

About The Request:

This client had 11 days to travel Peru during the month of November. A specific checklist of approx. 18 targets was sent, which we determined was best-suited to two zones accessible through Iquitos: the white sand forests of the Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve and the southern bank of the Amazon river, including some river islands. The custom itinerary below was designed to maximize tour length, time of year, and our client's more adventurous travel style.

Iquitos Specialties: 11 Day Custom Birding Tour

November 2016 | by Pepe Rojas



ABOUT THE BIRDING SPOTS

Allpahuayo-Mishaha Reserve



The Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve is located 45 minutes from the city of Iquitos and harbors a number of endemic species as well as others of restricted range in Peru. Among these the highest prizes are the endemics Iquitos Gnatcatcher, Allpahuayo Antbird and Mishana Tyrannulet. Other species are Pompadour Cotinga, Brown-banded Puffbird, Citron-bellied Attila, Ancient Antwren, Rufous and White-winged Potoos.

There is no proper lodge at this reserve. It is a basic research station with simple accommodations – dorm style rooms and an outdoor shared kitchen.

Muyuna Lodge



Located on the southern bank of the Amazon river, Muyuna offers great opportunities to access bird species that occur mainly in this area. Without any doubt, the most after sought bird here is the Wattled Curassow. Other species of interest are Blue-cheeked Jacamar and Rufous-necked Puffbird. Around the lodge, the river islands have all the birds specialized in this particular type of habitat, such as: Brownish Elaenia, Pearly-breasted Conebill, and Olive-spotted Hummingbird among others.

Muyuna Lodge is simple but much more developed than the research station. The lodge consists of bungalows with private bathrooms, a screened dining area, and well cared-for grounds to explore.

DAILY ITINERARY

Days 1 – 5, Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve.

Based at the facilities of the reserve we will focus our attention on the search of our target species: **Gray-legged Tinamou, Red-billed Ground-Cuckoo, Sapphire-rumped Parrotlet, Ancient Antwren, Allpahuayo Antbird, Zimmer's Tody-Tyrant, and Iquitos Gnatcatcher.**

Our days at the station will start very early in the morning after breakfast. We will head to the different trails of the reserve in order to maximize and enhance our chances to hit our target birds.

Day 6, Allpahuayo Mishana Reserve to Iquitos

We will have one more opportunity to do some birding around the AMR if necessary and if time permits or we will head back to Iquitos where we will spend one night before heading to Muyuna lodge for the next leg of our trip.

Days 7 - 10, Muyuna Lodge

We will be transfer by boat to Muyuna Lodge, where we will be based for the second part of our trip. Muyuna is located on the southern bank of the Amazon river and holds a very different avifauna than the northern bank. For instance, species such as Rufous-collared Puffbird and Yellow-cheeked Jacamar can be found in this area.

We have our own list of target species, which include: **White-throated Tinamou, Wattled Curassow, Olive-spotted Hummingbird, Blue-cheeked Jacamar, Red-and-White Spinetail, Black-tailed Antbird, Brownish Elaenia, Riverside Tyrant and Pearly-breasted Conebill.**

Our focus during our days here will be precisely on searching for the best

locations for these birds.

Day 11. Muyuna Lodge to Iquitos

If time permits, we might have one more chance to do some birding before breakfast. After that, we will get ready to take our boat back to Iquitos in order to get to the airport and fly back to Lima in order to catch international connections.