerative agriculture to secure food access and to progressively improve the ecosystem by building fertile and healthy soils, diversifying cropping systems, and fostering collaboration with local and indigenous communities of the region. It combines multiple agroforestry systems, including fish farming, permaculture gardens using Peruvian native crops, composting, meliponiculture, and medicinal gardens. Volunteer tasks are highly varied; however, they often include manual labor, such as weeding, harvesting, moving compost, mulching, engage and educating visitors in agroforestry-related activities. By focusing on regenerative strategies and conservation, the program serves as an alternative model that increases biodiversity, fosters economic self-reliance, and provides capacity-building and training to the local population and the station's visitors.

Biological Research and Monitoring - Effective conservation requires understanding and monitoring species' populations across time and space, particularly in the context of global warming. At MBS, our team brings the best available science to conservation efforts and studies wildlife populations in this hotspot of the Tropical Andes. Using acoustic devices, camera traps, metagenomics and barcoding, LiDAR remote sensing, and more, this program will allow you to learn why and how scientists use these precision conservation tools to better understand the status of various species (from tiny beetles to the largest mammal in the Amazon). You will experience and learn about the job of a field biologist, from long hikes in the jungle, and endurance of harsh environmental conditions, to the joy of watching wildlife in their natural environment.

Frequently Asked Questions

What to do in my free time?

In your free time, you are welcome to stay in the station's facilities or enjoy hikes along the 40 km of trails within the property, including two beautiful waterfalls. You can also support the science team and learn about field monitoring techniques used in their research projects. These include camera trapping, insect sampling techniques, and tree climbing, among others. For those who would like to explore the surroundings, you can walk around the town of Pilcopata or plan a visit to the indigenous communities adjacent to the biological station and immerse yourself in the region's traditional culture. For security purposes, we request visitors to communicate with the staff about your plans.

Forms

Applications and Contacts

Medical and Dietary and Waivers

Resources For Educators

Teaching Modules

- Ant Plant Mutualisms
- Dung Beetle Ecology
- Bamboo Natural History and Use
- Indigenous Foods and Foraging
- Indigenous Cultural Experiences
- Tropical Eco- agriculture and Aquaculture
- Entomological Biodiversity
- Camera Trapping Mammal Communities
- Introduction to Neotropical Birds
- Ethnobotany: The case of Capsicum
- Tropical Pollination Syndromes
- Butterfly and Moth Natural History
- Tools and Technologies for Tropical Field Biology
- Natural History of Ants, Bees and Wasps, and Termites
- Frugivory and Seed Dispersal