

PRINCIPAL ATTRACTIONS

PRIVATE SERVICES – IN SPANISH, ENGLISH OR OTHER LANGUAGES; SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

INTRODUCTION

Arequipa, known as the White City for its beautiful white walls of sillar, a volcanic stone, lies at the feet of the mighty volcanos of Mount Chachani, Mount Misti, and the snow covered peak of Mount Pichu Pichu. The downtown of the city, placed on the World Cultural Heritage list by UNESCO, features Mixed Baroque churches and mansions from the Colonial Period like the monastery of Santa Catalina, a Spanish city in miniature with stone streets, beautiful patios, and plazas. Sabandía, Tiabaya, and Tingo, located among the large fields, are must see places, and the irresistible Arequipa cuisine is the perfect complement to the visit.

Just 3 hours and 45 minutes from the capital is the Colca River valley and canyon, one of the most extraordinary destinations in the country. Throughout the region, you can see colorful pre-Incan agricultural terraces still used today for growing quinoa, corn, barley, and wheat. During the pre-Hispanic era, the department was inhabited by the Collaguas and the Cabanas; today, the inhabitants have learned to conserve their Colonial churches in Yanque, Lari, and Madrigal, and they continue to wear their traditional clothing.

MAIN SQUARE AND THE CATHEDRAL.

The Main Square, famous for its symmetrical harmony and the architectural elegance of its double arcade, is also the departure point for sightseeing in the city.

To one side is the Cathedral, built Neoclassical in style and when taking its tour, you will see priceless works of religious and secular art, wood carvings and jewels, together with its renowned 19th century Belgian organ.

Informes y reservas

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SAINT CATHERINE MONASTERY.

A small, walled-in city within a city, it has cloisters, plazas, streets, buildings with Spanish roof tiles and cobblestone floors. It opened in 1580 as a cloister for nuns.

Displayed on its interior are Colonial paintings from the Cusco School, wood carvings, statues, objects of worship and well preserved rooms showing what daily life was like for nuns more than 400 years ago.

SANTA MARÍA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Museum of Archeology and of Andean Sanctuaries. The former is an exposition, in chronological and scientific order, of the entire cultural development of the department of Arequipa throughout history, and the latter displays different mummies, such as the Ice Maiden (Mummy Juanita).

YANAHUARA PLAZA.

One of the most important churches in Arequipa, the Church of Saint John the Baptist, is located in this peaceful plaza. It was built in 1750 and is still considered to be an architecture jewel. It is also the place where you can climb the Mirador (lookout) that poets from this area have written inscriptions on and from where you will enjoy a spectacular view of the city and its three volcanoes.

SABANDÍA.

8 Km. A lovely district, where pre-Incan terraces are still used to grow crops. Some of the houses still flaunt Republican architectural traces from the 19th century. There is also a Colonial mill, the Molino de Sabandía

COLCA VALLEY AND CANYON.

170 Km. A destination that never runs out of experiences, gathering together natural wealth, living history and adventure sports like rafting, mountaineering, mountain biking, hiking and horseback riding. Its depth has been measured at 11,155 feet (twice that of the Grand Canyon).

There are 14 villages from the Colonial era spread throughout the canyon, each with extraordinary specimens of civil and religious architecture, stone houses that are thatched with ichu grass and wheat stalks, as well as ancient churches in the towns of Lari,

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AREQUIPA

Yanque, Cabanoconde and Sibayo absolute masterpieces of the Mixed Baroque style. At the rim of the canyon, you can find lookouts, strategically placed, where you can take in the entire scene and the majestic flight of the condor.

TORO MUERTO AND QUERULLPA.

164 Km. Toro Muerto contains one of the world's largest collections of petroglyphs. It is an area of 500 hectares strewn with stone upon which ancient peoples carved thousands of images (animals, geometric designs and dancers) between the years 700 A.D and 1,500 A.D. Just a few minutes away is Querullpa and its amazing footprints of prehistoric animals that lived in this area 150 to 200 million years ago, when this mountainous setting was a serene beach.

Fuente: Promperu. La información contenida en este documento es una enumeración de atractivos y servicios a disposición del viajero en toda la región. Para su actualización, PromPerú se ha servido de fuentes oficiales de información como: Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA), Instituto Nacional de Cultura (INC), Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN), Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú (SENAMHI) y la Dirección Regional de Comercio Exterior y Turismo.

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