

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

Bolivian Adventures—Las Palomas Hunting Lodge Caño Negro/Green Forest Fishing Lodge

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY WELL IN ADVANCE OF YOUR TRIP!

PER PERSON PRICING

Dove Shooting-only: 3 DAYS - \$1990 / 4 DAYS - \$2650 (ground transportation to/from the lodge included). If opting for the roundtrip air charter the fee is \$250 extra. Three day minimum, single occupancy. Example of a three day sequence is: afternoon of shooting on day of arrival, shoot two full days, then again the departure morning, returning to Santa Cruz after lunch.

Fishing-only: 4 DAYS- \$3895, 6/7 DAYS - \$4995 (air charters included). Four day minimum, double occupancy. Example of a four day sequence is: afternoon of fishing on day of arrival, fish three full days, then again the departure morning, returning to Santa Cruz after lunch.

Fishing-Shooting Combo: 3 DAYS FISHING/3 DAYS SHOOTING - \$4995 (air charter to fishing area included). This sequence is fly to the fishing lodge, fish the arrival afternoon, then two full days, then again the departure morning, then fly to the shooting lodge after lunch, arrive and shoot that afternoon, then two full days, then again the departure morning, returning to Santa Cruz after lunch.

INCLUDED

All meals in the shooting/fishing areas, accommodations, airport transfers, soft drinks, local liquors, beer and wine, laundry, shotgun cleaning, guides, boats, all local permits, and the round-trip air charter to and from the fishing area. If you choose to bring guns, the permit fee is included in the price. Be sure to have the completed permit application to our office at least 45 days prior to travel.

NOT INCLUDED

Commercial air travel, airport taxes (approx. \$25), visa (approx. \$135), shells at \$13/box (subject to change), gun rental (\$60/day) gratuities to bird boys and lodge staff or fishing guides and fishing camp staff, lures and tackle, items of a personal nature (such as phone calls), and hotel or meals in Santa Cruz (as required by itinerary). Hotel reservations will cost around \$100 per room.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS—IMPORTANT!

Travelers to Bolivia must have a visa to enter the country. You can either obtain your visa before you travel or you can obtain your visa when you land in Santa Cruz. **We would suggest that you obtain your visa prior to your departure to avoid the possibility of not having the correct items and to avoid delays at the airport when you land in Santa Cruz. It is best to do the application process 45-60 days prior to your departure. It usually takes 2-3 weeks to receive the processed visa back from the Consulate/Visa Service.**

The Consulate fee is currently \$135 for a tourist visa. Tourist visas are valid for five years.

If you choose to obtain your visa prior to the trip, you will send the following information to Passports Plus and they will work with the Bolivian Embassy to obtain your visa.

1) Your passport with at least six months of validity beyond your date of departure and it must have two blank visa pages side by side, 2) completed visa application, 3) visa processing form, 4) two passport photos in color, 5) copy of flight itinerary, 6) proof of lodging (our office will provide this for you), 7) yellow fever certificate, 8) notice of sufficient funds (copy of recent bank statement), and 9) consulate fee and service fees. The complete instructions, including the application form, visa processing form and fees can be found at www.passportsplus.com or you can call them at (877) 545-0986.

If you do not get your visa prior to the trip you will need to travel to Bolivia with the following items.

1) Your passport with at least six months of validity beyond your date of departure and it must have two blank visa pages side by side, 2) one passport photo in color, 3) the completed visa application form, 4) proof of lodging, 5) yellow fever certificate, and 6) approximately \$135 in US dollars for the visa fee.

Our office can provide you with the visa application form. It is a standard tourist form, with blanks for name, address, passport number, date of birth, etc. We will also provide you with the proof of lodging.

Note: There have been instances where airline check-in persons have not allowed travelers to board a flight to Bolivia without these items in their possession.

GETTING THERE

Santa Cruz, a surprisingly international city with a population of 1.3 million is the center of commerce in this agricultural and petroleum boom region. Its low crime rate, thriving economy and extensive oil and gas production has attracted many American, European and Japanese businessmen. Travel to Santa Cruz is easy. American Airlines has daily 7.5 hour one-stop overnight flights from Miami which arrive early in the morning. AeroSur (Bolivia's air carrier) has 6.5 hour non-stop flights several days a week. Flights back to Miami usually operate early morning or late evening. A departure tax of approximately \$25.00 is assessed upon departing Santa Cruz.

We strongly suggest you check your luggage from your home city to Miami (not to Santa Cruz), collect the luggage in Miami and re-check it to Santa Cruz. We also suggest you get to Miami four hours prior to your departure.

TRAVEL SEQUENCE/LOGISTICS

For **shooting-only** trips: Guests are met upon arrival in Santa Cruz and transferred 1.5 hours via private vehicle to Las Palomas Lodge. Arrival is in plenty of time for lunch and an afternoon hunt. On the last shooting day, after the morning hunt, guests will have lunch then drive back to Santa Cruz to either their day room at the Los Tajibos hotel (if the flight home is late that night), or to the Los Tajibos hotel for an overnight (if their flight home is the next morning).

For **fishing-only** trips: Guests are met upon arrival in Santa Cruz, and transferred directly to the charter aircraft terminal for their 2 hour flight to Caño Negro Lodge. Arrival, weather permitting, is in plenty of time for lunch and an afternoon of fishing. On the last fishing day, guests will have a morning of fishing followed by lunch and a 2 hour air charter back to Santa Cruz to either their day room at the Los Tajibos hotel (if the flight home is late that night), or to the Los Tajibos hotel for an overnight (if their flight home is the next morning).

For **fishing-shooting combos**: Guests will be met upon arrival in Santa Cruz, transferred to the private charter area, then fly 2 hours to Caño Negro Lodge, arriving in time for afternoon fishing. On the last fishing day, guests will have a morning of fishing followed by an early lunch and a 2 hour air charter to Las Palomas lodge. On the last shooting day, after the morning hunt, guests will have lunch then drive back to Santa Cruz to either their day room at the Los Tajibos hotel (if the flight home is late that night), or to the Los Tajibos hotel for an overnight (if their flight home is the next morning).

NON-EMERGENCY/EMERGENCY PHONE CONTACTS

ROD & GUN RESOURCES: 800-211-4753 BOLIVIAN ADVENTURES: 011-591-7767-0890
LAS PALOMAS LODGE: 011-591-7709-5852 BOLIVIA COORDINATOR: 011-591-7704-0588

BAGGAGE REQUIREMENTS

It is standard procedure to have your bags weighed before boarding the charter flight (40 lb. maximum allowed—you will be asked to lighten your load if your luggage is overweight).

It is requested that everyone bring soft-sided bags with minimal casual clothing, one gun case (if you bring your own guns) and one rod case. Please do not bring hard luggage or coolers – they will not fit on the charter aircraft. There is daily laundry service, so keep clothing to a minimum.

IMPORTANT: Be sure to pack your medications and two full changes of tropical clothing in your carryon luggage, and travel in fishing/tennis shoes.

CAMPS & ACCOMMODATIONS

The Shooting: Las Palomas Lodge (The Doves), offers clients a lovely, air-conditioned Bolivian-style facility with Spanish tile roof, hand painted ceramic tiles, huge Jacuzzi, twelve large, well-appointed suites and guestrooms with private baths, a massage room, a beautiful pool and *palapa* bar, satellite television, Internet access, and any and all amenities that make for a luxurious stay. The lodge was constructed specifically as a dove hunting headquarters, and is located quite close to huge concentrations of birds.

The Fishing: Caño Negro/Green Forest Lodge is a traditional wood-constructed facility on the Rio Caño/San Simon system. The new lodge features four spacious, double occupancy air-conditioned rooms with private baths, large dining and bar/conversation areas, and a lovely view overlooking huge adjacent spring-fed lagoons. **Please note that the generator is turned off each night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Temperatures late in the evening/early morning will usually in the mid to upper 60s, but will occasionally go into the mid 70s.**

FOOD & BEVERAGES

The lodges provide both quality and ample meals throughout your stay—particularly at Las Palomas, which is known for fantastic meals. A breakfast buffet is typically served from 6:30 to 7:00 each morning. Pastries, eggs, toast, fresh fruit, bacon, cereal and fresh coffee are all standard fare. Lunch is a sit-down field barbeque at Las Palomas (or guests can return to the lodge). At the fishing lodge, guests return to the lodge for lunch or may request a cooler with various cold cuts, cheeses, breads, fruit, etc. for lunch on the river.

Appetizers are served when all guests return from the day's events, followed by dinner. A mixture of Bolivian and American foods is featured in the dinner menus. Fresh fish, beef, pork, and chicken are accompanied by an assortment of delicious soups, salads, rice, bread and mixed vegetables. The camps supply bottled water, soft drinks, local liquor, beer and wine with dinner. **Bring your own specialty liquor.**

POWER SOURCE/BATTERIES

Both lodges have diesel generators that produce 220-volt electricity. You may need a converter (depending on your electrical device) and you will need an adapter – European two-prong and three-prong plug ins. The generators at the fishing lodge go off at 10 pm and are turned back on at 6 am.

LANGUAGE

Spanish is spoken in Bolivia. The guides only speak some fishing/shooting English, but both facilities have a full-time bilingual host.

LAUNDRY

Each lodge/camp has daily laundry service. All dirty clothes should be left on the foot of your bed before you go out in the morning. The laundry personnel will pick up the clothes and wash them while you're out and return them to your room, usually before dinner. At the fishing area, if the day is excessively rainy, laundry will not come back until the following day, as all clothing is air-dried.

CURRENCY

Most Latin American currencies fluctuate against the U.S. dollar, so it's pointless to list even approximate exchange rates. Bolivian hotels and shops readily accept U.S. dollars, so there is really no need to exchange money, even for gratuities.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Import allowances restrict import of excess amounts of liquor and tobacco, so keep them to a minimum (one carton of cigarettes or 25 cigars, and 2 liters of alcoholic beverages maximum). Beer, local liquor, soft drinks and wine are included in the weekly rate at all lodge/camps.

GUIDES

The Bolivian guides are hard working individuals that really aim to please. They do not speak English very well, but will be able to help you select the right lures/flyes, help with fishing techniques and shooting and assist with shells, drinks, etc. in the shooting area.

GRATUITIES

The suggested gratuities at the hunting and the fishing camps, for the bird boys, guides and staff are \$50 to \$60 per day per guest. For example: 4 days fishing/hunting = 4 x \$60 = \$240 (\$120 for bird boys/guides and \$120 for camp staff). Tips can be given directly to the bird boy/guide and camp staff or it can be given in a lump sum to the camp's manager at the end of that portion of the trip, to be divided among the staff. **Please do not bring traveler's checks for tipping purposes. Tens and twenties are appreciated and most easily divided among the staff.**

HEALTH/INSECTS

All of our lodges and camps are located in remote areas. Those who have serious health problems should think twice about going to such a location with limited medical attention available. Both camps use bottled water and also have their own deep wells for water, therefore water-borne contagious diseases are uncommon. **Do not drink the tap water in any hotel rooms or public areas!**

The fishing and hunting areas have some mosquitoes and biting gnats. **Be sure you have some long-sleeved clothing and bring insect repellent**—use a product with at least 50% D.E.E.T. Also, clothing with insect shield works well.

REGARDING INNOCULATION

A Yellow Fever vaccination is required to enter Bolivia. For further information regarding inoculations/precautions for travel to Bolivia, we suggest you contact a local international medicine physician or the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Travelers can get up-to-date information on health precautions by calling (toll-free) 888-232-3299. The CDC's web site address is www.cdc.gov.

WEATHER/CLIMATE

Semi-tropical temperatures prevail in the fishing and areas with day-time highs in the 80s to mid-90s. At night, the temperature drops to a very pleasant 60-70° F. Rain may occur throughout the week, **so bring along a good quality, lightweight rain suit.**

CLOTHING

We recommend wearing loose fitting, lightweight cottons or synthetics (Orvis, Patagonia, ExOfficio insect shield) Long pants and long sleeves are best to protect from sunburn and hide ankles and wrists from biting insects. **The camp/lodge has daily laundry service, so please don't over pack (remember weight restrictions).**

BOATS AND MOTORS

The fishing boats vary from aluminum sleds to local custom-made wooden boats. They are quite adequate for the various river and lagoon conditions, and are equipped with outboard motors, casting decks, comfortable seats, and ample coolers to store drinks and lunches.

SHOTGUNS/CHOKES

Hunters may either take their guns or utilize Bolivian Adventures' shotguns—they have a fine selection for rent at \$60/day. Most are new model Benelli and Beretta auto loaders in 20 and 12 gauges. Hunters bringing their own guns need to complete a gun permit pre-registration form and return it to Rod & Gun Resources no later than 45 days prior to the trip.

AMMUNITION

Bolivian Adventures uses top quality shells (from Europe and Argentina), available in 12 and 20 gauge at \$13/box (subject to change). At the end of your stay, a shell bill will be submitted, payable in cash or personal check.

TACKLE, CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

SPINNING OR BAITCASTING TACKLE

Take medium-heavy to heavy largemouth bass tackle with long-handled 6 to 7 foot rods and strong reels of at least 80 to 100 yards capacity with high-speed retrieve ratios. **Bring at least two rods and reels.** For lines, we suggest "Big-Game Trilene" 20-30 lb. monofilament or 50-65 lb. Spectra Braided Line or similar. While fishing for peacocks, there is no need for steel leaders. They are sometimes a drawback as they take some action out of the lure. When fishing for payara and pacu, use 30 lb. plastic coated, bronze color, steel leader (Tyger Leader (906) 932-3650). We suggest a firm action tip rod, as the fish may exceed 20 lbs. We highly recommend breakdown travel rods that you can carry.

SPINNING OR BAITCASTING LURES

Topwater—a mixture of around 8 total lures (take primarily the "Peacock Bass Lures")

Luhr-Jensen Peacock Bass propeller lures	4 1/2" – 5 1/2"	All colors
Live Target Blue Back Herring propeller lures	3 1/2" – 4 1/2"	All colors
Heddon Zara Spook and One Nocker Spook	3 3/4" – 4 1/2"	All colors
Live Target Double Prop	4 1/2"	All colors

Spinners and Spoons—a mixture of 12 total lures

Blue Fox Vibrex Spinner #4 – #6	3/8 – 5/8 oz.	gold, silver, black stripe blades
Johnson Silver Minnow Spoon	1/2 – 1 oz.	All colors
Acme Kast Master	3/8 - 1 oz.	All colors

Diving Minnows—a mixture of around 12 total lures

Bomber Long A, Original	4 1/2" – 6"	Fish colors
Rapala or Cordell Redfin, shallow diving jointed minnows	5 – 6"	All colors
Yo-Zuri Hydro Squid	7 1/2"	purple, pink, red

NOTE: Plugs & lures are restricted to two barbless treble hooks – two single hooks work best for payara.

For spinning and bait casting tackle and lures, contact Rhonda at Fish Freak Online

www.fishfreakonline.com (866) 630-7320.

FLY FISHING TACKLE

The aggressive jungle species are well suited to fly fishing with many fly fishing world records to be set. Eight through ten-weight three- or four-piece travel fly rods are recommended. Reels should have a smooth drag, hold at least 100 yards of 30-lb. backing, and be spooled with weight forward bass taper or salt water floating or clear intermediate sink tip lines such as Orvis floating "Wonderline", Rio or similar. Bring a 200-300 grain fast sink tip line for payara. Use 30-40 lb. monofilament for leader/tippet. When fishing for payara and pacu, use 15-30 lb. plastic coated, bronze color, steel leader (Tyger Leader (906) 932-3650). **Take two rods and reels.**

FLIES – 6 total topwater, 40-80 total underwater flies – BARBLESS HOOKS ONLY

Large Poppers (topwater)	2/0 to 4/0	red, white, yellow, chartreuse combinations
Minnow and deceiver patterns (underwater)	2/0 to 4/0	chartreuse/white, blue/white, red/white, orange/white, yellow/white, all with flash.
Spuddler or Clouser type payara flies with weighted eyes	3/0 to 4/0	black/red, silver grey/red, blue and olive, all with flash.

For flies, contact Feather-Craft Fly Fishing www.feather-craft.com (800) 659-1707 or J.W. Smith 800-211-4753.

For payara, pacu, peacock bass and exotic catfish mounts, we recommend: Ron Kelly, Artistic Wildlife Gallery, (214) 663-5299 www.fishcreations.com

FISHING CLOTHING

- travel clothes
- two light-weight long-sleeved shirts
- two pair light-weight fishing pants
- one pair shorts or swimsuit
- several polo or tee shirts
- light-weight rain jacket
- fishing/boat/tennis shoes
- fishing hat, preferably with long bill
- fishing gloves, socks, bandana

PERSONAL ITEMS

- cash for camp tips, etc.
- passport and photocopy of first two pages
- sun screen and sun block lip balm
- insect repellent with DEET or Geraniol
- small first aid kit and Band-Aids
- individual medications
- personal items and toiletries
- small flashlight and batteries
- waterproof gear bag or large zip lock
- camera with extra batteries
- travel dictionary English/Spanish
- credit cards and personal checks

FISHING ACCESSORIES

- amber polarized sun glasses
- line clippers or scissors, small knife
- hook sharpener (important for payara)
- fishing pliers
- clear plastic tackle boxes for flies
- reel lubricant
- small towel
- tape measure
- extra line and leader material
- fly line cleaner if fly fishing

HUNTING

NEED ALL PERSONAL ITEMS PLUS

- hunting shirts: dark brown, dark green or camo
- medium to lightweight cotton or synthetic pants and/or shorts—in browns and greens
- lightweight boots
- hat in green/brown or camo
- gun cleaning equipment
- shooting safety glasses: yellow for dark days, dark for sun (either is a safety fundamental requirement)
- thin, soft leather shooting gloves to protect hands while loading and firing
- earplugs for protection while shooting
- recoil reduction device to wear under/over shirt or vest