



Red-fronted Macaw Reserve

Asociación Armonía

Asociación Armonía is the leading non-profit bird conservation NGO of Bolivia, whose mission is to protect the most threatened Avifauna through education, improved livelihood, scientific research and reserve creation.

Armonía works on multiple conservation programs all over Bolivia combining environmental protection with improved livelihood. Through land protection, more than 11,681 ha of Endangered ecosystems with their interdependent animal and plant life have been safeguarded. Check out the Armonía website for further information on our projects: **www.armoniabolivia.org**

Red-fronted Macaw Reserve

The Red-fronted Macaw Reserve (50 hectares) is the destination for a wildlife and bird watching ecotourism holiday in Bolivia that supports indigenous communities. It is an initiative of Armonía and three communities of Omerque, to protect the largest breeding population of the Bolivian endemic and Critically Endangered Red-fronted Macaw (*Ara rubrogenys*). Not only does the reserve retain the largest known nesting site of the Red-Fronted Macaw, other endemic species like the Bolivian Blackbird (*Oreopsar bolivianus*) and Cliff Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus luchi*) breed here. The unique desert like flora, fauna and rugged mountains of this region makes this place an unforgettable experience.

Highlights

The Quechua communities of San Carlos, Perereta and Amaya have become the guardians of the dry Andean wildlife, dedicated to the protection of the Red-fronted Macaw. They are managing the Red-fronted Macaw lodge to improve their community's quality of life through nature conservation. Your visit directly supports these communities and the survival of the Red-fronted Macaw.

The reserve is a haven for bird watchers as it is home to 185 bird species ([Ebird.org/hotspot/L1106731](https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1106731)), including large flocks of Mitred Parakeets, Yellow-chevroned Parakeets, Turquoise-fronted Parrots, and Cliff Parakeets, as well as frequent visits by Andean Condors and Peregrine Falcons. Keep an eye out for Bolivian Blackbirds at the lodge feeders.

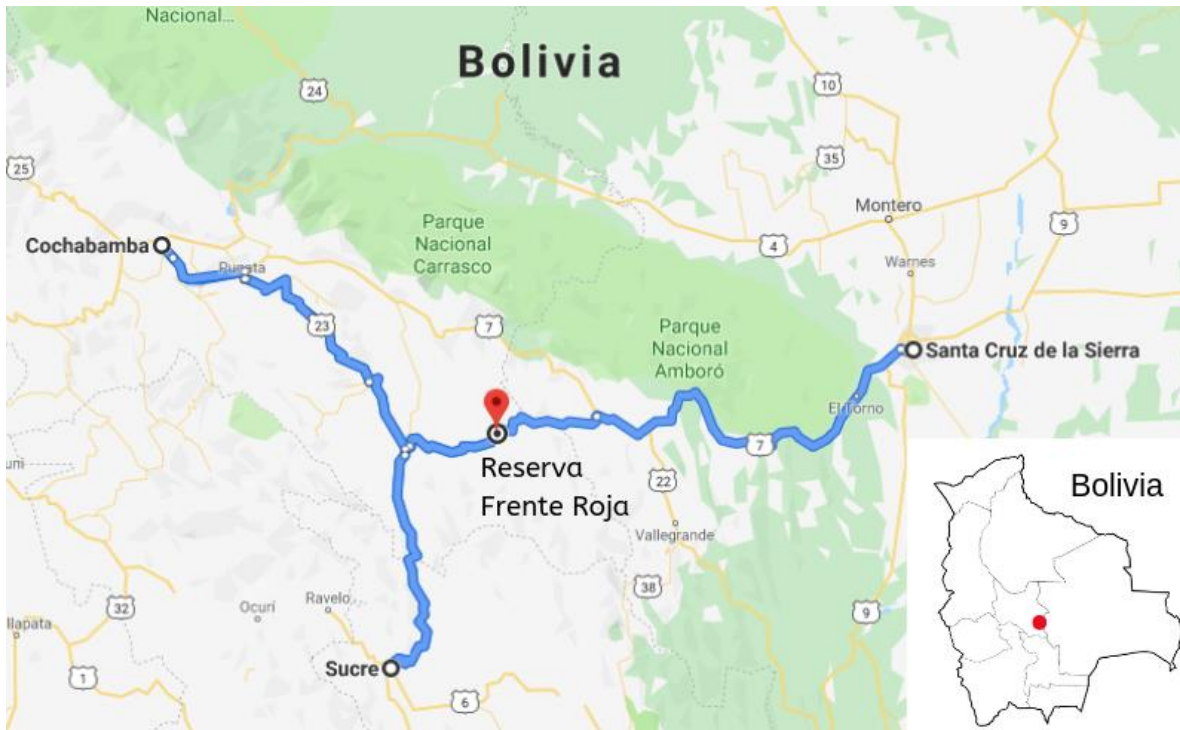
The reserve also protects one of the best conserved archaeological sites of the Omereque culture: the ancient fortress of Tunas Mok'o. The fortress was fortified with an extensive rock wall structure built in stone following the landscape features.





Location

The Reserve is located in the Municipality of Omereque, department of Cochabamba. Public or private transport can be hired. The road is mostly paved and is accessible year-round.



The distance from Santa Cruz to the lodge is 302 kilometers and takes 7 hours. From Cochabamba to the lodge is 260 kilometers and takes 5 hours. From Sucre to the lodge is 217 kilometer and takes 4 hours.

Weather conditions

The reserve is located at 1500 meters above sea level, in the dry Andean valley habitat, which is characterized by their low annual rainfall.

Overall average day temperatures are around 21 - 26 degrees Celsius (69 – 78 Fahrenheit). During the night the temperatures significantly drop to 15 -17 degrees Celsius (59 – 62 Fahrenheit)

Activities

Birdwatching

Red-fronted Macaw Reserve is home to 185 confirmed bird species of which many can easily be spotted and photographed along the trails. Early morning birding is advised.

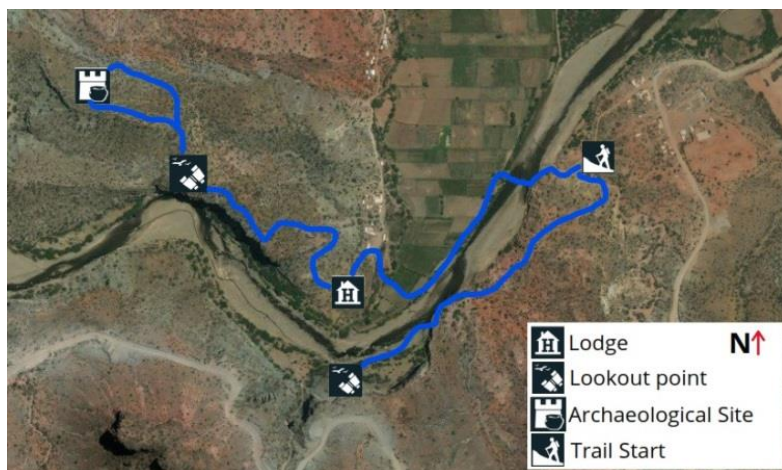
Archeology

For an insight into the fascinating history of Bolivia, you can explore the reserve's pre-Inca archaeological site and the region's many cave paintings.

Walking Trails

The local guide from the communities (Spanish speaking only) will assist you to reach the most beautiful locations of the reserve to ensure the full wildlife experience. Professional English-speaking bird guides have to be arranged separately.

You can also discover the culture and traditions of the Quechua indigenous community, who run the reserve and directly benefit from your visit.



Accommodation

Red Fronted Macaw Lodge

Our lodge is located within the rugged mountains of the dry Andean valleys and from our large outside deck, you are overlooking one of the most important Red-fronted Macaw breeding cliffs. Ask our staff to use our reserve telescope to search for the breeding macaws. The lodge has a capacity for 14 visitors divided over 7 cozy bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with hot water showers, and a large resting room to explore our small library.



Outdoor Dining

Our outdoor dining area is ideal to enjoy nature up close, overlooking the garden where several feeders that attract the local birds, including the Bolivian Blackbird. Don't forget to bring your binoculars when enjoying your meal.



Staff from the local community provide an excellent service, with a varied menu offering delicious combinations of international and local dishes of the region.

Package for visiting Red-fronted Macaw Reserve

The price per person is 150 USD per night, includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and bottles of water to stay hydrated when walking the reserve trails.

The income from your tourism support directly goes to the protection of this natural habitat and improving the quality of life of the San Carlos, Perereta and Amaya communities.

For your information

Red-fronted Macaws can be seen year-round. However, during the breeding season (December to early May), the macaws are constantly present and seen flying in pairs and large family groups. Outside the breeding season they wander longer distances. Wake up early to enjoy their arrival at the cliff and hear their wide range of communicative vocalizations.

Be aware

Hiking in dry Andean valley habitat can be difficult as there is little shade to protect you from the sun. Make sure you come well prepared with sunscreen, hats and other measures to protect you from the heat.

Contact details

Reservations have to be made through the main Asociación Armonía office in Santa Cruz through e-mail or phone.

Tel: 591 -3- 3568808 (Armonía office)
+591 -71391856 (Eco Tourism Coordinator)
E-mail: **reservations@armonia-bo.org**

