



## **BELLAVISTA DISCOVERY** **PACKAGES**

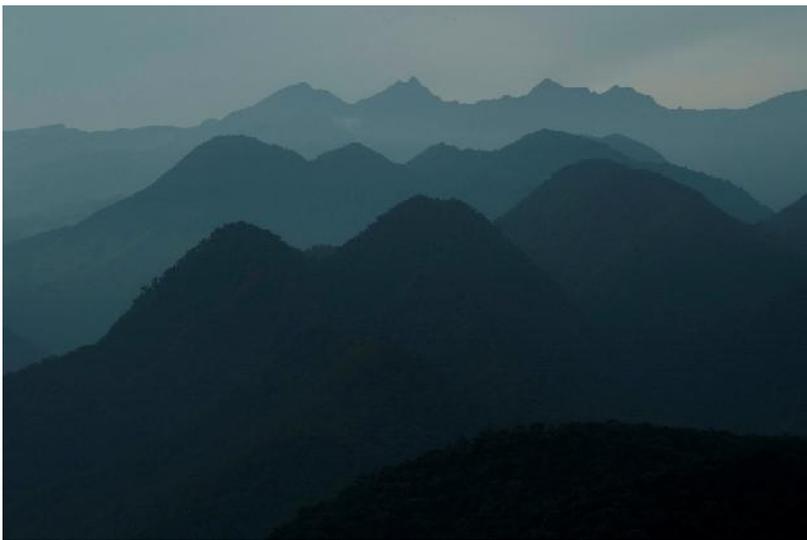
(Day trip, 2 days 1 night, 3 days 2 nights, or more)

(Below: 3 days / 2 nights description)

### **3 DAY/2 NIGHT PACKAGE**

#### **BELLAVISTA CLOUD FOREST PARADISE**

*Our three-day trip is a wonderful way to discover a cloud forest so close to Quito – only one hour 45 minutes away! Leaving Quito, we pass the Middle of the World monument and then descend a scenic mountain road with forested mountains all the way. Reaching the turn to Bellavista, you climb to the top of the mountain, again with fabulous views, where Bellavista lodge is perched. On arrival, you are greeted by a flurry of hummingbirds! Breakfast is served, and then you take a guided hike into the forest on our varied trails. Rooms sometimes available on arrival, otherwise available later in the morning.*



*We offer our guests a unique stay in paradise! A choice of rooms: standard, superior or shared dormitory, offer a comfortable stay in paradise, with great views towards Pichincha Volcano, or into the Tandayapa Valley! Birds galore, and special wildlife like the newly-described Olinguito! You will enjoy our generous servings of delicious Ecuadorian and international food, in our special restaurant with broad cloud forest views.*

*This package includes round-trip transport from Quito, all meals and accommodation, and taxes. Also included are daily hikes into the forest, on our extensive network of safe, well-marked trails, accompanied by our knowledgeable, bilingual naturalist / birder guides. You will meet amazing colorful birds, and learn about the natural history of a cloud forest, similar to and yet so different from an Amazonian rain forest!*

**Quito office:** Washington E7-25 & 6 de diciembre. Office phone: +593-2-223-2313 Mobil phone: +593-9-9949-0891.

[info@bellavistacloudforest.com](mailto:info@bellavistacloudforest.com)

**Lodge & reserve:** Tandayapa Valley. Lodge phone: +593-2-361-3447 Mobil phone: +593-9-9416-5868.

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### DAY TO DAY ITINERARY:

#### **Day One:**

6.15 / 6:30h: Departure from your hotel. Arrival at Bellavista and breakfast.



9.30 h: Our first Bellavista explorations start around the Lodge, and then along some of our trails. The hummingbird feeders will be the first attraction – Buff-Tailed Coronet, Violet-tailed Sylph, Gorgeted Sunangel, Booted Racket-tail and more. Then we will be looking for brightly – coloured birds like Toucan Barbet and Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, and learning about the fascinating adaptations to life in a cloud forest ecosystem. Tall trees tower over us, festooned with mosses and an

abundance of epiphytes, including delightful orchids and huge bromeliads.

13.00h: Lunch

15.00h: Further explorations will include discovering the differences between secondary and primary forests. From viewpoints that truly give a bird's eye view of the well-preserved forests of the Tandayapa Valley, we may see soaring raptors.



19.00h: Tonight, expect to see really close up the delightful Olinguito, the first new species of mammal to be discovered in the Americas in the past 35 years, as of 2103! Guides have sometimes located the night perch of the strange Common Potoo...

Overnight: Bellavista Cloud Forest Lodge. Meals: B, L, D



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### Day Two:



6.15: Early morning birding. Chances for Strong-billed Woodcreeper, White-tailed Tyrannulet, Turquoise Jay, Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, White-sided and Masked Flowerpiercer, Masked Trogon, and more, all around the lodge. You hardly need to walk any distance at all to see a great variety of birds!

Some mornings the elusive Tayra (giant weasel) comes

in to a feeding station right at the Lodge!



8:00h. Breakfast



9.30h. Two hikes are offered to cater for different interests, or for whether you desire to walk shorter or longer distances. One option is an adventurous hike to a waterfall hidden in the forest, a deep-forest experience where one option sees you climbing up the stream itself to get to the waterfall! A bird-oriented hike is always offered, and again some people choose to walk our Self-guided Trail (with or without a guide.. lots to learn and the forest is quite safe!)

13.00h. Lunch

15.00h. Hiking options include birding explorations along the ridge road, for Rusty-winged Barbtail, Streaked Tuftedcheek, Pearled Treerunner, Black-capped Hemispingus, tanager flocks and more.

19.00h. Dinner



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### **Day Three:**



6:15 h. Early morning bird hike. Option to go up the road to look for the range-restricted Tanager-Finch. And around the Lodge, there are always birds you did not see yesterday! Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Grey-breasted Woodwren....

8:00h: Breakfast

9.30h. Further hikes for discovery of the exuberant forests around the lodge – birding or naturalist focus. Also an option (extra cost) to take a half day trip to the nearby town of Mindo to experience a butterfly farm, and an artesan chocolate factory or for those with an adventurous spirit, Tubing in the Mindo river or Canopy Zipline!



13.00h. Lunch

14.30 / 15.00h. Departure for Quito

17.00h / 17.30h. Arrive at your Quito hotel

### **What to bring:**

T-shirts or comfortable blouses/shirts

Sweater or fleece for the evenings

Quick drying trousers (blue jeans not recommended)

Lightweight socks

Change of clothes

Sunhat and sunscreen

Rain poncho (a few available if needed)

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Camera

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Rubber boots are provided – to size 47 (few pairs in large sizes)

Binoculars (a few available for rent)

Water bottle for hikes

Small daypack for hikes

Flashlight and batteries

Plastic bags to protect camera, etc.

### **What is included:**

8 meals starting with breakfast Day One, and finishing after lunch Day Three

2 nights accommodation

Shared naturalist / birding guide service

Access to 700 hectares Reserve

Shared private, round trip transport

Taxes

### **What is not included:**

International flights

Drinks, tips, personal items, other services

Optional trip to Mindo

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