

Dear supporters and friends,

As summer winds down, some of you may be planning your winter escape to warmer climes. Well, we have suggestions!

Many of our field partners have launched enterprises to generate long-term funding for their conservation work. For example, in Brazil the Kayapo harvest Brazil nuts and sell jewelry. In Kenya we have a project harvesting juniper berries for the making of artisanal gin.

More commonly, our field partners engage in eco-tourism to help support their conservation work, a strategy found to be broadly successful.¹ This offers a rewarding travel experience to see the places you help conserve as a supporter of ICFC. By going there and seeing this conservation work first-hand, you'll form a direct connection with these places. And if you do go, we'd love to hear what you think!

We intend to host another ICFC-led group trip as we did last year to Panama, but the purpose of this newsletter is to inform those who want to arrange their own trips. Please contact our partners to arrange your trip directly (but feel free to talk with us as well).

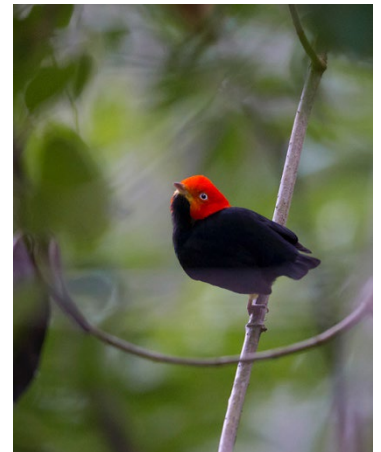
Travel Destinations with ICFC Project Partners

COSTA RICA – With the largest remaining mesic rainforest on the Pacific slope of Central America (largely within Corcovado National Park), the Osa Peninsula has been described by National Geographic as “the most biologically intense place on earth”. ICFC's partner **Osa Conservation** operates three facilities in the Osa Peninsula: the Greg Gund Conservation Center, Piro Research Center, and the new Osa Verde BioLodge. Each has comfortable accommodations, access to trails, proximity to sea turtle nesting sites and so on for an immersive rainforest and conservation experience.

Best time to visit: December to June

Web information: <https://conservationbirding.org/?reserve=osa-verde-lodge>;
<https://osaconservation.org/visit-the-osa-2/research-stations/>;

Field partner contact: Osa Verde BioLodge osaverde@osaconservation.org; Osa Conservation reservations@osaconservation.org



BRAZIL – Since 2007, ICFC has worked with the **Kayapo** indigenous people to protect their territories which span 10 million hectares in the southeastern Amazon. An opportunity to visit this vast wilderness is now possible for fishermen. Untamed Angling has established a small fishing camp on the Iriri river that provides a source of income for Kayapo guides in the remote village of Kendjam. A second camp will start on the Xingu river this fall. This is an opportunity for recreational fishermen to enjoy an area of “over 700 kilometers of crystal clear waters at the heart of the Amazon and more than ten species of fish to challenge the most enthusiastic fly anglers”. And some time down the road we anticipate birding trips within Kayapo lands!

Best time to visit: June to September

Web information: <http://www.kendjamlodge.com/#the-fishing-ok>

Field partner contact: alfredo@uangling.com



Photo credits (top to bottom): Paul B. Jones; Simone Giovine

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¹According to new research from Australia's Griffith University, “for most of the rare and endangered bird and mammal species analyzed, ecotourism makes the critical difference between survival and extinction.”

ECUADOR – Since its establishment in 1998 ICFC’s partner, **Fundación Jocotoco**, has created a network of 14 private reserves to conserve many of Ecuador’s imperilled species and ecosystems. Its reserves are located primarily in threatened habitats of western Ecuador, but include two high Andean reserves, three reserves on the eastern Andean slopes, and a *new* 250-acre reserve in San Cristóbal (Chatham) island on the Galápagos archipelago. Through its ecotourism operator Jocotours, it offers a wide range of birdwatching and nature tours that support reserve management and protection.



Best time to visit: June to October

Web information: <https://www.jocotoco.org.ec/wb#/EN/Ecoturismo>

BOLIVIA – ICFC’s partner in Bolivia, **Asociación Armonía**, operates the Barba Azul Nature Reserve in the Beni Savanna and the Red-fronted Macaw Nature Reserve. Armonía has recently built cabins and a dining hall to make its remote Barba Azul reserve an appealing destination from which to see the endangered blue-throated macaw and many wildlife species distinct to this region of seasonally inundated grasslands. The best time to visit is in the early fall when the macaw winters on the reserve. Earlier in the year blue-throated macaws may be seen during a day trip to the Laney Rickman Nature Reserve where they breed in nest boxes provided by Armonía.

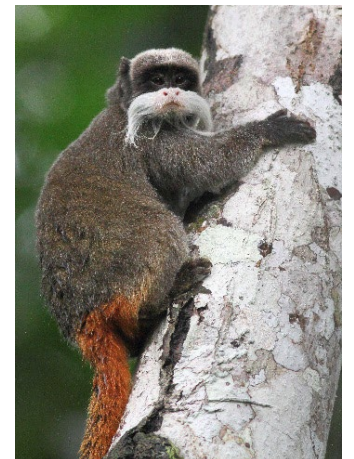


Best time to visit: June to October

Web information: <http://armoniabolivia.org/wildlife-and-bird-watching-holiday-in-boliva/>

Field partner contact: Laura Velarde turismo@armonia-bo.org

PERU – ICFC partner **Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica (ACCA)** has established a network of facilities for field research, education, and sustainable tourism. Spanning an altitudinal gradient from 760 to 9,900 feet (230 to 3,000 metres) along the eastern border of Manu National Park, ACCA’s three biological stations and lodges (Wayqecha, Villa Carmen, and Los Amigos) are in one of the richest biodiversity gradients in the world, between the regions of Cusco and Madre de Dios in southeast Peru. The facilities offer visitors opportunities to explore diverse habitats and see firsthand ACCA’s conservation and sustainable development projects in action.



Best time to visit: June to October

Web information: <https://birding.amazonconservation.org/>

Field partner contacts: Laura Samaniego lsamaniego@amazonjourneys.pe; Amazon Journeys reservas@amazonjourneys.pe

KENYA – You can visit the largest private reserve in Kenya and stay at the renowned **Laikipia Nature Conservancy** founded by Kuki Gallmann (author of *I Dreamed of Africa*), now run by her daughter and son-in-law. The Conservancy offers a diverse topography, stunning vistas and a chance to see this part of Africa away from hordes of safari vehicles. Accommodations range from high-end permanent tents at Makena’s Hills to the research centre bandas for those who want a lower budget option.

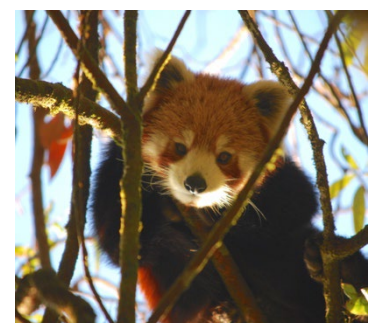


Best time to visit: June through February

Web information: <https://gallmannkenya.org/experience/>

Field partner contact: mukutan@gallmannkenya.co.ke

NEPAL – Our field partner **Red Panda Network** is the world’s first organization dedicated to protecting red pandas and it now offers homestay-style eco-tourism opportunities for 2-8 participants. Our project there employs guardians to work with local communities in four areas of Nepal to protect red pandas from poaching and restore their forest habitats.



Best time to visit: October to November

Web information: <https://www.redpandanetwork.org/ecotrips/>

Field partner contact: ecotrips@redpandanetwork.org

Photo credits (top to bottom): Michael Moens; Paul B. Jones; Walter Wust/ACCA; Laikipia Nature Conservancy; Sonam Tashi Lama

Read about ICFC’s [projects at these sites](#) [Donate to ICFC now](#)

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