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The Canopy Tree House at the Inkaterra Amazonica in Peru.



STEAMY LOVE

in south america

For clients on a first or second honeymoon, South America offers a world full of awesome natural wonders, amazing man-made monuments, and cities and villages that are culturally involving. On a continent full of choices, here are 10 top picks for honeymooners looking for...

carla hunt

urban chic

Buenos Aires is custom-made for couples who understand it takes two to tango: out dancing in a *milonga* social club, watching a nightclub tango show, or taking lessons together, bodies pressed heart to heart. Beyond the capital's signature rhythm, honeymooners love B.A. for its best of everything in historic neighborhoods, museums, street fairs, steak houses, nightlife, and even a day trip by hydrofoil to neighboring Uruguay. In a city of top-notch hotels, one romantic pick might be the **Park Hyatt** in the fashionable La Recoleta quarter, incorporating the turn-of-the-century Palacio Duhau into its luxurious layout, set in beautiful gardens. Rooms all have LCD TV, high-speed Internet and WiFi access, CD-DVD player, personal bar, and elegant marble bathrooms. Park Hyatt's *Romance in the Park* package includes luxury accommodations in an upgraded room type and daily breakfast for two (in restaurant or in room), a bottle of sparkling wine and strawberries with chocolate, \$100 dinner credit, and 6 p.m. late check-out. Call for rates.

Contact: (877) 875-5036; buenosaires.park.hyatt.com

p.s. For different a honeymoon lifestyle, consider the quirky and comfy, distinctive and charming boutique hotels in the Palermo Viejo, Palermo Soho and San Telmo *barrios*, which share their neighborhoods with trendy shops, art galleries and fusion-cuisine restaurants.

jungle love

Awesome Amazonia is indeed a lush area embracing one of the most biologically diverse regions on earth. Shared by many countries, Peru's sector of this Amazon Basin offers a wonderland of black caimans and red-bellied macaws, giant otters in the rivers and howler monkeys in the canopy. A top spot for romancing in the rainforest is **Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica**, sitting on the banks of the Madre de Dios River, a feeder for the mighty Amazon. The lodge invites honeymooners to escape together to rainforest luxury and plenty of pampering on its *Romantic Getaway* package that includes four days and three dreamy nights of Peruvian rainforest enchantment and a carbon neutral hotel stay. Inkaterra indulges each couple with champagne, daily delectable dining (in-

cluding a special dinner *a deux*), exclusive souvenirs and surprises such as a cooling massage at the *ENA* spa and an energizing flowering bath. Priced from \$846 per couple, the cost covers all guided nature excursions and airport transfers from/to Puerto Maldonado airport.

p.s. For that memorable Tarzan and Jane experience, know that not only does Inkatererra Reserva Amazonica have a 1,130-ft. Canopy Walkway but a *Canopy Tree House*, sitting 90 ft. up in the forest and furnished with beds, lavatory, portable toilet, windows with removable mosquito nets, a table and chairs, and services of a Canopy Butler—surely worth an extra night.

Contact: (800) 442-5042; inkatererra.com

desert, adventure y amor

Chile's Atacama Desert region is truly off the beaten path, or rather was before a bevy of stylish lodgings brought the good life to a very remote place and adventure travelers to the driest desert on earth. Located within the laid-back town of San Pedro de Atacama is **Awasi**, an intimate, rustically luxurious, architecturally stunning getaway lodge where couples can truly relax together and experience both the pure tranquility and adventure of desert life. Design, construction, layout and decor here represent luxury at its respectful best, and every element in the eight guest cottages—with generous spaces, private patio, a reading sofa, indoor and outdoor showers—reflects the region's indigenous heritage. Each suite is assigned a private guide and 4WD vehicle to embark on private outings to the nearby volcanoes, dry salt lakes, fields of steaming geysers and thermal baths, pre-Inca fortresses and native villages. Before arrival, couples complete a questionnaire with their personal tastes and interests—such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, birdwatching, an intimate candlelit dinner with live music or a private star-gazing excursion with champagne—and the concierge fashions it all into unique and romantic experiences. Awasi's all-inclusive rates for a 2-night stay start at \$1,340 pp; included are transfers from/to Calama airport, all meals, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, and private outings.

Contact: (888) 880-3219; awasi.com

ranch romance

Some 30 miles up the coast from Uruguay's famous Punta del Este resort, the go-to spot nowadays is Jose Ignacia, a former fishing village. And just five miles inland is **Estancia Vik**, a luxurious ranch where guests head for the stable and saddle up a criollo horse to ride the 4,000-acre range, which hosts 1,400 cattle and a top-class polo field. The hacienda, with its white adobe walls and red iron roofs, sits high on a rise overlooking a lagoon and the Atlantic. It's

a handsome, colonial-style building whose living and public areas are joined by covered walkways linking multiple courtyards and idyllic gardens. The 12 spacious suites are the most creative spaces anywhere, each displaying original art and murals—some with nudes abounding, others with landscapes or abstracts—by contemporary Uruguayan artists. Suite bathrooms feature sculptured wooden tubs and recessed rain showers, with the master suites adding outdoor showers on the patios. The blend of cool design extends to the brick barreled dining room for a private dinner for two (or more), to the art-filled living room, and to the Uruguayan *parillero* or bbq resembling a massive tin warehouse with graffiti-covered walls; a wood-burning fire grills up steaks ▶▶

Costa Rica Adventure

\$459*

Includes:

- Breakfast
- Transfers
- Private guides
- Private dinners
- Private showers
- Private massages
- Private massages
- Private massages

INKATERERRA