

PERU EXPEDITION

LIMA / PARACAS / ICA / NAZCA / AREQUIPA / COLCA / PUNO / CUSCO / MACHUPICCHU / PUERTO MALDONADO

18 DAYS / 17 NIGHTS



18 days trip exploring the coast with deserts and green valleys, colorful highlands to snow-covered Andean mountains & extensive forest with its diverse ecological, cultural & historic manifestations. The colonial and modern city of Lima with its excellent archaeological museums and restaurants, Paracas wildlife reservation and spectacular Nazca lines along the Pacific coast, the Inca city of Cuzco and the MachuPicchu National Park, the volcano white city of Arequipa and the Colca canyon & a Jungle expedition to the Tambopata reservation in the south Amazon basin. A complete Travel experience.

INCLUDES

- 17 nights hotel accommodation with breakfast included.
- All transfers to airport, train or bus station to hotel and return.
- First class buses are provided. (Private transportation could be quoted).
- All guided excursions with entrances fees and transportation.
- Lunch and dinner where stated.

ITINERARY

Day 1.- LIMA.-

Arrive Lima & transfer to hotel. At the Hotel, we will give the travel coupons, maps, brochures and general information to the pax. If the pax arrives in an early flight we can schedule an optional tour.

Day 2.- LIMA / PARACAS.-

Transfer from hotel to bus station. Ride in a first class double deck bus from Lima to Hotel Paracas entrance door. Hotel accommodation. This hotel is located in front of Paracas bay and has two swimming pools, and a pier where the speed boat depart to the Ballestas islands.

Day 3.- PARACAS / NAZCA.-

After an early breakfast, board the speed boats for a morning excursion to the guano islands to watch wildlife seabirds colonies of boobies, pelicans, penguins, albatross, cormorants & thousands of sea lions. Return to land before the Paracas desert wind starts to blow up. Then private guided visit to the Peninsula of Paracas with impressive beach views and then visit to the site Museum with the 5,000 years old man of Santo Domingo.

Informes y reservas

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Lunch on our way to Nazca in a private transportation. On our way we will cross the fertile valley of Ica (cotton, asparagus, grapes. Corn, potatoes among others) in the middle of the desert dunes. Then stop at the Nazca tower standing by the Pan-American highway, to watch the enigmatic Nazca lines. Arrival to Nazca, welcome Pisco sour and hotel accommodation.

Day 4.- NAZCA / AREQUIPA.-

Early breakfast and visit the pre-Columbian Chauchilla cemetery where we will appreciate tombs with mummies. Then transfer to the airfield to take light aeroplanes to overflight the Nazca lines during aprox.45 minutes. Transfer back to the hotel. Lunch on your own and afternoon at leisure. The hotel has a swimming pool. In late afternoon transfer to the bus station. Night ride in a first class double deck bus with WC, bar, TV on board to Arequipa.

Day 5.- AREQUIPA.-

Reception & transfer in at the bus station to the hotel selected in Arequipa. Morning free to rest. Afternoon city tour visit including the Santa Catalina Convent. Hotel accommodation.

Day 6.- COLCA CANYON.-

After breakfast, full day excursion to the Colca Canyon. This journey will take you along dirt roads over the PUNA plateau over 4,000 Mts. above sea level, to appreciate the Vicunas, lamas and Huanacos herds and enter the Colca Canyon in its highest portion and follow along one side how the Colca river cut the earth forming the second deepest canyon of the world. At the deepest point called CRUZ DEL CONDOR you will have the opportunity to see fly condors around or very near you. Lunch & dinner are on your own. Hotel accommodation in the Canyon.

Day 7.- COLCA / AREQUIPA.-

After breakfast there will be a visit to the towns along the up ridge of both sides of the Canyon and then return to Arequipa in the afternoon. Hotel accommodation in Arequipa.

Day 8.- AREQUIPA / PUNO.-

Morning at leisure. Transfer to airport and flight to Juliaca airport. Transfer in to the city of Puno with visit of the funerary stone towers of Sillustani in a beautiful landscape setting. Hotel accommodation. Puno is locating over 4,000mts and the oxygen level descends nearly 20% y it is also very dry and cold. Life has to be taken a little bit slower.

Day 9.- PUNO.-

Full day excursion on lake Titicaca. Early visit to the floating reeds islands of the Uros. Here we will appreciate a unique experience of walking over floating reed islands. Then, we continue by boat to the Taquile Island. The Taquile have lived in this islands since man memory, keeping its social organisation and customs without much change, They still cultivate canihua, kiwicha (amaranto) potatoes and other beams the way their ancestors did 500 years ago. Typical lunch at Taquile. Afternoon return to Puno and transfer to the hotel. Hotel accommodation.

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Day 10- PUNO / CUZCO.-

Today there are two possible transportation means to travel from Puno to Cuzco: The train and tourist buses. Both depart at 08:00am and work their alongside the back of the high plateau toward LA RAYA 4,080.00mts and the down the valley to Cuzco. The bus counts with a bilingual guide and makes 3 stops to visit attractions and also stops at Sicuani for lunch on your own. The train makes very short stops, and has optional lunch on board. In both case the passengers is transfers from the hotel to the station and is pick up at arrival. Hotel accommodation.

Day 11.- CUZCO.-

Morning free to recover energy and prepare to visit the oldest inhabited city in the Americas: Cuzco. Lunch on your own. Afternoon visit of the colonial town with stops at the Cathedral, Korikancha (temple of the Sun), San Blas, the stone of 12 angles . Then continue visiting the Sacsayhuaman fortress, Kenko, Puca Pucara and Tambomachay shrines. Return to the hotel.

Day 12.- SACRED VALLEY.-

Full day tour to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Visit PISAQ town and Indian market at the foot of the agricultural terraces and farms. Buffet lunch of typical & international food at the country side restaurant with folk music. After a short rest, visit the Ollantaytambo fortress. Overnight at a nice country side hotel in Ollanta.

Day 13.- MACHUPICHU National Park.-

After breakfast, short walk to the train station. Full day guided excursion to Machupichu. The archeological complex is strategically located on the summit of the Machupichu mountain. Behind it rises the towering peak of Huayna Picchu whose flanks and summit also hold archeological ruins. The torrential Urubamba river passes below both peaks. Machupichu archeological significance is enhanced by the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape. The lush forest covering the steep slopes of the mountains are home to countless species of flora & fauna, including delicate orchids, bromeliads and tree ferns. These forest are also home to the Andean bear, the cock-of -the-rocks, the quetzal and the dwarf deer. A buffet lunch will be taken a the Sanctuary Lodge. Overnight at Machupichu Sanctuary Lodge or at any of the several hotel in Aguas Calientes.

Day 14.- MACHUPICHU / CUZCO.-

Free at leisure to visit a second time Machupichu (\$25.00 entrance fee) or to visit the hot bath or the Orquids gardens at Aguas Calientes. Buffet lunch at Cafe Amazonico. PM return by train to Ollanta. Bus ride from Ollanta to Cuzco over the carpet like plateau of Chicheros with an impressive views of the snow caps of the mountains (Apus in quechua). Hotel accommodation in Cuzco.

Day 15 / 16.- TAMBOPATA NATURAL RESERVATION.-

Transfer from the hotel to airport to flight to Puerto Maldonado Tambopata Natural reservation.

The flight will take about 30 minutes. At arrival the lodge members will become anchorage of your luggage and transfer to the river dock to start a 3 hours rode down

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river to the chosen Lodge. At the lodge a private room with single or double beds will be assigned. Meals are included and are made of natural products of the area. There will be treks in the jungle as well as canoe ride during the day & night to the lakes (called Cochas) to appreciate the flora and fauna, smell & noises of the jungle.

Day 17. - LIMA.-

Very early breakfast. Departure on fast canoe toward Puerto Maldonado to catch your flight to Lima. Flight Puerto Maldonado-Lima.

Reception at Lima airport and transfer to hotel. After lunch, City tour of Lima and Larco Herrera Museum where you will be able to see a very large collection of pre-Columbian pottery and Gold artefacts. Farewell dinner at La Rosa Nautica restaurant by the ocean front. Hotel accommodation.

Day 18.- Departure.

Transfer from hotel to airport for flight departure.

