

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

Bolivian Adventures– Las Palomas Hunting Lodge Green Forest/Caño Negro and Remote Lodges

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY *WELL IN ADVANCE* OF YOUR TRIP!

PER PERSON PRICING:

Shooting: \$600/day for doves, plus \$200 for the roundtrip air charter.
Two day minimum, single occupancy

Fishing: \$750/day for fishing (air charters included in the price).
Four day minimum, double occupancy

Fishing package prices: \$3950 for 6 days fishing/7 nights.
One overnight hotel room in Santa Cruz is included in all prices (double occupancy).

All prices include overnight guestroom in Santa Cruz if applicable (double occupancy).

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.**

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 in Houston, Texas 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) one passport photo in color, 5) copy of flight itinerary, 6) letter of invitation (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 application form, visa processing form and fees can be found at www.passportsplus.com or you can call them at (888) 821-8472.

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) letter of invitation, 5) the yellow fever certificate, and 6) approximately \$135 in US dollars for the visa fee.

Our office will 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 invitation letter – both forms will be sent with your final documents a few weeks prior to your departure.

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 1.2 million is the center of commerce in this agricultural 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 6.5 hour overnight flights from Miami which arrive early in the morning. Aerosur (Bolivia's air carrier) has non-stop flights several days a week. Flights back to Miami usually operate mid-morning. A departure tax of approximately \$25.00 is assessed upon departing Santa Cruz.

TRAVEL SEQUENCE/LOGISTICS:

For all of the trips—fishing, shooting or combos—guests will be met upon arrival in Santa Cruz, and transferred directly to the charter aircraft terminal for their flight either to the shooting area or fishing area, depending on their arrangements and weather conditions on the arrival day.

Guests on a shooting/fishing combo will have an afternoon activity, the scheduled number of full days, then a morning activity followed by lunch and the air charter transfer to the other lodge. Upon arrival there, guests will have an afternoon activity, followed by the scheduled number of full days, then another activity on their departure morning. After a late lunch, guests will transfer via air charter back to Santa Cruz for dinner and overnight at the Los Tajibos hotel (guestroom included in price.)

NON-EMERGENCY/EMERGENCY PHONE CONTACTS:

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

BAGGAGE REQUIREMENTS

It is standard procedure to have your bags weighed before getting on the charter flight (50 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.

There is daily laundry service, so keep clothing to a minimum.

CAMPS & ACCOMMODATIONS

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.

Two types of accommodations are possible for anglers, and both are reached via a two-hour Bolivian Adventures private charter.

- The primary location is: Cano Negro/Green Forest Lodge, a traditional wood-constructed facility on the Rio Negro/San Simon system. The new lodge features air-conditioned rooms with private baths, large dining and bar/conversation areas, and a lovely view overlooking huge adjacent spring-fed lagoons.
- Guests may experience Bolivian Adventures' new mobile "remote lodge" near the Bolivian/Brazil border. This facility, while more rustic than Green Forest, is comfortable and air-conditioned, with double-occupancy rooms. Dining, lounge and bar facilities are separate. The camp is quite comfortable and offers excellent "front door" opportunities to disburse fishing pressure and access multiple species of fish that have never seen a lure or fly.

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 lodges guests are provided with a cooler with various cold cuts, cheeses, breads, fruit, cookies, etc. for lunch on the river.

Appetizers are served as soon as all guests return from the day's events, followed by dinner. A mixture of Bolivian and American foods are 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. Bring a 110-volt converter.

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 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 like the weather, 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 who 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 casting technique and shooting and assist with shells, drinks, etc. in the shooting area.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities are discretionary. Our outfitters suggest a \$200.00 tip at each lodge for the guides and camp staff to be given in a lump sum in smaller bills to the camp's manager at the end of that portion of the trip. **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. Bolivian Adventures is very good about having a plane available in case of emergency. 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, especially in the morning and evening. Make sure you have some long-sleeved clothing and bring insect repellent—use a product with at least 50% D.E.E.T.

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

Semi-tropical temperatures prevail in the fishing area with 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, light-weight rain suit.**

CLOTHING

We recommend wearing loose fitting, lightweight cottons or synthetics (Orvis, Patagonia, etc.) Long pants and sleeves are best to protect from sunburn and hide ankles 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 quite roomy and are equipped with outboard motors, 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 \$50/day. Most are new model Benelli and Beretta auto loaders in 20 and 12 gauge—primarily 20 gauge. Hunters bringing their own guns need to provide Rod & Gun Resources with their name, gun serial number, and passport number 45 days in advance of arrival.

AMMUNITION

Bolivian Adventures uses only top quality RC shells (from Italy), the same as used in the Olympic Games shooting events. Shells are available in 12 and 20 gauge at \$12/box (subject to change). At the end of your stay, a shell bill will be submitted, payable in cash or personal check.

CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures will range from the mid 60s-80° with little humidity. Evenings will be in the 60's. Rain is infrequent, usually occurring in the evening or early morning.

INCLUDED

All meals in the shooting/fishing areas, single or double accommodations, airport transfers, soft drinks, local liquors, beer and wine, laundry, shotgun cleaning, guides, boats, all local permits and hotel in Santa Cruz if applicable.

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, \$135 visa fee, shells, gratuities to bird boys and lodge staff or fishing guides and fishing camp staff, lures and tackle, and items of a personal nature such as phone calls, and meals in Santa Cruz. See per person pricing on page one.

TACKLE, CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

SPINNING OR BAITCASTING TACKLE

Take medium to medium-heavy largemouth bass tackle with long-handled 6 to 7 foot rods and strong reels of at least 100 yards capacity with high-speed retrieve ratios. Bring at least two rods and reels in case of breakage or gear stripping. 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 even a disadvantage since they take some action out of the lure. When fishing for payara and pacu, use a steel leader (25 to 40 lbs.). We suggest you use a firm action tip rod, as many of the fish exceed 20 lbs. We highly recommend breakdown travel rods that you can carry on the plane. (Take two rods and reels.)

SPINNING OR BAITCASTING LURES

Topwater—a mixture of around 12 total lures (take primarily the "Peacock Bass Lures")

Luhr-Jensen Peacock Bass propeller lures	3" ½" -6"	Any color
High-Roller Peacock Bass propeller lures	3" ½" -6"	Any color
Heddon Zara Spook	3" ½" - 4 ½"	Any color

Spinners and Spoons—a mixture of 20 total lures

Blue Fox Vibrex Spinner #4 -- #6	3/8 – 5/8 oz.	gold, silver, black stripe blades
Johnson Silver Minnow Spoon	½ -- 1 1/8 oz.	all colors
Eppinger Dardevle (or similar spoons)	½ -- 1 oz.	hammered nickel, all colors

Diving Minnows—a mixture of around 12 total lures

Bomber Long A, Original	4 1/2" -- 5"	fish colors (combinations of chrome,
Jointed Rapala, Cordell Redfin, shallow diving minnows, etc.	4 1/2" -- 5"	blue, black, white, orange and green
Yo-Zuri Squid Minnow	3 ½" -- 4"	Purple, pink

FLY FISHING TACKLE

The aggressive jungle species are well suited to fly fishing. There are still 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 150 yards of 30-lb. backing, and be spooled with weight forward bass taper floating lines such as Orvis floating "Wonderline" or similar. Bring a sink tip line for payara. Use 30-40 lb. monofilament for leader/tippet. Wire shock-tippet (25 to 40 lb.) is required for payara and pacu. **Take two fly rods and reels.**

FLIES – 6 total topwater, 30 total underwater flies

Large Poppers (topwater)	1/0 to 3/0	blue, white, yellow, chartreuse
Minnnow and deceiver patterns (underwater) (or similar)	1/0 to 5/0	chartreuse/white, blue/white, orange/white, yellow/white with flash.

FISHING

CLOTHING

- travel clothes
- two light-weight long-sleeved shirts
- two pair light-weight fishing pants
- two pair shorts or swimsuit
- several polo or tee shirts
- light-weight rain suit
- fishing or boat shoes
- fishing hat, preferably with long bill

PERSONAL ITEMS

- credit cards and personal checks
- cash for camp tips, etc.
- passport and photo copies of first two pages
- sun screen and sun block chap stick
- insect repellent
- 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

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 for safety is a fundamental requirement)
- thin, soft leather shooting gloves to protect hands while loading and firing
- ear plugs for protection while shooting
- recoil reduction device to wear under/over shirt or vest

FISHING ACCESSORIES-OPTIONAL

- amber polarized sun glasses
- line clippers or scissors
- small knife
- hook sharpener
- fishing pliers
- tackle box or fly box
- reel lubricant
- small towel
- tape measure
- extra line and leader material
- fly line cleaner if fly fishing
- fishing gloves or finger sock for fly fisherman

For spinning and baitcasting tackle and the above lures, contact Key Puckett at Fishin' World in Dallas, TX 214-358-4941 www.fishinworld.com

For flies, contact Dawn Smith at 800-211-4753 or e-mail: dsmith@rodgunresources.com

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