



Peru

Dates:

July 20, 2017 - July 28, 2017

Included:

Round-trip airfare, all transportation, sightseeing tours and site visits, all hotels with private bathroom, breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, full-time multi-lingual tour director. All-inclusive insurance available.

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See the Cathedral of Lima!



Explore Machu Picchu!



Visit an authentic market!

TOUR ITINERARY:

Day 1 Start Tour

- › Meet your Tour Director and check into hotel

Day 2 Hola Lima

- › Lima Guided Sightseeing Tour: *Experience the vibrant culture and breathtaking architecture of this capital city overlooking the Pacific Ocean. See the vast neo-colonial Governmental Palace, the towering Cathedral of Lima with its 14 side doors and main "door of forgiveness", go past the upscale San Isidro district and visit the San Francisco Convent.*
- › Gold Museum visit

Day 3 Lima--Cuzco

- › Fly to Cuzco
- › Cuzco Guided Sightseeing Tour: *Colorful Cuzco was an important Inca center, and sites surrounding the town testify to the power of the empire. Begin your tour at Tambo Machay, the ritual baths probably used by nobility. Underground water bubbles up over the intricately carved stone platforms, creating a shower as it tumbles over the edge. The impressive stone at Qenko had a slightly less cleansing purpose -- each year, priests would pour llama blood over the top and watch its progress through the complicated zigzag pattern to determine the luck for the coming planting season. Puca Pucara was likely a hunting lodge or vacation home for the emperor; from its high position, you can gaze out at the glaciers in the south.*

Day 4 Sacred Valley landmarks

- › Sacred Valley excursion: *Built to resemble an ear of maize, Ollantaytambo is one of the few remaining examples of Inca urban grid architecture. Get an overhead view from the fortress, still impressive all these centuries later. Continue on through the lush Urubamba Valley before reaching Pisac, which hosts a renowned crafts market three days a week.*
- › Ollantaytambo Fortress visit: *Travel to this old town surrounded by the stunning snowcapped Andes Mountains to see the best surviving example of Incan town planning. The fortress itself is encased in impressive terrace walls that served the Incas well against the Spanish Conquistadors.*
- › Pisac Indian Market, Wildlife Sanctuary visit
- › Train ride to Machu Picchu

Day 5 Machu Picchu--Cuzco

- › Sunrise at Machu Picchu
- › Hike to Intipunku: *Climb the steep stairs up to Intipunku, or "The Gate of the Sun", for a gorgeous aerial view of Machu Picchu below.*
- › Transfer back to Cuzco

Day 6 Cuzco--Lake Titicaca

- › Travel to Puno
- › Andahuaylillas Chapel guided visit: *While the exterior of this church is unassuming, the interior is an explosion of breathtaking Baroque artwork and gold-leafed carvings. Murals depicting various religious scenes line the walls and ceiling, making Andahuaylillas Chapel a truly amazing sight and lending it the name the "Sistine Chapel of the Americas".*
- › Raqchi Temple guided visit
- › Shop at local ceramics market



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See the Sacred Valley!



Enjoy Peruvian cuisine!



Cruise to the Uros Islands!

TOUR ITINERARY:

Day 7 Uros Islands & Taquile Island

- › Cruise to Uros Islands & Taquile Island: *Imagine living on a floating island made entirely of matted-down reeds, now imagine making it yourself! Well, if you're an Uros Indian that's exactly what you do. Found on Lake Titicaca, this indigenous group creates their island homes by matting down the Totora reeds that naturally grow in the lake. These incredible islands float on the surface of the water and last about 30 years before rotting away completely. Taquile Island is a natural island also on Lake Titicaca and is home to Taquileños, who are known for their intricate weaving which is considered among the highest-quality crafts from Peru.*
- › Visit with indigenous Uros families
- › Hike Taquile Island

Day 8 End tour

- › Sillustani Temple guided visit
- › Fly to Lima
- › Fly home: *Your flight home is overnight. You will return home on Day 9.*

Day 9 Return home