



MEDIA KIT

Contact Information

San Miguel del Bala

City:	San Miguel del Bala
State/Province:	Rurrenabaque
Country:	Bolivia
Phone:	(591) 3 892 2394
Website:	www.sanmigueldelbala.com
Email:	info@sanmigueldelbala.com
Reservations:	reservas@sanmigueldelbala.com
Manager:	Constantino Nay

FACT SHEET

Who Are We?

San Miguel del Bala Lodge - The lodge is equipped with seven cabins, 6 with three beds (two twins and a bed for children) and 1 with a matrimonial bed. The cabins all have private bathrooms and solar powered lighting and come with a bottle of water for our guests' consumption. The cabins are located about 100 meters above the hammock hut and restaurant.

Caquiahua Lodge - San Miguel has constructed a cabin with three separate rooms, with the capacity for three people per room and a shared bathroom. Enjoy an adventure inside Madidi National Park in a rustic yet comfortable environment with your local

guide. The Caquiahuara Lodge is available to our clients booking tours from 3 days/2 nights to 5 days/4 nights in length.

The two lodges make up the San Miguel del Bala collection that give our clients a unique mix of culture and nature.

Where Are We?

We are located in the small indigenous town of San Miguel del Bala boarding the Beni River in the Bolivian Amazon. Our central location is in Rurrenabaque, in close proximity to Madidi National Park, the host to our newest Caquihaura lodge.



Screen capture from (www.andes-amazona.com)

Getting to Rurrenabaque

The easiest but most expensive way to get to Rurrenabaque (where you will embark on your adventure with San Miguel del Bala), is by plane. Two airlines have daily flights to Rurrenabaque, TAM and Amazonas (www.amazonas.com). TAM does not have a website and offers one flight a day to Rurrenabaque from La Paz. Amazonas offers between 3 to 6 flights a day to Rurrenabaque from La Paz. The ticket prices for a round trip flight range from \$130-\$150 USD, and all flights leave from La Paz.

Another popular way to get to Rurrenabaque is by taking a bus from Quito. This will set you back \$8 USD (60 bolivianos), but will take between 18 and 20 hours. If you are on a tight budget and have some more time, then this is a good option.

Where to stay in Rurrenabaque

San Miguel del Bala Lodge usually recommends to its guests to come to Rurrenabaque a day early before their trip with us into the jungle. That means you will need a nice place to stay. There is a wide range of hotels in Rurrenabaque. We usually recommend Hotel Oriental or Hotel Maya. Contact us ahead of time if you have questions.

Our Services

At San Miguel del Bala we want to make your stay as comfortable as possible, while enjoying all the wonders of the Bolivian Amazon. It is for that reason that we have built two lodges, **San Miguel del Bala Lodge** and **Caquiahuara Lodge**. These two lodges give our guests the opportunity to stay alongside the community for a cultural experience as well as inside **Madidi National Park** for an amazing adventure in nature (Caquiahuara is only offered on itineraries that stay for 3 days or more).

San Miguel del Bala



- Option A: Full Day Adventure
- Option B: Two Day / One Night
- Option C: Three Day / Two Nights
- Option D: Four Day / Three Nights
- Option E: Five Day / Four Nights

Caquiahuara



- Option C: Three Day / Two Night
- Option D: Four Day / Three Night
- Option E: Five Day / Four Night

Packages Include

- River Transport
- Local Naturalist Guide
- All Meals
- Drinking Water
- Towels

Packages Do Not Include

- Transportation to and from Rurrenabaque
- Park entrance fees to Madidi
- Alcoholic Drinks
- Tips/Gratuities for Staff

NEWS and EVENTS

Tourism and technology are changing fast. Keep up to date with what's going on inside San Miguel del Bala and follow the local "Buzz." Watch for upcoming press releases about our accommodations and stay in tune with industry coverage and look for San Miguel del Bala in the press.



www.youtube.com/user/SanMiguelDelBala



<http://twitter.com/#!/SMdelBala>



www.facebook.com/pages/San-Miguel-del-Bala/143630148990997?ref=ts

What's Going on Inside SMdB?

FACEBOOK & TWITTER



For more information on #Madidi National Park, visit <http://bit.ly/fYegTr>.
by [San Miguel Del Bala](#) about 5 hours ago



Happy Earth Day!
by [San Miguel Del Bala](#) Friday, 22 April 2011 14:09



More and more people are moving toward green travel options! <http://1.usa.gov/fSSHue> <http://bit.ly/g85Mff>
by [San Miguel Del Bala](#) Thursday, 21 April 2011 13:16



#SanMigueldelBala is located a short distance from #Rurrenabaque. Take a 45 minute boat ride up the #BeniRiver to get to the #GatewaytoMadidi
by [San Miguel Del Bala](#) Tuesday, 19 April 2011 17:16



#Madidi National Park is a great place for #birdwatching. You can find 11% of the planet's bird species in the park!
by [San Miguel Del Bala](#) Friday, 15 April 2011 15:21

PRESS RELEASE

SAN MIGUEL DEL BALA DELIVERS NEW DYNAMIC TO THE ULTIMATE BOLIVIAN AMAZON EXPERIENCE

STORY IDEAS

Leading lodge an ideal addition to South American travel circuits; moderately priced and packed full of adventure & authentic cultural experiences in the Bolivian Amazon.

Community-based sustainable tourism experience offering exceptional service and giving back to enrich the lives of local Tacana community

Travelers can immerse themselves and learn traditional medicinal practices and Tacana hunting methods

An ideal lodge setting: Madidi National Park, Bolivian Amazon. A plethora of rare and unique flora and fauna

Expeditions to witness the rare red and blue macaws breeding grounds

Locally managed and operated by the indigenous Tacana Community comprised of 35 Tacana families

Traditional hunting and agriculture techniques were jeopardized by construction of Madidi National Park. San Miguel del Bala served as a dynamic innovation for preserving the Tacana culture, and now the Bolivian Amazon

Community visits to experience how tourism and your money have helped the San Migueleños improve their day-to-day lives

Sustainable Agriculture and organic food production in a Tacana community with incentives to grow from local lodge's demand for fresh produce

Local lodge participates in certification program to help improve their services and take care of their natural resources, which also happen to be their product.

A true development success story: San Miguel del Bala Community commits many long hours of labor and significant investment in land and materials to make a dream of sustainable tourism come true.

History & Milestones

San Miguel is a Tacana community whose origins date back more than 500 years. The Tacana are traditionally an agricultural people, tending to their fields (chacos) growing banana, rice, and yucca. Presently the community has around 55 families, each with their own individual plot of land for living and growing food for sustenance and sometimes to sell. Tourism has helped diversify the local economy in San Miguel as well as provide a steady demand for locally grown and handcrafted products made in the community. Guests will get a chance to see into the daily life of the tranquil town with a community visit.

When the Madidi National Park was formed 1995, many Tacana communities were outraged by the invasion of the Bolivian government onto their land. It seemed that the formation of the park was a step forward for conservation but a step backward for its inhabitants. San Miguel was one of the communities whose ancient hunting and agricultural traditions were put in jeopardy by the formation of Madidi. Many villages fought the idea of a protected area, and continued extractive activities like logging, hunting and slash and burn agriculture.

San Miguel decided to approach the problem in a different way. Instead of fighting against the inevitable new laws of the protected area, they decided to find alternative economic means. That is when the idea to create a lodge that celebrates Tacana culture as well as the amazing biodiversity surrounding it.

IMAGE BANK

The following is a compilation of images and our brand logo. All images are available for free and may be showcased in the manner you chose fit. Thumbnail images are available as shown, click links for high resolution, downloadable images.

Contact us to gain access to high-resolution versions of the following image files:





San Miguel del Bala Eco Lodge



New Caquihaura Eco Lodge



Indigenous Tacana Community
& Culture



Magnificent Flora and Fauna



Exquisite Tacana Cuisine



Visitors near Madidi

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

San Miguel del Bala has been climbing its way up with recent travel reviews and blogs. Recently SMdB was name # 1 in Specialty Lodging in La Paz and has gained great coverage in world leading travel guide book Lonely Planet. Be sure and continue checking back to learn of upcoming 2011 Sustainable Travel Award nominations.



TripAdvisor Popularity Index
#1 of 5 Specialty lodging in Rurrenabaque

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION



Bolivia-Based Press Contact:

Manager:	Constantino Nay
Phone:	+(591) 3 892 2394
Email:	info@sanmigueldelbala.com
Reservations:	reservas@sanmigueldelbala.com
City:	San Miguel del Bala
State/Province:	Rurrenabaque
Country:	Bolivia
Website:	www.sanmigueldelbala.com

US-Based Press Contact:

THE UNDISCOVERED
TRAVEL COLLECTION



Local Companies Providing Authentic Experiences

US Representative: Hamilton McNutt
Phone: +1 (202) 518-6192
Washington DC
USA