

Villa Carmen Biological Station and reserve supports a wide variety of habitats including old-growth rainforest, lower mountain forest, secondary forests, streams, rivers, waterfalls, and a highly diverse flora and fauna. It also has an all-weather road, and is accessible by both car and boat. ACCA is overseeing management of Villa Carmen, which will be used to promote sustainable agroforestry and aquaculture, host educational programs, serve as a biological research station, and further incorporate local communities into conservation efforts.



**Location:** about 1 mile (1.5 km) north of the town of Pilcopata, Cusco, Peru

**Geographic Coordinates:** (-12.8955, -17.4038)

**Elevation:** 1700-3940 ft (520-1200 m)

**Annual Precipitation:** 157 inches (400 cm); driest in August, wettest in February (rainy season Nov-March)

**Temperature:** Average 72°F (22 °C); up to 90°F (32°C) August-November and down to 50°F (10°C) May-August

**Area of reserve:** 7,574 acres (3,065 ha)

**Trail system:** 25 miles (40 km)

### Highlights

- Incredible diversity of flora and fauna
- Exceptional bird activity, with more than 600 bird species reported in the area
- 25 miles (40 km) beautiful trails along mountain tops, beaches, waterfalls, and rainforest
- Limitless photography opportunities
- Opportunities to visit nearby indigenous communities of Qeros and Santa Rosa de Huacaria
- Environmental education workshops
- Visits to the nearby village of Pilcopata to explore the town and market
- Access to station researchers to collaborate and learn about their work in rainforest conservation
- Extensive camera trapping system in use

### Facilities

- Accommodations for up to 50 visitors
- Multipurpose meeting space
- 24 hour electricity and internet access
- Laboratory space

### Packing List

*In general, quick-dry clothing with lots of pockets is recommended, as it is quite humid.*

- Lightweight shirts (long & short sleeve)
- Light sweatshirt or fleece
- Lightweight shorts & pants
- Sleepwear
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Hiking boots (waterproof)
- Everyday medications, cosmetics, and toiletries
- Hat, bandana, and/or sunglasses
- Underwear, socks, etc

### Other Recommended Items

- Flashlight and/or headlamp (with extra batteries – only AA and D sized batteries are commonly available in Peru)
- Backpack or fanny pack (preferably water resistant)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent (with high DEET concentration)
- Binoculars & camera
- Batteries (only AA and D sized batteries are commonly available in Peru), chargers, and waterproof bags with silica gel to keep equipment dry
- Other basic medications, including: ibuprofen/aspirin, antihistamines (lotion and pill form), antibiotic ointment such as Neosporin, Pepto-Bismol or similar for digestive upset, and Dramamine or similar for nausea
- Rubber boots – station has a limited supply (boots can be purchased in Cusco for a long-term stay)
- Water bottle
- Flip flops for showering
- Laptop (the station has limited internet access, but no computers for general use)
- Emergency contact information & photocopy of your passport
- Small denominations of Nuevo Soles
- GPS tracking unit, if you will be in the field



### How To Get There

*You should be prepared for delays in the rainy season (November – March).*

- **Private pickup truck** (8 hours, approximately \$200/day): This service can be arranged by ACCA's Cusco office.
- **Bus** (10 hours, \$10): Gallito de las Rocas (Diagonal Angamos) leaves for Pilcopata Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 5:00am. Buying a ticket at least one day in advance is strongly suggested. The bus is the least comfortable method for traveling to the stations.
- **Van/car** (8 hours, \$15): One or more shared vans or cars (colectivos) leave for Pilcopata and Patria from 8:00am to 10:00am; ask for them in San Jeronimo (taxi from Cusco to San Jeronimo is approximately 10 soles) in front of the Comisaria (police station). Note: this is not a formalized form of transportation, and ACA/ACCA does not arrange for reservations.



### Contact Us

For information on rates and reservations, please contact: [reservas@conservacionamazonica.org](mailto:reservas@conservacionamazonica.org), (051)-084-222329 (Cusco office), or (051)-984 108 131 (Cusco mobile)

For other inquiries, please contact the DC office: [info@amazonconservation.org](mailto:info@amazonconservation.org) or 202-234-2356

Learn more about Villa Carmen on the web at: [www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/research\\_villa-carmen.html](http://www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/research_villa-carmen.html)