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When staying at Tambo Blanquillo in Peru tourists have a number of destinations to visit close by. The residence is at the northern bank of the Madre Dios River. It takes 2 days to get there from the village of Cusco, which is the primary village center of Peru. It's inside a rain forest and close to the Andes. The trip between the lodge and Cusco is a wonderful tour in itself.

On the way to the lodge from Cusco there is a cloud forest, various rainforest habitats and a small town. Perhaps the most spectacular of these is the cloud forest. It earned its name because it has clouds that hang right at the forest canopy. It's extremely humid and misty and visitors will feel as if they've entered a fairy tale.

Experiencing the rainforest while residing in a lodge is the ideal way to experience the jungle without having to cope with its extremity. The lodge is inside a private reserve that provides the perfect habitat for giant otters. These are best viewed from a catamaran. The lucky few will see a jaguar, and there are beautiful snakes to spot on night walks.

The Macaws steal the show from all other species in the area. This clever species congregates inside the shebona forest to consume clay from rocks. Scientists aren't entirely sure of their reasons for this but believe the minerals neutralize toxins they digest from nuts and seeds. Observation blinds allow tourists to watch the parrots for hours without disrupting them.

There is a half hour forest walk from the lodge to the clay lick. There is annual flooding so those desperate to see the macaws will need to confine their visits to certain seasons. Hundreds of macaws will be seen in a single area, and they gather in the trees as well as at the rock.

Reptile lovers will enjoy the high number of snake species in the varying habitats in the rain forest. Deadly coral snakes dwell around the reserve and are extremely venomous. The insect life is as beautiful as the macaws. The butterflies may well be the most stunning of these, and there are many species.

The reserve has many different habitats inside it, and the trails need to be reached by boat. To see the many varying creatures in each habitat, tourists will have to hike a number of different trails. The boating will add an additional element of adventure to the trip.

Perhaps the primary reason people visit this particular area is for its spectacle birding. There are many species of parrot, Hoatzins, pale eyed black birds and various other types of birds. Many are best viewed outside the rain forest at the north bank of the river.

There are dormitories with 26 beds and a dining room at the lodge. Bamboo screens separate the beds to allow for privacy. There is a fixed menu with a morning continental breakfast served daily. The lodge is highly concerned about conservation so those visiting can do so with clear consciences. They will be participating in an eco-tour unlike many provided by other operators in the Amazon.

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A tour or trek starting from a <u>Tambo Blanquillo</u> is certain to be an exciting and interesting adventure. For more information about the schedules and itinerary, visit the site at http://www.tamboblanquillo.com/ now.

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