



Terms & Conditions

These Terms and Conditions form the Participant’s contract with the Program. In signing the above declaration, the Participant accepts these conditions. In these conditions the Program shall mean Amazon Academy, a participatory research and conservation initiative by the Alliance for Research and Conservation in the Amazon (ARCAmazon) organization that works to protect the Amazon rainforests of Peru with an emphasis on the Tambopata-Las Piedras area of Madre de Dios in south-eastern Peru. The Participant shall mean the volunteer, researcher, student, tourist, visitor or assistant, and is the person in the Application Form.

All Participants in the Program must provide their own health and travel insurance and waive all rights and claims against Amazon Academy, its management team and the organizations affiliated to it, including ARCAmazon.

1. THE CONTRACT

Once the Participant has been accepted onto the Program, a place can be confirmed when:

- a) The Participant has completed, and submitted an online Application Form and agreed to the Terms and Conditions;
- b) The participant has paid a non-refundable deposit of GB£170;

2. PAYMENT

Payments may be made in Great Britain Pounds (GB£) by the following methods:

- a) Online credit/debit card via the Program website;
- b) BACS (direct bank-to-bank deposit or transfer);
- c) Check

The non-refundable deposit is payable at least 30 days prior to the Program start date in order to secure a place, once the participant has been accepted on the Program and received a confirmation of acceptance email from the Program’s management team. The remaining balance is payable in two phases. 10% is payable within 10 days of being accepted on the Program, with the remaining 90% due no later than 1 month prior to the Program start date. Failure to pay within the specified times gives the Program the right to cancel the place and offer it to another applicant.

3. CANCELLATION

In the event of cancellation by the Participant, such cancellation shall only be effective from the date that written (email) notification is received and acknowledged by the Program. The following refunds will be made:

(Period prior to Program start date)

More than 60 days	100%
43 - 59 days	50%
29 - 42 days	25%
0 - 28 days	Nil

Any deposit paid is non-refundable.

4. MAJOR CHANGE OR CANCELLATION

The Program reserves the right to make a major change or cancel the contract after it has been made, but

before the Program start date when the Participant will have the choice of:

- a) Accepting the cancellation or changed arrangements;
- b) Joining another Program (subject to availability). If this is more expensive the participant must pay the difference, but if it is cheaper the Program will refund the difference.

If the Project cancels a Program for any other reason than a Force Majeure, the Program will refund any payment made towards the cost of the Program, excluding the non-refundable deposit. In the event that the Program cancels a place the Program will not be liable for any additional costs incurred by Participant with regards to the purchase of flights, insurance, or any other affiliated expense. Force Majeure means unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond the Program’s control, the consequences of which the Program could not avoid, including but not limited to war, riot, civil strife including strikes and industrial disputes, internationally declared epidemics, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, flood, adverse weather conditions or the threat of any of these. In the event of a Force Majeure the Program may cancel the Program and refund any monies paid. Some services may be interrupted or cancelled due to climate conditions, reasons of Force Majeure, acts of God, riots, etc., or others beyond the control of ARCAmazon or its associates. No reimbursements will be made as a result of such interruptions or cancellations beyond our control.

5. ITINERARY

Itineraries are planned with great care, although, for operational reasons, it

may be necessary to change the sequence of activities or the intended routes taken, and though such cases are rare, in general itineraries should be treated only as a basic guideline.

6. CHANGES TO TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

The Program books all transport and accommodation in advance to ensure availability and standard pricing and cannot offer either full or partial refunds in the event that the participant wishes to change the transport arrangements stipulated in their itinerary. Participants are therefore liable for the cost of any changes they make to the pre-defined transport plans laid out in their itinerary.

7. MEALS

Participants must notify the Program of any specific dietary requirements and/or allergies on the Application Form. The Program cannot guarantee the provision of specialized food and requires that participants discuss this issue with the Program Team before a deposit is made.

8. CONTRIBUTION FEE

A contribution fee is required to participate in a Program or part thereof. This covers:

- All accommodation in Puerto Maldonado and at field sites (camps, stations, lodges);
- Food (3 nutritious meals per day) and clean drinking water. Any extra bottled water will need to be purchased by yourself;
- All training provided by the Program team;
- All transport in Puerto Maldonado and to/from field sites (includes airport welcome on day of arrival and send-off on day of departure);
- All in-country and field support;
- Use of all Program field and communication equipment.

The contribution fee does not include:

- International flights to Lima, Peru;
- Domestic/internal flights between Lima, Cusco and Puerto Maldonado;
- Travel and health insurance (this is compulsory for all participants);
- Off-setting of greenhouse gas emissions from international and domestic flights;
- Personal spending money.

9. HEALTH NOTICE

A Yellow Fever vaccination is recommended for travel to the area. Certificates are sometimes checked on arrival in the airport in Puerto Maldonado. Malaria is present in the Peruvian Amazon (though cases in Puerto Maldonado are extremely rare), and the Program recommends participants to consult a doctor to get advice on relevant medication.

Leishmaniasis is also present in the Peruvian Amazon. It is a protozoan skin disease transmitted by a small biting fly (*Phlebotomus* spp.) similar to a sand fly. It can be treated by a course of injections. The best form of prevention is to wear trousers and long-sleeved shirts at all times when in the forest, especially after dark, and to sleep under a mosquito net.

There are infrequent outbreaks of Dengue Fever in Puerto Maldonado and although there are regular fumigations, the best form of prevention is to apply repellent while in town. Although Dengue fever is usually not serious, participants should inform the Program team of any symptoms which may include aching joints, vomiting and diarrhea and general fatigue.

10. HEALTH & SAFETY DISCLAIMER

The ARCAmazon and Amazon Academy teams, and anyone else working in association with us, cannot be held responsible for any accident or mishap that may occur in connection with any part of, or services connected with your visit. In the absence of more

qualified medical assistance, ARCAmazon employees will, to the best of their knowledge and ability, provide first aid support when needed.

By signing the Terms and Conditions you agree not to take any legal proceedings against ARCAmazon or its employees as a result of any first aid treatment, advice, information, medicines given or administered during your visit.

11. INSURANCE

It is the Participant's responsibility to obtain sufficient personal travel and health insurance prior to their travel to Peru. The Participant is willing to accept full responsibility for insurance up to limits that the participant may require. This insurance should cover personal accident, medical expenses, air ambulance, loss of effects, repatriation costs and all other expenses which might arise as a result of loss, damage, injury delay or inconvenience occurring to the Participant. It is compulsory that all Participants have personal travel insurance. When obtaining travel insurance the Participant must ensure that the insurer is aware of the type of travel to be undertaken.

12. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ADVICE

The Participant must be in possession of a valid passport and all visas required for the whole of the journey and the participant accepts responsibility for obtaining the same. Any information or advice given by the Program on visas, vaccinations, climate, clothing, baggage, special equipment, etc. is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of the Program.

13. AUTHORITY

At all times the decision of the Program's official representatives will be final on all matters likely to endanger the safety and well-being of the Participant. The Participant must at all times strictly comply with the laws, customs, banking, foreign

exchange and drug regulations of Peru. Should the Participant fail to comply with the above, or should the participant interfere with the well-being of other Program members, then a Program representative may order the Participant to leave the Program without recourse to any refund.

14. RESPONSIBILITY

The Project shall not be liable for any damage or loss if the failure to abide by these Terms and Conditions and is: 1) attributable to the Participant; 2) attributable to a third party unconnected with the provision of the services contracted for and the event is unforeseeable or unavoidable; 3) due to unforeseen and unusual circumstances beyond the company's control, the consequences of which could not have been avoided even if all due care had to be exercised; 4) due to political disputes, industrial action, climate or other matters of a similar nature and any other force majeure; and 5) due to an event which the Program, even with all due care and attention could not foresee or forestall. Any liability is limited to the full contribution fee paid by the Participant. In all cases the Program specifically excludes all liability for indirect or consequential loss or expense including loss of profits.

15. CLAIMS AND COMPLAINTS

If a Participant has a minor complaint against the Program or service providers (e.g. lodges, hotels) the Participant must first inform the Program Manager in order that the matter be discussed and rectified. Official complaints must be put in writing within 7 days of the end of the Program.

16. LOCAL CONDITIONS

Due to political and cultural differences, as well as generally tougher physical conditions, travel to the areas of research for the Program involves risks other than those we take in our daily lives. It is important the

Participant make themselves aware of the risks involved, and is responsible for making their travel plans and insurance decisions accordingly.

17. PHOTOS

Participants should be aware that they may be photographed and/or filmed while participating on the Program. The Program reserves the right to use such material for any publications or marketing uses and promotional literature. If the Participant is opposed to this, they must provide written notification to the Program before their Program start date.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. BACKGROUND

Amazon Academy is a programing initiative of the Alliance for Research and Conservation in the Amazon (ARCAmazon), a Peruvian nonprofit organization. Both the organization and its Program Amazon Academy work towards biodiversity research and conservation, local community development, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental education in the Peruvian Amazon.

2. GENERAL CONDUCT

As well as providing a positive learning environment and an unforgettable experience for all Participants, ARCAmazon is dedicated to preserving the environment and minimizing any environmental impacts. For reasons of health and safety, and to ensure high levels of respect for the local environment, all Program Participants and staff are required to abide by a Code of Conduct. The Program Management Team reserves the right to evict any Participant who is found in breach of this Code of Conduct.

3. SMOKING

Smoking is permitted only in designated areas at each research camp/center/lodge, details of which will be provided by the on-site

administrators in each case. Whilst in the bus/boat (travelling to and from research locations) or in the forest, smoking is strictly prohibited.

4. LITTER

Littering is prohibited at all times. Participants must dispose of all litter and waste using receptacles provided at each research center/lodge.

5. ALCOHOL

Although moderate consumption of alcohol is permitted, drunken or antisocial behavior will not be tolerated at any time. Alcohol must only be purchased and consumed at the designated bar area at each research site. Participants are strictly prohibited from purchasing and bringing their own alcohol to the research site. When in Puerto Maldonado, participants must be mindful that they are representing ARCAmazon, and consumption of alcohol is only permitted in moderation.

6. DRUGS

The possession or use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated on the Program. Participants found consuming or in the possession of illegal drugs may be expelled from the Program immediately and will forfeit any rights to reimbursement.

7. RESPECTING LOCALS & THE LOCAL WILDLIFE

Participants are expected to respect the local culture and people and act in a responsible manner. Participants should be aware that during their stay they are effectively representing ARCAmazon and should act accordingly. Much of the wildlife in the area is fragile and sensitive to humans and care should be taken to minimize impacts as much as possible. The collection of flora and fauna samples must be pre-approved by the ARCAmazon Board of Directors.

8. DAMAGE

Participants are required to pay for the cost of any damage inflicted on Program property (e.g. equipment and materials) that is not considered by the Program Manager to be the result of general wear and tear or accidental damage.

9. COMPLAINTS

All complaints should be made in writing to the Program Manager.

10. GROSS MISCONDUCT

Gross misconduct will be misconduct deemed to be so serious that the Program can no longer tolerate the presence of the Participant. Examples of gross misconduct may include; physical violence; theft or fraud; deliberate falsification of records; falsification of field data, deliberate damage to property. A Participant who commits such an act will be evicted from the Program and will forfeit any rights to reimbursement.
