

NATURE EXPEDITIONS IN THE CLOUD FOREST

Full Day Tour in the Andes



Renowned for its remarkable biodiversity, the Cloud Forest stands as one of Ecuador's natural hotspots and scientific marvels. Hosting an abundance of diverse species, many of them found only in this distinctive region, the Cloud Forest offers a unique experience filled with adventures within its lush greenery, amazing waterfalls and vibrant wildlife sightings.

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This Cloud Forest journey begins with a hotel pick-up, followed by a drive northwest of Quito. As you travel away from the city, our knowledgeable guide will highlight the evolving vegetation of this biodiverse paradise, setting the stage for the day's first stop.



A short distance from the main road, a natural reserve offers an up-close introduction to this green paradise, complete with bird feeders attracting an impressive number of graceful birds. In addition to birdwatching, explore the reserve's trails, encountering orchids, butterflies, and insightful information about the conservation of this important ecosystem. Continuing the tour, you will reach the charming village of Mindo, located at 4,100 feet and blessed with warm tropical weather year-round.

The Butterfly Garden greets you with an enchanting spectacle of hundreds of vibrant butterflies flitting around, providing ample photo opportunities to capture these joyful moments. Here you will also be able to see them in every life stage, from caterpillars to fully-grown butterflies.



Continuing the journey, you'll visit a charming small family-owned cacao farm, offering an up-close encounter with the cacao trees and their fruits. Learn about the intricate process of crafting a delectable organic chocolate bar and various cocoa-based products. Gain first-hand insight about the drying and roasting of the cacao beans, followed by the manufacturing process, culminating in the molding and hand-wrapping of the chocolate.



As this part of the tour ends, you will be able to enjoy a delightful sampling of the finished products and to purchase your preferred treats. A delicious lunch will be served at a local venue, providing a refreshing break before you venture further into the day's adventures in Mindo.



Later, embark on a journey designed for you to enjoy the Cloud Forest to the fullest. An exhilarating Tarabita cable car ride will take you across the green canopy, where you will be able to admire the lush beauty of the region from above. Next, you will enjoy a hiking experience and our expert guide will unveil the diverse animal plant species, including, with some luck, the impressive Andean Cock-of-the-rock. A visit to a majestic waterfall provides an ideal photo backdrop and a refreshing swimming opportunity. As the tour comes to an end, you will enjoy the Tarabita ride one more time on the way back to town, which is the perfect way to conclude this fantastic day of adventures in the Cloud Forest.



You will be taken back to your hotel in Quito. End of services.

INCLUDED

- Private Transportation
- Bilingual Guide
- Entrance Fees to reserve/s
- Chocolate Tasting Experience
- Tarabita (Cable Car) Ride & Waterfall Hike
- Butterfly Garden Visit
- Lunch including one soft drink

NOT INCLUDED

- Additional / Extra Meals
- Personal Expenses
- Extra soft beverages
- Alcoholic beverages
- Extra and/or non-scheduled visit/activity
- Tips

Notes:

The itinerary and order of visits is subject to change due to weather, municipal regulations, safety and/or unforeseen circumstances.