



PERU GRAND JOURNEY

15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS

Lima – Paracas – Ica (Huacachina) – Nazca – Arequipa – Colca Canyon – Cusco – Sacred Valley – Machu Picchu – Rainbow Mountain – Puerto Maldonado

Embark on a breathtaking 15-day adventure through Peru—a land of dramatic landscapes, ancient civilizations, and vibrant cultural heritage. This immersive journey strikes the perfect balance of history, nature, and adventure. Begin in Lima, Peru's lively coastal capital, then travel south to witness the marine wonders of Paracas, ride the golden dunes of Huacachina, and take to the skies for a once-in-a-lifetime flight over the enigmatic Nazca Lines. Venture deep into the Colca Canyon, one of the world's deepest, before continuing to the heart of the Andes. Explore the cobblestone streets of Cusco, the Sacred Valley's living traditions, and the awe-inspiring ruins of Machu Picchu. Hike the colorful slopes of Rainbow Mountain, then trade highlands for jungle as you journey into the Amazon rainforest of Puerto Maldonado. From ancient temples to wild frontiers, this itinerary is crafted for travelers who want to experience the full spectrum of Peru's natural beauty and cultural richness.

Itinerary:

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN LIMA

Upon arrival at Jorge Chávez International Airport, a friendly representative from Perú Increíble will be waiting to welcome you and provide a private transfer to your hotel in Lima. Depending on your arrival time, enjoy the rest of the day at leisure to rest or begin discovering the capital at your own pace. If you're up for some light exploration, we recommend a walk through the bohemian district of Barranco. Known for its vibrant street art, charming colonial architecture, and sweeping coastal views, this neighborhood offers a perfect first taste of Lima's creative soul.

Optional (based on arrival time): In the afternoon, around 1:00 p.m., meet your guide for a captivating city tour of Lima, designed to showcase the city's rich layers of history and culture. Begin in the heart of Miraflores with a visit to Huaca Pucllana, a pre-Inca adobe pyramid that stands as a fascinating contrast to the modern city around it. Continue to Lima's historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you'll explore the Plaza Mayor and its iconic landmarks: the Government Palace, the Cathedral of Lima - final resting place of conquistador Francisco Pizarro - and the eerie catacombs beneath the San Francisco Monastery. End the tour with a scenic drive along the coast, stopping at Larcomar, a cliffside complex with spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean. Return to your hotel to relax and prepare for the adventure ahead.

Overnight: Hotel in Lima

Meals: None

DAY 2: LIMA – PARACAS – BALLESTAS ISLANDS – HUACACHINA

Begin the day with an early morning transfer from Lima to Paracas (approx. 4 hours). Upon arrival at El Chaco pier, set out on a 1.5-hour boat tour to the Ballestas Islands, often called the "Little Galápagos." On the way, spot the mysterious Candelabro geoglyph etched into the desert



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hillside, followed by sightings of sea lions, Humboldt penguins, and a variety of coastal birdlife thriving among the rocky islets. After a short break along the Paracas waterfront, continue by land (approx. 1.5 hours) to the picturesque Huacachina Oasis. Enjoy free time for lunch (not included), then experience the thrill of a high-speed buggy ride across the sand dunes, with the option to try sandboarding on the towering golden slopes. Return to Paracas in the late afternoon and settle into your hotel for a relaxing evening by the coast.

Overnight: Hotel in Paracas

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3: NAZCA LINES FLIGHT – RETURN TO LIMA

After an early breakfast, a private transfer will take you to the Pisco airport for one of Peru's most iconic aerial experiences - a scenic flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines. These enormous geoglyphs, etched into the desert floor more than 1,500 years ago, are best seen from above. As you soar over the arid landscape, marvel at over a dozen distinct figures including the Condor, Hummingbird, Spider, and Monkey - each stretching hundreds of feet across and still puzzling archaeologists to this day.

Once back on land, enjoy some leisure time along the tranquil shores of Paracas Bay. Relax by the water, stroll the boardwalk, or savor fresh seafood at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, begin your return journey to Lima in private transport. Arrive in the capital and settle back into your hotel for the evening.

Overnight: Hotel in Lima

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4: LIMA – AREQUIPA – WALKING TOUR

After breakfast, you'll be privately transferred to Lima Airport to board a short flight to the beautiful city of Arequipa (approx. 1 hour). Upon arrival, you'll be greeted at the airport and taken to your hotel. In the afternoon, set out on a guided walking tour to explore the highlights of Arequipa, famously known as "The White City" for its dazzling architecture made from white volcanic stone (sillar).

Highlights of the tour include:

- The **Santa Catalina Monastery** – a remarkable 16th-century religious citadel considered one of Peru's most iconic architectural treasures.
- The **Plaza de Armas**, framed by graceful colonial arcades and anchored by the striking **Basilica Cathedral of Arequipa**.
- The **Church of the Society of Jesus (La Compañía de Jesús)**, featuring a richly decorated Baroque façade and fascinating Jesuit heritage.
- The **Yanahuara Viewpoint**, offering sweeping views of the city and the majestic surrounding volcanoes: Misti, Chachani, and Pichu Pichu.



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After the tour, enjoy free time to wander at your own pace, savor Arequipa's acclaimed gastronomy, or opt into an additional activity of your choice.

Overnight: Hotel in Arequipa
Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5: COLCA CANYON TOUR – FIRST DAY

After breakfast, you'll depart early for the Colca Valley, home to one of the deepest canyons in the world and some of Peru's most dramatic high-Andean scenery. Along the journey, you'll enjoy several scenic stops to take in the natural beauty and learn about traditional Andean culture. One highlight is the Salinas and Aguada Blanca National Reserve, particularly Pampa Cañahuas, where vicuñas, llamas, and alpacas roam freely across the open landscape. Additional viewpoints along the route offer panoramic views of towering volcanoes and the sweeping altiplano.

As the drive continues, you'll pass through charming villages such as Chivay and Yanque, where colonial-era architecture and time-honored customs are still alive.

Upon arrival in the valley, lunch will be enjoyed at a local restaurant. The afternoon is yours to relax, or you may choose to visit the La Calera hot springs, known for their soothing thermal waters and restorative properties (optional). Dinner will be served at your accommodation in the evening.

Overnight: Hotel in Colca Valley
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: COLCA CANYON – CRUZ DEL CÓNDOR VIEWPOINT – AREQUIPA – FLIGHT TO CUSCO

After an early breakfast, the group will set out for the iconic Cruz del Cóndor Viewpoint, one of the most popular destinations in the Colca Valley. Here, you'll have the chance to witness the awe-inspiring flight of the Andean condor, a sacred bird in Inca mythology and a powerful symbol of the Andes. This breathtaking lookout also offers sweeping views of the canyon's immense vertical cliffs, creating a moment that is both visually stunning and spiritually profound.

Following the visit, the journey back to Arequipa begins, with scenic stops along the way and lunch at a local restaurant. Upon arrival in Arequipa, you'll be transferred to the airport to catch your flight to Cusco, the heart of the former Inca Empire and the gateway to your next adventure. Upon landing, our team will be waiting to welcome you and provide a private transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the afternoon is free for you to relax and begin acclimating to the altitude.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 7: CUSCO CITY TOUR

After breakfast, enjoy a half-day guided tour of Cusco's most important historical sites:



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- **Qoricancha (Temple of the Sun):** The ancient Inca ceremonial center dedicated to Inti, the Sun God.
- **Sacsayhuamán:** An impressive ceremonial fortress built with massive stone blocks expertly fitted together.
- **Qenqo, Puka Pukara, and Tambomachay:** Explore these archaeological sites known for their ritualistic, administrative, and water-related significance.

In the afternoon, you'll have free time to explore Cusco's historic city center at your leisure.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8: SACRED VALLEY – AGUAS CALIENTES

After breakfast, embark on a full-day excursion to the breathtaking Sacred Valley, a region known for its fertility and spiritual significance in Inca culture. Highlights include:

- **Pisac:** Explore the impressive archaeological complex perched on the hillside, followed by a visit to the vibrant traditional handicraft market.
- **Urubamba:** Enjoy a traditional Andean buffet lunch featuring authentic Andean flavors at a local restaurant.
- **Ollantaytambo:** Discover this remarkable fortress-town, showcasing military and religious architecture from the Inca era.

In the late afternoon, board the train to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu. Upon arrival, reception and transfer to your selected hotel for overnight stay.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 9: MACHU PICCHU – AGUAS CALIENTES

After an early breakfast, board the shuttle bus up to Machu Picchu, the awe-inspiring "Lost City of the Incas." Perched high in the Andes and shrouded in mist, this sacred citadel reveals its magic as the morning sun illuminates its stone temples and agricultural terraces. Accompanied by your expert guide, explore the site's most iconic sectors - including the Temple of the Sun, the Sacred Plaza, and the ceremonial quarters - while learning about the spiritual and astronomical significance of this remarkable place. You'll have time to take in the views, reflect in silence, and capture breathtaking photos.

Optional: For those seeking an extra challenge, take an unforgettable hike up Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain (advance reservations required). These trails reward you with panoramic views that few travelers ever get to see.

In the afternoon, return by bus to Aguas Calientes, where you'll have free time to relax, enjoy lunch, or visit the soothing local hot springs.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals: Breakfast



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DAY 10: RETURN TO CUSCO VIA MARAS – MORAY – CHINCHERO

This morning, board the train from Aguas Calientes back to Ollantaytambo, taking in stunning views of the Urubamba River and surrounding Andean peaks. Upon arrival, your journey continues by private vehicle along a scenic route rich in Inca heritage and natural beauty.

Stop first at Maras, where thousands of salt pools cascade down the mountainside - an ancient pre-Inca site still harvested by hand today. Then explore the remarkable circular terraces of Moray, believed to have been an Inca agricultural laboratory for adapting crops to different microclimates. Continue to Chinchero, a traditional Andean village where colonial and Inca architecture merge. Visit a local weaving center to observe centuries-old textile techniques passed down through generations. Enjoy a delicious lunch at a countryside restaurant before arriving back in Cusco for a well-earned evening of rest.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11: RAINBOW MOUNTAIN (VINICUNCA)

This day begins early around 4:30 AM with pickup from your hotel for an unforgettable adventure to one of Peru's most spectacular natural wonders: Rainbow Mountain, also known as Vinicunca. On the way, we'll stop at a local community to enjoy a traditional Andean breakfast. We then continue along a scenic route with views of snow-capped peaks, rivers, and remote Quechua villages. The hike lasts approximately 1.5 to 2 hours (one-way) and reaches an altitude of 5,030 meters (16,500 ft). The climb is challenging but deeply rewarding, as the summit reveals a stunning palette of natural colors caused by mineral deposits in the mountain. You'll have time to rest, take photos, and appreciate the beauty of the Andes in all their splendor. After taking in the views, begin your descent and enjoy a hearty lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Cusco in the late afternoon.

Important: This is a moderate to high-difficulty activity due to the altitude. Good physical condition and acclimatization are highly recommended.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 12: CUSCO – PUERTO MALDONADO – AMAZON RAINFOREST

Today begins a whole new chapter of your Peruvian journey as you trade the coast for the heart of the jungle. An early morning transfer will take you to the airport for your flight to Puerto Maldonado, the gateway to the southern Amazon rainforest. Upon arrival, a representative from your jungle lodge will be waiting to greet you and escort you to the nearby port, where your river adventure begins.

As you cruise along the Tambopata River, the landscape begins to shift dramatically. Towering trees, lush vegetation, and the rhythmic sounds of the forest surround you, welcoming you into a world that feels both ancient and untouched. Upon arrival at the lodge, you'll have time to settle into your rainforest retreat, enjoy a warm welcome, and take in the serenity of your





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surroundings. In the late afternoon, meet your expert naturalist guide, who will introduce you to the flora, fauna, and upcoming excursions that will immerse you in the wonders of the jungle.

Dinner is served in the lodge's dining area - a delicious and thoughtfully prepared meal that harmonizes with the natural environment. The rest of the evening is yours to relax, listen to the nocturnal symphony of the forest, or simply unwind under a blanket of stars.

Overnight: in Tambopata Research Center

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 13: AMAZON RAINFOREST

Awaken to the rhythm of the rainforest, where the first light of dawn stirs the jungle to life. Today begins with an early morning expedition, setting out just as the Amazon shakes off its slumber. This is one of the most active and magical times of day, when wildlife stirs along the riverbanks and among the trees. Keep your eyes open for caimans gliding through the water, turtles sunning themselves on logs, colorful hoatzins and toucans flitting through the canopy, and, if you're truly lucky, the elusive giant river otters, which can grow up to six feet long.

After your morning adventure, return to the lodge for a hearty and delicious lunch, a welcome pause before your next foray into the forest. In the afternoon, rejoin your naturalist guide to explore the jungle on foot, learning about the extraordinary variety of native flora used for generations by local communities. As you walk beneath the towering trees and along tangled trails, discover the hidden world of insects, medicinal plants, and the delicate balance that sustains this ecosystem.

As dusk falls, prepare for a completely different side of the Amazon: the nocturnal world. Equipped with a flashlight, follow your guide into the darkness where the sounds of frogs, insects, and rustling leaves replace the visual spectacle of the day. Night walks are often the most unforgettable part of a jungle stay, revealing the forest's otherworldly atmosphere in all its raw beauty. Alternatively, spend your evening unwinding in a hammock on your cabana porch, listening to the symphony of the jungle as it hums and calls around you.

Overnight: in Tambopata Research Center

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 14: AMAZON RAINFOREST

After breakfast, embark on a journey deeper into the heart of the jungle - a chance to further explore the profound relationship between the rainforest and the people who call it home. With every step along the trail, you'll uncover the practical wisdom passed down through generations: how local communities harness the forest's abundant resources for food, medicine, shelter, and spiritual practices. Along the way, keep your eyes peeled for flashes of color and movement overhead. A toucan's brilliant plumage, the rhythmic calls of native birds, monkeys leaping through the trees, or even a slow-moving sloth camouflaged in the canopy. Each moment brings a renewed sense of awe for the wildlife that thrives here.



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Upon returning to the lodge, a nourishing lunch will be served. Take time to relax, reflect, or simply soak in the stillness of your surroundings before setting off for your afternoon excursion. This visit offers a closer look at the human side of the rainforest, where sustainable gardens flourish and local traditions endure. Walk among crops grown with care and intention, gaining a deeper appreciation for the delicate harmony between cultivation and nature.

As the sky shifts into twilight and golden light filters through the trees, make your way back to the lodge for one final night in the Amazon. Let the sounds of the forest accompany your evening reflections on the beauty, resilience, and spirit of this remarkable world.

Overnight: in Tambopata Research Center

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 15: AMAZON RAINFOREST – PUERTO MALDONADO – LIMA

Begin your day with an early breakfast at the lodge as the sounds of the rainforest stir one final time around you. After checking out, you'll board a boat for the return journey along the Tambopata River, slowly drifting away from the heart of the jungle and back toward the city of Puerto Maldonado. This peaceful voyage offers a final opportunity to soak in the serenity and magic of the Amazon. Upon arrival in Puerto Maldonado, you'll be transferred to the airport for your flight to Lima. Landing at Jorge Chávez International Airport marks the end of your unforgettable journey through Peru. For those continuing onward, our team will ensure a smooth transition to your international departure.

Meals: Breakfast

END OF SERVICES: Thank you for trusting us to guide you through this unforgettable journey into the heart of the Inca Empire.

INCLUDED:

- All private guided tours and personalized experiences
- Professional bilingual guides (English & Spanish)
- Domestic flights (Lima – Arequipa – Cusco – Puerto Maldonado – Lima)
- All ground transportation, including private airport transfers
- Ballestas Islands boat excursion (shared)
- Scenic flight over the Nazca Lines (shared)
- Vistadome train service to and from Machu Picchu
- All entrance fees to archaeological sites and attractions listed in the itinerary
- All bus tickets, train tickets, and logistical support for excursions
- Hotel accommodations in all destinations (based on double occupancy)
- Meals as specified in the itinerary (daily breakfast, selected lunches and dinners)
- Personalized trip coordination and travel documentation
- 24/7 in-country support and emergency assistance

NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare





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- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Tips and gratuities
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Optional hikes to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain
- Personal expenses

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING:

- Valid passport (with minimum 6 months before expiration)
- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots and trekking clothes
- Warm layers (including gloves, beanie, and scarf) and windproof jacket for high-altitude locations, especially Rainbow Mountain
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Sun protection (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen)
- Reusable water bottle
- Daypack for daily excursions
- Small bills for local markets and tips
- Personal medications
- Travel insurance documents

