

EXPLORE Peru

PERU, HISTORY AND NATURE

Lima – Amazon River – Cusco – Sacred Valley – 2D/1N Inca Trail - Machu Picchu – Titicaca Lake
12 Days / 11 Nights

Day 01 – Travel day – Arriving to Lima – Peru

Many members of the team will be arriving to Lima that evening. We will be assisting with hotel accommodation and transportation. Domestic flights to Iquitos will be scheduled the next morning. **Meal: No meals included**

Day 02 - Lima/Iquitos/Heliconia Amazon River Lodge

At the arranged time transfer from your hotel in Lima to the airport to take your flight to Iquitos. At your arrival transfer to the office headquarters for a short briefing about our jungle program, what to expect during your stay in the lodge, the do's and don'ts in the jungle and some essential tips will be carried out. Soon after, you will be transferred to the Iquitos Port, where you will board one of our speedboats to take you to the Heliconia Amazon River Lodge along the Amazon River. During the boat ride observe the convergence of the brown turbid waters of the Amazon River with the dark waters of the Nanay River. Enjoy the impressive jungle landscapes with the rustic small houses of the riverside towns. Then have a short stopover in Monkey Island, a social family enterprise focused on conserving and protecting endangered monkey species in the Northern Amazon. After a 90-minute boat ride arrive at the Lodge where our staff will welcome you with an exotic jungle drink. After check-in and settling in your room, at your leisure, you will have your first Amazonia cuisine lunch. In the afternoon, begin your first excursion: a jungle hike into the Yanamono primary rainforest reserve, for approximately two hours joined by our expert guides. They will show you identify several flora species such as heliconia flowers, medicinal plants and giant trees. You will also have the chance to sight several bird species, and with a little luck you will be able to view a family of small monkeys. Return to the lodge to rest and relax and be thrilled by your first, must-not-miss Amazon Sunset. As the evening comes around, during high tide, take a boat ride along one of the Amazon River's tributaries for an exciting evening in the jungle, with no lights, perhaps just some jungle flora and fauna sparkling in the dark. You will have to trust your expert boat guide to take you where you can appreciate and listen to the magical sounds of the jungle. If it is a clear night, you will see the bright magnificent moonlight, as well as observe the stars and constellations. With some luck, you can also see some falling stars which are quite common in the area. Shortly, go back to the Lodge to rest and relax for an early wake up the next day. Accommodation at the lodge **Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, lunch & dinner at the lodge.**



Day 03 - Heliconia Amazon River Lodge

Wake up early for the Morning Bird Watching. To see the birds flocked together during their morning feeding time, you will start very early going by boat to one of the several streams (best on high tide) to look out for a great variety of birds. Thereafter, you will return to the lodge, for an energizing breakfast. Take a little rest and then you will set off to a Native Fishing expedition onto one of the small tributaries of the Amazon River. Learn the local fishing techniques and try to fish for Piranhas. During this excursion, you can also look out for the Pink River Dolphin (Inia Geoffrensis). If you were lucky enough at the fishing experience, you will have your catch cooked for lunch, when you return to the Lodge. After lunch, you will board the boat towards a lake in Yanamono island (best on high tide) where you will be able to get a glimpse of the Giant Water Lily, the Victoria Regia, the "Queen of water lilies". Now renamed Victoria Amazonica, these native florae in the shallow waters of the Amazon River basin are mostly found in oxbow lakes and bayous. You may see some flowers that are white as they bloom on the first night some that have turned pink on the second night after blooming. They can grow to 40 cm in diameter and are pollinated by scarab beetles. Victoria Amazonica is well known for its huge circular leaves, which are often pictured with a small child sitting at the center of its leaf to display their size and strength. Consider taking the Nature Night Hike. Go on an enchanting evening trek within the secure periphery of the Lodge and you will witness the entrancing transformation from daytime to a night atmosphere. As you adjust to the dark environment you will appreciate the rainforest takes on a very different character and be aware of the existence and habits of nocturnal jungle animals. It's the best time to see stunning tree frogs, shy snakes, and other rainforest creatures that only come out at night. Discern a range of completely distinctive fauna from the day as you listen to magical sounds of insects, birds, jungle cats and night owls. Back to the Lodge for Dinner. Accommodation at the lodge **Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner at the lodge.**



Day 04 - Native Community Immersion in a Riverside Town – Iquitos

Wake up early or late, the choice is yours. Breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m., for those who want to avoid the heat, and enjoy nature at its fullest. After breakfast, we will visit a riverside town to see an indigenous tribe of the Yaguas community where you will have the opportunity to learn and see their way of life in the Amazon River. See their homes, school, church, shops and interact with the people, learn their techniques of fishing and farming. Observe their customs and tradition and get enlightened by their unaffected and austere way of living. Return to the Lodge for lunch and check-out. After lunch, transfer to Iquitos City and transfer to the hotel. Accommodation in Iquitos. **Meals: Breakfast and lunch at the lodge.**

Day 05 - Iquitos/Lima – Barranco City

At the arranged time transfer from your hotel in Iquitos to the airport for your flight to Lima. At arrival assistance and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, admire the wonderful architecture and cosmopolitan sites of Barranco City. We will have the opportunity to visit a beautiful boutique hotel located in Barranco– Lima’s art district. Hotel B might as well be an art gallery itself. The hotel is a restored mansion that’s just a block away from the oceanside cliff. Its interiors are quirky, yet elegant, filled with artwork from ceiling to floor. Evening at leisure. Accommodation in Lima. **Meals: Breakfast**



Day 06 - Lima/Cusco – City Tour & Nearby Ruins

At the arranged time transfer from your hotel in Lima to the airport for your flight to Cusco Imperial City. At arrival assistance and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, admire the wonderful pre-Hispanic and colonial legacy of Cusco city, an interesting journey where you will learn about Koricancha (Temple of the Sun), ancient place of worship to the Sun, God of the Incas where the convent of Santo Domingo was built, gaze the beauty of Cusco city’s Main Square and admire the most representative sculptures and paintings of Cusco’s Art inside the cathedral. Touring the impressive Sacsayhuaman Fortress, strategically built on a hill overlooking Cusco, famous for its external walls built with huge stones cut and assembled with stunning precision. At night, delight yourself with a pleasant dinner show at one the best tourist restaurants in Cusco.



Accommodation in Cusco. **Meals: Breakfast and Dinner Show**

Day 07 - Cusco/Sacred Valley of the Incas/Cusco

Visit the Sacred Valley, a picturesque tour where you can see important archaeological remains, landscapes and village customs. This tour starts with a first stop at Awanacancha Complex, here you can have the chance to feed Andean Camelids such as llamas and alpacas; you will also can meet local people who will show their techniques for weaving in their sites. The tour will include the visit of the typical Písaq Market where you can have the chance to shop or buy handicrafts and try the traditional costumes. Enjoy a buffet lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, you’ll visit the ancient Salt Mines. Looking down on the mines, you see a dizzying array of white, irregular rectangles. It’s a very photogenic scene. The source of the salt mines, or salineras, is a warm salty spring at the head of the valley. Although the Inca created the mines some 2,000 years ago the salt mines of Maras are still in use today. It’s fascinating to watch locals harvest the salt, a process that hasn’t changed in thousands of years. Transfer to the hotel. Accommodation in Cusco. **Meals: Breakfast and lunch.**



Day 08 - DAY 1 Inca Trail from 104 KM – Winay Wayna

We start early this morning with breakfast at the hotel and then a 2 ½ scenic bus ride to a city named Chachabamba at kilometer 104, where our trekking begins. From this place, we hike for approx. 3 hours to the Incan site Winay Wayna (Forever Young) 8792ft. After lunch, we continue the walk until we reach the Sungate or Inti Punku 8957ft, from where you will have your first dramatic panoramic view of Machu Picchu 7873ft. We continue the walk toward Machu Picchu where we have an amazing view of the Sunset. Finally, we take a shuttle bus down to Aguas Calientes.

Accommodation in a hotel Aguas Calientes . **Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch and Dinner**

Day 09 – Machu Picchu

Wake early and take the first bus up to Machu Picchu to enter the site. Enjoy a guided tour for 2 hours covering the history of the Inca people and the most important parts of the citadel as the Royal Mausoleum, the Temple of the three windows, the main temple, the Sacred Plaza, the famous Intihuatana where wise Inkas tied to the sun in the winter solstice in June, stairways, plazas, fountains, etc. When the tour concludes, spend some free time to exploring the site on your own or even climbing Huayna Picchu if you purchased permits. At appropriate time we will be taking a bus down to Aguas Calientes for lunch. In the afternoon, we will be taking the train back to Ollantaytambo and then switch to a bus for the scenic drive back to Cusco. **Meals: Breakfast and Lunch**



Day 10– Cusco / Puno - Tour Lake Titicaca Uros Floating Island

At according time, transfer to the airport to take your flight to Puno. At your arrival transfer to the hotel to rest part of the morning. At afternoon, we will pick you up from your hotel and then we will start a private motor boat to the Uros Islands. Arriving we visit the floating islands walking and interacting with the natives. There is also a chance to ride a reed boat. We will have the opportunity to learn more of this ancient living style of the locals. We would be getting back to Puno by 5:00pm. **Meals: Breakfast and Dinner**

Day 11 Full Day Tour Taquile Island

After breakfast, we take the boat to “Taquile Island”, a traditional Quechua speaking community, and full of ancient agricultural terraces. The weaving tradition is part of the culture and goes back to early civilizations; all weaving is done by hand. The most characteristic garments are the “Chullos”, a knitted hat with an earflap, and “The Calendar Waistband”. Arriving to the island, we have to walk up along a narrow path, enjoying on the way impressive views of the Lake Titicaca and mountains. At the village, you will have free time to explore around on your own, and optionally you have a chance for lunch at one local restaurant. Later we will descent to the pier to take our boat back to Puno. We will be getting Puno by 4:00pm. and you will be transferred back to your hotel. **Meals: Breakfast & Box lunch**

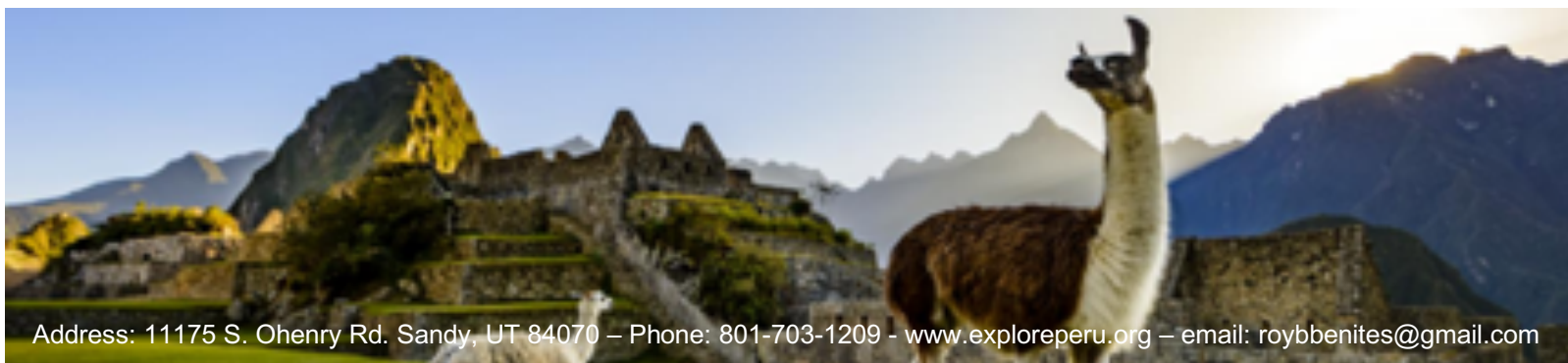


Day 12 – Puno/Lima - City Tour Lima Colonial & Modern

At the arranged time transfer from your hotel in Cusco to the airport for your flight back to Lima. Visit the most important sites of Lima and wrap yourself in its charm and tradition. Visit the impressive historical center and pass by the Main Square, The Government Palace, City Hall, The Archbishop’s Palace and the Cathedral. You’ll visit San Francisco Convent that displays the largest monumental group of Colonial Art found in America. Here you will find the catacombs, underground galleries where the first Christians buried their dead and practiced worship ceremonies. At afternoon delight yourself with a pleasant dinner at one the best restaurants in Lima located on the sea, this traditional restaurant gives you the most exquisite dishes and its history over the years allows us to say it is one of the best places to spend a romantic and unforgettable moment. Immediately after, take your transfer to the airport to take your flight back home. **Meals: Breakfast and Dinner.**



END OF SERVICE



THE PROGRAM INCLUDES

Lima

- Transfer In/Transfer Out
- 2 Night accommodation in Lima (2 breakfast)
- Private City Tour Lima Colonial & Modern & dinner
- Private Waking Tour in Barranco City
- Celebration Dinner at the Beach

Iquitos

- Transfer In/Transfer Out
- 1 Night accommodation in Iquitos City (1 breakfasts)
- 2 Nights 'accommodation in a Jungle Lodge
- Full Meals in lodge according to the itinerary
- Activities in the jungle according to the itinerary of the lodge

Cusco

- Transfer In/Transfer Out
- 3 Nights' accommodation in Cusco (3 breakfasts)
- Private City Tour Cusco & Archaeological Park of Sacsayhuaman.
- Dinner show in typical restaurant.
- FD Sacred Valley of the Incas and Maras Salt Mines (lunch included)
- FD Machu Picchu tour (lunch included)

Inca Trail – Aguas Calientes

- Transfer In/Transfer Out
- 1 Night accommodation in Aguas Calientes as part of the Inca Trail
- Private Tour 2 day / 1 night Inca Trail Program

Puno – Titicaca Lake

- Transfer In/Transfer Out
- 2 Nights' accommodation in Puno (2 breakfasts)
- Private City Tour to the Floating Island in Uros
- FD Tour to Takile island – Titicaca lake (Box Lunch Included)

Domestic plane tickets and transportation

- 5 domestic tickets, Economic Class LIM/IQT/CUZ/JUL/LIM
- All local transportation, entrance fees and guided tours in English.

NOT INCLUDED

- International Plane Tickets
- Meals and services not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Personal expenses
- Gratuities

HOTELS

Lima: Hotel Melia 5 *****
 Iquitos: Hilton Double Tree 5*****
 Am,amazon River : Heliconia Lodge (Superior)
 Cusco: Palacio del Inca 5*****
 Aguas Calientes: Terra Viva 3*** (Superior)
 Puno: Hotel Libertador 5*****

SINGLE	DOUBLE
US\$ 4150	US\$ 3220

